

The WV INDEPENDENT Observer

JEFFERSON COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

NOVEMBER 2020

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WV Independent Observer LLC
131 West German Street
PO Box 3088
Shepherdstown WV 25443

Published Monthly. Printed by
FNP Printing, Frederick, MD.

THIS PAPER WANTS TO BE RECYCLED. 

WV PERSPECTIVES



Underpass below the Norfolk & Southern railroad in Shenandoah Junction, looking west towards Ridge Road. Photo by Rod Snyder, life-long resident of Jefferson County who writes that he tries to take a photo of this spot every year to capture the fall colors.

TO OUR READERS

NOVEMBER IS A TIME when we are reminded to look back and give thanks. It's also a time when we recognize that the comfortable days of fall are surely giving way to the harsher days of winter. For 2020, many of us will be hard pressed to look back and find a balance of happiness amidst the turmoil of the preceding ten months. Still, like the blaze of colors evident in our perspective image this month, we can look at the energy around us to encourage ourselves forward.

In this month's issue of *The Observer* we chronicle both the struggles and inspirations of people moving forward and planning for the future, despite the unsettling and uncertain situation that lingers around us. The teachers working on the front lines in the classrooms of the public schools share the difficulties they face each day. The faculty of the Shepherd University School of Music figure out how the show will go on, pandemic or no. A local couple pedals ahead with enthusiasm and expands their hospitality business. We hope these stories encourage you.

We, along with Jefferson Security Bank, invite everyone in Jefferson County to join in our Bear Hunt (see page 24) to spread some cheer as we share a thought or a wish for the future that we know will come, as surely as the green leaves will return next spring.


Steve Pearson
EDITOR IN CHIEF

// EDUCATION

NAVIGATING A DIFFICULT ROAD

Jefferson County Schools Deal with the Pandemic



The Observer asked Stephen Willingham to explore how the local public school system is managing through the current public health crisis. The author interviewed the Superintendent and also spoke with teachers about their experiences in the classroom and online. In the context of our intent to provide the community a perspective from inside the system and to maintain the confidentiality of the individuals speaking openly about employment conditions, *The Observer* agreed that the individual teachers could remain anonymous.

Willingham began his teaching career as a substitute, before moving into a full-time English position. In 2019, he retired from teaching after working at Musselman Middle School, Jefferson and Washington High Schools.

THE START OF EACH SCHOOL YEAR often comes with both anticipation and anxiety for students, teachers and administrators alike. In 2020, the public health issues surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic raised both to a new level. “There’s always room for improvement,” Dr. Bondy Shay Gibson, Superintendent of Jefferson County Schools reflected, when asked to give her assessment about how things are going. “We always start with high expectations. But we have not done anything like this before,” she continued, addressing what is termed “re-entry,” as Jefferson County Schools respond to the complexities imposed by the pandemic.

Planning for Change & Changing Plans

Gibson addressed the central difficulty of public education in the face of the largest public health crisis in a century. “People are afraid and wanting the best for their kids,” she said. “We haven’t met everyone’s expectations. But we are trying.” She explained by saying that,

as an institution, education is expected to offer everything to everybody. “This is a tall order.” Besides dealing with her high expectations, and those of the community, Gibson is aware of the pressure on faculty to persevere and adapt as new guidelines and information become available. Altogether, the re-entry system requires not only faculty, but also students and the community, to overcome a steep learning curve. “As a leader, I take responsibility, hopefully with patience and humility,” Gibson said. “We are always punching above our level, trying to make things better.”

Looking back to the planning that led up to the reopening, Gibson shared some self-criticism: “I should have pushed back harder on how difficult it was to create a whole new system on the fly. I’m truly sorry too much weight [public criticism] fell on the shoulders of our faculty. That was an unfortunate development.” Gibson resolved that she would try harder to deflect community criticism that she feels

has been unfairly leveled at Jefferson County Schools personnel. Part of the problem, she maintains, was trying to get out ahead of all that was happening at “almost a moment’s notice.” One of the teachers who shared their thoughts shed some additional light on the planning difficulties, pointing out that, initially, the virtual side of instruction was going to be handled by the State. But then, inexplicably, before school opened, “everything changed. In July, we were assured [by the unions] that we would not have to do both in-person and virtual teaching, It would be either/or. Not both.” Another teacher, remarking on the planning,

“

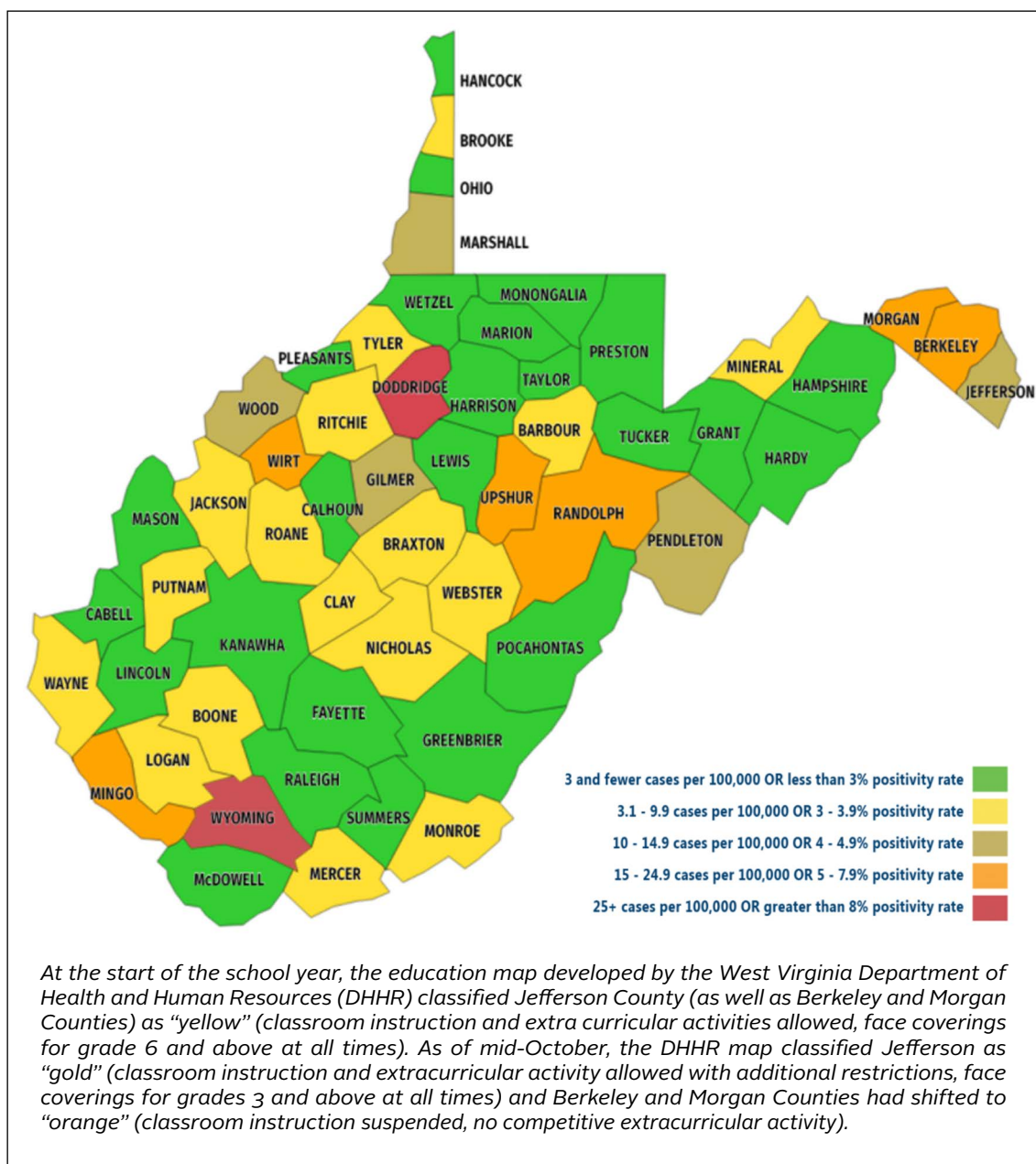
We haven’t met everyone’s expectations. But we are trying.

”

-Dr. Bondy Shay Gibson

also shared concerns about the sustainability of the model: “I know a lot of work has gone into this return-to-school plan, but I think the horse was put way before the cart in many instances. Unfortunately, those of us in the schools aren’t going to be able to keep up the pace and meet the demands.”

Story continues on next page...



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// EDUCATION

A Complex Schedule

Jefferson County Schools are currently operating on a five days per week schedule for in-classroom instruction with a virtual school option offered for students whose parents elect to keep their children at home. Jefferson County Schools report that 47 percent of students system-wide have opted for the virtual option. Elementary-level students whose parents chose the in-classroom option are attending every day. At the middle and secondary schools, students following the in-person instructional format are split into two groups that attend classes on alternate days to further reduce crowding in the schools' facilities. This block schedule cycles over each two weeks — in the first week the “A” group will be in school on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and the “B” group on Tuesday and Thursday; for the second week of the cycle, the groups swap attendance days. It seems easy to describe, but as one teacher remarked, “for me, just trying to remember if I’m teaching an A-Day or a B-Day is sometimes a challenge.”

