



Sharpsburg Town Crier



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A Hillbilly and his hospital gown

By: LLOYD "PETE" WATERS

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You know, many years ago, when someone discovered that I lived in Dargan, they would often think I was a hillbilly of sorts.

Now, I don't know if you know the acceptable definition of hillbilly or not, but many might describe this person as one who lives far away from a town or city and lacks culture or education.

Believe me, Dargan folk have an abundance of culture and education.

Consider my reasoning.

You see, we in Dargan have known for a very long time that it is the rest of the world that is a bit confused and uneducated. I'm not going to mention any names, but a few of those folks who live in those big cities think they know everything.

I'm certain you know some of these fuddy-duddies.

And when it comes to inventions at the hands of someone who knows everything, I would like to know the name of that city slicker who invented the hospital gown.

Have you ever been in a hospital gown at our local hospital? Can you imagine the imagination of that entrepreneur who came up with that grand design?

What was he or she thinking?

Too many holes, snaps and ties in that unfriendly piece of cloth. One could get seriously hurt just putting it on.

I had the occasion to recently visit our local hospital, and I was treated like royalty except for that detestable hospital gown.

I know you must agree.

As you arrive and are greeted by the friendly nurse, you begin to think that your experience is not going to be so bad, but then they take you to that little isolated room with the cold seat and give you those harrowing instructions.

"Take off your clothes and put on the hospital gown."

Now, for a modest Dargan boy, taking your clothes off is no big deal. Putting on the hospital gown? Now that's another matter.

You know it's going to be a bad day when you have to put that gown on backward. "There," I said to myself after I stuck my arms out in front and placed them into the two arm holes of the gown.

Exactly how in the heck does an "old" Dargan boy tie those little gown ties in the back of such a contraption to cover up all those important rear extremities? There is absolutely no way this can be done, so the back remains open.

Then, you sit your bare bottom down on the cold seat to put on your slip-free socks and you begin to think your backside is going to stick to that surface just like that little boy who put his tongue on that frozen flagpole in "A Christmas Story."

I'm now thinking the city slicker who created the hospital gown was either drunk when he or she came up with this grand design or sold it to some drunken hospital executive who thought it was the greatest invention of all time. I can assure you that neither person was correct in their inebriated thinking.

For you folks who are convinced that there are hillbillies who live in Dargan, no one in their right mind or even their wrong mind from Dargan would have invented a hospital gown like those used at our local hospital.

A Dargan inventor would have most likely come up with something like one of those warm, cuddly, big, fluffy, white Hugh Hefner robes that you sometimes find in those fancy hotels around the world. We would have added our famous logo too, "Made in Dargan," to avoid crazy tariffs.

Permit me to continue my story.

I decided to take a little stroll out of my hospital room down the hall one night to stretch my legs a bit and it was a pretty nice walk, except there was a very noticeable cool draft blowing in on my posterior.

Unbeknownst to me, the moon was shining bright. I thought of the lyrics to "The Streak," sung by Ray Stevens: "Don't look, Ethel, but it's too late."

Suddenly, a nurse in that same hallway stopped and asked, "Would you like me to get you another gown?" I suspect this lunar moment might have been a little too much for this friendly hall monitor.

This nurse was a true professional, a Florence Nightingale for sure.

I actually put the second gown on the opposite way and now had all the important stuff, front and back, adequately covered. Having those little gown ties in the front made my life so much easier.

"Eureka," I was beginning to think.

I guess the moral of this story is quite simple.

That person who created today's hospital gown was a bit confused.

Good luck on your next hospital visit.

Hope your bare bottom doesn't get stuck to that cold seat!



Why We Oppose

Starter and Silver Homes Act of 2026



Many of the founding fathers emphasized that smaller, local governments were better suited to handle ordinary matters because they were closer to the people, more familiar with local conditions. It has been well established that local governments need tools to balance growth with community character, public safety, and service capacity. Key tools for land management are planning and zoning which Washington County and the Town of Sharpsburg have used over the decades to establish a well preserved rural residential character. Currently there is a bill moving through Annapolis which would strike at the heart of the very concept of municipal self-governance, a principle under which incorporated municipalities in Maryland have operated since their founding. Just a few of the bills content and their ramifications will clarify our concerns.

