

The WV INDEPENDENT Observer

JEFFERSON COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

FEBRUARY 2021

ECONOMY

Making The
Train Connection

4

COMMUNITY

Testing For Well
Water Pollution

6

ART

Perspectives On
America In 2020

7

NATURE

Chewing On
Water Science

10

BOOK REVIEW

Small Town Wit
By Larry Thacker

11

EXPLORE

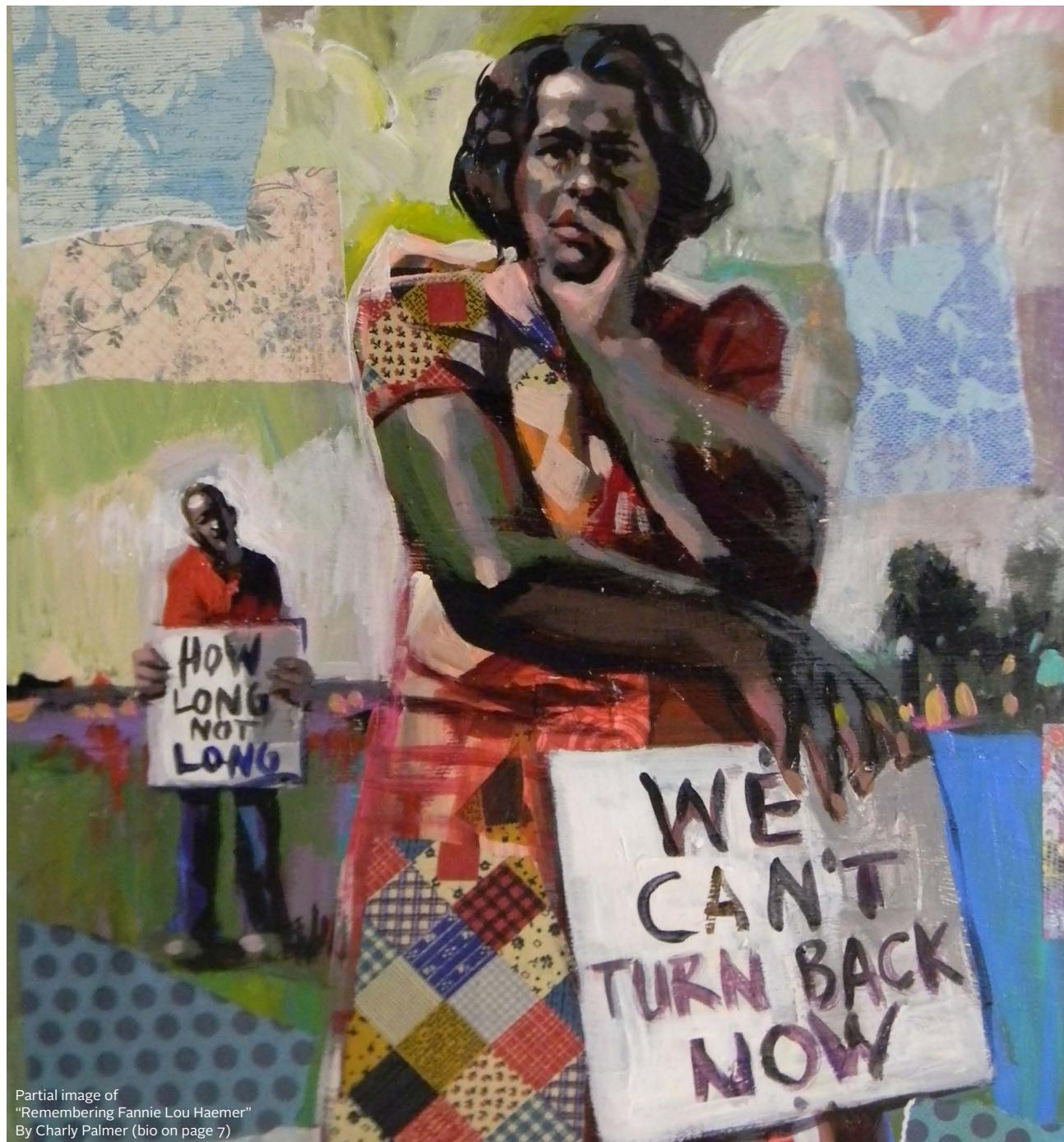
12 Around Jefferson

13 Shepherdstown

14 Charles Town & Ranson

15 Harpers Ferry & Bolivar

16 Along the C&O Canal



Partial image of
"Remembering Fannie Lou Haemer"
By Charly Palmer (bio on page 7)

FOR MORE FEATURES, COMMUNITY NEWS, AND LOCAL EVENTS, VISIT WEARETHEOBSERVER.COM

SHEPHERDSTOWN Medical Office Building

Accepting New Patients



Christopher Bellew, MD
Family Medicine



Mark Cucuzzella, MD
Family Medicine



Maninder Kaur, MD
Pediatrician



Rosie Lorenzetti, MD
Family Medicine



Courtney Struthers, MD
Internal Medicine



Rebecca Thompson, DO
Family Medicine

WVU Medicine Primary Care & Pediatrics - Shepherdstown is now accepting new patients at our new medical office building. Our primary care providers work together to provide compassionate and comprehensive services to your entire family.

Provider appointments may be scheduled online through:

- MyWVUChart.com
- wvumedicine.org

or, call us at **304.876.6343**.



Also available onsite:

- Specialty Care
- Behavioral Health
- Lab Services*
- X-Ray* **Coming Soon!**

*Both departments of Berkeley Medical Center

EDITORIAL STAFF

EDITOR IN CHIEF

STEVE PEARSON

CONSULTING EDITOR

MICHAEL CHALMERS

MANAGING EDITOR

CATHERINE PEZZARO

DESIGN

JORDAN HUDKINS

CONTRIBUTORS

RICH GOODMAN
 GONZALO BAEZA
 WENDY BARAKA
 DANNY CHIOTOS
 DANIELLE CORSETTO
 MARK CUCUZZELLA
 TRACY DANZEY
 AMY HIETT
 DOUG PIFER
 CHRIS PRICE
 ADDISON REESE
 ALEX STEVENS
 CLAIRE STUART
 JORDYN TRUAX
 STEPHEN WILLINGHAM

PUBLISHER

HARRIET PEARSON

BUSINESS MANAGER

LESLIE DAVISSON

FOR ADVERTISING

Email: **SALES@**
 WeAreTheObserver.com

Phone: 304-249-8968

Ad Deadline is 15th
 of each month

BE AN OBSERVER

Share your photos, story ideas,
 questions, and comments.

Email: **CONNECT@**
 WeAreTheObserver.com

THE OBSERVER ONLINE

Web: WeAreTheObserver.com
 Facebook: @WVObserver

Copyright © 2021
 WV Independent Observer LLC
 131 West German Street
 PO Box 3088
 Shepherdstown WV 25443

Published Monthly. Printed by
 FNP Printing, Frederick, MD.

THIS PAPER WANTS TO BE RECYCLED. 

WV PERSPECTIVES



The Mount Zion Freewill Baptist Church, built in 1898, stands near the Johnstown community which was established in 1848 as a free Black community organized by descendants of the Johnson family who first settled in the area in 1732 after departing Northampton County, Virginia.

TO OUR READERS

THE RAILROADS WE SEE around Jefferson County never cease to fascinate me and Harriet (and our dogs). While there is a sense of permanence in these structures of steel, stone and wood, many of these buildings have evolved or been transformed through time. For example, the Harpers Ferry station (pictured on page 15) was moved, intact, several hundred yards from its original location and the Martinsburg hotel/station building (page 4) is a seamless blend of historic and modern. It reminds us of a rhythm that has existed for centuries — both enduring and changing.

I stumbled upon Mt. Zion church (above) when researching another article last year and noted the pre-Civil war date for the Johnstown community on the informational marker. When I did some further research, I was surprised to find a history of a small number of free Black settlers in Jefferson County dating to the early 1730s, concurrent with the earliest settlers of European descent — a fact that I hadn't seen before in the popular historical accounts.

I connected with Eileen Berger of Just Lookin' Gallery in a similarly accidental fashion, looking for artists whose work was affected by the events of 2020. Reading through their bios and statements, it struck me that "remembering" history also includes the deliberate act of preserving the present for the future.

As we proceed through the decade of the 2020s, our conversations about the balance we strike between permanence and change will determine what track our history takes.

 **Steve Pearson**
EDITOR IN CHIEF

// ECONOMY

TRANSPORTATION HUB FOR THE EASTERN PANHANDLE

Martinsburg's Rail Connection to the Regional Economy



Both MARC and Amtrak trains serve Martinsburg's Caperton Station, which is also a hub for the EPTA local bus service serving Berkeley and Jefferson Counties.