“

**We are presently
teaching entire families
how to use technology.**

”

- Dr. Bondy Shay Gibson

Currently, there are teachers whose classes are all in-person, while others are teaching only virtually. Many, however, are teaching both formats each day. One example of this type of mixed schedule might have a faculty member teach two in-person instruction periods in the morning and two virtual periods in the afternoon. Gibson did note that Jefferson County Schools took efforts to minimize the number of classes where faculty are simultaneously teaching virtual and in-person classes during the same period. This type of instructional model is mainly used in special education where there are smaller numbers of students on both sides of the screen.

A teacher whose classes are all virtual noted another wrinkle: “There seems to be no limit on the size of virtual classes,” commenting

about one class with 179 students on the virtual roster. As another teacher observed, “virtual is all duplicate and triplicate. It’s a ... lot more work when you have more content. If you try to replicate [virtually] what you do in the classroom, there is just going to be more to it. The same individual, teaching both models, also observed that “my in-person classes are way ahead of my virtual classes,” indicating another potential issue ahead as teachers attempt to present a consistent syllabus for a class and fairly grade students across both formats. The teachers also shared their concerns with the level of engagement with students. In the high school context, with tracks for general studies, college prep and honors curricula, teachers would normally tailor the instructional pacing to fit the specific mix of students in a class. With the virtual format, it’s much more difficult to receive feedback and adjust instruction to better suit student needs. It’s also more difficult to assess engagement. As one teacher remarked, “my in-class students are doing okay; and my virtuals are mostly responding.” Another reported, “a third of my virtual students aren’t responding on any given day.”

Technology — Helping & Hindering

Gibson says that technology and its effective application reflects one of Jefferson County Schools’ most formidable obstacles. “Our greatest challenge for tech is people,” she said. “We have so many varying levels of expertise. People expect the system to make it all happen. We are presently teaching entire families how to use technology.” Gibson noted numerous families who have never previously owned a computer have been opting for their children to participate in online learning. Reliable internet access is an issue for many families also.

In-person classes are also facing their own technology challenges. Due to the demands to spread computer resources to all levels, many classrooms have fewer computers available for students. Where there once may have been two or three computers in a classroom, there is now only one which, more often than not, is the one being used by the teacher. As one teacher remarked, “not only was our extra technology removed, most all [of] the technology within the school for students’ use has been removed to be reimaged for students who don’t have access to computers at home; thus in a world where technology is imperative, we are unable to fully utilize computers [for instruction] in most of our classrooms.”

Looking Ahead

All of the responding teachers and Gibson agreed that in-person teaching is far superior to virtual teaching and that everyone is doing the best that they can. Nonetheless, teachers are

reporting that a myriad of technical problems, steep learning curves, and endless days that often bleed into long nights are having an exhausting effect on them mentally, spiritually, and physically. The Jefferson County Schools administration has been adjusting the initial requirements of the faculty as the school year progresses. While grateful for any easing of demands, the teachers interviewed all reported working 10 to 12 hours a day as they adjust to the new formats and schedules — a frenetic pace that can’t be sustained indefinitely.

“

**...becoming an educator
was a heartfelt career
choice...we became
teachers for our students..**

”

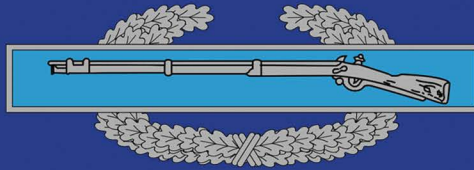
- A teacher at Jefferson County Schools

Gibson repeated that she remains available as she continues to deal with a growing number of letters as well as staff literally crying on the phone. The status for the second half of the fall semester is dependent on the public health conditions of the entire county (see the accompanying description of the WV DHHR Saturday Education Map). Plans for the spring are still being developed with many decisions on hold until the fall process can be evaluated. Many teachers are concerned about a mass exodus at the end of the school year as teachers who are eligible to retire, and those who choose to leave the profession, exercise their own opt-out by seeking a less stressful way of life outside of education. As one teacher remarked, “we became teachers because we wanted to educate our youth. To inspire them and help them reach their [greatest] potential. For the majority of us, becoming an educator was a heartfelt career choice. We knew we weren’t going to get monetarily rich. We became teachers for our students.”

BY: Stephen Willingham



Delegate **JOHN DOYLE** *for Clean Government*



This is the Combat Infantry Badge, awarded by the US Army to those who have been under constant fire as infantry soldiers for long periods. John Doyle was awarded that badge, as well as the Bronze Star for Valor, for his service in the Vietnam war.

John has exhibited that same level of dedication during his service in the Legislature. He's fought hard for teachers, cooks, custodians, bus drivers, taxi drivers, police officers, nurses, pipefitters, plumbers, carpenters, mechanics, office workers, farmers, small business owners and for workers in every other imaginable occupation that lead everyday lives. John Doyle is still fighting for us all.

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John Doyle led the successful fight to get Jefferson County a "better deal" from the proceeds of table games at the Charles Town Races. County government, our municipalities, our schools and our horsemen all benefited from this.

John Doyle led the successful fight to force the state to allow Shepherd University to offer graduate courses.

John Doyle led the successful fight in the House of Delegates to pass the Farmland Protection program.

John Doyle teamed with fellow Eastern Panhandle legislators to get the first West Virginia state subsidy for the MARC train. We now need a full and permanent state subsidy for MARC.

John Doyle is pro-choice. His record proves it.

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Let's keep John Doyle on the job for us!

John Doyle will also:

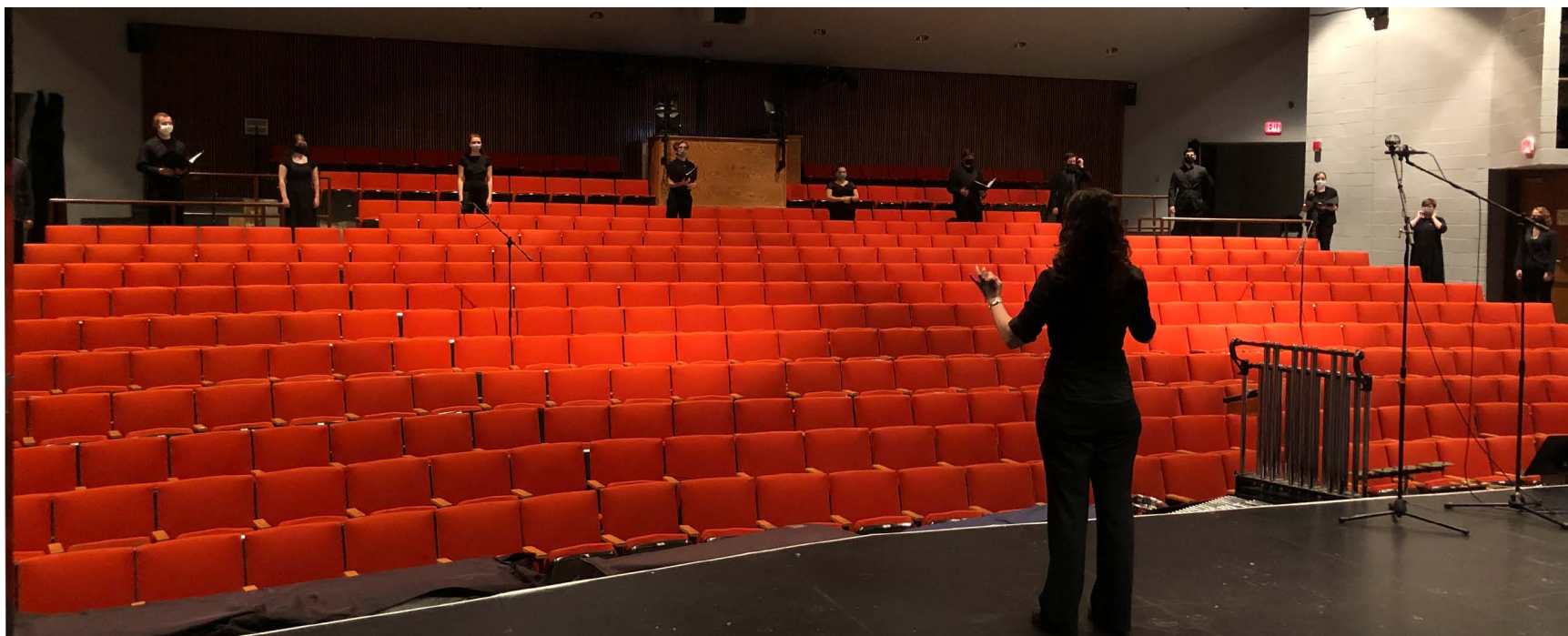
- ★ Work to get our teachers, school service workers and state employees an even bigger raises. The WVEA, the AFT, the WVSSP and the state employees associations have all endorsed John Doyle.
- ★ Work to find a stable, reliable and permanent funding source for the public employees health care plan (PEIA). He'll work to get more and better treatments for opioid addiction and to craft an intelligent response to the COVID crisis.
- ★ Work for a funding formula for that is fair to Shepherd University, and for affordable education for all.
- ★ Work to get our horsemen a fair deal once again for purses and for the breeders' program.
- ★ Work to eliminate the "car tax" making sure that schools and local governments are reimbursed by the state for every penny of that money.

