

BRUNSWICK NEWS-JOURNAL

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OCTOBER 2025

FREE

City Seeks Candidates for Open Council Seat

The City of Brunswick announced the process to fill a current vacancy on the Brunswick City Council following the departure of Council Member Angel White. The unexpired term for this seat runs through August 2028.

Section 513 of the Brunswick City Charter gives the Council the authority to select a qualified individual to fill the vacancy. The Charter states: "In case of a vacancy on the Council for any reason, by unanimous vote the Council shall elect a qualified person to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term. Should a unanimous decision not be reached, a special election shall be held in accordance with this Charter and any ordinances governing the special election process."

In a press release from the City on Sept. 16, a timeline and process for filling the vacancy was laid out:

- **October 9, 2025, 4:30 p.m.** — Deadline for packet submission by interested candidates. Completed packets must include a letter of interest, professional resume, nominations affidavit, petition of signatures, and Ethics Financial Disclosure. Submission packets are available for download at www.brunswickmd.gov/mayorandcouncil, by emailing cmymers@brunswickmd.gov, or picked up at City Hall, 1 West Potomac Street, Brunswick, MD.

- **November 4, 2025, 6:00 p.m.**

— In-person candidate interviews will be held in a public Mayor and Council session. Candidates will be interviewed in random order in the Council chamber at City Hall. Council Members will ask pre-determined questions and candidates will have two minutes to respond to each question. Candidates will be sequestered downstairs at City Hall without electronic devices while awaiting their interview but may choose to join the audience in the Council chamber after their interview has concluded. While the public is welcome to attend the interview session, there will be no public participation throughout the evening. This session will also be recorded and broadcast through the City's website and Comcast Ch.99.

- **November 18, 2025, 6:00 p.m.**

— Tentative appointment of new Council Member and oath of office.

The Mayor and Council will hold a series of closed sessions during this process to vet and discuss candidates, but the Council vote, appointment, and oath of office administered by the Mayor will take place in public session.

Residents are encouraged to participate in the process. For more information, contact Director of Administration Carrie Myers at cmymers@brunswickmd.gov or 301-834-7500. ■

42nd Annual Brunswick Railroad Days

OCTOBER 4 & 5

By DIANE ELLIS

Brunswick celebrates its railroad heritage on Saturday and Sunday, October 4–5, with a weekend of music, food and local culture. The festival runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days.

Sponsored by the City of Brunswick, Railroad Days features train rides, live bands, model train displays, more than 120 vendors, kids' activities, lots of food, a beer garden and more.

Lauren Craker, program manager who oversees special events for the City, summed up the weekend: "Railroad Days is more than just a celebration of trains – it's a tribute to the rich history and enduring spirit of our community. We're proud to bring together families, rail enthusiasts and local businesses to honor the legacy that helped shape our town."

It all takes place in downtown Brunswick along Potomac Street and around the train station. There is no admission fee and parking is free in the MARC train lot.

Train Rides into West Virginia

A round-trip, non-stop train will travel from the Brunswick station, over the Potomac River, through Harpers Ferry and on to Shenandoah Junction, W.V.



A MARC train takes passengers from Brunswick to Shenandoah Junction, WV, during the 2024 Railroad Days.

Trains depart Brunswick at 1 and 3 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday. The scenic ride takes about 45–50 minutes. Trains are handicap accessible.

Tickets cost \$10 for everyone age 2 and over and are only sold online at [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com).

Model Trains on Display

The American Legion will host the Washington, Virginia & Maryland Garden Railway Society's train garden and the National Capital Trackers' O-gauge display.

The Frederick County Society of Model Engineers will have a model layout in the Kaplon building.

The Brunswick Heritage Museum has a permanent exhibit of HO-scale model trains that rec-

reates the old B&O rail line from Washington, D.C. to Brunswick and Harpers Ferry. This detailed model shows all the towns and landscapes along the tracks and occupies the entire third floor of the museum.

Live Music

A variety of music acts will perform on three stages. The main stage in Square Corner Park will feature Brickyard Road, a Lynyrd Skynyrd tribute band, on Saturday afternoon and the dance party band Hot Fun! on Sunday afternoon.

The side stage gazebo in Square Corner Park will showcase Michael Stone on Saturday morning and Shade Tree Collective on Sunday morning.

Continued on page 2

Flags for Heroes



Veterans Day will be here soon. Last year, approximately 100 flags were placed in the American Legion's front yard honoring "Your Hero."

Once again, the American Legion Auxiliary has American Flags for sponsorship, either to Honor your Hero or in Memory

of your Hero. This person can be a veteran, active-duty military, fireman, EMS, teacher, police officer or anyone YOU consider "Your Hero."

All donations from this project will benefit military families and their children stationed at Fort Detrick for their Operation

Happy Holidays program. The American Legion wants to cover the entire front yard this year.

If you are interested in sponsoring a flag, email Auxunit96@gmail.com or stop by the American Legion to pick up a form. Sponsor forms must be received by October 18. ■

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PLUS: NEW RESTAURANT IN KNOXVILLE, ADVENTURE RACE, MOMMER'S BUILDING, FILM & BOOK REVIEWS, SCAMS, AND MORE

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DIANE ELLIS

KATHY HEINSON

BRUNSWICK NEWS

Railroad Days CONTINUED

Continued from page 1

On the King’s Pizza stage, the Saturday lineup is Boo Troxell and The Celtic Rhythm School of Dance. Freddie Long and Michael Stone perform on Sunday.

Food and Drink in Abundance

Festival goers can sit at picnic tables throughout the festival area and enjoy a large variety of foods from vendors and local eateries. Smoketown Brewing Station will set up a beer garden in Square Corner Park near the music stage. Puerto Rico Distillery will offer rum tastings on East Potomac and The Novel Pour will mix handcrafted cocktails on West Potomac.

Kids Zone

In addition to the model trains, kids can enjoy a petting zoo, pony

rides and a trackless train. A face painter and a balloon artist will entertain children with their creations.

Artful Shopping

Lining Potomac Street and in the Legion lot will be artisans selling their wares — handcrafted pottery, jewelry, artwork, photography, clothing, housewares, and many unique items such as artsy fishing lures. The Brunswick Friends of the Library will hold its used book sale with hundreds of bargain books. Many local organizations will set up information tables. Fine art and photography with the theme “Rooted in Nature” will be displayed and sold at the Brunswick Heritage Museum by the Brunswick Arts Council and the C&O Canal Partnership. All work is by local artists.

Brunswick Heritage Museum

The museum at the corner of Potomac St. and Maryland Ave. is the best place for viewing historical exhibits and learning about Brunswick’s railroading past, as well as seeing its famous model train display. Kids can earn a prize doing the museum’s scavenger hunt. Museum President Julie Kloetzli said they are celebrating the completion of the Museum’s new building façade and will have supporter signage installed along with a display of façade supporter bricks. Downtown Shops are Open Local businesses count on Railroad Days to showcase their products and services. Restaurant and deli food, art, antiques, home

goods, recreation and sports items can all be found along Potomac Street, with many businesses offering Railroad Days specials. After Party A new event this year is an After Party at Upstairs at Smoketown, 223 W. Potomac. It takes place Saturday evening, Oct. 4, from 7–10 p.m. and features local band Cazhmiere, a dance band which describes itself as “diverse musically playing everything from modern radio rock to today’s most popular hip hop, to the smooth vibes of old school R&B.” Tickets, including V.I.P. seating, are available at www.upstairsat-smoketown.com. ■

Railroad Days — What to Know

Dates:	October 4 & 5
Time:	10 am–5 pm
Parking:	MARC Parking Lot, S. Maple Ave.
Train Rides:	Tickets at Eventbrite.com Ticket cost: \$10 (age 2+) Departs at 1 & 3 pm both days
Music:	Main Stage, Square Corner Park Brickyard Road, a Lynyrd Skynyrd tribute band, Sat. 2–5 pm Hot Fun!, Sun. 2–5 pm Side Stage, Square Corner Park Michael Stone, Sat. 10 am–1 pm Shade Tree Collective, Sun. 10 am–1 pm King’s Pizza Stage Boo Troxell, Sat. 10 am The Celtic Rhythm School of Dance, Sat. 2 pm Freddie Long, Sun. 10 am Michael Stone, Sun. 2 pm

Information and Map of Festival Area: www.BrunswickRailroadDays.org

Organizations from Five Counties Announce Creation of the Maryland Data Centers Analysis Group

In September, six organizations from across Maryland announced the formation of the Maryland Data Centers Analysis Group. The joint effort of these six organizations represents the start of a cross-counties initiative to distribute substantiated data to local jurisdictions to inform better policy making. Hyperscale data center projects are already in planning or are underway in Frederick, Prince Georges, and Montgomery counties. There is an urgent need to bring together and amplify voices across the state to measure, learn and understand the impact of the industry, how local governments are coping and ensure

that communities benefit. To this end, Envision Frederick County, the Sugarloaf Alliance, the Fellowship of Scientists and Engineers, Montgomery Countryside Alliance, Sustainable Hyattsville, and the Tri-County Coalition have joined together to form the Maryland Data Center Analysis Group.

Costs as well as benefits need to be understood

“It is imperative at this critical point in the process, that Maryland counties have a complete, factual understanding of the impacts of data centers. Both the benefits and costs of this new in-

dustry need to be understood,” said Steve Black, President of the Sugarloaf Alliance. The Analysis Group will leverage the expertise of groups already tracking data center development in Maryland and across the country. Existing research and analysis on the effects of data center development in other jurisdictions will give the Analysis Group a quick start. “We have been following the development and expansion of data centers across the country and the impact they have,” said Elizabeth Bauer, Chair, Envision Frederick County. “There is an overabundance of verifiable information available so there is no

need for any county in Maryland to formulate policy in a vacuum. Tested policies are out there.” The data center industry is evolving quickly. The Analysis Group will monitor industry technical and policy developments to keep communities and policy makers aware of new problems and solutions. Information from reliable sources “If Maryland wants to be home to best-in-class industries, we

need to know and understand just what ‘best’ means and that requires going to reliable sources such as universities, laboratories, and research institutes,” said Faith Klareich, former member of the Frederick County Data Centers Workgroup. “A successfully implemented policy in one jurisdiction is probably going to be valuable to others.” To learn more, interested organizations should contact Faith Klareich at 240-558-8899 or email MDAnalysisGroup@gmail.com. ■

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NEWS-JOURNAL

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Covering events, culture, economics, environmental issues and lots of other things in the Brunswick, Frederick County, and Lovettsville, Va. neighborhoods.

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Notices of events, news stories, photos, and interesting articles, poems or stories may be submitted by regular mail or email to: Editor@BrunsNews.com

IN MEMORY Patricia LaVerne Greenfield

her Sunday School class. She is survived by two daughters, Terry James (Tom) and Kathy Sears (Carl) and one son-in-law, Pat Payne; six grandchildren, Chris Axline, Chanse Durnil (Andrew), Sara Axline, Tim George, Robin Birt (Derryck), and Brad George; ten great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; and a sister-in-law, Yasuko Greenfield. She will be remembered by many other cousins, nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her daughter, Cindy Payne (Pat), parents and eleven siblings including Sadie Greenfield, Thomas Greenfield, Edward Greenfield, Norman Greenfield, Lucille Snoots, Leona Merriman, Ernest

(Bill) Greenfield, Betty Merri-man, Wilson (Buck) Greenfield, Jean Baker, and Donald Greenfield. Pat, also known as Mommom to her grandchildren and many others, treasured her time with the grandkids. She took them, along with assorted cousins, on several trips each summer. They spent time camping, going to Ocean City, and driving to Florida to spend time at her Marco Island condo. She was so generous with the grandchildren and helped many of them out during her life. The grandkids were precious to her. Her family thanks Amada Senior Care and Frederick Health Hospice for the excellent care of their Mom. A celebration of Patricia's life journey took place on Saturday, September 20, 2025, at Faith Baptist Church in Knoxville. Memorial donations may be made to Brunswick Beacon. Send checks made out to Beacon to: Beacon, 7 S. Maryland Ave., Brunswick, MD 21716. Expressions of sympathy may be offered to the family at StaufferFuneralHome.com. ■

BRUNSWICK CITY COUNCIL

Mayor and Council
September Update



Back Row L-R: Brian Sandusky, John Caves, Andy St. John, Eric Smothers
Front Row L-R: Daniel Yochelson, Nathan Brown, Angel White

By JULIE GOURLEY

Mayor Brown opened the September 9 meeting with a call to the community to keep the Sexton family in thoughts and prayers. They lost their 13-year-old son, Jack, a Brunswick Middle School 8th grader, to the consequences of an epileptic seizure earlier that day.

Jack was a football player, number 77, and friends made t-shirts with his name and number to help raise funds for the family. There is also a GoFundMe page in the family's name.

Municipal and Zoning
Infractions Could Cost
You More

The state legislature enacted an increase in the maximum amount local governments can charge violators of municipal codes from \$1,000 to \$5,000. Although the maximum fine increase is discretionary, the city opted to incorporate it into the Code of Ordinances. At press time, the Council had not yet voted.

The municipal infractions to which the increase could apply are in Section 10-2202 of the city's Code of Ordinances which can be found on the city website under the "Mayor and Council" button. Infractions are enumerated in Section 10-2203, with Class A the most severe/highest fine, down through Class G the least severe/lowest fine. The zoning ordinance, which is currently being revised, can be found on the city website under the "Planning and Zoning" button.

Each infraction has a different "starting level" fine. These starting levels are not changing; only the maximum could increase. Before the maximum fine becomes applicable, there are many steps with increasing fine levels. For municipal infractions, there are 11 "steps" (courtesy notices and citations) before getting to the final, 12th step/citation with the possible \$5000 fine. For zoning ordinance infractions, there are 10 "steps" (courtesy notices and citations) before getting to the final, 11th step/citation with the possible \$5,000 fine. The Brunswick News-Journal will report the Council's vote in the November edition.

Council Member
Vacancy Process

Upon Council Member Angel White announcing her resignation from the City Council,

owing to her move to Florida, Mayor Brown issued a proclamation declaring August 26 as "Angel White Day" in Brunswick. Her resignation leaves a Council vacancy until August 2028.

The Council voted unanimously on the process for picking a replacement Council Member. The city charter allows the Council to vote on a replacement as long as the vote is unanimous. If a unanimous decision cannot be reached, there would be a special election. See the story on page 1 for more details.

Water and Sewer
Upgrades in the Works

The new ground-level water reservoir that replaces the 100-year-old one is moving along. Utilities Director Matt Campbell reported that drawings have been submitted to the state Department of the Environment for approval, and electrical upgrades to accommodate new equipment are in the planning stage.

Public Works Director John Gerstner reported that water lines around the city are undergoing leak detection and any leaks found will be notified to the homeowner/business owner. Most residents connected to Brunswick's water system and most small business owners are in the optional ServLine water and sewer usage adjustment program, billed through quarterly utility bills at \$4.80 for water and \$4.80 for sewer per quarter. This program protects against excessive water and sewer consumption due to underground leaks, up to the plan's limits. Water and sewer customers can also add water and sewer line insurance to cover repairs to lines on their own property.

The city engineer has started the designs for new water lines for the 800 block of East D Street and 8th Avenue, and the design for a new sewer line for the 200 block of East G Street.

In Other News...

- A new taxi service is coming to town. Planning Director Bruce Dell reported that its business license will soon be issued.
- The city will start licensing short-term rental properties such as Airbnbs and the like.
- The site improvement plan for the former Baptist Church was approved by the Planning Commission. The apartments will be known as "Rivertown Overlook" and the developer has moved stained-glass windows to the bell-

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

Is There 'Old
Brunswick' vs.
'New Brunswick'?

It's a question I've been asked more than once lately — sometimes in passing, sometimes in earnest: "Is there an Old Brunswick vs. New Brunswick?"

The implication behind the question is that there's a division in our community — between those who have called Brunswick home for generations and those who have more recently decided to plant their roots here. And while I understand where the perception comes from, I'd like to reflect on what's real, what has perhaps been sensationalized and, most importantly, what we're doing about it.

A Community
in Transition

Brunswick has experienced significant change in recent decades. Growth brings opportunity: new neighbors, new businesses and new perspectives. But it also brings challenges, especially when it comes to balancing progress with tradition, and ensuring that everyone feels included in the direction our city is heading.

Some residents, particularly those who've lived here all their lives, feel like their town is changing too quickly. Others, who are newer to Brunswick, may struggle to find their place in a community with such deep-rooted history and established relationships.

What Are We Doing
About It?

As your mayor, I want to be clear: this administration is actively working to ensure that ev-



ery voice — whether it's been here for 50 years or five months — is heard and valued.

One way we're doing this is by intentionally and strategically inviting residents from all parts of our community to serve on our boards and commissions. Whether it's the Planning Commission or our Budget and Finance Committee, we are making room for a variety of perspectives. It's not just about representation — it's about building a community where everyone has ownership.

We've also launched an Equity and Inclusion Task Force: a dedicated team that will take a closer look at these perceived divisions and help us understand what's underneath them.

We also encourage YOU to reach out and provide your input, ideas or suggestions. We are open to hearing any thoughts you have on the issue.

Let's Be Honest —
And Optimistic

Now, it would be disingenuous to pretend that there aren't differences in our community. Every growing town goes through growing pains. And yes, some of the conversations around "Old Brunswick" vs. "New Brunswick"

come from a very real place.

But I also believe that some of the narrative is more amplified than accurate. Because when I look around, I see something different.

I see long-time residents and newer families side by side at our festivals and city events. An example of this will be this coming weekend (October 4 & 5) at our 42nd Annual Railroad Days Festival. This will be held throughout downtown Brunswick, and I hope to see you there!

I see people from all over our community — regardless of how long they've lived here — volunteering with our fire department and ambulance company, our ladies' auxiliaries, our food bank, and many of our civic organizations. I see them volunteering and coaching in our sports leagues with their children or standing on the sidelines rooting them on!

I see our churches filled with people of different backgrounds coming together to serve, to worship, and to lift each other up in times of need.

That, to me, is the real Brunswick.

Moving Forward, Together

As we continue to grow, I encourage all of us — whether you consider yourself "Old Brunswick" or "New Brunswick" or somewhere in between — to be part of the solution. Attend a meeting. Volunteer your time. Get to know your neighbors. Ask questions. Listen deeply.

