



Sharpsburg Town Crier

Max Grim and Warren Davis Edition



Volume 32

February 2024

Number 2

The Story of St. Paul's Episcopal Church: It's Really All About The Town

When we look closely at anything in our lives we find it to be linked to everything else. So it is with St. Paul's. Its story only exists as part of the story of the Maryland Colony, the Town, State, and Nation.

It's even related to the history of the settlers in Cumberland Valley and the contest for control by the French and their Indian allies (The French and Indian War). We won't delve too deeply into that. There are historians who make the case that the very founding of the town depended on the withdrawal of the French threat. Perhaps another time.

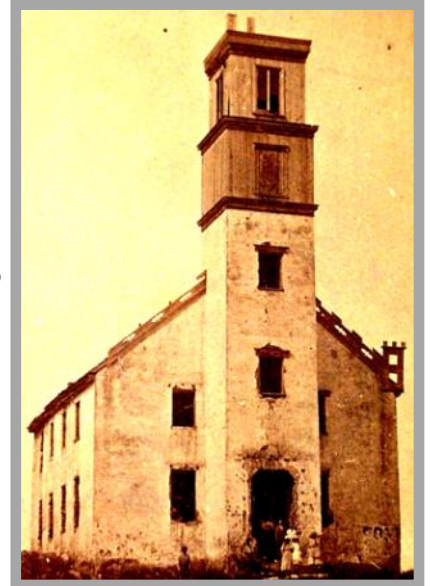
At any rate, the Episcopal Movement, post Revolution in the United States, arises from its Church of England roots. To this day, the liturgies are nearly identical. The earliest Church of England presence we have is the Chapel said to have stood on the nearby Joseph Chapline (the founder's) plantation. The continued Chapline influence on St. Paul's is obscured by time, but there is compelling evidence that they were important, as you will read.

It's important to understand that the Episcopal Community in Sharpsburg preceded the construction of the first Episcopal church structure.

The Episcopal Community: The first organizer of the Episcopal Community that local history records is The Reverend Benjamin Allen, from St. Andrews Parish, Shepherdstown, in 1815. The local Lutherans already had a church building and opened their doors to the Episcopal community. This began a deep cooperation between these denominations throughout their existence¹. In 1820, the Episcopal community was recognized by the Maryland Episcopal Diocesan Convention.



Alexander Gardner photo c. September 19, 1862 St. Paul's top left.



St. Paul's: A Post Battle photo of unknown provenance.

The First Episcopal Church: The Chapline family sold the church plot for a nominal sum, the traditional English custom. They charged a peppercorn. The cornerstone was laid in 1819. A description of the building survives, it was, "rough cut stone, 50 ft. east-facing tower, with belfry, plaster, 100 ft. from street". There are no known early images of it, but by fortuitous chance, images were captured forty-three years later, two days after

the Battle of Antietam, by Alexander Gardner². These two images are part of our treasured history.

The next decades provide the usual account of a church, then and now. There were periods of growth and decline; sometimes they struggled to keep a rector. No account of this period can go forth without the story of the “Chapline Bell”. The story goes that it was donated to the church by the founder’s daughter-in-law, Mary Ann Christian Abigail Ferguson Chapline. It is thought to have been cast in England and it’s a good story for another Town Crier feature. When you hear the Chapline Bell at 10AM of a Sunday, it’s the oldest town voice you will hear, all the way back to the Colonial Era³.



Mary Ann Christian Abigail
Ferguson Chapline, Bell
Donor

Shadow of War: Sharpsburg was a loyal town on the border with the Confederacy, two miles away. Though loyal, there was a strong secessionist presence here. There were ill feelings; hostile words; burned barns. Into this stepped St. Paul’s Rector, The Reverend John A. Adams. Here we must face an inconvenient truth; he was a slave owner. The 1860 Slave Record records John A. Adams as owning seven slaves, ages 5 to 70, male and female. You will hear in the second installment of this story, Adams’ St. Paul’s experience in the aftermath of the battle. His voice is that of a broken man. Other histories record that his wife fell into depression, too.

September 14, 1862 was a Sunday. One can easily imagine the Reverend Adams preaching the Sunday Service. In that moment, the War was widely understood through the newspapers and by some firsthand accounts. The course of the War was going badly; the first

Peninsular Campaign had failed; another battle at Manassas added to the toll. Now, with those with eyes to see, it was distressingly obvious that Robert Lee had invaded. Whole Confederate divisions were moving up and down the town and valley roads. Some described them as “hungry as wolves”. They were asking for food...and then they weren’t asking.

Back to Reverend Adams and the Sunday Service. As the congregation sat there, they heard the ‘whump-whump’ of far-away artillery. They heard the distant crackle of musket fire. After the service they went out on the lawn and saw white smoke rise out of Turner Gap six miles away, above Boonsboro. Though hidden by Red Hill, the same sound was heard on the far ridge all the way to Harpers Ferry to the south. It was the Battle of South Mountain. Soon after, both the Army of Northern Virginia and the Army of the Potomac⁴ were in dangerous proximity of one another here in Cumberland Valley.

Many, perhaps most, congregants left town, some congregated at the Reverend Adams farm, known in our time as the Myers Farm. Congregant James Snyder was there and later wrote “A large number of refugees were already congregated and the house and even the barns and stables were full of apprehensive and terrified people.”