Auth. Doyle for Delegate, Rod Snyder, Treas.

// MUSIC

MUSIC PERFORMANCE TRANSPOSED FOR COVID-19

Shepherd University School of Music Adapts and Succeeds



THE MUSIC SCHOOL at Shepherd University makes a point to be a highly personalized experience for its students. In contrast to many programs at larger institutions, Shepherd is focused on undergraduates and emphasizes the opportunities for its students to study directly with faculty. Unfortunately, the very adjectives that one would use to describe music programs in general and Shepherd's program specifically — intimate, group, performance, together — also describe the activities the health department advises against during the pandemic health crisis.

Can We Do This?

Kurtis Adams, Director of the School of Music, recalled the experience of the spring and summer: "April is our big time in the School, with our ensembles performing their final concerts. We pretty much lost all of that when we cancelled everything just two weeks before the performances would have begun." After pulling together what they could for the spring, the faculty dove into full time planning mode over the summer. Dr. Adams described the team: "Of our eight dedicated faculty, we have four members who focus on the performance programs — Dr. Scott Hippensteel who oversees the band programs, Dr. Rachel Carlson who oversees the choir groups, Dr. Robert Tudor who oversees the contemporary music ensemble; I oversee the jazz ensembles." The first question

the group asked: "Is it even possible to do group performance"?

Following the lead of how the entire University approached the public health situation, "we researched safety protocols, connected with professional organizations, and attended webinars," Dr. Adams described. "The University of Colorado and the University of Maryland in particular were good resources — their music schools collaborated with their medical schools on real-time academic research to understand how to perform safely. We would read the first iterations of their research, then

tweak our plans as their guidance was updated. We found hardware for the instruments that would function as masks to capture moisture. It was an absolute focus on making practice and group performance possible."

Timing the Music

The planning even extended to the specific music performed by each program. Dr. Adams remarked, "you have to consider what you can achieve in a shortened period of practice time. The logistics of planning around rehearsal windows also limited what we would be able to



A Sax quartet jams under the lights outside.



Dr. Yu-Hsuan Lao teaching in studio.

perform and how we would be able to focus on the various parts. In a typical year an ensemble will have six weeks on a repertoire. This year we have two weeks to learn, practice and play. For students, this translates into a lot more practice on their own with focused preparation for rehearsal. Interestingly, this more closely mimics the experience of a professional musician, where having more than one rehearsal before a show is a luxury. Especially for the jazz musicians, it's good practice to be able to walk into a performance and sight read the music."

How to Practice

Each group was able to take a different approach to practice. Dr. Adams described the technology the vocal groups use to practice online: "We use the Jamulus platform, which provides a low latency environment. We also have the ability to upload accompaniment tracks for students to practice against." With the football season postponed to the spring, the band ensembles revised the semester curriculum to focus on small group repertoire. For all of the small ensemble groups, "we're able to do a lot of practice outside," Dr. Adams said, "but we also needed to work through protocols to practice inside the Frank Center so we can continue into the fall. With the size of that space we can maintain a lot of distance [see the accompanying photo of the choir practicing together] and we can open up all of the side doors for good ventilation. We work for 30 minutes, take a 15

minute break to allow the air to clear and then follow with another 30 minutes, then we're done for the day."

Show Time

For performance, Dr. Adams expects all of the groups will do live recordings with no audience. "We've already had some experience with this and it is interesting how it changes the concert dynamic. You don't get to mingle with the audience after the concert, but because the performers are also watching for the first time when we broadcast for the audience, they have the opportunity to chat with each other during the 'performance' and also see the audience reaction in real time. We can also reach a wider audience online — distant family members and people who can't make the evening concert schedule."

Asked about whether he would consider continuing with the new formats beyond the pandemic, Dr. Adams noted, "we might evolve these efforts into something we continue as part of the program or as a stand-alone project for students. But really, we would rather be performing for a live audience."

BY: Steve Pearson

Program and concert information for the Shepherd University School of Music is on the website (Shepherd.edu/Music) and Facebook (@ShepherdUniversityMusic).



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HOLIDAY BEAR HUNT
PAGE 24

// COMMUNITY

A FRESH APPROACH TO HOSPITALITY

Thomas Shepherd Inn Reopens with New Owners



Bryan and Cathy Gray in the rear yard of the Thomas Shepherd Inn.

IT STARTED OUT with Bryan Gray simply looking for a place to live. Recently relocated from southwestern Idaho for a job headquartered in the DC suburbs, he gravitated towards West Virginia as a familiar landscape. He met Cathy soon after. In 2017, after a lot of driving around, they found a place in Harpers Ferry that happened to have a separate cottage on the property. Cathy still had a house south of Winchester and it occurred to them they could rent out the Harpers Ferry cottage while they were working on selling that house and combining their lives as newlyweds.

An Opportunity Together

After a few minutes of conversation with Bryan and Cathy, you can sense that neither is short

of energy. By 2018, they had also purchased the Harpers Ferry Guest House. A former bed and breakfast until 2013, the property was an opportunity in waiting. Cathy's parents were retiring and agreed to join forces with her and Bryan to be the innkeepers. When asked about why it made sense to open another inn, Bryan noted "there is clearly more demand than supply for lodging in Harpers Ferry." Cathy described how their approach "focused on giving both properties character, to try and stand out. The network of guest house owners actually feed each other business, especially with groups who need multiple rooms. We also are very involved with the merchant's association in the town. We all work together."

Like daffodils in the spring, by the

following year Cathy and Bryan had found another property to buy, this one overlooking the river. Being guest house owners was not a long-held ambition, but it seemed to fit their skills and lifestyle. Cathy has a long history in sales as well as experience with historic preservation and interior design. Bryan likewise is a creative person. While his day job is full time, he works remotely, mostly on the computer. The tangible, in-person aspect of restoring and maintaining the properties is a welcome break.

In the spring of 2020, Bryan and Cathy were pondering the implications of the unfolding pandemic, and Cathy's employer decided her days as a salesperson on the road were at an end. A friend called to tell them that the Thomas Shepherd Inn was coming on the market. Then another friend called. And another. They arranged to visit the property on the day it was first open for showing. Standing in the back yard after walking through, they had already decided to make an offer.

Building on Tradition

The concerns of the pandemic are shaping Cathy and Bryan's approach to how they would operate the Inn, but they are also intentionally rethinking how they host guests even beyond the current restrictions. Simple touches, such as adding a remote check-in process and small refrigerators in the rooms, will allow guests more freedom to come and go without relying on close contact with the innkeepers. Cathy observed, "we have a lot of guests that are booking and then they call to ask what precautions we take. Guests want to be out and about, but with less contact."

Cathy described their decision to switch from a very elaborate prepared breakfast served in a common dining room to an extended buffet. She noted how, "especially with Covid-19, guests are not up for sitting together in a small room with strangers. With the buffet, we're not on a fixed schedule and we can serve until late in the morning. Guests will be able to eat in the sitting room, the parlor, even in the yard when the weather is warm. We can also send guests into town for meals too. We see the Inn as a place for guests to decompress, so offering flexibility is an important feature."

Making Connections

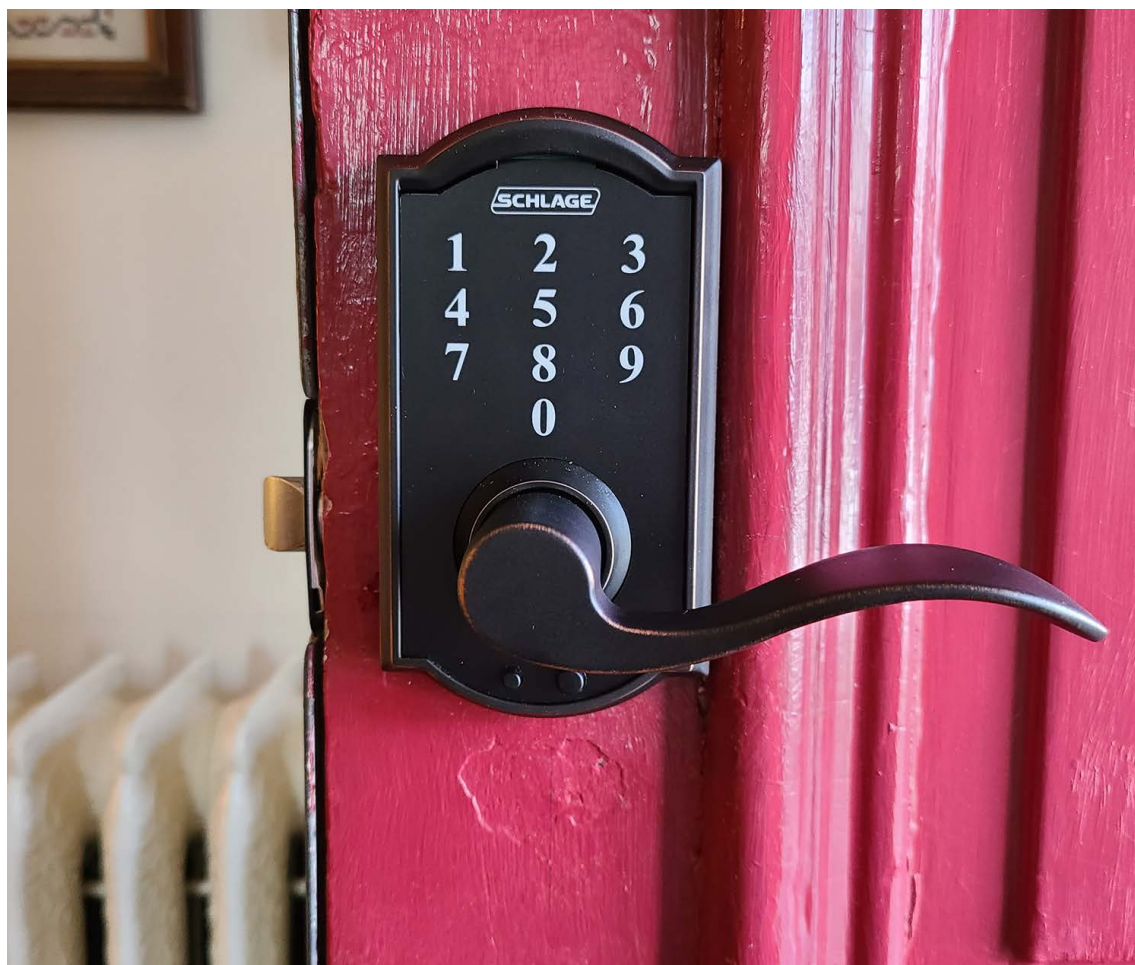
The Grays have hit the ground running — they already had the inn fully booked for the night they closed the deal and took over operations. Cathy says, "we want this to be our place and we'll be updating the rooms as we go along. I love finding pieces of furniture and decorations that will make each room memorable for our guests. We also want to open up the backyard to connect it with the veranda, so guests can enjoy the outside space as well."



