

BRUNSWICK NEWS-JOURNAL

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AUGUST 2026

FREE

City Election Canceled

No Challengers for Three Open Seats

By JULIE GOURLEY

For the first time in recent memory, there are no contests for three open City Council seats. Thus, the city canceled the August 4 election, in accordance with recent election rule changes.

Andrew St. John and Brian Sandusky, incumbents, decided to run for their seats and had no challengers. The third incumbent, Daniel Yochelson, decided not to run for his seat. Bridgette Chabot filed with the city to run for Yochelson's seat, but without any challengers, she became the uncontested winner.

Bridgette Chabot, New Face on City Council

For the second time this year, Brunswick has a new City Council member. Bridgette



BRIDGETTE CHABOT

decided that since no one had stepped up to run for the vacant Council seat, she might as well do it.

"It seemed like there was not a lot of interest in vying for the seat held by Mr. Yochelson. I never saw myself as a politician, but I wanted to ensure that the normal democratic process was carried out," she said.

Chabot, 41, has lived in Brunswick for ten years with her daughter and partner. She was born in Montgomery County and lived in various Maryland communities before settling in Brunswick. She's had an eclectic work life including stints as a flight attendant where she served as a union representative, and as a tour guide in Alaska.

She has never held elective office and admits she has a lot to learn, but has been interested in politics since her early childhood. She wants to bring a working-class perspective to the Council and wants to know what the citizens think about any particular issue before voting on it, especially as it relates to growth. She hopes to use social media toward that end and has created a Facebook page to reach out to people. "This is not at all about me. It's about the community and what it wants," she said.



PAGE TREND

FUN AT THE JEFFERSON CARNIVAL!

Isabelle (left) and Christina Morris (right) smile at carnival-goers while they ride the carousel at the 2026 Jefferson Carnival.

Chabot served as a data center referendum volunteer collecting signatures, and feels strongly about over-development, loss of farmland, over-crowded schools, and the high cost of living in Frederick County and Maryland overall. She sympathizes with those in the county who feel unheard by county politicians and are depressed about the future of

the data center situation, which informs her desire to be a representative of the community and not of monied interests.

When asked how she would vote if a landowner bordering the city were to ask for their land to be annexed so that they could sell to a data center developer, she said "That's a difficult situation. I believe strongly in land ownership

without government interference, but also in responsibility to the community and the environment. I would gather as much information as possible before voting."

Chabot became interested in gardening a few years ago and attended programs at the Brunswick public library to learn what she could. When

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Site Chosen for New BHS

Baseball stadium would be replaced

By MARK ROHNER

The new Brunswick High School will be built on the site of the school's existing baseball stadium on the south side of the campus, near Cummings Drive.

The site was one of three under consideration, each of which would have taken up all or part an existing athletic facility – the football stadium, the baseball stadium or the softball field and tennis courts. Plans call for the baseball stadium to be replaced on a site north of the new high school building.

The site was chosen "based on relative cost, schedule, and constructability factors," according to an FAQ document posted on the project website. The Brunswick News-Journal asked Frederick County Public Schools for more information

FCPS PRESENTATION



South (baseball field) site

about who made the site selection and why. FCPS had no re-

ply as of press time.

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ABBIE RICKETTS

8

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BRUNSWICK NEWS

Motorcycle Challenge to Benefit BEACON

By PAIGE TRENDALL

Michael Kozicki of Brunswick and his 2021 Harley-Davidson Road Glide will begin the 10,000-mile Hoka Hey motorcycle challenge around the United States on Aug. 2. His journey includes camping, no GPS usage and raising \$5,000 for the Brunswick Ecumenical Assistance Committee On Needs (BEACON), which operates a food bank and provides other financial assistance for the Brunswick community.

Kozicki, 54, has lived in Brunswick for over 20 years. He started riding motorcycles in his late teens and has been participating in longer rides and rallies for the past decade. Kozicki's first trip to Sturgis, a popular biker destination in South Dakota, got him hooked on longer rides.

"I just got addicted to it. Just being out in the open, out west, where there's nothing but open air," he said.

In 2025, Kozicki completed the Iron Butt Rally, riding around 11,000 miles in 11 days. The Hoka Hey will not be the longest distance ride that Kozicki has attempted, but it does have some challenges that other rides did not pose. Kozicki said participants have to follow line-by-line



Michael Kozicki (right) stands with Leslie Gum (center right), Jennifer Effler (center left), and Wayne Allgaier (left), who are involved with BEACON. His motorcycle is decorated with Hoka Hey stickers and his rider number, 1303.

directions and are GPS-tracked to ensure they stay on the primary back-road route.

As of now, he only knows the challenge's starting and ending points in Woodstock, Ill., and that two checkpoints are in Mississippi and Rhode Island. The rest he will find out at the beginning of the ride.

Kozicki said he also has to work on his limited camping skills, but is not too concerned. "I'll be so tired, it probably won't matter where I sleep," he said. Kozicki plans to stop for one hot meal a day, and said he has to be

careful to stay on the route.

"If I turn, make a left instead of a right, and I go five miles to get something to eat, I have to return to where I left the route," he explained.

Knowing he has the support of his "better half" comforts Kozicki during these longer rallies. His wife, Jennifer Kozicki, said she is both excited and nervous for her husband's participation in the Hoka Hey challenge.

"I've become a professional stalker," she said, adding that she often checks Michael Kozicki's speed and location while riding.

She said knowing her husband is a cautious rider and does not push himself past his limits helps calm her nerves.

Michael Kozicki hopes to complete the Hoka Hey in 14 days to receive the "Bad A--" finisher title. According to the challenge rules, event officials will remain at the finish line 21 days after the start. Those who finish after will still be considered finishers, but might have to send in a photo to certify their completion.

The challenge does not end when Michael Kozicki crosses the finish line. He has until Nov. 30 to raise \$5,000 for BEACON. Both Michael and Jennifer Kozicki are excited about his partnership with BEACON. Michael Kozicki has seen how the

organization benefits Brunswick from his years of involvement in Brunswick's American Legion Post 96, some of which he spent as post commander.

"I understand how the BEACON plays a role in the community. It's a lot bigger than people even realize," he said.

Donations can be made to Kozicki's fundraiser by designating a gift to Hoka Hey through BEACON's website: <https://www.brunswickbeacon.org/donate/>, or through Kozicki's fundraiser page at the QR code above. ■



New BHS Site CONTINUED

Continued from page 1

The alternative sites were presented at a public meeting held May 26 at Brunswick High School. Additional public meetings will be scheduled, according to the project website.

A bus loop for the new school would be located in front of the building. Planners are also studying providing secondary access to the campus from Point of Rocks Road (Rt. 464) or Frazer Road.

Alternative temporary baseball sites

Frederick County Public Schools is looking at temporary alternative sites for baseball after construction begins. Among possibilities mentioned are fields at Othello Park or on city park property.

According to the project website, "Community members have shared valuable information regarding the history of baseball on the campus. FCPS recognizes the significant investment made in the baseball field and related ame-

nities, including fencing, lighting, seating, support facilities, and community contributions. Existing conditions and replacement needs are being documented and evaluated as part of the planning process. FCPS will provide all of the required resources to support the instructional and athletic programs."

A Brunswick Railroaders High School Baseball website describes the advantages of the current stadium: "The Brunswick High School Baseball facility, otherwise known as 'Merriman Stadium,' has long been considered one of the finer baseball stadiums around the area. Located on Cummings Drive, and just a short walk from the high school itself, the home of the Railroaders is equipped with all of the necessities that any baseball purist could appreciate."

Construction on the \$134 million new school is scheduled to begin two years from now and to be completed in 2030. ■

City Election CONTINUED

Continued from page 1

she asked others in attendance if they would be interested in forming a garden club, all said yes, but no one volunteered to organize and run it. Chabot stepped up – knowing nothing about how to do it, but will-

ing to try – and now we have a Brunswick Gardening Club once again.

She wishes more people would get involved in the community and spend much less time on their devices. "I have never been into tech. I was 19 or

20 before I got my first device – a flip phone. Cell phones have completely changed our culture. I prefer human contact to doomscrolling and hours on social media. Being around people and talking in person gives you more of a sense of community and reduces the depression people feel right now about politics and the world overall."

Chabot will be sworn in on August 11 at the regular Mayor and Council meeting which begins at 6 p.m. at City Hall. ■

BRUNSWICK NEWS-JOURNAL

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Check us out on Instagram and Facebook

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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

Blocked Railroad Crossings Update

The Brunswick News-Journal is publishing monthly statistics on the number of complaints submitted to the Federal Railroad Administration regarding extended blockages of railroad crossings in the city. These involve two crossings, Maple Avenue (North) and Maple Avenue (South).

As the Brunswick News-Journal has reported, the FRA receives more complaints regarding blockages in Brunswick than in any other community in the state of Maryland. Many of these complaints report instances of pedestrians attempting to climb through or under stopped trains. Others involve blocked first responders, medical emergencies, and multiple cases of missed appointments or late arrivals at workplaces.

To submit a complaint to the FRA, go to <https://www.fra.dot.gov/blockedcrossings/>

	Blockages 6/16/26– 7/15/26	Duration: 16–30 mins	Duration: 31–60 mins	Duration: 60 mins or more	Blockages YTD	Notes
Maple Ave. (South)	7*	1	4	2	29	Pedestrians climbing through, reported four times 6/16–7/15
Maple Ave. (North)	4*		2	2	24	Pedestrians climbing through reported three times 6/16–7/15

* Multiple reports of extended blockages in 100+ degree temperatures.

BRUNSWICK CITY COUNCIL

Mayor and Council
July Update

The Brunswick News-Journal has no Mayor and Council report for this issue. The only meeting of the Mayor and Council last month was on July 28, which was after our publication deadline, but will be reported on next month. The Mayor and Council typically meet the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month at 6 p.m. in City Hall, but dates are subject to change and are posted on the City calendar at brunswickmd.gov.

The next meeting of the Mayor and Council will be August 11. Meeting agendas and minutes are posted on the City website. The website is also your source for streaming live city meetings or watching archived meetings. ■

National Night Out is
Tuesday, August 4



The Brunswick community will come together for National Night Out on Tuesday, August 4, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the City Swimming Pool, 99 Cummings Drive. There will be free pool entry from 5–7 p.m.

This event is a family-friendly evening focused on building community, strengthening relationships with local law enforcement, and making neighborhoods safer.

The City of Brunswick is partnering with the Brunswick Police Department to provide food, fun activities and giveaways. There will be fire and ambulance equipment displays, safety demonstrations, and more.

It's an opportunity to meet your neighbors, connect with first responders, and celebrate the spirit of community together. It's a night of unity and fun and it's free! ■

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

August Is
Election Month

August is traditionally election month in Brunswick, and this year three City Council seats were up for election. Because only three candidates filed for the three available seats, the election has been canceled in accordance with the city code, and those candidates will be seated at the August 11 City Council meeting.

Since there won't be an election this year, I want to spend less time talking about candidates and campaigns and more time focusing on what local service means and why it matters. Serving our community is about much more than an election every two years. It is about neighbors stepping up to make Brunswick a better place to live, work and raise a family. I'm grateful to everyone who was willing to put their name forward to serve, and I hope this month's article encourages more residents to consider getting involved in the future.

I first ran for local office because I love this town. Brunswick is where I was born and raised. It is where I grew up, where my family is, and where I chose to continue building my life. Over the years, I have had the opportunity to meet people from all walks of life. Some families have been here for generations. Others found Brunswick later in life and decided this was where they wanted to put down roots and raise a family. No mat-



The city is not a
building on West
Potomac Street. The
city is all of us.

ter how long someone has lived here, there is a shared appreciation for what makes Brunswick special.

Like any community, we have challenges. We do not always agree on every issue, and that is okay. Years ago, I decided that instead of sitting on the sidelines and talking about what Brunswick should be, I wanted to do my part to help make it better. That is what local service is really about. It is not about titles or politics. It is about caring enough to get involved and working alongside your neighbors to make a difference.

I cannot tell you how many times I have heard someone say, "The city needs to fix this," or "The city should do that." When-

ever I hear that, I usually ask the same question: Who is "the city"?

The city is not a building on West Potomac Street. The city is all of us.

It is the person coaching Little League. It is the volunteer firefighter getting up at 2 a.m. to answer a call. It is the resident who takes pride in their property, volunteers at a community event, or helps a neighbor in need. It is our business owners investing in Brunswick's future. It is our city employees, board and commission members, and elected officials. Together, we are the city.

That is why local government matters. At the local level, government is not something that happens somewhere else. It is our hometown. It is our neighborhoods, our parks, our streets and our businesses. The decisions made here affect our daily lives in a very real way.

As election season approaches, I encourage everyone to stay engaged. Learn about the candidates. Ask questions. Attend meetings. Volunteer. Most importantly, vote. Regardless of who is elected, Brunswick will continue to be shaped by the people who care enough to be involved.

Brunswick's greatest strength has never been its buildings, its budget, or its government. Its greatest strength has always been its people.

I am proud to call Brunswick home, and I look forward to what we will continue to accomplish together. ■

Nathan Brown

Unleashed Dogs Rile Residents

By JULIE GOURLEY

Reports of unleashed dogs in the Wintergreen Lane vicinity and other areas in town have residents nervous that children and wildlife could be at risk.

