



# Sharpsburg Town Crier

## *Ernie Wetterer*

### *Edition, 2025*



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#### *Ever think about the other driver?*

Did you ever hear the story about the man who was driving his car down the road and as he approached a bend, a car came speeding by him with the window down, and the lady driver yelled at the man 'Cow !

The man becoming upset thought 'crazy woman' and yelled back at her 'you pig', and then promptly went around the bend and hit a cow standing in middle of the road totaling his vehicle.



Drivers can sometimes be humorous, helpful, and respectable, but they also can be dangerous, inconsiderate, drunk, inattentive, unpolite, uninsured, and travel the roads without a license or insurance.

Have you ever heard of the basic safety principles of driving? They are called the "Three C's of Driving" ~ *Care, Caution, and Courtesy*.

What sort of driver are you?

Me, you ask? I've learned some valuable lessons over the years because I am not a 'flawless' driver either and as I age, I'm still trying to learn some patience and things not to do.

Amy, my daughter and a good driver, reminds me of my shortcomings sometimes.

Additionally, many daily thoughts of the other driver are also important as we travel those highways of a 'maddening' world.

May I share an example with you?

A few months ago, I was on my way home from Hagerstown and had arrived at the 'winding double lined bend' heading into Sharpsburg across from the Battle-

field Visitor Center.

Four cars were headed toward Hagerstown on this curvy turn, and suddenly I saw this old black model car trying to pass them all on a double line and headed straight for me.

This car was half on the road and half off the road; I tried my best to take my vehicle to the side of the road and avoid a head on collision.

The black, 'speeding' vehicle was now 'directly' in my path and no way could I avoid being hit. I thought, *'I lived a full life but, on this day, I was going to die' soon.*

I was off the road as far as I could go; and awaited the head on collision. Suddenly, about 10 yards in front of me, the car made a sharp right turn back onto the highway and somehow just missed hitting my car. **Continued on Page 3.**

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### **“Feed My Lambs”...It’s a Community Thing**

Join Love for Children’s “Feed My Lambs” Project this Summer in support of Sharpsburg’s most noble cause, the well being of our kids. When school is out, St. Paul’s Episcopal Church and our Community takes over providing food for our town’s hungry kids.

The drift away from traditional social services focuses us on community responsibility for our own.

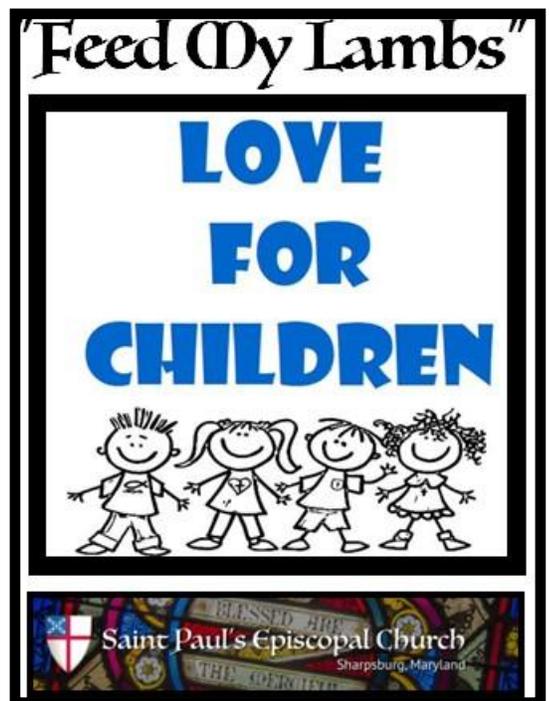
If you donate to the program, St. Paul’s will get food to our hungry kids!! There’s no load too big for us to carry!!

You can donate food at Battleview Market, Nutter’s Ice Cream Shop, Captain Bender’s Tavern, Sharpsburg Pharmacy, and Still Sherry’s Beauty Salon. See the suggested food list below.

You can also donate money on-line, go to <https://stpaulssharpburg.com/> Use the DONATE button and specify “Love for Children”.

If you have donations, we’ll gladly come by and pick them up. You can also hand them off to ANY St. Paul’s congregant and they’ll see it gets to the right place. Contact [marant@comcast.net](mailto:marant@comcast.net) to schedule pick-up of donations.

Here’s the List of our standard food distribution: Cereal, Apple Sauce Cups, Mixed Fruit Cups, Pudding Cups, Baked Beans, Canned Green Beans/Peas/Corn, Ketchup, Mayo, Popcorn, Canned Chicken/Tuna, Peanut Butter Crackers, Cheese Crackers, Jelly, Peanut Butter, Mac n’ Cheese, Pancake Mix, Syrup, Spaghetti Noodles, Spaghetti Sauce, Oatmeal, and Juice Boxes.



