



Sharpshburg Town Crier

William and Melva Ryan Edition



Volume 31

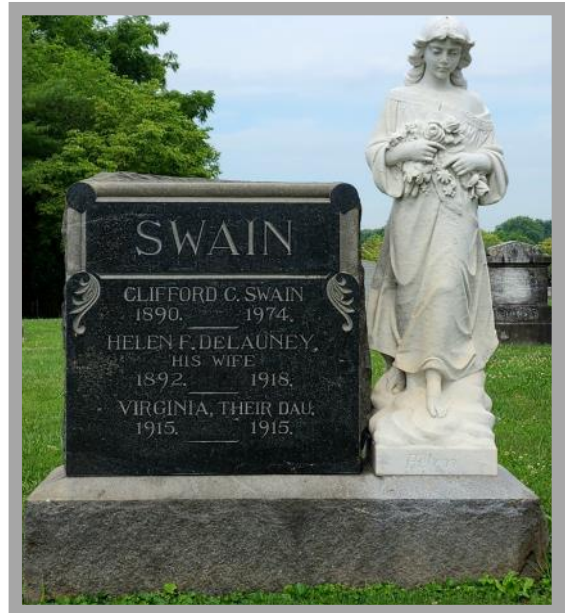
June 2023

Number 6

The Swain-DeLauney Story: Global Events Told Through a Family

(The Editor recently passed through Mountain View Cemetery as a shortcut home and as on many occasions lingered a moment by the gravestone pictured here. Later, the Editor's wife observed that "history is told through families. It was clear the Swain and DeLauney family story demanded a telling. A huge thanks to Mr. Jeffrey Swain, grandson to Cliff and Mary in the story, who provided most of the photos and storyline.)

The history of world events is not just in books and lectures, it is written in our lives. This is a narrative about two local families and how events reached from around the globe into our town and tested them in the extreme. In one case, it was the kindness of a former enemy that brought the narrative to a kind of closure. Most of these people are remembered by those still living.



Note the memorial stone featuring Clifford C. Swain, Helen F. DeLauney (his wife), and their daughter, Virginia. Note in particular the date of her death at twenty-six in 1918. This was the first of the global events that touched the family. Helen succumbed to the Great Influenza epidemic. By some estimates, she joined more than 50 million others worldwide who died. It was one of the deadliest pandemics in history.

"Cliff" and Helen were a photogenic couple. The photo depicts them on their way to their elopement in Charles Town, WV. Superimposed is a separate portrait of Helen.

It was a common custom at the time to remain in the family of a departed wife and Cliff subsequently married Helen's sister, Mary S. DeLauney. Like Helen, Mary was from Sharpshburg and she and Cliff resided in Hagerstown.

Yet again, global events overtook the family, this time through a son.





Mary and Clifford Swain

Maxwell “Max” L. Swain was a kid who grew up in Hagerstown. His childhood seems pretty typical for a kid and young man in that place and time. Like many boys, he loved airplanes.

At the outbreak of World War II, he wanted to join the US Army Air Corps, but it was not to be. He was drafted into the Army and on December 16, 1944 he found himself serving as Staff Sargent leading three heavy mortar squads in a quiet sector of the Ardennes Forest. It didn’t stay quiet that day; the Germans quickly overran the sector. It was the Battle of the Bulge. Out of ammunition, they elected to attempt a breakout and to find the Allied lines.

He was killed on the fourth day of a battle that lasted most of six weeks.

The story is now known in detail, but for several years, Max was listed as “missing” then “presumed dead, no body recovered”. He may have remained “missing” were it not for a chance event and the kindness of a former enemy. There was a cemetery caretaker in a

small German town fifty miles east of the Ardennes who was curious about an unmarked depression in the cemetery grounds. He dug into it and found some American soldiers interred there. One of them had the address book that Max’s mother Mary had given him. Now, this caretaker had a son who was a prisoner of war (PoW) in England to whom he wrote and told this story. The PoW son wrote a letter to the Mayor of Hagerstown. Max was found! (This letter and others still exist.)

