

# The Observer

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AUGUST 2020

## COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

Planning For Solar  
In Jefferson County

**4**

## EDUCATION

Shepherd University  
Adapts Campus Life

**8**

## COMMUNITY

Exploring Hartstown  
In Kearneysville

**10**

## PUBLIC HEALTH

Pandemic In  
The Panhandle

**12**

## TOWN GUIDES

Local Events  
& Activities

**18-24**



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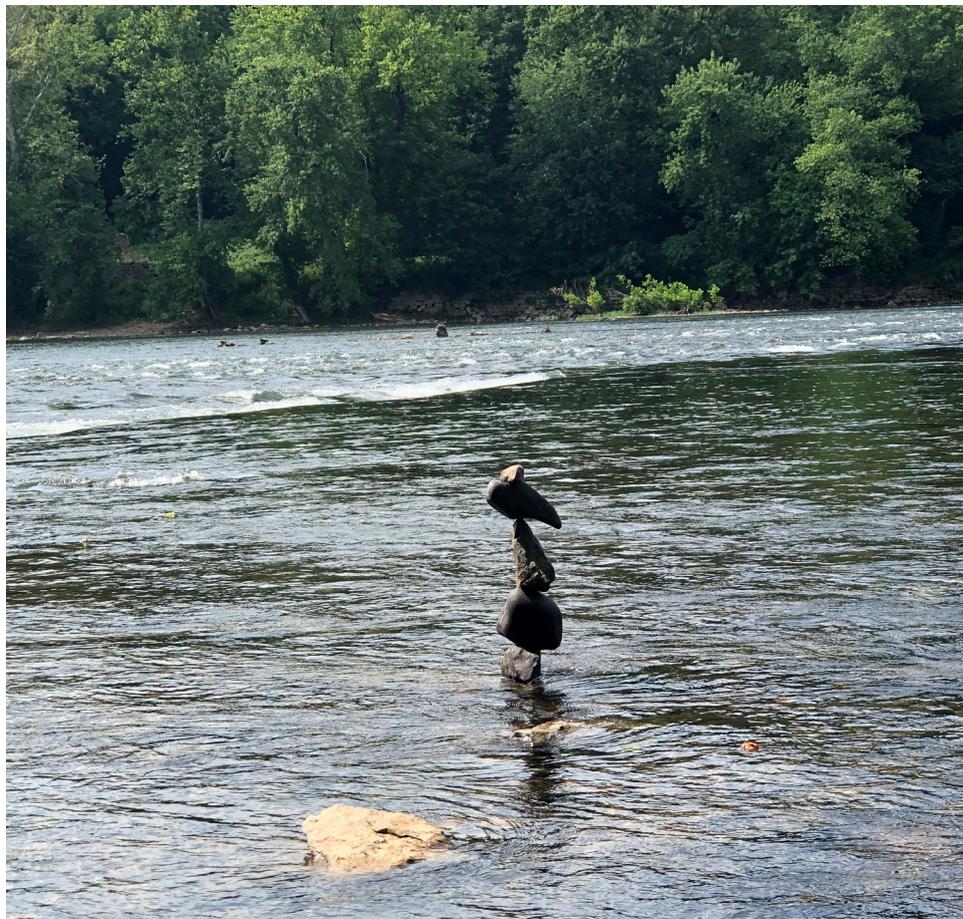
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**WV PERSPECTIVES**



***Balance in the Time of Pandemic (anonymous artist).***  
Observed in the Potomac River from the C&O Towpath, by the Rumsey bridge.  
Submitted by Mike & Lindy Keefe (Shepherdstown WV).

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**FROM THE EDITOR**

**IT'S AN OLD EXPRESSION** that every day it's a different river with the same name. Mike and Lindy Keefe spotted a sculpture in the water while walking along the towpath and emailed me the photo that we're featuring in this month's *WV Perspectives*. They told me they took the same path the next day and it was gone. In some sense that's become the theme of this month's issue, finding the balance between permanence and change.

Certainly the staff and faculty at Shepherd University are searching for that balance. What they bring to the table is a deep commitment to traditions and a respect for expertise. At the Jefferson County Commission, the *Envision Jefferson 2035 Comprehensive Plan* is another example of thoughtfully working through how to manage change, a process we should urge the county to continue. The local Health Departments are glad to report no change for now, but working to bend the curve to report change in a more positive direction. In Hartstown, along a bend in the Charles Town Road road just south of Kearneysville, a community built a permanent place for itself. It's a place that has seen a lot of change in 150 years — and also not enough change. Perhaps our exploration will present opportunities to learn how to adjust that balance.

**Steve Pearson**  
EDITOR IN CHIEF

**Where can you find us?**

Let us know where you want to read us — in your favorite coffee shop, bakery, cafe, community space, library — we want to be there for you.

**CHARLES TOWN & RANSON**

- Charles Town Post Office (newspaper rack)
- Collins Barber Shop
- Fuzzy Dog
- Needful Things
- Sibling Coffee Roasters
- Sumittra
- The Williams Store

**HARPERS FERRY**

- Bakerton Market
- Hamilton's Tavern 1840
- Harpers Ferry Outfitters
- River Riders
- Vintage Lady

**SHEPHERDSTOWN**

- Post Office (pink box)
- Bavarian Inn
- Blue Moon Cafe
- Green Pineapple
- LellyBelle Cafe
- Peddle & Paddle
- Sweet Shop

**JEFFERSON COUNTY**

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- Middleway Market



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// COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

Planning for

# SOLAR

## in Jefferson County

DEBATING THE OPPORTUNITIES &amp; CONCERNS

**I**s there enough sunlight in Jefferson County?

The County Commission is considering an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance that would allow for *by-right development of industrial solar energy facilities on any property in a Rural or Residential Growth Zone District in Jefferson County*. This amendment started with a request to add a conditional use permit process for large-scale solar projects. The proposed text would implement a much more sweeping change to the zoning throughout the County. The next step is a County Commission workshop (details will be posted on

the County website, *JeffersonCountyWV.org*). At the workshop, the commissioners will hear presentations from county staff, industry consultants, and other individuals about issues related to the amendment. Following the workshop, the Commission can either send the amendment back to the Planning Commission for revision or schedule a public hearing on the current version of the amendment. The full text of amendment ZTA 19-03 is posted on *The Observer* website (*WeAreTheObserver.com*) along with additional information and resources on this topic.

For the first article in this series, *The Observer* invited Danny Chiotos to research and address some questions about the nature of the specific solar generation project that initiated the request for this proposed zoning amendment. Danny Chiotos is a professional with a local solar company and a long time advocate for renewable energy. We invite other contributors to submit research and analysis-based recommendations on this topic to [Solar@WeAreTheObserver.com](mailto:Solar@WeAreTheObserver.com) so that we can help the community and our local government officials navigate this discussion.

## Perspectives From A Local Solar Project Developer

**I AM A LOCAL SOLAR PROFESSIONAL.** I work with a local solar company (Mountain View Solar) that is based in Berkeley Springs, WV and also has offices in Winchester, Virginia and Charles Town, West Virginia. I have spent almost twenty years pushing for, and organizing for, environmental justice and renewable energy in our state — ever since I was a student performing basic energy audits at Shepherd University in the early 2000s. For the past few years, I have been helping to develop small and medium-scale solar projects for homeowners, business owners, agricultural producers, and non-profit organizations.

### Scaling Solar The Right Way

Although I work on a scale much smaller than this proposed project, I see the installation of large-scale solar in Jefferson County as complementary to the ongoing development of these local, small and medium-scale solar projects. Large-scale solar is an important part of the bigger strategy to provide necessary renewable energy for the regional economy.

After looking around at other jurisdictions, I also see that a conditional use permit process is more appropriate than the currently proposed “principle permitted use category” given the scale and site-specific characteristics of large-scale solar projects. A conditional use permit process allows for public discussion to build community support.

Jefferson County has the opportunity to be one of our region’s leaders in solar photovoltaic electricity generation. There is no other county in our immediate vicinity that has more proposed large-scale, solar generating facilities, and I am personally excited that Jefferson County can be

at the forefront of reducing pollution and building out solar generation. The transition to clean and renewable energy is happening at an increasing pace. It is important to realize that while this transition will not be perfect, and will sometimes involve hard choices, it is possible and the technology is here.

As I researched the proposed solar project that kicked off the zoning amendment discussion, I identified several points that would be helpful to frame the discussion:

### A Smaller Carbon Footprint

Solar generation has one of the smallest carbon footprints when it comes to methods for generating electricity. Nearly all of the pollution related to solar energy occurs during the mining and manufacturing process of the photovoltaic panels, not during the installation process. The panels and ground mount systems are designed to last for decades. Although the panels contain heavy metals, they are self-contained units and do not emit or leak heavy metals during installation or operation. While it is possible for a severe natural event to damage a panel, this rarely occurs. In practice, system owners and operators have a financial incentive to quickly replace damaged panels as part of their operations and maintenance plans. Properly functioning panels ensure full generation capacity and efficiency.

### Pairing Small-Scale & Large-Scale Solar

Large-scale solar is a necessary step towards transitioning to renewable energy. From working in the field for years, I can say that small and medium-sized solar projects on homes, farms, and businesses are important contributors to building out solar that we own and that directly reduces electric bills for homeowners and business owners. That said, in order to transition to renewable energy at a rapid pace, we need to develop large-scale solar projects too. Limiting solar generation to small and medium-sized installations also misses out on the economies of scale offered by large-scale installations. Personally, I love working with individuals to develop small-scale solar projects on their homes and businesses, but I realize that this activity needs to be complemented by medium and large-scale projects.

### Removing & Recycling

Once a solar facility is built, the system owner generally has a 20 or 25-year leasing agreement with the landowner. The landowner continues owning the land, and the system owner owns and

“

... A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT PROCESS ALLOWS FOR CONTINUED PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND ENSURES COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR THESE PROJECTS ...

”

maintains the facility. Decommissioning plans are a standard part of these land-lease agreements. There is very little permanent infrastructure left by these facilities after they are decommissioned — unlike housing developments and parking lots which are permanent. Panels can be removed for disposal and the solar industry is developing recycling plans for the massive number of panels that will be due for replacement in future decades to reduce waste. The steel racking structures can also be removed and recycled.

### Investing In Our Land

Certain parcels are naturally more favorable for siting solar projects. Key criteria for a successful project sites include southern exposure, ground that’s not too rocky, close access to appropriate utility infrastructure, and existing three-phase distribution lines along roads or appropriate large transmission lines (like the one that passes by Washington High School). It is important to note that not every site zoned for solar meets the criteria to be suitable for solar development. But if a solar facility has appropriate land, interested landowners, and appropriate utility infrastructure now, it will also have the same appropriate geography and infrastructure for solar facilities 30 years later when the initial leasing agreement expires. At that point, the most likely reuse of the site is to renew the project with more advanced panels (likely increasing the generation capacity as well). Assuming current trends, the demand for solar energy will continue to grow as the country progresses towards 100 percent renewable, clean energy sources.

// COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

Installations can connect to existing three-phase local distribution networks.



\$101 million solar project that will help an agricultural producer stay in business by providing reliable leasing revenue for the use of part of their land.