Because in the end, there isn't an "old" and a "new" Brunswick.

There's just Brunswick — a big town small city with a big heart, built on history, growing with purpose, and united by people who care. ■

— Nathan Brown

Route 340 Interchange
Work Underway

By MARK ROHNER

Concrete barriers are going up along U.S. Route 340 as work gets underway on rebuilding dangerous on-ramps at three interchanges in the Brunswick and Jefferson areas.

Drivers can expect shoulder and single-lane closures during work hours, according to the Maryland State Highway Administration. The \$17.4 million project, which involves lengthening the on-ramps and improving lighting and drainage, is expected to be completed in fall 2027, according to the SHA.

The three interchanges, connecting U.S. 340 with Maryland Route 17, Maryland Route 180 and U.S. Route 15, currently have limited or no merge areas and obstructed views of 340.

"The Brunswick area has seen tremendous growth since these US 340 ramps were first built about 60 years ago," said Andrew Radcliffe Jr., district engineer for District 7 which includes Frederick County. "Traffic counts are higher now and speeds are higher, so motorists need more time and space to safely merge. That's what this project will accomplish."

During the construction period, the speed limit through work zones will be lowered to 55 miles per hour from 65 miles per hour. Automated speed enforcement devices will alert motorists about their speed and collect pictures of violators, the SHA said. There will be a warning period before citations are issued for speed violations.

During the
construction period,
the speed limit
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miles per hour from
65 miles per hour.

US 340 is one of the original state roads designated by the Maryland State Roads Commission (now the State Highway Administration). The road was first constructed in the 1910s and the ramps were built during an expansion of US 340 in the 1960s.

The primary contractor is Rockville-based Francis O. Day Co. Inc. ■

tower which will have subdued internal lighting such that it will look like a beacon visible from the towpath. The stained-glass windows had to be replaced with code-compliant windows.

- The former Mommer's building in Railroad Square is nearly finished, and the upstairs apartments will be occupied soon. The ground-level commercial space will become a restaurant. South Maple Avenue resurfacing is expected to happen before winter.

- Food truck licensing is underway, along with options for converting trucks to bricks-and-mortar businesses for those that choose to do so.

- The first phase of the Berlin House restoration (exterior and stability) on South Maple Avenue is expected to be finished by the end of October. The next phase of funding will be for interior renovations.

- The Council adopted a city charter amendment that adjusts the bond language. The city anticipates issuing bonds soon to fund several "big ticket" items such as the long-overdue sludge press and the phase 1 electrical upgrade at the wastewater treatment plant.

- The Brunswick Heritage Museum facade work is done, and the ribbon-cutting is October 3. ■

BRUNSWICK NEWS

Renovations Completed on Iconic Downtown Building

By ABBIE RICKETTS

An extensive interior and exterior renovation of an historic building on the Square Corner in Brunswick was completed in September. Informally referred to in recent years as the “Mommer’s Building,” the name is in memory of the late Mairam “Mommer” Tyeryar who operated a popular restaurant there known as Mommer’s Diner.

The building is historically known as the Meadows Building and is one of the oldest structures in Brunswick. It will once again be in use as an apartment building with a restaurant on the first floor.

My Sister’s Place

The building has a lengthy and colorful history. It housed the Smith and Carlisle General Store beginning in the late 1800s. After operating as a tavern/restaurant under several different owners in ensuing years, well-known Brunswick residents, the late Fritz and Bunny Powers, became proprietors in the 1960s and named it “My Sister’s Place.”

Fritz Powers’ sister, Virginia “Sis” Lowery, managed the tavern for him and later she and her husband bought the business. Her daughter, Pattie Nichols, fondly recalls living above the busy tavern in the apartment facing West Potomac Street and running a snowball stand there in the summer months with her sisters. Her Uncle Fritz ran a cab stand there. Truly a family affair, Sis Lowery’s half-brother, Frank Danner, ran a cab stand there at one time as well.

Silver Rail Diner and Mommer’s Diner

After My Sister’s Place closed, Stuart Kelman opened the Silver Rail Diner. After running it for a few years, he sold it to Mairam Tyeryar who operated Mommer’s Diner for 14 years until 2013. The building has been vacant since then.



The newly renovated exterior of the Mommer’s Building at 1 S. Maple Avenue.

New Restaurant Coming Soon

In a recent interview with developer CJ Tyree of the Taft-Mills Group, he said, “The building contains two 2-story three-bedroom apartments on the second and third floors and a restaurant space on the first floor.”

Much of the building is new construction. Tyree mentioned that “renovating it was more of a challenge than anticipated due to there being no footers under the foundation walls.” Each wall was replaced one at a time after new footers were poured. While much of the original lumber remains, he said, new lumber was installed alongside throughout the building. He declared after the build was near completion, “This

is now the soundest building in town.” He also noted that the renovation cost about twice as much as tearing the structure down and constructing a new building.

The building has been fully modernized with a fire sprinkler system, air conditioning, energy saving appliances, and brand new staircases. Tiled bathrooms and all new flooring and windows are just a few of the many notable improvements made to the building.

The developer saved the lettering “Tavern” printed in gold leaf on each small transom window on the front and preserved the historic front of the building. The lettering from the building’s earlier days had been hidden by paint for many years.

In the later part of August, work was completed on the grading and landscaping and the apartments will be available to rent as part of the affordable housing project downtown.

A new restaurant is scheduled to open in February or March after a build-out is completed. The new space has a replicated tin ceiling to add to the historic charm. The lower space with the large window along West Potomac Street, where the late Frank Wenner once ran a barber shop, will become additional seating for the restaurant. Other expansion has increased the overall size of the restaurant space.

Street Paving and Buried Wiring

South Maple Avenue will be freshly paved from Potomac Street to the train tracks. Tyree said his company, working with Potomac Edison and the City, has buried wiring where possible and eliminated four telephone poles to lessen the distraction the old transformer and wiring created on that side of the street. The power company replaced the unsightly aged transformer that was mounted on a pole right in front of the building with a new smaller and less intrusive model.

In selecting colors for the building, Tyree said the colors



The lettering “Tavern” on a small transom window was hidden by paint for many years, but was revealed and preserved during the rehab.

are in keeping with an historic look that would blend nicely with the Railroad Square apartment building. Both buildings combine to create 45 housing units. Interfaith Housing Alliance in Frederick manages the rentals. The website is www.interfaithhousing.org.

? WHAT'S HAPPENING AT... ?



Verizon building undergoing very slow-going improvements.

Verizon Building on Petersville Road: In August 2024, the Brunswick News-Journal reported that the windowless Verizon building was undergoing a retaining wall upgrade.

One year later, that work plus more is still ongoing. Verizon’s original retaining wall contractor was replaced with another, causing delays. Verizon expanded the project by replacing the sidewalk along Petersville Road and adding some improvements at the rear of the building, including a new driveway exiting onto the unit block of West B Street

and a concrete walkway that wraps around to the east side of the building and becomes a small parking lot on the west side.

The somewhat mysterious building is a telecommunications facility that handles routing and switching for local phone and internet services; thus, the lack of windows for security reasons. It does not have any retail functions. ■

If you see any construction projects around town and are curious about them, let the BNJ know, and we’ll find out what’s happening for our next edition!



Improvements to the rear of the building.



Mommer’s Diner was the last restaurant to occupy the building, closing in 2013.



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Sentencing in Brunswick Murder Case

By MARK ROHNER

A 19-year-old from Brunswick was sentenced September 8 to serve life in prison plus 20 years for raping and murdering a 61-year-old woman in her Brunswick home last year.

Juwuan Terry Stewart pleaded guilty February 19 to first-degree murder and first-degree rape in the death of Tammy Sue Coates at her apartment on Ninth Avenue on January 17, 2024. Stewart was 17 at the time of the crime but was charged as an adult.

A family member called Brunswick Police January 22, 2024, after finding Coates unresponsive. Her death was ruled a homicide as a result of multiple stab wounds and strangulation.

Arrest in March 2024

Brunswick Police, working with the Frederick County Sheriff's Office, the Frederick Police Department and the Frederick County State's Attorney's Office, conducted an investigation that led to Stewart's arrest in March 2024. Evidence including witness interviews, cell phone records, surveillance footage, and Stewart's GPS ankle monitor, placed

Stewart at Coates's apartment the afternoon of January 17, the State's Attorney's Office said.

Stewart, a neighbor of Coates, had been seen talking to her earlier that day. Detectives said he asked her if she would pay him to brush snow off her car, and she refused and tried to send him away. Detectives said he later returned to her unlocked apartment and tried to rob her. In the struggle that ensued, she was raped and murdered.

The next day, Stewart's ankle monitor was found discarded in his backyard. Detectives linked Stewart to the crime through DNA evidence, according to the State's Attorney's Office.

Victim Impact Statements

At Stewart's sentencing hearing, Judge Scott Rolle heard victim impact statements from Coates's daughter and niece, who were identified only by their first names in court.

Coates's daughter, identified as Kimberly, told the judge "I am unsure how I can ever put into words the impact of losing my mother in such a horrific way has impacted not only my life, but

my family's life as well." Kimberly found her mother's body five days after the crime, the Frederick News-Post reported.

"I will never be the same person after this life-altering event," she said.

Coates's niece, identified as Amanda, said her aunt "was aspiring to do great things with her life when Mr. Stewart robbed her of that opportunity." Amanda had spoken to her aunt on the phone on the day of her death, according to the News-Post.

Maryland law allows an offender convicted as an adult for a crime committed when they were under 18 to seek a reduced sentence after serving at least 20 years. Therefore, Stewart could eventually become eligible for parole.

"This is an extremely egregious case that would have been death penalty eligible not so long ago," State's Attorney Charlie Smith said. "The community needs to understand that some teenagers are capable of extremely brutal and horrific crimes and should be punished according to the crime, not just their age." ■

SCAMS

Who Falls for Them?

By JEAN DOYLE

Scams have been around since human society developed. But the scam industry is now enormous. Artificial Intelligence, crypto and social media are making scams more sophisticated and convincing. If you are online at all, if you have an email account or a cell phone, you have received numerous scam attempts.

Who hasn't received text messages telling them a package is waiting for them, but it has an incorrect zip code and if you just click on this link you can straighten out the problem. Or your driver's license is about to be suspended because you owe \$6 on an unpaid toll. Again, click on the link and you might expose your personal identity information. Maryland EZ Pass assures users that it NEVER sends anyone text messages.

More costly scams happen daily. Sue-Lin Wong, a writer for The Economist, spent months investigating international scammers. She concluded that scamming has become a "dark, global industry worth billions and it is linked to forced labor and linked to China." You can listen to her podcast, Scam Inc., an eight-part series on the Here & Now website from 8/21/25 (www.wbur.org/hereandnow/2025/08/21/podcast-scam-inc). Ms. Wong's conclusion from her research is that anyone can be scammed. She said that she could be scammed, and "in fact, any of us could. We're all vulnerable."

them of a shared common interest. Criminals use seemingly harmless shared interest groups, such as a Facebook group for classic car lovers, or a gardening group, to build on-line friendships. Eventually, as the friends get closer, the scammer will ask for money for some sort of fake crisis.

According to the article, you don't have to avoid all interest groups. But you do have to be wary of sudden closeness, and never send money, especially by nontraditional methods of payment.

The AARP has many resources available on their website to recognize scams through their Fraud Watch Network. They have a Help Line at 877-908-3360 where you can talk with a fraud specialist, or report a scam. They also have a Scam-Tracking map where you can see scams occurring near you. Watch their Perfect Scam Podcast to hear stories about how scams really happen.

Local Resources

The Brunswick Police Department said that they receive many calls about scams. If the call involves something in their jurisdiction, they will investigate. If the call involves something outside their jurisdiction, they refer the person to the appropriate agency.

The Maryland Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division is another resource on scams. Visit their website, oag.Maryland.gov, and go to the Consumer Protection Division or Identity Theft Unit for current consumer alerts and publications, including guidance on recognizing and avoiding scams like imposter schemes or home warranty fraud. You can also contact the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division to report a scam or get information on ongoing issues.

The nearest office of Maryland's Consumer Protection Division is at 44 North Potomac Street, Hagerstown, and their phone is 301-791-4750. The Frederick area office offers telephone assistance at 301-600-1071, and is available the second and fourth Thursdays of each month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Information is available to help protect you from digital scammers. If you are unsure about a text, call or email, utilize these resources and seek a second opinion. ■

BRUNSWICK POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT
AUGUST 2025

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY				
	Month	YTD	PY Month	PY YTD
Maryland State Citations	40	269	35	110
Maryland State SEROS	7	51	10	45
Warning Citations	131	740	132	626
Parking Citations (paper)	86	292	0	46

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY				
	Month	YTD	PY Month	PY YTD
Calls for Service	1,708	13,446	797	7,313
Homicide	0	0	0	1
Rape	0	3	0	2
Robbery	1	1	0	1
Assault	4	36	11	64
Breaking & Entering	1	2	0	6
Theft	1	29	4	29
Auto Theft	0	0	0	2
Adult Arrests	2	56	6	59
Juvenile Arrests	0	4	7	23

OTHER INCIDENTS				
	Month	YTD	PY Month	PY YTD
Motor Vehicle Accidents	7	62	9	80
Emergency Evaluations Mentally Ill/Suicidal Persons	18	74	4	49
Overdoses	2	8	0	9

YTD = year to date PY = previous year N/D = no data SEROS = safety equipment repair orders (a law enforcement officer can issue a SERO to the operator of a vehicle with defective or non-functioning equipment, such as a taillight)

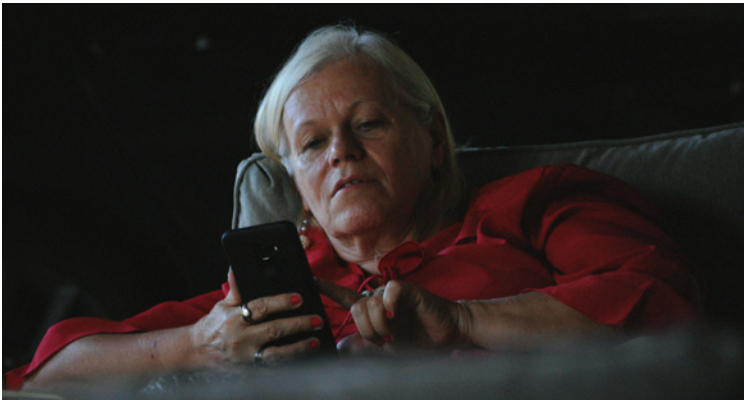
Scams:
Protect Yourself

On December 2, the Brunswick Senior Center will present a program from the Maryland Office of the Attorney General on the topic of scams. Information will be presented on the newest ways scammers try to get your money or information, how to protect yourself, and what to do if you are a victim.

Call the Senior Center at 301-834-8115 for more information or stop by at 12 East A Street in Brunswick.

Many Resources
Available to Help

The September/October issue of AARP Bulletin includes a report on a new variation of the romance scam. This "friendship" scam lures people into digital traps by convincing



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BRUNSWICK NEWS

First Baptist Church
Finds a New Life



Removal of floor and interior structures in First Baptist Church nearing completion.

By JEAN TOLEMAN

The front of the First Baptist Church on A Street looks quiet, but the bell tower high in the church has what looks like scaffolding inside. These are the new support bars that have stabilized what was a very deteriorated bell tower.

“The mortar was as soft as butter,” said Dave Gowda, new owner and project manager for the church’s makeover. Soon the open bell tower windows will be encased with stained glass panels that have been removed from the sides of the church. The bell was previously removed from the tower for safety reasons and is now on display in front of the building.

Whether noticed or not, there has been a lot of activity in and out of the historic 1908 building. Gowda has been working intently with architects, city and county government and his construction crew as they start the transforma-

tion of the church into a 9-unit apartment building.

The apartments will be two-bedroom, two-bath in nine units on three floors. Gowda, who has a lot of experience with taking historic buildings and finding new life for them, said he sometimes wonders why he bothers, especially as he tries to repurpose old construction materials that have to be changed out to meet modern building and safety codes.

Pipe organ needs a home

“I really like Brunswick,” Gowda said, “I look forward to seeing it move forward and I am very happy to be here for the long term.” He has found a new home for all the maple flooring that had to be removed. The pipe organ, however, is still homeless. “It is in perfect condition,” Gowda indicated, “so we hope someone will take it.” There are also stacks of old hymnals, bibles, woodwork, room dividers and



Looking from the balcony down into the church with flooring removed.

Senior Center Happenings

By JEAN DOYLE

The 2025 Fall Session begins in October and goes through December. Register online for fee programs at: <https://frederickcountymd-gov.3dcartstores.com> or in person at any Senior Center. For the free programs, register at: VirtualSeniorCenter@FrederickCountyMD.gov. Fitness classes begin the week of October 6.

Trips in October & November

Friday, October 10—Audubon Society Sanctuary Walk. The sanctuary is in Mt. Airy. A volunteer naturalist will lead the nature outing on sanctuary trails for a 60-90 minutes walk. The sanctuary is maintained for the benefit of birds and wildlife and for the education and enjoyment of guests. Time: 9:45 a.m. to approximately 2:30 p.m. Cost: \$6 per person. Bring money for lunch in New Market. Leave from the Frederick Senior Center. Note: There are no bathroom facilities at the sanctuary. There is a lot of walking on uneven ground. Register by Oct. 3.

Friday, October 11—The Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall. The traveling memorial will be on display in New Windsor, Md. It is 3/5 of the actual size and stands as a reminder of the great sacrifices made during the Vietnam War. Time: 10: a.m. to approximately 2:00 p.m. Cost: \$10 per person. Lunch is available for purchase at the New Windsor Fire Department Activity Building. Leave from the Frederick Senior Center. Register by Oct. 3.

Wednesday, October 15—Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park. Visit the landscape that shaped Harriet Tubman’s life. Located in Dorchester County on Maryland’s Eastern Shore, the visitor center houses a permanent exhibit, a film, a museum store, and a research library. Time: 8:00 a.m. to approximately 8:30 p.m. Cost: \$90 per person plus a cash tip for the charter bus driver collected at check-in the day of the trip. Bring your lunch. Dinner is buffet at the Golden Corral (included). Location: leave from the Frederick Senior Center. Register by October 3.