Long-term funding for the MARC rail service in the Eastern Panhandle remains an open issue as West Virginia's Governor and Legislature head into the budget process for 2021-2022. *The Observer* takes a look at the recent history of this discussion (next page) and how commuter rail fits into the economy (below).

THE QUESTION TO ASK is, “do you want to take advantage of economic development opportunities?” said Shane Farthing, Director of Economic and Community Development for the City of Martinsburg. He suggested that if the city did not have a train station and “we did a study on how to improve the economy, we’d ask how great it would be to have a train station. Sometimes it’s hard to recognize the good things you already have. The train opens the doors to millions of possibilities.”

Farthing observed that, “train service is not a city topic, typically it’s a state-level conversation.” He suggested looking at the larger context of long-term infrastructure investment, noting that, “It’s a question of where you want to put the traffic. For transit, ticket sales never cover expenses — if you get 30% coverage from fares, you’re lucky. But every road system loses money, too. Did we widen Interstate 81 because of toll revenue? No, we did it to attract businesses and jobs.”

“
**The train station
 is a portal
 to 5 million people**
 ”

Promoting Business & Tourism

In announcing the funding agreement for the current fiscal year (see article on page 5) in a December 2019 press conference at the Martinsburg train station, the West Virginia Governor’s office specifically noted the importance of train service to support both business and tourism opportunities. Farthing echoed that sentiment, saying, “being a “rail-served” place encourages travel in both directions, travelers going to meetings in DC, and tourists from DC. We have an opportunity to continue tourism development. There are many folks from DC who depend on Metro and train to get around. We want to promote the types of businesses that enable tourism, so you can eat, shop, and stay by the train station. There are a limited number of places that are on a train line.

Good things want to be near transit and you can create better economic value around it.”

Farthing pointed out that “Martinsburg’s connection to the fifth largest economy bolsters the local economy in the country [Baltimore-Washington region]. In the Eastern Panhandle, we’re a collection of small cities that are affordable places to live and proximate to DC. We can participate in the full economic entity of the region, if we are connected. We have a hub zone and an opportunity zone designation, but we need the physical connection. It’s an alignment of positive features, and transit is a multiplier of all other incentives.”

He also noted the opportunities from remote working trends for individuals who move out from DC as well as the benefit to local businesses. “We need the investment and the people who will move out from DC, who will live in Martinsburg and work in DC. If someone travels once a month or every two weeks to DC, they are still spending ninety percent of their time locally. Places like WeWork and the ability to commute by train add value and makes it easier to split working here and in DC for people in white collar and high-paying jobs. The money they spend locally adds up for our businesses.”

Investing in Opportunity

Farthing explained the value that comes from long-term planning, noting that ticket revenue is helpful, but that the significant value “is with the investment in land, the value of the parcels close to the station.” He estimated that across the country, property values are typically 40% higher within a half mile of walkable transit stations. “Commercial lenders look at the value to decide what to invest. But we need a long range agreement to get to stable funding solutions. Properties have 30 year mortgages, redevelopment is a long term investment decision, and you can’t attract rational investors and get results without certainty in the infrastructure.”

“It’s a calculation of the economic value,” Farthing concluded. “Martinsburg has 17,000 people. The train station is a portal to 5 million people — that’s a huge spending capacity and employment opportunities. The rail service is crucial and significant to our economy.”

BY: Steve Pearson



Tracking the Train in West Virginia's 2021 Budget Debates



MARC passenger train on the Brunswick line.

COMMUTER RAIL SERVICE between West Virginia and Washington DC dates to the 1950s. The MARC Brunswick Line service operated by the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) currently serves three stations in the Eastern Panhandle — Harpers Ferry, Duffields (Jefferson County) and Martinsburg. Terminating at Union Station in downtown Washington, the line also stops at Germantown, Gaithersburg, Rockville, and Silver Spring, with connections to bus routes,

Metro, and Amtrak at various stations along the route.

The pandemic has both strained the MTA's workforce and put a dent in ridership. In the spring of 2020, the MTA reduced rail service throughout the system, scheduling a single train a day each way on the Brunswick line. The MTA resumed regular service of three trains a day on the Brunswick line in July. In September 2020, the MTA reported that summer ridership continued to lag throughout the system — reporting drops of 51% in local bus rider counts, 87% in commuter bus rider counts, and 89% in MARC train rider counts compared to prior year usage patterns. In November, the MTA reverted to a single train a day schedule for the Brunswick line. An MTA spokesperson stated that this schedule allowed MTA “to preserve MARC train slots with CSX and Amtrak and will allow the agency to respond nimbly as Maryland's economy recovers and more riders cease teleworking or return to transit.” For December 2020, the MTA reports that ridership on the MARC Brunswick line was down 96% compared to pre-COVID-19 levels.

In 2018, MTA and the West Virginia Rail Authority signed a five-year contract for service for MTA to continue to provide MARC Train service in West Virginia. Under this agreement, the MTA requests West Virginia to



fund the expense of operating trains for the 25 miles between Brunswick (Maryland) and Martinsburg, with the costs calculated on a per-mile basis and offset by any fare revenue generated by passengers arriving or departing from the three West Virginia stations.

For the fiscal year that runs from July 2020 to June 2021, West Virginia agreed to pay approximately \$3.4 million to support the three trains/day service. This funding agreement was announced in December 2019, and followed public hearings that raised the possibility of eliminating the MARC train service in West Virginia, which in turn led to discussions between the Governor's office, the State Auditor's office, and all of the local governments in Berkeley and Jefferson counties. The current year's funding included \$300,000 contributed by these local governments. Discussions about West Virginia's rail funding for the next fiscal year (from July 2021) will begin when the state Legislature receives the Governor's budget proposal in early February. 📺



BAVARIAN INN
RESORT & BREWING COMPANY



**FOR FINE DINING OR FUN DINING
THE BAVARIAN INN IS YOUR DESTINATION.**

**BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER, SUNDAY BRUNCH,
BREW PUB, CREATIVE COCKTAILS, OUTDOOR DINING**

www.bavarianinnwv.com

304-876-2551



Personal
Financial
Management

Anyone can
understand money.

Not anyone
can understand you.

Talk with a financial advisor at Goldman Sachs
Personal Financial Management, and see what
truly personal finance can mean for you.



Rob Hoxton, CFP®

Hoxton Center
8530 Shepherdstown Pike, Shepherdstown, WV 25443
goldmanpfm.com/nsv-shepherdstown-wv

(304) 876-2619

Get personal™

United Capital Financial Advisers, LLC d/b/a Goldman Sachs Personal Financial Management is a registered investment adviser and an affiliate of Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC ("GS&Co.") and subsidiary of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., a worldwide, full-service investment banking, broker-dealer, asset management, and financial services organization. Advisory services are offered through United Capital Financial Advisers, LLC and brokerage services are offered through GS& Co., member FINRA/SIPC.

// COMMUNITY

TAKING WATERS INTO THEIR OWN HANDS

Local Residents' Group Organizes Water Tests in Advance of Industrial Operations

CONCERNED THAT West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) oversight is insufficient to protect the water underlying their property from the threat of pollutants from the planned nearby Rockwool factory, a group of local residents is hiring experts to test their water to establish a record to use in possible future legal action.

Jefferson County Foundation (JCF), a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, has designed and is administering the well testing program, which will focus on the area surrounding the planned Rockwool factory in Ranson. The Foundation consulted with multiple experts to design the program, including geologists, hydrogeologists, biologists, water sampling experts, and lawyers.