Bryan and Cathy plan to continue to operate their guest houses in Harpers Ferry and see the two towns as siblings. The Grays also own Harpers Ferry Bikes (see the story in the July 2019 issue of *The Observer*). “We want to encourage guests to stay longer and experience both towns,” said Bryan. The Grays are the sixth operators of the Thomas Shepherd Inn since it opened as a bed and breakfast in 1984. Noting the history, Bryan said, “we are honored and humbled to be caretakers of this local treasure and hope to continue the legacy, to keep it true to its history of hospitality.”

BY: Observer Staff

The Thomas Shepherd Inn is located at 300 West German Street in Shepherdstown. Phone: 304-876-3715. Web: ThomasShepherdInn.com & PotomacAdventure.com, Facebook: @ThomasShepherdInn.



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// NATURE

A COLORFUL WINTER AHEAD?

Pine Siskins Wander from Canada

By Doug Pifer

Doug Pifer is an artist, naturalist, and writer. He has a Master's Degree in Journalism from Penn State and has been an editor and art educator. His illustrations have appeared in various books and magazines and he has been a contributor to *The Observer* for several years. He lives with his wife and assorted animals on 5.7 acres in a historic farmhouse near Shepherdstown.

LAST MONTH I heard a different bird call coming from one of our tall arborvitae trees in the front yard. When I heard it again a few days later I recognized it—pine siskins! I was excited to see a flock of about a hundred land in the same tree.

They were about the same size as American goldfinches, with a similar call and undulating flight. My wife remarked that, compared to goldfinches, flocks of siskins fly with lightness. Natives of Canada's coniferous forest, pine siskins are considered "irruptive" in most of the United States, which means they show up sometimes during certain years. Irruption in birds is generally believed to be in response to a lack of food in their normal range. Most pine siskin irruptions occur in the fall and winter, but sometimes these birds hang around till spring and even nest here.

Pine siskins are specially adapted to extracting seeds from the cones of pine, spruce, fir and cedar trees. The arborvitae trees in our front yard have produced a bumper crop of seeds this year. Also called northern white cedar, arborvitae means "tree of life." French explorer Jacques Cartier gave it this name after his men were saved from illness, possibly scurvy, by drinking tea that native Canadian people brewed from its leaves and twigs.

Arborvitae trees are likewise important to pine siskins. They depend upon the seeds for food and they nest and roost among the branches. In fact, the pine siskins' range roughly overlaps the range of this northern forest tree.

Setting up the spotting scope on our front porch, I focused on a couple of pine siskins as they hung upside down from the evergreen branches, extracting seeds from the small cones. Up close, they were brown above, creamy white below, marked with bold dark brown streaks. The tail was deeply notched, the folded wings long and pointed. They looked much like striped goldfinches with thinner bills. Viewed head-on, that unusual bill made the bird's face look like a clown with a pointed ice cream cone strapped over its nose.

Some pine siskins flash a bit of yellow when spreading their wings and tail. When the birds are at rest, the color is mostly concealed except for a yellow tinge in the wings. Those I viewed through my scope showed none of this color, nor did I see yellow on any of the flying birds. Researchers say the amount of yellow varies between individuals, irrespective of season, age or sex.

It was remarkable how quiet they were. Their flight calls are soft and buzzy, almost whispered. After looking for what I thought were a couple of siskins feeding in our tree, I was startled to see as many as thirty of them fly from one tree to the other.

Checking the internet, I noticed that folks in Pennsylvania, New York, and other eastern states have been reporting pine siskins since September. When pine siskins appear, sometimes redpolls, evening grosbeaks, and other unusual and beautiful birds from the north also wander into the United States during the winter. Will 2020 be one of those years?



Pine siskin in arborvitae. Drawing by Doug Pifer.

BUTTERFLY WAYSTATION FUNDING AVAILABLE

Monarch Alliance Offers Grants for Habitat

THE MONARCH ALLIANCE, a program of the Potomac Valley Audubon Society, will accept applications for 2021 funding from the Monarch Waystation Grant Program. The application window opens November 15, 2020 and closes on February 1, 2021.

The program is open to projects in Washington County in Maryland, and Berkeley, Jefferson, and Morgan Counties in West Virginia. Preference will be given to schools, universities, nature centers, and other organizations planning to use the waystation to educate the public about monarch butterflies or involve students in outdoor learning.

Program details & application available at:
www.potomacaudubon.org/monarch-alliance/grants



// ELECTIONS

VOTING IN JEFFERSON COUNTY

VOTE IN PERSON - EARLY

You can still vote early through **October 31** at the historic courthouse building at 100 E Washington St, Charles Town WV. The early voting location is open 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday and also Saturdays (Oct 24 & 31). The early voting location will NOT be open on Election Day (Tue, Nov 3).

See Voter ID requirements for what to bring when you vote.

ABSENTEE BALLOT - MAIL OR DROP OFF

You have two options to return your absentee ballot:

- Mail it so that it is **postmarked by Tuesday, November 3 (or earlier)**.
- Drop off your absentee ballot in-person by **Monday, November 2 (or earlier)** at the Jefferson County Clerk’s office in the historic courthouse building (100 E Washington St, Charles Town WV) . You may drop off your own ballot and 1 other person’s ballot (e.g. spouse, parent, child). Open 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday.

If you request an absentee ballot and **decide to vote in person**, bring the absentee ballot with you to your polling place on Election Day and exchange it for a standard ballot (otherwise you will be directed to cast a provisional ballot).

You may **track your absentee ballot** at GoVoteWV.com (blue “track absentee ballot” button). If it says “no result” you can go to your polling place on Election Day and request a provisional ballot.

VOTE IN PERSON - ON ELECTION DAY

Election day is **Tuesday, November 3**. All voting locations (the “polls”) are open from 6:30 in the morning to 7:30 in the evening.

To find out the **location of your polling place**, visit GoVoteWV.com (blue “find your polling place” button).

Two voting locations will be relocated on Election Day:

- **Precincts 23A & 23B**, moved from Jefferson Academy to Crosspoint Church (3066 S Childs Rd, Kearneysville)
- **Precinct 14**, moved from Camp Hill Wesley Church to Harpers Ferry Middle School (1710 N Washington St, Harpers Ferry)

ELECTION DAY - WHAT TO EXPECT

You will receive a paper ballot card to insert in a touch-screen voting machine. There will be many county offices and bond issues on the ballot after the federal and state offices. Allow for extra time to enter the polling place and expect to social distance in line (you may bring a portable chair if you are concerned about standing for an extended time). You are allowed to wear a mask into the polling place.

The area within 100 feet of the entrance to a WV polling place is a “campaign-free zone” — to avoid being challenged, don’t wear any buttons, hats, shirts, etc. with words or images for/against any candidate or issue within the area indicated by the posted signs.

VOTER ID - WHAT TO BRING

Expect to show a valid and non-expired ID to vote.

This ID can be any of the following:

- Voter registration card
- WV driver's license or DMV ID card
- Driver's license from other state
- US Military ID card
- Government employee ID (US or WV)
- Student ID
- Concealed carry permit
- Bank or debit card
- Utility bill or bank statement in your name (dated June or later)
- Health insurance card
- Medicare card
- WV Medicaid card
- Social Security card or Birth Certificate
- WV hunting or fishing license
- WV SNAP ID card or WV TANF ID card

If you are a first-time WV voter, you will need to show proof of residence at your voting address. Bring an ID (with photo and address) from the above list or a photo ID and current (October or November) utility bill, bank statement, government check or paycheck.