The bill: *(Starter and Silver Homes Act of 2026 – HB0239/SB0036)*

Prohibits local zoning ordinances from requiring single-family homes to be built on lots larger than 5000 sq. ft. in areas served by public water and sewer. *(Currently at 10,000 sq. ft., this change essentially doubles density),*

Prohibits local governments from setting cover maximum for single-family homes and accessory dwelling structures. *(Currently at 80%, this change means border to border construction.)*

Prohibits local governments from setting setbacks for single-family homes or accessories structures that exceed 10 feet in the front or rear and 5 feet on the side. *(Currently set at 20 ft. rear, 10 ft. front and 8 ft. on the side, this change means houses packed closer together and closer to streets and allies)*

Fortunately for Sharpsburg we may be exempt because we are a historic district. However, these changes clearly will impact surrounding areas and thus affect our sewer system, increase school capacity needs and place demands for added community services such as fire, rescue and police.

There are many possible adverse consequences and possible ripple effects with this legislation. Just as important, if not more importantly this legislation is an unwarranted and unnecessary strike at the heart of municipal autonomy and self-determination.

Government is best which is closest to the people.



Town of Sharpsburg
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P.O. Box 368
Sharpsburg, MD 21782
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February 10, 2026

Honorable Chairman and Members of the Committee:

The Town of Sharpsburg wishes to join with municipalities throughout the State of Maryland in expressing our sincerest opposition to **HB0239**; a bill which, if enacted, would strike at the heart of the very concept of municipal self-governance, a principle under which incorporated municipalities in Maryland have operated since their founding.

While the stated broader objective of increasing affordable housing throughout the State may seem like a virtuous endeavor at first blush, it must be understood that zoning - particularly at the municipal level - is not a one-size-fits-all formula; and the passage of such sweeping legislation which groups very disparate communities under one overarching regulatory paradigm, irrespective of their individual circumstances, may result in insidious and unforeseen consequences, some of which may actually contravene the underlying intent of the bill.

Not only would this legislation sow increasing distrust of the State among localities by eviscerating locally implemented comprehensive plans and zoning initiatives across the region, as well as establish a dangerous precedent that the answer to State woes lies in chipping away at municipal autonomy and self-determination, but it may also have the adverse effect of artificially inflating values of current properties, placing them even farther out of reach of homebuyers, and incentivizing speculation by third-party investors that would only serve to stifle individual home ownership.

This legislation is an attack on the very essence of local community self-governance, and undermines the spirit of municipal partnership that was pledged by the current administration. The Town of Sharpsburg categorically opposes any and all efforts to diminish municipal autonomy, and instead encourages partnership over policy to address needs and achieve objectives in a mutually beneficial fashion. As such, we therefore urge an unfavorable report on the aforementioned bill.

Respectfully,

Jacob Martz
Vice Mayor, on behalf of the Mayor and Council
Sharpsburg, Maryland



SHARPSBURG...

Just what a small town should be

2025 The Year in Review

Second of a two-part article on assessing what is important

In this last part of a two-part article, we assess public safety and service delivery, and community engagement.

Community engagement is crucial in order to strengthen social bonds, empower individuals, and fosters cohesive communities. Active participation in community activities helps build stronger, more cohesive communities. When individuals engage in local initiatives, such as our Memorial Day Ceremonies, Sharpsburg Day, Fishing Rodeo, Movie Night, Sharpsburg Museum of History, Antietam Institute, any of our local churches or this year's 250th Celebration they gain a sense of belonging and shared responsibility. This engagement encourages people to take ownership of their environment, creating a vibrant and supportive community network that can effectively address local challenges and improve overall quality of life.

Community involvement allows residents to directly tackle pressing local problems such as zoning, traffic issues at the corner of Main and Church, graveyard preservation or Town Beautification. By contributing time, skills, or resources, community members can develop practical solutions tailored to their specific context. This collaborative approach ensures that projects are widely accepted and more effective, as they draw on diverse perspectives and local knowledge.

Active engagement in community initiatives encourages civic participation and trust in local organizations and governance. When residents are involved in decision-making processes, they better understand community needs and contribute to more equitable and sustainable outcomes. This collaboration reduces conflict, enhances communication, and fosters a sense of ownership over local projects. The option to engage in Town governance is made available through our planning processes, open and transparent meetings and communications as well as on going interaction with citizens.