**The Queue to Connect**

Jefferson County can expect continued development interest in large-scale solar. Every large-scale electricity generation facility needs to apply to the regional grid operator (PJM in the mid-Atlantic states) before connecting to the system. The application queue that develops is one way to estimate the potential for future solar projects in an area. Currently, the PJM Interconnection Queue shows 271.5 megawatts of solar facilities proposed for Jefferson County. The land required to support this generation capacity would equate to roughly 1,500 to 3,000 acres (assuming a ballpark figure of 5 to 10 acres per megawatt). For comparison, Frederick County, Virginia has 234 megawatts proposed and Loudoun County, Virginia has 100 megawatts proposed. Queued projects are not guaranteed to be built. Rather, it means that a solar project developer has started the process of evaluating the siting and building of a project. Often these submissions to the PJM Interconnection Queue are just placeholders and many projects in the region are shown as withdrawn or suspended.

The transition to renewable energy is coming. Our zoning ordinance needs to allow best-practice solar development and public oversight of the development process so we can put Jefferson County in the local lead for solar generation and provide sustainable power for our local economy.

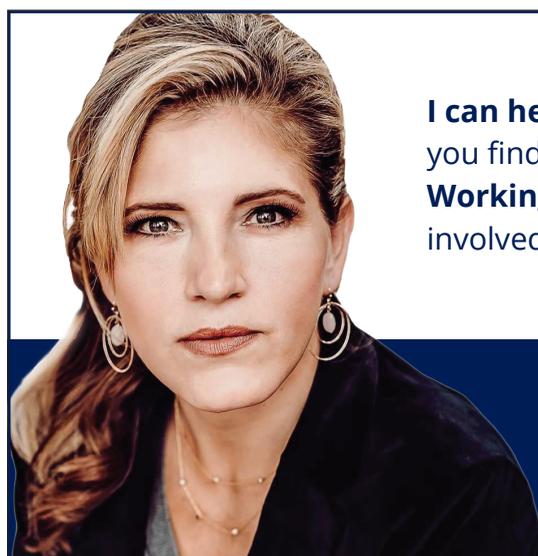
SUBMITTED BY: Danny Chiotos

**A Good Neighbor**

Unlike many industrial facilities, solar panel arrays have low visual impact and are easily screened from roads and neighbors by appropriate landscaping. Generally, the tallest edges of the panels are 10 to 20 feet high. It is also possible to construct panel support structures to allow for compatible uses underneath the arrays and research is ongoing into co-locating agricultural uses with large-scale solar facilities. Many large-scale solar projects are already planting native pollinator species at facility locations and many allow sheep to use facility land for grazing.

**Permitting Large-Scale Solar - Best Practices**

The solar development process is a years-long timeline. A conditional use permit process allows for continued public involvement and ensures community support for these projects. For a similar reason, to ensure public trust, any public official with a financial interest in a project should recuse themselves from deliberation and voting on the project. Frederick County, Virginia is an example of a nearby jurisdiction that uses a conditional use permit process for reviewing and permitting large-scale solar projects. The county recently approved a



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// COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

# GUIDE FOR PLANNING

## Envision Jefferson 2035

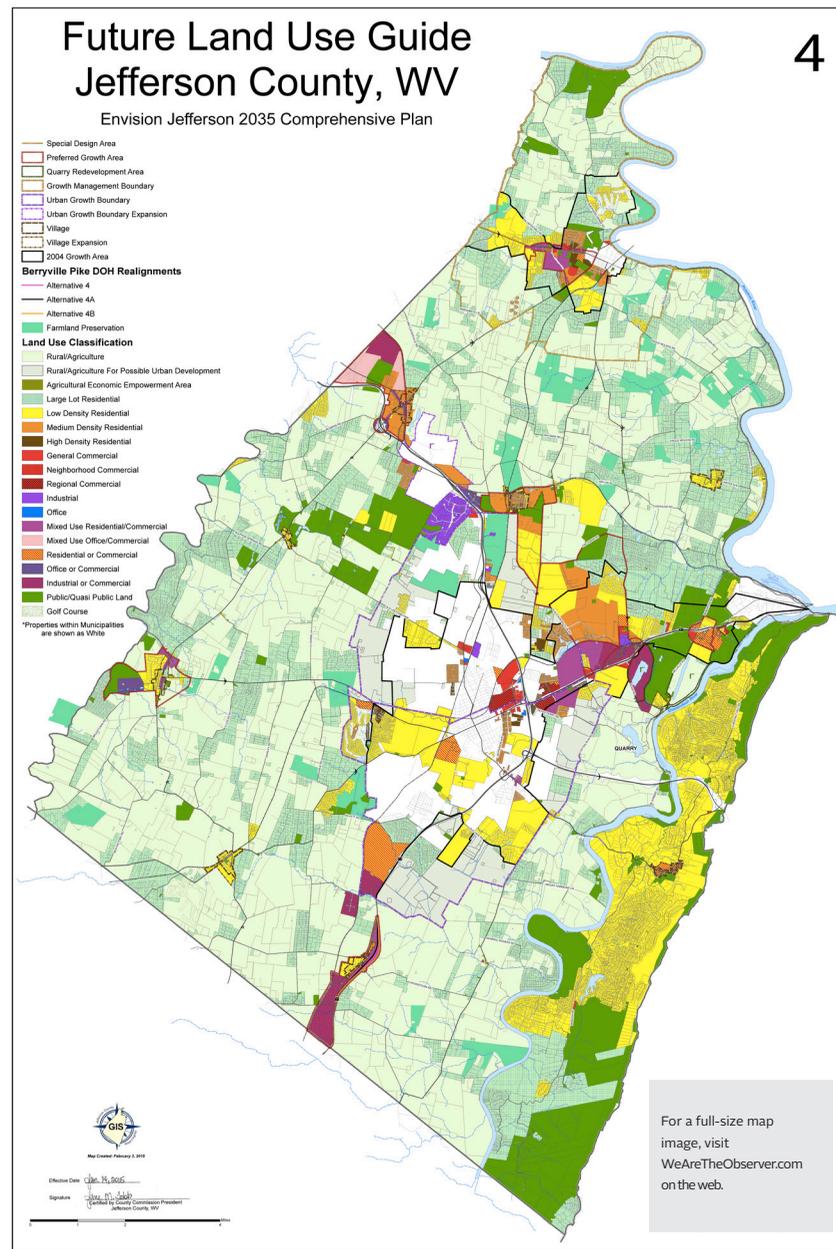
In January 2015, the Jefferson County Commission adopted the Envision 2035 Comprehensive Plan. While it looks out over a 20-year horizon, it can serve equally well as a framework and a roadmap for updating or amending the zoning ordinance. The executive summary of the plan document, reprinted below, summarizes the planning objectives and the process.

**JEFFERSON COUNTY'S** Envision Jefferson 2035 Comprehensive Plan is the fifth plan for the County since the first Planning Commission was formed in 1968. Planning efforts were initiated in Jefferson County in response to a growing federal presence in the County, Washington, D.C. and Baltimore, MD Metropolitan areas' expansions and the development of Dulles International Airport in Loudoun County. Jefferson County citizens determined that the County should plan its future through local land use planning, which generally looks ahead to a twenty-year horizon. In the fall of 2012, the Jefferson County Planning Commission and the Departments of Planning and Zoning staff met with the County Commission to appoint a Steering Committee to develop a new Comprehensive Plan and establish a timeline to include adequate opportunities for public input while meeting the State requirements for adoption in 2014. In an effort to underscore the future nature of the Plan, it was entitled Envision Jefferson 2035, encouraging all participants to look ahead to 2035 to determine how they would like Jefferson County to function in the future. The citizen-based Steering Committee's primary role was to work in partnership with staff to guide the development of the Envision Jefferson 2035 Comprehensive Plan in accordance with the requirements of state law (WVA 8a-3), which states that "the general purpose of a comprehensive plan is to guide a governing body to accomplish a coordinated and compatible development of land and improvements within its territorial jurisdiction, in accordance with present and future needs and resources."

**The two year planning process developed over six phases:**

1. Plan Start Up/Organization;
2. Existing Conditions Data Collection & Analysis;
3. Analysis/Visioning;
4. Development of Goals and Objectives;
5. Development of Plan Recommendations and Implementation Strategies;
6. Plan Adoption.

In addition to the formation of the Steering Committee, a Technical Advisory Committee composed of representatives of various municipal,



infrastructure, and service organizations assisted with the development of the data needed to analyze the existing conditions and identify future standards. The inclusion of the public input was prioritized throughout the entire process and included 13 Lunch and Learn education seminars, a series of four Public Workshops, two online surveys, and two Open House sessions. The final phase included the Steering Committee recommending the completed draft document to the Planning Commission followed by a series of public hearings, workshops, and review by both the Planning Commission and County Commission. The Plan was adopted on January 14, 2015.

## // EDUCATION

# ONLINE, DISTANT, TOGETHER, READY

## Shepherd University Adapts Campus Life

**SHEPHERD UNIVERSITY IS** moving forward with virtual and in-person instruction starting August 24 with an accelerated semester that reclaims Labor Day and Fall Break as instructional days and ends just before Thanksgiving.

Even under the best of circumstances, it's usually still a whirlwind behind the scenes on Shepherd's administrative side to organize university operations, maintain the facilities and plan for the changing needs and expectations of students. Last spring, the University was also working through a strategic review. The complexity of dealing with health guidelines for the pandemic on top of the normal operations and this planning activity was, in some ways familiar. It was the all-encompassing intensity of rethinking everything at the same time with no pre-established guidelines that became the core challenge.

Holly Morgan Frye, a long-time employee of Shepherd, recently accepted the position of Vice President of Student Affairs and Director of Community Relations. "Way back in January we created the Campus Health Task Force," explained Frye. "At the time, we didn't realize that this would all turn into a full-blown worldwide pandemic. We are very grateful for that group that came together, because I am very confident in the work we've done not only in projecting the impacts that this is going to have, but being able to lead the institution in March to going completely online. Once we got there, we then had to flip back into a very different summer while figuring out what the fall would look like!" continued Frye.

### A Pause, Then Online

Shepherd extended its spring break to allow the administration time to make an informed decision about going completely online, which happened at the end of March. Following this decision, Shepherd announced in early April that all summer classes would be going online as well.

As Shepherd navigated decisions surrounding the need to support the health and well-being of its students, employees, and community members, the University moved quickly to face a new challenge. Tucked into all of the corners of the campus are offices of employees who have built a career on providing in-person opportunities for student development,



engagement, and support. The services and resources provided by these employees are largely predicated on shared physical space to give support and build community. While receiving guidance and instruction from the upper administration, each office had to create an entirely new plan to stay supportive, accessible, and relevant in a time of distance learning.

Frye explains, "Nobody thought that we could have 45 students on Zoom for Student Government meetings, but it worked. The fraternities and sororities got extremely creative. Our Student Activities and Leadership Office had to create opportunities to stay engaged remotely. One of our graduate assistants, Shelby Maly, worked hard to maintain an active social media presence, and eventually suggested the idea for our new campaign for the fall semester — 'Get Ram Ready.' No matter what happens this fall, Shepherd University is committed to delivering high level quality instruction, support, and engagement to our students, and we want our students to have the information they need every step of the way."

### Focus on the Possible

Dr. Scott Beard serves as the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Shepherd, where he has been hard at work ensuring guidelines for quality remote instruction. "We have been meeting since January to discuss different plans, and we have tried to be as transparent as possible with how we think things will happen," Beard said. "Over the summer, 100 percent of our full-time faculty have completed training and certification to teach online in preparation for the fall semester. We feel that it is important to offer some type of in-person experience when possible, made some changes and consulted with faculty about which classes could be fully online." Some of Shepherd's professional programs with requirements from accrediting organizations — such as social work, teacher education, and nursing — have experiential requirements for certification which necessitated additional consideration when adjusting instruction methods.

