



Sharpsburg Town Crier

*Max Grim and
Warren Davis Edition*



Volume 32

August 2024

Number 8

“After I shot him down, all I wanted to do was get the Hell out of there...”: Hugh David Chapman, WWII Pilot, Sharpsburg Boy

Then he added, “...in case his seven playmates came back looking for me.”

Those were the words of then Lt. Hugh Chapman, Army Air Force. They were from a tantalizing scrap of newspaper found in the Sharpsburg Library. The article is dated June 7, 1944 from a newspaper called “The Independent”¹.

Building the story of Hugh David Chapman was a frustrating one. The Editor spoke to several of his descendants, but they were only able to add a few details. By far, the most interesting information came from on-line resources, notably the on-line offerings of the American Air Museum of Britain, and some memories of his contemporaries, including the Editor’s mother.



Hugh D. Chapman in WWII flight kit. Note the Oxygen mask on the left.

He was born on December 12, 1920 the son of the town’s Lutheran Minister, The Reverend Lemuel H. D. Chapman and Mrs. Clara M. E. Chapman. He was the third of their five children and attended Gettysburg College.

Some of the narrative is part of Sharpsburg lore. The Editor’s mother graduated from high school in 1944. She and other young women were enthralled by this handsome and educated older young man about the town. Imagine also their thrill of personally knowing a fighter pilot!

We are lucky to have his after-action report in which he claimed his first “kill”, the one he spoke of in the newspaper. You will notice it’s in a more formal presentation. Some text was removed to simplify the narrative. The Editor uses parentheses and italics to interpret the military jargon. In that moment the 376th Fighter Squadron were flying the P-47 ‘Thunderbolt’².

8 MAY 1944

376TH FIGHTER SQUADRON

VICINITY of NIENBURG(*Central Germany*)

CLEAR(*Skies*)

ME 109³

1(*One*) ME 109 DESTROYED PILOT BAILED OUT



See the Mayor’s Message on Page 3

I. I WAS TITUS BLUE FOUR (*His place inside his flight group's designation*) ESCORTING FIRST BOX (*A group of long-range bombers*) OF 3RD TASK FORCE. NUMEROUS E/A (*Enemy Aircraft*) WERE REPORTED ATTACKING THE FIRST BOX. BLUE FLIGHT WAS AT 25,000 FEET AND WE IMMEDIATELY WENT TO INVESTIGATE.

THE E/A WERE REPORTED AS BEING AT ABOUT 15,000 FEET SO WE DOVE TO APPROXIMATELY THAT ALTITUDE. ON THE WAY DOWN, I SAW SEVERAL PARACHUTES AND THEN A GROUP OF ABOUT 20 FW 190'S (*Focke Wulf 190s*) AT OUR TEN O'CLOCK SAME LEVEL.

HAVING ADVANTAGE IN SPEED, WE BROKE INTO THEM AND THEY IN TURN BROKE THRU US HEAD ON. IN THE MELEE (*a violent and confused swirl of fighting fighter aircraft*) I FOUND MYSELF SEPARATED FROM THE FLIGHT AND SOME DISTANCE FROM INITIAL ENCOUNTER.

I NOTICED A SMALL GROUP OF PLANES ABOUT TWO MILES AHEAD AND



Lt. Chapman and ground crew. Note the swastika that records his first "kill".

BUT ONE LONE STRAGGLER WAS UNFORTUNATE IN HESITATING WHILE I DELIBERATED JUST WHAT HE WAS.

AFTER SATISFYING MYSELF THAT IT WAS A ME 109, I FIRED FOUR OR FIVE SHORT BURSTS 0-5 DEGREE DEFLEC-

TION, OPENING AT 300 CLOSING TO 100 YARDS, OBSERVING MANY STRIKES ALONG LEFT WING ROOT AND FUSELAGE. ON THE SECOND BURST, CANOPY WAS EITHER JETTISONED OR BLOWN OFF.

VERY LITTLE EVASIVE ACTION WAS TAKEN AND I BELIEVE IT WAS DUE EITHER TO PILOT INJURY OR SEVERE DAMAGE TO E/A. THEN CLOSING RAPIDLY, I WAS FORCED TO BREAK (*turn*) UP AND TO THE RIGHT.