It is thought by some historians that Lee only chose Sharpsburg Ridge on which to achieve the Confederacy’s goals at the last minute, a pure chance of war.

For St. Paul’s and the town, **WAR WAS UP-ON THEM.**

(The next Town Crier begins with the day of the battle and continues to the present.)

¹ - The Lutheran church was rendered unusable after the disaster of the Battle of Antietam. It was hurriedly rebuilt at its present location, but soon collapsed. St. Paul’s opened its doors for Lutheran services. In 1943, the Lutheran

Church burned. Again, St. Paul's opened its doors.

² - Gardner had a US Government contract to provide photographic accounts of the Civil War.

³ - The Chapline Bell stood in the original church but was buried during the Civil War. The bronze metal was highly prized by all sides of the conflict. Any bronze bell could be melted down and re-cast as howitzer barrels. (Aside: There are accounts of Napoleon cannons ringing like a bell as the projectile was fired!) You'll read next month about the bell's resurrection into the belfry of the rebuilt church. In the late 1800s, the bell needed to be re-cast.

⁴ - The Federal Army of the Potomac in that moment was likely the largest army in the Western Hemisphere.

- Editor

A Reason to Feel Good!: Sharpsburg Elementary School Cafeteria Crew

We're Doing Great Things. These four ladies do an excellent job keeping the cafeteria running smoothly and clean and tidy. These ladies help our students open containers, help our students with lunch trays and lunch boxes, help our students line up and sometimes offer a kind word when someone is having a tough day. These ladies are an integral part of the cafeteria's operation. In addition, Ms. Horn-Baker and Ms. Simpson work the YMCA's before and after school program. These ladies do an awesome job.

- Ms. Carrie Estell, Teacher



Front, Bobbi Jo Horn-Baker,
Left-Sally Taylor, Back-Jen
Bjerklie, Right-Marcy Simpson

Mayor and Council

Ron Delauney Recognized

Mayor Weaver represented the Mayor and Council last night in recognizing Ron Delauney for his 49 years of service to the Sharpsburg Volunteer Fire Company and the Sharpsburg community. Present at this recognition was County Commissioner Jeffrey Cline. CONGRATULATIONS, Ron!



Left to Right: County Commissioner Jeffrey Cline, Mayor
Russ Weaver, Ron Delauney

Viet Nam Veteran Invitation: Memorial Day

For our 157th Memorial Day Commemoration, Sharpsburg proudly recognizes the service of our Nation's Viet Nam War Veterans. All Viet Nam War Veterans are invited to join us in this year's parade, which will be held on May 25th, 2024 at 2:00 pm. If you are interested in participating, or know a Viet Nam War Veteran who is, find the application form on page 17 and return the application to Town Hall no later than April 15, 2024. We look forward to seeing you there! 301.432.4428 / townofsharpsburg@comcast.net

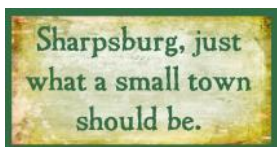
Memorial Day Parade Application

If you would like to participate in this year's Memorial Day Parade, download the fillable application form for the parade here. Find the application on page 15. Please print out, fill out, and return no later than April 15, 2024. If

you need help please call or visit Town Hall.
301.432.4428 / townofsharps-
burg@comcast.net

Hometown Hero Banners

Please make application for local Hometown Hero Banners by April 11. Contact Town Hall at 301-432-4428 or by email at townofsharpsburg@comcast.net for details.



About the Town

Sharpsburg Volunteer Fire Company (SVFC) News and Events

2024 Spring Bonanza

The SVFC will be hosting their 2024 Spring Bonanza at Cochran's Auction Complex in Boonsboro on April 13, 2024. Over \$2,100 in prizes with a final prize of \$1,500. Tickets include up to 2 meals, beverages and snacks, and a chance at the prize money. Gaming and raffles available. Tickets are only \$40. Call 301-991-2230 or see a member for tickets. Only 125 tickets so they will go fast.

Cornhole Tournament

The SVFC will hold a Cornhole Tournament on March 9, 2024 at the Boonsboro American Legion. \$900 in prizes and the entry fee is only \$20. Gaming and cash bar available. Double elimination format with random partner draws. Registration is at 11am with bags flying at noon. For more info, call 301-991-2230.

Fire Company Fund Drive Continues

The 2023 SVFC fund drive is still going on. The SVFC would like to thank those who

have generously donated to the fund drive. Currently the SVFC has only received responses from 16.5% of the residents yielding \$28,900 in donations. This total is still \$4,000 below last year's level. This fund drive is critical to supplying our community with the tools and equipment necessary for emergency operations. If you haven't donated yet, please consider supporting our local fire company.

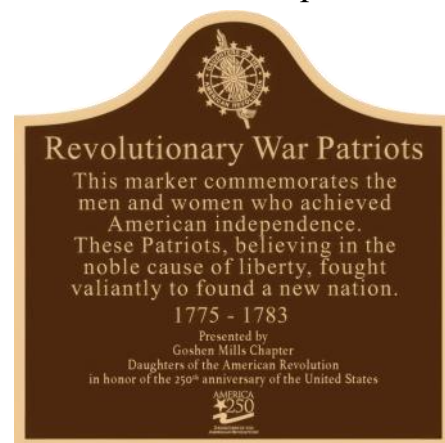
Fire Company Looking for Fire Police

The SVFC is currently looking for volunteers to serve as Fire Police. These volunteers enhance operations and safety by controlling traffic during emergency and public service events. Free training is provided, and Fire Police operate under the Washington County Sheriff's Dept. If interested, please email to sharpsburgvfc@gmail.com or call 240-816-1824 for additional information.