"Kudos to the faculty because they arose to the occasion and pivoted very quickly," added

Beard. “Many of these classes offer unique challenges with remote instruction. Some of the natural sciences labs for example can be conducted at home, but for more complex labs, faculty have elected to record themselves conducting the labs and require their students to identify which steps their professor did wrong. About 23 percent of our classes will be fully online in the fall, with many classes being some level of hybrid based upon the needs of the course. For the instruction that does happen in-person, we have made many steps to prepare our campus community with additional precautions.”

**Making Space**

While Shepherd’s large commuter population reduces the demand on some in-person services, there were still plenty of changes that had to be made on campus. Jack Shaw, Shepherd’s Vice President for Campus Services, shared just a few of the strategies that Shepherd will be implementing this fall. “Residential students this fall will be mostly within single rooms, though there is a pathway where students can request to live together after signing a waiver,” Shaw said. “Overall this has decreased our number of available beds on campus from 1100 down to around 600 beds, and we will review other options as needed.”

Shaw continued, “We had one point of dining service in the spring up until the end of the semester in hopes to encourage students to support the restaurants downtown, but the fall is going to look a lot different than previous years. We have gone from 240 seats down to 80 seats, and we’re hoping to develop outdoor seating availability on the Midway. The serving areas will be grab-and-go, and with the need to maintain

cleanliness, we’ve also made the tough decision to switch to disposables for this semester.”

Beard noted that, in addition to deployment of directional signage and social distancing reminders, the administration is also making several efforts designed to de-densify the campus based upon calculations for social distancing capacity. This has included staggering hours of employees, modifying class schedules, adding more class sections, and removing and rearranging furniture so that most classrooms will be around 40% of their normal capacity. “It’s a big jigsaw puzzle,” added Beard, who also explained that they have built-in set times during the day and overnight for deep cleaning.

Students seem to be anxious to return to campus, but even with the increased number of student deposits this fall, Shaw cautioned that changes to residence life and dining situations, as well as capacity restrictions at the Wellness Center, may likely reduce overall revenue for the University in the short-term. Nonetheless, Shaw is optimistic about the coming semester. “We have an opportunity to serve some students that we might not have had otherwise, and so are doing our best to make people feel really good about Shepherd.”

**Relying on Evidence & Expertise**

“The biggest challenge in leading our group is that everything changes daily,” said Frye. “It’s a novel virus, and we’re learning. The beauty about Shepherd University is who our president is — Dr. Hendrix is a scientist. She is leading the university based on fact, not fiction. She leads based upon her scientific expertise and her contacts within the scientific and medical world. That gives us an

incredible advantage in our ability to make good decisions for our campus.” Frye added, “We also have the advantage of being in concert in our thinking with Shepherdstown’s Mayor, who we meet with twice each week as a part of our Campus Health Task Force. Shepherdstown was the first municipality in West Virginia to officially promote the use of masks.”

**The Student Perspective**

These changes will have a huge effect on Shepherd students, though some have grown to accept the necessity of these actions. Tyler Izydore is a senior sociology student at Shepherd this fall and the Lead Resident Assistant for Shaw and Thacher Halls as well as well as a VP of the Student Government Association. “It’s a different process, but that doesn’t make it a bad one,” said Izydore. There’s no doubt in my mind that everybody here is doing everything that they can to make Shepherd as safe as possible. I trust the people above me making those decisions. I’m really proud of my institution – I’m proud to be a Shepherd Ram.”

Holly Frye echoed that sentiment, addressing her comment to all students: “Get Ram Ready, because we are committed to open for Fall 2020, and we’re going to help you be successful. Trust us, and please call us with concerns. Sometimes we need a lot of clarity and specificity, but the difficulty that we all face together is that things change on a weekly or daily basis. Though our plans might change, our message that remains consistent is that the safety of our students comes first, and we hope to have a great semester this fall here at Shepherd University.”

ARTICLE BY: Rich Goodman



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// COMMUNITY

## BUILDING AND REMEMBERING

An Exploration of Hartstown, A Pioneering Black Community in Jefferson County

APPALACHIA IS OFTEN viewed through a narrow lens. The stories of Black communities throughout the region are often left untold or simply overlooked. Acknowledging these communities and preserving their stories helps us to truly understand the broad patterns of the cultural landscape in which we live today.

### A Free Community

Following the end of the Civil War, formerly enslaved men, women and children developed many self-sustaining communities based on proximity to employment opportunities. Hartstown (or Hart's Town) was the name of one such community that developed in Kearneysville, West Virginia, following the Civil War. Individuals from Hartstown found jobs at the nearby orchards, quarries, and the nearby railroad. By the turn of the 20th Century, Hartstown was a thriving community with social organizations, businesses, and multiple religious congregations working hand-in-hand for the betterment of all residents.

Mascena Hart and John H. Fox were two pioneers of this community. Hart purchased the first lot and operated a grocery store for the community. Fox had been enslaved on Dandridge Farm in Kearneysville and won his freedom after enlisting with the Union Army during the Civil War. In 1879, Fox, along with George W. Johnson and George Mason, purchased a plot of land along what is now known as Charles Town Road, adjacent to Mascena Hart's lot, to build what would become St. Paul's Baptist Church. In 1883, adjoining land was deeded to Douglass Roper, David Washington, Sr., Benjamin Carter, George H. Fox, and George Mason to expand and use for a cemetery. This church was Hartstown's first Black church. It housed lively community events from its inception, including an "African concert" in June of 1890; the Shepherdstown Chronicle newspaper article advertising the event touted the participation of "three native-born Africans" and states "the public is invited to patronize these entertainments."

### Building Churches, Building Bonds

In 1889, William T. Stewart, orchard owner and former slave owner, deeded a piece of property to a group of men from Hartstown — Allen Cole, Douglass Roper, Daniel Ford, Benjamin Carter,



St. Paul's Church — paid for and built by the members of the congregation.

and John Wesley Fry — for the purpose of building a Methodist Episcopal (M.E.) church. The deed (recorded in book U, page 304) refers to the church as the M.E. Church of Kearneysville, also known as Stewart Chapel African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Church. Stewart Chapel eventually added a meeting house to their property and often hosted events such as gospel concerts and the 'Miss Stewart Chapel' contest, as well as large meals for the community.

The relationship between St. Paul's Baptist Church and Stewart Chapel Methodist was quite unique. The services and Sunday school classes of both churches were scheduled such that the community could attend services at both, further strengthening community bonds. Stories of quarry baptisms and community members coming together to help build and expand one another's churches paint a vivid picture of the spiritual bond and kinship between the residents of Hartstown. Evidence of this bond can also be seen in the respective cemeteries associated with these churches and the names inscribed on their stones, to the extent that community leader and eventual

trustee of St. Paul's, Boyd Carter, is buried in the cemetery adjacent to the St. Paul's Baptist church, while the cemetery that bears his name in memoriam stands on top of the hill as an extension of the Methodist Cemetery established by Stewart Chapel A.M.E. Church.



Mascena and Sara Hart, buried on their own land.

**The Right To Be Remembered**

Cemeteries and burial grounds were an integral part of these reconstruction and Jim Crow era Black communities. Following the abolition of slavery, the community cemetery and church were the first pieces of land these families owned. The burial land also connects to an enduring struggle — through slavery and segregation, the burial of an Black person could be viewed as freedom in death — free from the struggles of life and now able to return home. Cemeteries were a permanent place for individuals to have honor, their name memorialized, and possibly the first and only documentation of their existence.

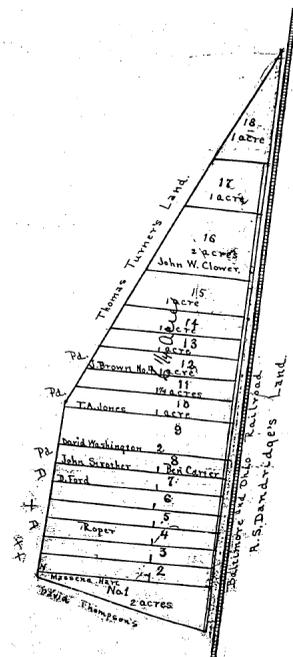
St. Paul’s Baptist Church, still active today, has a cemetery on the front lawn of the church property, with the Hart-Lucas burial plot on the adjacent property to the south. Stewart Chapel’s cemetery is not on an adjoining property but is a short distance away from the old church property, on the crest of a hill, bordering the former apple orchard, and close to the nearby quarry.

**A Burying Ground**

In 1902, some of the trustees of Stewart Chapel — Allen Cole, William Goens, Tucker Ford, Albert Mason, Douglass Roper, Benjamin Carter, and Wesley Fry — acquired land for another cemetery from Danial Baker, of the Standard Lime and Stone Company that operated the nearby quarry. Another example of the interwoven relationships of the church and community, Douglass Roper and Benjamin Carter were also trustees of both St. Paul’s and Stewart Chapel churches. The new piece of land was on the orchard border, previously owned by the largest slave-holding family in the county, the Dandridges, then owned by William T. Stewart.

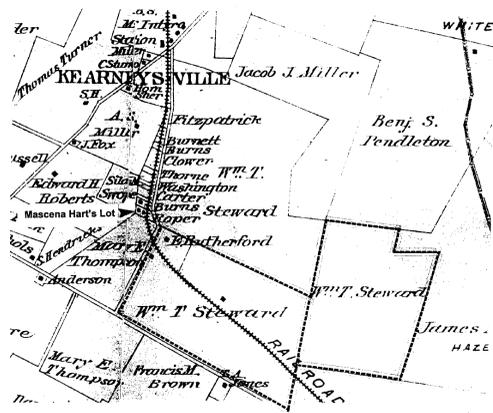
The original deed for the cemetery (recorded in book 98, page 68) refers to it as a “burying ground” and it was never given an official name. Over the years, those laying their loved ones to rest referred to the cemetery by various names including Kearneysville Methodist, Methodist Cemetery of Kearneysville, Stewart Chapel Methodist Cemetery, or Methodist Episcopal (M.E.) Cemetery.

Local historians believe that due to the large number of persons enslaved on the bordering properties, the burying ground was already a place where enslaved individuals were buried before it was officially deeded as a “burying ground for colored people and no other purpose.” The location of the cemetery on the border of an orchard and farm which had been run with slave-labor, the number



Plat of Hartstown from 1872 Deed Book.

“  
**Cemeteries were a permanent place... for individuals... possibly the first and only documentation of their existence.**  
 ”



Map of Kearneysville in 1883.

of graves marked only by field stones and yucca plants, as well as obvious burial mounds and/or depressions, are all features typically found in the burial grounds for enslaved workers.

**The Legacy of Boyd Carter**

Local community leader, Boyd Carter, was deeply involved in the Hartstown community. Carter worked at the local quarry for more than 40 years and, when the quarry closed its operations in the 1940s, Standard Lime and Stone sold Carter several plots of land throughout Kearneysville and Hartstown. Most of these properties were thereafter deeded to families in the community. He became a trustee of St. Paul’s Baptist church in 1927 and also played a pivotal role in the eventual expansion of Kearneysville Methodist Cemetery.