AT THAT MOMENT THE PILOT BAILED OUT AND E/A FELL OFF INTO A SPIN. JUST AS PILOT OF E/A BAILED OUT, I NOTICED A BLUE NOSE (*an identifying paint scheme*) P-51 MARKED HO-F DIVING DOWN, SEEING PILOT BAILED OUT, HE JOINED ME AND WE CROSSED OUT (*departed*) TOGETHER. COMPANY WAS APPRECIATED.

CLAIM ONE ME 109 DESTROYED.

HUGH D. CHAPMAN

2ND LT., AIR CORPS.

In the last year of the war, 376th Fighter Squadron transferred to the P-51 Mustang, capable of accompanying heavy bombers deep into Germany. There's a puzzle. His P-51 was named "Clara Ann" as you see in the photo. One initially assumes that he named it for his mom. However, his mom was "Clara Mabel". Who in the world was "Clara Ann"? Hugh Chapman went on to down three more Luftwaffe aircraft for a total of four. Had Germany held out another month, he could have claimed five "kills" and Ace status.

During WWII, he earned the Air Medal with 3 oak leaf clusters, the Distinguished Flying Cross with 1 oak leaf cluster. The European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal: World War II, and the Victory Medal.

He also was the center of another piece of town lore in 1947. He was in that moment a flight commander in a National Air Guard unit

CROSSING AT APPROXIMATELY 45 DEGREES TO ME. I FELL IN TRAIL (*behind*) AND CLOSED RAPIDLY.

THE MAIN BODY FLIPPED AND DISAPPEARED



Clara Ann. This was Lt. Chapman's "ride", but on this day it was flown by another pilot and ran out of fuel just short of the airfield.

and their flight plan took them near Sharpsburg. Hugh decided to buzz his hometown. They approached from the east and when they crossed Cemetery Hill, throttled up creating a sudden and tremendous roar at treetop level. The Editor's mother witnessed this. She said, "Little old ladies fell down; chickens didn't lay for a week!". Somebody got a tail number and (now) Captain Chapman had to answer for the outrage!

Hugh Chapman went on to serve an entire career in U.S. Air Force, retiring as Major and retired to Sharpsburg. On June 3, 1982, he died of injuries inflicted by a horse at his home right here in town. His remains rest nearby in Mountain View Cemetery.

- Editor

¹ An internet search does not reveal any nearby local newspaper of that name.

² The P-47 was the largest single seater aircraft in any unit of WWII. It was robust, powerful, and heavily armed, if at the expense of some maneuverability. It had the reputation of surviving enemy encounters and bringing its pilot home.

³ The Messerschmitt 109 was one of the most advanced German fighter aircraft when introduced in 1937. Although by 1944 it was still dangerous if somewhat outdated. Further, it still formed the backbone of the German Air Arm (Luftwaffe). Nearly 34,000 were built.

⁴ Another, more advanced and dangerous German fighter.

From the Mayor and Council Sharpsburg, just what a small town should be

The FACTS

One of my favorite quotes is from Alice in Wonderland. It is between Alice and the Cheshire Cat and it goes like this:

Alice: Would you tell me, please, which way I ought to go from here? The Cheshire Cat: That depends a good deal on where you want to get to. Alice: I don't much care where. The Cheshire Cat: Then it doesn't much matter which way you go.

So, do we care as a community where we are going? I believe we do and it is reflected in our town motto "Sharpsburg, just what a small town should be!" But how will we measure progress towards this goal? One way is to identify specific targets that will allow us to evaluate our progress. One of those targets is to be an Active community. Being active can have several meanings and many benefits:

1. Opportunities exist to be physically active. We are blessed in Sharpsburg to have areas for physical activity such playgrounds, ball fields, tennis and basketball courts, and fishing. Additionally, we have thousands of acres of open space and miles of biking, hiking, tubing, boating and experiencing nature right in our back yards through public parks and waterways.
2. Participating in events to help people connect and experience small town life. There are many Town events. Larger well-organized ones such as the Memorial Day Ceremonies to smaller ones sponsored by the Sharpsburg Museum of History, Washington County Public Library, Antietam Institute, Fire Company, our churches, school and many others.
3. Volunteering for organizations provides chances to stay active by connecting with neighbors and contributing to keeping Sharpsburg a great small town.