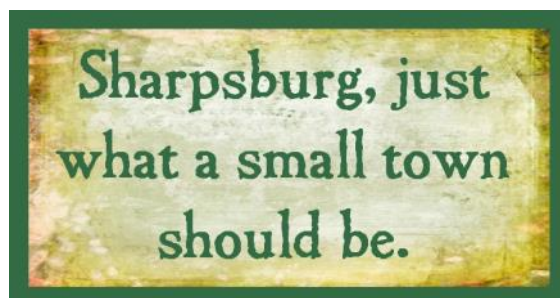


Max now rests at the National Cemetery right here in Sharpsburg. His family and the Town of Sharpsburg have honored him with a banner, which is displayed at this writing at the old Clipp Mill on Chapline Street. Pause and have a thought as you pass.

The Editor plans to contribute an entire article about Max and his story for Veteran’s Day town Crier.

Again, a huge thank you to Mr. Jeffery Swain who provided the details for both parts of these remarkable narratives and who donated Max’s memorial banner.

- Editor



From the Mayor and Council

Robbie Waters Receives Sharpsburg Community Service Award

The Sharpsburg Community Service Award was established by the Mayor and Council of Sharpsburg in 2021 to recognize excellence and service to our community, and in the case of this year's award, the choice of who would



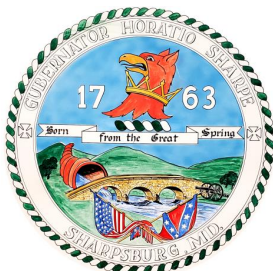
Mayor Weaver confers Community Service Award
on Robbie Waters

receive it was an easy one to make.

As one of the most upstanding and respectable people I have ever met, I can think of no other person who exhibits a greater degree of selfless dedication to our town and its citizens. I am proud to serve with him on our Council, and prouder to call him a friend.

Congratulations to Councilman Robbie Waters on being this year's recipient of the Sharpsburg Community Service Award!

- Vice Mayor Jacob Martz



Farewell (for now) to Town Manager Carrie Estell

I am tasked with making the bittersweet announcement that our Town Manager Carrie Estell has elected for family reasons to return to teaching. She has accepted a full-time



Ms. Carrie Estell

teaching position at Sharpsburg Elementary but will still play key a role in Town business. She will man the office one night a week, be responsible for our audit, tax collection along with staffing and documenting our regularly scheduled council meetings. Thanks to Carrie for her continued commitment to the Town and our citizens. Carrie has done an outstanding job as the "face of Sharpsburg" over the last two and a half years and we wish her well in her new endeavor.

- Russ Weaver, Mayor

And Related...A Vacancy Announcement

The Town of Sharpsburg is seeking a highly organized and detail-oriented Town Clerk to join our team. The Town Clerk will be responsible for maintaining official records, attending meetings, assisting in administering elections, and managing general office activities such as taking and resolving phone calls, emails and scheduling meetings. The ideal candidate should possess excellent communi-

cation and interpersonal skills, as well as a strong sense of professionalism and confidentiality.

- Experience in a clerk's office or a similar role is preferred.
- Excellent communication skills, both verbal and written.
- Excellent sense of professionalism and confidentiality.
- Strong organizational skills and attention to detail.
- Ability to work independently and manage multiple tasks simultaneously.
- Strong computer skills, including proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite, Adobe, Facebook and internet management.

It is the policy of the Town of Sharpsburg to provide equal employment opportunity to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, age, national origin, religious or political affiliation or opinion, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, genetic information, gender identity or expression, or any other status protected by law. \\ Please submit your resume to townofsharpsburg@comcast.net. We look forward to hearing from you.

- Town of Sharpsburg

Town Volunteer Opportunity: Founder's Day Open House

Hello all Volunteers/Living History Interpreters, you are invited to the Sharpsburgh Museum of History's Founder's Day Open House celebrating Sharpsburg's 260th year in existence. On July 8, if you are planning on coming or know people who would like to come, we are asking if you could come dressed in clothes of some period in Sharpsburg's history. The day will start off at 10am at the Chapline grave site at Mountain View Cemetery with the wreath laying at our founder's grave and then the celebration will continue at town

hall with spinning demos, our museum will be open until 4pm and lots of other activities.