Community involvement strengthens social networks by connecting people with shared values and interests. These networks provide support, encouragement, and opportunities for collaboration, which are essential for both individual well-being and collective problem-solving.

Conclusion

Overall, community involvement benefits both individuals and society by fostering stronger social bonds, empowering residents, enhancing personal growth, and enabling effective, sustainable solutions to local and global challenges. Engaged communities are more resilient, equitable, and capable of shaping a better future for all members.

In small towns such as Sharpsburg, Maryland, **public safety and service** are the foundation of community life. Sharpsburg relies on close-knit relationships, and a strong sense of trust. In most neighborhoods, residents know one another by name. This trust fosters a culture where people feel

comfortable reporting concerns and working together to address risks. Open communication channels—whether through newsletters, or apps such as Facebook or the internet—ensure that safety issues are addressed quickly and transparently.

A watched neighborhood is a safer neighborhood. Frequent foot traffic, well-lit streets, and visible community activities send a clear message that public spaces are under observation. This informal surveillance deters wrongdoing and reassures residents. In Sharpsburg, the Town Council emphasizes proactive enforcement of local codes and collaboration with law enforcement, such as the Washington County Sheriff's Department, to maintain order and transparency. This includes updating signage and ensuring public spaces are safe and accessible. Small towns must maintain safe streets, clear walkways, well-lit parks, and properly constructed public facilities. These elements protect residents from accidents, improve quality of life, and support emergency response. Safety is everyone's job. In small communities, residents often take on roles beyond their immediate family thus strengthening resilience and unity.

For Sharpsburg, with our deep historical roots, preserving safety also means protecting cultural heritage and ensuring that community spaces remain accessible and secure for future generations

In summary:

For small towns like Sharpsburg, safety and security are essential because they protect the very fabric of community life—trust, visibility, infrastructure, and shared responsibility. When these elements are strong, residents can enjoy the intimacy and charm of small-town living while feeling confident and secure in their environment.

Russ Weaver ~ Mayor



“Small towns have the power to make you feel like you belong.” – Anonymous

**SHARPSBURG MAYOR AND COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 2, 2026
6:00 PM**

The Mayor and Council of Sharpsburg, MD held their monthly meeting on Monday, February 2, 2026 at 6:00 PM via Zoom. In attendance were Mayor Russell Weaver, Vice Mayor Jacob Martz, Councilmembers Joseph Kudla, Anne Marie McCullough, Heather Waters and Robbie Waters. Town Administrator Debra Valentine-Smith and Zoning Administrator Tim Lung were also present.

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE led by Councilmember McCullough. Mayor Weaver asked for a moment of silence for the many people that have lost their lives to the freezing temperatures.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA - Motion by Councilmember R. Waters, second by Councilmember McCullough to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – *(comments were requested to be submitted in writing by email prior to the meeting due to being conducted by Zoom)* Erin Short submitted a statement by email. Mayor Weaver asked Mrs. Short if the statement could be read into the record under Correspondence at the end of the meeting and she agreed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 1, 2025 Minutes - **Motion** by Councilmember R. Waters to approve the minutes, second by Councilmember Kudla. Motion carried.

December 1, 2025 Executive Minutes - **Motion** by Councilmember Kudla to approve the executive minutes, second by Councilmember R. Waters. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT

December 2025 and January 2026 - **Motion** by Councilmember H. Waters to approve the financial reports as presented, second by Councilmember McCullough. Motion carried.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Tim Lung

DECEMBER 2025 - JANUARY 2026

- Responded to inquiries and questions regarding zoning and permitting requirements.
- Attended a virtual kick off meeting for the update of the County's Water and Sewerage Plan.
- Reviewed Maryland Dept of Planning FAQ sheet for Accessory Dwelling Unit zoning.
- Reviewed, researched documents and attended the County Board of Zoning Appeals hearing for a Special Exception to locate a cell tower on Mondell Rd.
- Reviewed and signed off on a building permit application for a proposed garage on property located along the south side of west Main St.
- Attended a virtual meeting with municipal planners to discuss HB0099, a bill to remove the 5-yr express approval for annexations.

MAYORS COMMENTS – Mayor Weaver reviewed the accomplishments of 2025.