4. Assume a role in effective community communications. Contribute to the Town Crier keeping community members up to date with essential information about ongoing projects and upcoming events as well as capturing significant local history.

A small-town community such as Sharpsburg is a place where you can achieve a sense of purpose that comes from being rooted within family, churches, schools, voluntary organizations and community. This connectedness or association helps provide the base for our strong nation.

On October 9, 2024 we will celebrate Sharpsburg Day. Please come out and find out more about what goes on in Sharpsburg and help make Sharpsburg a place where you can live in a healthier, happier, more supportive, and united community.

- Mayor Russ Weaver

Community Service Award 2024: Michael S Arant

August 5, 2024

Our sincerest congratulations to Michael S Arant, Editor of the Sharpsburg Town Crier, who was presented with this year's Community Service Award at last night's meeting of the Mayor and Council!

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 no one exemplifies dedication to preserving our town culture more than Michael. He has worked diligently over the past three years developing the Town Crier in-



Mayor Weaver and Award Recipient

to a successful and reliable source of news and information for our small community; we are proud of his efforts, and of the success that he has achieved. To date, thanks to his perseverance, the Town Crier boasts an audience of over 250 subscribers!

As Michael himself says: Sharpsburg has 10,000 stories to tell...

...and we look forward to reading them!

Congratulations Michael!

- Vice Mayor Jacob Martz

(Editor's Note: A principle the Editor tries to observe is that nothing in the Crier is about him. Alas, this award is part of the town's experience and, subsequently, its history, so this article is an exception. But can I just say? I am honored and thrilled! Thanks to the Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Town Council. Note the plaque that records the Community Service Award recipients. There's LOTS of room for more. There are hundreds of ways to serve your neighbors and this town!)



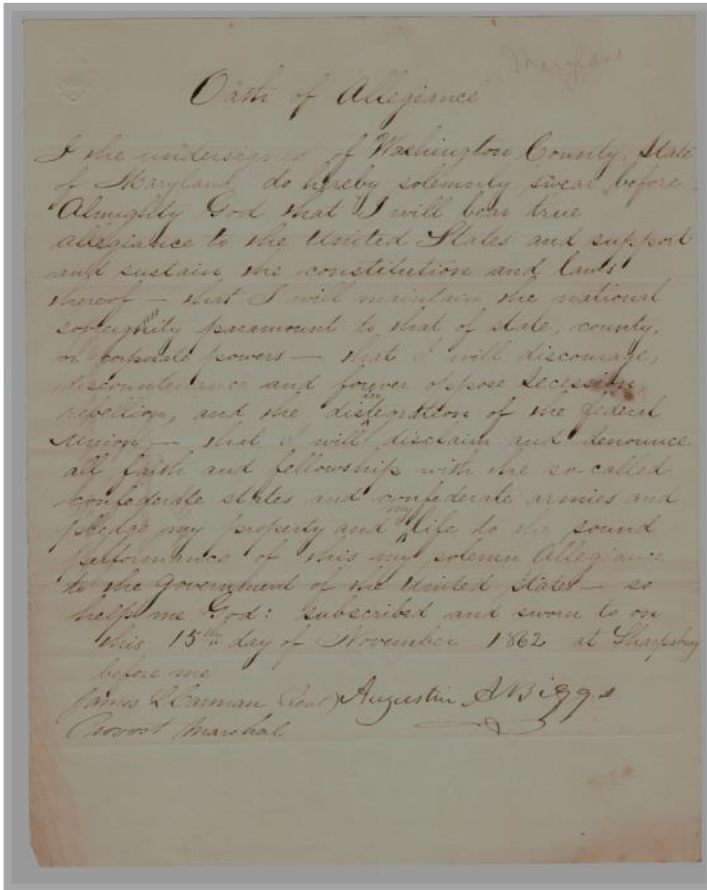
About the Town

Artifact of the Month: Oath of Allegiance: Dr. Augustin A. Biggs

Through a generous donation from Ms. Bonnie Hawker, the Sharpsburgh Museum of History recently acquired some locally significant items from Boonsborough Museum of History. Among them was this extraordinary document, an Oath of Allegiance signed by Sharpsburg's prominent physician during the Civil War, Dr. Augustin Biggs.