If you do not have one of the IDs listed above or your ID is not accepted, you can ask for a provisional ballot. You may still obtain a regular ballot if an adult (with valid ID) accompanying you can sign an affidavit or if a poll worker confirms to have known you for 6 months.

For voting questions, visit the WV Secretary of State’s web portal:

GoVoteWV.com



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Attorneys: Stephen Skinner, Andrew Skinner, Levi Pellegrin & Bryan Ogilvie | Stephen Skinner is responsible for the content of this ad.

VOTE LANAE JOHNSON

"We are in this together!"



Visit www.Johnson4Jefferson.com

FOR
COUNTY COMMISSIONER | KABLETOWN DISTRICT

The vote you cast for County Commission could well be the most important choice you make in this election. Stop the "good old boys" that have been steering our county wrong and get Jefferson County back on track. A vote for Lanae Johnson for County Commission will do just that.

You have probably heard of her opponent. He was a main player in "Operation Shuttle" that brought Rockwool here in a shroud of secrecy. He quit the Development Authority along with 11 others when they were called out on their scheme. Now, as a commercial land developer who sits on the Planning Commission, he wants to steer the County Commission to expose Jefferson County to unfettered development, which may directly benefit him. In his case, name recognition is a warning sign, not a virtue.

Lanae has worked with a variety of organizations as well as local, state, and federal governments. She is a mother, grandmother and retired military officer. She sees the needs of this county as clearly as she can read a balance sheet. She is committed to balanced, sensible economic development, environmental justice, and open, even-handed government.

Paid for by Jefferson County Vision and the Eastern Panhandle Green Coalition

Say "NO" to business as usual and VOTE for Lanae Johnson for Jefferson County Commission!

VOTE NOVEMBER 3rd

STORME FRAME

FOR
WEST VIRGINIA
HOUSE OF DELEGATES
66TH DISTRICT



Visit www.stormethehouse.com

Storme Shiley Frame is home grown and dedicated to Jefferson County. She is imbued with the values that make West Virginia "Wild and Wonderful:" dedication, perseverance, honesty, and community vision. Wearing a protective mask, she has been walking the neighborhoods, listening to your voices, to be our voice in the House of Delegates for the 66th District.

Storme cannot be bought by polluters or vested interests, unlike her opponent who is a paid voice for Rockwool. A vote for Storme Shiley Frame is a vote for West Virginia values. Our county cannot afford to be "rockwooled" again and again for foreign profiteers and out-of-state ecological locusts.

Storme lives a focused civic life. Born and raised in Charles Town, an avid 4-H'er, outdoorswoman, teacher, parent, and a pivotal leader in the 55 Strong movement, she recognizes the importance of developing our county while preserving the environment and protecting our thriving tourism, agriculture, and recreational economy.

She Supports:

- Small Business
- Sustainable Agriculture
- True Broadband Internet for All
- Attracting and Retaining the Best Teachers

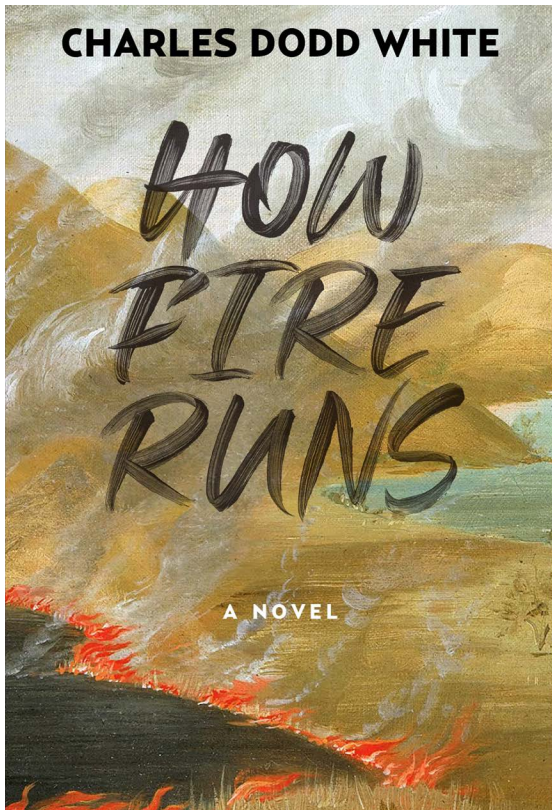
She is dedicated to:

- Transparency
- Accountability
- Equality for all
- Preserving Natural Resources

Make Jefferson County the best it can be by voting to elect Storme Frame to the West Virginia House of Delegates (66th). Send Storme to Charleston!

Paid for by Jefferson County Vision and the Eastern Panhandle Green Coalition

// BOOK REVIEW



COMPARED TO NATIONAL POLITICS, it often seems that local governmental affairs involve lower stakes and mundane concerns. That outlook is just as frequently mistaken. History has shown us repeatedly that grassroots movements or social malaises can brew under the radar of the national media only to erupt on the national stage with explosive force. This inattention explains in part the many, pundits and ordinary people alike, who were surprised by the results of the Presidential election in 2016. It also may help explain why in recent years we have seen more novels that deal with social concerns instead of the depoliticized fare one can typically find on best seller lists and grocery store racks.

How Fire Runs, by Charles Dodd White

Publisher: Swallow Press (2020)

Review by: Gonzalo Baeza — Born in Texas, raised in Chile, and currently living in Shepherdstown WV, Gonzalo is a writer with books published in Spain and Chile. His fiction has appeared in *Boulevard*, *Goliad*, and *The Texas Review*.

This year has brought us several interesting novels that speak to the current political climate. These include John Woods’ *Lady Chevy* (reviewed in the July issue of *The Observer*) and Charles Dodd White’s newly released *How Fire Runs*.

In White’s ornate but precise prose, the novel sets the mood with an ominous opening scene: Six men arrive in the evening at an abandoned asylum in Elizabethton, Carter County, Tennessee. The sight of the crew unloading boxes takes a different connotation when they set up a pole at the end of the driveway and fly a swastika flag. The following morning, county commissioner Gerald Pickens, who lives near the asylum, goes into a panic at the sight of the red flag and fires his rifle at a car backing out of the building.

As the county commission deliberates on whether to punish Pickens, it becomes known that the new arrivals to Elizabethton seek to create a racial separatist community called Little Europe. The controversial group is not exclusively comprised of true believers and it counts within its ranks tortured ex-con Harrison and other outcasts with their own agendas. Their leader, Gavin Noon, is a comparatively polished ideologue. When another commissioner, Kyle Pettus, resigns his position, Noon seizes the opportunity to run for his seat as the community threatens to be torn apart in an acrimonious race.

While Noon’s threat seems to be

primarily symbolic — as one of his political allies puts it, “our greatest power on the national stage is in the imagination of those who detest us. We are the minority” — his presence makes people wonder how ripe Elizabethton is for a movement of this nature. Pettus describes seeing Confederate flags across Carter County and how they have become a cultural signifier that exceeds any historical connotations: “Rebel flags no further than a quarter of a mile apart even though just about every family up here was pro-Union during the Civil War. But history doesn’t have a damn thing to do with it anymore.”

In the case of one of Noon’s crew members, Delilah, history and politics are secondary considerations. “We’re all just using each other here,” she tells Noon. “That’s why this place has a chance to do something. Not because of your ideas. What makes this place something different is that it’s full of people who are hungry, hungry in a way that people who’ve had plenty to eat all their lives can’t ever understand. And it’s them not understanding that makes them act in a way a hungry dog can smell.”

These moments of introspection from White’s well-delineated characters help *How Fire Runs* straddle successfully between the contingent and the literary, transcending the “ripped from the headlines” nature of many works dealing with political issues. Loss and the need to build an identity through connections that are more intimate than ethnic kinship is a theme that pulsates just as strongly in the personal stories of Kyle, Gavin, and Delilah’s partner, Harrison. Coupled with the tense pacing of a thriller and an apocalyptic ending which, as in earlier works like *A Shelter of Others* (2014), pits its characters against the fury of nature, White’s novel is an artful and suspenseful page turner.

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EXPLORE // CELEBRATE IN JEFFERSON COUNTY



LIVING WITH RACISM AS A BLACK WOMAN

Online Event with Storyteller Donna Washington



TUNE IN from the comfort of home to be informed, entertained, and perhaps discomfited by, Donna Washington’s performance of “The Chairs in the Trees” presented by Speak Storytelling.

Reading through the bio and blog on her website (DLWstoryteller.com), it’s clear that two activities shape Donna’s life — talking and travelling. The storytelling started when

she was a young child listening to the fantastic tales of her father, blossomed during her college years at Northwestern University, and has been her life ever since. As a self-described army brat, the traveling started early too. For this program, Donna draws on “some of the stories that ran into me while traveling coast to coast in President Obama’s America.”

Donna describes her experience with “an undercurrent of racism and threat that went unchallenged and largely unacknowledged in America between 2008 and 2016. As a black woman living on the ground with it, there were some truly unbelievable things that happened to me. Some were funny, others threatening, and a few so strange it is hard to believe they aren’t fiction.”