One resident on Wintergreen Lane recently witnessed a loose pit bull attacking a young fawn in his backyard before its mother was able to separate the dog from it. The same resident has been confronted by the pit bull near his mailbox. Another resident reportedly was mauled about the face. Still another unleashed dog was reported at the MARC station on July 13 and was retrieved by Frederick County Animal Control. Unleashed dogs have also been seen in the vicinity of Ninth Avenue near A Street and within Brunswick Crossing.

The Brunswick Police Department has received many calls recently about loose dogs — pit bulls in particular — and generally refers them to Frederick County Animal Control which takes the lead in such cases. BPD assists when Animal Control requests help with capturing an animal, issuing a citation, or applying for charges to be brought.



A pit bull runs unleashed in the Wintergreen Lane neighborhood.

BPD would also step in if a search warrant is issued. Unfortunately, neither BPD nor Animal Control can do much without the animal itself or the name of the owner.

Residents are reminded that there are city and county ordinances (regulations) on pet

ownership, including that all animal owners must keep their pets under their control when off the owner's property.

The county animal control ordinance contains sections on:

- Running at Large
- Offensive Dog and Cat Noises
- Required License
- Proper Restraint, Shelter, Protection, and Care for Dogs
- Civil Animal Infractions

Violations of the ordinance carry a \$50 fine for the first offense, \$75 for the second, and \$100 for the third and each subsequent violation.

Chapter 3, Article 1, Title 2 of the Brunswick Code of Ordinances addresses animal control within the city. Its sections are on:

- Prohibited Animals
- Livestock
- Horses
- Adoption of County Animal Regulations
- Animal Waste
- Penalty for Violation

Violations of the city ordinance are considered municipal infractions, similar to parking tickets, and are issued by the Brunswick Police Department. ■

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BRUNSWICK NEWS

Former Bank Building to Become Outdoor Recreation Hub

By ABBIE RICKETTS

Tammy Massie was searching for a way to honor her late father, Dr. Thomas Parliament, an outdoor enthusiast, while following her own dreams. Retired from the National Institute of Health as a statistician, she was looking for a meaningful way to do the things she loves.

While walking in Brunswick one day, she noticed the For Sale sign on the former People’s National Bank building downtown. She felt this was the opportunity she had been looking

Extensive renovations

Many people will remember the building as Farmers & Mechanics Bank and, more recently, Chesapeake & Hudson book wholesalers. The building is now undergoing extensive renovations, both inside and out.

Because of the bank’s high security needs, it has strong concrete walls and floors, making renovations such as new wiring and plumbing a bit more involved, said construction foreman John King of Urban Development Partners LLC, the company contracted to complete the historical reno-

and plans to create a “catio” for rescued cats on the existing patio off the mezzanine. She hopes the cats will interact with visitors and find a new home. She plans to work with Fetch of Frederick. According to Cats.com “having cat rescues inside businesses is a rapidly growing trend. This concept ranges from dedicated cat cafes to corporate foster programs and working cat initiatives.”

The mezzanine, which overlooks the main floor, will also be a gathering space for visitors. Massie plans to have a climbing wall installed. She hopes Bridgeway Bikes will move into her new space.

Eventually, the basement will have showers and bathrooms for people coming off the nearby trails to shower before shopping or dining in town. Massie says the basement has a fire suppression system. She is having one installed in the rest of the building that will cost \$150,000. Although she is not required to have one, she wants everything she does in the building to be of a high standard.

Her experience working with the City and County has been overall good and she says they have been helpful, but she mentioned a bit of disconnect in some manner, especially regarding an ADA door being installed on the building. She noted they have expressed gratitude in how she has approached the entire project with an eye for high standards in construction.

Loving the outdoors

Massie’s parents passed on



Tammy Massie and her cat Booberry.

their love of the outdoors to her. As a young girl, she accompanied her father on adventurous climbing hikes out west. He led Sierra Club and Appalachian Mountain Club hikes, and was heavily involved in the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club in New York. He was an accomplished chemist who worked for General Foods, and he obtained several patents throughout his career. Her mother served as an RV host at Yellowstone and other western parks.

Massie lives near Lovettsville, but spends her summers in Vermont where she just completed a Wilderness First Responders course. She participates in the Vermont 100 miler fundraiser for Vermont Adaptive Ski and Sports which

provides prosthetics to handicapped individuals and assists the visually impaired. She also serves as a trail steward there.

A house she inherited in Florida provides her with a warm winter place to visit. She says she can “follow the temperatures she loves.” She is an avid hiker and has hiked from Harpers Ferry to Pen Mar on the Appalachian Trail. She loves to hike and camp along the C&O Canal.

Tammy Massie describes herself as enthusiastic, with lots of cheerleaders behind her, and she hopes this project will result in an act of love that expands to many people and truly honors her father. She hopes to be finished within the next year. ■



Exterior of the former bank building at 113 W. Potomac Street.

for — a place to honor her father and to pursue an outdoor recreation enthusiasts’ hub.

Having inherited wealth from her father after his passing, she wanted to use some of it in his memory. Her respect and love for her father influenced her mission, “At House of Parliament Bank Building (the building’s new name) we aim to foster a vibrant community for outdoor enthusiasts. We provide a welcoming space for those who love hiking, biking, running, camping and climbing in the Brunswick and Harpers Ferry area.”

They saved some of the white marble that was used extensively in the bank and plan to re-use it in the building.

According to the website houseofparliament.com, “This former Peoples Bank: 113 West Potomac St. will be an outdoor enthusiast community hub (HUG) once renovations are complete. It also will host a cat rescue and plans to enable local artisans to display and showcase artwork. The mezzanine will also serve as a location for seminars, classes and presentations and a gathering place.”

Tammy Massie is a cat lover



Interior of the building showing the bank vault and the mezzanine.

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Brunswick Community Festival Returns

The Brunswick Community Festival is back at the Burkittsville Ruritan Club, 500 E. Main St. in Burkittsville, on Friday and Saturday, Aug. 28–29, from 4–9 p.m. The festival brings two nights of family fun in support of the Brunswick High School FFA Alumni Scholarship Fund.

Admission to the festival is free and no ticket purchase is required. One and all are invited to stop by, grab a bite to eat, and check out the entries, activities and informational displays that make this event a community favorite.

Both Nights

Guests can enjoy a petting zoo, pony rides, inflatables, games and activities for kids of all ages, plus agricultural displays and a pedal tractor track. Trucks and tractors will be on display both nights, including a 1932 Packard!

The Burkittsville Ruritan Club will be selling their popular festival food, including burgers, hot dogs, their famous French fries, and heartier options like roast beef sandwiches and bean soup, from 4:30–9 p.m. South Mountain Creamery will have hand-dipped ice cream, and St. Paul's Lutheran Church returns with their crowd-favorite apple dumplings, while supplies last.

Friday Schedule

East of Antietam takes the bandstand with two sets, from 6–7 p.m. and again from 8–9 p.m. Kids can enjoy the Kiddie Pedal Tractor Pull at 7 p.m.

Saturday Schedule

Note the schedule change this year: the Cake & Baked Goods Auction, the festival's headlining event, now begins at 6:30 p.m. inside the Ruritan building. All proceeds benefit the Brunswick High School FFA Alumni Scholarship Fund, so come bid on your favorite pies, cakes and cookies to support local youth.

The Silent Auction, featuring handmade items, wraps up at 8 p.m., and winning bidders should be ready to pay by cash or check.



A family participates in the kiddie pedal tractor race at the 2024 Brunswick Community Festival.

Entries

Baked goods, household, and garden entries will be accepted Friday night from 4–7 p.m. and again Saturday morning from 9–11 a.m. Household and farm/garden entries must have been made or grown this year, and only one entry per category, per person, is permitted. There are two youth divisions and one adult division across all categories, and entries may receive a participation award at the judges' discretion.

This year, in honor of the nation's 250th anniversary, a special Grand Prize will also be awarded for the most patriotic entry!

Baked goods will be displayed and auctioned inside the Ruritan building (and become the property of the Festival upon entry acceptance), while craft and garden entries will be displayed in the festival tent (exhibitors must pick these up Saturday evening). Premiums will be handed out beginning around 7:30 p.m. Saturday.

Questions about the event? Email BrunswickCommunity123@gmail.com. For more information, including entry rules and categories, visit bit.ly/BrunsFest or search "Brunswick Community Festival" on Facebook. See you there! ■

The Toast Worthy Theater Company Announces Auditions for “A Christmas Carol: Drunk After Dark”

A Comedic Adaptation of the Dickens classic to premier at Smoketown Brewing

The Toast Worthy Theater Company is partnering with Smoketown Brewing to bring community theater to Brunswick's art scene with the announcement of its production of "A Christmas Carol: Drunk After Dark," written by Taylor Martin, directed by Lois Jarman, and music directed by Keric Ellis.

This farcical retelling of the timeless tale will run in December at Smoketown Brewing in downtown Brunswick, which offers a renovated upstairs performance venue that serves craft beers and cocktails while hosting unforgettable evenings of entertainment.

The theater company describes this production as one that “promises to leave audiences laughing all night long as Ebenezer Scrooge is rightfully belittled over the course of his ghostly guided tour, poking fun at the moments and memories that turned him into the cranky curmudgeon we all know and hate.”

Auditions for Actors and Singers August 9 and 12

Auditions for actors and

singers are scheduled for Sunday, August 9, at 2:00 p.m. and Wednesday, August 12, at 7:00 p.m. Actors and singers of all skill levels are welcome and should arrive ready to perform cold reads from the script, as well as sing 16 to 32 bars of their favorite Christmas song. The sillier the better!

Casting announcements will be made within a week of the final audition date, and rehearsals are anticipated to begin in late August/early September.

Performance dates are December 11, 12, 13, 18, 19 and 20. All shows begin at 7:00 p.m., with doors opening at 6:00 p.m. Those interested in auditioning should visit toastworthytheater.com for additional information about audition requirements and to complete the sign-up form before arriving at auditions.

Community Collaboration for Future Productions

This partnership between The Toast Worthy Theater Company and Smoketown Brewing will lay the foundation for continued community theater in the region. While "A



Christmas Carol: Drunk After Dark" is an original work by a local playwright, with continued support and success, the aim is to bring ongoing theater productions and performances to the Brunswick region.

Taylor Martin, Managing Member of Toast Worthy Theater Company said, “We encourage anyone interested in this endeavor to come and audition. We are grateful for the enthusiasm that has been shown so far by our partners and the community and hope to continue building relationships with organizations and businesses in Brunswick and beyond.”

If you cannot audition, but would like to still support this project, reach out to taylor@toastworthytheater.com about sponsorships, collaborations, and volunteer opportunities. ■

New Pastor at Jefferson United Methodist Church

Ken Fizer was appointed as the new pastor for Jefferson United Methodist Church by Bishop LaTrelle Easterling. Fizer officially began his journey with Jefferson UMC on July 1.

The United Methodist Church has an appointment system tradition where each congregation's staff collaborates closely with the district superintendent to discern the unique needs of the local church. “Through prayer and careful consideration, Pastor Ken was chosen to lead us in this next chapter,” said a Jefferson UMC spokesperson.

Pastor Ken and his wife, Nancy, live in Emmitsburg and also



Jefferson UMC Pastor Ken Fizer and his wife Nancy.

serve a church in Thurmont. Ken graduated from Shippensburg University with a B.S. in business administration and Wesley Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity and

Doctor of Ministry. He has taught Korean karate for many years and plans to start a karate ministry at Jefferson UMC.

Nancy has degrees in Christian education and enjoys working with all ages. Their household also includes two grandcats, Georgia and Ansel. Their daughter, Sarah, lives in a “too small” Boston apartment where she is a social worker.

Pastor Ken said he is anxious to get to know the community and discover ways everyone can work together to serve God. The church invites everyone in the community to meet the Fizers and “grow with us in faith.” Services are on Sundays at 9 a.m. at 3882 Jefferson Pike. ■



NEW PATIENTS
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for your appointment

Bailey Drake Memorial Scholarship



The Burkittsville Ruritan Club presented a check for \$1200 to the Bailey Drake Memorial Scholarship Fund. The \$1200 was half of the food sale profits from the Bailey Drake Memorial Car Show. Pictured from left to right are: Danielle Roberts, John Drake, Jim Rand, Kanin Drake and Collin Gross.

BRUNSWICK NEWS

US 340 Interchange Work Continues
Fewer traffic accidents reported

By MARK ROHNER

The project to lengthen on-ramps at three interchanges on U.S. Route 340 is 30 percent complete and on-target to be completed in a little more than a year, according to the Maryland State Highway Administration.

At the 340 interchange with Maryland Route 17, just outside Brunswick, paving has begun to allow travel lanes to be moved to the left and create room for a longer on-ramp with better sightlines. At the interchanges with Maryland Route 180 and U.S Route 15, crews have been working on foundations and wiring for new light poles.

Overnight grading work, from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m., is scheduled to get underway to extend the on-ramp from northbound 15 onto east-bound 340.

Automated speed enforcement is in effect at all three work zones, where speed limits have been reduced to 55 mph.

Traffic accidents, which spiked after construction zones

were set up at the three interchanges, have since eased off, suggesting more drivers are heeding speed limits and caution signs at the work zones.

In the 2½ months between May 1 and July 15, Maryland State Police reported seven



KATE BAKER

Construction continues on US 340 to rebuild interchanges.

property damage accidents at the three interchanges, none involving injuries. That compares with 10 accidents, including four with injuries, in the previous 2½ months, from Feb. 15 to April 30. In the year-ago period, May 1-July 15, 2025, there were 10 accidents near the interchanges, four involving injuries. ■



JEAN TOLEMAN

Sam Niemann and his dad Russell with the interactive railroading board Sam created for the Brunswick Heritage Museum.