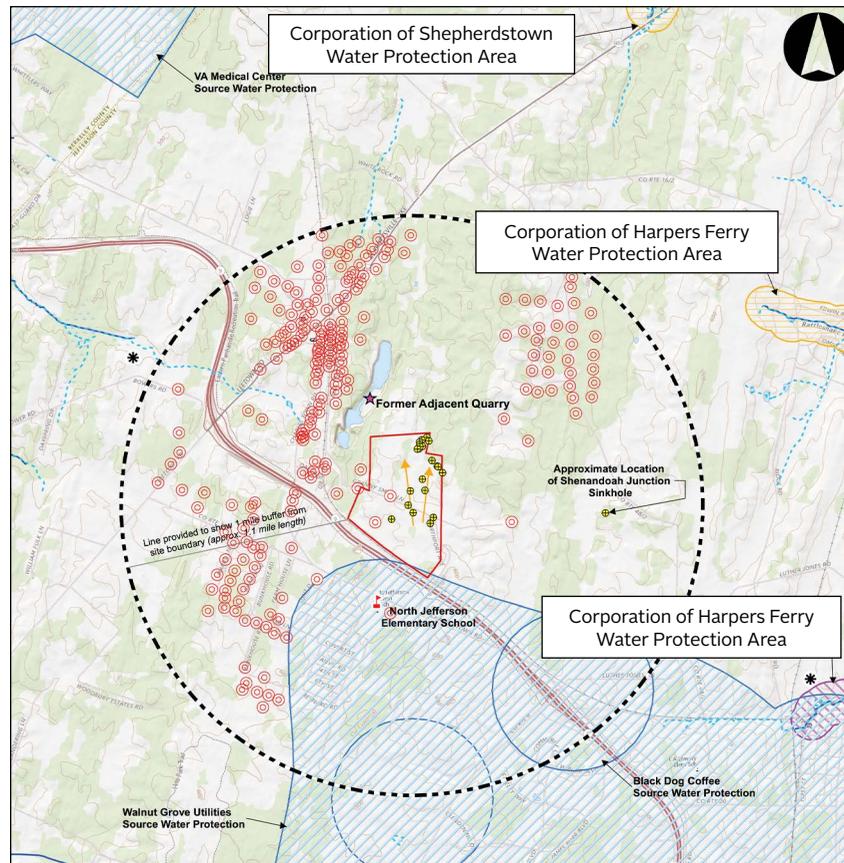
What will the tests look for? “We will test for over 100 substances that are, to the extent possible, specific to what we expect to be released by Rockwool,” said Foundation President Dr. Christine Wimer. “These well tests, in combination with the other portions of the testing program, are designed to monitor for pollution and provide evidence that can withstand the scrutiny required to use in court, if necessary” she continued.

The program is using a laboratory that performed water testing for area residents of Flint, Michigan who experienced firsthand the devastating consequences of water contamination. Wimer noted that while the cost to participate in the program is significant, it covers not only an array of customized laboratory testing but also the services of a separate environmental consulting company to collect the samples using a forensically-sound approach. “It’s unfortunate that private citizens need to foot the bill to monitor their own drinking water source to provide a basic health safety assurance that by WV and Federal law should be provided by the WVDEP,” said Wimer.

In parallel to the testing program, the foundation has filed legal challenges to the stormwater permits issued to Rockwool by the WVDEP, alleging that the agency acted in an “arbitrary and capricious” way in approving general permits for the facility without requiring specific plans to mitigate pollution risk when constructing an industrial facility in the karst topography of Jefferson County (*see related article WeAreTheObserver.com/counting-on-the-well-water*). The Foundation is requesting that the WVDEP require Rockwool to change its stormwater handling process to

better protect the groundwater. The conclusion of a multi-day evidentiary hearing in one of the proceedings is expected to be held in February before the WV Environmental Quality Board. 📍

Information about the well testing program and how to participate is available at the Foundation’s website (JeffersonCountyFoundation.org/our-work/clean-water/well-testing-program).



There are hundreds of wells and several municipal water source protection areas in the Jefferson County karst area (the dash-line circle indicates a one mile radius around the new factory).



Andrew Skinner

Stephen Skinner

WE TREAT YOU LIKE FAMILY.

**SKINNER
LAW FIRM**

REPRESENTING CONSUMERS AND INJURED PEOPLE

304.725.7029 SKINNERFIRM.COM

Attorneys: Stephen Skinner, Andrew Skinner, Levi Pellegrin & Bryan Ogilvie | Stephen Skinner is responsible for the content of this ad.

// ART

PERSPECTIVES ON AMERICA IN 2020

Just Lookin' Gallery Showcases Black American Artists



From left to right: Charly Palmer, Eileen Berger, and Michael Gibson.

THE JUST LOOKIN' GALLERY in Hagerstown Maryland reflects the passion of Eileen Berger. She remembers exactly when her fascination with art started. “My father took me to a faculty art show at Howard University in the late 1960s. There was a piece that came off the wall and grabbed me. I wanted to know more about Black artists, but there was so little information available back then.” Her interest stuck with her as she followed a career in commercial photography. Her travels took her across the country, giving her the opportunity to attend street shows, meet Black artists, and develop her own expertise in art collecting.

The move to Hagerstown in the 1990s was a compromise with her husband to find a mix of country living within commuting distance of DC. It was only later that the idea of the gallery bloomed, encouraged by the stories she heard of how difficult it was for Black artists to get their work shown in galleries. Open since 1995, Just Lookin' now represents dozens of Black American, African and West Indian artists. An art lover at heart, Berger's ongoing goal for the gallery is to maintain a space “where the artists are respected.” She also notes that she wants to dispel the notion “that only rich people can collect art. I want people to feel comfortable with asking questions, even if it's their first time in a gallery. I feel it's my responsibility to pass along the knowledge I have about the art and the artists.”

The Observer asked Berger to recommend some artists who have been addressing the issues that have riveted our collective attention over the past year. The artists, along with a few of their recent works, are presented below and on the next pages.

Charly Palmer

Palmer considers himself as documenting history, particularly that part of American history which is so often overlooked. Over his 25-year career, Palmer has focused on social, political, and often on African American historical subjects. He starts with the Middle passage and continues through slavery, the Jim Crow and civil rights eras, the Negro Sports League and musical history. His focus is not limited to the African American experience but also includes Native Americans and the Jewish Holocaust.

Palmer describes his art in a recent interview with Artwork Archive (ArtworkArchive.com) as having “always been about telling the story about being Black in America. It is the awareness of who I am. If you would pull works from 20 or 30 years ago of mine, you would see that it was still there. It's altered, it's changed, it's become more subtle, but that story has always become part of the narrative.”

Michael C. Gibson

Gibson's drawings are often confused with photographs until the viewer looks more closely and discovers the blending and strokes that are his hallmark. He doesn't think of himself strictly as a photorealist, believing what he leaves out is as important as what he chooses to express. Gibson says, “making art is how I cope and work through my thoughts, emotions, and connect with and encourage others. I hope that this work leads to constructive, open and honest dialogue about racism/white supremacy on local, national and global levels.”

The inverted flag threads through several of Gibson's recent works. “Flying an American or any flag upside down is not always meant as political protest. It is considered to be international code and an official signal of dire distress in instances of extreme danger to life or property. In many ways I do think that is where we are now.” He says he created these works to symbolize “how people can see the problem of racism/white supremacy differently. One version of the flag for each month of the year. Every month will be my response to how black bodies are being treated. There are 36 names in the work that represent 45 lives. The fact is that I could easily produce thousands of flags. What about all the names that we don't know throughout the history of America and the world? How many flags would those unknown names produce”?

Robin Holder

Holder considers herself a storyteller and describes her art as “my visual language rooted in layering, painting, printmaking, digital image manipulation, and drawing. I pay a lot of attention to color, composition and forms. Many



of my works begin with a composition that is based on carefully delineated silhouettes, shapes and forms. I use a distinct combination of techniques and tools for each series with the intention of expressing each concept with the most appropriate materials. I usually initiate a series with a specific theme and selection of media. I often include a material, technique or procedure that I am not familiar with.”

Her recent work highlights our dependence “on our first responders and healthcare workers to keep our society functioning during COVID. Yet many of these heroes, many of whom are people of color, do not receive adequate wages, healthcare, child care, benefits or pension plans.”

Michael Escoffery



Born in Jamaica to parents who were also artists, Escoffery has traveled extensively across North America, Europe and Asia. Both the human form and the American flag are prominent in many of Michael Escoffery's works. He remarks that

“as a Jamaican-born American, the flag is very important to me. I like to paint people scantily or un-clothed to show their vulnerability.” His works also often hold up women as the symbol of courage and strength in the Black society. In “Purification” (image on next page) Escoffery presents the young woman as central to cleaning and purifying the American flag.

Detailed biographies of each artist and examples of their works for sale are presented on the Just Lookin' Gallery website (JustLookin.com). The gallery is currently open regular hours every day except Monday, with pandemic restrictions, at 40 Summit Ave, Hagerstown, MD 21740. Phone: 301-714-2278.