DAR Dedication: "DAR 250! Plaque"

The Antietam Chapter of the Maryland Daughters of the American Revolution in dedicating a bronze America 250! plaque on April 20, 2024, at 1:00 pm in Sharpsburg Town Square. The significance of the DAR America 250! plaque, is they are being placed across the U.S. as part of our nation's Semiquincentennial celebration. The America 250! plaque will serve as a permanent reminder of the brave Patriots who achieved America Independence



through their service and sacrifice during the Revolutionary War.

The DAR performs a wide range of community service activities in support of God, Home and Country. If you are interested in joining the DAR, there will be information available at the event.

- Ms. Sheri (Morgan) O'Connell

Museum Re-Opening

The Sharpsburgh Museum of History is having a Re-Opening of our museum in celebration of eight years this year. We have re-modeled our main Exhibit Room and have made different displays telling the history of Sharpsburg Area. April 6th from 10-4, with the ribbon cutting at 10am. At the Second floor of Sharpsburg Town.

There will be Living History, Demos, and Walking tours and food trunks.

Come and see changes in your museum
Ed Beeler – Executive Director/ Town Architect



Community Calendar

March 2 from 10AM to Noon: **Walking to Wellness**, Saturday in the Park

See Poster on Page 20
Sharpsburg Park, West High Street
<https://primetimeforwomen.org/>

March 4 at 6PM: **Town Council Meeting**

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

March 9: **Cornhole Tournament, SVFC** (See Article in this month's Town Crier.)
Boonsboro American Legion
301-991-2230

March 12 at 7PM: **Sharpsburg History Night**

Sharpsburg Town Hall
jesserogers166@gmail.com

March 13 from 12Noon to 1:30PM: **Lunch and Fellowship at the Brethren Church**
123 E Main St.
301-432-4944 / sharpsburgcob@outlook.com

March 16 from 10AM to 2PM: **Metal Detecting Exhibit**

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
(Community Hall), 209 West Main St.
301-800-6877 / lovehistory.1866@gmail.com

March 16 at 2PM: **Easter Egg Hunt**
Burnside First Church of God
3904 Mills Rd, Sharpsburg

March 24 at 1PM: **Easter Egg Hunt**
Battleview Market
5331 Sharpsburg Pike
301-432-2676

March 31 at 6:30AM: **Community Easter Sunrise Service**
Sharpsburg Park Pavilion, West High St.
240-675-6781

April 6 from 10AM to 4PM: **Re-Opening, Sharpsburgh Museum of History**
Sharpsburg Town Hall
301-800-6877

Loveshistory.1866@gmail.com

April 10 from 12Noon to 1:30PM:

Lunch and Fellowship at the Brethren Church

123 E Main St.

301-432-4944 / sharpsburgcob@outlook.com

April 11: Deadline – Application Submission Hometown Hero Banners

Contact Town Hall

301.432.4428 / townofsharpsburg@comcast.net

April 13: 2024 Spring Bonanza

SVFC (Sharpsburg Volunteer Fire Company) (See Article in this month's Town Crier.)

Cochran's Auction Complex, Boonsboro

301-991-2230

April 15: Deadline – Applications: Memorial Day Parade/Viet Nam Veterans Memorial Day Participation

Contact Town Hall

301.432.4428 / townofsharpsburg@comcast.net

April 20 at 1PM: Dedication of America 250! Plaque

Sharpsburg Town Square

Antietam Chapter of the Maryland Daughters of the American Revolution

<https://sites.google.com/marylanddar.org/antietamdar/home>

May 4 from 9:30AM to

11:30AM: **Come All Who Are**

Thirsty (CAWAT) Veterans Group, Quarterly Breakfast & Meeting

Burnside First Church of God

3904 Mills Road, Sharpsburg
comeallwhoarethirsty.org (or go to their Facebook page)

May 25 Event Times to Follow:

157th Memorial Day Commemoration

Sharpsburg Town Hall

106 E Main St, Sharpsburg, MD 21782

301-432-4428

June 1 at 2PM: Commanders of Antietam, Gary Rohrer- MG William B. Franklin

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

June 3 at 7PM: Jim Rosebrock, The Empire State at Antietam

Civil War Lecture Series

Sponsor, Rohrbach Inn at St. Paul's Episcopal Church

209 W. Main St.

301-432-5079

June 10 at 7PM: Dr. Gordon Dammann, Changes in Medicine from The Civil War to World War I

Civil War Lecture Series

Sponsor, Rohrbach Inn at St. Paul's Episcopal Church

209 W. Main St.

301-432-5079

June 15 at 2PM: Commanders of Antietam, Laura Marfut – Col. John R. Brooke

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

June 17 at 7PM: Kevin Pawlak / Dan Welch, "Never Such a Campaign": The Battle of Second Manassas, Aug. 28-30, 1862

Civil War Lecture Series
Sponsor, Rohrbach Inn at St. Paul's
Episcopal Church
209 W. Main St.
301-432-5079