Brunswick Heritage Museum Benefits
from Eagle Scout Project

By JEAN TOLEMAN

Sam Niemann’s Eagle Scout Project was the building and installation of an interactive informational railroading board. He wanted to have his project be something unique, so he reached out to Julie Kloetzli, president of the Brunswick Heritage Museum. With the help of his team, he was able

to create a professional looking display to replace an old railroading board at the museum.

On July 12, Sam and his father Russell put the finishing touches on the board and installed it. He said he picked the colors red, white and blue to honor America’s 250th anniversary. Sam is a member of Boy Scout Troop 969 in Hamilton, Va. ■

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Yoga In Our Community

By JEAN TOLEMAN

Yoga used to be seen as a weird thing done by skinny men who could hold their breath forever and levitate. But as more people turned to the practice, studies began to find that yoga helped people with everything from stress relief to maintaining overall health.

Unlike western medicine that compartmentalizes health into specific organs or systems, yoga looks at the whole being. Now even western medicine has incorporated yoga into a more integrated form of care. Some doctors recommend yoga for a variety of health issues or to maintain current wellness.

Yoga began as a spiritual practice thousands of years ago, but the core has always included the “yoking” or “linking” of the physical body (movement), the breath and the mind (intention) which together create health. Yoga can improve general wellbeing by relieving stress, anxiety and depression, and improve sleep and balance. It can also relieve pain, help people with weight loss or addiction, and manage symptoms from chronic diseases.

Several local options offer a wide variety of yoga classes.

Jefferson Community Yoga
takes place on Wednesday
from 6 to 7:15 p.m. at St. Paul's
Church and Saturdays 9 to 10:15
a.m. at United Church of Christ.
Classes taught by Jan Faulk-

A group of people are practicing yoga in a studio. They are all in a similar pose, standing on one leg with the other leg bent and arms extended horizontally. The studio has a wooden floor and a large mirror on the wall. A woman in a purple shirt is in the foreground, and others are behind her. A man in a white shirt is on the right side of the frame, also in the pose. The room is decorated with a large mirror and a small table with various items.

Students participating in a Vinyassa Flow class at Roots and River Yoga.

ner are filled with women and men dressed in sweatpants, t-shirts and comfy shorts. Faulkner has taught for over 15 years and describes her classes as “gentle physical classes with quieting through guided verbalization.” She weaves in philosophy related to life issues and creates a calm environment. Many of her students have been coming for years, but new faces are always welcome.

Gary, who has attended her classes for many years, has a very physical job which caused several health issues. "Yoga has taught me how to look at my body and be aware of what it needs," he said. "It has helped me accept what I can and cannot do, and how to work with that."

Silvia, recently retired, comes to the classes to help maintain flexibility and balance. She said yoga has helped her better view

“how I stand in space.”

On a Wednesday evening in July, several of the students said the class has provided a supportive community where they have made good friends.

The Lovettsville Community Center offers classes throughout the week. Barbara Scott teaches gentle yoga on Wednesdays and a Yin class on Fridays. The classes are open to all, but she said students are primarily aged 50+.

"I measure the physical, mental and emotional benefits to the practitioners by the relaxed smiles on their faces at the end of class," Scott said.

Why is yoga so popular? “For some, yoga is just a workout—another gym class. For others it provides relief from a physical issue or relief from grief or the stresses of major life changes,” she said. “Some are looking for spiritual connections missing in their lives and seeking community.” Check the Center calendar for class offerings.

Wild's Edge Fitness is owned by Julia van Hemert. Located at 27 S. Loudoun Street in Lovettsville, it is primarily a strength-focused studio for women. Two teachers have started offering yoga classes on the weekends to both men and women. Hemert said the yoga is compatible with strength/physical training. "I encourage all my students to take a Yin class to let their nervous systems calm down after weight training," van Hemert said. "Learning the breathing practices enriches physical workouts as well as daily life."

Good Stretch Yoga offers private and small group classes in a converted horse stable on Nancy Bullington's eight-acre farm. She offers Hatha yoga in her stu-

dio and via Zoom, and has been teaching for 15 years.

Roots and River Yoga in Brunswick at 30 W. Potomac Street offers a variety of yoga classes along with other classes and wellness services. Owner Machele Lee and her teachers have created a studio where you can find a practice that calms stress, builds muscle, or deals with the loss of flexibility and balance that comes with aging.

Almost 30 years ago, Lee started teaching yoga to pregnant women. She has watched as western medicine has adopted yoga and also how western medicine has infiltrated yoga. "We never used to talk about anatomy; it was more of 'when you felt balanced, you knew you had found the state of yoga.' Now we need to validate the practice by proving it is benefiting us."

Lee takes the time to learn about people walking into the practice for the first time, then guides them to the class that will work for them. One of her students, Madison, said she

started taking classes about four years ago after graduating from high school and wanting to stay active. Now an esthetician, she incorporates some of the breath and relaxation practices into her job. She said, “Yoga is truly a holistic practice, using yoga more as a mindset than just an exercise has genuinely changed so many aspects of my life for the better.”

What is a Yoga practice?

A yoga class is usually divided into three parts. The first is “centering,” setting aside the busy day and starting to relax by focusing on breath and the release of tension. The second part is the physical, or asana, practice. This includes movement and holding poses that build strength, balance, flexibility, and acceptance. This can be very physical and challenging, increasing your heart rate, or it can be gentle and slow.

Students are encouraged to focus on sensations in the body and work with them, make small adjustments, and breathe into the sensation to accept it and to watch how it changes. The third part of the class is a releasing of the physical and letting the mind and body rest.

In this fast-paced world, the mind-body practice of yoga appears to be filling a need. People from professional athletes to 90-year-olds have found something in the teachings of yoga that provides a health benefit. Whether it is helping to relieve stress, helping with recovery from a physical injury, or helping maintain flexibility and balance, yoga through its breathing exercises, physical movement and philosophy is in demand. East and west have met in a way that seems to bring light to all. ■

Summer Theater Workshop



JEAN TOLEMAN

Amanda Happa of The Creative Mind Artists Studio, along with the Brunswick Arts Council, offered two theater workshops for youth this summer — a Stage Explorers class for 8–12 year olds and a Stage Lab Group for 13–18 year olds. The older group presented a Summer Theater Showcase on July 17. Happa with actors Cora, Emma, Wiley, Felix, Sean and Caleb entertained an audience of family and friends at the Brunswick Community Center. Watch for more theater opportunities coming to Brunswick through BAC and at Smoketown Brewing.

How Much is a Billion Dollars?

Imagine that you just hit the lottery for \$1 million dollars. You could get that new car you always wanted, move to a better house, pay off your mortgage, pay college tuition for the kids. You might even be able to pay down your credit card debt!

For years, decades even, we've been hearing about millionaires. Recently it has been billionaires. Now, with the public offerings of various high-tech companies, we're hearing about trillionaires!

So, where does your million dollar lottery win fit in? A mil-

lion dollars is a thousand times a thousand dollars. A billion dollars is a thousand times a million.

Let's say that your million dollars is represented by a line $\frac{1}{16}$ of an inch long. Then, a billion dollars would be a line 62.5 inches long — follow this line

on the next 7 pages to get a better idea of just how big a billion dollars is.

Get the picture? So, when you hear people talking about a billion dollars, 20 billion dollars or whatever well, it's a LOT!

What about the new trillionaires? 1 trillion dollars,

\$1,000,000,000,000 would be a line 5,208 feet long — nearly a mile. The Brunswick News Journal would need to print 7,812 pages to accommodate that line. ■

$\frac{1}{16}$ inch = \$1,000,000.00

[illegible]

Annual Jousting Tournament Held at Petersville Farmers Woods

By ABBIE RICKETTS

The 105th annual Petersville Farmers Club Joust was held on Sunday, July 19, at the Petersville Farmers Woods. The event, a ring jousting tournament, has been the official individual Maryland State Sport since 1962. It is hosted by the Western Maryland Jousting Club and is a longtime Brunswick area tradition.

The Enfield family, who once owned the farmland that is now Brunswick Crossing, puts on the event, and several family members still compete.

Local dairy farmer Leon Enfield, who passed away in 2018 at the age of 85, was well known for his jousting abilities. Over his career, he won four National Jousting Championship titles and eight State



Shirley Enfield came to watch her family compete in the Annual Joust.

Championship titles. He was a charter member of the National Jousting Hall of Fame, Class of 1979, and was inducted into the Frederick County Sports Hall of Fame in 2007.

Leon first became interested in the sport at the age of 14 after attending a jousting event in Woodsboro. His parents, Bertram and Sara Enfield, started

the Silver Bit Riding Club at the Farmers Woods. His children and grandchildren and even great grandchildren share his love for the sport.

On the very warm and hazy day of the event, Leon Enfield's wife Shirley came to watch her family compete. Sitting in her lawn chair under the shade trees, she spoke about her family's love for the sport. Nearby, her son Bobby was attending to his horse Maverick, wiping him down and spraying him. The horse quietly munched on a bag of hay hung from the trailer as his owner talked about the sport.

Bobby said he had been training Maverick for five years. Although he is a good horse, he still needs work on the last ring. The horses have to be able to run the course in nine seconds or under and spear all three rings on the course. The key is to not go too fast and not slow up at the end. The training was evident in the better horses as they kept a smooth run and didn't slow up until through the last ring.

Bobby said it's not good to have a horse too tall so the rider has to bend to hit the ring. Shirley and Leon's daughter, Linda Minnick, who was there to watch, also competed and was a four-time National Champion like her father and her brothers, Bobby and Kenny. Bobby's adult children, Marley Enfield Stutz and Brad Enfield, both competed in the event.

Marley Enfield Stutz is one of the top competitive ring jousters in the United States. Her brother Brad has won many national championships and is regarded as the top jousting in the country.



Bob Enfield, president of the Maryland Jousting Tournament Association, carries the American flag while the national anthem plays before the competition starts. Bob Enfield placed second at the joust, while his son, Bradley, placed first in a tiebreaker.



Marley Enfield Stutz aims at the third ring while competing in the professional class. Stutz placed third in her class.



Brad Enfield approaches a ring while he passes through the last arch during the trophy round. The rings' openings measured a quarter inch in diameter during the final tie-breaker charge, which Brad won.

The results

The event has several classes: novice, amateur, semi-professional, and professional. The rings become smaller as the rank rises. A caller announces the rider, some of whom are referred to as maidens and

- knights, and shouts charge!
- Competing in the professional class, the Enfields came out on top when the results were announced:
- 1st** — Brad Enfield, Knight of Little Antietam
 - 2nd** — Bob Enfield, Knight of Sir Lancelot
 - 3rd** — Marley Stutz, Maid of Enfield Farm
 - 4th** — Malcom Macy, Knight of Macy Meadows

The sport is for all ages. There were young children on small horses accompanied down the track by parents as they slowed to try to spear the rings. Jousting is an individual competition, which allows for a lot of camaraderie among the riders.

Championship Joust in September

The jousting club will hold the Western Maryland Jousting Club Championship joust at Farmers Woods on Sunday, Sept. 13, at noon and the National Championship Tournament on Saturday, Oct. 10, at 11 a.m. Jousting is a fun sport to watch as the riders' exhibit excellent hand and eye coordination while keeping their mounts on track.

Be sure to mark your calendars for a fun time with the maids and knights on their steeds as they charge down the track with precision. ■



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MORE INFO >>









August is here, and with it comes a feeling of change and transition as we enjoy the last days of summer before the new school year. Here are some updates and highlights of what we're working on to make our community an even better place to live, learn and thrive.

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LOVETTSTVILLE NEWS

Lovettsville Town News

By ABBIE RICKETTS

Special Event: National Night Out, Summer on the Green & Movie Night Town Green
11 Spring Farm Drive
Tuesday, August 4, 6–8 p.m.

There will be games and activities. The Lovettsville Lions Club will be on site providing hot dogs, hamburgers, soda and chips. Other vendors are Splash Soda Shopwill and Gruto's Soft Serve.

Kids can explore interactive displays and learn more about Loudoun County Sheriff's Office and Lovettsville Volunteer Fire and Rescue. Meet local first responders and check out the emergency vehicles and

equipment on display. The movie starts at dusk and will be Zootopia 2. Bring your lawn chairs and picnic blankets.

Mayor and Town Council Meetings
The next Town Council meeting is
Thursday, Aug. 27
6:30–10 p.m.

The planned recess of Town Council that began July 10 continues through Aug. 26. No regular meetings are scheduled during that time.

INOVA — Blood Drive
Saturday, August 8
8:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Lovettsville Game Club
16 S. Berlin Pike
Walk-ins are welcome or

schedule your time at:
inovabloodsaves.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/35533

Lovettsville Historical Society
Sunday, Aug. 9

Revolutionary War historian Jim Bish returns for the next offering in the Lovettsville Historical Society's 2026 Lecture Series:
First to Fight: Culpeper Minutemen and the Liberation of Virginia 1775–76

The Culpeper Minutemen were at the forefront of the fight to depose the British government from Virginia, particularly at the Battle of Great Bridge in

December 1775. Bish will show how the Culpeper Minutemen were Virginia's only fully-manned minute battalion to respond in the hour of need, and that they were the one shining success amid the overall failure of Virginia's 1775 experiment with minute battalions.

All lectures are being held in-person at 2 p.m. at the St. James United Church of Christ, 10 East Broad Way in Lovettsville.
Questions: events@LovettsvilleHistoricalSociety.org.