On June 8, 1948, Boyd Carter acquired the property bordering the Methodist cemetery on the northeast and northwest (recorded in deed book 173, page 120). Around this time, Carter used a portion of this land to create an extension on the original Methodist cemetery. The first recorded burial following this land acquisition was that of Susan Turner who died on June 21, 1948. Ownership of the property used to extend the Methodist cemetery transferred hands after Carter’s death in 1959. In a deed from November 7, 1963, there is mention of the 1948 cemetery extension and the possibility of burials beyond the deeded boundaries of the Methodist cemetery: “...this conveyance is made subject to such rights of burial as may exist - it being understood that there may be certain bodies buried in the portion of the land herein described near-to and along the northeast line of the old cemetery and the northwest line of the old cemetery” (recorded in deed book 263, page 273). On December 9, 1963, after a legal battle, David and Alice Allen were assigned as trustees of the portion of Boyd Carter’s land that had burials (recorded in deed book 264, page 149). Burial records indicate that many of the Kearneysville and Hartstown families deeded land by Boyd Carter were also later buried in this cemetery. It seems fitting then that this addition to the Methodist Cemetery was eventually named Boyd Carter Memorial Cemetery, to recognize the man who provided members of the community a place of their own in life and beyond.

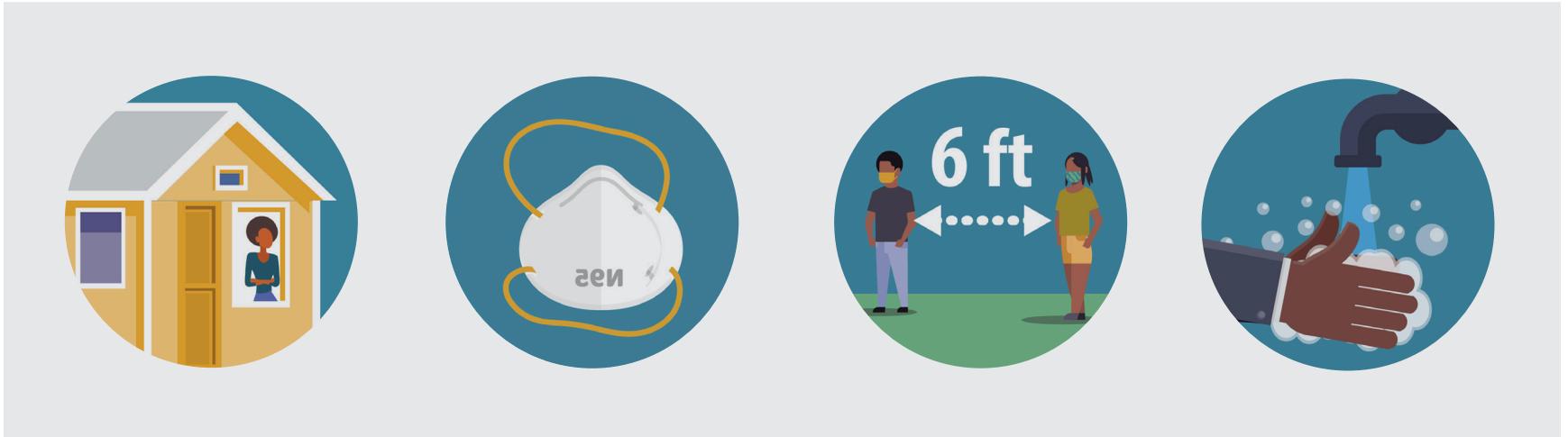
**ARTICLE BY: Addison Reese**

*This article is the first in a series. In next month's issue: Conversations with the descendants of Hartstown's founders and leaders.*

// PUBLIC HEALTH

# PANDEMIC IN THE PANHANDLE

Dr. Terrence Reidy Discusses COVID-19



**WEST VIRGINIA'S COVID-19** cases rose in July, reported Dr. Terrence Reidy, Health Officer for the Berkeley, Jefferson and Morgan County Health Departments, in a phone interview. “In the spring, we saw cases spike in Berkeley and Jefferson Counties. We got it early because we’re part of the Baltimore-DC metro area. Many people drive back and forth to work daily, so it’s not a surprise. Now we see big spikes in Morgantown, Huntington, Parkersburg, Charleston. The further you get from the dense cities, the less the initial peak is, as far as density, but then it spreads out like a forest fire.”

Case count statistics are based on residence. That means the test results of a Virginia resident are counted towards Virginia’s COVID-19 figures, even if the individual was tested in West Virginia. College students are considered residents based on where they attend school. “The number most important to me is cases per 100,000 people,” said Reidy. “Berkeley and Jefferson County numbers are similar, based on cases per 100,000 people. We think for every case we prove with a test, there may be 10 more. But based on the week-to-week trends we can measure, we seem to be stable.”

“There are no vaccines, so we are trying to give advice on how to stay safe,” said Reidy. “It’s all new, and the answer over months has changed whenever the governor changed the law — like masks or no masks, how many people can get together. The law is one piece and then there is the biological part.” He explained, “The law may allow you to have 100 people together, but it’s not a good idea — just like the law would allow you to drink a fifth of whiskey a day, but that’s not a good

idea from a health standpoint! So, we try to interpret it. Because we all have experience knowing what happens when people drink large amounts of whiskey, we can relate to that. But it’s harder to relate to this new reality.”

“  
**... The law may allow  
 you to have 100 people  
 together, but it’s  
 not a good idea ...**  
 ”

The role of the Health Department has changed considerably since the appearance of COVID-19. Sanitarians in the department's Environmental Division who previously focused on food safety and health inspections of restaurants are now answering questions about when different businesses can open up and what sort of precautions they have to take. “It’s a lot of answering the same questions over and over. The

biggest obstacle and the biggest benefit is the media,” Reidy declared. “The enemy is gossip and rumor, lack of knowledge or incorrect knowledge. The biggest tool is that people get the knowledge, and they say, ‘Oh, if I can stay away from others, if I alter my behavior, I decrease the chance I can get it.’”

There are certain things that look like they do help — wearing a mask, keeping social distance and avoiding crowds. “Ideally you want people to do that voluntarily,” said Reidy. “In some cultures, people are much more willing to accept that kind of advice, but their governments don’t give them a choice. In America, some of our individualistic values don’t work well with a situation like this. For the most part, people do very well following traffic regulations, which are somewhat arbitrary, but we know we have to do that if we are going to function as a society. It doesn’t matter if you drive on the left or the right side of the road, just so everyone does it in the correct way.”

The Health Department has been offering free COVID-19 testing at various locations. When individuals test positive, or if they have symptoms that strongly indicate they have COVID-19, the Health Department calls them to see how they are doing. The department also tries to notify any people that may have been exposed to the original individual during the period when they were infectious. Individuals notified through this contact tracing process should stay isolated for about 14 days to prevent potentially spreading the virus to others. “For the most part,” Reidy reported, “14 days after someone has tested positive or has had symptoms, they will not be

infectious any more. But we don't know if or how long before they could get infected again."

Reidy observes that there is sometimes almost too much news coverage. "Every little new suggestion gets equal weight because it's new — every drug that might work or something that might work. With new treatments, it takes time to find out what really does work — things like antibody testing and how long people are immune. It's hard because we want answers now. There's always the race to be first to give the answer, and the trouble is that it may not be correct. So when we find something works, we want another study to validate it because it often turns out that it might not have been quite so good. So we wait."

The Health Department gets information from many sources, including medical literature, now mostly internet-based. Recommendations from doctors, hospitals, and infectious disease specialists are funneled to public health departments. "Of course we see a lot about new things on television, but now we can go check on it in medical journal articles. We can see information by leading people. As Health Officer,

I'm talking to people at the state level several times a week and meeting with the Commissioner of Health by Zoom or telephone once a week. Communication is so easy now — both to get detailed articles and guidelines. Years ago, you had to wait for a book to be published."

Reidy continued, "You can get different opinions by different experts looking at the same information. What does this mean? This is, of course, highly involved in politics because it's not simply about medical aspects, it's about how the society responds to it. You have to figure out what part is public health and what part is governance. But that's true of smoking, HIV, drug use, traffic control and all those things. Medical statistics are part of it, but then how you alter society to reduce risks becomes a big part of public health." Since the governor's proclamation requiring masks indoors starting July 7, Reidy has noticed a big change. "I see more masks. People recognize the authority of the governor and respect the law."



Dr. Terrence Reidy,  
Health Officer

**The Doctor's Advice:**

Get information from reputable sources and medical experts — don't rely on speculation on the internet or social media.

Be civil — don't argue about masks or distance.

Recognize that people are going to die from this, far more than a typical flu.

Recognize that some people will be permanently disabled.

Definitely avoid crowds but do enjoy social-distanced outdoor activities.

We're in this for the long haul.

ARTICLE BY: Claire Stuart



# THE WEATHER IS *HOT, HOT, HOT!*

## ... AND SO IS THE SHEPHERDSTOWN MARKET!

 <p><b>PENDING</b></p> <p>24 Pathfinder Ct. Shepherdstown — \$569,900</p>	 <p><b>PENDING</b></p> <p>12 Appomattox Ln. Shepherdstown \$385,000</p>	 <p><b>PENDING</b></p> <p>404 Starkeys Lndg. Shepherdstown — \$225,000</p>	 <p><b>PENDING</b></p> <p>202 E. High St. Shepherdstown — \$365,000</p>	 <p><b>PENDING</b></p> <p>83 Minden St. Shepherdstown — \$285,000</p>
 <p><b>SOLD</b></p> <p>527 Billmyer Mill Shepherdstown — \$289,000</p>	 <p><b>SOLD</b></p> <p>4530 Shepherd Grade Shepherdstown — \$175,000</p>	 <p><b>SOLD</b></p> <p>29 Ryan Way Shepherdstown — \$192,500</p>	 <p><b>SOLD</b></p> <p>39 Watercress Place Shepherdstown — \$997,500</p>	 <p><b>SOLD</b></p> <p>628 Morgana Drive Shepherdstown — \$340,000</p>



**JACKIE LEWIS – BROKER // C: 304-283-2569 // O: 304-876-3737 // jackielewis47@yahoo.com // greentreerealty.com**

// SHEPHERDSTOWN

# KEEPING THE VIBE ON GERMAN STREET

The Lost Dog Finds Its Home



IN 1995, Garth Janssen found an opportunity to realize his own vision when he saw a space being vacated by another shop-keeper and opened the Lost Dog on German Street. For 25 years, that vision was his life, his family, his community, his art. There was coffee, tea, baked goods, conversation, and attitude too. All part of a performance canvas that found its way into the Lost Dog. Garth talks about listening, watching — years behind the counter can make one attuned to the whispers of the world and things to come. What he heard earlier this year made him uneasy. “I saw this coming in January, it wasn’t going to be good. Week after week it felt darker. I made the decision to close on March 12. A lot of people argued with me about that, but I knew where it was going and yelled back, hoping others would listen.”

Since opening in 1995, Garth counts that the Lost Dog has been open almost “365 days a year, every year. Maybe we were closed 19 or 20 days that whole time. When I hung up the ‘closed’ sign in March it was the hardest thing I’ve ever done. To know that I wouldn’t be coming back in the morning. I was numb. I stared at the walls. I cried. I even started a garden.”