June 24 at 7PM: **George Franks,
The Army of The Potomac After
Gettysburg**
Civil War Lecture Series
Sponsor, Rohrbach Inn at St. Paul's
Episcopal Church
209 W. Main St.
301-432-5079

June 29 at 2PM: **Commanders of
Antietam, Jim Buchanan – MG
John Sedgwick**
Pry House Barn, 18906 Shepherd-
stown Pike, Keedysville, MD 21756
president@antietaminstitute.org

July 1 at 7PM: **Dr. Brad Gottfried,
At the Forefront of the Armies:
The Role of the Cavalry During
the Maryland Campaign**
Civil War Lecture Series
Sponsor, Rohrbach Inn at St. Paul's
Episcopal Church
209 W. Main St.
301-432-5079

July 8 at 7PM: **Sharon Murray,
Dixon S. Miles Reconsidered**
Civil War Lecture Series
Sponsor, Rohrbach Inn at St. Paul's
Episcopal Church
209 W. Main St.
301-432-5079

July 13 at 2PM: **Commanders of
Antietam, Tom McMillian -Brig.
Gen. Lewis A. Armistead and
Brig. Gen. Winfield Scott Han-
cock**
Pry House Barn, 18906 Shepherd-
stown Pike, Keedysville, MD 21756

president@antietaminstitute.org

July 15 at 7PM:D. **Scott Hartwig,
One Man's Experiences: Major
Rufus Dawes and the Battle of
Antietam**

Civil War Lecture Series
Sponsor, Rohrbach Inn at St. Paul's
Episcopal Church
209 W. Main St.
301-432-5079

**July 27 at 2PM: Commanders of
Antietam, Michael Hill – Brig.
Gen. Thomas Meagher**
Pry House Barn, 18906 Shepherd-
stown Pike, Keedysville, MD 21756
president@antietaminstitute.org

July 22 at 7PM: **Dr. Alex Rossino,
Longstreet's March to Hager-
stown and Back, Sept. 11-14,
1862**
Civil War Lecture Series
Sponsor, Rohrbach Inn at St. Paul's
Episcopal Church
209 W. Main St.
301-432-5079

July 29 at 7PM: **Dana Shoaf, The
Evolution of Civil War Ambulanc-
es**
Civil War Lecture Series
Sponsor, Rohrbach Inn at St. Paul's
Episcopal Church
209 W. Main St.
301-432-5079

August 5 at 7PM: **Dr. Tom Clem-
ens, Washington County's For-
gotten Military Hero**
Civil War Lecture Series
Sponsor, Rohrbach Inn at St. Paul's
Episcopal Church
209 W. Main St.
301-432-5079

August 10 at 2PM: **Commanders of Antietam, Sharon Murray – Colonel B. F. Davis**

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

August 12 at 7PM: **Dr. Jim Broomall, “The hills were black with spectators’: Civilians on the Antietam Battlefield**

Civil War Lecture Series
Sponsor, Rohrbach Inn at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church
209 W. Main St.
301-432-5079

August 19 at 7PM: **Steve Stotelmyer, The Legend of Barbara Fritchie**

Civil War Lecture Series
Sponsor, Rohrbach Inn at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church
209 W. Main St.
301-432-5079

August 24 at 2PM: **Commanders of Antietam, Joe Stahl – Col. Harrison S. Fairchild**

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

August 26 at 7PM: **John Schildt/Laura Marfut, “Roads to Antietam”**

Civil War Lecture Series
Sponsor, Rohrbach Inn at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church
209 W. Main St.
301-432-5079

September 7 at 2PM: **Commanders of Antietam, Jim Rosebrock – Col. Stephen D. Lee**

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

September 21 at 2PM: **Commanders of Antietam, Harry Smeltzer – Col Albert L. Magilton**

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

October 5 at 2PM: **Commanders of Antietam, Marty Pritchett – Col. James A. Walker**

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

October 19 at 2PM: **Commanders of Antietam, Jim Smith – Brig. Gen. Max Weber**

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

Recurring Events

Second Wednesdays from 12Noon to 1:30PM: **Lunch and Fellowship at the Brethren Church**

123 E Main St.
301-432-4944 / sharpsburgcob@outlook.com

Anytime the Library is Open: **Special Events: Winter Spice Club** (Pick

Up a Sample, History, Recipes
Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

February 1 Through April 11 from 9:00AM to 3:00PM: **Master Gardeners**

Registration Required
Contact: acormany@umd.edu / 301-791-1604

Thursdays @ 3:30PM: **Themed Story Time**
Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

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
sharpsburglions@gmail.com

First Saturdays at 10AM: **Lego Club**
Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

Area Churches

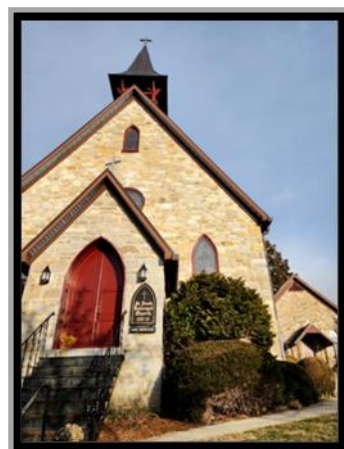
Christ Reformed Church
117 West Main Street
Sharpsburg
301-432-6182
Sundays: 9AM