Kickball with a Cop
Monday, August 10
6:30–8 p.m.
16 S. Berlin Pike

Join the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office for Kickball



with a Cop. Bring the whole family out for an evening of laughs, teamwork, and friendly competition with your local deputies.
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IN THE KITCHEN

August is Sweet Corn Time in Frederick County

By JEAN TOLEMAN

Come early August, as you drive around, you might notice big yellow signs that say “Corn for Sale.” Locally grown sweet corn, picked close to where you buy it, is only available for a short time, but it is so worth watching for. While you may have been eating sweet corn earlier in the summer, it probably came from the Eastern Shore. The truly local sweet corn is just arriving.

Savage-Leigh Dairy Farm

Kelli Welsh at Savage-Leigh Dairy Farm on Brentland Road and her kids will bag up as much corn as you want for a tasty golden treasure. The Savage-Leigh Dairy Farm is owned and operated by Kelli’s parents, Wayne and Cindee Savage. Kelli and Matt Welsh and their four children, along with Kelli’s brother and sister-in-law, Ryan and Ashley Savage, manage the dairy and crop farming operation. Kelli and the kids — Kendall, Breckin, Andie and Catlin — began selling sweet corn in 2021 to help with college expenses. They have planted one



Locally grown sweet corn from Savage-Leigh Dairy Farm on Brentland Road.

to two acres in sweet corn ever since, except during the severe draught of 2023. Weather determines how much corn they have for sale. While they are expert dairy and feed farmers, sweet corn has been a learning experience. Due to dry weather one year, they planted corn down by the creek, further away from their house. “The raccoons and bear went cra-

zy,” Kelli said. “It looked like they had a wild party, corn cobs thrown everywhere!” Now they plant by the house and sell from their garage. “We put the signs up when the corn is ready and take them down when not selling, Kelli said, “We don’t do Facebook or any other advertising, just don’t grow enough for all that.” This year they only plant-

ed one acre, so keep your eyes open for those big signs.

Jefferson Corn Stand

The Jefferson Corn Stand at 3803 Jefferson Pike opens every year in June, with the early produce coming from Delaware and Lancaster, Pa. The local sweet corn is just becoming available. Roxy Grossnickle started his farm stand in 1985. His grandmother lived in the house next door and offered him one hundred ears of corn to sell, “She would buy corn to freeze and told me what I didn’t sell she would process,” Grossnickle said. He sold it all and that was the young entrepreneur’s start. For several years he and his

family grew sweet corn on their 200-acre farm near Burkittsville, but now he buys it from farmers around the area. He expects to have the local corn available into early September. The Corn Stand has a Facebook page, so keep an eye on it to see what produce is available at the stand.

Buying local

Buying from local farmers brings a special connection between consumers and people who grow the food. Buying local means corn is freshly picked and sweet as sugar. Buy enough to eat now, but also to freeze. There is nothing better than the taste of sweet August corn on a cold winter night. ■

Summertime Grilling



By CHRISTINA FRITZ

For cooking everything from hot dogs and hamburgers to ribs and chicken breasts, the grill is a summertime staple. Why not grill up some abundant, fresh summer produce to create a complete meal? Cooking produce on the grill caramelizes the naturally occurring sugars in the fruits and vegetables, giving them a great flavor and crisp-tender texture. If an outdoor grill is not available, this can also be achieved by using a grill pan on the stovetop.

Grilling Vegetables

Cut vegetables into uniform size and thickness to ensure even grilling. If placing vegetables directly on the grill, brush them with oil after slicing to prevent sticking. Some vegetables, such as onions, and zucchini, are great for marinating in a vinaigrette salad dressing or tossing in olive oil and favorite seasoning blend before grilling. Use a skewer or grill basket for small and round pieces to prevent them from rolling around and slipping through the grates. Alternatively, create a pouch with heavy duty aluminum foil for the smaller or chopped vegetables. Heartier veggies like peppers and onions can handle high heat, so place them near the back of the grill where it’s often the hottest. Cook time for each vegetable depends on size and shape. A guideline is to cook veggies for 3 to 4 minutes on one side un-

til grill marks appear, then flip; however, whole potatoes could take over an hour to bake all the way through. Corn on the cob, broccoli, and asparagus are other great vegetables to cook on the grill. Leftover veggies can be chopped and tossed into pasta salads, added to a grain bowl for a quick meal, or served as a topping for an at-home pizza night. Grilling Fruit Similar to vegetables, fruit should be uniform in size to ensure even grilling. Slice fruit, such as mangos, peaches, and pineapple, into large, equal-sized pieces so they don’t slip through the grill grates. Use skewers if the pieces are too small. Fruit does best on an indirect heat, like on the outer edges of the grill. Grill fruit slices for about 3 to 5 minutes per side or long enough for grill marks to appear and the natural fruit sugars to caramelize. Serve grilled fruit on top of vanilla ice cream or Greek yogurt for a sweet treat. Stone fruits, watermelon, bananas, and citrus fruits are delicious when prepared on the grill. Canned fruits and vegetables are a great alternative. Try grilling canned pineapple rings, sliced peaches, mushrooms, or artichoke hearts. Find more grilling inspiration at weismarkets.com/recipes. ■ Christina Fritz, MS, RDN, LDN, is Regional Dietitian at Weis Markets in Brunswick.



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5. Commit yourself to constant improvement.

6. Commit yourself to quality.

7. Be decisive even if it means you'll sometimes be wrong.

8. Stop blaming others. Take responsibility for every area of your life.

9. Be bold and courageous. When you look back at your life, you'll regret the things you didn't do more than ones you did.

10. Take good care of those you love.

Adapted from H. Jackson Brown, Jr.

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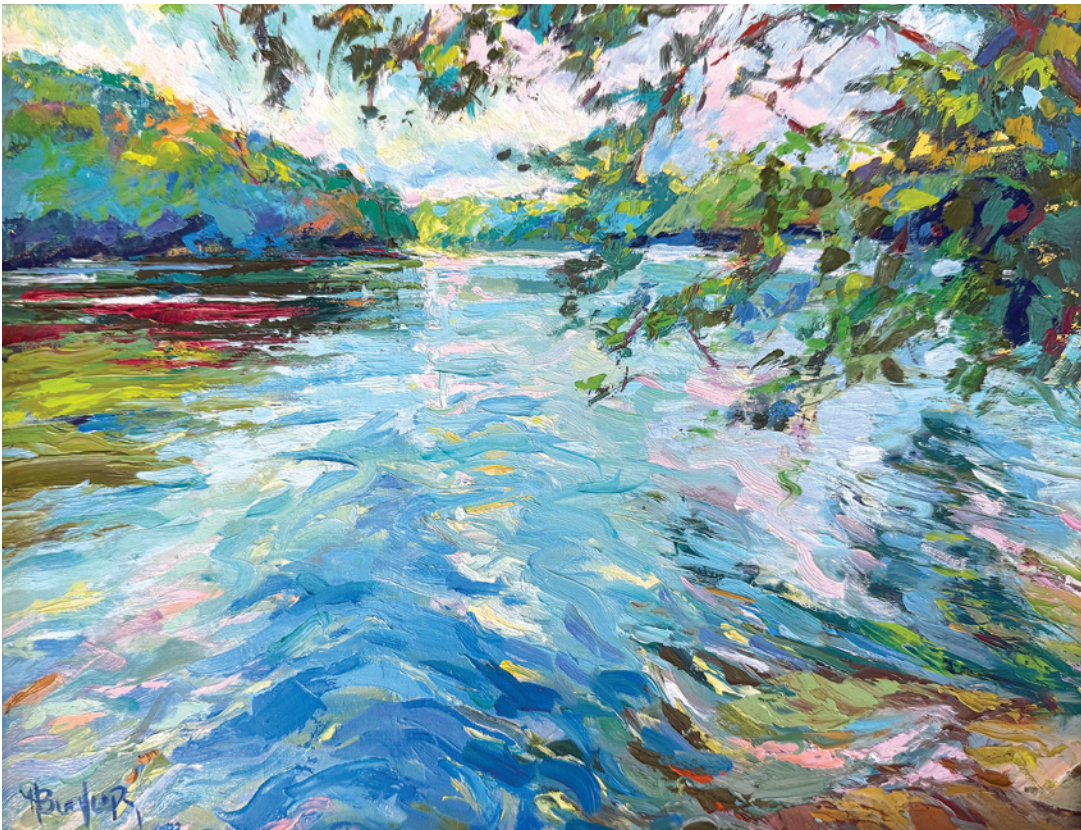
Painting Outdoors Inspires Artists at Lockhouse Gallery

By DIANE ELLIS

Brunswick’s Lockhouse Gallery has become a destination for paintings from some of the top plein air painters in the area. Plein air is painting done outdoors in a live setting. Three artists who show their work regularly at the gallery were recently awarded top prizes at the prestigious “Paint Annapolis” plein air competition, where a jury selects only 30 artists each year among national and international applicants. Marking its 25th anniversary this year, Paint Annapolis stands out for its historical colonial and maritime themes.

The Artists

“It really is unusual to have such a collection of talented painters at one gallery,” said owner Kimberly Yourick. Pamela Betts won first place at Paint Annapolis this year in the juried competition for “Best of the Bay.” She has won numerous other awards in plein air competitions. Her paintings are characterized by the use of light and soft tonal highlights with subtle color. Several of her paintings are



"Haven Path" (Potomac River at Lander) by Holly Buehler, 11x14" oil on panel.

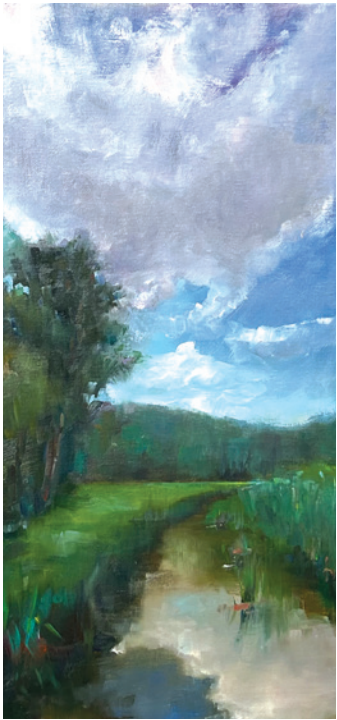
displayed at Lockhouse Gallery. Rana Geralis also exhibits at Lockhouse Gallery. She has been juried into the Paint Annapolis competition for the last three years. She works primarily in oil with a palette knife, a technique called impasto.

Plein air event in Brunswick

Yourick put on a plein air workshop in Brunswick in June and is working with the Brunswick Arts Council to develop a plein air event for Brunswick. “Paint Brunswick” could be modeled on the Annapolis event using Brunswick’s architecture, railroad, river and other attractions to inspire painters. Lockhouse Gallery is located at 17 W. Potomac St. Hours are Wednesday to Friday 12-7, Saturday 10-5 and Sunday 12-5. It displays and sells original paintings as well as art prints, fine craft jewelry and woodwork by local artisans. ■

COURTESY OF LOCKHOUSE GALLERY

COURTESY OF LOCKHOUSE GALLERY



"Creekside Reflections" by Pamela Betts, 24 x 12" oil on canvas.

OFF THE SHELF

A Reminder of Our Fascinating, Messy History

Newcomers (2026)

By Alan Mikhail

Reviewed by COMFORT DORN

As people in power now angle to engineer and oversimplify United States history, “Newcomers” — the story of Anthony and Grietje and the founding of New York by historian Alan Mikhail — reminds us that we are made stronger, and far more interesting, by our complexity. In the Cliff Notes version, early America is all rugged and pious colonists, noble but savage natives, and maybe a few Black slaves. Exploding this narrative are Anthony Jansen, a sailor known as Anthony the Turk and believed to be a Muslim from Morocco, and Grietje Reyniers, a German widow and barmaid, who met on the docks of Amsterdam, got married, and sailed to North America’s only Dutch colony 140 years before the Revolutionary War. New Netherlands, consisting of the lower end of Manhattan and western Long Island, lasted only 40 years. The name of its last governor, Peter Stuyvesant, is likely all most of us know about this scrappy settlement, which was organized not by a government or religious group, but traders, specifically the Dutch West India Company. In this environment, Grietje and Anthony suffered insult and prejudice, squabbled with neighbors and the government, and ultimately thrived, after being banished, to become well-to-do landowners on a 200-acre property not far from what is now Coney Island. Their descendants are reputed to include the Vanderbilt family and President Warren G. Harding. Because I like a good story, I usually read novels. This book is definitely not a novel (40 pages of footnotes), and I found myself frustrated by all the hypotheticals Mikhail offers when church and legal records are inconclusive. Anthony might have been from Spain or a colony in the Caribbean, or maybe someplace else. He might have been Muslim, or not. Before she married her first husband, Grietje had a child who died — maybe from disease, maybe murder. She might have had sex for money, like many women who worked in bars on the waterfront. Mikhail scrupulously explores every possibility in these two scantily recorded lives. At times, I found myself thinking, “This would be a great novel – and a really good movie – if he’d decide on the story.” Others have sought to tidy up this narrative to suit their own ends, and Mikhail addresses this sympathetically: “The elasticity of Anthony’s story allows it to serve a wide variety of constituencies ... Because all of us often or at least sometimes feel misplaced, out of step, left out, or other, a story like ... Anthony’s, one with many holes and hence many possibilities, allows us rightly or wrongly to project ourselves onto him, to fill him with our own hopes, feelings, attachments and aspirations. Anthony is in these ways then all of us.” Mikhail brings dusty records to life, as in this passage explaining possible reasons for Anthony and Grietje’s banishment: “It was in this moment that the lurid story of Grietje’s sex work ... eructated like a reminder of a rotten meal from a decade’s remove.” Even as we now endlessly record our lives on the internet, we struggle to find truth. The history of real people is untidy and unreliable. But therein lies its attraction. Near the end of the book, Mikhail describes his protagonists as “Familiar and distant, concrete and tricky, real and fiction ... they slip out of our hands — the tighter we squeeze, the quicker they seemingly evanesce.” ■



BNJ Travels

Diane Ellis and Walt Stull visited the Abbey of Saint Benoit du Lac in Quebec, Canada in June. This Benedictine monastery, founded by French monks, is renowned for its vivid, geometric tiled floors and hallways, its brick arches and natural light wells to create a quiet, contemplative space.