Friday, October 24—State Arboretum of Virginia. The Arboretum stands in the center of the 172 acre Blandy Experimental Farm in Boyce, Va. The arboretum has the largest Conifer collection in the southeast and a 300-tree Ginkgo grove. After the guided tour you will have time to explore on your own. Note that there is a lot of walking on uneven ground. Time: 8:30 a.m. to approximately 3:30 p.m. Cost: \$35 per person. Bring your lunch and water. Leave from the Frederick Senior Center. Register by October 10.

Sunday, November 2—Bakerville, A Sherlock Holmes Mystery. Way Off Broadway Dinner Theatre, Frederick. Watch as only 3 actors play 43 different characters as Holmes and Watson solve the most notorious of Sherlock cases, The Hound of the Baskervilles. Time: 12:15 to approximately 4 p.m. Cost: \$65 per person, plus optional \$5 transportation cost. Bring money for gratuity and bar tab. Buffet lunch is included. Transportation: drive yourself to Willowtree Plaza, 5 Willowdale Drive, Frederick, or leave from Frederick Senior Center for a \$5 fee. Register by October 24.

Friday, November 7—National Electronics Museum and the Computer Museum. The museums are located in Hunt Valley, Maryland. The Electronics Museum’s exhibits display the breakthroughs in electronics history. The Computer Museum displays technology from the inception of computing to an IT systems integrator. Time: 8:30 a.m. to approximately 3:30 p.m. Cost: \$40. Bring your lunch. Leaves from Frederick Senior Center. Register by October 24.

Special Events at the Brunswick Senior Center

Thursday, October 16—Lunch Bunch Oktoberfest Luncheon. Special luncheon menu. Suggested donation \$6. Sign up at least 1 week in advance, register at 301-834-8115.

Friday, October 24—A Ride in the Country. Enjoy a ride along backroads. Visit Burkittsville, Keedysville, Boonsboro, Middletown and Jefferson. Stop for lunch and visit a pumpkin patch. Cost \$10 per person. Bring money for lunch and incidentals. Pre-register at 301-834-8115.

Thursday, October 30—Boo Bingo Fun @ the Brunswick Eagles. Costumes are encouraged. Cost: \$7 for lunch. Time: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Register by October 23 at 301-834-8115.

Don’t forget all the many and varied ongoing activities offered. To see the Fall Session Catalogue go to: www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/DAI

For information about Brunswick Senior Center activities call 310-834-8115 or stop by the Senior Center at 12 East A Street. ■

chairs that need homes.

The stained glass windows are being stabilized between clear glass panes by a company in Virginia and will be reinstalled throughout the building. “Due to fire codes, most of the windows have to be removed, but anywhere we can, we will leave

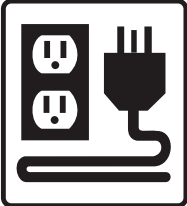
them in place,” he said. He also plans to reuse most of the doors, which are beautiful solid wood.

Gowda plans to keep the front of the building looking pretty much like it does now. While the original architectural drawings had balconies being installed on one side of the building, “after

listening to concerns by local citizens, we removed them,” Gowda stated, “we do need to build a small addition on the rear for an elevator and stairwell.”

Gowda and his crew hope to be done with the demolition part of the job soon so that building out the units can start this winter. ■

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LOCAL NEWS

Brunswick Teen Gains Hands-On Experience through Local Business Internship



Spencer Potts, 17, of Brunswick, at work during an internship with P&N Computer Services.

BY JANE CLIFFORD

This summer, Brunswick resident Spencer Potts, 17, got a chance to put his love of technology into practice, thanks to a local business owner who believes in giving back to the community.

Spencer spent eight weeks interning at P&N Computer Services, a computer and package services shop in the Brunswick Shopping Center on Souder Road, owned by Larry Patterson. The opportunity came through Maryland’s Division of Rehabilitation Services (DORS) and the not-for-profit RISE Services, which administers the Work-Based Learning Experience program (WBLE). The program matches young people with employers to build hands-on job skills before entering the workforce.

For both Spencer and Patterson, the experience was rewarding. Spencer, who has an affinity for computers, gained exposure to technology and customer service while Patterson served as a mentor and coach.

Spencer helped with PC repairs, file transfers, and diagnosing technical issues. He also worked directly with customers, scanning and labeling packages, troubleshooting and answering phones. “My favorite part was handling packages and working with computer hardware to solve client problems,” he said.

His mother, Shelly, saw clear growth. “He has grown socially because of the customer service skills he has learned. He has also become more confident in his phone skills and multitasking. Overall, this has been a very valuable opportunity for

him and our family is grateful for his time there.”

For Patterson, taking on an intern was an easy decision. “I’ve always believed it’s important to give back to the community that supports my business,” he explained. “This was a great opportunity for Spencer, and it was rewarding to see a young man learn and grow with excitement.”

He praised Spencer’s listening skills and eagerness to learn. “He has a great ability to pay attention to detail and understands the importance of getting things right. He has a great appreciation for electronics and digital work.”

RISE Services employment coach Paul Jackson also noticed the connection between mentor and mentee during site visits. He was impressed by Larry’s teaching and coaching style, as well as Spencer’s obvious affinity for technology and his interest in developing customer service skills.

Beyond the work itself, Jackson observed that Spencer became a familiar part of the P&N community, meeting the barber next door, the restaurateur across the way, the beautician nearby, and countless residents who stopped by, sometimes with packages, often just to say hello.

While Spencer isn’t sure if he’ll pursue a career in computer services, the internship has opened doors to new possibilities. The package-handling side of the job has sparked a particular interest in exploring career opportunities with the U.S. Postal Service.

Patterson said the experience has convinced him of the value of internships and he would gladly welcome another intern in the future. “For those considering taking on an intern, I can tell you the end result can be very rewarding,” he said. ■

Crafting Dreams in Wood Master Stair Builders of Brunswick

By JANE CLIFFORD

In a discreet shop tucked away in downtown Brunswick, artistry meets engineering at Master Stair Builders. For more than two decades, the company has transformed wood into elegant, gravity-defying staircases that grace some of the region’s most impressive homes.

Round Hill to Brunswick

Founded in Round Hill, Virginia, and relocated to Brunswick nearly 20 years ago, the shop has built a reputation for excellence, precision and craftsmanship. Owned by founder Rich Newman and led by partners Ian Campbell and Tony Foreman, Master Stair Builders is powered by a close-knit team of local woodwrights. Their specialty is custom staircases — masterpieces of design and illusion that seem impossible to build yet endure for generations.

“We make what no one else wants to make,” says Campbell, who joined the company in 2008 as foreman and became a partner in 2023. “We make architects’ dreams come true.”



Ian Campbell, partner and woodwright at Master Stair Builders

That philosophy has defined the shop’s work, especially its hand-carved “wreath work” — the curved portions of spiral staircases. Once shaped entirely by hand, wreaths are now partly crafted with advanced CNC machines (“computer numerical control” — cutting tool technology to precisely shape wood), though Campbell’s artistry and oversight remain central.



In the workshop



After installation: the finished product

Old-world technique and modern technology

This blend of old-world technique and modern technology allows the team to tackle projects that defy convention: freestanding elliptical staircases that seem to float, mahogany railings that twist in multiple directions, and intricate pieces for historic renovations, including Civil War-era buildings and even a doorjamb for the Smithsonian National Gallery of Art.

American Woodcrafters works directly with architects, designers, and contractors, serving clients in the mid-Atlantic region including Washington, D.C.; Middleburg, Virginia; and Rehoboth, Delaware. For privacy reasons, we cannot name names, but their portfolio reflects some of the region’s most notable residences.

A bit of luck

For Campbell, the craft is personal. Raised in Loudoun County, Virginia, he learned carpentry as a teenager from his father, Andrew, a builder-turned-woodshop teacher. That foundation, combined with a bit of luck, shaped his career. “My greatest blessings in life are the things that have fallen in my lap,” he reflects. “The people I know and grew up around, carpentry, my wife and kids.”

Now a father of three, Campbell views leadership through the lens of family and community. “I want to provide the life for my family that they deserve — secure and happy. I want this for my employees too.”

That commitment extends to materials and people alike. The shop uses domestic hardwoods like walnut, oak, and reclaimed pine, occasionally importing specialty woods for unique projects like European beech. Just as importantly, Campbell invests in his team, knowing the return is reflected in every finished piece.

At its core, Master Stair Builders is about more than wood and tools. It’s about trust, artistry and the ability to make the impossible tangible. In Brunswick, that tradition endures in every curve, joint, and polished railing the team creates.

For more information see masterstairbuilders.com/ ■

PHOTOS COURTESY MASTER STAIR BUILDERS

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Village Picnic Held in Rosemont



About 50 people attended the Rosemont village picnic on Sunday, Sept. 7, at Merryland Park. Special guests were County Executive Jessica Fitzwater and District 1 County Councilman Jerry Donald, pictured with local officials. Left to right, Village Clerk Beth Coyne, Commissioners Robin Scarff, Sean Byrons, Kelly Huffer, Mark Rohner, County Executive Fitzwater, Burgess John Leach, County Councilman Donald.

New Restaurant Opening in Former Guide House Grill

By MARK ROHNER

The building that housed the former Guide House Grill on Keep Tryst Road has been leased to business partners who plan to open a Mexican restaurant.

El Charro Bar & Grill is the venture of Nathalie and Elias Lazo and Rosario Gonzalez. They plan to be open daily for lunch and dinner.

After receiving zoning approval from Washington County, "we are looking at a soft open for October 1st," Nathalie Lazo said. She and her husband, who recently lived in Ranson, West Virginia, have moved into an apartment above the restaurant with their three boys, ages 5, 4 and 2.

"We've worked in the restaurant industry, Mexican restaurants, but we've never owned one," Nathalie said. "It just happened that I was on Facebook when I saw" that the Guide House building was available. "Everything they asked us we provided and next thing you know we're signing the lease," she said.

Along with offering Mexican fare, the partners are considering ways to recreate some of the old flair of Guide House. "We've been looking through the Guide House and everything they had to offer — the different cocktails and things like that — and we're hopeful we can do something with the cocktails," Nathalie said.



Rosario Gonzalez, Nathalie Lazo and Elias Lazo (l-r) at the bar in their new restaurant, El Charro Bar & Grill.

Renovated inside and out

After Guide House closed, the building was renovated inside and out, with a new bar, restrooms and kitchen and a new room for private parties, seating 16 people. The building briefly housed The Restaurant at Potomac Crossing in 2024.

Excited to work with the community

Nathalie, a native of Fairfax County, Virginia, said El Charro will be looking for opportunities to participate in community activities. "We're really excited to work with the community; we have a lot of plans for community involvement," she said.

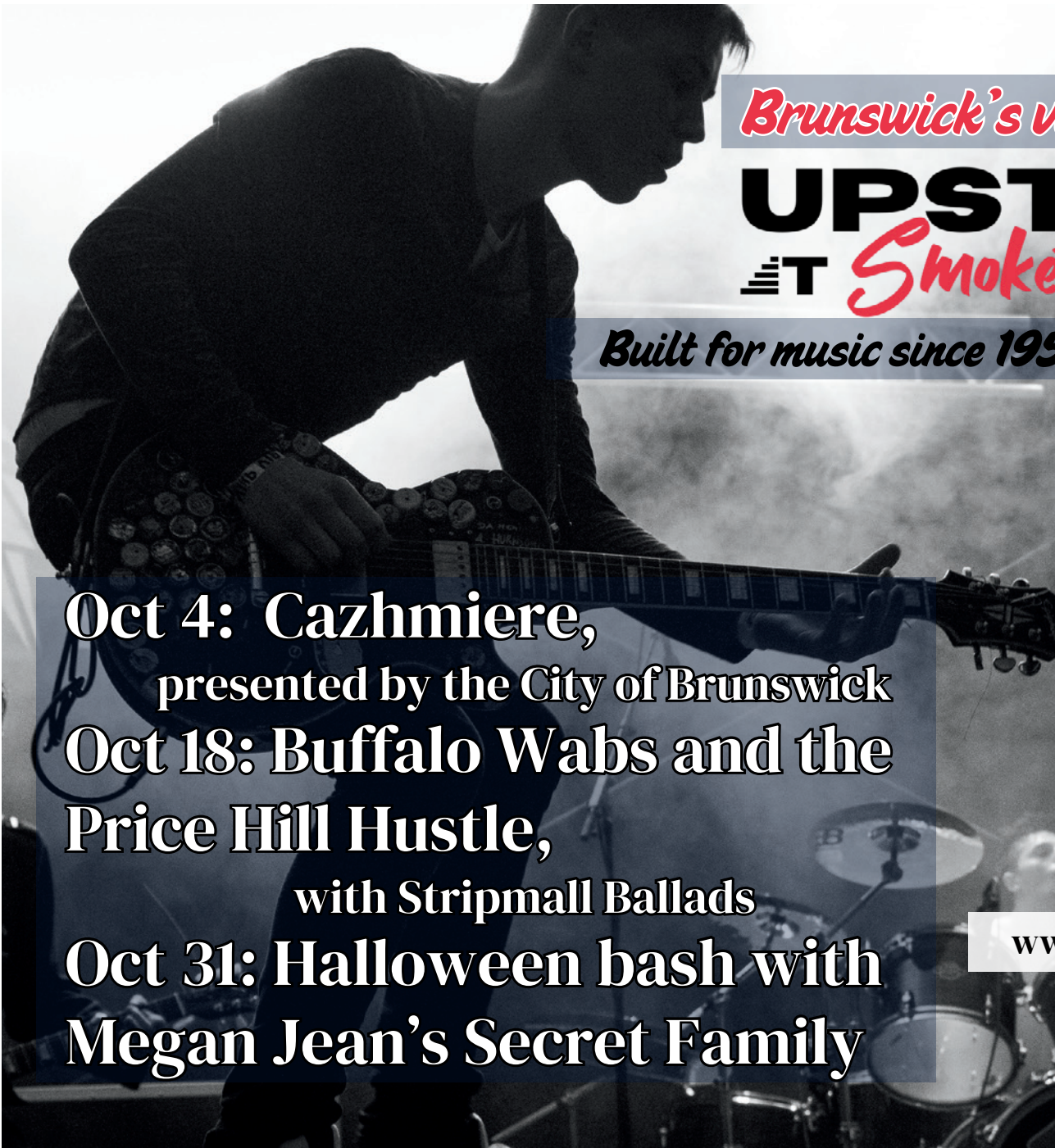
As the mother of three boys, "I have my hands full," she said. "And then of course they want to play sports. I'm kind of figuring out how I'm going to do sports and run the restaurant and all that good stuff. But I have faith that it's going to work out." ■



Caterpillar on East A Street



Malcolm and Kaia spend a sunny September day drawing a large caterpillar in chalk on a retaining wall at their home on East A Street.



Brunswick's very own concert hall

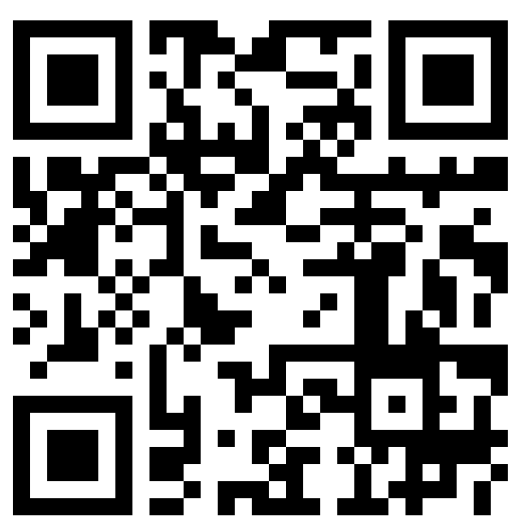
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Oct 31: Halloween bash with Megan Jean's Secret Family



www.UpstairsAtSmoketown.com

OPINION

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

Two Celebrations:
October 12 and November 28

Did Christopher Columbus discover America? Well, yes. In a similar fashion, Genghis Khan can be said to have “discovered” Eastern Europe in the 1220s. Both actions resulted in the deaths of millions of people, but they also opened pathways for cultures to mix and benefit.

Life is multifaceted and complicated. We all do smart and dumb things throughout our lives, things that turn out to produce good or bad results. Did Columbus know he would bring smallpox to the Americas and cause the deaths of millions? Did he know his crew would be responsible for bringing syphilis to Europe? If he had known, would that have changed his actions?

Both good and bad result from “discoveries” of other societies. All the peoples impacted should be recognized so we can better understand who and what we are. For the peoples of European descent, Columbus’ expeditions brought huge wealth both materially and culturally to Europe (along with the syphilis). Where would Italy be without the tomato? Where would Ireland have been without the potato? For the native peoples in America, it destroyed much of their culture but also brought new things.

Just as each of the alloys of steel is stronger and more versatile than pure iron, so does the American culture resulting from our social melting pot have more to offer than single, isolated cultures that existed centuries ago. Around the world, human lifespans at birth are now longer than ever before, and poverty levels are the lowest ever. We can celebrate the good and mourn the losses at the same time.

Yes, let’s celebrate Columbus Day this October 12. Let’s also celebrate American Indian Heritage on the day after Thanksgiving.

See more on this topic on page 18 of this issue. ■

How to send a Letter to the Editor

Letters intended for publication should be emailed to editor@brunsnews.com. Please include your name, town and phone number (phone numbers will not be published). Letters may be edited for grammar, length and content. We do not publish anonymous letters. Unpublished letters cannot be acknowledged. DEADLINE: the 18th of each month.

Brunswick Main Street Thrives on Community Support

By ABBIE RICKETTS

The non-profit, Brunswick Main Street, Inc., has long been the catalyst for igniting ambitious revitalization in the once slumbering, economically flat downtown Brunswick. Organized in 2004 through a volunteer driven effort to become an official Maryland Main Street program, this group has been the leader in managing grant-funded building renovations, historic preservation projects, community and promotional events, business recruitment, and beautification ventures that have evolved over the years in large part due to the organization’s dedicated volunteers and staff as well as community support. As a result, the downtown corridor has moved forward substantially in revitalization and some of the past hurdles such as chronically vacant buildings have been overcome.