Director of the Boonsborough Museum, Mr. Stephen Recker, can shed no light on why Dr. Biggs was required to take this oath. Dr. Biggs

conduct in service to the dire needs of the people of this town during and after the town's greatest challenge was exemplary and took a great personal toll on him. Why was he required to sign it? Was he suspected of Secessionist inclinations? Were all prominent Sharpsburg citizens required to swear allegiance? Did he attend to Confederate sick and wounded? However the facts, this document is a town treasure and embodies that catastrophic moment in our history.



Oath of Allegiance

I the undersigned of Washington County, State of Maryland do hereby solemnly swear before Almighty God that I will bear true allegiance to the United States and support and sustain the constitution and laws thereof - that I will maintain the national sovereignty paramount to that of the state,

county, or corporate powers - that I will discourage, discountenance and forever oppose Secession, rebellion, and the disintegration of the federal union(??) - that I will disclaim and denounce all faith and fellowship with the so-called confederate states and confederate armies and pledge my property(?) and my life to the sound performance of this my solemn Allegiance to the government of the United States - so help me God: subscribed and sworn to on this 15th day of November 1862 at Sharpsburg before me

(signed) James L(?) Carmon(?)
Leut. Provost Marshal
(signed) Augustin A Biggs

(Editor's Note: If subsequent research sheds additional light on this artifact, the Town Crier will let you know.)

Artist of the Month: Ms. Victoria Baker



Some years ago, Victoria started her journey in painting. She has come far.

Here is her interpretation of an architectural detail on the C&O canal. Can anyone identify the location?

We look forward to seeing more of her efforts in these pages.

- Editor

And finally...

An Editor's Update: Regarding last month's short history of the C&O canal, the Editor was approached by his friend, Mr. Peyton Doub. Peyton is a biologist and a lover of the natural world. Specifically, he took exception to my statement, "Many still living, including the Editor, remember the canal as a brushy unkept strip of land beside the river where the farm fences went all the way down to the waterline." Specifically his concern was the "unkept" characterization. It was a matter of my narrow view of the Canal as providing only cycling and hiking opportunities, ignoring other benefits. Peyton, rightly, pointed out that as a park, the Canal was from the beginning intended to provide an extensive natural riparian (streamside) environment. As providing such an environment by Potomac River, the park is exemplary. Thank you, Peyton.

Community Calendar (August to December)

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

August 28 at 6PM: **Master Gardener Program, Pollinators**
Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

August 31 at 10AM: **The Marines at Antietam** (1924, US Marines marched Quantico, Virginia, VA to Sharpsburg and spent eleven days on the battlefield.)
Antietam Battlefield
301-432-5124

September 4 at 1PM: **Adult Book Share, What Storm, What Thunder by Myriam J.A. Chancy**
Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

September 6 and 7: **Confederate Hills Community Yard Sale**

September 7 at 10AM: **Lego Club** and October 5
Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

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 7 10AM to 2PM: **Tolson's Chapel Open House** (National Park Service Partner Program)
111 High St, Sharpsburg
301-432-5124

September 9 at 6PM: **Town Council Meeting**
Sharpsburg Town Hall
106 E Main St, Sharpsburg, MD 21782
301-432-4428

September 11 at 1:30PM: **Home-school Book Club: A Bear Called Paddington by Michael Bond**
Sharpsburg Library

301-432-8825

September 14 and 15 at 11:00AM, 1:00PM, 3:00PM (**Artillery and musket firing programs**, meet at New York State Monument by Visitors Center)
Antietam Battlefield
301-432-5124

September 17 Any Time We're Open
162nd Anniversary of the Battle of Antietam, Over 500 titles on the Civil War and over 75 on the Battle of Antietam
Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

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

September 21 and 22 at 9AM to 3PM: **Aftermath of Battle Weekend, Living History Demonstrations**
Antietam Battlefield
301-432-5124