Brunswick middle-schooler and BNJ writer Sebastiaan Burke traveled to Prague (in the Czech Republic), where he was born. He stands before Prague Castle and St. Vitus Cathedral on the right above the Vltava River, with a glimpse of the historic Charles Bridge on the left and Petřín Lookout Tower in the background.

ENVIRONMENT & SCIENCE

Smokey Bear at 82
Still Preventing Forest Fires

By JEAN TOLEMAN

Smokey the Bear turns 82 on August 9, though he seems to never age. Smokey is a national icon for fire prevention with his famous words "Remember... Only YOU Can Prevent Forest Fires."

It was in October of 1944 that he made his first appearance on a forest fire prevention poster, wearing his famous blue jeans and hat. The campaign to prevent forest fires had started earlier in 1941 due to fear of fires along the Pacific Coast after the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor. The government believed urging people to be more careful could help prevent some fires.

The Forest Service worked with the War Advertising Council (now the Ad Council) and the Association of State Foresters and created posters and slogans, "Forest Fires Aid the Enemy" and "Grass is Life, Protect it." Then Walt Disney's Bambi came along in 1942. Bambi was on the first 1944 fire prevention posters.

The success of those posters convinced the Cooperative Forest Fire Prevention Program that it needed its own animal symbol. A bear, strong and confident, seemed the perfect candidate.

Partnering with an advertising agency, the Smokey Bear campaign started and continues to this day. Smokey's famous phrase was introduced in 1947.

The Real Smokey

There actually was a real live Smokey in the 1950s. He was found in a wildfire in the Capitan Mountains of New Mexico where a little bear was rescued by a crew battling a wildfire. It had lost its mother and taken refuge in a tree that was completely charred. Firefighters rescued the cub, who had badly burned paws and hind legs. They brought it to their camp and a ranger and pilot, Ray Bell, flew the little cub to Santa Fe, where he was treated. Bell adopted the cub, taking him



home to his family who helped nurse him back to health.

It didn't take long for the little cub to become well known throughout the country with the public naming him "Smokey Bear." The public service ad campaign had been popular before, but now they had a real live bear to showcase the campaign. Bell presented Smokey to the USDA Forest Service to help promote conservation and wildfire prevention.

Smokey was soon living at the National Zoo in Washington, D.C. as the national symbol for fighting wildfires. He received so many letters that the U.S. Postal Service gave him his own zip code (20252). The only other individuals with their own zip code are the presidents.

Preventing Wildfires

According to the National Park Service, only about 10% to 15% of wildfires are sparked naturally by lightning. The vast majority are ignited by human actions. To celebrate Smokey's birthday, take the USDA Forest Service pledge:

I pledge to:

- Be careful anytime I use fire or items that can cause sparks.
- Never leave my fire unattended.
- Drown, stir, drown again and feel it's cool with the back of my hand when I put out my fire.
- NOT use fire or operate equipment when it's windy, dry or hot.
- Make sure there are at least 15 feet between my fire and flammable things.
- Always have a water source nearby.
- Put out and discard smoking materials properly.
- NOT dump hot ashes from my BBQ grill or fire pit. ■

New \$1.9 Billion
Power Line Proposed

BY ELLIS BURRUSS

The open house at the Brunswick Fire Hall on Monday, June 29, was organized by the Valley North Project to explain the need for the new Valley Link Transmission Project. The proposed 260-mile-long power line will connect the John Amos power plant in Winfield, West Virginia, to the PJM power grid in Frederick County, Maryland. Approximately 120 people attended the three-hour event.

The proposed line will operate at 265,000 volts and be supported by steel towers up to 200 feet tall. In some areas the line will require a right-of-way through private property. The coal-fired Amos power plant has a capacity of 2,933 megawatts (Mw), but it was unclear how much of that will be added to the PJM grid.

Why do we need more power?

Households and businesses are all using more electricity as they replace direct fossil fuel use with electric power, such as replacing an oil-burning furnace with a heat pump or a gas-powered car with an electric one.

Whenever we charge a cell-phone, flip a light switch, or use the clothes dryer, we are tapping into our local electric grid. Our local grids are part of a much vaster network of grids called the PJM Interconnect which supplies power to 13 states.

Our power consumption is increasing. According to the Energy Information Agency, the average U.S. home consumed 10,500 kilowatt hours (kWh) per year in 2015. Between 1990 and 2025 electricity consumption nationwide increased from 2800 billion watt-hours to 4200 billion watt-hours or about a 50% increase.

Businesses are feeling the hit too: as reported in the July 6 Wall Street Journal (WSJ), steel producers in Ohio, which are also on the PJM grid, have experienced electric costs that are up 70% since 2024. The report also quotes PJM as saying, "...wholesale power costs in the region were up 76% in the first quarter from a year earlier."

If you go to PJM.com you can see how much electric power is being used by the 13 states that make up that grid. At 11:10 a.m. on Sunday, July 5, that figure was 110,747 million watts, which equals 110,747 Mw, or 110.7 gigawatts (Gw). The highest usage ever was this July 2 when the temperature was over 102°F in Maryland and the PJM grid was delivering 162.7 gigawatts. If the grid is working at or near its full capacity, such as when many people turn on their air conditioners or a thunder storm threatens, any load change can cause instability and even a blackout.

Data centers

According to the Independent Alliance of the Electrical Industry, in 2023 U.S. data centers consumed 176,000 gigawatt hours (GWh) representing 4.4% of total U.S. electricity. By 2028 this is projected to increase to 325,000-580,000 GWh (6.7-12% of total U.S. electricity).

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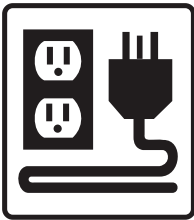
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Power Line CONTINUED

Continued from page 18

From the July 6 WSJ: "PJM forecasts that demand for electricity will outpace supply by 6.6 gigawatts beginning in 2027...." The U.S. Energy Department's Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory predicts that "By 2030 data centers could use 9.5% to 15.3% of the electricity in the U.S."

Consumers will pay

The Valley North power line is expected to cost about \$1.9 billion dollars. As the current Federal Energy Regulatory Commission regulations require, that cost is spread over the bills of all the consumers on the grid.

The power line will end at a new substation to be built near Point of Rocks where it will connect with the PJM grid. The builder, Valley Link Transmission Company LLC, hopes to complete the construction by May 31, 2031. ■

Watt's Up?

A watt is a measure of power. Example: an English horse power is approximately equal to 746 watts. A watt hour is the number of watts delivered in one hour. Example: a 100 watt electric light bulb that's on all night would use 100 watts X 12 (hours) = 1200 watt hours or 1.2 kilowatt hours (kWh); a thousand 100 watt bulbs on all night would use 1,200,000 watt hours or 1.2 million watt hours or 1.2 megawatt hours (MWh), and so on into the multiple of billions (giga).

The Lone Star Tick and Alpha-gal Allergy

By DR. KATHY HEINSOHN

Populations of all life stages of ticks have increased this summer, so your chance of encountering them has, too. This is due in part to:

- 1) a colder than normal winter, which didn't kill ticks, but killed some of their normal hosts, making ticks hungrier;
- 2) white-tailed deer moving nearer humans in new suburbs and exurbs;
- 3) warmer temperatures and wetter weather increasing the length of tick season.

We've all heard about Lyme disease and the black-legged deer tick associated with it. Another tick to be feared, the lone star, was typically found further south. But ranges of both ticks are changing because of temperature and moisture differences and deer migration. Lyme ticks are moving south and lone star ticks moving north, so now we see both.

Deer are the primary hosts of these ticks. Mice are another major host, especially deer mice. But any mammal can support ticks, including raccoons, foxes, possums, rabbits, ground hogs, squirrels and bats. Some ticks will feed on turtles, frogs and birds. Ticks easily move around by hitchhiking on wildlife. When ticks feed on humans or pets, that becomes a major concern since the ticks carry many bacteria and viruses. Sometimes more than one can be delivered with a single bite — not just Lyme or Alpha-gal but also bourbon virus, ehrlichiosis, heartland virus, STARI, and tularemia.

But today's lesson concerns lone star ticks and the alpha-gal,

or red meat, allergy. All animals except for humans and other primates have the sugar associated with alpha-gal. Since our bodies do not have this sugar naturally, if we are exposed to it, we will develop antibodies to it.

The lone star tick carries alpha-gal in its salivary glands, so if one bites you, you have been exposed to alpha-gal. Even if you quickly remove lone star ticks, you will still have been exposed (maybe with lessened exposure) and will develop antibodies to alpha-gal.

Reactions

Individuals react differently to alpha-gal when they consume red meat (beef, pork and lamb) or dairy products. You may be exposed by rubbing tallow (a beef product) hand cream on your body, or you may ingest gelatin (also a beef product) which can be what your ibuprofen capsules are made of! A whole host of dietary, medical and beauty products have meat byproducts in them that you would never expect.

An alpha-gal allergy reaction may be minor with just annoying itching, nausea, vomiting, headaches, rash, or hives — or it may be a full-blown anaphylactic response that can lead to death. The problem is that you may not know you were bitten by a lone star tick and exposed to alpha-gal, so you may not associate symptoms with alpha-gal syndrome. Until recently, you also may have had to wait a long time for a proper diagnosis. Who would think eating a burger or drinking milk could cause anaphylaxes and death? But it can if you have a severe form of this allergy.



Amblyomma americanum (the lone star tick)

People who experience this allergy usually must carry EpiPens with them. For some people, the allergy is so extreme that just driving by a burger joint and smelling red meat cooking can generate the allergic response.

Avoiding ticks

The lone star tick is not from Texas. The name comes from a distinctive yellowish-white dot on the top of its abdomen. Originally associated with the South and Southeast, it is moving north and westward. They are particularly common in coastal areas of high moisture with large deer populations.

So, should you just stay inside? No. Get out and enjoy the outdoors. But be aware ticks are out there and carrying pathogens. To avoid ticks, stay in the middle of a trail and not near the edges where ticks linger and wait for signs of a possible blood meal (vibrations, warmth, and CO2 breathing emissions). Wear long pants, long sleeves and white socks when possible and tuck your pants legs into your socks. Spray DEET or permethrin or picaridin on your clothing, or

buy pre-treated clothing from an outdoor outfitter. These steps will protect you, but always do a tick check and shower when the activity is over.

In your backyard, do not encourage wildlife feeding, as deer and various mammals and even birds all support ticks. If you do feed wildlife, do away from children's play areas or commonly used spaces.

Ticks require moisture and shade to survive. If you keep your grass mowed low, your yard will not be a desirable place for them. Keep woodpiles that would attract squirrels, mice and chipmunks at a distance from your home.

A pest professional may also be called in to trap any wildlife living near your home. They can also be contracted to treat your yard for ticks. Some pest professionals offer treatment stations for mice or deer. An important suggestion is to never forget to treat your pets for ticks each month, especially if the pets share your living or sleeping quarters.

With care you can live a healthy, tick-free existence. But if you see a tick on your person, remove it immediately with tweezers. Pull it straight out and try to get the head. With other tick illnesses, exposure can take time for the tick to feed, usually 12 to 24 hours, but it may help to get the lone star tick head (with the salivary glands) out of you sooner than later. ■

Dr. Kathy Heinsohn has a PhD in Structural and Urban Pest Management from Purdue University and is a Board Certified Entomologist (B.C.E.) and local beekeeper. She lives in Brunswick.

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LOCAL HISTORY

How Brunswick Beats the Heat

It starts with great places to swim

By PETER WENNER

With summer in Brunswick hitting the dog days of August, finding a cool spot to relax by the water becomes almost second nature. Today, residents can head to the Brunswick Family Campground on the Potomac River or choose from community swimming pools in the Brunswick area.

For much of our history, the choices were simple: the canal, the river and, beginning in 1940, a municipal pool that became one of Brunswick’s favorite summertime destinations.

A product of the Great Depression

The Brunswick Municipal Pool was built in 1940 on the corner of Point of Rocks and Souder Road by the National Youth Administration (NYA). A February 15, 1940, Frederick Post article described plans for a recreational development at E.W. Scheer Stadium as “the most extensive National Youth Administration project ever undertaken in Maryland.”

Sponsored by the mayor and council with the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad YMCA as co-sponsor, the work included a swimming pool, bath house, wading pools, ballpark im-



C&O Canal bathing beauties

the 1980s, when the city took over. Jeana Fawley Harmon remembered her mother, Billie Fawley, managing the pool in the 1970s, when she and her sister also worked there. Every evening, after closing, she delivered “the money bag” containing the day’s proceeds downtown to YMCA manager Glen Moler.

History came full circle in May 2025, when the YMCA of Frederick County, an institution that connects us to our railroading past, assumed management of the pool for the city. The Y handles staffing, maintenance, swimming lessons, and other programs.