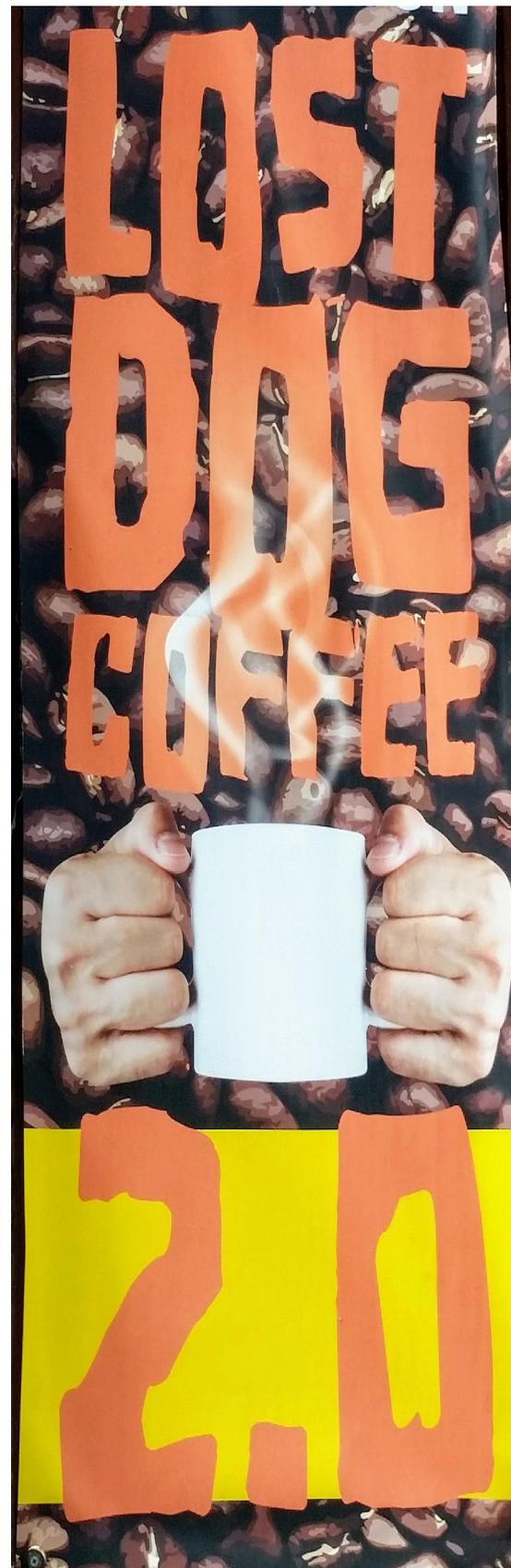
“As this stretched on, I knew I had to make a decision. Cash out? Rebuild? The tired part of me wanted to wrap it up and find something different. But I thought about this crazy place

and the crazy people and kept thinking about what holds the fabric together and who comes next — will they understand the spirit of this town? That’s when Brad Lewis came into the picture and tilted me to the decision, not to rebuild, but to rethink. He bought the building, but he also invested in the idea.”

“You can see the new to-go window we put in. Actually, it’s the old window, we just figured out how to get it open and put in steps so customers could get up to it. That was Butch Deal. He had an idea and showed up and did it. Like a lot of others who helped with this rebirth process. The idea of the window isn’t new either, I thought about it in 1995, but never got to it and everything else built up. Now that we have cleaned out the old, we’ll have a dining room and a service counter that works when we can let customers inside. And patio out back too.”

“I need to be open, but I’m not sure I should be. We clean, we wear masks, we welcome our customers. For me it’s a calculated risk. I owe it to myself and I owe it to the community to be here. I just hope I set an example.”

*Lost Dog Coffee Fine Arts Drink Emporium at 134 East German Street, Shepherdstown WV. Phone: 304-876-0871, Web: [LostDogCoffee.com](http://LostDogCoffee.com), Facebook: [@LostDogCoffee](https://www.facebook.com/LostDogCoffee).*



// WELLNESS

# IT'S OK TO ASK FOR HELP

## A Family Working To Prevent Teen Suicide

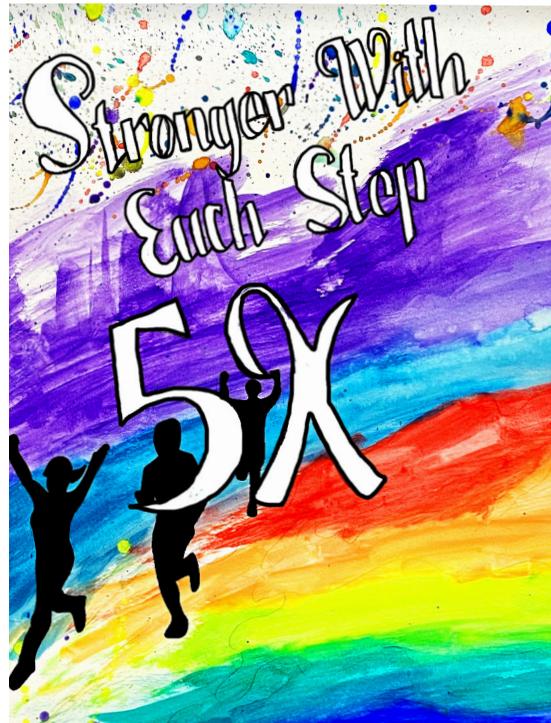
THE BRIAN O'NEILL JR FOUNDATION has a simple mission: to empower individuals and their families to help prevent suicide in youth and young adults. For Lee O'Neill, the president of the foundation, this mission is personal. Her son Brian was a typical kid, with many friends. He played saxophone, was athletic, and loved the outdoors. He was constantly helping others. In 2018, he died by suicide at age 23.

Through the foundation, O'Neill hopes "to make a change in our community, make a cultural change that includes strength-based messaging, to promote being kind to yourself, and to believe in your worth." In its first year, the foundation is introducing three evidenced-based suicide prevention programs to the Eastern Panhandle.

"We worked with American Foundation for Suicide Prevention-WV to bring the Sources of Strength program to Musselman High School this year," said O'Neill. "This program is about hope, health, strength, and connections. We had the national trainers come to Musselman to train our adult advisors and student peer leaders. The peer leaders learned to identify and define strengths for themselves, to help build resilience to get them safely through hard times, times of crisis, times of struggle. They learned how to identify and connect to trusted adults, mentors and resources."

"Our peer leaders then did a few campaigns in the school to spread this strength-based messaging to other students," O'Neill continued. "These were amazing teens, and I am so proud of each of them for being vulnerable to this process and willing to be a leader in our community. We are working with the school system and Sources of Strength to continue this program in Musselman and will be coming up with some creative ways of implementation to accommodate the changes in the schedules. We hope to eventually bring this program to the other middle and high schools in the Eastern Panhandle."

"The second program we are introducing this year is SafeTALK, a half-day workshop for adults, to educate community members about how to identify an individual in crisis or at risk for suicide, and about the resources available to assist that person." O'Neill emphasized that, "this is not about making mini-counselors in our area, it is about making people more aware and connecting people to agencies or resources that will be able to help get that at-risk individual through the crisis and back on the right track."



"Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) is a follow-on program to the SafeTALK training," added O'Neill. "Later this month, the foundation is hosting Barry Faucet and Michelle Toman from Suicide Prevention West Virginia and Brother Up for a two-day training session to teach direct intervention skills for community members."

**Need to Talk?**

If you are struggling or have questions, O'Neill urges you to call the **National Suicide Hotline** (800-273-8255) or text the Crisis line ( 741741). You can start with a simple hello and someone will respond. No judgements, no lectures, just a resource — you can talk with them daily — you ARE worth it. The Brian O'Neill Jr Foundation also has a page on its website with other resources to help you find the right fit for you.

**Register for the Run**

The Brian O'Neill Jr Foundation is organizing the Stronger With Each Step 5K Run to raise funds for its programs, to be held September 5 in Shepherdstown. This event is planned as a physical race, but there is a contingency plan in place if health guidelines change. Participant registration is open and sponsor opportunities are available. For details on registering for the programs mentioned above or the 5K event, visit the BrianOneillJrFoundation.org website.



*Assessor's Office*  
Jefferson County  
West Virginia

### NOTICE OF FILINGS DUE

ASSESSMENT INFORMATION  
as of JULY 1, 2020

**DATES TO FILE:**

**JEFFERSON CO. DOG TAGS**  
July 1st

**FARM USE FORMS & FARM STATISTICS**  
File by September 1st

**COMMERCIAL BUSINESS REPORT**  
Due by September 1st  
(Corporation & Business Forms)

**PERSONAL PROPERTY REPORT\***  
Due by October 1st  
\*Online filing available!

**HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION**  
Apply by December 1st

Located in the  
Charles Town Courthouse  
100 East Washington Street  
(304) 728-3224  
Monday - Friday | 9am - 5pm

Handicapped entrance -  
108 East Washington Street

[jefferson.wvassessor.com](http://jefferson.wvassessor.com)

// ENVIRONMENT

## BUTTERFLY WEED — OUTSTANDING IN OUR FIELD

**WE WERE TALKING** and my wife suddenly stood with her mouth open, staring out into our distant hayfield. “That looks like orange butterfly weed!” she exclaimed, her eyes wide with surprise.

The showiest member of the milkweed family is called butterfly milkweed or butterfly weed because so many butterflies can’t resist sipping nectar from its brilliant orange blossoms. Its leaves are also a favorite food plant of the larvae of the monarch butterfly.

When we enrolled our hayfield in the Potomac Valley Audubon Society’s grassland bird habitat initiative, it consisted of the usual fescue, orchard grass and timothy. Over the years before we got here, the hayfield had somewhat deteriorated and was being overtaken by invasive non-natives including multiflora rose, Johnson grass, and Russian olive. Native common milkweed was already established here, and in the wetter part of the lower paddock we discovered a few swamp milkweed plants. But until today we hadn’t seen any butterfly milkweed.

Milkweeds are extremely successful at propagating themselves. Common milkweed spreads by underground runners and very quickly colonizes an area. When we first moved here, only a few clumps of common milkweed grew alongside the road. During the time we’ve lived here, common milkweed has spread into all our fields.

Butterfly weed doesn’t grow runners but has a long taproot. Although it thrives in many soil types, it prefers well drained areas and full sunlight and spreads chiefly by seed. Like all milkweed species, its dusty seed pods pop open in the fall to release hundreds of seeds with silky white parachutes that the wind carries far and wide. No doubt that is how the butterfly weed came to grow in our field. Today I found just two clumps, both in bloom.

Butterfly weed tops the list of plants recommended for native grassland and pollinator gardens. So far, our own efforts at converting our old hayfield into grassland bird habitat have been gradual. When the highway department graded part of the bank next to the road, we were desperate to check erosion. We ordered a special native grassland perennial seed mix and I reseeded the exposed slope. Now, two years later, colorful flowering native plants hold the soil and beautify the bank. But this is just window dressing as far as bird habitat is concerned. Inside the fence is another story.

As we struggle to manage the hillside hayfield to grow better natural food and cover for nesting birds, it sometimes feels like an uphill battle. Non-native Johnson grass, honeysuckle and multiflora rose are opportunists that muscle in. Even our common milkweed may monopolize the field if left unchecked. Our goal is to increase the diversity of native plants where we can.

But today, a brilliant blooming butterfly weed in our field is both a gift and a lesson. A pandemic now limits our travels and brings havoc and despair into our midst. But if we take time to look closely, nature can still delight and surprise us, even in our own backyards.