Ask any St. Paul's congregant about the other components of the Love for Children Ministry.

St. Paul's "Love for Children" Ministry partners with Sharpsburg Town Council, Come All Who Are Thirsty, Battleview Market, Nutter's Ice Cream Shop, Captain Bender's Tavern, Sharpsburg Pharmacy, and Still Sherry's Beauty Salon.

(Full Disclosure: The Editor is a congregant at St. Paul's Episcopal Church.)

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### **Continued from Page 2 *Ever think about the other driver? ...***

I sat there in my vehicle for a minute, and concluded it was not my day to make the obituary column.

The other driver?

I'm thinking that driver was 'singing that' *'Highway to Hell'* classic by the band AC/DC as they passed:

*"No stop signs  
Speed limit*

*Nobody's gonna slow me down  
Like a wheel*

*Gonna spin it*

*Nobody's gonna mess me around  
I'm on the highway to hell."*

I hope this driver doesn't hit someone and kill them; the driver was most 'reckless'.

Safe driving involves good 'vision', cognition, and physical ability. Some 242 million people drive in the US.

Some interesting facts provided by

the *International Auto Source includes:*

*\*80% of car accidents are caused by a driver being distracted; 2% are the result of eating or drinking; driving attention decreases to 40% if you listen to music or podcasts.*

*\*Using a cell phone while driving increases the risk of having an accident to 400%; 6 out of every 10 'moderate to severe' car accidents are the result of a 'distracted driver'.*

*\*70% of drivers use their 'smartphones while behind the wheel.*

*\*Texting and driving are actually banned in 48 states and the District of Columbia. This is a problem with both adults and teens.*

*\*Texting and driving are 6 times more likely to get you into an accident than drinking and driving. 90% of teens expect a reply to a text within 5 minutes; pressure to reply quickly leads to distractions.*

Have you ever noticed how many cars these days drive close to the rear end of your car? I wonder what's their hurry; you can usually catch up with them at the stop light; go figure!

Now how dumb is that for the passing vehicle?

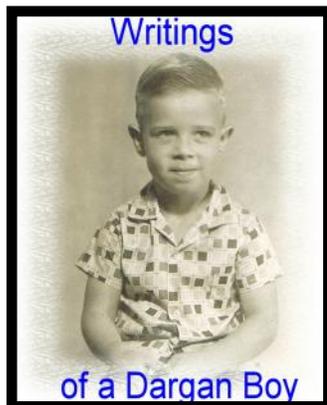
And here's an 'ode' to the driver who almost hit me from the Traveler's Insurance Company (1935)

*'He drives like a demon, even though  
He hasn't a single place to go.*

*He cuts around when chances are slim –  
Danger to others means naught to him.'*

**Be safe, drive  
with Care, Cau-  
tion and Courtesy.**

**PS And be on the  
alert for those  
'demons' .....**



*From the inkwell of the Dargan Boy ~ May 13,  
2025*

## **From the Mayor and Council**

### **Rebates for Town Residents**

The well drilling project between the Town of Sharpsburg and Washington County was attempted and unable to come to fruition. The remaining un-utilized Covid relief project funding of \$36,790 has been submitted to the County and will be used as water rebates for the next billing quarter for the residents of the Town of Sharpsburg equating to a rebate of \$130. If you have any questions, please contact Town Administrator Debra Valentine-Smith at 301.432.4428.

- Town of Sharpsburg

## **About the Town**

### **A New Business in Town!**

The Town Crier records the opening of a new business on Town Square, 4065 Florals. Pop in when you're in town and meet co-owners Faith Santora and Kayla Crigger. They add a note of color and cheer to our town. The Town Crier, Mayor and Council, and community welcomes them and wishes them the best we have to offer.

**Related...**

## **Auxiliary Unit Presents American Flag Kit**

On Saturday, May 10 Antietam Unit 236 American Legion Auxiliary presented an American Flag kit during the grand opening of 4065 Florals, a new business that open at 100 E Main Street.



L to R: Carolyn Waters, Debby Crampton, Assistant... Faith Santora, and Kayla Crigger

- Ms Ava Gift, American Legion Auxiliary

## **Pollinator Palooza**

The Washington County Master Gardeners will host a free Pollinator Palooza



on Saturday, June 14, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Washington County Agricultural Education Center at 7303 Sharpsburg Pike in Boonsboro. In a dozen tents at four teaching gardens, guests will learn why pollinators such as bees and butterflies are important and how to protect them. Visitors will enjoy garden tours, talks, crafts and face-painting for kids, a native plant sale, traveling bug zoo, educational displays, a scavenger hunt and food trucks. To learn more, call 301-226-7526.