A GLIMPSE AT THE ART



// ART



A



B



D



E

American Perspectives



The artwork presented on these pages, representing a small sample of the dozens of artists showcased at Just Lookin' Gallery, reflects the weighty issues that continue to be front and center in the American experience. **Cover:** Charly Palmer, "Remembering Fannie Lou Hamer," Mixed media on wood (acrylic, fabric, wallpaper), 24x18"; **A:** Michael C. Gibson, "Stand Up - Be Heard," Pencil, 13.5x18"; **B:** Robin Holder, "Sheltering in Place: Coffee," Digital Print (artists proof), 20x16"; **C:** Robin Holder, "First Responders - We're In It Together," Digital Print, 20x16"; **D:** Charly Palmer, "Vote Any Way," Mixed media on canvas, 24x36"; **E:** Michael C. Gibson, "Resistance," Pencil, 6.25x9.5"; **F:** Robin Holder, "First Responders: We're In It," Digital Print, 20x16"; **G:** Charly Palmer, "My Choice," Mixed media on canvas 24x12"; **H:** Charly Palmer, "Young Panthers." Acrylic on Canvas, 30x24"; **I:** Michael Escoffery, "Defiant," Oil on Canvas, 8.75x11.17"

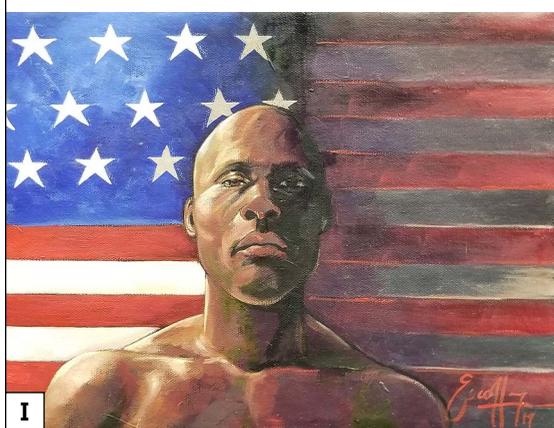
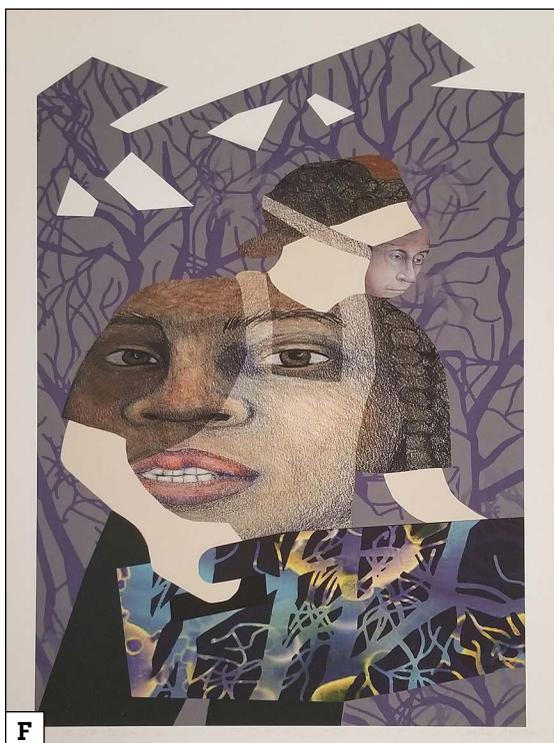
Visit Just Lookin' Gallery at 40 Summit Ave, Hagerstown MD 27140. Tel: 301-714-2278. Web: JustLookin.com.



G



H



// NATURE

THE FLOW GOES ON

US Survey Adopts High-Tech to Battle Beavers

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.

NO CREATURES ON EARTH can change their environment more drastically than humans and beavers. In the natural world, beaver dams create new wetland habitat for a variety of wildlife. Fishermen, hunters, bird watchers, hikers, and outdoor recreationists love to visit beaver dams. But when beavers cut down trees, obstruct and divert waterways, and flood fields, septic systems and basements, their “damming” activities place beavers in direct conflict with humans.

Such a beaver-human conflict happened recently on Scrabble Road near Shepherdstown. Over the past six months, a colony of beavers has been building a series of dams which have destroyed private property. The resulting high water has disrupted several months of data the United States Geological Survey (USGS) collects at one of its stream gaging* stations. The gaging station stands along the bank near the bridge over Rocky Marsh Run. The USGS has been aware of the disruption at the bridge and has removed beaver dams from this stretch of the creek several times.

Meanwhile, a local trapper removed several beavers. Then during heavy rains Christmas eve, the beavers tried to keep their dam under the bridge from flooding. We discovered they had cut down and removed two of our neighbor's large shrubs to make their dam

repairs. Days later another beaver was trapped and the dam under the bridge was again torn down.

I had always been curious about the USGS stream gaging stations I've seen at various spots along local waterways. To learn more about how they operate, I contacted Mark Gress, Field Office Chief Supervisory Hydrologic Technician of the USGS in Leetown, WV. He gave me an overview of how the federal agency monitors its nearly 8,000 stream gages nationwide.

The USGS provides continuous information to water managers, scientists, engineers and the public on the stage and discharge of the rivers and streams in the United States. “Stage” is the measurement of water level. River stage used to be measured with a simple float and a paper tape installed inside a roofed cylinder (called a stilling well). This system was expensive, time-consuming, and labor intensive.

Gage houses like the one near Scrabble Road are a more recent innovation. Such stations use a pressure sensor attached to a gas line in the water to measure stage data. The pressure transmitted through the gas line and into the sensor is directly proportional to the height of the water. Data is recorded and transmitted via satellite radio antenna.

Stage monitors using radar are the latest innovation. These new sensors use radar technology to measure the height of the river without ever touching the water surface. They can be mounted some place above the river, such as on the side of a bridge, where they're less likely to be washed away or destroyed by floating debris during floods.

“Discharge,” a measurement of how much water flows through a given spot in a river channel, can be calculated in several ways. For many years measuring discharge simply involved a hydrographer wading into the water and carrying a rod attached to a current meter. Sometimes the current meter was suspended in the water using a weight cable system.

Nowadays the USGS uses hydroacoustic meters that measure water velocity with doppler

radar. Pulses of sound from a transducer are reflected back when they bounce off solid particles in the water. The shift in the sound frequency is proportional to how fast the solid particles move in the water, thus measuring the water velocity. To measure low flow with more accuracy, acoustic doppler velocimeters can be mounted on a wading rod and carried into the water by a technician. Hydroacoustic instrumentation to calculate discharge has been adapted in a variety of ways for use by manned, remotely controlled or stationary watercraft.

Water courses all fluctuate naturally over time and change because of low or highwater during floods, drought, debris from storms, or obstructive beaver dams. So, measurements are collected and tabulated at 15-minute intervals and transmitted electronically each hour. Discharge and stage data are plotted immediately and are available to the public within minutes. Additional measurements are made by the USGS at intervals of 6 to 8 weeks or during significant weather events. This information is vital to the National Weather Service, the Army Corps of Engineers, climatologists and a host of private and government agencies.

Now it's possible to follow the depth and rate of flow of our waterways minute by minute. And we can monitor droughts and floods, detect blockages by debris, and measure the results of natural events all from a distance and in real time. But sometimes beavers can still mess things up!

**For the story behind the USGS's unusual spelling of “gage” see the online version of this article at WeAreTheObserver.com/usgs-versus-beavers.*

SCIENCE IN YOUR BACKYARD

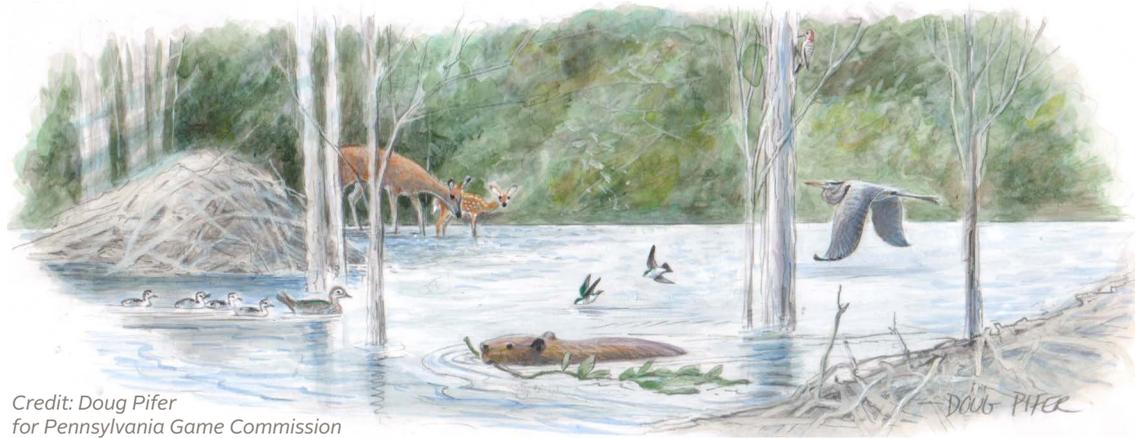
Great Backyard Bird Count

Every February people from around the world spend time watching and counting birds for the **Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC)**, sponsored by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Audubon, and Birds Canada. Join the count running from February 12-15, to celebrate the birds near you while contributing to science! Learn more and register at www.birdcount.org.