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 10AM,
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)

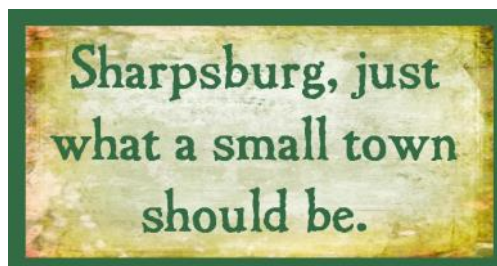


Burnside First Church of God

3904 Mills Rd, Sharpsburg
Sunday Worship - 9:00am, Sunday School - 10:15am

Sharpsburg Bible Church

5134 General Stuart Court, Sharpsburg
301-432-5309
Sunday School 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM, Sunday 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

(Debbie Smith – Town Clerk)

106 East Main Street

PO Box 368

Sharpsburg, Maryland 21782

Phone: 301-432-4428

Fax: 301-432-8990

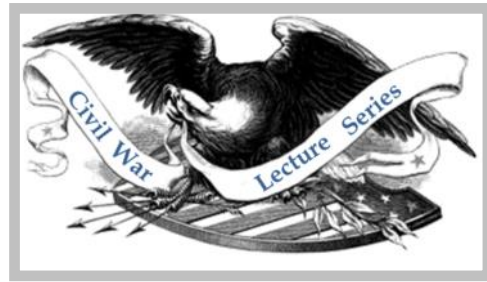
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townofsharpsburg@comcast.net

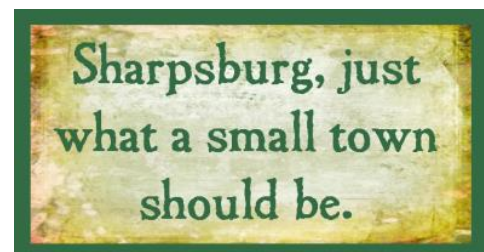
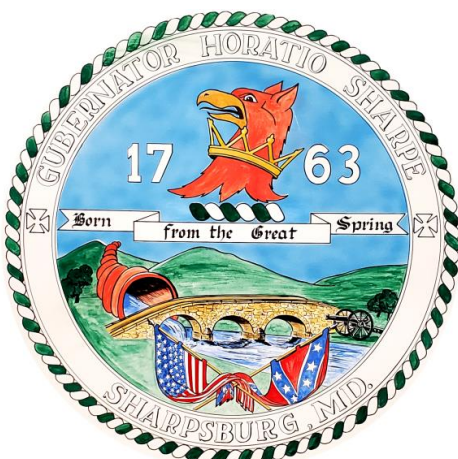
[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/TheTownOfSharpsburg)
TheTownOfSharpsburg

Zoning Administrator-Tim Lung

Sharpsburg.md.zoning@gmail.com



msa 2/26/24 Ver1.0



ATTACHMENTS:

**SHARPSBURG MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 5, 2024**

The Mayor and Council of Sharpsburg, MD held their monthly meeting on Monday, February 5, 2024 in the Council meeting room of Town Hall located at 106 E. Main Street in Sharpsburg. In attendance were Mayor Russell Weaver, Vice Mayor Jacob Martz, Councilmembers Ed Beeler, Joseph Kudla, John Hammond and Mia Parsons and Robbie Waters. Town Clerk Debra Smith and Zoning Administrator Tim Lung were also in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE Mayor Weaver called the meeting of the Mayor and Council to order at 6:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilmember Waters followed by a moment of silence.

GUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENTS Jen Bruni stated that many of the red curbs have faded and are in need of re-painting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 4, 2023 Regular Minutes – **Motion** by Councilmember Beeler, second by Councilmember Kudla to approve. Motion carried.

December 4, 2023 Executive Minutes - **Motion** by Councilmember Beeler, second by Vice-Mayor Martz to approve. Motion carried.

January 8, 2024 Regular Minutes - **Motion** by Councilmember Kudla, second by Vice-Mayor Martz to approve. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

December 2023 Financial Report - **Motion** by Councilmember Beeler, second by Councilmember Waters to approve. Motion carried.

January 2024 Financial Report - **Motion** by Councilmember Hammond, second by Councilmember Waters to approve. Motion carried.

ZONING ADMINISTRATORS REPORT – Tim Lung

- Received and reviewed Fire Department comments on the request for obtaining access to the “Roulette Property” located in the County that fronts on the alley behind W. Chapline Street for the purpose of constructing a dwelling. Planning Commission to review and issue a recommendation to the Council. Applicant has requested that the matter be tabled until the March Mayor & Council meeting.
- Received a complaint regarding potential zoning violation (junk) on property along the south side of East Antietam Street. Investigated and issued a Zoning Compliance Notice.
- Received a complaint regarding potential zoning violations (junk, unpermitted business) on property along the south side of West Main Street. Investigated and issued a Zoning Compliance letter.
- Received a complaint regarding potential zoning violations (junk, unpermitted business) on property along the north side of west Antietam Street. Investigated and found no zoning violations.
- Reviewed and responded to an inquiry regarding the need for Town approval of a building permit application on property outside of the Town that has a Sharpsburg address. No Town review required.
- Reviewed a request from a mortgage lender for any Town records associated with permits or code violations on property along N. Mechanic Street.
- Waiting for a response from the State Highway Administration regarding the sight distance issue at the corner on Church St (MD 65) and E. Main St. (MD34).