- Ms. Annette Cormany 301-791-1604 / acormany@umd.edu

## Community Calendar (April- September)

June 2 at 7PM: **Robert M. Dunkerly, The Final Attack at Antietam Civil War Lecture Series**

Antietam Institute at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 209 W. Main St.  
executivedirector@antietaminstitute.org

June 2 at 6PM: **Town Council Meeting**  
Sharpsburg Town Hall  
106 E Main St, Sharpsburg, MD 21782  
301-432-4428

June 4 at 1PM: **Book Share for Adults**  
Sharpsburg Library  
301-432-8825

June 5 from 2PM to 6PM: **Colors of Boba Tea**

try different flavors of Boba tea  
Sharpsburg Library  
301-432-8825

June 7 from 10AM to 4PM: **Community Market**

To benefit Sharpsburg Emergency Medical Services  
110 1/2 W Chapline St.  
(301) 432-5348

June 7 at 10AM; **Lego Club**  
Sharpsburg Library  
301-432-8825

June 9 at 7PM: **Joe Stahl and Matt Borders, Soldiers from the 29th Massachusetts, the Forgotten Irish Brigade Regiment**

Civil War Lecture Series  
Antietam Institute at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 209 W. Main St.  
executivedirector@antietaminstitute.org

June 12 at 3:30PM: **Color our World Summer Reading Club Kickoff**  
Sharpsburg Library  
301-432-8825

June 14 10PM to 2:00PM: **Pollinator Pa-looza**

Washington County Agricultural Education Center at 7303 Sharpsburg Pike  
301-226-7526.

June 16 – **Sarah Kay Bierle, "Directed to Take Command": Winfield S. Hancock & Antietam's Sunken Road**

Civil War Lecture Series  
Antietam Institute at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 209 W. Main St.  
executivedirector@antietaminstitute.org

June 23 at 7PM: **Michael S. Lang, From The Brazos To The Antietam & Beyond: The Story of the Fifth Texas Volunteer Infantry Regiment**

Civil War Lecture Series  
Antietam Institute at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 209 W. Main St.  
executivedirector@antietaminstitute.org

June 26 at 3:30PM: **Authentic Community Theater at Sharpsburg Park**

Sharpsburg Library  
301-432-8825

June 30 at 7PM: **Darin Wiperman, "I Am Bullet Proof:" The Last Four Months of a Fifth Corps Soldier**

Civil War Lecture Series  
Antietam Institute at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 209 W. Main St.  
executivedirector@antietaminstitute.org

July 7 at 7PM: **Dr. Alex Rossino, Before September: The Origin of the 1862 Maryland Campaign**

Civil War Lecture Series  
Antietam Institute at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 209 W. Main St.  
executivedirector@antietaminstitute.org

July 14 at 7PM: **Dr. Brad Gottfried, Texas Brigade at Antietam**

Civil War Lecture Series  
Antietam Institute at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 209 W. Main St.  
executivedirector@antietaminstitute.org



July 21 at 7PM: **Tom McMillan, "Little-Known Antietam: Henry Winters and 'Mystery and Murder at the Lodge'"**  
Civil War Lecture Series  
Antietam Institute at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 209 W. Main St.  
executivedirector@antietaminstitute.org

July 28 at 7PM: **Jim Rosebrock, Organization of the Federal Artillery in the Civil War**  
Civil War Lecture Series  
Antietam Institute at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 209 W. Main St.  
executivedirector@antietaminstitute.org

August 4 at 7PM: **Tracey McIntire, The Fate of Antietam's Wounded**  
Civil War Lecture Series  
Antietam Institute at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 209 W. Main St.  
executivedirector@antietaminstitute.org

August 9: **Candy and the Civil War**  
Sharpsburgh Museum of History  
301-800-6877  
Ed.Beeler@sharpsburghmuseumofhistory.com

August 11 at 7PM: **Steve Stotelmyer, Little Mac at the Front**  
Civil War Lecture Series  
Antietam Institute at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 209 W. Main St.  
executivedirector@antietaminstitute.org

August 18 at 7PM: **Dr. Jen Murray, Meade at War: General George Meade and the Army of the Potomac, 1861-1865**  
Civil War Lecture Series  
Antietam Institute at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 209 W. Main St.  
executivedirector@antietaminstitute.org

August 23: **Spud Fest Saturday**, Annual Heritage Potato Harvest Festival, Field Plowing, Draft Horses, Children's Potato Picking Contests, Meet a Civil War Horse and Union Soldier, Farmstead Hearth Cooking Food.  
Friends of the WCRHM, 7313 Sharpsburg Pike  
301-788-6687 /  
www.ruralheritagemuseum.org