HOMESCHOOL SCIENCE

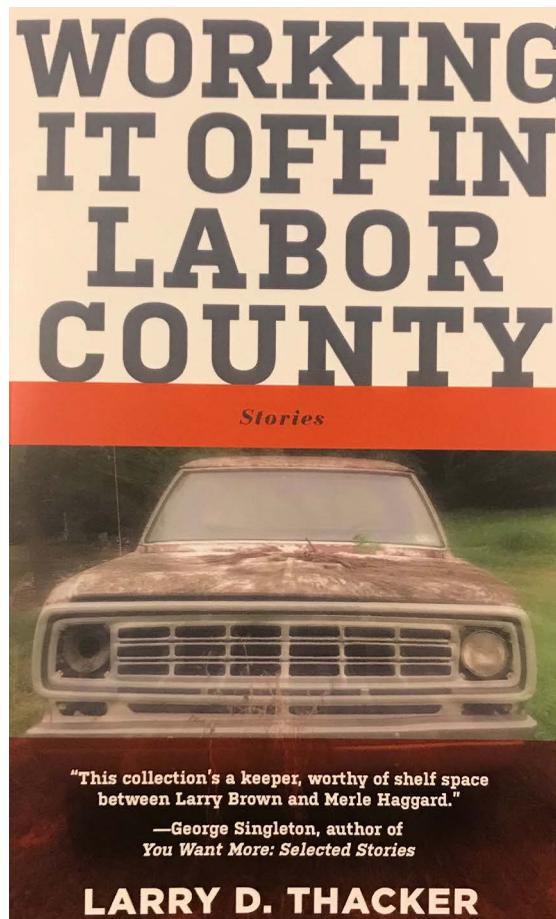
Learning About Climate Change

Potomac Valley Audubon Society (PVAS) is hosting the “**Our Changing Climate**” program on February 19. Designed for children ages 8 to 14, students will learn about our changing world and how to make a positive difference. PVAS volunteers will explore not only what's happening on the whole planet but also what changes we are seeing right here at Cool Spring Preserve. Register at PotomacAudubon.org.



Credit: Doug Pifer for Pennsylvania Game Commission

// BOOK REVIEW



Working It Off in Labor County,
by Larry D. Thacker

Publisher: West Virginia University Press (2021)

Review by: Gonzalo Baeza — Born in Texas, raised in Chile, and currently living in Shepherdstown, Gonzalo is a fiction writer with books published in Spain, Italy, and Chile. His stories have appeared in Boulevard, Goliad, and The Texas Review.

Like an old school country album by Billy Joe Shaver or Merle Haggard, Larry D. Thacker's debut collection *Working It Off in Labor County* tells stories about small town life full of quirky characters, humor that can be folksy and innocent but also dark, and heartfelt tales of day-to-day struggle.

Normally, the opening story sets the tone for what is to come in a collection, but in this case the title story strikes a light-hearted note with the tale of a community college teacher serving time after stealing a Civil War collection of artifacts he had previously donated to the Labor County History Society. In "Hot Ticket," an arsonist sees the light after winning the lottery and opens up the Church of the Holy Fire of God, where he serves as a pastor to atone for all the buildings he burnt down in his previous sinful life.

Other stories can set a darker mood

even if all of them are set in the fictional (and yet familiar) Labor County in southeastern Kentucky. Fire as a cleansing symbol returns in "The Hard Thing," a reflection on becoming a man, whether it is the cliché about grinding one's teeth and meeting life's challenges stoically or living up to a different set of expectations irrespective of anyone's notion of toughness. The recently divorced protagonist, Alder, wonders about his "self-destruct button" and the fact that he'll never gain the respect he seeks from his father.

"When you gonna finally be a man about things, son?" asks Adler's father in allusion to his lack of a supposedly "real" job as opposed to an office position. "A man is not a man until he believes himself one," Addler reflects. "The sudden wakefulness of maturity can't be legislated. Or taught, or beaten into someone. Men don't just wake up on an eighteenth birthday willing to vote and change their country."

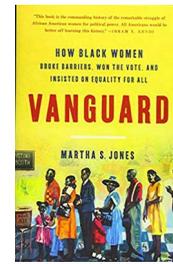
The author of three poetry collections and a book on Appalachian supernatural lore, Kentuckian writer Larry D. Thacker straddles these different registers with ease, crafting the precise turns of phrase that depict an introspective moment or harkens to a front porch tall tale.

One of the collection's strongest offerings, "Brotherhood of the Mystic Hand," embodies this amalgam in a yarn about a gang of grizzled Vietnam veterans who meet every year for a weekend of debauchery. The symbol that unites them is the preserved hand that one of their members, Earl, supposedly lost in combat and shipped to America while recovering from combat wounds.

Thacker opts for a more whimsical and comedic approach in a series of stories about the eccentric owner of a roadside museum of curiosities. "Uncle Archie's Acquisition" introduces the establishment, Archie's Travelling Odditorium, where the manager, Archie Parker, has just bought a cryotube said to contain human remains. In "Uncle Archie's Underground Reunion," a Nashville photographer promises to shoot a photo essay about the Odditorium for a regional magazine. When he fails to keep his promise, Archie's family pays him a visit. In "Uncle Archie Goes One for Three," Archie inaugurates the Deadly Den of the Mountain Chupacabra, a new museum room dedicated to the legendary goal-sucking creature from Latin American lore. The new attraction proves to be a money maker but it also brings trouble when Archie is sued by a woman claiming that his chupacabra is actually her dog.

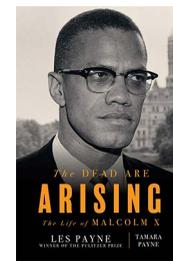
Working It Off in Labor County is a testament to Thacker's solid storytelling in a lively mix that brings to mind the humor of George Singleton and the hardscrabble stories of Larry Brown.

THE FRONT SHELF



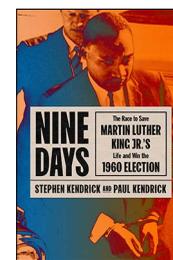
Vanguard: How Black Women Broke Barriers, Won the Vote, and Insisted on Equality for All,
by Martha S. Jones
Basic Books (2020)
\$30.00

In *Vanguard*, acclaimed historian Martha S. Jones offers a new history of black women's political lives in America. From the earliest days of the republic to the passage of the 1965 Voting Rights Act and beyond, Jones excavates the lives and work of black women to recount how they defied both racism and sexism to fight for the ballot and how they wielded political power to secure the equality and dignity of all persons.



The Dead Are Arising, by Les Payne and Tamara Payne
Liveright Publishing Corporation (2020)
\$35.00

Les Payne, renowned Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative journalist, embarked on a nearly thirty-year-long quest in 1990 to interview anyone he could find who had actually known Malcolm X. His goal was ambitious, to transform what would become over a hundred hours of interviews into an unprecedented portrait of Malcolm X. *The Dead Are Arising* is a riveting work that affirms the centrality of Malcolm X to the Black freedom struggle.



Nine Days: The Race to Save Martin Luther King Jr.'s Life and Win the 1960 Election, by Paul Kendrick and Stephen Kendrick
Farrar, Straus, and Giroux (2021)
\$28.00

Less than three weeks before the 1960 presidential election, the 31 year-old Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was arrested at a sit-in at Rich's Department Store in Atlanta. Based on fresh interviews, newspaper accounts, and extensive archival research, *Nine Days* is the first full recounting of an event that changed the course of one of the closest elections in American history. Much more than a political thriller, it is also the story of the first time King refused bail and came to terms with the dangerous course of his mission to change a nation. At once a story of electoral machinations, moral courage, and, ultimately, the triumph of a future president's better angels, *Nine Days* is a gripping tale with important lessons for our own time.

RECOMMENDATIONS BY
FOUR SEASONS BOOKS
114 W GERMAN ST, SHEPHERDSTOWN, WV
FOURSEASONSBOOKS.COM
4SEASONS114@GMAIL.COM
(304) 876-3486

EXPLORE // AROUND JEFFERSON COUNTY



WAUGH
LAW & MEDIATION

Mediation • Collaborative Law • Litigation

Brenda Waugh, Lawyer & Mediator
waugh@brendawaugh.com
304-728-3660 (Charles Town)
540-501-5501 (Leesburg)

—Schedule your free initial consultation online at brendawaugh.com

OLL CPAS
TAX+ACCOUNTING+CONSULTING

Martinsburg
Chad R. Lawyer, CPA
1105 Winchester Avenue
Martinsburg, WV 25401
P 304-263-9447
P 304-263-8150
F 304-263-8204

Charles Town
Eric J. Lewis, CPA
205 West Liberty Street
Charles Town, WV 25414
P 304-728-6877
F 304-728-6807

Shepherdstown
Thomas C. Ours, CPA
130 E German Street, Suite 100
Shepherdstown, WV 25443
P 304-263-9447 ext. 4

oll-cpas.com

EXPLORE THE C&O - PAGE 16

CONCERT SERIES

SHEPHERD UNIVERSITY MUSIC VIRTUAL CONCERT

The 2020-2021 Shepherd University Music Salon Series, showcasing School of Music faculty and sponsored by Jefferson Security Bank, presents a free virtual concert by Candice Mowbray and Friends in concert. Guitar professor Dr. Candice Mowbray teams up with guitarist Danny Webber, multi-instrumentalist Anita Thomas, Shepherd faculty singer Dr. Rob Tudor, and singer/pianist Dr. Bobb Robinson. The program will include classical as well as jazz-influenced music with works ranging from Duke Ellington’s “African Flower” and Ralph Towner’s “Icarus,” to classical guitar works and an original composition by Thomas.