September 25 at 6PM: **Gardening Know-How with Master Gardener Trica, PawPaws**
Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

September 26 at 3:30PM: **Community Story Times at Little Brick Coffee**
16613 Shepherdstown Pike, Sharpsburg, MD 21782
Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

September 26 5PM to 7PM: **Naloxone (Narcan) How and When to Use It**
Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

September 29 11AM to 1PM: **Monarch Butterfly Tagging** (Meet at the Cornfield parking area.)
Antietam Battlefield
301-432-5124

October 2 at 1PM: **Camino Ghosts by John Grisham**
Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

October 5 from 9:30AM to 12:45PM: **Sharpsburg Days Scavenger Hunt** (Come in and pick up a list of questions, find the answers around town.)
Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

October 5: **Sharpsburg Day** (Specific Events To Be Posted Next Month)
106 E Main St, Sharpsburg, MD 21782
301-432-4428

October 5 10AM to 2PM: **Tolson's Chapel Open House** (National Park Service Partner Program)
111 High St, Sharpsburg
301-432-5124

October 5 at 10AM: **Lego Club**
Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

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 12 at 11AM and 1PM: **Artillery Firing Demonstration**

New York State Monument near Visitors Center
Antietam Battlefield
301-432-5124

October 11 at 3:00PM: **Antietam Pumpkins, Stories and Crafts**

(Weather Permitting)
4410 Harpers Ferry Rd
Sharpsburg, MD 21782
Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

October 13 at 11AM and 1PM: **Historic Weapons Demonstrations**

New York State Monument near Visitors Center
Antietam Battlefield
301-432-5124

October 13 at 1PM: **Crab Feed (A Sharpsburg Fire Company Event)**

Cochran's Auction Complex, 7704
Mapleville Rd, Boonsboro
sharpsburgvfc@gmail.com / 443-398-4510 See Page 15

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

October 23 at 1:30PM: **The Legend of Sleepy Hollow**

Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

October 26 at 10AM to 12NOON: **Meet the Author, Secret of Black Rock Mountain, by Robin Murphy**

Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

October 30 at 6PM: **All about Bats!**

Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

October 31 at 3:30PM: **Special Story Times, Halloween Party!**

Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

November 2 from 10AM to 2PM:

FarmFest 2023

Green Hill Farm
5329 Mondell Rd.
Sharpsburg, MD
Navigate to their homepage for more information.

December 7 at 6PM to 11:45PM: **Antietam Battlefield Memorial Illumination**

Antietam Battlefield
301-432-5124

Recurring Events

October 4-18 Anytime We're Open:

Fall Decorating Contest

Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

Throughout the Summer: **Where Are the Wonders of the World?**
(The picture will change every week. Tell us where the wonder is located and win a prize! For tweens and teens.)

Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

Second Wednesdays from 12Noon to 1:30PM: **Lunch and Fellowship at the Brethren Church**
123 E Main St.

301-432-4944 / sharps-
burgcob@outlook.com

First Wednesdays of the month at
1PM **Adults: Book Share**
Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

Thursdays at 3:30PM: **Storytime**
(Ages 3 and Up)
Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

Second Thursdays every month, **Li-
on's Club** 7PM, St. Paul's Episcopal
Church, 209 W. Main St, Sharps-
burg, 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, Keedys-
ville, MD 21756
301-432-0110
Sundays: 8:45AM Fellowship, 9AM
Sunday School, 10AM Worship &
Children's Church

Sharpsburg Church of the Breth- ren

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 start-
ing September 25)

Burnside First Church of God

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

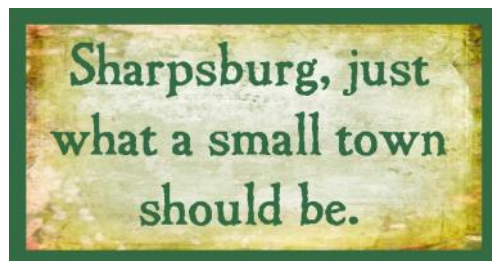
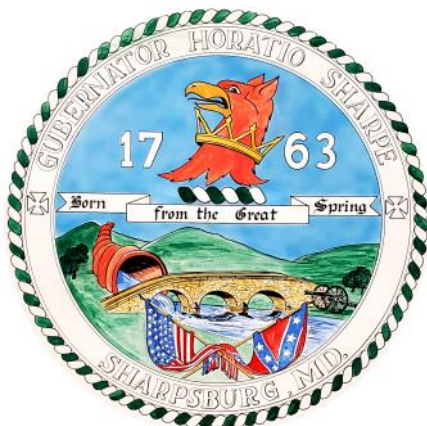
Sharpsburg Bible Church