2025 was a year of real progress for the Town of Sharpsburg, with a focus on building off a strong foundation for what's ahead and making Sharpsburg "Just What a Small Town Should Be". Municipalities are under a lot of pressure to get things done quickly and correctly, while trying to serve a wide range of people, often with conflicting needs and interests. I thought it might be instructive to explore 2025 **in terms of what some municipalities use to assess their progress. Generally, there are four key areas:** operational capacity and administrative efficiency, financial health and budgeting, public safety and service delivery, and community engagement. Let's take a brief look at the first two.

We create **operational capacity** by empowering individual council persons to act in an area of citizen need while enabling them with funds, town resources and access to county and state resources. As you review the list of accomplishments attached to this Crier you will see how well the current council has embraced this operational model. Add to that the **administrative efficiency** of our town and zoning administrators and you have an operationally sound municipal

government. Our town zoning administrator is recognized by the courts as a zoning expert and works tirelessly to assure the speed and accuracy of permit approvals.

Sharpsburg town government **financial health** has always been a top priority for sitting mayor and councils. We finished with a surplus again in 2025 and for the second year in a row successfully completed our annual audit with zero exceptions. As far as I can tell the only two times this has been accomplished in town history. This means that we are again fully compliant with all accounting and audit requirements. I would like to congratulate our town administrator on her outstanding efforts. Our annual **budget** is fully automated for the first time, broken down by operational area and project, and reviewed monthly at regular council meetings as well as published on the town website and in the Town Crier providing full financial transparency

I am honored to have had the opportunity to work with our council and staff and am especially proud of how we stayed focused in 2025 not taking the bait and getting trapped in pointless arguments. Thank you to everyone who helped make 2025 such a successful year. As we look to 2026, we're excited to keep serving our residents and strengthening our community.

List of accomplishments from 2025

PLANNING & ZONING

- New businesses - 4065 Floral & Antietam Institute moved into 101 W. Main
- Comprehensive Plan - Community Survey
- W.C. Historic Preservation Tax Credit MOU
- **Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Zoning Ordinance text amendment requirements per new State Legislation** - During its 2025 session, the Maryland General Assembly passed HB 1466 ("Accessory Dwelling Units – Requirements and Prohibitions"), which codifies state policy supporting development of Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), effective October 1, 2025. It also requires that counties and municipalities with planning and zoning authority adopt a local law authorizing ADU development on land with a single-family detached dwelling unit by October 1, 2026. Letter sent to legislators requesting that this legislation not apply to properties within a designated historic district.

PROJECTS

- Started and completed the Historic Park
- Well Project / Water Rebates
- Speed Study @ Main & Church after holding public meetings with both citizens and MDOT
- Big Spring Wall Restoration
- Street and Culvert repairs were made as well as signage replacements
- Purchased and Installed aerator/fountain at the town pond
- W.C. Meter Vault Replace Project
- Charter Review and Amendments
- Periodic street sweeping and leaf removal

FINANCES

- The Towns Financial Audits for the last 2 years have shown that the town is operating positively while maintaining the current tax rate of .35/\$100 of assessed value and remains fully compliant with accounting and audit requirements.
- Received \$370,122 in POS funding for the Historic Park

EVENTS

- Christmas In the Square and Sharpsburg Day – both successful events
- Memorial Day Parade – always the town's main attraction
- Added an additional Brush collection in the spring (April/October)
- Hometown Hero Banner Program- re-started

2026 Focus/Pending:

- Planning Commission By-Laws
- Sign @ Elementary School
- Lutheran Cemetery
- Special 250 Year Anniversary event
- Expanded Memorial Day Ceremonies
- Revitalization and restructuring of Sharpsburg Museum of History

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS AND VISION/PROPOSED CIP FOR 2026

COUNCILMEMBER MCCULLOUGH –

- Maintaining the Lutheran Cemetery is a priority but guidance is needed regarding the cleaning of the headstones (Historic Society). The previous study will also be of assistance in associating some of the headstones to the proper locations.
- Attended a meeting of the Green Team in Keedysville where Dee Price of the Soil Conservation District offered information on stream restoration. Tim Lung stated that Dee also reached out to him regarding the feasibility of funding for Sharpsburg's pond.
- Also met with the Master Gardners and would like to replace the Liriope/monkey grass at the Historic Park because it is considered invasive.