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

M. Deputy Watkins – Resident Deputy

Antietam Station - 6 checks.

Sharpsburg Elementary - 12 checks.

Little League Field - 5 checks.

Park - 4 checks.

Traffic Enforcement - 6 hours.

Calls for Service - 12.

Bank Lot - 1 night.

Total WCSO events - 144.

Malicious Destruction of Property – 0

Disorderly/Disturbance - 3

Suspicious persons - 0

Undesirable - 0

Theft - 1

Theft From Motor Vehicle - 0

Town Crier - Mike Arant – current distribution list is at 230. Currently focused on WWII Vets and their stories. Wanting to do smaller pieces on community volunteerism, and a kid's corner and also received monthly comments from the Mayor and Council.

MAYORS REPORT – Mayor Weaver

–Commissioners have approved and we are working to get contract in place.

Frederick Seibert and Associates finishing detailed design and supplying Town with final estimates of project admin and management costs.

–We are resubmitting during this cycle.

– Editing sales agreement to reflect last SHAF feedback.

– Great job of addressing recent winter storms!

– Recovering costs from Project Open Space.

– Action plan to address issues is moving forward.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- USS Antietam Decommissioning Ceremony invitation - Details not currently available.
- Fire Co Petition to Change Zoning Classifications – an email from Jay Brandenburg to Mayor Weaver inquiring what information is needed for a petition in town as he is exploring a public campaign to add zoning classifications that better serve public service.

COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORTS

Councilmember Waters

- Park equipment installation will be completed on Friday
- Christmas banners will come down by the weekend

Vice Mayor Martz

Memorial Day:

- Submitted Application for aerial flyover
- Confirmed Grand Marshal/Keynote Speaker
- Submitted MDOT application for road closures
- Distributed participant invitation to Vietnam Veterans and Veteran organizations, including the County Veteran Affairs Commission, American Legion, Disabled American Veterans and others
- Purchased additional signage and supplies for Memorial Day
- Purchased flags and poles for Main Street to replace those damaged last year

Grants:

- Intent To Apply submitted for MHAA Grant for repair of the Big Spring

Councilmember Beeler

SMH Executive Director's Report for January 29, 2024

- January's Attendance: 75
- Security
- Fundraiser 2023-2024 our goal: \$10,000 our total as of to date is \$1,563.00

- New Sign – will be placed in front of town hall
- Artifact room – will be done by end of February or early March. And new changes in the museum.
- Volunteers – we have two new volunteers and one Jr. Intern
- Re-Grand Opening/ Ribbon cutting will be on April 5-6, 5th will be a reception/tour for all our sponsors and dignitaries and the 6th will be our ribbon cutting /tour for the general public.

Councilmember Hammond inquired if Girl Scout Lucy Schaffer ever followed up with the Boo-Boo Box project that she presented for the park medical box in October. With the answer being no, it was suggested that the girl's scouts (or an organization) may want to work with the Master Gardeners and create a pollinator garden in the open space of the park.

Councilmember Kudla

- MDOT/SHA MOU discussed with Linda Poffenberger
- Radar signs to be installed soon.

Councilmember Parsons

- The Planning Commission met on January 25th and discussed the Downey/Roulette alley proposal. Next meeting will be held on February 29th to discuss the Comp Plan revision.

OLD BUSINESS

Well Drilling Project Bid Update – the County Commissioners approved the only submitted bid from Negley's Well Drilling, Inc. for the total sum of \$122,874.00. The new well will be drilled at the towns water storage tank and will be used as a supplemental drinking water supply The County has allocated \$330,000 in funding for this project with the Town of Sharpsburg to pay 50% of the total project cost.

Atlantic Security System Service Agreement for Parks– *President Rick Toms from Atlantic Security attended the January meeting to explain the two-(2) plan options available for the security cameras in the parks. Plan A includes an annual cleaning and test of the system as well as a warranty on parts and labor. Plan B is for the annual cleaning and test of the equipment only, no warranty coverage with this plan. Council still had the following questions before deciding on a plan;*

- How long is the warranty good for?
- What happens is the parts become obsolete?
- Who pays for replacement parts or upgrades?

Debbie will contact Rick Toms and obtain the answers for the March meeting. (ACTION ITEM)

Lutheran Cemetery Status – Mayor Weaver stated that he would like to see a Friends of the Lutheran Cemetery be created to maintain the cemetery. Councilmember Parsons stated that this is something that she would be interested in with her background. She also added that she would like to see a joint Friends group be created for both the Lutheran Cemetery and the Boyer House. (ACTION ITEM)

Boyer House Update - Mayor Weaver reviewed the current draft sales agreement between SHAF and the Town for the Boyer House at the January meeting and emailed the Council the final documents for comments and requested a final vote. Vice-Mayor Martz and Councilmembers Beeler, Kudla and Martz voting yes and no response from Councilmembers Hammond and Parsons. Final vote 4-2. The final agreement will be presented at the March meeting. (ACTION ITEM)

Alley Naming and Signage - Mayor Weaver asked how many of the Council were in favor of naming the alleys. 5-1 were in favor. Mayor Weaver requested meeting prior minutes where alley names were suggested for the March meeting. (ACTION ITEM)