Hope to see you there.

- Ed Beeler - Executive Director, Sharpsburg Museum of History / Town Archivist

About the Town

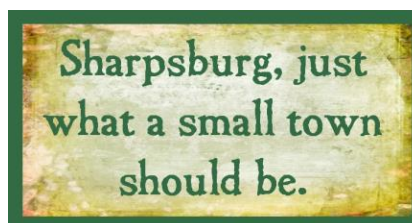
Brogan Ryan Graduates Washington County High School Fire and Rescue Academy



Brogan Morgan and his father Matty

We would like to congratulate our own Brogan Ryan on his graduation from the Washington County High School Fire and Rescue Academy! Brogan and his classmates have worked very hard over these last 2 years, and we can't wait to watch where they go in the future.

- Sharpsburg Volunteer Fire Company



Caught in the Act!

Never let the Town Crier catch you doing good!! If you do, it's going to be published in the pages of this noble newsletter or my name isn't "The Editor"!

Here we see Robbie and Heather Waters and Will Estell donating their time to put up the veteran's banners.

Please accept Crier's "hat's off" to all of you.

- Editor



But what caught the Editor's eye was a poem by Lucille Brown, who wrote:

A "flapper"¹ is a girl who
Paints her cheeks, and
Powers her nose, and;
When she steps out "hollers"
"Hang on Clothes"

- Editor

¹ "Flappers" were a subculture of young women in the 1920s who wore short skirts, bobbed their hair, listened to jazz, danced wildly, and flaunted their disdain for what was then considered acceptable behavior. Flappers were seen as brash for wearing excessive makeup, drinking alcohol, smoking cigarettes in public, driving automobiles, treating sex in a casual manner, and otherwise flouting social and sexual norms.



Community Calendar

June 27 at 7PM: **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**
BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS
Sharpsburg Town Hall
301-800-6877

June 29 at 3:30PM **Authentic Community Theatre**
(Four heroes from various super groups attempt to defeat an Evil Villain. Realizing they can't do it alone; they must work together in order to save the day...thus becoming the Unlikely Heroes, we didn't know we needed.
Sharpsburg Park Pavilion
301-432-8825



And Finally, This

Recently the Sharpsburgh Museum of History received a donation of an autograph book. It contains autographs and memories recorded by Shepherd College students in 1927 to someone called "Golda". It included an entry by Miss Louise Hebb, remembered by many of us as a Sharpsburg Elementary School teacher.

July 1 at 2PM: Brigades of Antietam Series, Jim Buchanan – Napoleon J. T. Dana's Brigade

Pry House Barn, 18906 Shepherdstown Pike, Keedysville, MD 21756
president@antietaminstitute.org

July 1 from 11AM to 2PM: Bake Sale, Proceeds to St. Jude Hospital for Children
Sharpsburg Town Square

July 5 at 7PM: Jim Smith, "The Chambersburg Raid: Jeb Stuart's October 1862 Ride Around the Army of the Potomac"

Jacob Rohrbach Inn
<https://www.facebook.com/JacobRohrbachInn>

July 8: Sharpsburg's 260th Anniversary and Founder's Day Open House Event

Sharpsburg Museum of History
Sharpsburg Town Hall
301-800-6877 / Loveshistory.1866@gmail.com

July 8 from 9:30AM to 12:30PM: Sharpsburg Founder's Day: 260 years!

Stop in the library and pick up Sharpsburg Trivia questions. Complete the sheet by 1PM and collect a prize! Work alone or as a team. For all ages.

Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

July 10 6PM: Town Council Meeting

Sharpsburg Town Hall
106 E Main St, Sharpsburg, MD 21782
301-432-4428

July 11 and 12 from 2PM to 4PM: Science in the Library: Growing Gardeners: The Science of Bugs and Plants

Explore the way plants and bugs help each other grow with hands on activities with Rebecca Crawshaw. For those entering grades 3-6. Registration required by calling the branch you would like to attend. Registration begins June 1st by calling 301-432-8825.

Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

July 12 at 7PM: Steve Stotelmyer, "Sugar Loaf Mountain: The Overlooked Confederate Intelligence Failure of the Maryland Campaign"

Jacob Rohrbach Inn
<https://www.facebook.com/JacobRohrbachInn>

July 15 at 2PM: Brigades of Antietam Series, Jim Rosebrock – The Confederate Artillery at Antietam

Pry House Barn, 18906 Shepherdstown Pike, Keedysville, MD 21756
president@antietaminstitute.org

Week of July 18 anytime we are open: Puzzle Swap

Drop off and pick up puzzles! We have a huge variety to choose from. All ages
Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

July 19 at 7PM: Darin Wipperman, "His Example Will Not be Lost": The 30-day Civil War of Robert Hale Ives, Jr."

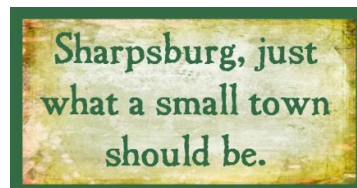
Jacob Rohrbach Inn
<https://www.facebook.com/JacobRohrbachInn>

July 20 at 1PM: Homeschool Book Club

We will discuss Winnie-the Pooh by A.A. Milne. Enjoy activities relating to the book.
Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

July 26 at 7PM: Laura Marfut, "The Battle for Maryland Heights in the Siege of Harpers Ferry"

Jacob Rohrbach Inn
<https://www.facebook.com/JacobRohrbachInn>



Week of August 1 anytime we are open:

Tween and Teens!

Stop in and make a friendship bracelet or paint a kindness rock to leave for someone to find.

Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

August 2 at 1PM: Homeschool End of Summer Party

Turn in your bingo card for prizes, paint a kindness rock to leave for someone to find and have some party snacks!

Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

August 2 at 7AM: Kevin Pawlak and Jon-Erik Gilot, “John Brown’s Raid: Harpers Ferry and the Coming of the American Civil War, October 16-18, 1859”

Jacob Rohrbach Inn
<https://www.facebook.com/JacobRohrbachInn>

August 3 at 3:30PM: Special Story Times, Puppet Show and Bookmobile Stop

Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

August 5 at 2PM: Brigades of Antietam Series, Brad Gottfried – Brigades of Richard Anderson’s division

Pry House Barn, 18906 Shepherdstown Pike, Keedysville, MD 21756
president@antietaminstitute.org

August 5 from 9:30AM to 11:30AM: Come All Who Are Thirsty Veterans Group Quarterly Meeting

Burnside First Church of God
3904 Mills Road, Sharpsburg
comeallwhoarethirsty.org (or go to their Facebook page)

August 9 at 7PM: Brad Gottfried, “The Antietam Paintings of James Hope”

Jacob Rohrbach Inn

<https://www.facebook.com/JacobRohrbachInn>

August 12: Antique Exhibit

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 209 W. Main Street

Sharpsburg Museum of History
301-800-6877 / Loveshistory.1866@gmail.com

August 16 at 7PM: Sarah Kay Bierle, “John Pelham: Trained at West Point but Aiming Artillery for the Confederacy”

Jacob Rohrbach Inn
<https://www.facebook.com/JacobRohrbachInn>

Week of August 22 anytime we are open:

Puzzle Pin

Stop in and make a decorative pin out of colorful puzzle pieces. For tweens and up!

Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

August 23 at 7PM: “ ‘A Perfect Purgatory’: Two Generals’ journeys from Antietam Creek to the Trans-Mississippi”

Jacob Rohrbach Inn
<https://www.facebook.com/JacobRohrbachInn>

August 24 at 3:30PM: End of Summer Reading Club Party

Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

August 30 at 7PM: John Schildt, “The Life Henry Kyd Douglas”

Jacob Rohrbach Inn
<https://www.facebook.com/JacobRohrbachInn>

September 2 at 2PM: Brigades of Antietam Series, Lucas Cade – Alfred Colquitt’s Brigade

Pry House Barn, 18906 Shepherdstown Pike, Keedysville, MD 21756
president@antietaminstitute.org

September 15-16: Antietam Anniversary Weekend, Exhibits, Sharpsburg Rifle Reunion, and Sharpsburg Citizens During and After the Battle of Antietam

Sharpsburg Museum of History
Sharpsburg Town Hall
301-800-6877 / Loveshistory.1866@gmail.com

September 16 at 2PM: Brigades of Antietam Series, Laura Marfut – Truman Seymour's Brigade

Pry House Barn, 18906 Shepherdstown Pike,
Keedysville, MD 21756
president@antietaminstitute.org

October 7 at 2PM: Brigades of Antietam Series, Jim Smith – Max Weber's Brigade

Pry House Barn, 18906 Shepherdstown Pike,
Keedysville, MD 21756
president@antietaminstitute.org

October 7 Starting at 9AM: Sharpsburg Days

Various Venues, Stay Tuned
Town of Sharpsburg
<https://www.facebook.com/TheTownOfSharpsburg>
<https://sharpsburgmd.com/>
301-432-4428

October 14: Museum's Sixth Anniversary – Exhibit/Public

Celebration for Volunteers
Sharpsburg Museum of History
Sharpsburg Town Hall
301-800-6877 / Loveshistory.1866@gmail.com

October 21 at 12Noon: Crab Feed

Sharpsburg Volunteer Fire Company
Cochran's Auction Complex
433-398-4510 / sharpsburgvfc@gmail.com

October 21 at 2PM: Brigades of Antietam Series, Marty Pritchett – George Gordon's Brigade

Pry House Barn, 18906 Shepherdstown Pike,
Keedysville, MD 21756
president@antietaminstitute.org

November 11 at the Eleventh Hour: Veterans Day Wreath Laying

Town Square
Town of Sharpsburg
<https://www.facebook.com/TheTownOfSharpsburg>
<https://sharpsburgmd.com/>
301-432-4428

November 18 from 10AM to 2PM: Native American Artifacts

Sharpsburg Museum of History
Sharpsburg Town Hall
301-800-6877 / Loveshistory.1866@gmail.com

November 18 – Sharpsburg Rifle Reunion

Sharpsburg Museum of History
Sharpsburg Town Hall
301-800-6877 / Loveshistory.1866@gmail.com

December 1 at 7PM: Sharpsburg Christmas Tree Lighting

Town Square
Town of Sharpsburg
<https://www.facebook.com/TheTownOfSharpsburg>
<https://sharpsburgmd.com/>
301-432-4428

December (date to be determined): Wreaths Across Antietam

National Cemetery
Town of Sharpsburg
<https://www.facebook.com/TheTownOfSharpsburg>
<https://sharpsburgmd.com/>
301-432-4428

Recurring Events

Anytime the Library's Open: **Sign up for the Summer Reading Club.** Birth to Adult.

Earn prizes for reading!

Sharpsburg Library

301-432-8825

April through October, First Saturdays, Noon to 4PM: **Tolson's Chapel and School Open House**

111 E. High St., Sharpsburg

Friends of Tolson's Chapel

Contact: tolsons.chapel@gmail.com

Website: www.tolsonschapel.org

Fourth Wednesday of the Month from 11AM to 1PM: **Community Action Council Assistance**

Sharpsburg Volunteer Fire Company Annex

301-791-4161

First and Third Sundays, April through October from 10AM to 2PM: **Farmer's Market**

Battleview Market Property

Twilight Homestead LLC

twilighthomesteadllc@gmail.com

Third Wednesdays of the Month from 10AM to 11:30AM: **Sharpsburg Writers Club**

(For details and location, please contact Ms. Heidi Vertrees by personal message)

Any Time the Library's Open: **Art of the Month**

(Each month a different art form will be displayed along with books pertaining to that art.)

Sharpsburg Library

301-432-8825

First Wednesdays of the month at 1PM

Adults: Book Share

Sharpsburg Library

301-432-8825

Kid's Zone: Ages Eight and Up

Sharpsburg Library anytime we are open

Make a Mini Zen Garden! For tweens and teens!