COUNCILMEMBER KUDLA –

- Sidewalk replacement is a priority and MDOT has a funding program of an 80/20 split.
- The Chapline Street culvert replacement also need to be completed.
- The results of the speed study on MD 35 will be discussed in March

VICE MAYOR Martz –

- Completing the Historic Park is a priority
- Would like to see a mobile payment system implemented for town events
- Met with Huntzberry Brothers to mark off a proposed parking lot at the community park
- Drafted letter of opposition to proposed cell tower installation near Sharpsburg.
- Met with MDOT representative to discuss installation of Civil War Trail signage on State owned pole.
- Continued Memorial Day planning. Next meeting of Memorial Day Committee will be on Tuesday, February 3, 2026 at 6:00 pm

COUNCILMEMBER H. WATERS –

- Would like to get more of the community involved in town events
- Start a National Pet Day in town

COUNCILMEMBER R. WATERS –

- Complete the painting of curbs and signage replacement and straightening

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

OFFICER D. WATKINS – COMMUNITY DEPUTY

January end of month report:

Antietam Station - 4 checks. Total WCSO events - 109.
Park - 4 checks. Accidents - 1 (not intersection related).
Little League - 3 checks.
120 E Main St. - 3 checks.
School - 2 checks.
Traffic Enf. - 1 hr.
Calls for Service - 1.
Training - 2 days.

Chris Vincent – Battlefield Advisory Committee

The committee met on Wednesday, December 10, 2025.

Attending the meeting: Sup. Andrew Banasik, George Franks, Vernell Doyle, Justin Mayhue, and Miriam Cunningham. Superintendent Andrew Banasik provided an update on park activities and events. Visitor Center repairs. The Park has started the foundation leak repair, and the construction company worked through the shutdown. There is a lot that is going on with the project, including re-supporting the trellis beams as well as waterproofing the foundation. In digging out of the foundation in preparation for the waterproof work, the contractor found a large crack in the foundation. As the crack is outside of the current scope of work, the Park and the contractor are working together to fix the issue. It is estimated that the entire project will be done by March. Once it is completed, the Park will monitor the museum for humidity for a period of time (probably a month) before returning the artifacts to the exhibits. The December Luminaries were a huge success, and the Park staff is working on an after-action report of the event to try to make 2026 even smoother. It took lots of coordination of the volunteers and the staff to pull off the event this year due to the government shutdown. The staff is

committed to making it safer and more efficient in both the setup and the clean-up on Sunday morning. At 2:15 am, there were still people going through the Park for the event. His biggest concern is the closeness of real candle flames to structures, so there will probably be more electronic candles next to the Mumma Farm for 2026, like those surrounding the Dunker Church. The fourteen National Cemeteries have been meeting to coordinate a standardization of processes and information for preservation and restoration. It is an ongoing project, and the leadership of the NPS and others are looking at this project with interest. The next step is to plan how the restoration of Antietam Cemetery will move forward, a challenge since there are no dedicated cemetery staff. Work continues on the Pry House with the 4th side of the house getting its windows and doors replaced. The Medical Museum will not be able to operate the field hospital out of the Pry House for the foreseeable future. Staffing at the Park is stable, but one change: the staff biologist is leaving the position. There is still a hiring freeze in effect, so this position will not be filled at present. No real projects for 2026 due to funding issues. Park Staff cannot appropriately plan for various projects because of this. The Staff will have a meeting in the new year to discuss priorities, including how to weave the battlefield into the America 250th celebrations. The next meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2026.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Review of Pending FY26 Projects – discussed under Mayors comments and year in review.

CIP Review- discussed under Councilmembers reports.

NEW BUSINESS

2026 Calendar of Events – consensus of annual calendar of events

CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Erin Short of 225 E. Main Street read the following statement into the record.**

To the Mayor and Town Council Members,

In November 2025 the Town Council voted to leave the seat left vacant by Ed Beeler's resignation empty until the it is filled by the November 2026 town election. That vote was a violation of the charter, which requires the seat be filled by the council. In December 2025 the Mayor stated the town needed clarification from legal counsel because the charter is "silent" on a timeline and process. Filling the vacant seat was not on the agenda of the January 2026 town meeting that was cancelled due to illness. Filling the vacant seat is not on the agenda for the February 2026. I will file a Writ of Mandamus should the town council continue stonewalling this issue.