In 2024, a record five new businesses opened downtown, Bridgeway Bikes, C&O Tattoo, Maple and Rye Bakery, Potomac River Interiors, and Whistle Punk Gourmet Deli, speaking to the long-term success of the Main Street program. The organization manages a gift card program that directs dollars spent in downtown businesses. A highly successful Brunswick Farmers Market is held twice monthly in partnership with Mid-Maryland Farm Market as well as four winter indoor markets. Volunteers host four community events – Bike to Work Day, Milton Frech Jr. Potomac Street Mile fun run, Halloween Party Carnival and the Holiday Marketplace. Among other contributions the organization has made are downtown beautification efforts including planning of the arch at Railroad Square, open air museum in store front windows, self-watering planters care and planting, Mosaic River Mural and other public art.

While the City of Brunswick provides the salary and benefits for the Community Program manager who oversees certain functions of the program, the volunteer driven organization must raise funds for expenses not covered by grants or City funding.

Brunswick Main Street receives substantial funding from the Tourism Council of Frederick County’s Main Street Communities Cooperative fund which is collected from a percentage of hotel/motel tax proceeds in the county. Half of the funds are to be used for marketing outside of Frederick County while the remainder can be used for local marketing. For Brunswick Main Street to receive an optimum amount from the fund, they must show a sizable operating budget with income indicated from fundraising and donations.

Community support is vitally important for Brunswick Main Street to meet its budget goals. It seeks the community’s support for upcoming fundraisers:

- **Oct. 4–5 — Railroad Days — Kids Crafts** (donations only)
- **Oct. 25 — Halloween Carnival**, 6-8 p.m. at Horine Parking Lot (2 E. Potomac St.)
- **Nov. 2 — Farmers Market End of Year Dinner** (cocktail hour + 4 course meal) 40 tickets will be sold, Horine parking lot (more information to come)
- **Dec 6 — Hometown Holidays**, 1–5 p.m. at Martins Creek & Horine parking lots

The Milton Frech Jr. Potomac Street Mile is also a fundraiser hosted by Brunswick Main Street. It is held the second Saturday in June and all proceeds go to other selected Brunswick non-profits.

Some of the ways to support Brunswick Main Street are to volunteer, support their activities and participate, give monetary or in-kind donations, or participate in a committee meeting to learn more about the various opportunities for volunteering and to share ideas.

For more information about Brunswick Main Street or to make a monetary donation visit www.brunswickmainstreet.org. ■

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GASTROENTEROLOGY
ASSOCIATES



Matthew Yeatman, M.D.

Medical School:
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Residency:
Johns Hopkins Hospital
Fellowship:
Johns Hopkins Hospital
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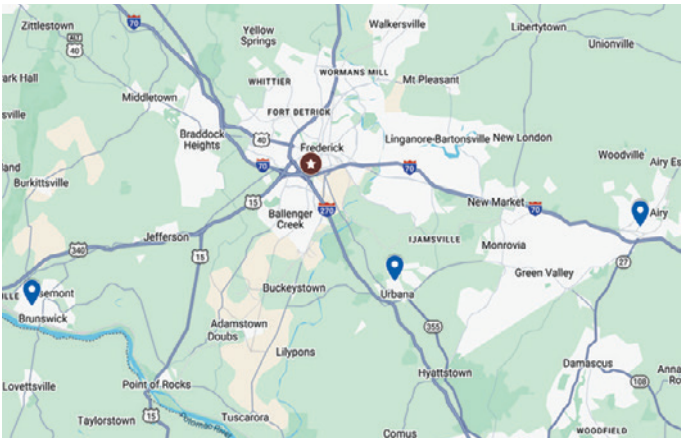
Eiman Nabi, M.D.

Medical School:
Weill Cornell Medicine Qatar
and New York
Residency:
Virginia Commonwealth University
Fellowship:
Virginia Commonwealth University
Washingtonian Top Doctor
2020–2024

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FREDERICK COUNTY NEWS

FROM THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

October brings cooler temperatures and changing leaves, marking a season of transformation. It's a good time to reflect on our progress and plan for the future. In Frederick County, we're focusing on initiatives that invest in our community. This month, I encourage you to stay informed and get involved.

Limiting Data Center Development

I am listening to our community's concerns about data centers, and we are approaching data center development the Frederick County way – with strong regulations to limit growth and prevent the sprawl that happened in Northern Virginia.

Frederick County is a leader in regulating the data center industry. In 2022, we passed a law to establish guardrails for the industry and limit development to land zoned for industrial use. In 2025, we updated that law to increase protections for our community.

We are continuing to fight data center sprawl by:

- Cutting in half the number of acres currently available for data center development.
- Limiting data center development to less than 1% of the County's total landmass.
- Concentrating data center development to the area in and around the Eastalco site north of Adamstown where infrastructure exists and development is already occurring.
- Preserving five acres of farmland for every new acre turned over to data center development.

As a result, data centers are the most regulated industry in Frederick County. Our actions will protect our quality of life and provide a clear roadmap for responsible development – and generate new investments, economic development, and good-paying jobs for people in our community.

On September 25, Frederick County held a meeting for community members to learn more about how we are regulating the data center industry and to ask questions. This meeting was attended by members of my team and representatives from Catellus, the company leading the development of the Quantum Frederick data center campus.

Thank you to everyone who attended. If you could not make that meeting, please know that there will be plenty of opportunities for additional public input. Visit [FrederickCountyMD.gov/DataCenters](https://www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/DataCenters) to learn how you



County Executive Jessica Fitzwater

can make your voice heard.

Transportation Priorities

Last month, representatives from the Maryland Department of Transportation held a meeting in Frederick to share information about the draft Consolidated Transportation Program (CTP) for Fiscal Years 2026 – 2031. The CTP is Maryland's six-year capital budget for transportation projects and programs.

Frederick County's number one transportation priority, improving safety along U.S. 15, is included in the most recent version of the CTP. The project is crucial for improving transportation, enhancing safety, and promoting economic development in our county. I appreciate the bipartisan support from our state and local partners who joined me in advocating for the revenue necessary to move this project forward.

Transportation is vital to our community's growth and well-being. Together, we will continue to advocate for improved services so our people and businesses can thrive.

Creek ReLeaf Program

Applications are now being accepted for the Creek ReLeaf reforestation program run by our Division of Energy and Environment. Property owners interested in having native trees planted on their land for no cost can apply until December 30, 2025.

The Creek ReLeaf program helps us plant more trees in Frederick County. The program pays land owners for a conservation easement, installs new plantings, and provides five years of maintenance to ensure their success. This project is funded in part by Maryland's Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Trust Fund.

As of 2024, more than 575 acres of land have been reforested through the Creek ReLeaf program. For more information and to apply, visit www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/Reforest. ■

FROM CONGRESSWOMAN APRIL MCCLAIN DELANEY

When farmers apply for a USDA loan or disaster aid, they aren't just filling out paperwork—they are opening up their lives. They share deeply personal details about their finances, their farms, their families and their homes. They do this because they trust the federal government to protect that information, to honor the unspoken promise that private data will remain private.

That trust has recently been shaken. Reports have revealed that someone from the so-called Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) — a private project operating with no federal oversight or accountability — was able to gain high-level access to USDA's National Payment System.

This is not a small issue. More than 90 percent of U.S. producers rely on USDA support through loans, disaster aid, or other programs. Yet we still don't know whether this sensitive information was shared with or misused by third parties. That uncertainty is unacceptable. The potential for fraud, identity theft and exploitation is simply too high to ignore.

When a farmer applies for a loan or disaster aid, it is not merely bureaucracy — it is a leap of faith.

I know how personal this feels. I am the daughter of a potato farmer from Buhl, Idaho. I grew up watching my family make tough decisions year after year, trusting that the programs designed to help farmers would protect us, not expose us. When a farmer applies for a loan or disaster aid, it is not merely bureaucracy — it is a leap



Congresswoman April McClain Delaney

of faith. It is a hope that their government will safeguard not just their livelihood, but their family's future. That trust must be honored.

Legislation to protect farmers

That is why I introduced the Protecting Agricultural Borrower Information Act. This legislation is a direct response to the recent breach, designed to ensure that the most sensitive financial data of our farmers is handled only by accountable, vetted USDA staff — not outside projects, and certainly not by third parties with no oversight.

Farmers deserve clarity, protection and confidence that the government is acting in their best interests.

Personal information at risk

Unfortunately, the USDA breach is not an isolated incident. Reports indicate that DOGE has also accessed systems at Treasury, Social Security, Health and Human Services and other federal agencies — putting countless Americans' most personal information at risk. From Social Security numbers to medical records, the potential exposure is vast.

The question is simple: would you feel comfortable knowing that an unaccountable private project has access to your personal financial data? For far too many, the answer is no.

As Maryland's only representative on the House Agriculture Committee, I am committed to taking action. This is about more than just policy — it is about protecting families, preserving livelihoods, and restoring trust. Farmers and rural communities have always been resilient, but they should not have to navigate the added uncertainty of whether their personal information is safe from exploitation.

Congress must ensure that all federal programs handle sensitive data responsibly, with clear oversight and transparency.

Accountability is not optional. Security is not negotiable. And trust, once broken, is hard to repair. Congress must ensure that all federal programs handle sensitive data responsibly, with clear oversight and transparency. Our farmers, our families and our communities deserve nothing less.

I will continue working across party lines to protect farmers' privacy, restore accountability and strengthen the bond of trust between citizens and their government. Because when the people who feed America share their lives with the government, they should be able to do so knowing that trust will never be misplaced. ■

Jerry Donald Announces Candidacy for Maryland House of Delegates

Frederick County Councilmember Jerry Donald has announced his candidacy for the Maryland House of Delegates in District Four which covers Brunswick and most of Frederick County outside of the City of Frederick.

After representing the residents of Frederick County District One for three terms on the County Council, Donald hopes to use his experience to benefit residents of Maryland's Legislative District Four as a delegate to bring more funding back to the district.

Donald said, "As delegate for District Four, I want to use my experience to bring residents' tax dollars back to our district. The current members of the House of Delegates in District Four only brought \$175,000 back to the district for Fiscal Year 2026. Comparatively, the members representing District Three brought back over \$12 million. Frederick County has several large projects



FREDERICK COUNTY PHOTO

As a Frederick County Councilmember, Jerry Donald successfully advocated for multiple projects including a new library and fire hall in Middletown, the development of Othello Park near Brunswick, Ballinger Creek Trail, and Point of Rocks Community Commons

'As your state delegate I hope to use my experience as a councilmember to ensure we're getting the funding we need.'

Park, and the renovation of Middletown Park, as well as the construction of Brunswick, Urbana, Sugarloaf, and Valley elementary schools.

To learn more, visit www.donald4delegate.com. ■

Is Your Utility Bill Rising?

The Brunswick Green Team and the City of Brunswick are hosting a community outreach session where they will navigate you through energy savings programs from state, county and utility providers to help lower your utility bills. They will assist you in finding the programs most applicable to your household and get you start-

ed in qualifying for the programs.

This session takes place at the Brunswick Public Library, 915 N. Maple Avenue, on Sunday, October 19, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Sign up for an appointment by emailing emartin@brunswickmd.gov. Walk-ins are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis until slots are full. ■

LOCAL NEWS

Watch Out for the Bad Guys

Security is a never-ending issue in our device world. Here are some thoughts on how to approach this difficult subject and how to stay ahead of the bad guys.

List the sites you need to protect. Keep it simple. Here's a starting list: financial, government, social media, mail, cloud accounts and your devices. Think of accounts you don't want a thief to have. Your bank, yes. Your newspaper account, probably not. Medicare, yes. The office of your pediatrician, probably not. You get the idea. Take the time to lock up critical sites using every bit of security you can find. For the others, use a good password.

Passwords and storing them

Use strong passwords and try not to use the same password. A long password is always better than a short one.

Where to store that password? That is a tricky question and the answer is a password manager, but be careful. Read reviews. Do research. Some are stronger than others. The top two are 1Pass-



word and Apple's Password app. You can also write passwords down but keep that list somewhere not so obvious for the thief. Your browser may or may not store passwords but that is generally not as safe as a dedicated password manager.

Use passcodes if available. This eliminates the need to use the password.

Use two factor authentication. This is where you get a text message with a code to access your account. An advanced approach is an authenticator app (Google, Microsoft, Authy as examples) on your phone or tablet. The authenticator is a bit more secure than text messages because it cannot be intercepted.

For devices like your phone that support face recognition or fingerprint detection, use these methods unless you are concerned about authorities access-

ing your device. Define an unlock code that's more than four digits when possible. If you are concerned about authorities accessing your phone, remember they can hold your phone up to your face to unlock it but they cannot force you to give them your security code.

Artificial Intelligence

The unsettling world of artificial intelligence is upon us. AI can fake your voice and maybe even your image. Gather your family together away from all devices (yes, your TV and your watch are listening to you) and agree on a "safe" word that someone could say in case you need to verify they are real. Don't write it down. Memorize it. Do not put it on your phone or send it via email to anyone.

Good luck and take this stuff seriously because the bad guys want your identity and your money. ■

John the Computer Guy works in the IT industry. He has provided tech support to major corporations and governments with large databases as well as individuals with Windows, Macs and iDevices. If you have a computer question for him, email editor@BrunNews.com.

Distinguished Citizens 2025



These individuals were honored at Brunswick's annual Distinguished Citizens Luncheon held at the Brunswick Eagles Club on Sunday, Sept. 14. From left to right: Bob Effler, Jennifer Effler, James Castle, Bruce Funk, Melanie Dipasquale (representing Mary McDonald, who died in 1911), David House, Cathy Barnes, Frances Axline (sitting), Rick Weldon, Cheryl Turney (representing her husband Bill Turney, who died in 2024), Jerry Knight, and Kathy Crone.

Deener Serves in U.S. Marine Corps

PFC Michael A. Deener, Jr., 20, of near Burkittsville, graduated from the United States Marine Corps boot camp at Parris Island, South Carolina, where he was awarded the honor of Platoon High Shooter for his score in riflery marksmanship.

After boot camp, he married his wife, Madisyn, and reported to the USMC School of Infantry at Camp Geiger, North Carolina, Alpha Company.

Upon graduation from the School of Infantry, PFC Deener transferred to the USMC Security Force Training Regiment at Chesapeake, Virginia, where he is currently stationed.



Pvt. Michael A. Deener

His parents are Michael Sr. and Lisa Deener, and his grandparents are Donnie and Gloria Deener of Brunswick. ■

By ANNE ZUMBACH

Brunswick Boy Scout Troop 277 had a busy summer. Starting in May, the scouts put flags on the graves of veterans at Park Heights Cemetery and at Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Frederick.

In June, they constructed a table and benches for their campsite at the Walkersville Watershed and learned how to level them. The annual flag retirement and Court of Honor was held in mid-June. Nicholas Cronkite was awarded the rank of Life Scout while Adam Parde and Simon McGillivray were awarded merit badges that are required to become an Eagle scout.

Sinoquipe Scout Reservation

In July, the scouts attended a week of camp at Sinoquipe Scout Reservation in Pennsylvania. The seven boys who attended earned 30 merit badges. They scored 100% on the daily camp inspections and completed two camp improvement projects — replacing benches around the fire ring and spreading mulch throughout the site.

On spirit day, they competed in the triathlon — Grant Hough swam the 100-yard leg, Simon McGillivray ran the hill part, and Nicholas Cronkite and Kyle McGann did the canoe leg. The team had an impressive 2nd place finish.

During the week, the boys got up before 6 a.m. each day to participate in the Run for Life and Polar Bear Plunge challenges. At the end of the week, they received Honor Troop and Honor Camper awards.

Troop 277's Adam Parde spent



Simon McGillivray's Eagle project was building a trail with his crew at the Reed Center on Mountain Church Road.

the summer at Sinoquipe working at Scoutcraft — pioneering, cooking and wilderness survival merit badges.

Eagle Projects

The scouts are ending the season working on Eagle projects and merit badges. An Eagle project is a leadership project for scouts. The hours worked count as service hours and conservation hours which are needed for advancement.

Simon McGillivray's project was building a trail at the Reed Center, a non-profit on Mountain Church Road. Simon mapped out the half-mile, uphill trail. Making the trail consisted of cutting trees, digging out roots and rocks, getting rid of scrub brush and scraping the surface of the trail down to the dirt. The trail had to be

wide enough for ATV travel. Workers had to carry their tools — shovels, rakes, loppers, saws — a half mile to the work site. Over the course of three days, Simon's crew — scouts, parents, siblings and Reed Center volunteers — logged in over 180 man-hours.

Adam Parde worked on the BHS cross country course for his project, rebuilding a bridge and improving the trail in the woods. The original bridge was an Eagle project for Joey Intolubbe in 2015 and needed to be wider and longer, due to erosion. Wood pillars were placed and painted at entrances to the woods, trees were taken out and scrub brush and hanging limbs were removed. Adam and his workers logged in over 100 man-hours.

Upcoming Events

Upcoming events for the troop include Grant Hough's Eagle project, the October Court of Honor, the Fall Camporee, Trunk or Treat, and Scouting for Food collection.

Troop 277 offers outdoor ex-

periences and leadership opportunities to boys ages 11 to 18. The troop meets on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Thursdays at Merryland Park. Brunswick has a Cub Pack as well. For more information, email zum50@hotmail.com or go to BeAScout.org. ■



Adam Parde's Eagle project was on the BHS cross country course, rebuilding a bridge and improving the trail in the woods.

GARDENING, AGRICULTURE

When Outdoor Plants Come Indoors

BY MARIANNE WILLBURN

It's a tough month for the gardener who loves to entertain.

On the one hand, we know that we should bring in big healthy houseplants that have spent the summer outside, such as schefflera, ficus, philodendron and sansevieria. We know that they will benefit from a smooth temperature transition and react with less leaf-loss and yellowing if we approach this in a timely manner.

We also know that one of these mornings very soon, we'll walk outside and the cold will have flattened the plants we'd meant to harvest for cuttings – our coleus, alternanthera, lantana, ruellia, plectranthus and many others.

On the other hand, these plants are simply so lush and healthy and adding to the general atmosphere that their absence cannot be filled with a bale of straw and a rustic basket of pumpkins. Do we really want to open our cluttered homes to warm-season plants that don't want that low-lit corner of the living room any more than we want to move the armchair and give it to them? And so, we tarry.