5134 General Stuart Court, Sharps-
burg
301-432-5309
Sunday School 9:30 AM to 10:30
AM, Sunday Morning Worship & Chil-
dren'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
<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 8/24/24 Ver1.0

ATTACHMENTS:

SHARPSBURG MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 5, 2024

The Mayor and Council of Sharpsburg, MD held their monthly meeting on Monday, August 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, Robbie Waters, John Hammond and Mia Parsons. Zoning Administrator Tim Lung was present via zoom. Council Member Joe Kudla and Town Clerk Debra Smith was absent

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE Mayor Weaver called the meeting to order at 6:00PM with the pledge and a moment of silence in remembrance of Buster Crampton.

GUESTS/CITIZENS COMMENTS -

Citizenship Award – Mike Arant was recognized for exceptional service to the citizens of Sharpsburg in providing 3.5 years of local news through the Town Crier.

- **Volunteerism** – Mayor Weaver stated that October 5th is Sharpsburg Days and would like to create a Community Development Committee.

Huntzberry Brothers, Inc. - Analysis and Short and Long Term Street/Alley Repair CIP Proposal – Brad Huntzberry and Brady Blair presented the results of a study which determined the conditions of the towns streets and alleys that was done both by visual inspection and aurally by drone. Stating that they found nothing in the town that would be deemed critical, areas of Alley 10, S. Church Street and Chapline Street were considered at medium risk and should be repaired within a 5-yr period. The annual maintenance method of Crack-Fill was recommended to be done on an annual basis. Mayor Weaver requested that the study be revised based on the discussion of priority areas and re-submitted to the Town Administrator who will create a 5 and 10 year CIP Plan to be discussed in December. *Huntzberry Brothers study is incorporated as part of these minutes.*

Jason Rhea – left the meeting prior to sharing information regarding the Elite Online Customer Payment Processing Proposal.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 3, 2024 Public Hearing Minutes – **Motion** by Councilmember Waters, second by Councilmember Beeler to approve. Motion carried.

June 3, 2024 Regular Minutes - **Motion** by Councilmember Beeler, second by Councilmember Waters to approve. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

June 2024 Financial Report – **Motion** by Councilmember Waters, second by Vice-Mayor Martz to approve. Motion carried.

July 2024 Financial Report – **Motion** by Councilmember Waters, second by Vice-Mayor Martz to approve. Motion carried.

ZONING ADMINISTRATORS REPORT – Tim Lung

June - July 2024 ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Tim Lung

- Continue working with the owner of property along the south side of E. Antietam St. to gain Zoning compliance regarding removal of unlicensed/expired vehicles (junk).
- 10 day code violation notice for tall grass/weeds on property along the north side of E. Main Street has passed. Property has not been mowed. Next action would be to issue a citation and/or mow the property and bill.
- Greg Cartrette, Director of the County Permitting and Inspections Department would like to meet with Town officials and staff to introduce some new County staff that will be working with the Town and review building code changes. Will be coordinating with Russ and Debbie for a date and time.
- Reviewing Maryland Department of Planning Annual Report filing form. When complete, will forward to the Planning Commission for approval.

3. We received a donation of \$1850 dollars from Bonnie's @ Red Byrd for the purchasing of the following items:
 1. A Stereoview Card of the Antietam National Cemetery from 1867 by Case
 2. Dr. Biggs's oath of Allegiance – 11/1862
 3. One check written the National Cemetery Office to Dr. Biggs. 1865
 4. Letter from the National Cemetery Office to Dr. Biggs – 1877
 5. Trustees booklet of the Antietam National Cemetery meeting – 1868
 This totaled \$1,850.00

I am looking at more items from collector Stephen Recker of his Antietam/Sharpsburg collection as he has them available.