August 24: **Spud Fest Sunday**, Children's Potato Sack Races, Colonial Scavenger Hunt, 19th Century Village, Food.  
Friends of the WCRHM, 7313 Sharpsburg Pike  
301-788-6687 /  
www.ruralheritagemuseum.org

August 25 at 7PM: **John Schildt, Frederick, the Crossroads of the Civil War**  
Civil War Lecture Series  
Antietam Institute at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 209 W. Main St.  
executivedirector@antietaminstitute.org

September 20 from 10AM to 5PM: **Sharpsburg Days**  
Sharpsburgh Museum of History  
(301) 800-6877  
Ed.Beeler@sharpsburghmuseumofhistory.com

## Recurring Events

Any Time the Library is Open this Summer: **Library Scavenger Hunt**  
Ages 9 to 12, Drop in and find 5 books in a row described on the BOOKS BINGO card and win a small prize!  
Sharpsburg Library  
301-432-8825

June 1 to August 13: **Tiny Art** (All county library branches)  
Pick up a tiny art kit to take home.  
Sharpsburg Library  
301-432-8825

**Sharpsburg Market**: April 6, April 27, May 4, May 18, June 1, June 22, July 6, July 20, August 3, August 17, September 7, September 21, October 5, October 19  
Behind Battleview Market  
SharpsburgFM@gmail.com

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

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

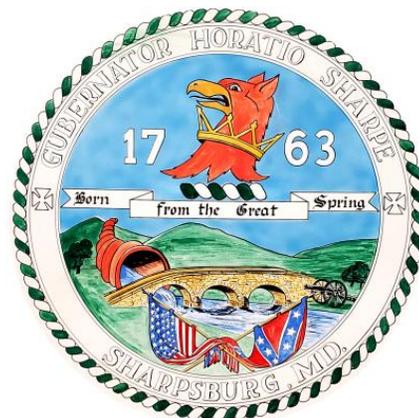
**United Christian Fellowship**  
18823 Shepherdstown Pike, Keedysville,  
MD 21756  
301-432-0110  
Sundays: 8:45AM Fellowship, 9AM Sunday  
School, 10AM Worship & Children's Church

**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)

## Mayor & Councilpersons

Russ Weaver – Mayor  
Jacob Martz – Vice Mayor  
Randy Short – Council  
Heather Waters – Council  
Ed Beeler-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](mailto:townofsharpsburg@comcast.net)  
[https://www.facebook.com/  
TheTownOfSharpsburg](https://www.facebook.com/TheTownOfSharpsburg)  
Zoning Administrator-Tim Lung  
[Sharpsburg.md.zoning@gmail.com](mailto:Sharpsburg.md.zoning@gmail.com)



Ver. 1.0 5/28/25

**Attachments:**

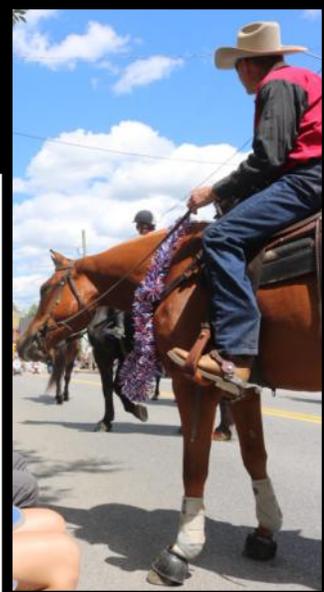
# Memorial Day: 2025

With kind thanks to Ms. Mia Parsons Hammond for most of these photos.



# Memorial Day: 2025

With kind thanks to Ms. Mia Parsons Hammond for most of these photos.



**SHARPSBURG MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 28, 2025**

The Mayor and Council of Sharpsburg, MD held a work session on Monday, April 28, 2025 at 6:00 P.M. 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 and Heather Waters. Councilmember Randy Short arrived late. Town Administrator Debra Smith was also present. Councilmember Joe Kudla was absent.