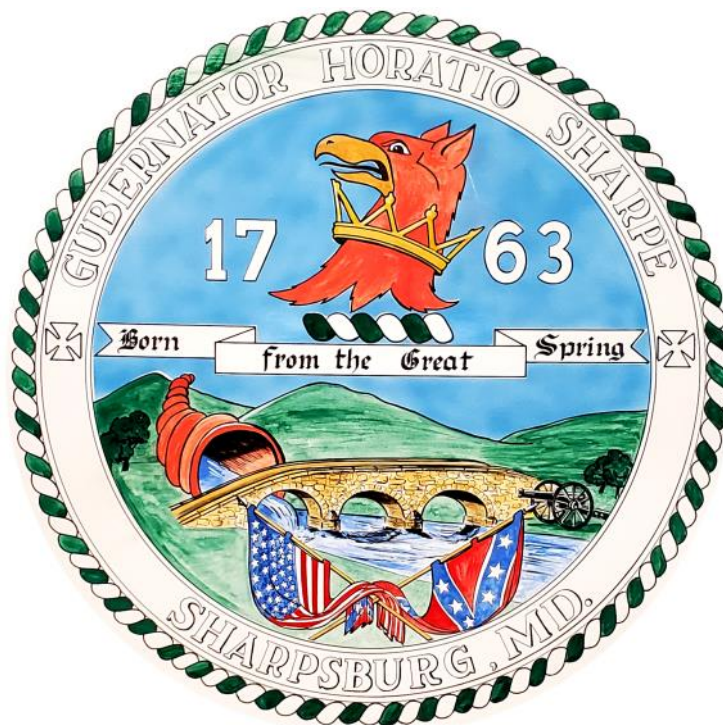
by Councilmember Beeler, second by Councilmember Waters to closed the meeting at 7:30 PM.
Motion carried.

March 4, 2024 Meeting Action/Agenda Items:

- Request for Alley Access
- Atlantic Security System Service Agreement for Parks
- Lutheran Cemetery Status
- Boyer House Agreement
- Alley Naming
- Annual Fish Rodeo
- Spring Bulk Pick Up
- Review of On-hold Projects

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Smith
Town Clerk





Town of Sharpsburg
106 East Main Street
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Phone: 301-432-4428
townofsharpsburg@comcast.net
<http://sharpsburgmd.com/>

February 1, 2024

Greetings!

The Sharpsburg Memorial Day Committee is pleased to invite your organization to participate in the 157th Sharpsburg Memorial Day Parade. **This year's theme commemorates The Vietnam War.** The parade will be held on Saturday, May 25, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.

Parade participants not involved in the morning ceremony should plan to report to the Sharpsburg Elementary School parking lot and check in with the Parade Marshal by no later than 1:00 p.m. Participants will be provided with their staging number by email two weeks prior to the event, and should be prepared to present this information to the Parade Marshal upon arrival. All walking units will be staged on the grounds of Sharpsburg Elementary School, regardless of parade placement; a site map will be included to indicate the location of Parade Marshals and vehicular staging areas, as well as drop off and parking locations for walking units.

Please be advised that traffic usually travels slowly through town, so please allow your group enough time to arrive and check in. Keep in mind that Main Street will be closed through town from approximately 10:45 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. for the morning ceremony, so remain alert for alternating traffic patterns as you arrive.

If you are interested in participating, please complete the second page of form and return by email to townofsharpsburg@comcast.net, with "Memorial Day Parade" in the subject line, or mail to the address listed above. If you have any questions, please call Town Hall at (301) 432-4428. Submissions must be received by April 15, 2024.

Thank you for your support of this historical event, we look forward to seeing you there!

Regards,

Jacob Martz
Vice Mayor & Memorial Day Committee Chairman

2023 Memorial Day Parade Participation RSVP Form

Important Reminders:

- Participants should plan to arrive no later than 1:00 p.m.
- Participants will be provided with their staging number prior to parade day. Please have this information handy when checking in with the Parade Marshal.
- All walking units will be staged at Sharpsburg Elementary School.
- Political Organizations are asked to devote their display to the theme of the parade.
- Elected Officials may place a sign indicating their identity, but are also strongly encouraged to incorporate parade themes.
- Distribution of literature is prohibited.
- Participants shall not use emergency sirens during the parade. Please remember that local emergency units participating in the parade are active units; as such, the use of emergency sirens is reserved strictly for them, and shall be used only in the event of an actual emergency during the parade. If an emergency siren is activated during the parade, participants are advised to allow for the passage of responding vehicles.

Please print your name/name of organization exactly how you would like it to appear in the Sharpsburg Memorial Day Commemoration Program Book

Please provide the name of participating unit just as you would like it to be announced during the parade on the following line. This is also how it will appear in the Memorial Day Commemoration Program Book:

Point of Contact Name:

Phone:

Email (this is how you will receive your staging information):

My group will be (please select one):

☐ Walking only ☐ Combination walking and riding ☐ Everyone is riding in a vehicle or float

Will your unit be playing music during the parade? (please select one) ☐ Yes ☐ No

Number and type of vehicle(s):

**How many spaces will your vehicle(s) and/or float(s) require for staging? (one space = 25 ft.) **



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January 2, 2024

Greetings Viet Nam Veteran!