4. Our Intern Max and I have started the first part of restoring a section of the Antietam Diorama. This section will cover Bloody Lane, Roulette, Mumma, Piper and the Clipp House and it will show what the different fields around that area had in 1862, please we can continue showing our visitors what each family went through before, during and after the Battle of Antietam.

5. Petty Cash – \$200.00

6. Bea, Jesse and I will be taking the three Interns over to Gettysburg on August 6th to tour the new museum, Gettysburg Beyond the Battle. During there we are to meet with some staff and see what ideas we can bring back to SMH. Next month I will see if we can visit The Shepherdstown Museum.

7. We will be starting to sell changes for a Sharpsburg Basket for a fundraiser for SMH

8. I had a meeting with Laura Oates about our website and a new rack card for SMH. In our meeting we discussed with our website having the whole list of activities for the year to make it easier for visitors to plan their trips here in our area. And also adding a place to advertise a Sharpsburg History Tour, which can be booked through SMH.

Our Rack Card needs to be updated and new ones made which the CVB are to sponsor them. It will also include our walking tour. Laura is also one of our corporate sponsors also.

9. SMH will be running the Information table this year at Sharpsburg Day on Saturday October 5th and also selling items plus our Sharpsburg Basket Chances which will be drawing the ticket that day.

10. September weekend of the 17th Battle of Antietam Anniversary Weekend, we will be open that Saturday with a table and some volunteers outside and inside.

11. I am working on our new schedules for 2025 & 2026 which will be the year of Celebration since our country and County turns 250 Years. If anyone has any ideas you would like to see let me know but in order to have these events, we need volunteers.

12. We also received our Support from the Town of Sharpsburg of \$6000

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

M. Deputy Watkins – Resident Deputy

Antietam Station - 10 checks.	Total WCSO events for July (as of 07/26/24)- 94.
Elementary School -23 checks.	Theft - 1
Little League Field - 10 checks.	Theft From Motor Vehicle - 0
Park -10 checks.	Undesirable - 0
Bank Lot - 1 evening.	Suspicious Person - 0
Traffic Enforcement - 10 hours.	Disorderly - 1
Court - 1.	Burglary - 0
	Malicious Destruction of Property - 0

Park Advisory Board - Chris Vincent –

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Revised Alley Naming Proposal – Mayor Weaver stated that the additional alley names have been added so that every alley that has a house on it will also have a name. he proposed names are as follows;

Alley 1 – Biggs Alley

Alley 4 – Tolsons Alley
Alley 5 – Garrison Spring Alley
Alley 10 – Clipp Alley
Trading Post Alley
McNally Alley

Alley 9 to Snyders Landing Rd – Councilmembers Hammond and Parsons stated that it is used frequently by outfitters., Also suggested was making this alley one-way going north, which will be placed on the September agenda for public discussion. (ACTION ITEM)

Well Drilling Update – Mayor Weaver stated that the new bid will be out next week and he will make sure that Phillips & Son Drilling get a copy of the bid.

Town Hall/Library Hand Rail-ADA Ramp Replacement Update- Council Member Hammond proposed a full demolition and replacement of the ADA ramp in front of the town hall/library at the May 6th meeting. Mayor Weaver stated that because this will be an expensive project, a funding committee may need to be created with financial assistance from both the County and the library. The discussion continued at this meeting after Frederick Seibert and Associates (FSA) were asked to review the matter. Vice-Mayor Martz read the report details stating that in order to make the current ramp ADA compliant, it would have to be extended another 5' into the alley and change the slope to meet the 8.33% of grade which is currently at 10%. Also recommended was obtaining an architect due to ADA requirements. He then proposed that the hand rail be replaced and automatic door closers be placed on the buildings and leave the remainder as is. Councilmember Hammond said that he would not agree to the door closers because they don't hold up. Mayor Weaver stated that his major concern is what ADA modifications will do to the front of the building and if the matter is pushed, the library will be responsible for 90% of the cost since 90% of the people that come in this building are going to the library. After a lengthy discussion on the issue, Mayor Weaver proposed to table the matter adding that the project is not complaint driven and Councilmembers Hammond and Parsons are the only ones wanting to do this project. Councilmember Hammond made a motion to do nothing on the project. There was no second. Councilmember waters agreed that it should be done, but at what cost; i.e. modifying the front sidewalk, the flower beds, the alley. **Motion** by Councilmember Waters to hire a private ADA Specialist/Contractor, second by Councilmember Hammond. Motion carried. Councilmember Hammond will take the lead on the project. (ACTION ITEM)