Summer memories were made

By the 1940s, the pool had become a summer gathering place for Brunswick youth — somewhere children could walk or bike to meet friends and spend the day. Sunscreen was not yet part of the ritual; if anything, young swimmers used Johnson’s Baby Oil, in some cases with iodine, or lard, a practice many paid for later in dermatologists’ offices.

Doris Kelley Barker remembered one evening during World War II when Betty Lou Darr Cavalier — later known for her popular dance studios in Brunswick, Frederick and Middletown — staged a swimming performance inspired by Hollywood star Esther Williams with local teenage girls,

including Phyllis Long and the Foster sisters, June, Katy and Shirley. Mrs. Barker recalled the girls, who were excellent swimmers, rising from the water amid lights, “dancing in the water” in a scene that drew paying spectators.

Fun was not had by all

Well into the 1960s, the pool was still segregated. For those who remember Black children standing outside the fence watching their white classmates swim, it remains a difficult part of the story.

In those days, a seasonal pass cost \$5, or 25 cents per day. Children who lived nearby often swam all day, went home for dinner, and returned for an evening dip. Smoketown History is full of stories. Gloria Moore Crowl remembered walking from the far end of Brunswick Street, behind the old high school atop 4th Avenue, and through a path near Sixth Avenue that came out in

Park Heights Cemetery. “It was a tired walk home after swimming all day,” she wrote, “but worth it!”

Scary evening walks and bike rides through the cemetery became their own local rite of passage. Charlie Smith recalled riding his bike through there “as hard as I could go,” grateful no one ever jumped out to scare him.

As a baseball town, swimming on gameday was forbidden. According to Mike Campbell, who played Little League ball in the late 1960s, “The coaches said that we would be too tired to play.” Your legs weren’t as strong.

The water itself is remembered as shockingly cold. Nancy Merchant Langley said it “definitely woke you up in the morning.” Brunswick High School students who took mandatory gym classes there in late spring and fall dreaded the chilly plunge.

The high and low diving

boards, now gone because of liability concerns, evoke both frightened and fearless memories, which include stories of epic bellyflops and cannonballs. It makes you wonder how more serious accidents didn’t happen. Bonnie Stewart Young wrote that in the 70s, “diving off the high dive would give your hair a straight part down the middle.”

Today, a small water slide has taken their place.

Before the pool: river, canal and “catfish gaiters”

Long before anyone considered a pool a reality, many residents swam in the canal, then about 6 feet deep and 60 to 80 feet wide, as well as in the Potomac River.

Parents taught their children how to swim in the canal, before letting them go out on their own. Randy George remembered that his father spoke of jumping off the old bridge into the lock and canal as a boy, saying, “apparently many did.” Today, the canal is a swamp, overgrown with weeds and trees.

Old photos from around the turn of the 20th century show women preparing to dive in wearing “catfish gaiters” — knee-high rubber stockings and boots used for wading in rivers and creeks. They protected legs and feet from rocks, broken glass, fishhooks, snapping turtles and, according to local folklore, catfish spines.

The river can be dangerous. In a September 1979 Brunswick Citizen story, Richard Hogan recounted being caught in a rising current during a 1930s flood that swept him and friends downstream before they made it safely back to shore.

The tradition continues

Today, the Potomac River remains a popular spot to cool off, especially near the camp-

Continued on page 21



Some young Brunswick men pose before a swim in the Potomac River above the Harpers Ferry dam in July, 1935. In the photo are (L-R) Richard Bowers, D. Eddins, and Eugene Bowers.

provements and an “imposing stone entrance.”

Local men aged 18 to 25 completed the project, earning 25 cents an hour while learning carpentry, painting, electrical work, cement construction, and other trades. Brunswick native Chris Weitzel remembers the late, longtime City Councilman Willard “Pickett” Barger telling him how “he carried stones” for the bath house back then “and helped lay the road.”

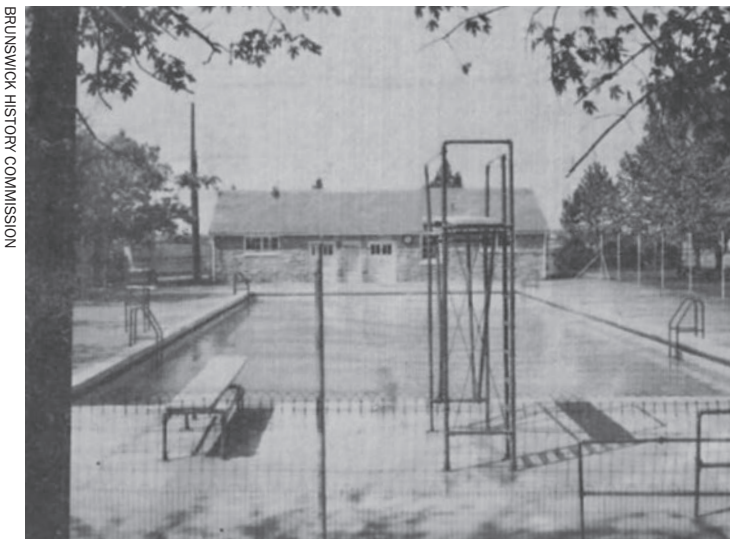
The pool opened that summer, with membership cards distributed by the YMCA, which managed it at least until



This was how the pool looked in the late 1940s. It retained a rectangular shape until renovations were completed in the early 1980s.

LOCAL HISTORY

Swimming CONTINUED



The pool in 1964. Note the two diving boards.

Continued from page 20

ground, where summer weekends attract tubing, rafting, boating and kayaking. Abbie Ricketts, whose family was among many that vacationed at river camps once lining the towpath from Lander to Weverton, wrote, “I swim in the river every summer. Always have.”

Discussing the pool today, City of Brunswick Program Manager Lauren Craker said, “we typically accommodate between 100 to 125 patrons per day during the summer season.” The city is “planning major, much-needed renovations this fall. Funding has been secured through Program Open Space, and we are hopeful that these improvements will result in a fully renovated pool and enhanced experience for our residents by summer 2028.”

From canal dives and river camps to chilly mornings at the municipal pool, Brunswick’s swimming spots have reflected the personality of the town itself: practical, social, filled with memories, and always prepared for another hot summer.

Wayne Allgaier is chairman of the Brunswick History Commission. ■



Brunswick’s Municipal Swimming Pool today. It was converted into its current L-shape during the renovations of 1981–82.

We’re Looking for a Picture--

William Waltman Wenner

a.k.a. W.W. Wenner

b.1810 - d.1910

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Compiled by
Julie Maynard

July 23, 1926.

A Freak Cat.

Some time ago a strange cat made its appearance at the home of Mr. C. A. Rohrback, of Gapland. This cat had six toes on each of its front feet instead of four, and these feet were shaped with well defined thumbs. Recently this strange cat gave birth to five kittens, and what was Mr. Rohrback’s surprise to note that all five kittens had the same strange kind of fore-feet as the mother cat. Mr. Rohrback is at a loss to explain the phenomenon.

Handkerchief Shower.

A surprise handkerchief shower was given Miss Lillian McNeal, of Broad Run, this valley, by her friends, on July 4 last, Independence Day also being Miss McNeal’s birthday. She received 48 very beautiful handkerchiefs....

July 30, 1926.

Abraham Lincoln’s Son Dead.

My people were surprised to read of the death of Robert Todd Lincoln, at the age of 83 years, the only remaining member of the family of the immortal emancipator. A great many people did not even know he was yet alive. And this in spite of the great honor which is attached to him as the son of our martyred Civil War President and also in spite of the fact that for some years past he has been an active officer in the Pullman Company, one of America’s best known institutions. But he was not the type of man to seek publicity. Modest, unassuming, and possessing many sterling traits of character, he retired from public life after several terms as Secretary of War and some time in the consular service. ...

August 6, 1926.

Zihlman Aids Again.

Friends and relatives of Mr. James K. Cornelius, of Brunswick, will be pleased to learn Congressman Frederick N. Zihlman has met with success in his efforts to aid this veteran, and effective July 5, 1924, Mr. Cornelius will receive from the United States Veterans Bureau, compensation at the rate of \$80 per month, based on a temporary total disability rating.

Road Contract.

Contracts recently awarded by the Maryland State Roads Commission, for construction and repair of State highways, included in Frederick county 1.15 miles of resurfacing from the brick school house, on the Knoxville-Petersville road, to the Brunswick-Petersville road, awarded to the Bester-Long Co., Hagerstown, at \$22,892.

Sunday School Picnic

The Sunday schools of Burkittsville will hold their annual picnic August 21, at the usual place, Mrs. Josephus Harley’s grove. Music will be furnished by the old Yellow Springs Band. Sealed bids will be received for the right of selling up until August 4. Send all bids to Russell House, Secretary, Burkittsville, Md. 7-23-5t-121

Washington County News.

Several reports of the using of dipnets, following the heavy rains last week, have come to the ears of Deputy Game Warden Crampton, who warns violators of the full prosecution of law if caught.

Mr. C. A. Rohrback, Gapland, who has about two acres in dew-berries and raspberries, shipped a large crop to Pittsburgh, the eastern distributing market. To date he has shipped over 100 crates and still has about 25 more to pick. Mr. Rohrback says he has received from \$7 to \$8 per crate for his berries.

Three men were arrested and two stills and large quantities of whisky and mash seized Tuesday, by Prohibition Agents Harvey

and Jarvis, who spent the day raiding moonshiners’ haunts in the Frog Hollow section.

Arrested when he failed to stop after an automobile accident in which Mrs. Mary Baxter, of Brunswick, was injured, Wednesday evening of last week, Stanley Reeder, of near Boonsboro, was assessed fines totaling \$35 by Justice Bower, in Hagerstown Police Court. Mrs. Baxter was only slightly injured, and after being attended by Dr. L. H. Brumback, was able to continue to her home.

August 13, 1926.

SUNDAY BASEBALL

The Hagerstown and Frederick teams of the Blue Ridge League played a game of baseball last Sunday afternoon in Hagerstown. Officers and players were promptly arrested after the game, at the instance of the State’s Attorney, who claimed Sunday baseball was a violation of the law. The matter will be threshed out before a grand jury.

Now it is understood Frederick is considering playing games on Sunday. Prominent citizens, public officials, ministerial associations, the Law and Order League, members of the Lord’s Day Alliance and other agencies have been aroused to protest what they consider a violation of the law and a flaunting of Christian morals, and a lively fight is scheduled.

For some time Sunday baseball games of an unofficial character have gone on in Middletown. Local pastors have protested, but with little effect. ...“The Register” hesitated to precipitate an open row over the issue, hoping those responsible would desist of their own accord, once it was seen public sentiment was against it. But the spread of the movement to the Blue Ridge League makes it necessary that we take a stand on the subject, which we have no hesitancy in doing.

“The Register” is opposed to Sunday baseball. ...

August 20, 1926.

[banner headline across the top of the front page]

Jefferson Man and Horse
Swept to Death in Flood
Waters of Catoctin Creek

Lightning, Wind and Hail
Add to Havoc Wrought By
Week-end Downpour

Silas Hale, Aged 28 Years,
Drowned While Attempting To
Cross Swollen Stream On His Way
to Bell’s Mill to Purchase Flour.

Caught in a torrent of flood water when he attempted to cross a branch of Catoctin creek, near Bell’s mill, below Jefferson, during heavy rain on Saturday evening last, Silas Hale, aged about 28, who resided with his father, James Hale, a tenant on the Horine farm, about a mile west of Jefferson, was washed along with his horse and buggy, into the swollen stream and into the Potomac river, several miles distant, where his body was recovered on Monday.

Hale lost his life in attempting to cross the badly swollen stream on his way to the mill. After the hardest downpour, he left the farm of George Lakin, where he had been working, and started in a horse and buggy for Bell’s mill to purchase flour. Persons in the vicinity of the stream warned Hale about attempting to cross and pleaded with him to put off his trip until the waters receded. Believing he could make the trip in safety, however, Hale started.

He had crossed a first small branch in safety and drove on into the swollen waters of Catoctin creek, running swift and high and out of bank. He reached the ap-

prox. middle of the stream when the current swept the horse’s feet from the creek bed, and the horse, buggy and Hale were swept away in the raging torrent.

News of the tragedy spread quickly and a crowd soon assembled and started a search for the body. Half a dozen young men, with hands clasped, moved slowly down the stream in an effort to locate the body if it had caught anywhere on rocks or brush.

Near the mouth of the creek, which flows into the Potomac river, the searchers came upon the buggy, badly wrecked and lodged on a sand bar. After a continued search, the body of the horse was discovered, lodged on another sand bar in the Potomac, two miles or more from where the unfortunate accident occurred.

Believing the body of Hale had been washed down stream by the unusually strong current of the creek, much higher than at previous flood times, searchers lost no time in making a thorough survey of the stream from the point where Hale had driven into the creek to the point where it flows into the Potomac near Lander.

On Sunday, the searchers again assembled early and started another search of the creek and the Potomac. The river was reported as being very muddy but not very high at that time, and the searching parties were of the opinion that Hale’s body was hidden somewhere in the larger stream by the rocks and sand bars.

Notwithstanding the fact that persons continued the search all day on Sunday, the body was not located, and again on Monday the searchers went over the ground.

It was near about 4.30 o’clock on Monday afternoon, when J. Paul Delphey, of Frederick, who had been searching with a party of friends on the banks of the river near the mouth of Catoctin creek, observed an object floating on the surface of the river near the spot where the body of the dead horse had been discovered.