Due to the current COVID-19 restrictions on live in-person concerts, the Salon Series performances are being recorded on the Frank Center stage to be broadcast on target dates. The recordings include bonus information about the pieces in the recitals. The performances will be available for viewing on the Shepherd Music YouTube channel for free after the initial broadcast dates.



Date/Time: Friday, February 5, 7:30 pm
Watch (Facebook): [Facebook.com/ShepherdUniversityMusic](https://www.facebook.com/ShepherdUniversityMusic)
Watch (YouTube): [Youtube.com/user/ShepherdUMusic](https://www.youtube.com/user/ShepherdUMusic)
More info (website): Shepherd.edu/music

ONLINE EVENT



Photo by Maisonet Photography.

SPEAK STORY SERIES PRESENTS JASMIN CARDENAS

Cardenas is a Colombian-American award winning bilingual storyteller, actress, educator and social activist. She enjoys exploring the uncomfortable truths found when you grow up between cultures. Jasmin has always lived between worlds being told she’s not fully American in the US and a gringa in South America. Cardenas was awarded a 2020-2022 LAB Fellowship from Georgetown University’s Laboratory for Global Performance & Politics for her work harnessing the power of art into action. In 2018, Cardenas was recognized by the Alliance of Latinx Theater Artists of Chicago as winner of the ALTA’s annual Outstanding Storyteller Award. Tickets are \$15, free for season ticket holders. Speak is for adult audiences. Mature youth allowed at guardian’s discretion.

Date/Time: February 9, 7:30 pm
Tickets: \$15, pre-register at SpeakStorySeries.com — season ticket packages also available

VIRTUAL AUCTION

ANIMAL WELFARE SOCIETY OF JEFFERSON COUNTY

Animal Welfare Society of Jefferson County

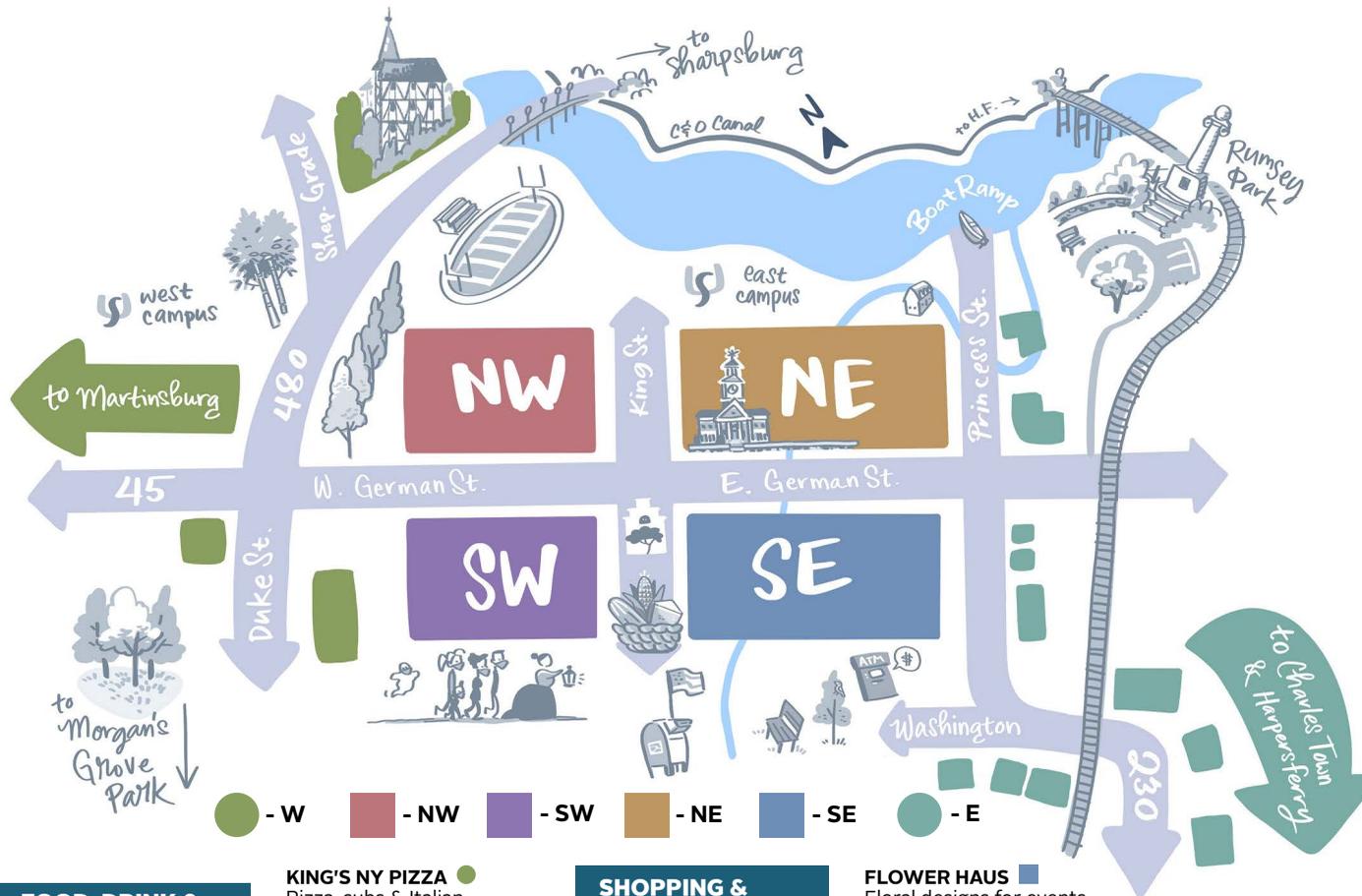
VALENTINE “PURR”FECT ONLINE AUCTION FUNDRAISER
February 6-13, 2021 | Biddingowl.com

VALENTINE VIRTUAL AUCTION

The Animal Welfare Society of Jefferson County is hosting a Valentine Virtual online auction fundraiser from February 6th - 13th as a pandemic replacement of its regular “Purr”fect Valentine Dinner and Auction held annually at the Hollywood Casino. The dozens of items donated by local individuals and merchants can be seen on the Society’s page at Biddingowl.com (see link below). The Society welcomes additional event sponsors, auction item donations, and ticket donations (\$55 per person) in lieu of attending the annual event. Proceeds from this fundraising event will help support the Society’s mission to provide housing and adoption services for abandoned, surrendered, neglected, abused, and unwanted dogs and cats. The Society also promotes education about the care of pets to residents in our county and surrounding communities.

Website (Welfare Society): awsjc.org
Facebook: @AWSJC
Website (auction): www.biddingowl.com/Auction/index.cfm?auctionID=23413
Auction Preview & Bidding Dates: Feb. 6 through 13

EXPLORE // SHEPHERDSTOWN



REVERSA ROSE ■
Natural skin-care products

RICCO GALLERY ■
Artistic Jewelry
304-870-4175

THREADS ■
Fun t-shirts & gifts

TONIC HERB SHOP ■
Holistic health products
304-870-4527

THE VILLAGE FLORIST ■
Flower arrangements
304-876-3344

SERVICES & ADVENTURE

DOWNSTREAM TO WELLNESS ●
(By appointment only)
540-336-4737

EVERGREEN DRIVING RANGE ●
Driving range & putting green
681-260-2116

JALA YOGA FLOW ■
(Check online for schedule)
401-440-0279

LUCKY'S BARBER SHOP ■
Traditional men's barber
304-870-4788

NOVA ALTERNATIVE WELLNESS ■
(By appointment only)
304-885-0093

SHEPHERDSTOWN MYSTERY WALKS ■
Meet at the Library
301-639-0651

SHEPHERDSTOWN PEDAL & PADDLE ■
Bike shop, kayak rental
304-870-4527

FOOD, DRINK & ENTERTAINMENT

BAVARIAN INN & BREWPUB ●
Fine & casual dining
304-876-2551

BETTY'S RESTAURANT ■
Casual diner, open early
304-876-6080

BLUE MOON CAFÉ ●
Inventive American fare
304-876-1920

CHINA KITCHEN ■
Traditional Chinese
304-876-6620

COMMUNITY GARDEN MARKET ●
Organic & natural grocery
304-870-4230

DEVONSHIRE ARMS CAFÉ & PUB ●
English-style pub
304-876-9277

FARMER'S MARKET ■
Sunday mornings
(Check Facebook for dates)