The citizens of Sharpsburg are proud to recognize the service of our military veterans, in addition to honoring those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our country, during our annual Memorial Day Commemoration. This event serves as a lasting tribute, as well as a testament to the sacrifices made by so many, that has endured in our town since the dedication of Antietam National Cemetery on September 17, 1867, the 5-year anniversary of the Battle of Antietam. For our town, the importance of this occasion and the reverence we have for our brave service members cannot be overstated.

For our 2024 observance of Memorial Day, we recognize the service of those who served in the Viet Nam War. The brave men and women who struggled valiantly in the sweltering, hazy environs of the dense jungles of Southeast Asia and beyond, only to return to a war-weary and ambivalent populace whose failure to render their appreciation for your service left an indelible memory for so many of you whose lives were impacted by this conflict.

Sharpsburg recognizes the honorable service that you rendered to our Nation, and we invite you to participate in our annual parade as a representative of your era of military heroes who sacrificed so much for our country. All Viet Nam Veterans are invited to march or ride with us in the parade, or to attend as a spectator.

Regardless of how you choose to participate – as part of the parade or as a spectator – your service will be recognized and appreciated by a grateful community. The parade will be held on **May 25, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.**

If you are interested in being a participant in our 2024 Memorial Day Parade, and in so doing, helping to perpetuate our time-honored tradition of honoring our military service members, simply fill out and return the attached RSVP form by **April 15, 2024**. We look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,

Jacob Martz
Vice Mayor & Memorial Day Committee Chairman

2024 Memorial Day Parade Veteran Participant RSVP Form

Important Reminders:

- Participants should plan to arrive no later than 1:00 p.m.
- Allow plenty of time to arrive, park and check in with the Parade Marshal.
- The parade will begin promptly at 2:00 p.m. Veterans attending as spectators should plan to arrive early to obtain parking.
- Main Street will be closed between Church and Potomac Streets beginning at approximately 10:45 a.m., and reopen following the morning ceremony.
- Participants will be provided with their staging number prior to parade day. **Please have this information handy when checking in with the Parade Marshal.**
- Veteran parade participants should report to **Sharpsburg Elementary School**, located at 17525 Shepherdstown Pike, Sharpsburg, MD.
- To ease congestion at the staging area, veterans who choose to walk the parade route, or who are otherwise able to walk, may be dropped off at **Sharpsburg Bible Church**, located at 5134 General Stuart Ct., Sharpsburg, MD, and thereafter proceed to the Sharpsburg Elementary School parking lot to check in with the Parade Marshal. Those with disabilities may be dropped off at Sharpsburg Elementary School, located at the address listed above. Parking in town is available on a first come, first served basis, and will be limited. Limited handicap parking will be available for veterans at the elementary school.
- The parade route is **approximately 1 mile** beginning at Sharpsburg Elementary School, and ending at Antietam National Cemetery. For those unable, or who do not wish to walk, vehicular accommodations will be provided. Please do not forget to indicate your preference on the attached RSVP form below.
- If you are interested in participating, please complete the below RSVP form and return by email to townofsharpsburg@comcast.net, with "Memorial Day Parade Veteran" in the subject line, or mail to the address shown at the top of the first page. If you have any questions, please contact Town Hall at (301) 432-4428. **Submissions must be received by April 15, 2024.**

Please complete all fields below, and indicate if you would like your name and service information to appear in our annual Sharpsburg Memorial Day Commemoration Program Book.

Please print your name exactly how you would like it to appear.

Name of Participating Veteran: _____

Rank: _____

Branch of Service: _____

Point of Contact Name (if different than participant): _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Full Mailing Address: _____

I will (select one): ☐ Walk

☐ Need vehicular accommodations

Wheelchair? ☐ Yes ☐ No

I would like my name, rank and branch of service to appear in the commemoration book: ☐ Yes

☐ No

Sharpsburg Memorial Day Parade

America's Longest Continuously-Held Memorial Day Parade!



Where history is made with each step!

Join us for our 157th Annual Commemoration!

When: May, 25th 2024

**Where: Main Street
Sharpsburg, MD**

**Time: Ceremony at 11:00 a.m.
Parade at 2:00 p.m.**

**Theme: Honoring Veterans
of the Viet Nam War**

Join the Parade and Be a Part of the Action!

For More Information on How to Register:

Visit: www.sharpsburgmd.com > Government > Forms & Requests > Memorial Day

Email: townofsharpsburg@comcast.net

Phone: (301) 432-4428

Facebook: The Town of Sharpsburg

All Viet Nam Era Veterans are Encouraged to Participate!

Remembering those we lost



Honoring those who served



Walking 2 Wellness

Saturday in the Park
by Prime Time for Women



Join Prime Time for Women for Saturday in the Park!

March 2, 10 a.m. - Noon

Sharpsburg Park, West High Street

Sharpsburg, MD 21782

Intergenerational fun for all ages!

- Meet new friends
- Take a one-mile walk
- Visit and explore the new park
- Make a healthy smoothie on the *brand new* Prime Time for Women Smooth bike
- Raffle prizes



Fruit & Yogurt Smoothies

Ingredients:

1 banana
1/2 cup yogurt
1/2 cup frozen berries
1/4 cup apple juice

Instructions:

Combine ingredients in smoothie bike blender and pedal! Enjoy the ride!