It's hard to transition, but the end result is better if we just get on with it.

If you don't have a greenhouse and you're about to shuffle furniture, here are a few tips on what to do with subtropical, leafy plants that either a) won't go fully dormant in a dark garage; or b) that you mysteriously want to get cozy with over the winter.

DECIDE if you really want to do this. Don't you have naïve friends

who would swoon at the thought of being gifted with a six-foot schefflera? Be ruthless. If you've got limited space, save the healthiest and the happiest, turn your back on the others, and go shopping in the tropical 'houseplant' section of your big box or nursery next spring.

INSPECT the foliage carefully, looking for scale on the undersides of waxier leaved plants such as ficus. Wipe them off with a damp, rough textured rag if the infestation is light. If it is heavier on some leaves, remove the leaf entirely. Scale is exacerbated by houseplants coping with lower levels of light, water and nutrients, and starting off clean is important. Two doses of neem oil a week apart will often take care of the stragglers.

Ditto spider mites which love to feast on the sap of tropical leaves such as bananas or parlor palms subjected to dry conditions. If you're planning for a jungle look in a semi-arid desert (your home), you'll be battling these guys. Again, oil or soap-based sprays work well (though do consider throwing the banana in the dark basement instead).

Mealy bug is happy to ride in on coleus and jade plants – hiding out in axils along the stem and causing a big headache by February. I usually use chemical warfare on these incredibly clever insects as I have had little luck with organic methods and they breed fast.

HYDRATE herbaceous, leafy plants thoroughly the day before bringing them in. You won't have another opportunity to moisten every par-

ticle of growing media like you can with a gentle hose. Let them dry out for a day then use a dolly to move the big ones. There's no point going into winter with a wrenched back or scratched floors.

POSITION your plants in the greatest amount of light possible, bearing in mind that direct sun through glass can burn tender foliage. Some plants such as dracaena, philodendron or sansevieria can exist with much lower levels of light, so strategically position them to take real estate that a sun lover such as crown-of-thorns (Euphorbia milii) can't handle.

PROTECT your floors, cabinets or table tops with plastic saucers. Don't assume that glazed ceramic saucers are waterproof. Condensation can build up between the saucer and the floor and cause mildew. In my shallow quest for form over function, I have ruined many a wooden surface.

SCHEDULE a day every week that you will attend to watering and/or feeding. Plants generally need less of both during the winter, but that doesn't mean none at all. When you let soil get really dry it will repel water, fill your saucer in five seconds, and leave you kicking yourself the next day when you find a wet trail across your hardwood floors.

IGNORE a bit of leaf loss or yellowing as plants transition to a different, drier environment. Invest in a nice mister to give them a little treat twice a week.

REJOICE in April, when you get those space-hogging, insect sheltering, could-be-healthier, free-loading albatrosses out of your house.

Until then, **CONSIDER** transitioning to stunning tropical and subtropical plants that happily go dormant in a frostfree dark garage such as canna, colocasia, bananas, caladium and gingers (amongst others).

Whether it's a single elephant ear, or a porchful of begonia, most of us are looking at that frost-clock with dread. Skip the dread and act now. For more details, check out The Garden Mixer Podcast's episode "The Great Migration" wherever you get your podcasts. ■

Marianne is the co-host of The Garden Mixer Podcast and a contributing editor for GardenRant.com. She writes from Lovettsville.



KIM SHANKLE

Tomato Plants Grow Tall in Brunswick

Wayne Hawes reaches for the tops of tomato plants in his 9th Avenue garden.



TIM WILSON

A Thriving Driveway Business

Alexis and William Hall started their business along Second Avenue in Brunswick in the spring and intend to keep it open through late fall. The flowers are freshly cut from their backyard garden, and the baked goods are from their grandmothers' recipes.

FALL FOR BRUNSWICK

- OCT 4 & 5** **RAILROAD DAYS** 10 AM-5 PM THROUGHOUT DOWNTOWN BRUNSWICK
- OCT 25** **HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL** 6 PM-8 PM 2 E. POTOMAC STREET
- NOV 9** **VETERANS DAY PARADE** OPENING CEREMONY 1 PM, PARADE 2 PM EAST AND WEST POTOMAC STREET

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IN THE KITCHEN

The Butter vs. Margarine Wars

By JEAN TOLEMAN

In 1948 the news covered Harry Truman’s unexpected defeat of Thomas Dewey, the baseball exploits of Babe Ruth, the rise of the Palestinian issue, and Russian aggression. But you might have thought the biggest challenge Americans faced back then was Butter vs. Margarine. Headlines trumpeted: “Only Rising Indignation of Oleo-Mixing Housewives Seems Likely to Bring Tax Repeal,” and “The Margarine Battle, Hearings Brought New Clash of Dairy and Soy Interests, While Public Held Oleo Bag.”

Such a hubbub — and it wasn’t about health benefits of one over the other. With the dairy lobby backing butter and the soybean and cotton lobby backing margarine, the issue was keeping or repealing a tax on the COLOR of margarine.

Butter was the fat of choice for Northern Europeans since before the Middle Ages, while Mediterranean people preferred oil. Not until the mid-1800s was there an alternative to butter. Emperor Napoleon III wanted something cheaper for his army, and in 1869 a French chemist invented what he called oleomargarine, rendered from beef fat and flavored with milk.

In 1871 Henry W. Bradley of Binghamton, New York, received a U.S. patent for a margarine made from animal and vegetable oils (mostly cottonseed). By the 1880s, over 30 companies were manufacturing margarine in the U.S.

Taxes and regulations put on margarine

Due to lobbying from the butter industry, the government enacted the 1886 Margarine Act which placed taxes, fees and regulations on margarine manufacturers. Margarine initially could not be colored from white to yellow due to concerns that retailers would mask margarine for true dairy butter and “dupe the unwitting consumer.”

A 1902 amendment to the Margarine Act put a 10-cent a pound federal tax on colored margarine and a quarter-cent tax on uncolored. There was also a restriction on the number of stores where margarine could be sold. In Maryland, and 22 other states at the time, state laws made it illegal to sell colored margarine at any price. But manufacturers were creative. They sold a yellow dye packet with each package of white margarine. The cook of the household had to hand-mix the dye into the white fat to make it look like butter. Later, a dye capsule was enclosed in a bag with the margarine and the bag was kneaded to mix in the color. Brunswick’s Dr. Wayne Allgaier said he remembers watching his mother add dye to margarine and mix it together in a bowl.

Margarine makers turn to vegetable oils

By WWI, margarines made from vegetable oils, primarily cotton seed and coconut, dominated the market. Most of the coconut oil came from the Philippines and, after 1941 and the start of WWII, was unobtainable. Farmers were encouraged to grow soybeans as an alternative oil source. By the late 1940s, margarine was made almost completely from soybean and cottonseed oils.

With little thought to the consumer, the two sides went head to head. The dairy lobby wanted to keep the tax on margarine, and the soybean and cotton lobbies wanted to repeal it to increase their sales. The soybean lobby complained about the increase of cheaper foreign oils (coconut) returning after the war. In an article in the March 20, 1948, Washington Evening Star, Chalmers M. Roberts quoted Howard Roache of the Soybean Council of America: “We don’t want to be in a position where some Hottentot in the Orient can shinny up a tree to pick a cheaper oil.”



Are You Eating Your Fruits & Veggies?



By CHRISTINA FRITZ

Did you know that only 1 in 10 Americans consume the recommended amount of fruits and vegetables per day? Diets rich in produce may help reduce the risk for many chronic diseases including type 2 diabetes and heart disease. The Dietary Guidelines for Americans recommend adults aim for 1½ to 2 cups of fruit and 2–3 cups of vegetables per day.

Produce contains fiber, vitamins and minerals. Fiber is a satiating nutrient, meaning it helps you feel full and makes meals feel more satisfying. It may also help manage cholesterol and aid in digestion. Slowly increase fiber intake to minimize gastrointestinal upset while also increasing water intake, as it helps fiber work more efficiently. Vitamins and minerals play key roles in immune, brain, heart and nervous system function as well as creating energy.

Fresh

When considering fresh produce, shop in season for best

Tax repealed

Old regional concerns, urban and rural, north and south, played into the debate. After months of haggling, in late 1949 Congress repealed the tax on colored margarine. Several states held out for years, with Wisconsin (“The Dairy State”) not giving in until 1967. Margarine sales skyrocketed, and by the 1970s consumers were using over twice the amount of margarine vs. butter than in the 1940s (usda.gov).

Health concerns win out

Health concerns with margarine arose, with trans fats the big culprit. Butter sales started growing and, by 2005, butter again outsold margarine (ers.usda.gov). However, the win was not so sweet. Due to health concerns, overall intake of both butter and margarine was way down from pre-1940s levels. People ate an average 16 pounds of butter/margarine per year before 1940, but less than 6 pounds in 2010.

Old newspapers show that not that much has changed since the “good old days.” So sit down, spread butter or margarine (lightly) on your toast, grab a newspaper, and catch up on the issues of our day. ■

taste, price and availability. Pre-cut produce helps minimize preparation time and increases convenience. Use clear containers to store produce so it is easily visible.

Enjoy fresh fruit as a snack, in smoothies, on salads or with yogurt. Enjoy fresh vegetables raw with hummus or ranch dressing, roasted with herbs, steamed, in salads or soups.

Dried

Dried fruits can be tossed in a salad, trail mix, or used to add a pop of flavor to rice dishes. Try adding dried cranberries to your favorite salad, mixing dried cherries with roasted veggies, or blend prunes to make energy bites. Make kale chips or roasted chickpeas for a nutritious, crunchy snack.

Canned

Canned fruits and vegetables have the same nutrition as their fresh counterpart. Choose canned fruit packed in juice or water, as those packed in syrup contain a significant amount of added sugar. Choose low sodium or no salt added canned vegetables. To further reduce sodium content, rinse the vegetables under water.

Canned food makes excellent pantry staples for quick meals and snacks. Canned corn and

black beans are essentials for a black bean salsa, canned artichokes for a spinach and artichoke dip, and use canned beets roasted with other veggies for a fiber-filled side dish.

Frozen

Fruits and vegetables are picked at peak ripeness then frozen within hours, locking in all their nutrients. Frozen produce are often conveniently pre-cut to save time on preparation and allow seasonal produce to be available year-round.

Use frozen peppers and onions in a stir fry, frozen cauliflower rice mixed into a taco filling, or roast any combination of frozen veggies. Explore the many microwave and air fryer friendly options, being mindful to look at the sodium and saturated fat content if sauces are added.

Be sure to enjoy a variety of produce not only in type but also in form, remembering that dried, canned and frozen are all great options in addition to fresh. Making one small change can have a huge impact on your health.

Visit weismarkets.com/recipes for more produce-focused recipes. ■

Christina Fritz, MS, RDN, LDN is Regional Dietitian at Weis Markets in Brunswick.

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LOVETTSTVILLE NEWS

Lovettsville Town News

By ABBIE RICKETTS

The Town’s summer administrative internship with Alma Cedillo ended in late August. Community Engagement and Economic Development Coordinator Sarah Moseley praised Cedillo in her report to the Mayor and Council saying “Miss Cedillo accomplished a great deal during her short tenure, digitizing over 4,000 land records, eliminating the need for the storage of paper copies. The digitalization of records remains a very beneficial undertaking for the Town and ensures the organization and retention of records in perpetuity. We thank Miss Cedillo for her

hard work and wish her well at college this year.” Cedillo is a resident of Brunswick. Moseley also reported on recent grant distributions. The Creative Communities Partnership Grant distributed \$550 each to Blue Ridge Thunder Cloggers, Western Loudoun Art & Studio Tour, Joshua’s Hands, and Celtic Rhythm School of Dance. Rivenwool Animal Rescue, though not eligible under state guidelines, received \$275 through the Town’s match funding. The Town was awarded \$9,750 from the Virginia Main Street Community Vitality Grant 2026 for a wayfinding project, to begin in October. The project includes

three gateway signs and seven directional wayfinding signs to improve navigation, support businesses and enhance the visitor experience.

Mayor and Council Appointments

Dr. Charles Cooper – Planning Commission Representative to the Events Committee
B. Mark Corcoran – Planning Commission Representative to the Commerce and Business Development Committee

Lovettsville Game Club
FREE Hunter Education Course

Sunday, October 19
9 am–6 pm
16 S. Berlin Pike, Lovettsville
Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources

Sportsman's Dinner & Raffle

Saturday, October 18
1–7 pm
16 S. Berlin Pike, Lovettsville
A donation of \$50 per ticket includes 1 raffle entry and dinner for you and 1 guest. Many other exciting chances to win at the event including 50/50, tip jar raffle, and King Tut! Dinner available starting 4 pm
Menu: fried chicken, roast beef, green beans, coleslaw, bread and butter, and cake. Drinks: beer, lemonade, tea and water.
Contact Fred George for tickets and list of raffle entry items, 703-623-5134. ■

Patriot Day Ceremony Flags Placed For September 11

On Sunday, Sept. 7th, 2,977 flags were placed in the center of town to honor those lost on Sept. 11, 2001, ahead of the Lovettsville Patriot Day Ceremony held on Sept. 11. Members of MCL-Loudoun County Marine Corps League Detachment 1205, Lovettsville American Legion Post 1836, Lovettsville Lions Club, Cub Scout Pack 962 — Lovettsville, Scouts BSA Troop 962, members of the Lovettsville Town Council, Lovettsville Planning Commission, and community members assisted.



Lovettsville Historical Society

Lovettsville Historical Society
Lecture Series

Sunday, October 12, 2pm
“Virginia’s 1774 Summer of Discontent and the Coming of the Revolution,” with Jim Bish
Sunday, November 9, 2pm
260 years of Lovettsville’s New Jerusalem Lutheran Church
All lectures are being held in-person at the St. James United Church of Christ, 10 East Broad Way in Lovettsville.
Questions: events@LovettsvilleHistoricalSociety.org.
The museum is located in the former Potterfield Butcher Store, next to Town Hall, at 4 E. Pennsylvania Ave. in Old Town Lovettsville.
Open to visitors on Saturdays 1–4 p.m.
Other times are available upon appointment. Groups welcome. Call 540-822-9194, or write to: info@LovettsvilleHistoricalSociety.org

Dog Swim

By DR. KATHY HEINSOHN

The first Saturday in September after Labor Day is the annual dog swim in Lovettsville at the community center pool before the pool is closed for the season. An up-to-date proof of rabies vaccination and \$5 gets a canine in with its owner. Also recommended are lots of toys to toss in the pool for retrieving. And, of course, poop bags for any accidents. Attendance was a little down this year as rival local communities also had dog swims this same day. But for Riggins, Cabo, Cruze, Franz, Chunk, Gracie, Gus, Ollie and Lucy, who mostly enjoyed the kiddie pool with frisbees, balls, a pink elephant and green rabbit, life couldn’t have gotten any better. Lifeguards were on hand, but the rules were different. They actually encouraged pups to run around the pool! Everyone left dog tired. ■



Rodeo’s Mexican Grill



LAURA DUDORAK



Rodeo’s Mexican Grill in Lovettsville has branched out, according to owner Felix Hernandez, who proudly announced the newest, coolest food truck in town — soon to be seen at an event near you. Their brick and mortar restaurant is located at 26 East Broad Way in Lovettsville.

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Two Brunswick Artists Chosen to Exhibit in Major Survey of Metro Area Women Artists

By ABBIE RICKETTS

“**W**omen Artists of the DMV” is the first survey of female visual artists from the DMV (District, Maryland and Virginia). The extensive exhibition is being hosted in 18 major art spaces around the region.

Well-known D.C.-area curator, artist, and arts activist Florencio Lennox Campello has curated the exhibition of women artists at all career stages, chosen from among tens of thousands of artists working in the region. In a Washington Post review of the survey on September 10 by Mark Jenkins, he noted, “Campello, who says he chose 425 artists from nearly 4,000 applicants, claims his undertaking is ‘the largest curated survey of contemporary living women artists in the nation and the first survey of female visual artists working across the DMV.’”

The Washington, D.C. metro area is home to some of the greatest art museums in the world and with its many art galleries, ateliers and other art venues, the area supports a vibrant art scene.

Eighteen venues in DC metro area

The American University Museum at the Katzen Arts Center in D.C., is the main stage of the show which kicked off in late August and will run for 6 to 12 weeks. Eighteen venues house the exhibition including Artspiration Frederick, located at 915 Toll House Avenue in Frederick. Dates and participating artists are to be announced for Artspiration.

Two Brunswick artists featured

Karin Birch is a fiber artist who works in embroidery, painting and beadwork. Her piece titled “Down the Rabbit Hole with a Typhoon” was selected for the exhibit at the McLean Project for the Arts.



Down the Rabbit Hole with a Typhoon, 30"x30" hand embroidery, beadwork, and acrylic paint. By Karin Birch.

the Arts, 1234 Ingleside Avenue in McLean, Va. The 30x30 piece features hand embroidery, beadwork and acrylic paint on linen. The exhibition at the McLean location runs through October 23.

Lea Craigie-Marshall will have her work exhibited at the Strathmore Mansion in North Bethesda, Md. The exhibit opens on October 4 and runs to November 8.

Craigie-Marshall's piece explores “the delicate balance between strength and fragility,” she writes in her artist's statement. She uses cyanotype printing to

capture fleeting moments from nature and places them inside gilded eggs. “The cyanotypes, with their deep, ethereal blues, symbolize the layers of time and memory embedded in the natural world. By encasing these



Orquevaux #1, 18"x48" cyanotype in gold-leafed eggs attached to handmade raffia baskets. By Lea Craigie-Marshall.

prints in gold leaf eggs, I create a visual metaphor for the female spirit—both resilient and fragile, strong yet delicate. These delicate pieces are then put together with handmade raffia baskets as an homage to my Italian family's

traditional woven goods.”