Motion by Councilmember Waters, second by Councilmember Parsons to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra A. Smith
Town Administrator

September 9, 2024 Meeting Action/Agenda Items:

- Alley Naming Public Discussion
- Town Hall/Library Hand Rail-ADA Ramp Replacement
- Trash Bid Review

Sharpsburg Volunteer Fire Company



Crab Feed

OCTOBER 19, 2024
COCHRAN'S AUCTION COMPLEX
7704 MAPLEVILLE RD, BOONSBORO, MD



Door open at Noon, Dinner at 1 PM, Crabs 2-5 PM

Ticket includes: 1 Chicken Dinner w/Sides, "All you can eat Maryland Crabs", Corn on the Cob, "Fireman's Milk", & Assorted Beverages & Snacks



Must be 18 to attend & 21 to drink alcohol.
Crab provided by J.R. Thomas Seafood & Catering - No Refunds

GAMING & RAFFLES ALL NIGHT

See an SVFC Member for Tickets or contact
sharpsburgvfc@gmail.com or Text 443-398-4510

TICKETS ONLY \$50



Sharpsburg Lions Club Dinner Programs

The Sharpsburg Lions Club is hosting a dinner program for only \$10.00.

September 12th

Meet the Author - John Schildt & "Roads to Antietam"

Roads to Antietam is the story of two armies marching to battle in September 1862 and what that experience was like for the men in the ranks and the civilians along the routes. Soldiers from the North and South wondered where they were going as they marched along the roads of Maryland. What would Lee do? What was McClellan's plan? Frederick and Hagerstown lay ahead, but what was beyond? None of them could anticipate their bloody meeting on the fields around Sharpsburg, Maryland, and on the banks of Antietam Creek. John Schildt's reprinted 1985 classic of the Road to Antietam depicts the feelings and actions of those who participated in those stirring events of the Maryland Campaign.

Reverend John Schildt hardly needs an introduction. John's first book, *September Echoes*, published in 1960, was the first on Antietam since Francis Palfrey in 1887. John has been a lecturer and guide of Antietam since 1958. Since then, 2,000 additional tours have followed. John has written over thirty-five books relating the various aspects of the Maryland Campaign of 1862 and local history. This list includes *Drums along the Antietam*, *Four Days in October*, *Islands of Mercy*, and *Roads to Gettysburg*.

Dinner Menu: Slippery Country Ham Pot Pie, Slaw, Apple Sauce, and desserts.

The dinner program will start at 7:00pm and is held at St Paul's Episcopal Church, 209 W. Main Street in the parish hall at the back of the church.

Please RSVP by Sept. 6th to sharpsburglions@gmail.com

Birds Over ANTIETAM Sporting Clays Invitational

8am Registration & Breakfast
9am Tournament Begins
12pm Expected Award Time
1pm Additional Games Available

SEPTEMBER 28, 2024

RAINDATE SEPTEMBER 29

- ☑ \$250 for Teams of 4 or \$70/person
- ☑ 10 Station Course (10 shots each)
- ☑ Mulligans @ \$10 per shot
- ☑ Additional Shooting Games After Main Shoot
- ☑ Warm-up Shots Available
- ☑ Bring your own shells (1oz-7.5 shot) or purchase on site
- ☑ Breakfast sandwich & drink included
- ☑ Additional food available for purchase



Awards for:

- Top Shooter
- Top Team

Cash Awards for:

- Top 3 Teams
- Top 3 Individuals

Austin Flook Farm

19755 Huffer Lane, Keedysville, MD 21756

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To Register & Questions:

240-816-1824 or sharpsburgvfc@gmail.com