**1. Town Hall/Library/Museum Parking** – Community M. Deputy Dakota Watkins attended the work session to offer some insight on parking options that may better serve the patrons of the town hall, library and the museum. The two-(2) spaces in front of the building were previously posted with a 2-hr limit but was not able to be enforced and thereby was occupied the majority of time by neighboring residents rather than patrons. A neighboring business requested handicapped parking which can be enforced, but after posting both spaces as handicapped parking, a neighboring resident moved 2 of his handicapped vehicles from his house to the front of the building. One written and a few verbal complaints have been received regarding the same individuals dominating the patron parking. Various scenarios were discussed vs what can be enforced in order to make the 2-spaces available to patrons of the building citing enforcement being the result falling under the responsibility of an assigned code enforcement officer designated by the town. Councilmember Short stated that he felt the matter was more so about targeting a resident than it was about patron parking. Consensus from remaining Council disagreed and a heated exchange occurred between Mayor Weaver and Councilmember Short resulting in Councilmember Short tendering his resignation and he left the meeting. Final consensus was to remove all signage from in front of the town hall/library because nothing can be enforced at this time.

**2. FY25 Pothole Repair Proposal** – Huntzberry Brothers presented a street repair analysis and estimate in September 2024. Council was asked to review the repair proposal and make any additions at the regular meeting. None being added, Council prioritized repairs that could be done within a \$30,000 budget. Consensus was to complete Alley 10 @ \$14,749.00, the Chapline Street Box Culvert @ \$7,200 and repair the alley behind the 200 block of E. Main Street.

**3. FY26 1<sup>st</sup> Draft Budget Review** – Town Administrator Valentine-Smith reviewed the 1<sup>st</sup> draft of the proposed budget for both for FY26 highlighting the following categories;

Income:

Real Property Taxes (maintain the current tax rate of .35/\$100 of assessed value)	197,531
State Highway User Revenue	91,796
County Hotel/Motel	20,000
Local Income Taxes	86,000
Memorial Day Parade Grant/Funds	10,000
Interest/Dividends	16,500
Cable Franchise Fees	5,000

Expenses:

Memorial Day Parade	25,000
Accounting and Legal	20,000
County Police Protection	25,984
Municipal Building Utilities/Repairs	29,500
Street lighting	18,000
Street Maintenance	30,000
Snow Removal ( <i>Current contract expires 12/31/25</i> )	30,000
Mowing	15,000
Waste Collection	60,000
Park Operating	30,000

Special Events	7,000
Town Museum	9,000
Employee Payroll/Taxes	48,240
Commercial Insurances/Bonds	4,750
Total proposed income: \$434,827	
Total proposed expense: \$397,374	
Net Income (37,453)	

Discussion and proposed changes included; increasing Special Events from 7-10,000, adding 5,000 for the Lutheran Cemetery, placing a hold on the Hometown Hero Banner program until FY27 so that a full analysis of the available poles, locations and brackets can be assessed, and of the 9,000 for the museum, they will be given 7k and 2k will be earmarked in the audit annually as a reserve. In addition, it was noted that money will need to be added to the budget to upgrade the meeting room audio system.

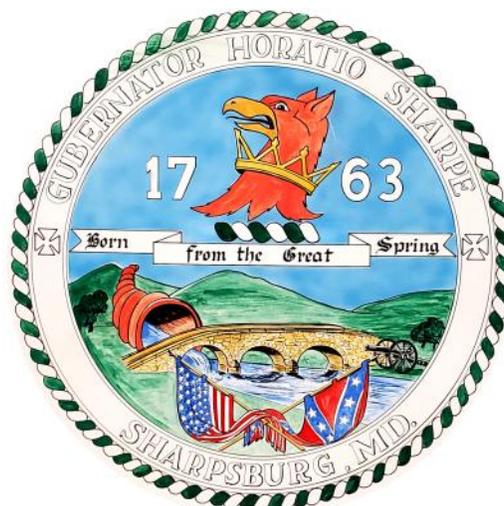
The proposed changes will be made and a second draft will be reviewed at the May work session.

**4. Proposed Charter Amendments** – various amendments to the Charter have been prepared by the Town Attorney and further revisions will be submitted to the Town Attorney for review prior to being reviewed by the Council at the May work session. If all proposed amendments are given consensus, they will be scheduled for public hearing in June.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted;

Debra Valentine-Smith  
Town Administrator



# 2025 SHARPSBURG DAYS



**FREE EVENT**

**FOOD & CRAFT VENDORS • LIVE MUSIC**

SEPT. | Town of  
**20** | Sharpsburg  
**10 AM - 5 PM**



- Live Music: by New Way Drive
- Food Vendors
- Craft Vendors
- Explore the Sharpsburg Museum of History
- Meet your Town Council
- Meet members of the Community
- And Much More!

FOR QUESTIONS CONTACT:  
Heather Waters • 240-469-8660  
H.waters@sharpsburgmd.com



# Sharpsburg Volunteer Fire Company



# Crab Feed

OCTOBER 18, 2025

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", "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](mailto:sharpsburgvfc@gmail.com) or Text 443-398-4510

### TICKETS ONLY \$50