Performance date: November 10 (Tue), 7:30pm. All attendees must pre-register online at SpeakStorySeries.com, using an email address where they expect to receive the link for the concert. Registration is \$12, free to season ticket holders. Speak is for adult audiences. Mature youth allowed at guardian’s discretion.

Speak
Story Series

Speak is a community-based storytelling organization. Since 2013, Speak has presented fifty-six storytellers (sharing stories in ten languages). Formerly part of the Center for Appalachian Studies, Speak recently formed its own 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

“A man who is possessed by his shadow is always standing in his own light and falling into his own traps.” —C.G. Jung
(The Archetypes and the Collective Unconscious, p. 123)



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Lanae Johnson
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- ★ Affordable Housing for Teachers and First Responders; Alternative Housing for Veterans and Our Homeless Population
- ★ STEM/STEAM Camps; Employment for Our Youth

To learn more, to get in touch, or to donate:

W: Johnson4Jefferson.com | FB: [Johnson4Jefferson](https://www.facebook.com/Johnson4Jefferson)
E: Johnson4Jefferson@gmail.com

Your support is greatly appreciated!

EXPLORE // ENTERTAINMENT



The Observer's guide to events and live performance in and around Jefferson County, WV. To suggest a venue or event for the guide, email Connect@WeAreTheObserver.com.

VIRGINIA

TALLY HO THEATER

19 W Market St, Leesburg VA
703-777-1665
TallyHoTheater.com
All events require ticket purchase

- NOV** 6, 7pm, Sun Dogs: A Tribute to Rush
- 7, 7pm, Sun Dogs: A Tribute to Rush
- 13, 7pm, The Darby Brothers
- 14, 7pm, Tab Benoit
- 20, 7pm, Jason Masi & Friends
- 21, 7pm, Dave Matthews Experience
- 27, 7pm, DC Improve Presents: Comedy

- DEC** 4, 7pm, Amish Outlaws

B CHORD BREWING

34266 Williams Gap Rd, Round Hill, VA 20141
571-474-9191
bchordbrewing.com

- OCT** 31, 6pm, Booggrass Costume Dance Party

- NOV** 7, 3pm, Saxsquatch Live
- 15, 3pm, Christian Lopez

BOZZO FAMILY VINEYARDS

35226 Charlestown Pike, Purcellville, VA 20132
571-918-9001
bozwines.com
Hours: Fri 3-6, Sat 1-6, Sun 1-5

- NOV** 7, 2pm, Mike Clement

BREAUX VINEYARDS

36888 Breaux Vineyards Ln, Purcellville, VA 20132
540-668-6299
breauxvineyards.com
Hours: Mon-Fri 11-6, Sat/Sun 11-7

- NOV** 1, 2pm, James Gregory
- 7, 2pm, Shane Gamble
- 14, 2pm, Ginny Blair
- 27, 5pm Gary Jay & Vince Fireball

TWO TWISTED POSTS WINERY

12944 Harpers Ferry Rd, Purcellville, VA 20132
540-668-6540
twotwistedposts.com
Hours: Thurs-Mon 11-6

- OCT** 31, 2pm, Dave Lange - Hill Country Blues

- NOV** 14, 2pm, Jes Jams
- 28, 2pm, Brahman Noodles

- DEC** 12, 2pm, Mark Cullinanae

MARYLAND

ANTIETAM CREEK VINEYARDS

4835 Branch Ave, Sharpsburg MD 21782
240-490-2851
antietamcreekvineyards.com

- NOV** 1, 2pm, Brian Forberger Duo
- 7, 2pm, The Hokums
- 8, 2pm, East of Antietam
- 14, 2pm, Danny Webber Trio
- 15, 2pm, Shady Lane

BIG CORK VINEYARDS

4236 Main St, Rohrserville, MD 21779
301-302-8032
bigcorkvineyards.com

Hours: Thurs 11-5, Fri 11-9, Sat-Mon 11-5
Outside music - Bring a chair and blanket for the lawn, bring your own glass or buy a glass to take home

- NOV** 7, 1pm, Jason Masi
- 8, 1pm, Allie and Luna
- 14, 1pm, Nick Coons
- 15, 1pm, Andrew O'Day
- 21, 1pm, Ed Barney
- 22, 1pm, David Lange
- 27, 1pm, Sweet Something
- 28, 1pm, Shane Gamble
- 29, 1pm, Caleb Hacker

BLUE MOUNTAIN WINE CRAFTERS BOUTIQUE WINERY

117 E Baltimore St., Funkstown, MD 21734
301-791-2882
bluemountainwinecrafters.com

Hours: Sat 11-6, Sun 12-5, Mon 11-6, Tues 11-5, Weds-Fri 11-6
Outside music and wine/cider making classes

- OCT** 30, 6pm, Jason Teach
- 31, 1pm, Rich Fehle

- NOV** 1, 1pm, Bob Courter
- 7, 2pm, Denny Spickler (half of Siff Dills)
- 8, 1pm, Paul McNeil
- 14, 2pm, Ted Casper
- 22, 1pm, Shane Gamble
- 28, 2pm, Brian Forberger
- 29, 1pm, Denny Spickler (half of Siff Dills)

KNOB HALL WINERY

14108 St. Paul Rd, Clear Spring, MD 21722
301-842-2777
knobhallwinery.com

- OCT** 30, 7pm, The Push and Friends

RED HEIFER WINERY

12840 Red Heifer Winery Ln, Smithsburg, MD 21783
301-824-5210
redheiferwinery.com

- OCT** 31, 1pm, Herb & Hanson

- NOV** 1, 1pm, Brad Munn

LOCAL HISTORY



FORGED IN IRON AND BONE: UNVEILING FACES OF THE ENSLAVED

The guests of honor at this event have been dead for 200 years. Catoclin Furnace Historical Society presents forensic facial reconstructions of two enslaved African Americans from Catoclin Furnace. The evening will include heavy hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar, and music. All proceeds will go directly to the completion of the Museum of the Ironworker in historic Catoclin Furnace.

Time: November 14 (Saturday) 5pm - 8pm

Location: The Delaplaine Visual Arts Center
40 South Carroll St, Frederick MD 21701

Ticket info: see Facebook page
[@CatoclinFurnaceHistoricalSocietyInc](https://www.facebook.com/CatoclinFurnaceHistoricalSocietyInc)

LOCAL ARTISTS



OVER THE MOUNTAIN STUDIO TOUR

OVER THE MOUNTAIN STUDIO TOUR GOES VIRTUAL IN 2020

Due to COVID-19, this year's tour looks a little different. Participants will be able to visit and interact with the artists via the web. The online event will give you the opportunity to browse and buy, tour our studios, watch demonstrations, and chat with the artists.

Visit www.OverTheMountainStudioTour.com on the event dates for the direct links to each artist's studio.

Event dates: November 14 & 15

About the Tour: For 30 years, the artists of OTMST have invited guests into their working studios every November to present exceptional hand-made wares, from furniture and hand hewn bowls, to many types of pottery, botanical collages and assemblages, sequential arts, beaded clothing and adornments, weavings, blacksmithed usefulness, hand-hewn sculptures, jewelry from silver to melted glass, stained glass, unique basketry. They welcome everyone to this.

EXPLORE // SHEPHERDSTOWN



BREAKING GROUND

Construction Begins for New Library in Shepherdstown



THE MULTI-YEAR EFFORT to build a new facility for the Shepherdstown Public Library takes a big step forward with the October 30 ceremonial

groundbreaking ceremony at the new location adjacent to the Clarion Hotel property just outside of the Town boundary. Currently located in the historic market building at the center of the Shepherdstown, the Public Library is one of three facilities serving the entire county. The current library in Shepherdstown is by far the smallest of the three libraries — designated to serve 20,000 potential patrons, the current space is only 2000 square feet and is located in a building dating back to the early 1800s. The current public health restrictions have reduced the usability of the current structure even further.

At 12,000 square feet, the new facility will be accessible and designed to accommodate

the interests and needs of library patrons of all ages. Library Board President Terrence Kramer describes the groundbreaking as “the culmination of a rich and engaged process of imagining a 21st century library for our Shepherdstown community.” Kinsley Construction will begin the site work this month, with Hoar Construction starting on the actual structure by the beginning of 2021. Opening is targeted for the fall of next year. The lower level of the new library will be dedicated to children’s services, with a separate young adult area and a media lab for all ages upstairs. There will be meeting rooms and event terrace for community events, and free parking.

For more information on the Shepherdstown library construction project and the ongoing fundraising effort, visit www.lib.shepherdstown.wv.us/libraryproject.html.

LOCAL ARTIST



KIMOPICS GALLERY

“KIMOPICS” GALLERY opens on Veterans Day 2020 in a new location, 129 East German St. in Shepherdstown. The exhibit, “Counties of The Potomac River - Series One”, features images by Vietnam Veteran photographer/composer Kimo Williams.

The “Counties of The Potomac River” series is inspired by Kimo’s observation of the Potomac and how its banks meld with his Shepherdstown property. “I found myself curious about the other banks that also touch the Potomac. The exhibit series is not about the specific banks along the river but about my excursions into each Potomac River county and the imagery that I find interesting.”

Contact: J. Kimo Williams
Email: kimo@kimopics.com
Website: kimopics.com

Hours: Veterans Day 11am to 5pm and then each week; Saturdays and Sundays 11 to 5 (or by appointment).