Closer scrutiny revealed that the object was the body of a human being, and immediately steps were taken to recover the body from the river waters. It is believed that another high water, following the Monday rain, washed away the debris which had pinned Hale’s body to the bottom of the river until that time.

The body was placed in charge of M. R. Etchison & Son, funeral directors, who took the body and prepared it for burial.

After having been prepared for burial, the body of the unfortunate man was removed to his house, near Jefferson, where his wife and five small children had awaited its recovery. Besides his widow, Mrs. Mabel Virginia Hale, he is survived by the five children: Maryland L., Virginia E., Arleen, Margaret, and Richard Franklin Hale. The funeral was held from the Methodist Episcopal Church in Jefferson, with interment in the cemetery adjoining.

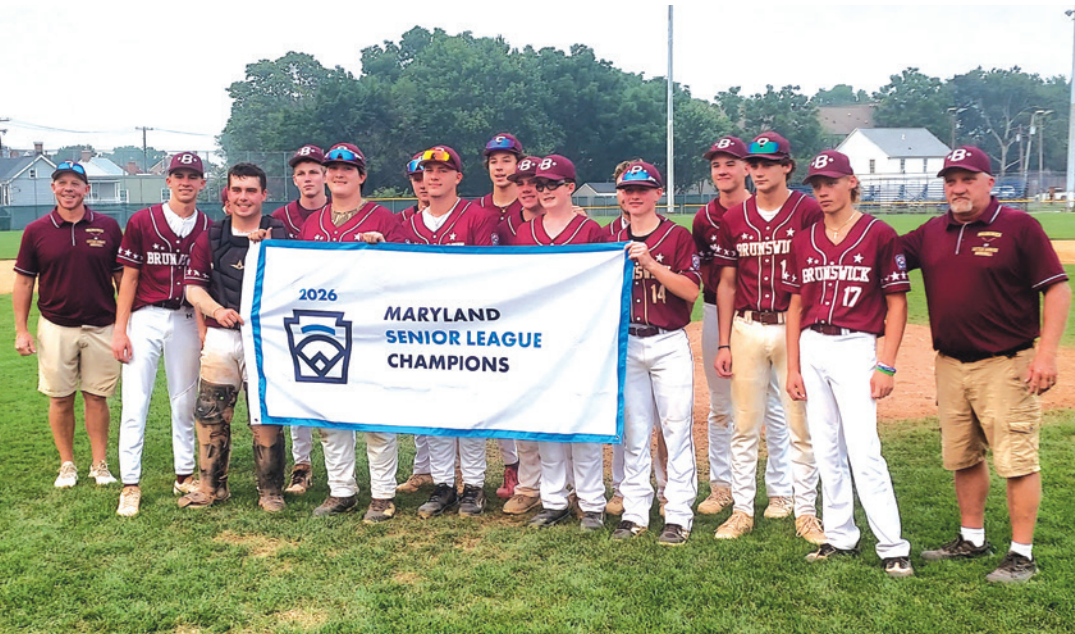
Persons who live in the neighborhood of where the creek empties into the river have been voicing complaints because that the body of the horse is still lying on the sand bar in the river, plainly in sight from the bank. Because of the continued heavy rains, it will be impossible to remove the dead animal until the rains and high waters have ceased, unless flood waters should again move it on down the river.

Hale was well known in Jefferson, and in all the surrounding community, and his friends and neighbors were greatly shocked to hear of the very sad occurrence.

SPORTS

BRUNSWICK RAILROADERS LITTLE LEAGUE

Sixty Years Later, Another Milestone



Brunswick Senior Little League (age 13–16) all-star team won its first state championship on July 17 at McCurdy Field.

By BILL CAULEY

It was 60 years ago Brunswick Railroaders Little League was celebrating its first state championship, defeating Forest Park in the championship game at Hagerstown National Little League’s Staley Field.

Now, 60 years later, another major celebration took place, this time at Frederick’s McCurdy Field on Friday, July 17.

Brunswick’s Senior Little League (age 13–16) all-star team won its first state championship in program history, defeating Delmar, from District 8 on Maryland’s Eastern Shore, 4–1, in a well-played game. Brunswick had won many state crowns under the MARVA Babe Ruth League banner before transitioning to the Senior Little League format.

This new championship is another milestone in the storied history of BRLL, which began in 1954. For manager Jason Ricketts and his squad, it’s a moment that will be remembered for a long time.

“For these guys, knowing they’re part of a first for Brunswick Senior Little League, that’s really special,” he said. “This group is resilient and fought hard to reach this level.”

The start of the state tournament didn’t bode well for Brunswick, which had a first-

round bye. It lost to Hub City in a second-round game, 4–2, on Sunday, July 12, which meant it had to win to avoid elimination from the tournament.

“We were disappointed at that early loss,” Ricketts said. “We didn’t hit the ball well. We were two outs away from winning the game when Hub City came back. After that game, I told the team we had to fight back. Our goal was to make it to the championship game.”

Brunswick played a tight game with Rising Sun the following day, winning 3–1. Then came a 14–6 win over Talbot (Easton) on Tuesday, July 14. About 24 hours later, it was payback time against Hub City. Brunswick won that game in a nail-biter, 5–4, setting up the championship games with Delmar, which featured players from Delmar, Salisbury and Fruitland.

In the first game, played on Thursday, July 16, Brunswick won, 6–3, forcing the extra game to decide the state championship the next day.

In the title game, Brunswick jumped out to a 2–0 lead in the bottom of the first inning. An RBI single by Jaden Purks and an error on the Delmar catcher accounted for those two runs.

Jared Ricketts doubled in a run for Brunswick in the third and Calan Ricketts pushed across a run in the fifth on a

sacrifice fly. Delmar threatened in the seventh, scoring a run on an error, but Brunswick turned a crucial double-play with one out, which ended the game and started a massive celebration in the Brunswick bleachers and Brunswick’s dugout.

“Delmar is a good team,” Ricketts said. “They were scrappy and put up a good fight. I thought we hit the ball better, but Delmar kept us at bay with some good pitching.”

Taylor Black had two hits with a double for Brunswick. Calan Ricketts also had a double.

Matt Johnson was the winning pitcher, going 6⅓ innings with three hits and four strikeouts. Luke Wagoner got the save in the seventh.

“I think pitching and defense were the keys for us in this game,” Ricketts said. “Delmar had a chance to get back in the game. Then, we turned that double play and we won.”

As is the Brunswick tradition following a major tournament championship win, the players, managers and coaches were treated to a victory parade around the city. Brunswick Railroaders’ Little League hoists yet another championship banner, this time, on the Senior Little League level, 60 years after that initial state championship.

Another great moment in time for the community. ■

Little League Baseball: Da Champs!
Brunswick LL Wins First District Title in Four Years

By BILL CAULEY

Brunswick Railroaders Little League is well known for its successful baseball program. Since its inception in 1954, and being the third-oldest Little League Baseball and Softball organization in Frederick County, Brunswick has won the most District 2 age 10–12 division championships.

On Saturday, July 11, Brunswick won its 25th District 2 10–12 title.

In a highly-competitive game, featuring some fine pitching, Brunswick avenged a 2022 loss to Montgomery County-Lower Little League with a 4–3 win in the district championship game before hundreds of frenzied fans at Marvin Younkins Memorial Field.

“Montgomery has beat us a lot in the last few years,” Brunswick second baseman Parker Rhodes said. “The mindset was just we’re going to dominate. We know we’re better. This year, that’s just what we did, dominate.”

The win centered around the basics of the game, timely hitting, pitching and defense. Perhaps the strongest parts of Brunswick’s game in the win over Montgomery County-Lower was the second and third parts of those three elements.

James Kraus took to the mound for Brunswick in the district championship game and pitched a complete-game victory, giving up five hits with two earned runs and two strikeouts. Even with that good pitching, Kraus had to rely on a key double play made by Rhodes at second base, Brantley Mobley at shortstop and Coop Dougherty at first base.

In the bottom of the fifth inning and Brunswick clinging to a 4–3 lead with one out, Montgomery County-Lower’s Taiyo Walker singled up the middle to reach

base. Jack Burns was up next at the plate.

He hit the first pitch from Kraus to Rhodes at second. An alert Rhodes threw the ball to Mobley at shortstop, getting the forceout of Walker at second. Mobley rifled the ball over to Daugherty at first to complete the 4–6–3 double play and get out of the inning. Kraus retired all three batters he faced in the sixth to end the game.

“That’s what we’ve stressed all season — defense,” Brunswick manager Cory Rhodes said. “And James did a great job on the mound for us.”

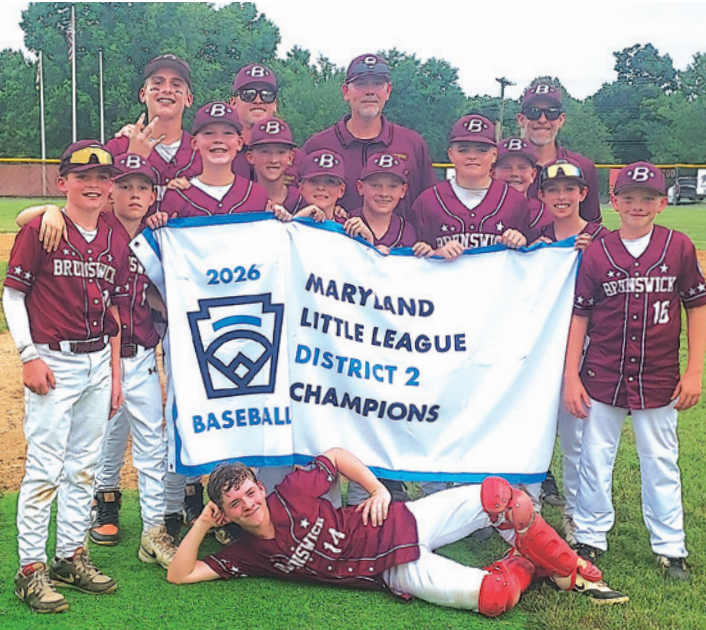
Brunswick took a 2–0 lead in the first on RBI doubles from Kraus and Jack Rhodes. Montgomery County-Lower scored twice in the bottom of the first, tying the score at 2. Jesse Purks had an RBI single for Brunswick in the second, putting Brunswick up by one, 3–2. Tyler Fall belted a one-out home run over the fence in left-center field for Montgomery County-Lower in the fourth, tying the score 3–3.

In the fifth inning, Brunswick regained the lead to stay when Jack Rhodes beat out an infield single with the bases loaded.

Kraus led Brunswick at the plate with two hits.

“We’ve really been fortunate to have had great pitching this whole tournament,” Cory Rhodes said. “It makes a huge difference. We’ve been battling in these low-scoring games. You make a defensive play or two that really turns the momentum of the game and helps us win a ball game.”

Not long after the game was over, another Brunswick tradition continued. With an escort of fire engines and other emergency vehicles, the district champions enjoyed a victory parade around the city. In this age group for Brunswick Railroaders’ Little League, it was for the 25th time. ■



The Brunswick Little League 10-12 team won the District 2 Tournament championship at Marvin Younkins Memorial Field on July 11.

The Great Deadman’s Hill Twilight Run is August 22

By LEE ZUMBACH

If you are looking for a unique run in the Brunswick area, The Great Deadman’s Hill Twilight Run has many unique features. It takes place in Brunswick on Saturday evening, August 22.

This is a fast downhill point to point run that takes place at a unique time, just before sunset, and has treats at the end, including an ice cream sundae at the finish line.

While no awards are given, finish times will be taken and posted. The run is a most-

ly downhill, 2-mile course, through the streets of Brunswick. The famous Deadman’s Hill is at the mile mark. Runners can go for a fast competitive time, do this as a training run, or do it just for the fun and exercise, with ice cream at the end.

The Twilight Run starts at the Brunswick Middle School parking area and ends in the heart of downtown Brunswick at Square Corner Park, the intersection of Potomac Street and Maple Ave.

Ice cream is compliments of

the Little Red Barn of Jefferson. Drinks and other snacks will also be provided.

Since this is a “point to point” run, the race organizers have set up a convenient shuttle service, to help runners have a car at the finish. If you wish to have your vehicle at the finish line, you can park near the finish or at the MARC train lot and pick up the shuttle at 6:15 p.m. or 6:30 p.m. to take you up the hill to the start. The shuttle is provided free by River & Trail Outfitters. You have the choice

Continued on page 23

Twilight Run CONTINUED

Continued from page 22
of being dropped off at the start or taking the shuttle to the start.
All run day registration and bib pick up is done at the start area, near the middle school. This is an event open to runners of all ages, youth ages 10-12, teens ages 13-17 and adults ages 18 and over.

Pre-register for this event by August 14 by going to Runsignup.com and entering “The Great Twilight Deadman’s Hill Run” in the event search box, or sign up that evening at the start. More details, along with a map of the course, can be found at Runsignup.com. By pre-registering you can save on the event fee. Cash or check is acceptable for race night registration.

The run is presented by the joint efforts of the Brunswick Area Recreation Council (BARC) and The River’s Edge Endurance committee. Profits from the run will support BARC in their many recreation events and the River’s Edge efforts to help Brunswick High School obtain upgraded equipment for its Track & Field program.

If you have questions regarding the event, contact Lee or Anne Zumbach at 301-834-8045 or zum50@hotmail.com. Bob Ward with BARC can also help with information at 301-834-8215. ■

Local Running Events in September

Othello Park Labor Day 1K/5K on Monday, Sept. 7
River’s Edge Endurance Challenge on Saturday, Sept. 26

By KEVIN L. ROPP

Don’t miss this year’s Othello Park Labor Day 1K/5K and the River’s Edge Endurance Challenge. All money raised from these two running events supports the Brunswick High School Track and Field program.