### ARTICLE BY: Doug Pifer

Doug Pifer is an artist, naturalist, and writer. He has a Master’s Degree in Journalism from Penn State and has been an editor and art educator. His illustrations have appeared in various books and magazines and he has been a contributor to *The Observer* for several years. He lives with his wife and assorted animals on 5.7 acres in a historic farmhouse near Shepherdstown.



A zebra swallowtail butterfly visits a clump of orange butterfly weed blooming in our hayfield. Photograph by Doug Pifer.



### Want a Wildlife Habitat In Your Yard or Farm?

The Potomac Valley Audubon Society (PVAS) Grassland Bird Initiative and other habitat improvement programs are a resource for local landowners.

[POTOMACVALLEYAUDUBON.ORG](http://POTOMACVALLEYAUDUBON.ORG)

// BOOK REVIEW

## RON RASH'S APPALACHIA

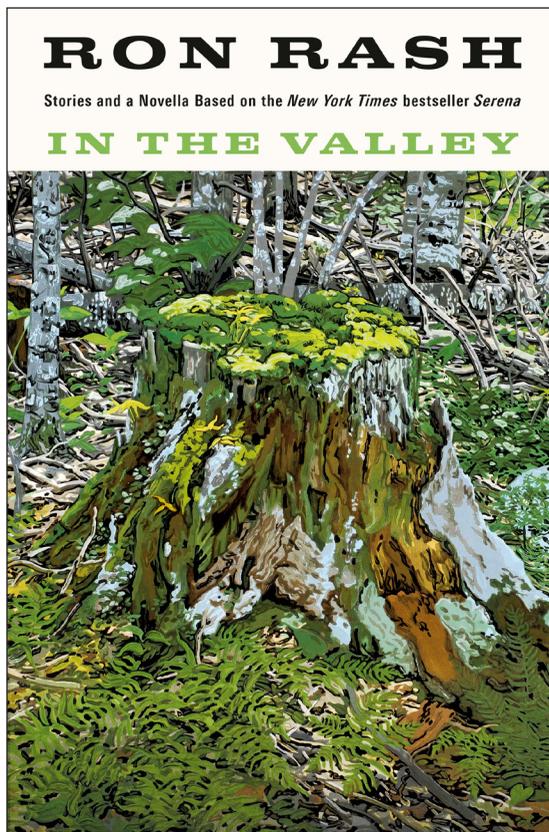
*In the Valley*, by Ron Rash  
(Doubleday, 2020)

RON RASH (1953) started out as a poet and short story writer in the '90s before he published his first novel, *One Foot in Eden* (2002) and the novel that catapulted him to national literary prominence, *Serena* (2008), later adapted into film. In his newest work, *In the Valley*, Rash returns to the short story form as well as to the characters of *Serena* in the novella that gives name to this collection.

Exhibiting the linguistic grace of Rash's poetry and his ability to capture both a world – typically, southern Appalachia – and a mental landscape in a few lines, these stories immerse the reader in vivid settings. In “Last Bridge Burned,” a lonely gas station attendant by the name of Carlyle is reminded of his own troubled past when he helps an intoxicated woman get back on her feet after she shows up at midnight, barefoot and moneyless. As he reminisces: “*One day you'll learn trouble finds a fellow easy enough without inviting it in.*” Carlyle was sixteen when his exasperated father told him that. By the time he'd finally heeded the advice, Carlyle had lost three jobs and two wives.”

In “L'homme Blessé,” a recently widowed college teacher helps a former student make sense of the life of her father, a World War Two veteran who painted the walls of his house with reproductions of prehistoric art he saw in a cave in liberated France. In “Sad Man in the Sky,” a man who has just been released from prison persuades a helicopter pilot to fly over his stepchildren's home in order to deliver presents from the sky and sidestep the restraining order that keeps him apart from his former family.

From the 19th century to contemporary Appalachia, Rash's stories traverse ages with the same ease as they humanize characters from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds, from the wounded, stubborn male who struggles with a life stacked against him to the strong-willed woman who makes her way amid a landscape of destitution.



Ron Rash. Photo by Richard Nourry.

### THE MYTH OF SERENA PEMBERTON

The novella “In the Valley” takes us back to the Depression-era, North Carolina logging camps of Rash's epic *Serena*. The novel, which told the story of lumber baroness Serena Pemberton, often depicted its main character as an almost mythical being, inscrutable in her capacity for cruelty toward both men and the mountain landscape. That same impenetrable and remote malignancy is displayed in this sequel as Serena roams the campgrounds on a white stallion and an eagle perched on her arm. Coming across as an Appalachian Countess Báthory, Serena is obsessed with razing a forest in record time even if it is at the expense of the lives of countless loggers and an army of prison laborers. In his prose, Rash juxtaposes brutality and poetry: “From the direction of the graveyard, human shapes emerged, but they did not walk like men. They approached, arms limp, gaits hesitant, like specters summoned from the deepest of sleeps. Fog unraveled around them like shroud cloth as they made their torpid progress across the valley floor.”

Ron Rash has carved out a niche of his own among the country's best contemporary writers. This short story collection shows him at the top of his form.

### ARTICLE BY: Gonzalo Baeza

Gonzalo is a writer born in Texas, raised in Chile, and currently living in Shepherdstown.

His books have been published in Spain and Chile, and his fiction has appeared in *Boulevard*, *Goliad*, and *The Texas Review*, among others.

TOWN GUIDE // AROUND THE REGION



# LOCAL EVENTS & LIVE MUSIC



Barrel for Two at Breaux Vineyard



Wear a Mask (Big Cork Vineyard)



Food & Drink (B Chord Brewing)

ONCE YOU START spending more time at home, you begin to realize the importance of the local economy — the small businesses and restaurants on our main streets, the clerks, the servers, and other staff they employ, the numerous personal service businesses, the independent contractors, the musicians, the artists — it’s a vital network that extends throughout our region. Individually each business plays a small part, but together they are a key part of our communities.

With this issue, *The Observer* is launching a new TOWN GUIDE section to highlight the the several "downtowns" of Jefferson County — Harpers Ferry/Bolivar, Charles Town/Ranson, and Shepherdstown. Along with a music and entertainment calendar for the surrounding region, future issues will include maps, merchant directories, and special event coverage to help our readers enjoy the place we call home.

We encourage everyone to visit and explore

locally to help sustain our communities and support our neighbors through the challenging months ahead. We also encourage everyone to respect the public health guidelines for mask usage and social distancing. Our thanks to these businesses for working through the complexities of evolving health regulations and navigating the daily challenges of ensuring the health and safety of their staff and all patrons.

—*The Observer* team

TOWN GUIDE // ENTERTAINMENT



**VIRGINIA**

**868 ESTATE VINEYARDS**

14001 Harpers Ferry Rd, Hillsboro, VA 20132  
540-668-7008 • 868estatevineyards.com

Hours: Wed/Thurs 11-6, Fri/Sat 11 - 8:30, Sun 11-6  
Outside seating only

**AUG 15, 6pm, Tropical Attitudes**

**B CHORD BREWING**

34266 Williams Gap Rd, Round Hill, VA 20141  
571-474-9191 • bchordbrewing.com

**EVERY 2ND AND 4TH THURSDAY OF THE MONTH,**  
*Old Time Irish Jam, 6pm*

**EVERY 1ST AND 3RD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH,**  
*Bluegrass Jam, 6pm*

**BOZZO FAMILY VINEYARDS**

35226 Charlestown Pike, Purcellville, VA 20132  
571-918-9001 • bozzowines.com

Hours: Fri 3-6, Sat 1-6, Sun 1-5

**AUG 1, 2pm, The Distillers**

**AUG 15, 2pm, Mike Clement**

**BREAUX VINEYARDS**

36888 Breaux Vineyards Ln, Purcellville, VA 20132  
540-668-6299 • breauxvineyards.com

Hours: Mon-Fri 11-6, Sat/Sun 11-7

**AUG 8, 11-6, BBQ & Bluegrass, Food, wine & crafts for sale**

**AUG 22, 11-6, Dog Day Celebration, Food, wine, exhibits & contest, dogs on leash welcome**

**BRIGHT BOX WINCHESTER**

15 N Loudoun St, Winchester, VA 22601  
540-665-2878 • brightboxwinchester.com

**AUG 15, 8pm, The Reflex 80s tribute band (tickets req.)**

**AUG 16, 6pm, Linda Ronstadt tribute (tickets req.)**

**AUG 22, 8pm, Will Overman and The Judy Chops (tickets req.)**

**DIRT FARM BREWING**

18701 Foggy Bottom Rd, Bluemont, VA 20135  
540-554-2337 • dirtfarmbrewing.com

**Aug 7, 5:30pm, Michael Kelly**

**Aug 14, 5:30pm, Andrew O'Day**

**Aug 28, 5:30pm, Shane Gamble**

**HARPERS FERRY BREWING**

37412 Adventure Center Ln, Purcellville, VA 20132  
571-420-2161 • facebook.com/HarpersFerryBrewing

**AUG 1, 3:30pm, Teddy Chipouras**

**AUG 7, 3:30pm, Misha Heirron**

**AUG 8, 12:30pm, Jambalaya Brothers**

**AUG 8, 3:30pm, Dave Minenberg**

**AUG 9, 12:30pm, Jambalaya Brothers**

**AUG 15, 3:30pm, Sundog Ritual**

**AUG 21, 5:30pm, Kenny Ray Horton**

**MAGGIE MALICK WINE CAVES**

12138 Harpers Ferry Rd, Purcellville, VA 20132  
540-905-2921 • maggiemalickwinecaves.com

**AUG 1, 2pm, Ron Hamerick**

**AUG 2, 2pm, Dan Cronin**

**AUG 8/9, Puppy Palooza – Dock Dogs**

**AUG 8, 2pm, John DuRant**  
**AUG 9, 2pm, Anthony Semaio**  
**AUG 15, 2pm, Skins and Strings**  
**AUG 16, 2pm, Moseby Territory**  
**AUG 22, 2pm, Sarah and Slide**  
**AUG 23, 2pm, David Davol**  
**AUG 29/30, Pondfest 2020 (Dog competition)**  
**AUG 29, 2pm, Borrowed Time**  
**AUG 30, 2pm, California Bob Hale**

**TWIN OAKS TAVERN WINERY**

18035 Raven Rocks Rd, Bluemont, VA 20135  
540-554-4547 • TwinOaksTavernWinery.com

**Aug. 1, 1:30pm, Jamie Potter**

**Aug. 8, 1:30pm, Wayne Snow**

**Aug. 15, 1:30pm, Gary Smallwood**

**Aug. 22, 1:30pm, Scott Ross**

**Aug. 29, Ken Wenzel**

*Open mike every Sun 1:30-5:30*

**TWO TWISTED POSTS WINERY**

12944 Harpers Ferry Rd, Purcellville, VA 20132  
540-668-6540 • twotwistedposts.com

Hours: Thurs-Mon 11-6

**AUG 8, 2pm, Ted Garber Music**

**AUG 22, 2pm, Live Music with Jes Jams!**

**WINCHESTER CIDERWORKS**

2504 N Frederick Pike, Winchester, VA 22603  
540-686-7632 • WinchesterCiderworks.com

**AUG 15, 3pm, Micah Howard The Southern Ghost**



**MARYLAND**

**ANTIETAM CREEK VINEYARDS**

4835 Branch Ave, Sharpsburg MD 21782  
240-490-2851 • antietamcreekvineyards.com

**AUG 1, 2-5, Prophets of the Abstract Truth**

*(food from Bentwood Smokers food truck noon-5)*

**AUG 2, 2-5, Summer Sunday Concert: East of Antietam**

**AUG 8, 2-5, Dave Lange Solo**

**AUG 15, 2-5, The Hokums (Dan Cronin)**

**AUG 16, 2-5, Gary Jay Power Duo**

**AUG 23, 2-5, Tim Gotwald Duo**

**BIG CORK VINEYARDS**

4236 Main St, Rohrsersville, MD 21779  
301-302-8032 • bigcorkvineyards.com

Hours: Thurs 11-5, Fri 11-9, Sat-Mon 11-5

Outside music - Bring a chair and blanket for the lawn, bring your own glass or buy a glass to take home