She concludes: “These works invite reflection on the ways in which the feminine, like the cyanotype itself, is both ephemeral and enduring, defined by the light that touches it.” ■

Locations and dates of the 18 exhibitions

- Joan Hisaoka Healing Arts Gallery, Washington, DC Aug 29 – Sep 28
- Artists & Makers, Rockville, MD Sep 4 – Oct 29
- Zenith Gallery, Washington, DC Sep 5 – Oct 18
- American University Museum at Katzen Center Sep 6 – Dec 7
- Adah Rose Gallery, Rockville, MD Sep 7 – Sep 28
- Universities at Shady Grove Priddy Library, Rockville, MD Sep 11 – Oct 31
- The Writer's Center, Bethesda, MD Sep 13 – Dec 5
- Pyramid Atlantic Arts Center, Hyattsville, MD Sep 13 – Nov 2
- McLean Project for the Arts, McLean, VA Sep 11 – Nov 1
- University of Maryland Library, College Park, MD Sep 15 – Oct 23
- Montpellier Arts Center, Laurel, MD Sep 11 – Nov 2
- The Athenaeum, Alexandria, VA Sep 25 – Nov 2
- Children's National Hospital Gallery, Washington, DC Sep 1 – Jan 9
- Strathmore Mansion, North Bethesda, MD Oct 4 – Nov 8
- Maryland Hall, Annapolis, MD Oct 4 – Dec 18
- Melissa Ichijoji Gallery, Front Royal, VA Oct 18 – Dec 7
- Nepenthe Gallery, Alexandria, VA TBA
- Artspiration Frederick, Frederick, MD TBA

UPCOMING
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2025


SCAN FOR EVENTS


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Oct 18 | Ballenger Creek Park

History Trick or Treat
Oct 24-25 | Rose Hill Manor Park

Adaptive Monster Mash
Oct 25 | Rock Creek Rec Center

Spooky Fun for All
Oct 27-31 | Various Parks

Halloween with the Animals
Oct 30 | Fountain Rock Park

Folkways by the Fire
Nov 7 | Utica District Park

Sasquatch Hunt
Nov 8 | Othello Regional Park

Medieval Knight Out
Nov 14 | Ballenger Creek Park

S'mores with Santa
Dec 5 | Utica District Park
Dec 11-12 | Utica District Park
Dec 18-20 | Utica District Park

Sensory Santa Visit
Dec 6 | Rock Creek Rec Center

Holiday Workshop
Dec 6 | Scott Key Center

Holiday Shop
Dec 12-13 | Scott Key Center

Museums by Candlelight
Dec 13 | Rose Hill Manor Park
Dec 13 | Snook Family Farm

Grinch-A-Mals
Dec 19 | Fountain Rock Park


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TRAVEL, ARTS, CULTURE

Brunswick Live!

By ABBIE RICKETTS

The last Friday evening of August was a beautiful one and downtown Brunswick businesses stayed open late for the first “Brunswick Live” event. With a grassroots origin growing organically from the minds of business owners, the evening emitted a soft vibe of pleasantries combined with relaxing shopping and browsing.

Kimberly Yourick of Lockhouse Gallery hosted an evening of art and a lecture along with a spread of piquant hors d’oeuvres and wine for those wandering in, while perusing the many paintings on the walls. The gallery was filled throughout with many pieces of original art including several by well-known artist Walter Bartman.



Potomac River Interiors

Potomac River Interiors was open for the evening with artful displays of home décor. Whistle Punk Deli invited people in for its popular deli offerings. The Brunswick Heritage Museum kept hours and enjoyed a steady flow of visitors, according to Mu-



Ham the dog

seum President Julie Kloetzli, who was greeting visitors with a friendly smile. Eirik Harteis of Bridgeway Bikes led a group of cyclists for a ride on the towpath.

The Brunswick Main Street Farmer’s Market was open and visitors were looking over the fresh fruits and vegetables, baked goods, crafts, and other items. More “Brunswick Live” evenings are planned for the last Friday of the month. ■



Eirik Harteis at Bridgeway Bikes



Visitors at Lockhouse Gallery

Is it Columbus Day or Indigenous People’s Day?

By JEAN TOLEMAN

Since 1937, the U.S. holiday on the second Monday in October has commemorated Christopher Columbus landing in the Americas on October 12, 1492, after sailing the ocean blue. Columbus was a native of Italy, and over the years Italian Americans came to honor him and mark the day.

The push for a holiday to honor Columbus started years earlier. In 1892, U.S. President Benjamin Harrison proclaimed the 400th anniversary of Columbus’s arrival a one-time national holiday. This was to counter the negative feelings against Italian immigrants at the time and help ease diplomatic tensions with Italy.

Colorado, with its large Italian immigrant population, was the first state to make Columbus Day an official holiday. Italian immigrants labored in the mines and built the railways. They lived in horrible conditions, as observed by Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini, the first U.S. citizen to be canonized a saint. She visited the area in the early 1900s and wrote: “The hardest labor is reserved for the Italian worker. Few regard him with a sympathetic eye, care for him or remember that he has a heart and a soul: they merely look upon him as an ingenious machine for work” (historycolorado.org).

According to historian Dr. Tom Noel, Siro Mangini, the first Italian tavern-keeper in Denver, named his tavern Christopher Columbus Hall, hoping this was an Italian other Americans would not spit on. In 1907, working with fellow Italians, he persuaded Colorado’s only Hispanic state senator, Casimio Barela, to sponsor a bill proclaiming Oct. 12 as Columbus Day, and in 1909 Denver held its first Columbus Day parade.

The day came to be celebrated around the country in cities with large numbers of Italian Americans. By 1922, 35 states had made Columbus Day an official holiday. So, in 1937 President Franklin Roosevelt made it an official federal holiday.

Did Christopher Columbus 'Discover' America?

By the 1970s, Columbus Day began to be questioned. Columbus was not the first to discover



BLUEBOATBLOGS.UVA.ORG

President Joe Biden proclaimed Indigenous Peoples’ Day and urged states to follow. In 2023, 17 states and the District of Columbia formally honored Indigenous Peoples’ Day and their diverse cultures.

Observing the Holiday Today

This year, definitive information on how each state will observe Columbus Day is difficult to find, but at least six states plus the District of Columbia will observe Indigenous Peoples Day on Oct. 13. While Columbus Day continues to be a bank holiday and a federal holiday with no postal service, many cities and states will celebrate Native Americans’ Day or Indigenous People’s Day.

Maryland celebrates Columbus Day and also celebrates American Indian Heritage Day on the Friday after Thanksgiving. In 2008, President George W. Bush signed the Native American Heritage Day Act, designating the Friday after Thanksgiving as Native American Heritage Day. Many states celebrate on this day.

Columbus Day, Indigenous Peoples’ Day, Native American Day — whatever you call it, the day brings attention to the peoples who were on this continent before Columbus and the changes that occurred after his arrival. The melting pot of America and its varied cultures have all contributed to the vibrant country we are today. ■



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TRAVEL, ARTS, CULTURE

FILM REVIEW

Reviewed by LAURA DVORAK

Kanopy is an on-demand streaming service offered by the Frederick County library system for films, documentaries and courses, among other selections. Kanopy participants receive “tickets” each month for “admission” to view choices.

Thelma
(2024)
1 hr, 38 minutes
Directed by Josh
Margolin



At age 94, June Squibb landed her first lead role in *Thelma*, a film about revenge and so much more. Thelma lives alone, has a dotting Gen X grandson, Daniel (Fred Hechinger), handles a cellphone fairly well but is still attempting mastery of the computer. One day she receives a call, ostensibly on behalf of Daniel, who needs \$10,000 immediately to get out of jail following an accident. Thelma, in a panic, phones her daughter and then her son-in-law, both too caught up in work to respond. Distraught, she bustles about to meet the deadline.

The family members listen to Thelma’s messages with great confusion. Returning home, Thelma learns Daniel is fine — definitely not in jail — and she confides that she mailed the money. Soon there is discussion about finding her assisted living accommodations. Thelma is having none of it. She and Daniel have watched Tom Cruise films, which gives Thelma her own Mission: Impossible idea, which she can’t let family in on. She needs transportation, found, thanks to her boring friend, Ben (Richard Roundtree).

Off she zooms, into the wild West, to settle the score and take back her dough. Based on a true incident experienced by director Margolin’s grandmother, named Thelma, the film is funny, sobering and a reminder of the importance of connection. ■

OFF THE SHELF

Driving Mr. Albert: A Trip Across America with Einstein’s Brain (2000)

By Michael Paterniti

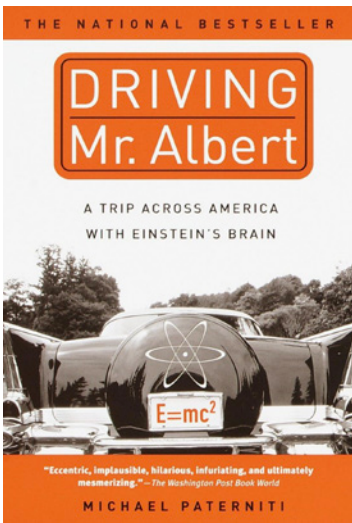
Reviewed by LAURA DVORAK

Like “chicken soup in a golden broth,” Albert Einstein’s brain is packaged for a road trip, leaving New Jersey to California via I-70. The Tupperware holder of the flesh bits is Dr. Thomas Harvey—mostly invisible to the world—who performed Einstein’s autopsy in 1955 and kept the brain. Now he plans to deliver these bits of it to Evelyn, Einstein’s granddaughter, who is curious about the brain and repulsed by the act.

Paterniti learned of the Harvey/brain connection from his landlord in New Mexico. Harvey, a retired pathologist, lived next door to writer William Burroughs in Lawrence, Kansas, the landlord explained. Soon Paterniti was speaking with Harvey—who proposed a trip to California, with Paterniti functioning as chauffeur in a Skylark.

The biography winds along highways, sliding into diners, relaxing in motels, lingering in large-sky small towns and taking a moment or two for tours. In the realm of literature, this is a road trip smartly done. Along with travelogue, there is history, memoir and Einstein biographical details.

Driving Mr. Albert is available through Marina, Interlibrary Loan. ■



By ELLIS BURRUSS

Well, actually it's "croissant," pronounced "cwah-sohnt" — or something like that.

It's a savory, flaky pastry that first appeared in France in a 1905 recipe. The butter and dough pastry we enjoy today may have evolved from the Austrian kipferl, which means "crescent," as does croissant, but the similarity ends there.

The characteristic laminated and flaky texture of the croissant is achieved by repeated rolling and folding until between 96 and 120 layers are produced. It is then baked to produce a crispy exterior and a soft interior.

The characteristic laminated and flaky texture of the croissant is achieved by repeated rolling and folding until between 96 and 120 layers are produced.

First, the previously prepared dough is rolled flat, then a slab of butter is laid on, the dough folded over, followed by more rolling and more folding until a sufficient number of layers of dough, butter, dough, butter... is achieved. After being allowed to rest, it is cut into triangle pieces and rolled again, producing more layers and then baked to a golden brown.

When your reporter was first introduced to Maple & Rye Bakery's whole wheat croissant, his

Crow's Aunt



reaction was not positive. "This is an abomination. A crime against Nature," he thought, as all of his previous experience had been with croissants made with white flour.

The opinion changed with the first bite; flaky? Yes. Buttery? YES. Lots of layers? Yes. ■



PHOTOS BY ELLIS BURRUSS

Layers... just the start.



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LOCAL HISTORY

Brunswick’s Early Railroad Boom

Was there really a town between the tracks?

By PETER WENNER

A bold headline in the May 15, 1891 edition of the Brunswick Herald declared:

“The great freight yard formally opened at Brunswick MD on Sunday, May 10. Brunswick Now the End of the First Division”

The announcement highlighted that the new Brunswick railroad yard was now the western terminus of the First Division, an essential part of the Baltimore & Ohio (B&O) Railroad system at that time.

Auspiciously, the headlines went on to say: “Boom Begins. From Tiny Village to a Busy Important City...The Home of Workmen...Many New Buildings.”

These words foreshadowed a period between 1890-1896 when Brunswick experienced exponential population growth, increasing from 300 to 3,000 — a

tenfold surge. This growth occurred despite the Railroad Panic of 1893, which caused a U.S. economic depression due to bank failures and business bankruptcies linked to overbuilding and shaky financing in the railroad industry.

Upon completion, the 6.5-mile-long Brunswick railyards would become the largest in the world owned by a single company and, for many years, one of the most significant rail hubs on the East Coast.

The legend of the Town Between the Tracks

Following the decision to purchase land for a classification yard in 1889, efforts began to rename the town from Berlin to Brunswick to prevent confusion with another Berlin located on Maryland’s eastern shore. The change was enacted by the governor on April 8, 1890. The name “Brunswick” likely stemmed from local German influence and the desire for a distinctive identity for the new railroad hub.

This was a triumph for the sleepy village of Berlin, established by Leonard Smith in 1787 as a future port on the “Potomack Canal,” George Washington’s grand vision which later became the C&O Canal. Before and after the Civil War, Berlin served as a small trade center for the canal, centered around a grain warehouse located at Lock 30. By 1870, C.F. Wenner had developed the business into a thriving grist mill, which changed hands several times after his death and remained in business until 1962.

Starting in 1834, the canal operated in competition with the B&O, whose westbound tracks split the village that same year.



The Gross Store carried everything from groceries to men’s and ladies’ fashions.

Until 1891, trains simply passed through the area on their way to the B&O’s first major freight yard in Martinsburg, West Virginia.

For nearly 80 years, from 1834 to 1912, part of Berlin was located between the tracks and the canal. In addition to the mill, several Berlin businesses continued into 1890s Brunswick, including one church. The Methodist Episcopal Church held services in a log cabin south of the tracks dating to 1851.

The term “The Town Between the Tracks” likely didn’t originate in the 1890s when Brunswick started thriving, as the B&O Railroad didn’t install the eastbound track on the south side of town until 1912. The Brunswick History Commission has discussed this topic extensively but can’t pinpoint a source of this phrase.

There was indeed a Town Between the Tracks for a few years, but it declined rapidly as businesses and homes fell into disrepair. It’s possible that this phrase was simply a romantic metaphor

created by historians. 1890s photographs and Sanborn Fire Maps suggest that early Brunswick could more accurately be described as “the tracks between the town.”

How the transformation began

There was a cryptic November 28, 1889 Frederick Daily News report that “options had been given for 500 acres of land near Berlin. The price it was agreed upon ranges from \$25-33 per acre. It is not known for what purpose the land is wanted.”

In the late 1880s, rumors spread about agents from the Baltimore Real Estate Improvement Company, a subsidiary of the B&O Railroad established in 1888. Allegedly, one agent disguised himself as a farmer to purchase farmland for an upcoming enterprise. On December 12, 1889, the Daily News dispelled all rumors by announcing that Berlin had been selected as the site for the “General Freight Distribution Center of the B&O Railroad.”

The downtown experience

With the railroad approaching and the expectation of increased traffic and a population surge, new businesses and buildings quickly emerged along the tracks in the bustling business district, accessible to pedestrians via a boardwalk. The atmosphere must have been lively as newcomers experienced a vibrant downtown.

Among the most prominent businesses was the William L. Gross general store, located on 2nd Street (now Maryland Avenue) adjacent to the tracks. This prime retail location featured groceries, dry goods, a pharmacy, and a dentist’s office. According to Brunswick: 100 Years of Memories, Gross’s store offered a wide variety of merchandise on the first and second floors, including ladies’ corsets, suspenders, radios, glassware, and large wheels of cheese. In the cool basement, customers could find perishable items such as butter and fish, while the attic was used for storing out-of-season items. The Gross Store could’ve been a

precursor to a modern mall.

The business district was anchored by the towering Kamberger’s Opera House, which hosted traveling plays, vaudeville, and early motion pictures on the second floor. Victor Kaplon’s original retail store and the Savings Bank of Brunswick occupied the first floor, and there was a private club on the top floor.

To accommodate B&O executives and migrant railroad workers, downtown offered the Elgin Hotel, the American Hotel, and various boarding houses. Karn’s lumberyard and Swank & George hardware provided critical sources of materials for construction.

The area also featured doctors’ offices, grocery stores, barbershops, blacksmiths, a watch repair shop, restaurants, and a newspaper office.

Why did the B&O choose Berlin?

In the 1880s, due to overcrowding at its freight yards in Martinsburg, the B&O sought a new location for its operations. Berlin was an attractive location for the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad due to several factors.

Its position along the B&O’s Washington Branch connecting the eastern cities of Baltimore and Washington with the Ohio Valley made Berlin strategically important for train operations. Situated on flat land by the Potomac River made it ideal for a large classification yard and railroad infrastructure, which would improve the B&O’s efficiency in sorting and redirecting freight cars, thus alleviating congestion at Baltimore and Washington terminals.

The surrounding area was relatively undeveloped in the late 1800s, allowing for expansion without high land costs. To sweeten the deal, the Maryland legislature offered a land tax exemption if the yards would be moved to the state. Since Berlin was within the Baltimore Division’s jurisdiction, it was an easy call for the B&O brass.

By the time of the 1889 Johnstown flood, which mostly spared Berlin, canal operations had nearly reached the end. The



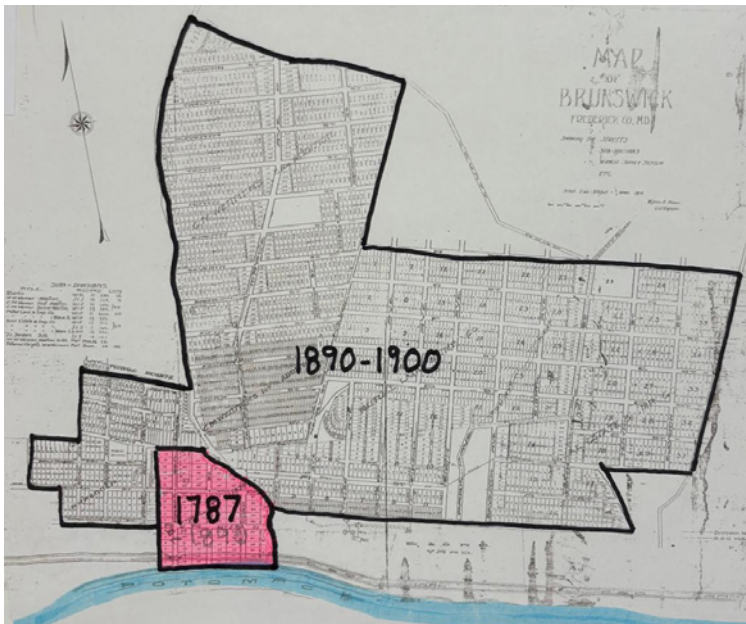
The front page of The Brunswick Herald, May 15, 1891.