301-432-8825

Thursdays at 3:30PM: **Storytime**

Sharpsburg Library

301-432-8825

Second Thursdays every month, Lion's Club

7PM, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 209 W.

Main St, Sharpsburg, MD 21782

First Saturdays at 10AM: **Lego Club**

Sharpsburg Library

301-432-8825

Local Churches

Christ Reformed Church

117 West Main Street

Sharpsburg

301-432-6182

Sundays: 9AM

United Christian Fellowship

18823 Shepherdstown Pike, Keedysville, MD 21756

301-432-0110

Sundays: 8:45AM Fellowship, 9AM Sunday

School, 10AM Worship & Children's Church

Sharpsburg Church of the Brethren

123 E Main St, Sharpsburg

Sundays at AM, Sunday School at 10:30AM

301-432-4944

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

209 West Main Street

Sharpsburg

301-432-7098

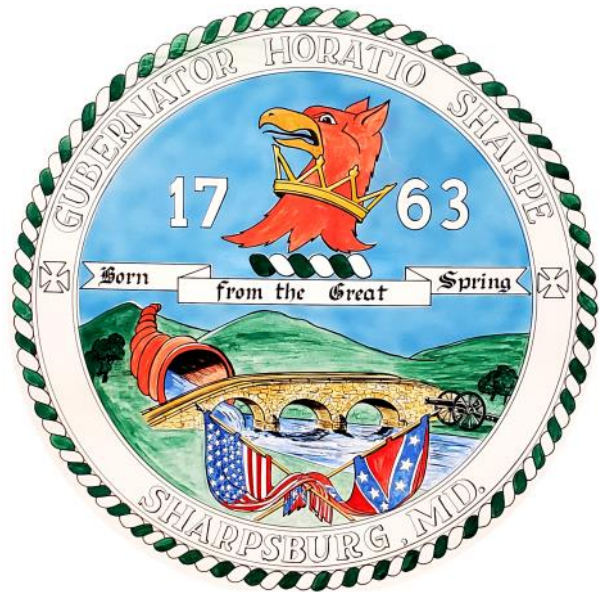
Sundays: 10AM, Sunday School (Second and Fourth Sundays starting September 25)

Burnside First Church of God
3904 Mills Rd, Sharpsburg

Sharpsburg Bible Church
5134 General Stuart Court, Sharpsburg
301-432-5309
Sunday School 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM, Sun-
day Morning Worship & Children's Church
10:30 AM to 11:30 AM

Mayor & Councilpersons

Russ Weaver – Mayor
Jacob Martz – Vice Mayor
Mia Parsons – Council
John Hammond – Council
Ed Beeler-Council
Robbie Waters – Council
Joe Kudla – Council
(Carrie Estell – Town Clerk)
106 East Main Street
PO Box 368
Sharpsburg, Maryland 21782
Phone: 301-432-4428
Fax: 301-432-8990
<https://sharpsburgmd.com/>
townofsharpsburg@comcast.net
[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/TheTownOfSharpsburg)
TheTownOfSharpsburg
Zoning Administrator-Tim Lung
Sharpsburg.md.zoning@gmail.com



msa 6/26/23 Ver1.0

ATTACHMENT:



Mayor & Council of Sharpsburg
Meeting Minutes-DRAFTED
Monday, June 5, 2023
6 PM

Call meeting to order and pledge-John led the pledge

In attendance: Russ Weaver, Jacob Martz, Robbie Waters, Ed Beeler, Tim Lung (via ZOOM), John Hammond, Mia Parsons, Joseph Kudla, Chris Vincent, Perry Jamieson, Heather Waters, Will Estell and Carrie Estell.