GRAPES & GRAINS GOURMET ■
Wines & craft beers
304-876-1316

GREEN PINEAPPLE ■
Poke, ramen, & bubble tea
304-870-4439

KING'S NY PIZZA ●
Pizza, subs & Italian
304-876-0217

KOME THAI & SUSHI BISTRO ■
Creative Asian fusion
304-876-8798

LELLYBELLE CAFÉ ■
Vegetarian & vegan fare
304-437-8678

LILAH RESTAURANT ■
New American & International
304-870-4038

LOST DOG COFFEE ■
Coffee, tea & beans
304-876-0871

MARIA'S TAQUERIA ■
Mex/SoCal cuisine
304-876-3333

MECKLENBURG INN ■
English-style pub & garden
304-876-2126

PRESS ROOM ■
Regional cuisine, fine dining
304-876-8777

SHEPHERDSTOWN LIQUORS ●
304-876-2100

SHEPHERDSTOWN SWEET SHOP ■
Baked goods & sandwiches
304-876-2432

TOMMY'S PIZZA ●
Pizzas & subs to go
304-876-2577

SHOPPING & GALLERIES

ADMIRAL ANALOG ■
Vintage & new vinyl
301-491-6050

AZAD'S ORIENTAL RUG EMPORIUM ■
Handmade rugs
240-707-8987

BADGERHOUND STUDIO & GALLERY ■
304-261-6028

BRIDGE GALLERY ●
Showcase of local artists
304-876-2300

COOPER CAPTURES ■
(Currently online only)
304-263-3100

CREATIVE PROCRASTINATIONS ■
Whimsical art emporium
410-917-7262

DICKINSON & WAIT CRAFT GALLERY ■
American craft products
304-876-0657

ENTLER HISTORIC MUSEUM ■
(By appointment only)
304-876-0910

EVOLVE GALLERY ■
Pop-up art gallery
540-604-6703

FLOWER HAUS ■
Floral designs for events
304-283-0588

FOUR SEASONS BOOKS ■
New & resale books
304-876-3486

GALLERY AT 105 ●
(Currently online only)
304-876-8080

GERMAN STREET MARKET ■
Gifts & delicacies
304-876-1106

GERMAN STREET TATTOO ■
(By appointment only)
304-249-8332

THE GOOD SHOP ■
Women's clothing
123 E German St

THE HIVE HOUSE ●
Beekeeping supply
304-261-8548

HONOR D FINE SHOES & HATS ■
Stylish shoes, hats for all
304-539-3236

KIMOPICS GALLERY ■
Local photographer
304-582-1487

MEDITATIVE MEDICINALS ■
CBD, health & beauty
719-221-1543

MOUNTAINEER POPCORN ■
Sweet & savory treats
410-937-4612

O'HURLEY'S GENERAL STORE ●
Novelties & gifts
304-876-6907

ON THE WINGS OF DREAMS ■
Gifts for spiritual journeyers
304-876-0244

“The true history of the spirit is not preserved in learned volumes but in the living psychic organism of every individual.”

—C.G. Jung
(Collected Works, Volume 11, page 35)



INDIVIDUALS COUPLES ADULTS ADOLESCENTS

Harpers Ferry • 304.261.2771 • Shepherdstown

CATHRYNPOLONCHAK.NET

EXPLORE // CHARLES TOWN & RANSON



Ortega's Taco Shop and Bushel & Peck grocery continue making tasty and healthy food available for take-out. Call ahead to place orders.

NEEDFUL THINGS
Vintage & new items
218 W Washington St
304-725-6315

OP-SHOP
Curated resale clothing
115 N Charles St
304-725-6605

TRADEWINDS FLOORS
Carpet & flooring
204 W Washington St
304-728-9980

TWO CROWS ANTIQUE MALL
50+ antique dealers
1212 N Mildred St
681-252-1343

TWO RIVERS TREADS
Active & outdoor footwear
400 S Mildred St
304-728-8843

WEANT TO PLAY
Sporting equipment
306 W Washington St
540-514-3909

WEAR IT AGAIN KID
Consignment boutique
311 W Washington St
304-725-7549

THE WILLIAMS STORE
Convenience store
131 W Washington St
202-674-0300

THE WOODEN SHOE
Vintage lighting, glass, china
222 W Washington St
304-725-1673

FAST CASH PAWN
Jewelry, electronics, etc.
237 W Washington St
304-885-0066

FEAGANS JEWELERS
Custom jewelry & repair
226 W Washington St
304-725-7411

FUZZY DOG BOOKS & MUSIC
Used books & vinyl
111 N Charles St
304-867-9321

THE HOBBIES SHOP
Models, RC, kites, etc.
226 W Washington St
681-252-0861

JEFFERSON COUNTY MUSEUM
(Open by appointment)
200 E Washington St
304-725-8628

LITTLE POTTERY HOUSE
Make & paint pottery
117 N Charles St
304-820-6485

MITIELDA LATINA
Convenience store
124 W Washington St
304-885-4544

WASHINGTON STREET ARTISTS COOP
Gallery & exhibits
108 N George St
304-724-2090

YARNABILITY
Arts & crafts
130 W Washington St
304-876-8081

SERVICES

COLIN'S BARBER SHOP
103 W Washington St
304-725-0123

DOUBLE IRIS YOGA
201 W Washington St
240-625-8358

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
Yoga
231 W Washington St
304-728-9988

TAILORING BY TERESA
115 W Washington St
304-724-6408

THE UPPERCUT
Beauty Salon
305 W Washington St
304-725-1950

FOOD, DRINK & ENTERTAINMENT

A LA MODE CAFE
ICE CREAM & DESSERTS
113 Potomac St
540-514-6255

ALMOST HEAVEN PUB & GRILL
Pub food & drinks
177 Potomac St
304-535-8710

ABOLITIONIST ALE WORKS
Craft beer & pub dining
129 W Washington St
681-252-1548

ALFREDO'S MEDITERRANEAN GRILL
Quaint & homey bistro
735 E Washington St
304-724-9992

GINZA
Hibachi & sushi
91 Saratoga Dr
304-728-9888

GRANDMA'S DINER
American & Spanish
227 W Washington St
304-724-9960

HOLLYWOOD CASINO
Slots, tables, & horse racing
750 Hollywood Dr
800-795-7001

INKWELL'S TAVERN
Cocktails, craft beer, food
200 W Washington St
304-930-1742

MAD MONKS BAKERY
Coffee and baked goods
109 W Washington St

MOUNTAIN VIEW DINER
Classic family restaurant
903 E Washington St
304-728-8522

NEEDFUL THINGS
Cafe & vintage furnishings
218 W Washington St
304-725-6315

OLD OPERA HOUSE
Community theater
204 N George St
304-725-4420

ORTEGA'S TACO SHOP
Homemade Mexican cuisine
100 W Washington St
304-728-4321

PADDY'S IRISH PUB
Irish-theme sports bar
210 W Liberty St
304-725-4999

ROSSY'S PLACE
American Restaurant
1446 Flowing Springs Rd
861-252-4125

SIBLING COFFEE ROASTERS
(new location)
109 W Washington St
540-450-7908

SUMITRA
Innovative Thai & Asian
211 W Washington St
304-885-8747

TEE DAWGS BBQ
TX style smoked meats
307 S Washington St
304-725-2271

SHOPPING & GALLERIES

ART DECO DEKOR
20th Century vintage
114 E Liberty St
304-724-6004

B.VINTAGE
Modern farmhouse vintage
114 W Washington St
304-885-8920

BUSHEL & PECK
Specialty grocery store
100 W Washington St
304-885-8133

THE DESIGN CENTER
SUE MARKS ~ OWNER & DESIGNER

Affordable Services • Reliable Resources • Locally Owned

Room Refresh. Your Space...Reimagined.