**AUG 1, 1pm, Adriel Genet**

**AUG 2, 1pm, Jon Zorn**

**AUG 7, 5pm, Rhythm Kings**  
**AUG 8, 1pm, Alexander Barnett**  
**AUG 9, 1pm, Allie and Luna**  
**AUG 14, 5pm, Freddie Long**  
**AUG 15, 1pm, Ken Wenzel**  
**AUG 16, 1pm, Julia Kasdorf**  
**AUG 21, 5pm, Hard Swimmin' Fish**  
**AUG 22, 11-6, Big End of Summer Bash (tickets req.)**  
**AUG 23, 1pm, Matt Johnson**  
**AUG 28, 5pm, Cotton Wanderings**  
**AUG 29, 1pm, Andrew O'Day**  
**AUG 30, 1pm, Caleb Hacker**

**BLUE MOUNTAIN WINE CRAFTERS BOUTIQUE WINERY**

117 E Baltimore St., Funkstown, MD 21734  
301-791-2882 • bluemountainwinecrafters.com

Hours: Sat 11-6, Sun 12-5, Mon 11-6,  
Tues 11-5, Weds-Fri 11-6

Outside music and wine/cider making classes

**AUG 1, 2pm, Danny Spickler**

**AUG 7, 6pm, Jason Teach**

**AUG 8, 2pm, Paul McNeil**

**AUG 14, 6pm, Kerensa Gray**

**AUG 15, 1pm, Rich Fehle**

**AUG 21, 6pm, Crazy Monkey Karaoke**

**AUG 22, 2pm, Ted Casper**

**AUG 28, 6pm, Devin Morningstar**

**AUG 29, 2pm, Bob Courter**

**KNOB HALL WINERY**

14108 St. Paul Rd, Clear Spring, MD 21722  
301-842-2777 • knobhallwinery.com

**AUG 2, 3pm, Henri Verdel**

**AUG 7, 7pm, Staff Infection**

**AUG 15, 3pm, JAH Works**

**AUG 21, 7pm, Blindcide**

**RED HEIFER WINERY**

12840 Red Heifer Winery Ln, Smithsburg, MD 21783  
301-824-5210 • redheiferwinery.com

Live music every Saturday and Sunday, 5pm, open lawn

**AUG 1, 5pm, Nik Wiseniewski**

**AUG 2, 5pm, Aaron Daniel Gaul**

**AUG 8, 5pm, Charlie Schueller Trio**

**AUG 9, 5pm, Bob Keel**

**AUG 15, 5pm, Paul McNeil**

**AUG 16, 5pm, Nick Andrew Staver**

**AUG 22, 5pm, The Negley Brothers**

**AUG 23, 5pm, Kerensa Gray**

**AUG 29, 5pm, Jon Ingels**

**AUG 30, 5pm, Matt & Emily**

Distance Socially & Drink Responsibly

**LIVE PERFORMANCE** is currently prohibited by West Virginia public health guidelines, but is allowed in Maryland and Virginia (face covering and social distancing guidelines apply everywhere). Events are free unless noted otherwise.

TOWN GUIDE // CHARLES TOWN & RANSON



## BELIEVING IN THE COMMUNITY

Sibling Coffee Roasters opens in Charles Town

FOR LIBBY POWELL, it started with a carnival-type popcorn popper that her kids got as a present. Thinking it might be fun to repurpose the popper to roast coffee, Libby began to experiment a quarter cup of beans at a time. Encouraged by rave reviews from family, she upgraded to a small coffee roaster and started selling coffee beans at the Clarke County Farmers Market in early 2017. It was an informal operation, with plain brown bags and hand-written labels, but Libby was surprised at the demand.

At the same time, she was also mulling over the direction of her professional career. Twenty years as an ER nurse and another five working post-op were wearing on her and she was looking for a change of pace.

After taking a roasting course, and with continued support from her family, Libby expanded the vision she had for her operation. She didn't have a specific business plan as much as a goal — to provide a place for conversation. As Libby describes it, “a coffee shop not a place to argue a point, but a place where people could come together, see a welcoming face, share a smile, to feel comfortable as they are.”

In the fall of 2019, Libby connected with Angie Jones who was looking for a tenant to replace B Vintage which was moving down the street. By February of this year, her shop was up and running. Libby noted the assistance she received from Charles Town officials. “Seth Rivard was really helpful. There were some tricky details to navigate with putting in the venting for the roasting machine in the tight spaces in this old building, but we were able to come together to figure out a solution that works.”

While Libby has also had to confront additional challenges created by the arrival of COVID-19, she notes that she has not had to face these challenges alone. “The business community, coordinated by Liz Cook, has been pulling together too,” said Libby. “We were excited with the welcome we received when we opened in February, then downtown became a ghost town in March, April and May. We really relied on each other for mental

support as we'd look out our windows to see if there was even a single car passing by on the street. In the community too, I see people are talking to each other more — there seems to be a real hunger for conversation and a desire to connect with others.”

Talking about her own plans, Libby notes “as a nurse, I'm used to dealing with health precautions and disinfecting, but it's the customers' concerns that are more complex. I'm fortunate that I'm able to offer multiple options, with curbside pickup, tables and chairs to the front porch, and now opening up the inside counter with the health guidelines. So far we seem to be able to put our patrons at ease and I enjoy seeing and chatting with the people who are becoming regulars. We also sell all of our coffee online and I'm optimistic about the next year and looking forward to my next challenge, to expand my staff and be open throughout the week.”



The North roasting machine at the center of the shop.

Visit Sibling Coffee Roasters at 304 West Washington Street in Charles Town WV. Phone 540-450-7908, Web [SiblingCoffeeRoasters.com](http://SiblingCoffeeRoasters.com), Facebook [@SiblingCoffeeRoasters](https://www.facebook.com/SiblingCoffeeRoasters).



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TOWN GUIDE // CHARLES TOWN & RANSON



MERCHANT DIRECTORY



Charles Town, a Main Street community.

THE SHOPS AND RESTAURANTS in downtown Charles Town and Ranson are open (call or check online for specific hours and service updates). Many of the shops are also available online. Outdoor seating is available at Abolitionist Ale Works, Paddy's Irish Pub, and Sibling Coffee Roasters.

There is free, two-hour parking on Washington Street during the week. Meters on side streets are free on weekends and after 5 pm during the week. There are also two metered parking lots off Charles Street and another metered lot off Church Street. Meters on the streets and lots take coins and Parkmobile (25 cents/hour). Currently there are no public restrooms other than inside the open restaurants.

*DI = dine inside; DO = dine outside; TO = take out / to go; CS = curbside*

FOOD, DRINK & ENTERTAINMENT

ABOLITIONIST ALE WORKS

129 W Washington St  
681-252-1548  
*DI, DO, TO, Delivery*

GRANDMA'S DINER

227 W Washington St  
304-724-9960  
*DI, TO*

HOLLYWOOD CASINO

750 Hollywood Dr  
800-795-7001  
*DI, TO*

INKWELL'S TAVERN

205 W Washington St  
304-930-1742  
*DI, CS*

NEEDFUL THINGS

218 W Washington St  
304-725-6315  
*DI, TO*

OLD OPERA HOUSE

204 N George St  
304-725-4420

ORTEGA'S TACO SHOP

100 W Washington St  
304-728-4321  
*TO, CS*

PADDY'S IRISH PUB

210 W Liberty St  
304-725-4999  
*DI, DO, TO, CS*

SIBLING COFFEE ROASTERS

304 W Washington St  
540-450-7908  
*DI, DO, TO, CS*

SUMITTRA

211 W Washington St  
304-885-8747  
*DI, TO*

TEE DAWGS BBQ

307 S Washington St  
304-725-2271  
*DI, CO, CS*

SHOPPING & GALLERIES

ART DECO DEKOR

114 E Liberty St  
304-724-6004

B.VINTAGE

114 W Washington St  
304-885-8920

BUSHEL & PECK

100 W Washington St  
304-885-8133

FAST CASH PAWN

237 W Washington St  
304-885-0066

FEAGANS JEWELERS

226 W Washington St  
304-725-7411

FUZZY DOG BOOKS & MUSIC

111 N Charles St  
304-867-9321

THE HOBBIES SHOP

226 W Washington St  
681-252-0861

LITTLE POTTERY HOUSE

117 N Charles St  
304-820-6485

MITIELDA LATINA

124 W Washington St  
304-885-4544

NEEDFUL THINGS

218 W Washington St  
304-725-6315

OP-SHOP

115 N Charles St  
304-725-6605

TRADEWINDS FLOORS

204 W Washington St  
304-728-9980

WEAR IT AGAIN KID

311 W Washington St  
304-725-7549

THE WILLIAMS STORE

131 W Washington St  
202-674-0300

THE WOODEN SHOE

222 W Washington St  
304-725-1673

YARNABILITY

130 W Washington St  
304-876-8081

SERVICES

COLIN'S BARBER SHOP

103 W Washington St  
304-725-0123

EFFLEURAGE SPA & BOUTIQUE

303 W Washington St  
304-240-8012

GARRISON'S BARBER SHOP

109 N Charles St

SOKEL MAKEUP & SKIN CARE

123 N Charles St  
304-728-8801

STUDIO M

231 W Washington St  
304-728-9988

TAILORING BY TERESA

115 W Washington St  
304-724-6408

THE UPPERCUT

305 W Washington St  
304-725-1950

TwoRiversTreads.com  
304.885.8843

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TOWN GUIDE // HARPERS FERRY & BOLIVAR



## PROMOTING WEST VIRGINIA

The Vintage Lady Doesn't Sit Still

CINDY DUNN has owned The Vintage Lady shop since 2004, and she's seen a lot of people walk through the door in the past sixteen years. That changed when the pandemic shut down her shop in March. Although she built up an online store during the temporary shutdown, she missed the spontaneous energy customers brought into the shop.

The store is open again — just Friday through Monday for now. While Cindy was glad to reopen, she noted, “the street seems busy, but not as busy as a normal summer. And it's different when people come in only a few at a time. What I enjoyed most about the store was the energy, seeing the smiles and hearing the

laughter as customers explored the merchandise. Everyone is more reserved now.”

Cindy spoke about the fire in 2015. “We lost everything. But it was an opportunity to rethink and refresh. We moved only a few doors up the street, but what we sell really changed. I focused on curating the merchandise, focusing on WV products — food, glass, jewelry. It's become more of a mission for me over the past few years, to find and support local artists.”

As she spoke about the current challenges, Cindy described it as worse than the fire. “With the fire, you knew what to expect. There was a process with the insurance company, you knew what was lost. And what you had to do to reopen. Once the fire was out, there was a checklist of things to do, and a list of people to call. At the time I didn't think anything would be worse than the fire, but this is. It's not the complications and the rules, but the uncertainty. Not knowing if customers will be able to come in and shop next month, not knowing when the park will reopen, not knowing if I should plan to order merchandise or wait.”