Russ awarded Robbie Waters the Community Service Award

Public Hearing for Zoning Ordinance Text amendments: temporary storage facilities, walls/fences, "block" definition for Short Term Rental uses. No one reached out to the town with opposition to the storage container and text amendments that were published and discussed. Residents in attendance had no opposition to the ordinance. There were some questions pertaining the sea container. Robbie posed the question if a resident/business owner currently has a sea container, will they be "grandfathered in"? The answer is yes. Another question posed by John was if a sea container is moved from say the front of a property to the back of the property, what would be the status of the moved container? The answer would be that the container is now moved and would be subjected to the new ordinance. Formal resolution of adoption of the ordinance will be in effect starting on today's date.

Minutes and May expenses approval-meeting minutes were emailed to all council members; Mia motioned to approve meeting minutes from May, Robbie seconded and all were in favor. Russ explained some of the higher expenses. Joe motioned the expense report from May, Jake seconded and all were in favor.

Public Comments

Tim Lung, Zoning Administrator (only critical items)

Owner of property at 204 E. Main Street has filed for a Special Exception to establish an owner-occupied short-term rental. Property is Zoned TR. BZA public hearing will be June 27th. Planning Commission to hold a meeting prior to the hearing to make a recommendation.

Received no comments or questions regarding the proposed Zoning Ordinance text amendments for storage containers, walls/fences and STR block definition since the first ready at the May meeting. Public Hearing followed by consideration of adoption at the June meeting. Resolution of adoption to be drafted and signed following vote for adoption.

Have been in contact with State and County agencies regarding any permitting requirements for the Big Spring wall restoration project. Have filed a request for a pre-application meeting with MDE. Have been corresponding with MDE regarding a meeting date within the next few weeks. Meeting may be held virtually.

Have been following up on several tall grass/weed complaints.

Issued a notice to trim trees to correct an intersection sight distance problem on property at 120 Church St. 30 days to comply or trees will be trimmed by the Town and charged to the Property owner. No compliance as of June 5. Town should proceed with trimming. Also issued a tall grass notice on the same property.

The Planning Commission should meet to discuss and approve the annual report required by the Md. Dept of Planning.

Tim will attend a county outreach workshop concerning permitting. The county will be going paperless. This is scheduled for June 15th

Budget for Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1,2023-June 2024) Russ reviewed the proposed budget that was done in the budget session on Thursday, May 18th Income and projects were discussed. The budget motioned by Robbie, seconded by Jake and all were in favor, budget approved.

Bathroom estimates, (Larry and Sons, PlumbingWurx & Willard Plumbing) Two contractors were called and both estimates were reviewed, each with a different plan to address the bathroom issue of the toilet clogging. After much discussion, the two companies will be asked to come back and show two councilmembers the scope of their work. Carrie will call to schedule.

Council reports (written reports, need for: financial approval, council input or for council to know)

John Hammond-nothing to report

Mia Parsons-a resident reached out to see if the town would maintain the area in front of the house next to Jefferson Security Bank. After some discussion it was reiterated that that area in front of the resident's home if the owner's responsibility. The look of weeds, dry patches and the square area were discussed and new grass seed will be planted in the fall, in the square area. This could also help with the tree area near the bank. The trees were planted and was given one watering from the company. There is one tree that may not make it, Mia is monitoring this and will reach out to Sunny Meadows if we need to replace, as they have a one-year guarantee on their trees. Mia noted that the planning commission will be meeting soon, some members had questions for Tim. Russ expressed concern for the county's comprehensive plan, discussion was

focused on development, rural villages, zoning and the need know what is in the county plan and to keep Sharpsburg's vision in place. Russ has allotted funding for the planning commission to get assistance with rewriting/editing the comprehensive plan. Russ also urged the planning commission to be knowledgeable with zoning types and the zoning areas surrounding Sharpsburg.

Joe Kudla-Joe worked closely with Deputy Peyton for correct wordage for the signs for no tractor trailer signs. There will be seven posted. The wall/culvert at 104 Church Street was inspected by MDOT; they are looking into property lines as the culvert's wall has fallen over and causes water to rush through the area adjacent to the house, causing lots of soil to erode. The tree off of 120 Chapline, the owners received a letter as the Fire Department has complained due to the sight lines. Carrie to reach out to the fire department to see how much of the tree to trim. Culvert near the Big Spring needs Frederick Siebert to survey and give us some ideas for an analysis, it appears the bridge, culvert and surrounding area have sunk. Joe motioned for the cost, John seconded and all were in favor.