office: 304-260-8810 • cell: 304-676-7785
web: thedesigncenterllc.com

EXPLORE // HARPERS FERRY & BOLIVAR



FOOD, DRINK & ENTERTAINMENT

A LA MODE CAFE ICE CREAM & DESSERTS

113 Potomac St
540-514-6255

ALMOST HEAVEN PUB & GRILL

Pub food & drinks
177 Potomac St
304-535-8710

THE ANVIL RESTAURANT

Casual dining, rustic space
1290 W Washington St
304-535-2582

THE BARN OF HARPERS FERRY

Bar & events venue
1062 W Washington St
855-935-2276

BATTLE GROUNDS BAKERY & COFFEE

Pastries & sandwiches
180 High St
304-535-8583

THE CANAL HOUSE CAFÉ

Local ingredients
1226 W Washington St
304-535-8551

CANNONBALL DELI

Sandwiches, Snacks, Drinks
125 W Potomac St
304-535-1762

COACH HOUSE GRILL N' BAR

Full service dining
173 Potomac St
540-514-6255

THE COFFEE MILL

Coffee shop (takeout-only)
140 Potomac St
540-514-6255

COUNTRY CAFÉ

Breakfast & lunch, casual
1715 Washington St
304-535-2327

CREAMY CREATIONS

Ice cream shop
173 Potomac St
304-535-3045

HAMILTON'S TAVERN 1840

Inventive craft menu
914 Washington St
304-535-8728

HARPERS FERRY BREWING

Craft brews
37412 Adventure Center Ln
571-420-2160

Harpers Ferry Ice Cream Shop

Ice cream & milkshakes
4330 Wilson Freeway
304-535-6305

KELLEY FARM KITCHEN

Vegetarian & Vegan
(Takeout only)
1112 Washington St
304-535-9976

LES & ALI'S SEAFOOD

Fresh catch fish market
(Weekends only)
Wilson Freeway & Blair Rd
540-931-8050

MOUNTAIN HOUSE CAFE

Cozy family inn, takeout
175 High St
304-932-0677

THE RABBIT HOLE

Casual American & drinks
186 High St
304-535-8818

SWEET ALISHA'S PIZZA

Family-owned pizzeria
180 High St
304-535-8769

WHITE HORSE TAVERN

Burgers, brews & Bourbons
4328 Wilson Fwy
304-535-6314

SHOPPING & GALLERIES

THE GILDED FLEA ANTIQUES

Antique & vintage wares
930 Washington St
304-268-0763

HARPERS FERRY PARK ASSOCIATION BOOKSHOP

(Currently under the tent)
723 Shenandoah St
304-535-6881

THE HODGE PODGE

Gifts, souvenirs & antiques
156 High St
304-535-6917

MAGPIE POTTERY

Ceramics by local artisans
163 Public Way
757-376-1748

MARY ADAMS ACCESSORIES

Eclectic jewelry
170 High St
304-535-2411

NATURE'S HEALTH AND BODY

Health & wellness products
180 High St
772-228-4367

HARPERS FERRY OUTFITTERS

Outdoor gear & bike shop
106 Potomac St
304-535-2087



The Harpers Ferry station, built in 1889, was relocated to its current location in 1931.

RIVERS STUDIO & GALLERY

Functional & sculptural art
1346 W Washington St
703-727-2532

HB SNALLYGASTER GENERAL STORE

Whimsical goods & cafe
1102 Washington St
304-535-8728

TENFOLD FAIR TRADE COLLECTION

Hand-crafted wares
180 High St
304-579-8525

TESSOTERICA

Hand-crafted bath items
170B High St
304-535-8248

TRUE TREATS HISTORIC CANDY

Retro candy & fun treats
144 High St
304-461-4714

THE VILLAGE SHOP

Souvenirs & novelties
144 High St
304-535-8333

THE VINTAGE LADY

Jewelry & local WV goods
180 High St
304-535-1313

WASHINGTON STREET STUDIOS

Ceramic studio and classes
1441 Washington St
240-586-3030

SERVICES & ADVENTURE

APPALACHIAN TRAIL VISITOR CENTER

(Currently closed)
799 Washington St
304-535-6331

GHOST TOURS OF HARPERS FERRY

History, legend & lore
(8pm daily)
100 Church St
304-725-8019

HARPERS FERRY ADVENTURE CENTER

Rafting, tubing, cabins
37410 Adventure Center Ln
540-668-9007

TOY TRAIN MUSEUM

Family fun (open May-Oct)
937 Bakerton Rd
304-535-2521

JOHN BROWN WAX MUSEUM

(Currently closed)
168 High St
304-535-6342

RATIONS SPACEPORT

Laser tag & escape room
1635 W Washington St
FB Msg @RationsSpaceport

RIVER & TRAIL OUTFITTERS

Rafting, tubing, kayaking
604 Valley Rd
301-834-9950

RIVER RIDERS FAMILY ADVENTURE

Rafting, tubing, kayak, SUP
403 Alstadts Hill Rd
800-326-7238

WHITE FLY OUTFITTERS

Fly fishing & light tackle
4332 Wilson Fwy
304-876-8030

— CTS —

PLUMBING SOLUTIONS

\$40 OFF
*ANY SERVICE CALL REPAIR**

*not valid with any other offers, other restrictions may apply.

CLOGGED DRAINS • LEAKY PIPES • TOILETS • WATER HEATERS

A FULL SERVICE PLUMBING COMPANY—REPAIR, SERVICE, REPLACE

304-400-6313

INFO@CTSPLUMBINGSOLUTIONS.COM

EXPLORE // C&O CANAL

CHESAPEAKE & OHIO CANAL PARK CELEBRATES 50 YEARS



The C&O Canal opened for business in 1831. Connecting to the Potomac River in Georgetown, it eventually extended 185 miles west to terminate in Cumberland Maryland by 1850. Operating in competition with the nearby B&O Railroad that also connected to Cumberland, the Canal was acquired by the railroad after 1889 and continued to be used to transport coal and other bulk items into the 1920s. During the Great Depression, the railroad transferred the entire canal property to the United States as part of a loan. The Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historic Park was established in January of 1971.

The National Park, the C&O Canal Trust (the non-profit partner of the park), and the Canal Towns Partnership representing the ten nearby towns along its western path (Poolesville, Point of Rocks, Brunswick, Sharpsburg, Williamsport, Hancock and Cumberland in Maryland, Harpers Ferry, Bolivar and Shepherdstown in West Virginia) are organizing various events and activities to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the park in 2021. Planned activities include a beer trail along the many breweries close to the park, themed event-days across the nearby canal towns, and events tailored for kids (event details will be published on the Canal Towns website when the schedule is finalized)



The towpath between Edward Ferry, MD (mile 30) and Shepherdstown (mile 73) has recently been resurfaced with a natural stone mixture designed to provide a smooth surface suitable for hiking, biking and horse riding.

The B&O Railroad first crossed paths with the C&O Canal on the 1839 bridge across the Potomac River to Harpers Ferry (Virginia). The 1894 bridge (left) roughly follows the original bridge and a pedestrian path built onto the 1931 bridge (right) provides easy access between the C&O park and Harpers Ferry, WV.



The Rumsey Bridge offers a view of the Norfolk and Southern Railroad bridge across the Potomac River and provides a pedestrian and bike-friendly connection between the C&O Canal and Shepherdstown, WV.



Dam 4 on the Potomac River was built to provide water for the section of the canal downstream to Harpers Ferry. The dam was rebuilt as a hydro-electric dam with the power generation station in 1914. Modified again in 1994, Dam 4 has been a functional component of the nation's infrastructure for almost two centuries.

The Bavarian Inn, overlooking the Potomac River and C&O Canal at Shepherdstown, is a convenient stop for visitors with extensive outdoor patio seating (now open year-round with heaters and firepits).



PHOTO CONTEST

The C&O Canal Trust invites you to submit photos you take along the canal (or in the nearby towns) for its monthly contest. Entries are posted on the Trust's Facebook page and voting for the contest winners is by "Likes." Each month's winner will be the cover photo on the Trust's Facebook page and will appear in its print and email newsletters. For details visit CanalTrust.org/news/photo-contest.

VISITOR RESOURCES

The towpath trail offers an easy path for 185 miles for hiking, biking and horseback riding. The park is open 365 days a year, from sunrise to sunset (check the park website for visitor center facility hours and parking locations). There is no entrance fee to access the park.

C&O Canal National Historic Park website: NPS.gov/choh/index.htm (official park website)

Canal Trust website: Canaltrust.org (maps, trip planners & event news for the park)

Canal Towns website: CanalTrust.org/programs/canal-towns (a guide to the ten "canal towns" between Poolesville and Cumberland). Facebook: @CanalTowns.

CLIMBING NEW HEIGHTS

- Indoor Rock Climbing Gym
- Outdoor Guide Services
- Training & Technique Classes
- All Ages & Abilities Welcome



LET'S TALK!
304-240-0587 | ClimbingNewHeightsWV.com
54 General Motors Access Road, Martinsburg

Darnell & Company A.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING

DAVID E. DARNELL, CPA Personal and Business Tax Preparation including Multi-State Returns and Tax Planning

Tax Season Hours
January 15, 2021 – April 15, 2021
9AM to 4PM, Monday-Friday
by appointment only

Accounting, Bookkeeping and Payroll Services

304-725-5712
59 RULAND ROAD, SUITE F
KEARNEYSVILLE, WV 25430

Quickbooks Installation and Training

conveniently located off of Route 9, behind the Jefferson County DMV

Two Rivers Treads
RUN. WALK. HEALTH.

TwoRiversTreads.com

304.885.8843



400 S. MILDRED ST | RANSON WV 25438

SPRING ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS

>>> PAGE 10 <<<