The original Brunswick business district was where the commuter parking lot is now.

Brunswick's Boom CONTINUED

BRUNSWICK HISTORY COMMISSION



This map shows the large expansion of Brunswick beyond the village of Berlin, the small area between the tracks and the canal and river.

B&O acquired the canal to ensure eminent domain, which only increased as the railroad secured additional land for expansion.

Brunswick expansion beyond Berlin

As the B&O expanded its rail yard between 1890 and the early 1900s, the town began to relocate up the hills. While some businesses remained after the 1906 expansion, several moved to what are now West and East Potomac Streets. Most notable were Kaplon's in 1908, and Horine's in 1910. Both business districts operated concurrently to some degree until the early 1920s.

Brunswick's first mayor, John L. Jordan, a local merchant and later a Circuit Court Judge, oversaw the passage of laws against public profanity and the disruption of religious services. This was at a time when various churches were emerging on A Street, including St. Francis Roman Catholic Church, which faced anti-Catholic hostility. As the temperance movement was well underway, the new government designated Brunswick a dry town, leading to the closure of the former saloons of Berlin.

Prominent advertisements in the May 15, 1891 newspaper highlighted lots for sale on W.W. Wenner's Western Addition (from New Addition to Petersville Road) and C.M. Wenner's Brunswick Land Improvement Company (North Maple Avenue or "Wenner's Hill") on family farmland. The New York Hill area was developed by a New York company that purchased land on the Potomac Farm, extending to present-day Brun-

wick High School.

To improve connectivity from Loudoun County, Virginia, the Lovettsville and Brunswick Bridge Company was formed to build an iron toll bridge, completed in 1893 on the piers of the earlier bridge destroyed by the Confederate Army in 1861.

A B&O company town was born!

The Demise of the Town Between the Tracks

By 1918, the Brunswick classification yards consisted of two segments: the westbound section on the east end of town and the eastbound section on the west end. The original westbound train station was opened near City Park in 1891 but was moved to its current location several years later.

Homes were popping up all over the hills for railroad workers, who laid tracks and constructed facilities like the original shops and roundhouse. They also took on roles as yardmasters, switch operators, brakemen, conductors, engineers and firemen. The town was rapidly expanding.

The "Town Between the Tracks," often referred to as "Mouse Trap" in its later years, faced challenges, particularly after the second-floor collapse and fire at the Opera House in 1915.

By the early 1920s, all the buildings by the tracks had disappeared, marking the beginning of the second phase of the boomtown's development.

Peter Wenner is Secretary of the Brunswick History Commission and curator of the Smoketown History page on Facebook.

SUSAN ROELKE KENT



"Mouse trap"—what was left of the Town Between the Tracks after the Opera House fire of 1915.

The *LATEST* from the *LAST* C.E.N.T.U.R.Y

100 Years Ago
from *The Valley Register*

Compiled by
Julie Maynard

October 2, 1925.
Special Notice.

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THE YELLOW TEA ROOM,
10-2-1t-11l Chas. K. Rhoderick.

World Series Being Broadcasted By Radio.

Baseball fans have been able this week to "see" practically every move of the 1925 World Series Baseball Classic, without leaving their homes or the homes of their friends, through arrangements made by the Associated Press, whereby 73 newspapers, scattered throughout almost every State in the Union, have been broadcasting by radio the play-by-play accounts of the games.

The series, which opened on Wednesday in Pittsburgh, proves of more interest than ever locally, due to the fact that Clyde Barnhart, a product of the Frederick club of the Blue Ridge League, is in the outfield for the Pittsburgh Pirates, and is batting in clean-up position.

High School Soccer League Is Now Open.

The Frederick County High School Senior Soccer and Field Ball Leagues were given an auspicious opening in Middletown on Wednesday afternoon, when the local teams staged a double victory over the teams representing the Brunswick High School. The contests ended 11 to 2 in field ball and 4 to 0 in soccer. [The Brunswick team was W. Conner, R. Wheeler, R. Grimes, F. Booth, H. Schamel, G. Watts, J. Magaha, M. Mahone, E. Walker, G. Everhart and H. Mohler.] Attendance—400.

October 16, 1925.

Weather experts are now to be trained by the army for use in warfare. Doubtless this will make it unnecessary in the next war to call off any battles on account of rain.

Chautauqua At Burkittsville.

The Swarthmore Chautauqua Association, which for several years has delighted audiences in Middletown, will put on a three-day entertainment in Burkittsville on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, Nov. 11, 12 and 13. Hon. Frank Pearson, who held his large audience spell-bound in Middletown last year, will deliver a lecture. Other features of an entertaining and instructive nature are scheduled. Watch for further announcements.

Skunk Vs. Linemen.

A battle between one lone skunk and a crew of husky linemen of the Potomac Edison Co., which resulted in the death of the skunk, was staged Tuesday morning near the trolley station. The skunk had fortified itself in a hole in which the linemen intended to erect a new pole, and is said to have inflicted some "casualties" during a strong fight before it was killed. The pole was erected.

10 Years In the Pen On Charge of Incest

Found guilty on Monday by a divided court, Chief Judge Urner and Judges Worthington and Peter on the bench, of incest, preferred by his 16-year-old daughter, Roland G. Biddinger, 34 years of age, of near Burkittsville, was sentenced to ten years in the Maryland Penitentiary. He was also indicted on charges of rape, carnal knowledge of a girl under 14 years of age, and assault with intent to rape. On

these charges, however, he was found not guilty. On the incest charge, Judges Urner and Peter returned a verdict of guilty and Judge Worthington dissented. The case occupied the entire day of County Court and was heard in the Judges' Chamber, behind closed doors. Biddinger charges that his arrest and conviction is the result against him by relatives to send him away.

Julius Lipscomb, of Brunswick, charged with selling intoxicating liquor, was found not guilty at a trial before a jury. Two witnesses testified for the State and eight for the defense. It was alleged that a suitcase, containing a number of bottles of liquor, was found in the possession of Lipscomb.

Narrowly Escape Injury When Machine Goes Over Bank.

Narrowly escaping serious injury when their machine went over a 30-foot embankment on the Middletown-Burkittsville concrete road, to avoid hitting another machine, Clifford F. Ahalt, and his 17-year-old son, Gerald, suffered slight bruises and scratches on Tuesday morning, and are confined to their home, near Burkittsville.

PUBLIC SALE

I will sell at Burkittsville, on
TUESDAY, OCT. 27, 1925

At 10 o'clock a. m.,

All the following household and kitchen furniture, also a lot of antique furniture:

1 MAHOGANY TAPESTRY 5-PIECE PARLOR SUIT,
1 gold antique chair... 1 quarter oak bureau, 1 French mirror; ... 1 CABINET ARLINGTON SEWING MACHINE

4 feather pillows, 1 horse blanket, lot of dishes... fancy vases... iron doll's bed with springs and bedding, child's Singer sewing machine and games, antique invalid's chair... crokinole board, 1 swing, 2 trunks, window screens. [excerpts from much longer list.]

MR. JAS. R. ALBIN,
Burkittsville, Md.

John L. Dutrow, Auctioneer,
John Bowlus, Clerk.

If George Washington never told a lie it must mean that he never went fishing.

Memorial Hall

Saturday, Oct. 17. Another Opportunity to See "Where the North Begins," the famous Warner Brothers projection which failed to arrive as scheduled several weeks ago. A truly Great Picture of the Frozen North-Land With that Brilliant Dog-Actor—"RIN-TIN-TIN"

Next week, two big nights: Harold Lloyd's Latest Success "The Freshman." Usual prices.

October 23, 1925.

62ND ANNUAL FREDERICK COUNTY FAIR ATTRACTIVE

The Great Frederick Fair, while not boasting any attendance records this year, and while being seriously handicapped by rain on Thursday, their biggest day, was nevertheless a bigger and better fair than ever before, in the opinions of all those who were fortunate enough to attend.

In the past few years two magnificent new buildings have been built on the grounds and other fine improvements made. Next year new ground to the east of the present enclosure will be included and the long row of unsightly stables torn down to be replaced with further improvements which will delight the eye.

The exhibits this year were excellent in almost every department. The Woman's Club of the county provided wonderfully well-arranged displays of a very instruc-

tive nature. Jellies, preserves, needlework, cakes, art, flowers—practically all of these lines exceeded in elaborateness than shown in previous displays. ... Fakirs were there in large numbers—blankets, aluminum ware, kewpie dolls, etc., being much in evidence. ...

Thousands of premiums were distributed, many of which came quite properly into the possession of Middletown Valley residents.

We Express Our Thanks.

"The Register" was saved a serious tie-up on Tuesday last, when the gasoline burner under the metal-melting pot on our linotype machine refused to work, through the kindly assistance of Editor Rinker, of the Brunswick "Blade-Times." "The Blade-Times" uses the same type of burner as that on "The Register's" machine, and a spare part was rushed to us to allow us to proceed. The aid was timely as we are exceedingly rushed with job printing in addition to our usual newspaper work. Our force has worked night work all this week printing the 32-page racing program for the Frederick Fair, and a tie-up would have been serious.

Court—

Cleve Gordon and Reese Merriman, both of Brunswick, who were indicted for running a gambling table at that place, were both found guilty and each sentenced to six months in jail. The sentences were suspended, however, on the condition that their operations be discontinued. Gordon was fined \$50 and costs, and Merriman paid a fine of \$75 and costs.

Indicted on charges of keeping an ill-governed and disorderly house, Gus Asteris and Mary Tsomskas, Greeks, were found not guilty at a trial before a jury, on Thursday of last week. The accused are owners of an all-night restaurant in Brunswick, and residents living near the place had complained. Judge Worthington warned Asteris, however, to be careful of the deportment around the place in the future.

Boyleless Corder, Aged 65 Years

Boyleless A. Corder, a native of near Burkittsville, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Joe Jennings, at the Episcopal rectory near Petersville, on October 12, about 7 o'clock, following an illness of some time of consumption of the stomach, aged 65 years, 4 months and 24 days. The deceased was twice married. ... Funeral service was held Thursday morning from the Dunkard church, Brownsville.

Biddinger Confesses Guilt.

Roland G. Biddinger, 34 years of age, of near Burkittsville, who was sentenced to ten years in the Maryland Penitentiary, after having been found guilty of incest, on charges preferred by his young daughter, and who stoutly denied the crime when his case was tried last week, is said to have confessed to the officers while being taken to the penitentiary.

A Record Eel.

An eel five and one-half feet long and weighing nine pounds, believed to be one of the largest ever taken from the Potomac river, was caught one night last week in the fishpot of Jacob M. Middlekauff, of Hagerstown, above Mondell. The big eel was exceptionally large as one 3 feet is considered large. In addition to the big eel, the pot caught 75 catfish and 68 other eels in the one night. The catch, as a whole was unusually good. Not one bass was caught in the pot, according to Mr. Middlekauff, who is leading the fight to preserve the pots.

SPORTS

BHS CROSS COUNTRY:
Over 850 runners compete
in Zumbach Invitational

By LEE ZUMBACH

The 42nd Annual Brunswick "Zumbach" Cross Country Invitational took place on Saturday, Sept. 6. The meet is named in honor of long-time head Brunswick Cross Country coaches, Lee and Anne Zumbach, who started the meet back in 1983.

At that time, invitationals were few and far between. They differ from smaller after-school meets in that they involve over 15 schools, with several divisions based on school size, and normally take place on a Saturday to avoid conflicts with other school events. They also present awards for both team and individual high places.

This year 19 schools took part, coming from several Maryland counties and nearby West Virginia. Over 850 runners — boys, girls, varsity and JV took part. The meet is the oldest invitational in the county and one of the oldest in the state. It is very competitive as it involves a variety of school sizes.

Brunswick competed in the small school division, schools with less than 1000 student enrollment. The Railroaders edged out Smithsburg for the boys team championship, placing first. Senior Asher Adelman took home the honor of placing 1st as the overall winner for both divisions with a 5K course time of 16:41. Over 400 boys, varsity and JV



Overall boys individual champion senior Asher Adelman placed first out of 351 varsity and JV runners in a time of 16:41.

competed. In the small school division, he was closely followed by Griffen Adelman who placed 7th, Simon McGillivray 8th, Rick-ey Riley 14th, Jonah Miller 25th, Adam Parde 36th, and Rowen Williams 37th.

In the girl's race, a very young Brunswick team had an excellent day with a 4th place team finish. The Brunswick team has just two seniors out of the 12 girls. Kate Virgilio placed 10th, Vivian Alexander was 14th, Shelby Kenawell was 18th, Caroline Teage was 25th and Haddie Shullenbarger placed a close 26th to pace the team.

The event takes many weeks of planning. The coaches thank the many parent and community helpers for doing important jobs to make the meet a huge success. ■



The girls cross country team had a 4th place team finish: Back Row (L-R) Ramata Sautter, Emma Porter, Caroline Teague, Kim Porter, Shelby Kenawell, Vivian Alexander, Samantha Junker, Sasha Steyee. Front Row (L-R) Kate Virgilio, Haddie Shullenbarger, Kaitlyn Heck.



The boys cross country team won the small school division championship. From left to right: assistant coach Kevin Ropp, Brendon Arnold, Kassey Tetteh, Rowen Williams, Griffen Adeleman, Rickey Riley, Asher Adelman, Connor Orndorff, Josiah Nunez, Adam Parde, Simon McGillivray, Jonah Miller, head coach Lee Zumbach.

FALL SPORT SEASON AT BHS UNDERWAY
Flag football team young, but determined

By BILL CAULEY

It may have been the most important post-game speech Brunswick High School varsity flag football coach B.J. Dick will make to his team all season.

"One game does not define who we are as a team," Dick said to his squad after a season-opening, 27-0 loss to Frederick on Wednesday, Sept. 3. "We need to think about the things we did right in this game."

The game marked the start of the fall team sports season for the Railroaders. The fall season officially started two weeks earlier with the BHS golf team.

In the flag football-opener against the Cadets, Brunswick could have been on the short end of multiple scores by Frederick, known for its strong passing game. Instead, the Railroaders held the Cadets to two scores per half.

"It's true we did not score a point against Frederick, but they are a very good team," Dick said. "In this game, we showed we can compete. I wanted us to compete; we did."

The Cadets didn't get on the scoreboard until their second possession of the game. Frederick picked up a pair of first downs during its 4-play, 66-yard scoring march. The Cadets led, 7-0, with 13 minutes, 38 seconds left in the first half.

It would be another eight minutes before Frederick would score again. It took nine plays for the Cadets to score with 5:10



Brunswick High's varsity flag football team sets up on offense against Frederick on September 3.

left in the half. Again, Frederick picked up a pair of first downs to sustain the drive.

The Cadets and Railroaders each ran 22 plays in the first half.

Brunswick's best defensive stand of the game was early in the second half. Frederick had first possession of the second half, but it took the Cadets 14 plays and four first downs before they could score with 15 minutes left in the game. Frederick led 19-0 at this juncture of the game.

The Cadets forced a three-and out on Brunswick on the next series. Frederick got the ball back, scoring its final touchdown with 7:09 to go in the game on a six-play, three first-down drive.

Frederick scored a 1-point and 2-point conversion during the

contest. The Cadets ran 24 plays in the second half, compared to 11 by the Railroaders.

Brunswick's Charlotte Haga and Siena Russo each had an interception against the Cadets. Dick said the fact the Railroaders came up with a pair of interceptions against the likes of such a potent passing team as Frederick is reason to be optimistic, especially since Brunswick, which went 4-6 last year, has a lot of youth on the squad.

"Yes, we're very young," Dick said. "We've got a lot of freshmen and sophomores playing varsity, but we're going to keep working to get better every day."

Summer Singletary, Maya Robinson, DaMyra Wallace and Kyla Gales each had a touchdown for Frederick. ■



Please join us on Saturday, December 13, 2025, at 12:00 pm at
Park Heights Cemetery in Brunswick, Maryland
for the Wreaths Across America ceremony to
REMEMBER the fallen ... HONOR those who serve ...
TEACH the next generation the value of freedom.

We have a goal of 261 wreaths for veterans at Park Heights Cemetery and the Old Berlin Cemetery in memory of those who served. Sponsor a wreath today to be placed on the grave of a veteran. Wreaths are \$17 each, of which \$5 goes to Pulling For Veterans, an organization that raises awareness for PTSD.

To sponsor a wreath, use the QR code, or by check payable to Wreaths Across America and mailed to Pulling For Veterans, PO Box 4101, Frederick, MD 21705 or go to www.wreathsafteramerica.org/MD0644P.
The deadline to sponsor a wreath is December 1, 2025.

Volunteers are needed to help with the laying of wreaths.
Please text or call 240-285-4487 to sign up.

Our Annual Luminary Event will follow at sunset to recognize and honor those at rest at both Park Heights Cemetery and the Old Berlin Cemetery.

For more information
www.parkheightscemetery.org
info@parkheightscemetery.org

www.pullingforveterans.org
outreach@pullingforveterans.org



“Fall Foliage Adventure Race” Coming to Harpers Ferry and Brunswick



L-R Jossalyn Henry, Logan Kisslebach, Jesse Tubb

By ABBIE RICKETTS

The adventure race company Broad Run Off Road was founded by Allen Wagner, a running enthusiast from Virginia in 2014, but not immediately as a race organization. Instead, it began as just a simple group run and get together for residents to run trails in a new nature conservancy in a development in the Haymarket, Va. area.

Wagner was allowed to start a 5K run there and over the years has successfully grown the managing of adventure races to raise funds for charitable purposes.

What is an Adventure Race?

According to the Broad Run Off Road website:

“Simply put, Adventure Racing (AR) is an outdoor scavenger

hunt: orienteering (navigating with a map and compass) but via multiple modes of travel. Unlike your average 10K/5K marathon or obstacle course race where there is a strict roped off race course to follow, with orienteering/AR you are given a map with marked checkpoints (CPs), and it’s up to you/your team to navigate and find as many checkpoints as you can within a time limit. The best teams will work together and help each other to not only go fast, but also efficiently, acquiring the most checkpoints wins (fastest time as tie-breaker).”