Othello Park Labor Day 1K/5K

What a better way to kick off your Labor Day celebration than the 3rd Annual Othello Park Labor Day 1K and 5K run (OPLD1/5) on Monday, Sept. 7. This event features a 1K fun run for participants of any ability and a 5K hybrid road and cross-country race that takes advantage of the paved paths and grassy equestrian trails at Othello Regional Park.

“The community has really come out to support this event over the past two years,” said Race Co-director and former BHS Cross Country standout Russ Adams. “We’re hoping to continue to grow our participation as this event, really, has something for everyone.”

Last year, we saw tremendous support from the area with some 137 runners participating.

River’s Edge Endurance Challenge

Finish out September with



5K runners get off to a fast start followed closely by 3-hour and 6-hour race participants in a recent River’s Edge Endurance Challenge.

one of the best trail-running experiences around—the 8th Annual River’s Edge Endurance Challenge (REEC) on Saturday, Sept. 26. REEC features three different race challenges—a 5K run, a 3-hour endurance run, and our signature 6-hour endurance challenge.

“There was so much energy and enthusiasm for this lovely, well-marked course full of switchbacks, banked turns, and those mogul hills mountain bikers like,” said Frederick’s Cari James, a past participant. “If you like trail running minus snakes, bees, rock-hopping rivers, and getting lost, this would be a great race to try out!”

“Brunswick’s River’s Edge Trails are amazing, and perfect for a trail race,” said race planner Lee Zumbach. “Last year’s 5K trail race was pretty quick but an

awesome challenge. If you really want to test yourself, sign up for our traditional 3-hour or 6-hour challenge and see how many loops you can do in 3 or 6 hours.”

REEC is put on each year by the BHS Athletic Boosters as a fundraiser for the Track and Field Program. All registration fees and donations are used to purchase much needed equipment not otherwise funded by Frederick County Public Schools. To date, this event has allowed BHS to provide a brand-new storage shed for all track equipment, new pole vault mats and poles, new starting blocks, new shot puts, new sprint training gear, and other equipment.

Awards and Sponsorships

Both REEC and OPLD1/5 events feature finisher medals

for all participants. In addition, all REEC participants will receive race shirts and other sponsor giveaways, while OPLD1/5 participants may purchase race shirts for \$10 when registering.

“We’re hoping for a huge turnout in support of our local school,” said Adams. “All proceeds from both events go right back to support the program and its equipment needs. We’ve done our best to keep registration fees for the races affordable for all while still allowing us to raise much needed funds for these school programs.”

Since both events are fundraisers for local schools, all registration fees and donations are fully tax deductible.

Finally, sponsorship opportunities are available for both events. Any business that is interested in sponsoring either event, should reach out to Kevin Ropp at klropp@gmail.com.

For information and to register for the OPLD1/5K, visit: <https://runsignup.com/Race/MD/Knoxville/OthelloPark-LaborDay1K5k>.

For information and to register for REEC, visit: <https://runsignup.com/Race/MD/Brunswick/RiversEdgeEnduranceRace>. ■

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ALL ABOARD BRUNSWICK

AUGUST 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.

Burkittsville Walking Tour
August 1, 9–10 am
Tour begins at 3 E. Main St.
Free-will donations benefit
South Mountain Heritage
Society

**Lovettsville's Summer
on the Green & National
Night Out**
August 4 at 6 pm
11 Spring Farm Dr.
Movie at dusk: Zootopia 2

National Night Out
August 4, 6–8 pm
Brunswick Municipal Pool
Annual event promoting
police–community
partnerships

Summer Cruise–In
August 8,
9:30 am–12:30 pm
Roy Rogers, 28 Souder Rd.
Benefits Leechel Reynolds
Charitable Fund

Quartermania
August 8, 2–6 pm,
Brunswick City Park
Building
665 E. Potomac St.
Benefits Brunswick
Ambulance & Rescue
Auxiliary

**Lovettsville's Summer
on the Green**
August 14 at 6 pm
11 Spring Farm Dr.
Loudoun Music Instruction
& How to Train Your Dragon

Pilates and Pints
August 15, 11 am–noon
Smoketown Brewing
223 W. Potomac St.

**Petersville Ruritan
Fish Fry**
August 15, 3–6 pm
3816 Petersville Road

**Silent Auction of Art
& Jewelry**
August 15, 5–8:30 pm
Lockhouse Gallery
17 W. Potomac
Bossa nova guitarist
Fabio Mendonca
Benefits downtown
beautification

Paranormal Investigation
August 15, 6–10 pm
Brunswick Heritage
Museum
40 W Potomac St.

**Open Mic w/ Jacob
Rockwell**
August 19, starting at
5:30 pm
Smoketown Brewing
223 W. Potomac St.

**Potomac Pickin' Party —
Bluegrass!**
August 23, 2–6 pm
Smoketown Brewing
223 W Potomac St.

**Brunswick Community
Festival**
August 28 and 29, 4–9 pm
Burkittsville Ruritan Club
500 E. Main St.,
Burkittsville

Potomac Street Mile
August 29
Register at 8 am, Race at
9 am
Square Corner Park, 1 E.
Potomac

**Brunswick Eagle Riders
Bike Night**
August 29, 6–10 pm
Potomac Street
Food trucks, beer garden,
vendors, raffles

RECURRING

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

Music Bingo
First and third
WEDNESDAYS, 7–9 pm
Smoketown Brewing
223 W. Potomac St.

Trivia Night
THURSDAYS, 6–8 PM
Smoketown Brewing
223 W. Potomac St.

Food Truck Friday
FRIDAYS, 4–8 pm
Brunswick Crossing Pool
1000 Potomac View Pkwy

Brunswick Main Street
Farmers Market
Second and last FRIDAYS,
4–7 pm
Martins Creek Parking Lot
100 E. Potomac St.

**Second Saturday Makers
Market**
Second SATURDAYS, 10
am–2 pm
Jefferson Ruritan Pavilion
4603B Lander Rd.

Connect & Create
SECOND SATURDAYS, 1–3
pm
Smoketown Brewing
223 W. Potomac St.

Games Club of Maryland
THIRD SATURDAYS,
12:30–7 pm
Smoketown Brewing
223 W. Potomac St.

SAVE THE DATE

Fall Community Yard Sales
September 25–27
At participating houses in
Brunswick and Knoxville
[brunswickmd.gov/
specialevents](http://brunswickmd.gov/specialevents)

LOCAL WORSHIP
SERVICES & EVENTS

St Paul Lutheran Church
SUNDAYS, 8:30 am, 10:34 am
3864 Jefferson Pike

**Jefferson United
Methodist Church**
SUNDAYS, 9 am
3882 Jefferson Pike

Grace Fellowship Church
SUNDAYS, 9 am, 10:45 am
131 9th Ave.

**New Hope United
Methodist Church**
SUNDAYS, 9:30 am
7 S. Maryland Ave.

Bethany Lutheran Church
SUNDAYS, 9:45 am
109 1st Ave.

**Jefferson United Church
of Christ**
SUNDAYS, 10:45 am
3837 Jefferson Pike

Grace Episcopal Church
SUNDAYS, 11 am
114 E. A Street
AUGUST 30, 11 am
Litany of Remembrance for
those lost to overdose death.
All are welcome
to attend. Please send
names to remember
to: [KathyBrown@
gracebrunswick.org](mailto:KathyBrown@gracebrunswick.org)

CHECK THIS OUT!
August events
at local libraries

Brunswick Library
915 N. Maple Avenue

ADULTS (18+)

**Finding Your Roots:
An Introduction
to Genealogy**
August 2, 2–3 pm

**Adult Adaptive Program:
Let's Get Moving**
August 11, 2–3 pm

**George Washington's
Dream: Making the
Potomac River Navigable**
August 16, 2–3 pm

Introduction to Felting
August 26, 6–7 pm

**Adult Adaptive Program:
Dance Party**
August 28, 11 am–noon

TEENS (grades 6–12)

**Teen Time:
Lego Challenge**
August 6, 6–7 pm

**Teen Time:
Pony Bead Art**
August 13, 6–7 pm

**Teen Time:
Scratchboard Art**
August 20, 6–7 pm

**Teen Time: Candy
Mosaics**
August 27, 6–7 pm

TWEENS
(grades 3–8)

**Tween Time: Giant
Games**
August 6, 6–7 pm

CHILDREN
(grades K–5)

**Summer Explorers:
Hooray for Kids Day**
August 4, 4:30–5:30 pm

Story Explorers
August 10, 1–2 pm

**Summer Explorers:
Mystery Makers**
August 11, 4:30–5:30 pm

**Summer Explorers:
Hearts of the Herd**
August 18, 5–6 pm

Read to a Dog
August 22
10:30–11:30 am

**Summer Explorers:
Escape the Pirate Ship**
August 25, 4:30–5:30 pm

RECURRING

Baby Storytime
MONDAYS,
10:30–11:30 am
ages 0–24 months
with caregiver

Toddler Storytime
TUESDAYS, 10:30–11 am,
ages 2–3 with caregiver

Preschool Storytime
WEDNESDAYS,
10:30–11 am
ages 3–5 with caregiver

Evening Storytime
FIRST WEDNESDAYS, 6:30–7
pm, ages 0–5

Musical Storytime
THURSDAYS, 10:30–11 am,
ages 0–5 with caregiver

**Conversation Class for
English Language Learners**
SATURDAYS, 10:30 am–noon

Summer Lunch Program
(ages 0–18)
12:15–1 pm
Free lunch for children and
teens every weekday from
June 22 to August 13.

**Edward F. Fry
Memorial Library**
1635 Ballenger Creek
Pike, Point of Rocks

**Drop-in Wednesdays:
Jigsaw Puzzles and Puzzle
Games** (all ages)
August 5, 5:15–6:45 pm

Farmyard Cuties
(all ages)
August 10, 1–2 pm

No–Sew Ghome Club
(ages 9–18)
August 29, 11 am–noon

RECURRING

Musical Storytime
(ages 0–5)
TUESDAYS, 11–11:30 am

Play and Learn
(ages 0–5)
TUESDAYS,
11:30 am–noon

Brunswick Green Team wants to hear
from you by August 10!

Are you a resident of Brunswick? Have you been concerned about development in Brunswick and how we can sustainably support our environment, neighborhoods, and resources as we grow? Are you thinking about future green space, safer pedestrian and bike paths and ways to keep utility costs down? If these and other ideas have crossed your mind, then the Brunswick Green Team wants to hear from you! We encourage you to share your ideas with us between now and August 10th when we will gather this information to share with the City. Submit your ideas to BrunswickGreenTeam@gmail.com and you can also reach out there to learn more about the Green Team and our local activities. We look forward to hearing from you!

Fair Elections Rely on Dedicated Workers

By DIANE ELLIS

Whether you vote by mail, drop off your ballot, or vote in person on Nov. 3, you will know your vote has been counted and secured because local election judges are trained to serve voters and make sure elections are fair and accessible. In Maryland, election workers are called “judges.” The Frederick County Board of Elections is seeking dedicated individuals to work at polling places on election day. No prior experience is needed, and comprehensive training is provided. Election judges can earn up to \$250 on election day, plus paid training which begins in

August.

As an election judge, you will set up and break down the polling place, check in and assist voters, and oversee election procedures, playing an important role in upholding trust in the electoral process and the fundamental right to vote.

Election workers must meet the following minimum requirements:

- Be 16 years old or older.
- Be a registered voter in Maryland (16- or 17-year-olds can serve if at least one parent or guardian gives permission).
- Attend and complete a required 3 to 3.5-hour training class.

- Be able to speak, read, and write English.

While knowledge of computers is preferred, it is not required. Bilingual speakers are highly encouraged to apply. Being selected as an election judge may require working 15-hour days.

To learn more details about the duties of an election worker and how to apply, see

[frederickcountymd.gov/3227/
Be-an-Election-Worker](http://frederickcountymd.gov/3227/Be-an-Election-Worker).

If you still have questions, call the Frederick County Board of Elections at 301-600-2524 or email: ElectionJudge@FrederickCountyMD.gov.

Potomac Street Mile is August 29

By ABBIE RICKETTS

The Milton Frech Jr. Potomac Street Mile Race is back this year for its 22nd running on August 29. The race is Main Street's first ever running event and was originally organized in 2005 by Lee Zumbach who is back this year to lead the event.

Chief Frech was the beloved chief of police for the City of Brunswick from 2009 until his untimely passing in 2021. He was admired and praised for his approach to community policing and did much to upgrade and improve the Brunswick Police Department.

Proceeds from the race will benefit the Brunswick Heritage Museum and Brunswick Main

Street.

The race is for all ages. Awards will be presented for best times in several categories. T-shirts will be given to all who pre-register and first come first serve for those who register on race day. For more information about the race and to sign up visit:

[https://runsignup.com/
Race/MD/Brunswick/BrunswickPotomacStreetMile](https://runsignup.com/Race/MD/Brunswick/BrunswickPotomacStreetMile)

The start and finish of the race is at Square Corner Park, 1 East Potomac St. Registration begins at 8 a.m. with start of race at 9 a.m.

Pre-registration closes August 15 at 11:59 a.m.

Sponsors for the event are Smoketown Brewing, Corner Store, Potomac Street Grill, and Chris Lucas State Farm. ■