Ed Beeler-Attendance in May-165 Four members of the museum laid a wreath and 7 were on the float for the town's Memorial Day ceremony and parade. The Williamsport DAR donated four framed 1862 newspapers, other papers along with a diary. Saturday will be our special display on Women of Sharpsburg 10-4.

Robbie Waters-Nothing to report except a BIG thank you to Jake and the parade committee on the parade it was well received and Robbie has heard nothing but praise for its length and content.

Jacob Martz- We had a very successful parade this year, I've had nothing but positive feedback. We implemented a lot of new changes with regard to the staging which worked out great and were very successful. I think we're finally on track to solving the traffic congestion issue at the school that has been a persistent problem, and all of our new traffic patterns worked out extremely well according to the sheriff. The warm food catering provided by Captain Benders was a huge improvement in quality over the box lunches, and we only paid for what was actually eaten. As far as flags, since switching to a different type of fabric, I only had two ripped flags this year as opposed to having only two that weren't ripped, which is what happened last year, and the system that we used to hang the 4 large flags over Main Street near the cemetery worked perfectly. We had a total of 88 units registered as of the production of the book, and 86 that actually participated, so we had a good turnout as far as participation. We generated \$433 in book and sponsorship sales this year, and my final budget ended up \$81.38 under budget.

For anyone who would like to offer feedback or suggestions about how we can make the parade better, our post-parade meeting is tomorrow night, January 6th at 6 pm.

Community Partners

Officer Tracey Peyton- checks: Antietam Station-14, Park-14, ballfield-11, school-8. Foot patrol-4 hrs., Traffic-4 hrs., (1 citation 3 warnings), served letter for town, animal abuse complaint, a death investigation and assisted county with domestic assault

Chris Vincent-Antietam Advisory board-next meeting is Wednesday, June 14th. The visitor center is installing curbs, sidewalks and replanting trees and grass seed. Russ mentioned Wreaths Across America being needy, Chris Vincent and Jake noted that many volunteers have been turned away due to so many showing up to serve. Wreaths can be purchased online and Marine Corp League are locally funded.

Old Business/ACTIONS:

Adoption of Zoning Ordinance Text Amendments (done at the beginning of the meeting with the public hearing)

Rail in front of building, (\$3,500 was approved to spend) Robbie to get some estimates by the next meeting.

Undeliverable addresses-(resolved) Carrie explained the process, residents need to contact the Post Office. This process is stated below and in the office for any calls.

If a resident as an issue with their address being "undeliverable" they need to contact Amanda at the Post Office. She will check the specific address management database in Baltimore to check if the address is active. If active, the person/company requesting the information may need to refresh their system. If their address is not active, Amanda will make active.

Status of Wells, Status of Pocket Park, Status of Boyer House No updated information as there was a resignation of a key figure at the county.

Russ was hoping that the town would be drilling wells by now.

New Business

Feral Cats (county animal ordinance) Carrie has exhausted the government agencies and the last plea to the community was a good Samaritan is willing to help trap cats, bring them to Tip Me Frederick and nurse them back after they have been vaccinated and fixed. This assistance was published in the Town Crier and no one reached out. The health of the cats and the community are the reason to have this done. It is noted that residents who feed the cats are considered their owners. Russ is going to work with a resident who may help and start this program.

Awards/celebrations-Jack Myers 100-year birthday & Jeff Cline honorary citizenship-Russ put forth the idea of making Jeff Cline an honorary mayor and council thought this a great idea as Commissioner Cline is very supportive of the town's projects and events. Russ tasked Jake with finding more information about Jack Myers and his birthday, hoping the town can commemorate his 100th birthday. Carrie will reach out to Williamsport to see if they have anything planned.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:33, next meeting will be July 10th at 6:00 p.m.

There was a closed executive meeting that focused on work schedules and pay for the town's employees.