BHS’s Adventure Club

On October 18, Broad Run Off Road will be partnering with Brunswick High School’s Full Steam Ahead Adventure Club to bring to the area the “Fall Foli-

age Adventure Race.” The club’s leader and student advisor, Jeremy Johnson, a teacher at BHS, said, “The club empowers young people to engage in healthy, challenging outdoor activities such as mountain biking, canoeing, trail running, and orienteering while helping them develop teamwork, leadership, and resilience while representing our city at events across the Mid-Atlantic.”

Proceeds from this event are targeted towards Full Steam Ahead to purchase gear and for other club expenses.

The enthusiastic Johnson started the club in 2021 after leading a few students and their parents on adventure runs himself. The BHS club now has 88 student members and 20 of them will be participating in this race. Recently two members of the club competed in Nationals in Bentonville, Arkansas. Johnson says the students love being outdoors and feeling good about their accomplishments in physical fitness and for challenging themselves.

400 Participants in Fall Foliage Race

The Fall Foliage Adventure Race has already nearly sold out with 400 participants registered. Some will compete in a 5-hour challenge and others in a more difficult 13-hour challenge.

Race participants will meet at the Harpers Ferry Visitor Center on Shoreline Drive and be bused to entry points on the river to start the first section of the race kayaking/rafting down the Po-

tomac River. The 13-hour group will put on further upriver. From there, they will raft down to the Brunswick Campground where they will grab their bikes and ride back to Harpers Ferry. The 5-hour group will kayak there and grab their bikes to ride to Harpers Ferry. Bikes will be dropped off at the campground

on Friday.

Both races are sanctioned by the United States Adventure Racing Association with the 13-hour race earning participants points towards World Rankings in the Adventure Race World Series.

River and Trail Outfitters will assist with bussing and providing campsites for participants. ■



Jeremy Johnson, BHS teacher and leader, in center

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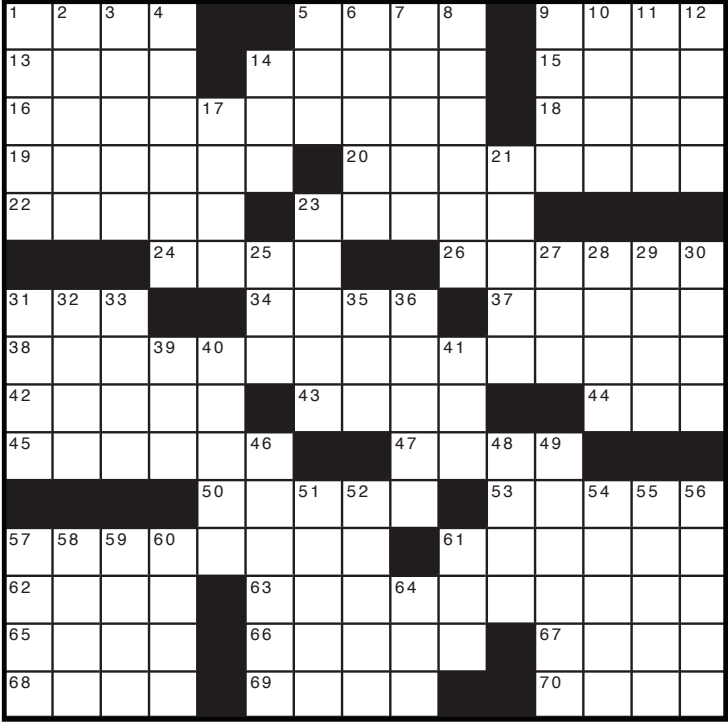
COMMUNITY INTEREST

Across

- 1. Chicago mayor Emanuel
- 5. Lively
- 9. Sonja Henie's birthplace
- 13. Converse competitor
- 14. One of the 12 tribes of Israel
- 15. Capital of Calvados
- 16. Gentleness
- 18. Hue
- 19. Incept
- 20. Thick soup of crabmeat
- 22. Cordwood measure
- 23. Physicist Enrico
- 24. The Beatles' "Back in the _____"
- 26. Attract
- 31. Possess, to Burns
- 34. Comfortable state
- 37. Cravat
- 38. Like afterschool activities
- 42. Pretend
- 43. Adverse fate
- 44. Is doubled?
- 45. Ample
- 47. Body shops?
- 50. Lofty nest
- 53. Rib
- 57. Savior
- 61. John of "Full House"
- 62. Lofty
- 63. Lacking teeth
- 65. "The ____ Dead", classic horror movie
- 66. Nursemaid
- 67. "Comus" composer Thomas
- 68. Golfer Ballesteros
- 69. Arrow poison
- 70. Resting places

Down

- 1. "Caddyshack" director Harold
- 2. ____-garde
- 3. Pivot
- 4. Capital of Lesotho
- 5. Place



- 6. Draw forth
- 7. "M*A*S*H" name
- 8. Louise's cohort
- 9. Twice tetra-
- 10. Travel on water
- 11. Carson's successor
- 12. Not duped by
- 14. Deep black
- 17. Manipulates
- 21. Purple bloomer
- 23. Impostor
- 25. Short time
- 27. Fighting Tigers' sch.
- 28. Arthur Ashe's alma mater
- 29. Surf sound
- 30. French 101 verb
- 31. Assist
- 32. Jump on the ice
- 33. Major ending
- 35. Hit letters
- 36. Irregularly notched
- 39. Director Howard
- 40. Architectural piers
- 41. Mischievous fairy
- 46. Aden native
- 48. Aleutian island
- 49. Aquanaut's base
- 51. V-shaped fortification
- 52. Papas of "Zorba the Greek"
- 54. Love, to Luigi
- 55. In good condition
- 56. Much of Mississippi?
- 57. AAA recommendations
- 58. Overhang
- 59. 554, in stone
- 60. Model Macpherson
- 61. Filthy place
- 64. Compass dir.

Answers on page 26

Thank you to our advertisers,
who make the
Brunswick News-Journal possible!

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Saturday 11/29/25
10am- 2 pm
Crafters and Vendors for your Holiday Shopping
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2025
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people, and historical events
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No RSVP - Just show up
and join the fun!!
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COMMUNITY INTEREST

poems

By Lily Ghuzlan

My only hope in this life is to grow old
Imagine how lucky I'd be
My biggest fear in this life is to die young
What a waste it would seem
However, if I do then I just hope
I am fulfilled and happy
And if I get the privilege to be old and in love
That just ought to kill me

Hello I am, it's lovely to meet you
Today what a beautiful name
I shake their hand, strong but not too tight
Hello sun, moon and stars
It is lovely to see you again, the kids are doing okay?
And you, you must be tomorrow
I step forward ecstatic to meet her
Reach out to hug her
I blink and she's not there
I just missed her

There are all the words we'll never say
And all the forgotten ones we should
That get lost in between the ones we do
Though we could do without
And other times all the words we need to say
Should say and want to say
Will be said in silence

Brunswick Community Festival



ABOVE AND BELOW: Just a few of the hundreds of entries that are submitted for judging at the Brunswick Community Festival: preserves, garden vegetables and fruits, flowers, and photos and artworks.

By ELLIS BURRUSS

Why was the Brunswick Community Festival held in Burkittsville? Some attendees have wondered about that for the past four years since the festival moved there. The reason is that the nearly 45-year-old festival, which celebrates local agriculture, was shut down in 2021 because of the Covid pandemic. Before that the organizers, the Future Farmers of America (FFA), held the event in Brunswick High School. When the FFA re-started the festival in 2022, they did it with the cooperation of the Burkittsville Ruritan and combined the event with the Burkittsville Fair. Now that the event is being held



outdoors, it is able to feature live animals — sheep, goats and geese along with pony rides for young children. They are also able to offer large bouncy toys for children's play. The event was favored by

beautiful weather on August 22–23 this year. It ran from 4–9 p.m. with good crowds both evenings. A wide offering of foods was available from the Ruritan Club and St. Paul's Lutheran Church. ■

OURISMAN

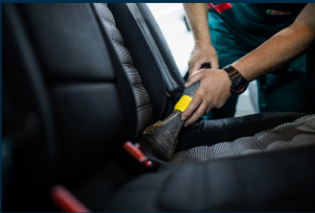
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HALLOWEEN FUNNIES

What do you call a witch who lives at the beach?

A sand-witch.

How do you know if a vampire is sick?

By how much he's coffin.

Why don't ghosts like rain?

It dampens their spirits.

What did the vampire say to the bartender?

"I'll have a Bloody Mary, but hold the Mary."

Why do witches use brooms?

Because vacuum cleaners are too heavy.

Why did the zombie go to school?

He wanted to improve his "dead"ication.

What's a vampire's favorite type of dog?

A bloodhound.

Why do ghosts make terrible liars?

Because you can see right through them.

What's a skeleton's least favorite room in the house?

The living room.

How do monsters like their eggs?

Terri-fried.

What do you call a cleaning skeleton?

The Grim Sweeper.

What's a ghost's favorite dessert?

I scream!

Why did the ghost go to the party?

To have a boo-tiful time.

(ALLEGEDLY) MARK TWAIN

“ Good decisions come from experience. Experience comes from making bad decisions.

If you don't read the newspaper, you're uninformed. If you read the newspaper, you're mis-informed.

Some people bring joy wherever they go, and some people bring joy whenever they go.

When I was 17, my father was so stupid, I didn't want to be seen with him in public. When I was 24, I was amazed at how much the old man had learned in just 7 years.

Whenever you find yourself on the side of the majority, it is time to pause and reflect.

Politicians and diapers must be changed often — and for the same reason.

Never argue with a fool, onlookers may not be able to tell the difference.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS														
S	D	E	B		E	E	N	I		E	V	E	S	
E	N	R	A		Y	N	N	A	N		L	I	V	E
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O	L	S			T	R	E	P			M	H	R	

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The Brunswick News-Journal is looking for writers to cover:

Lovettsville News
General news reporting and feature writing
Town government news

These are volunteer positions. You can work on your own time.
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Interested?
Write: Editor@BrunsNews.com or call: 240-409-7476



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The next meeting of the
Burgess & Commissioners of the Village of Rosemont
will be October 20, 7:00pm
at Merryland Park.

Agenda items include a presentation of the FY2025 audit and consideration of investments and a Village investment policy.

The public is welcome.

thepastorate.com/sleepyhollow

Sleepy Hollow Fall Festival

Sunday, November 9 - 12pm-4pm

Food Trucks,
Bouncy Houses,
Petting Zoo,
NFL Zone,
Live Music
& More!



Holy Family Catholic Community
7321 Burkittsville Road, Middletown
Sunday, Nov. 9 - 12pm-4pm



We're Back!
The Greater Brunswick Area
BUSINESS expo



NOVEMBER 6, 2025
Brunswick Volunteer Fire Hall

Sponsored by the Greater Brunswick Area Chamber of Commerce partnering with the City of Brunswick, the EXPO is a great way to showcase your business products or services directly to consumers.

By Exhibiting at the EXPO you can:

- *Make one-on-one connection with customers
- *Provide a hands-on demonstration of your products and services
- *Reach consumers from multiple media markets in one place
- *Let the workforce know you are hiring
- *Network with other area business owners

Visit **www.gbacc.net** to register for your space at the EXPO!!!

Email **admin@gbacc.net** with any questions or email GBACC President **abbiericketts@comcast.net**

ALL ABOARD BRUNSWICK

OCTOBER COMMUNITY GUIDE FOR ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, EVENTS, ETC.

To have your event listed in next month’s newspaper, email events by the 15th of this month to info@BrunsNews.com.

Teen Time: Board Games
October 2, 6 pm
Brunswick Library

Online Library Resources for Homeschooling
October 3, 2 pm
Brunswick Library

Cash Bingo Fundraiser for St. Paul’s Lutheran Church Burkittsville—\$25
October 3, doors open 5:30, games at 7 pm
Eagles Lodge, 401 Central Ave.

Brunswick Railroad Days
October 4–5, 10 am–5 pm
Downtown Brunswick

“Rooted in Nature” Juried Art Exhibit by Brunswick Arts Council
October 4–5
during museum hours
Lee B Smith Room, Brunswick Heritage Museum
31 juried artists exhibit 55 pieces of ceramics, fiber, paintings, photography.
“We are thrilled to show the work of so many talented local artists.” — Tara Zabriskie, BAC President

Elementary Explorers: 4H Rabbits
October 7, 4:30 pm
Brunswick Library

Teen Time: Book Trivia
October 9, 6 pm
Brunswick Library

Tween Time: Book Trivia
October 9, 6 pm
Brunswick Library

C & O Canal Bike Ride (all ages)
October 11, 10 am
Brunswick Library for details

Six Historic Homes and Shafer Farm House Tour,
Music—\$10–\$20
October 11, noon–6 pm
Downtown Burkittsville, tixs at PJ Gilligan Dry Goods & Mercantile from 11:30 am–2:00 pm

Heartly House Introduction and Speaker Panel
October 12, 2 pm
Brunswick Library

Elementary Explorers: Volcanoes
October 14, 4:30 pm
Brunswick Library

Teen Time: Make Your Own Magnet Poetry
October 17, 4 pm
Brunswick Library

Estate Auction at Farmer’s Picnic Woods
October 17, 2 pm
3816 Petersville Rd., Knoxville

Fall Flea Market
Sat., Oct 18
7:00am to 1:00pm
Potomac Believers Fellowship Church
325 Petersville Rd.
Knoxville, MD

Fall Bird Walk at Othello Regional Park
October 18, 8:30 am
Brunswick Library for details

Big Money Bingo at American Legion—\$40 advance/\$50 at door, lunch included
October 18, doors open 11 am, lunch at noon, games at 1 pm
18 S. Maple Ave.
Andrea 240 626–8968, auxunit96@gmail.com

Relics from Our Past: The Search for Civil War Artifacts
October 19, 2 pm
Brunswick Library

Elementary Explorers: Glowing Goosebumps Slime
October 21, 4:30 pm
Brunswick Library

Painting with Wool
October 23, 6 pm
Brunswick Library

Nature Center Visit: An Adaptive Adult Program
October 24, 11 am
Brunswick Library

Read to a Dog (ages 0–10)
October 25, 10:30 am
Brunswick Library

Spooky Mini Art Canvases
October 25, 2 pm
Brunswick Library

Halloween Hayride
October 25, 6–8 pm
Starts at Martin’s Creek parking lot, \$3/person
BARC.maryland@gmail.com

Downtown Halloween Party & Haunted House
October 25, 6–8 pm
Square Corner Park
Haunted House at 655 E. Potomac

Trunk or Treat Brunswick
October 25, 6–8 pm
Martin’s Creek parking lot
New Hope UMC sponsor

Trunk or Treat at Jefferson Ruritan
October 25, 4–6 pm
4603 Lander Rd., Jefferson

Reducing the Threats to Maryland’s Birds
October 26, 2 pm
Brunswick Library

Hoppin’ Molly, a Lively String Band
October 26, 4 pm
St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 1914 Ballenger Creek Pike

Elementary Explorers: Pumpkin Party
October 28, 4:30 pm
Brunswick Library

Teen Time: Surgical Technology
October 30, 6 pm
Brunswick Library

SAVE THE DATE

GBACC Brunswick Business Expo
November 6, 5–8 pm
Brunswick Volunteer Fire Dept.
1500 Volunteer Dr.

Todd Marcus Jazz Band—Benefit for Heartly House
November 8, 4 pm
St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 1914 Ballenger Creek Pike

Veterans Day Parade
November 9
Potomac Street, Brunswick

Sausage and Pork Chop Sale
November 20
Order forms on Petersville Ruritan Facebook Page

Vendors Wanted: American Legion Holiday Bazaar
November 22
Connie House momhomes@yahoo.com

RECURRING

Gigantic Used Book Sale
SATURDAYS throughout
October, 9 am–4 pm
3 East Main St., Burkittsville

Conversation Class for English Language Learners
SATURDAYS, 10:30 am
Brunswick Library

Leechel Reynolds Charitable Fund Cruise—in
SECOND SATURDAYS through
October, 9:30 am–12:30 pm
Roy Roger’s parking area, Souder Road

Brunswick Arts Council Meeting
SECOND SATURDAYS, 10 am–noon
Brunswick Library

Connect & Create
SECOND SATURDAYS
Smoketown Brewing

Worship Service
SUNDAYS, 9 am
Jefferson United Methodist Church
3882 Jefferson Pike

Worship Service
SUNDAYS, 9:30 am
New Hope United Methodist Church
7 S. Maryland Ave,
brunswickumc.com

Baby Storytime
MONDAYS, 10:30 am, ages 0–24 months with caregiver
Brunswick Library

Manly Movie Night
MONDAYS, 7–9 pm, BYO drink
Traveling Bros. Cigars
302 W. Potomac St.

Toddler Storytime
TUESDAYS, 10:30 am
2 year olds with caregiver
Brunswick Library

Shuffleboard & Cornhole
\$2
TUESDAYS, 4:30–6:00 pm
Parks & Recreation Building, Brunswick Elementary School

Table Top Tuesdays
TUESDAYS, 6–8 pm (3rd Tues. calling all Dungeons and Dragons neophytes and/or pros) BYO drinks
Traveling Bros. Cigars
302 W. Potomac St.

Preschool Storytime
WEDNESDAYS, 10:30 am
3–5 year olds with caregiver
Brunswick Library

Preschoolers School & STEM Skills
WEDNESDAYS, 11:15 am
3–5 year old with caregiver
Brunswick Library

Valley Quilters, all ages/levels
FIRST WEDNESDAY, 6:30 pm
St. Paul Lutheran Church, Jefferson
Peggy at valleyquiltersTLC@gmail.com.

Ladies’ Movie Night
WEDNESDAYS, 7–9 pm
BYO drinks
Traveling Bros. Cigars
302 W. Potomac St.

Musical Storytime
THURSDAYS, 10:30 am
ages 0–5 with caregiver
Brunswick Library

Games Club of Maryland
THIRD SATURDAYS, 12–7 pm
Smoketown Brewing Station



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Associates

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F: 7:30AM–5PM
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1:30PM–3:00PM

FPCA JEFFERSON

4014 Mountville Road
Jefferson, MD 21755
M–F: 7:30AM–5PM
Walk In Lab Services
7:30AM–12PM



Sheila Tetreault, DO



Sandhya Devaraj MD



Heather Jones, CRNP