“I know we'll come through this, but it will be step by step. We're still making plans and hoping we'll be able to make them happen eventually.”

*Visit The Vintage Lady at 180 High Street, Harpers Ferry WV. Phone: 304-545-1313, Web: TheVintageLady.net, Facebook: @VintageLadyHarpersFerry.*



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Harpers Ferry, WV | 304.596.0255

TOWN GUIDE // HARPERS FERRY & BOLIVAR

MERCHANT DIRECTORY



Harpers Ferry encourages social distancing.

THE SHOPS AND RESTAURANTS in Harpers Ferry and Bolivar are open, especially on the weekends (call or check online for specific hours and service updates). Many of the shops are also available online. Outdoor seating is available at most restaurants. The town has installed portable restrooms at the end of Potomac Street (near the train station parking lot).

For outdoor activities, the pedestrian bridge across the Potomac River rail bridge has been reopened. Park trails are also open, but the visitor center and museums are currently closed to the public. There are no trash cans or restrooms available in the park.

In the lower town, limited parking is available at the train station and also at the river access lot in the park (off Shenandoah Street). Put-in access to the Shenandoah River is accessible by foot trail from the river access lot. Parking up the hill and in Bolivar is restricted to marked spaces (please be mindful of the cones indicating no parking zones).

*DI = dine inside; DO = dine outside; TO = take out / to go; CS = curbside*

FOOD, DRINK & ENTERTAINMENT

**A LA MODE CAFE**  
113 Potomac St  
540-514-6255  
TO

**ALMOST HEAVEN PUB & GRILL**  
177 Potomac St  
304-535-8710  
DI, DO, TO

**THE ANVIL RESTAURANT**  
1290 W Washington St  
304-535-2582  
DI, DO, TO, CS

**THE BARN OF HARPERS FERRY**  
1062 W Washington St  
855-935-2276  
DI, DO

**BATTLE GROUNDS BAKERY & COFFEE**  
180 High St  
304-535-8583  
DI, TO, CS

**THE CANAL HOUSE CAFÉ**  
1226 W Washington St  
304-535-8551  
DO, TO

**CANNONBALL DELI**  
125 W Potomac St  
304-535-1762  
DO, TO

**COACH HOUSE GRILL N' BAR**  
173 Potomac St  
540-514-6255  
DO

**COFFEE MILL**  
140 Potomac St  
540-514-6255  
TO

**COUNTRY CAFÉ**  
1715 Washington St  
304-535-2327  
DI, DO, TO

**CREAMY CREATIONS**  
173 Potomac St  
304-535-3045  
DO, TO

**HAMILTON'S TAVERN 1840**  
914 Washington St  
304-535-8728  
DI, DO

**HARPERS FERRY BREWING**  
37412 Adventure Center Ln  
571-420-2160  
DO

**KELLEY FARM KITCHEN**  
1112 Washington St  
304-535-9976  
TO, CS

**THE RABBIT HOLE**  
186 High St  
304-535-8818  
DO, TO

**SWEET ALISHA'S PIZZA**  
180 High St  
304-535-8769  
DI, DO

**WHITE HORSE TAVERN**  
4328 Wilson (Clarion)  
304-535-6314  
DI, DO, CS

SHOPPING & GALLERIES

**GILDED FLEA ANTIQUES**  
930 Washington St  
304-268-0763

**HARPERS FERRY PARK ASSOCIATION BOOKSHOP**  
723 Shenandoah St  
304-535-6881  
Currently online only  
(www.HarpersFerryHistory.org)

**HODGE PODGE**  
156 High St  
304-535-6917

**MAGPIE POTTERY**  
163 Public Way  
757-376-1748

**MARY ADAMS ACCESSORIES**  
170 High St  
304-535-2411

**MOUNTAIN HOUSE SHOPPE**  
175 High St  
304-932-0677

**NATURE'S HEALTH AND BODY**  
180 High St  
772-228-4367

**OLDE TOWNE LIQUORS**  
1001 Washington St  
304-535-2153  
Currently closed

**HARPERS FERRY OUTFITTERS**  
106 Potomac St  
304-535-2087

**RIVERS STUDIO & GALLERY**  
1346 W Washington St  
703-727-2532

**TENFOLD FAIR TRADE COLLECTION**  
180 High St  
304-579-8525

**TRUE TREATS COOL**  
Confectionaries  
144 High St  
304-461-4714

**THE VILLAGE SHOP**  
144 High St  
304-535-8333

**THE VINTAGE LADY**  
180 High St  
304-535-1313

**WASHINGTON STREET STUDIOS**  
1441 Washington St  
240-586-3030

SERVICES & ADVENTURE

**APPALACHIAN TRAIL VISITOR CENTER**  
799 Washington St  
304-535-6331  
Currently closed

**GHOST TOURS OF HARPERS FERRY**  
100 Church St  
304-725-8019

**HARPERS FERRY ADVENTURE CENTER**  
37410 Adventure Center Ln  
540-668-9007

**TOY TRAIN MUSEUM**  
937 Bakerton Rd  
304-535-2521

**JOHN BROWN WAX MUSEUM**  
168 High St  
304-535-6342  
Currently closed

**RIVER & TRAIL OUTFITTERS**  
90 Millville Rd  
301-834-9950

**RIVER RIDERS**  
403 Alstadts Hill Rd  
800-326-7238

**WHITE FLY OUTFITTERS**  
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—C.G. Jung  
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TOWN GUIDE // SHEPHERDSTOWN

MERCHANT DIRECTORY



Shepherdstown encourages health guidelines.

MOST OF SHEPHERDSTOWN'S shops and restaurants are open, especially on the weekends (call or check online for specific hours and service updates). Many of the shops are also available online. The Bavarian Inn's expansive patio overlooking the Potomac River is open and the Blue Moon, Bistro 112, Domestic, Hecho en Mexico, Kome, the Press Room, and the Sweet Shop downtown all have outdoor seating areas. All of the other restaurants are offering take out service — visitors are welcome to use the campus lawn on German Street, the Wall, or the many benches around downtown for take-out dining. Public restrooms in the Community Club and Town Hall are available on weekends.

For outdoor activities, the C&O Canal park is accessible by biking or walking across the Rumsey bridge and the boat ramp into the Potomac River at the foot of North Princess Street is open. Parking at all metered spaces is free every day in August. Visitors can also park for free in the University lot on East High Street on weekends.

*DI = dine inside; DO = dine outside; TO = take out / to go; CS = curbside*

FOOD, DRINK & ENTERTAINMENT

**BAVARIAN INN & BREWPUB**

164 Shepherd Grade Rd  
304-876-2551  
*DI, DO, TO*

**BETTY'S RESTAURANT**

112 E German St  
304-876-6080  
*DI, TO*

**BISTRO 112**

112 W German St  
304-876-8477  
*DO, TO, CS*

**BLUE MOON CAFÉ**

200 E High St  
304-876-1920  
*DI, DO, TO*

**CHINA KITCHEN**

101 W German St  
304-876-6620  
*TO*

**COMMUNITY GARDEN MARKET**

207 S Princess St  
304-870-4230  
*TO*

**DEVONSHIRE ARMS CAFÉ & PUB**

107 S Princess St  
304-876-9277  
*DO, TO*

**FARMER'S MARKET**

S King St (behind library)  
Sunday Mornings  
*TO*

**GRAPES & GRAINS GOURMET**

110 E German St  
304-876-1316  
*TO*

**GREEN FROG**

5476 Shepherdstown Rd  
304-229-2999  
*DI, DO, TO*

**GREEN PINEAPPLE**

142 E German St  
304-870-4439  
*TO*

**HECHO EN MEXICO**

201 E German St  
304-870-2944  
*DI, DO, TO, CS*

**KING'S NY PIZZA**

304-876-0217  
*DI, TO*

**KOME THAI & SUSHI BISTRO**

120 W German St  
304-876-8798  
*DI, DO, TO*

**LELLYBELLE CAFÉ**

104 E German St  
304-437-8678  
*TO, CS*

**LOST DOG COFFEE**

134 W German St  
304-876-0871  
*TO*

**MARIA'S TAQUERIA**

108 E German St  
304-876-3333  
*TO*

**MECKLENBURG INN**

128 E German St  
304-876-2126  
*DO*

**PRESS ROOM**

129 W German St  
304-876-8777  
*DI, DO, TO*

**PRESSED FLOUR**

111 W German St  
304-224-8951  
*TO, CS*

**RUMSEY TAVERN (CLARION)**

233 Lowe Dr  
304-870-7140  
*Not Open*

**SHEPHERDSTOWN LIQUORS**

202 E Washington St  
304-876-2100  
*TO*

**SHEPHERDSTOWN OPERA HOUSE**

131 W German St  
304-876-3704  
*Not Open*

**SHEPHERDSTOWN SWEET SHOP**

100 W German St  
304-876-2432  
*DI, DO, TO, CS*

**TOMMY'S PIZZA**

101 N Mill St  
304-876-2577  
*TO*

SHOPPING & GALLERIES

**ADMIRAL ANALOG**

141 W German St  
301-491-6050

**AZAD'S ORIENTAL RUG EMPORIUM**

144 E German St  
240-707-8987

**BADGERHOUND STUDIO & GALLERY**

110 W German St  
304-261-6028

**BRIDGE GALLERY**

8566 Shepherdstown Pike  
304-876-2300

**CHRISTIAN CAINE (JEWELRY)**

99 Maddex Square Dr  
304-876-1313

**COOPER CAPTURES**

107 E German St  
304-263-3100  
Online

**CREATIVE PROCRASTINATIONS**

132 E German St  
410-917-7262

**DICKINSON & WAIT CRAFT GALLERY**

121 E German St  
304-876-0657

**EVOLVE**

106 W German St  
540-604-6703  
Not Open

**MEDITATIVE MEDICINALS**

123 W German St  
719-221-1543

**FLOWER HAUS**

112 E German St  
304-283-0588

**FOUR SEASONS BOOKS**

116 W German St  
304-876-3486

**GALLERY AT 105**

105 S Princess St  
304-876-8080  
Online

**GERMAN STREET MARKET**

103 W German St  
304-876-1106

**THE GOOD SHOP**

123 E German St  
304-876-8007

**HONOR D FINE SHOES & HATS**

121 W German St  
304-539-3236

**KIMOPICS GALLERY**

133 W German St  
304-582-1487  
Not Open (relocating)

**MOUNTAINEER POPCORN**

102 W German St  
410-937-4612

**O'HURLEY'S GENERAL STORE**

205 E Washington St  
304-876-6907

**ON THE WINGS OF DREAMS**

139 W German St  
304-876-0244

**RICCO GALLERY (JEWELRY)**

125 W German St  
304-870-4175

**TONIC HERB SHOP**

140 E German St  
304-870-4527

**THE VILLAGE FLORIST**

122 E German St  
304-876-3344

SERVICES & ADVENTURE

**DOWNSTREAM TO WELLNESS**

110 S Princess St  
540-336-4737

**JALA YOGA FLOW**

117 W German St  
401-440-0279

**NOVA ALTERNATIVE WELLNESS**

129 E German St  
304-885-0093

**SHEPHERDSTOWN MYSTERY WALKS**

Meet at the Library  
301-639-0651

**SHEPHERDSTOWN PEDAL & PADDLE**

115 W German St  
304-876-3000