Mayor Weaver thanked Ms. Short for her comment and opened the floor to Council to either speak on the matter or comment on their November 2025 vote regarding the vacant seat. No comments were made.

Come All Who Are Thirsty (CAWAT) Park Closure – Dwayne and Beth Harris are giving up the lease at the Mark A. Smith Memorial Park and offered to leave the monument and dog tags if the town takes it over. **Motion** by Vice-Mayor Martz for the town to take over the responsibility of the park, second by Councilmember R. Waters. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT - Motion by Councilmember R. Water to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 P.M., second by Councilmember H. Waters. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra A. Valentine-Smith
Town Administrator

Caught in the Act: Of Doing Good



Look closely..... Do you see them doing good?

Exactly, you see, precisely, nobody. Instead, you see where Sharpsburg citizens voluntarily parked their vehicle's behind their houses. The street is clear.

They took this step to reduce vehicle congestion in an especially hazardous part of town.

A special thanks to them!

~From the Sidewalk



101 W. Main Street/PO Box 33
Sharpsburg, MD 21782
<https://antietaminstitute.org>

Monthly First Saturday Programs

Each month, the Antietam Institute will host a morning "Following in the Footsteps" battlefield hike from 9:30 to 11:30 am for institute members only. That afternoon, we will hold "Ancestors at Antietam" talk at our Education Center from 2:00 – 3:00 pm. These programs are free and open to the public.

<https://antietaminstitute.org/seasonal-events/>

March 7 – Joe Stahl: McRae's (Garland) Brigade hike
– *Armies of Antietam*: book signing

April 4 – Jim Smith: Picture and Poetry at the Bloody Lane: the 61st/64th NY Infantry hike
– Laurie Mack: William: Lt. William Alden Horton and the 16th CT

May 2 – Scott Kenep: One of Abraham Lincoln's 300,000: The 125th PA Infantry
– Michael Hildebrand Virginia Mumma Hildebrand: Antietam Remembered Manuscript

June 6 – Martin Pritchett: "Nothing to the right!" The plight of the 13th New Jersey hike
– Susie Ingles: Lt. Samuel McBride Pringle and Garden's Battery

July 4 – James Buchanan: Paul Semmes, Willis Gorman, and a Farmstead Too Far hike
– Chris Vincent: Henry Vincent and the 132nd PA

August 1 – Jason Campbell: They Answered the Call, the 130th PA at Antietam hike
– Kevin Boyer: the Union Veteran's Assoc of MD

September 5 – Steve Stotelmyer: The 23rd Ohio and Ewing's Brigade in the Final Attack hike
– Cindy Cohrs-Brandt: William Campbell, 34th NY and Bennett Livingston, 13th NJ

November 7 – Bill Sagle: Hood's Mississippians: a Confederate Counterattack into the Cornfield hike
– Dr. Thomas Maddox, Woodley Farm & St. Mark's Episcopal Church tour

CIVIL WAR LECTURE SERIES

Every Monday evening, June 1 – August 31
Sponsored by the Antietam Institute ~ Talks held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 209 W Main Street, Sharpsburg, Maryland

For more information:

<https://antietaminstitute.org/2026-summer-lecture-series/>

Topics & Speakers:

June 1 – Jim McLean: *14th New York State Militia in the Civil War*

June 8 – Keith Snyder: *The Marines Land in Sharpsburg*

June 15 – Michael Hardy: *"we were almost starved" The Confederate Soldier, Food, and the Maryland Campaign*

June 22 – Darin Wiperman: *"A Brain the Size of a Hickory Nut:" Joe Hooker's views about Ambrose Burnside*

June 29 – Dr. Brad Gottfried: *Grant and Meade: An uneasy Alliance*

July 6 – Cory M. Pfarr: *Full View of the Enemy's Lines: Reassessing Intelligence, Command, and the Federal Signal Service at Antietam*

July 13 – Jen Murray: *"Your Golden Opportunity Is Gone?" General Meade & The Pursuit from Gettysburg*

July 20 Jim Hessler *Custer in the Maryland Campaign*

July 27 – Timothy R. Snyder: *Stonewall Jackson's Winter Operations: The Raids Against the C&O Canal and the Bath-Romney Campaign*