SUPPORT LOCAL



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As the holidays approach, you’ll be wowed and delighted with the variety of gift-able offerings all made locally with love. Be sure to browse the hand-crafted wreathes, swags, greenery, gift baskets and local goods for holiday decorating and gift giving

Event Date: November 20
Hours: Sundays, 9am–1pm, through 12/20
Address: S. King Street, behind the Library, Shepherdstown, WV
Facebook: [Facebook.com/ShepherdstownFarmersMarket](https://www.facebook.com/ShepherdstownFarmersMarket)
Website: ShepherdstownFarmersMarketWV.com

ONLINE PANEL



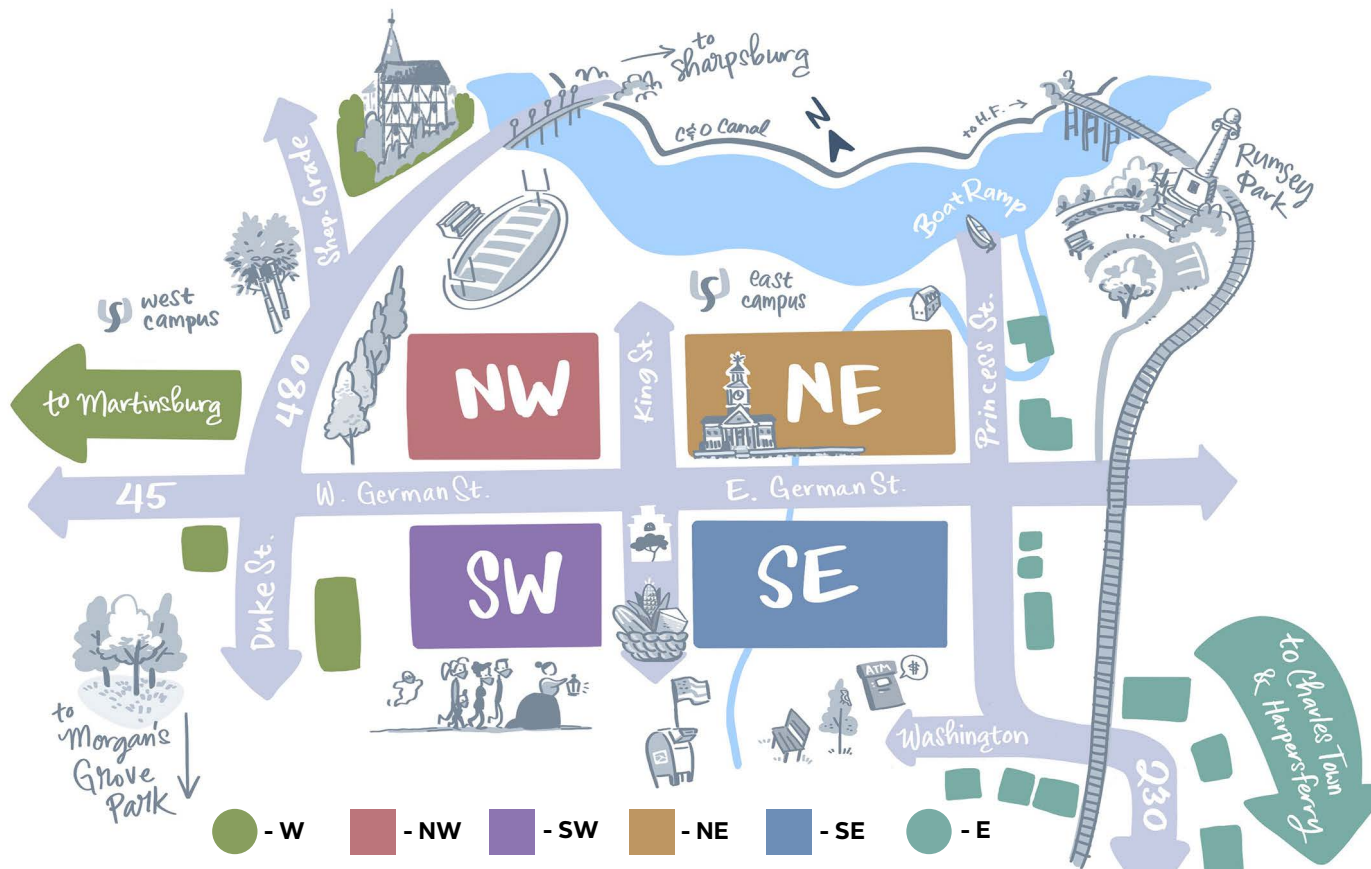
AMERICAN POLITICS IN A COVID-19 WORLD: WHAT LIES AHEAD?

THE STUBBLEFIELD INSTITUTE at Shepherd University presents a panel of three nationally-recognized journalists and media analysts who will share their views on the effect of the 2020 elections on our nation’s future, with a focus on how the COVID-19 pandemic is changing the political and policy landscape.

The participants in this American Conversations Series forum will be Amy Walter, national editor of the Cook Report and PBS and FOX contributor; Susan Glasser, author, Washington correspondent for the New Yorker, and co-founder of Politico; and Ray Suarez, formerly an anchor and correspondent with Al Jazeera America and PBS. The event will be co-moderated by Kelly Johnston, former Secretary of the U.S. Senate and Jordan Jalil, a senior at Shepherd University and captain of the Shepherd Debate Team, the 2019 collegiate national champions. For details on how to participate, contact the Institute via its website (Stubblefield.org) and Facebook page (@ICPCShepherd).

Time & Location: Nov 16 (Mon) 7:30pm - 9:00pm
Via Zoom & Facebook Live

EXPLORE // SHEPHERDSTOWN



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(By appointment only)
304-885-0093

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304-870-4439

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304-870-2944

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304-876-0217

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304-876-0871

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304-876-3333

MECKLENBURG INN ■
English-style pub & garden
304-876-2126

PRESS ROOM ■
Regional cuisine, fine dining
304-876-8777

SHEPHERDSTOWN LIQUORS ●
304-876-2100

SHEPHERDSTOWN SWEET SHOP ■
Baked goods & sandwiches
304-876-2432

TOMMY'S PIZZA ●
Pizzas & subs to go
304-876-2577

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Handmade rugs
240-707-8987

BADGERHOUND STUDIO & GALLERY ■
304-261-6028

BRIDGE GALLERY ●
Showcase of local artists
304-876-2300

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(Currently online only)
304-263-3100

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410-917-7262

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Gifts & delicacies
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GERMAN STREET TATTOO ■
(By appointment only)
304-249-8332

THE GOOD SHOP ■
Women's clothing
123 E German St

THE HIVE HOUSE ●
Beekeeping supply
304-261-8548

HONOR D FINE SHOES & HATS ■
Stylish shoes, hats for all
304-539-3236

KIMOPICS GALLERY ■
Local photographer
304-582-1487

MEDITATIVE MEDICINALS ■
CBD, health & beauty
719-221-1543

MOUNTAINEER POPCORN ■
Sweet & savory treats
410-937-4612

O'HURLEY'S GENERAL STORE ●
Novelties & gifts
304-876-6907

ON THE WINGS OF DREAMS ■
Gifts for spiritual journeyers
304-876-0244

REVERSA ROSE ■
Natural skin-care products

ONLINE EVENT

LEFT OF THE BANK: POETRY & MUSIC HOSTED BY FOSL



The Friends of the Shepherdstown Library's annual **Left of the Bank** program will be presented virtually this year. Performers will include Lee Doty, Justin

Duwel-Zahniser, Laura First, Don Oehser, Sue Silver, and Ed Zahniser. To enjoy this showcase of poetry and music, send your email address to fosl25443@gmail.com to get onto the 'invites list.' Attendance is free and donations to FOSL are always welcomed but not necessary. For updates, visit the FOSL website (foslWV.org).

Time: Nov 13 (Fri) 7:30pm
Location: Online

EXPLORE // SHEPHERDSTOWN



WVU MEDICINE OPENS IN SHEPHERDSTOWN



EVEN BEFORE COVID-19, WVU Medicine in the Eastern Panhandle was making big changes. At the start of 2020 the region's largest healthcare system was adding robotic surgery capability to its Berkeley Medical Center in Martinsburg and starting construction of a new medical office building on newly-acquired land in Shepherdstown.

In August, Dean Thomas took the helm as the President and CEO of WVU Hospitals East, the nonprofit entity that operates WVU Medicine. "I'm excited to be here," exclaimed Thomas, who said he was attracted to the position by the opportunity to enhance healthcare services, in partnership with WVU's academic medical centers, for the region's growing population. Thomas brings more than two decades of healthcare leadership experience in Arizona, Louisiana and most recently

southeastern Wisconsin where he developed healthcare services for rural areas of that state.

Topic number one right now is the pandemic. "We feel we are prepared," said Vice President Patient Care Services and Chief Nursing Officer Samantha Richards. Richards pointed to extensive planning and the benefit of being able to leverage key resources of the entire WVU health system for infectious disease expertise and personal protective equipment. "We need to be sure we are supporting everyone," Richards emphasized, acknowledging the extra toll of the coronavirus on emotional well-being. "[The fight against COVID-19] can be quite tough and draining," added Dr. Emma Morton-Eggleston, Dean of the Eastern Campus of WVU Health Science Center.