August 3 – Benjamin L. Cwayna: *Slaughter along a Stone Wall: Gregg's South Carolina Brigade during the Maryland Campaign*

August 10 – Jack Dempsey: *"No Further Record" — POWs of the 7th Michigan Infantry*

August 17 – Steven Eden: *Battlefield Calculus: Tactics, Technology, and the Battle of Antietam*

August 24 – Jim Rosebrock and Aaron Holley: *"Make me a Map"; The creation of the Atlas of the Artillery of Antietam*

August 31 – John Schildt: *A Farmer, a Physician, and a General: Henry Rohrbach, Nathan Mayer, and Isaac P. Rodman*

NEWS FROM TOWN HALL



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SPRING BRUSH COLLECTION

(for town residents only)

April 13 - 17

ANNUAL FISHING RODEO

Saturday, April 25th

7AM – 10AM

Ages 1 – 15

Event held at the town pond at the end of High Street on Burnside Bridge Rd.

SPRING BULK COLLECTION

(for town residents only)

Wednesday, May 13th

MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

Saturday, May 23rd

11 AM

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Saturday, May 23rd

2 PM

SHARPSBURG DAY

Saturday, September 19th

10 AM – 5 PM

For more information of these events and meetings, cancellations and up to date information, follow us on the Town's Facebook page www.facebook.com/TheTownofSharpsburg and the towns website <https://sharpsburgmd.com>

Want to be placed on the Town Criers mailing list?
Send your email address to townofsharpsburg@comcast.net

Town Administration

Debra Valentine-Smith

Town Administrator

301.432.4428

townofsharpsburg@comcast.net

Tim Lung

Zoning Administrator/Permits

Sharpsburg.md.zoning@gmail.com



Mayor and Council

Russ Weaver – Mayor

Jacob Martz – Vice Mayor

Town Council

Joe Kudla

Anne Marie McCullough

Heather Waters

Robbie Waters

Sharpsburg Memorial Day Parade

America's Longest Continuously-Held Memorial Day Parade!



Where history is made with each step!

Join us for our 159th Annual Commemoration!

When: May, 23rd 2026

**Where: Main Street
Sharpsburg, MD**

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

**Theme: America's 250th:
Honoring the
Sacrifices that
Birthed Our Nation**

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

Remembering those we lost



Honoring those who served

**Sharpsburg Community
Calendar**

February to May 2026

March 2 at 6PM: **Town Council Meeting and Traffic Speed Study Report**

Sharpsburg Town Hall
106 E Main St
301-432-4428

March 4 at 2:30PM: **Homeschool Animal Science**

Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

March Any Time Library is Open, **Spice Club, Lavender**

Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

March 7 at 2PM: **Armies of Antietam, Meet the Authors**

101W Main St, Sharpsburg
Contact Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

March 11 at 6PM: **Share food and recipes including the spices.**

Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

March 17-19 during Library Hours: **Leprechaun Hunt, Ages 6-12.**

Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

March 25 at 1:30PM:

Homeschool Book Club, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

March 26 at 4PM: **Community Story Time and Tea**

At 4065 Florals, 100E Main St,
Sharpsburg
Contact Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

April 22 at 1:30PM: **The Bark of the Bog Owl**

Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

April 29 at 6PM: **Gardening Know-How with Master Gardener Trica, Container Planting**

Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

April 29 at 1:30PM to 6:30PM: **Plant/Seed Swap and Share**

Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

May 2 during Library Hours: **Free Comic Book Day**

Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

May 7 at 1:30PM: **Tea and Little Cakes in honor of America's 250!**

Registration Required, Call 301-432-8825
Sharpsburg Library

May 13 at 1:30PM: **Ben and Me**
Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

May 27 at 6PM: **Seed Saving
and Tea**
Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

Recurring Events

Wednesdays from 5:30PM to
6:30PM **Open for Quiet Prayer**
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
209 West Main Street
admin@stpaulssharpburg.com

January Any Time Library is Open,
Spice Club: Adobo
Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

February Any Time Library is
Open, **Spice Club, Turmeric**
Sharpsburg Library
301-432-8825

March Any Time Library is Open,
Spice Club, Lavender
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 /
sharpburgcob@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
301-432-7098

Sundays: 10AM

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