WVU Medicine is making more use of telehealth as a way to continue offering care

when in-person visits are not possible. If there is a "silver lining" with COVID-19, said Thomas, it is the "rapid adoption of telehealth and remote technologies in a few months that would have taken the industry years to achieve." Morton-Eggleston emphasized that patients should not delay routine preventative care because that can lead to health problems. "Absolutely get the care you need, and that can be in person or video."

Despite the pandemic, WVU Medicine's new Shepherdstown medical office building opened on schedule in September with a core group of general and family medicine practice doctors and a plan to expand into in-demand specialties such as orthopedics, endocrinology, and behavioral health. Dr. Morton-Eggleston, an endocrinologist, is moving her practice to be based in Shepherdstown.

Although not an urgent care center, the new location schedules same-day visits and offers walk-in vaccinations. In some examination rooms the traditional exam table has been replaced with a high-tech reclining chair that converts into an exam platform (demonstrated by Dr. Morton-Eggleston and a "patient" in the photo), a welcome comfort for mobility-challenged patients. A striking feature in the lobby is an original painting by local artist Diana Suttentfield depicting the farmland that used to occupy the land directly across from the new building.

Looking ahead, Thomas plans to launch a strategic planning initiative that will invite public input to help steer the long-term planning for WVU Medicine. In the near-term, Thomas and his colleagues anticipate a continued focus on serving existing healthcare needs in the region while building out capabilities in areas such as cardiovascular and digestive disease treatment.

WVU Medicine is located at 60 MacLaine Way (off Route 45 west of Shepherdstown). Phone 304-876-6343.

ADVERTISE IN *The Observer's*

Local **HOLIDAY** *Guide*

Email: Sales@WeAreTheObserver.com

EXPLORE // CHARLES TOWN & RANSON



THE FATHERS GET A SIBLING

LIBBY POWELL OF SIBLING COFFEE ROASTERS is moving her shop into the Mad Monks storefront. Powell describes it as a partnership, with the Fathers continuing their bakery operations in the back of the shop. Powell plans to update the familiar “living room” space inside and also offer seating (and eventually entertainment) on the rear patio.



FOOD, DRINK & ENTERTAINMENT

A LA MODE CAFE
ICE CREAM & DESSERTS

113 Potomac St
540-514-6255

ALMOST HEAVEN PUB & GRILL

Pub food & drinks
177 Potomac St
304-535-8710

ABOLITIONIST ALE WORKS

Craft beer & pub dining
129 W Washington St
681-252-1548

ALFREDO'S MEDITERRANEAN GRILL

Quaint & homey bistro
735 E Washington St
304-724-9992

GINZA

Hibachi & sushi
91 Saratoga Dr
304-728-9888

GRANDMA'S DINER

American & Spanish
227 W Washington St
304-724-9960

HOLLYWOOD CASINO

Slots, tables, & horse racing
750 Hollywood St
800-795-7001

INKWELL'S TAVERN

Cocktails, craft beer, food
205 W Washington St
304-930-1742

MAD MONKS BAKERY

Coffee and baked goods
109 W Washington St

MOUNTAIN VIEW DINER

Classic family restaurant
903 E Washington St
304-728-8522

NEEDFUL THINGS

Cafe & vintage furnishings
218 W Washington St
304-725-6315

OLD OPERA HOUSE

Community theater
204 N George St
304-725-4420

ORTEGA'S TACO SHOP

Homemade Mexican cuisine
100 W Washington St
304-728-4321

PADDY'S IRISH PUB

Irish-theme sports bar
210 W Liberty St
304-725-4999

ROSSY'S PLACE

American Restaurant
1446 Flowing Springs Rd
861-252-4125

SIBLING COFFEE ROASTERS

(new location)
109 W Washington St
540-450-7908

SUMITRA

Innovative Thai & Asian
211 W Washington St
304-885-8747

TEE DAWGS BBQ

TX style smoked meats
307 S Washington St
304-725-2271

SHOPPING & GALLERIES

ART DECO DEKOR

20th Century vintage
114 E Liberty St
304-724-6004

B.VINTAGE

Modern farmhouse vintage
114 W Washington St
304-885-8920

BUSHEL & PECK

Specialty grocery store
100 W Washington St
304-885-8133

FAST CASH PAWN

Jewelry, electronics, etc.
237 W Washington St
304-885-0066

FEAGANS JEWELERS

Custom jewelry & repair
226 W Washington St
304-725-7411

FUZZY DOG BOOKS & MUSIC

Used books & vinyl
111 N Charles St
304-867-9321

THE HOBBIES SHOP

Models, RC, kites, etc.
226 W Washington St
681-252-0861

JEFFERSON COUNTY MUSEUM

(Open by appointment)
200 E Washington St
304-725-8628

LITTLE POTTERY HOUSE

Make & paint pottery
117 N Charles St
304-820-6485

MITIELDA LATINA

Convenience store
124 W Washington St
304-885-4544

NEEDFUL THINGS

Vintage & new items
218 W Washington St
304-725-6315

OP-SHOP

Curated resale clothing
115 N Charles St
304-725-6605

TRADEWINDS FLOORS

Carpet & flooring
204 W Washington St
304-728-9980

TWO CROWS ANTIQUE MALL

50+ antique dealers
1212 N Mildred St
681-252-1343

TWO RIVERS TREADS

Active & outdoor footwear
400 S Mildred St
304-728-8843

WEANT TO PLAY

Sporting equipment
306 W Washington St
540-514-3909

WEAR IT AGAIN KID

Consignment boutique
311 W Washington St
304-725-7549

THE WILLIAMS STORE

Convenience store
131 W Washington St
202-674-0300

THE WOODEN SHOE

Vintage lighting, glass, china
222 W Washington St
304-725-1673

WASHINGTON STREET ARTISTS COOP

Gallery & exhibits
108 N George St
304-724-2090

YARNABILITY

Arts & crafts
130 W Washington St
304-876-8081

SERVICES

COLIN'S BARBER SHOP

103 W Washington St
304-725-0123

DOUBLE IRIS YOGA

201 W Washington St
240-625-8358

EFFLEURAGE SPA & BOUTIQUE

303 W Washington St
304-240-8012

GARRISON'S BARBER SHOP

109 N Charles St

SOKEL MAKEUP & SKIN CARE

123 N Charles St
304-728-8801

STUDIO M

Yoga
231 W Washington St
304-728-9988

TAILORING BY TERESA

115 W Washington St
304-724-6408

THE UPPERCUT

Beauty Salon
305 W Washington St
304-725-1950

HIGHLIGHTS & EVENTS

A month of kindness in Charles Town — promoting community spirit throughout the City in November with “kindness-related” activities, merchandise and promotions. The downtown district will be decorated with new banners and merchants will be offering special promotions and merchandise to encourage participation.

Nov 14 (Sat) — **Celebrating First Responders.** Downtown merchants will be offering 10% discounts to first responders, essential workers and front line workers. Look for signs and details at participating merchants.

Nov 28 (Sat) — **Small Business Saturday.** All merchants will be open with specials to kick off the 2020 holiday season.

EXPLORE // HARPERS FERRY & BOLIVAR



PARK REOPENING

Planning for Holiday Festivities

WITH THE NATIONAL PARK facilities now open (including the restrooms) and the shuttle bus service running from the visitor center parking lot, Harpers Ferry is getting ready to celebrate the holidays in November and December. 2020 marks the 50th celebration of the **Old Tyme Christmas** program in Harpers Ferry.

Events that have been announced include craft demonstrations and wagon tours on the weekends of December 5-6 and 12-13, visits with Santa Claus (and Mrs. Claus) on both weekends at the Gazebo, and costumed performers outside in Lower Town. The Tri-State Holiday market will take place on December 14 (Sat) from 9 am to 5 pm at the Clarion Inn. Visit the Old Tyme Christmas website (HarpersFerryOTC.com) for times, locations, and event details.



The Merriwether Lewis exhibit (shown here) and the other park museums, bookstore, and visitor facilities, including restrooms, are now open to the public.



The Park Association Guides are offering extended walking tours of Lower Town in addition to the standard driving tours (details at HarpersFerryHistory.org).



The patio at the Barn in Upper Town is open for dining and refreshments (schedule at BarnOfHarpersFerry.com).



The Park Service shuttle is running a regular schedule between the Visitor Center and Lower Town (details at NPS.gov/hafe).

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EXPLORE // HARPERS FERRY & BOLIVAR



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A LA MODE CAFE ICE CREAM & DESSERTS

113 Potomac St
540-514-6255

ALMOST HEAVEN PUB & GRILL

Pub food & drinks
177 Potomac St
304-535-8710

THE ANVIL RESTAURANT

Casual dining, rustic space
1290 W Washington St
304-535-2582

THE BARN OF HARPERS FERRY

Bar & events venue
1062 W Washington St
855-935-2276

BATTLE GROUNDS BAKERY & COFFEE

Pastries & sandwiches
180 High St
304-535-8583

THE CANAL HOUSE CAFÉ

Local ingredients
1226 W Washington St
304-535-8551

CANNONBALL DELI

Sandwiches, Snacks, Drinks
125 W Potomac St
540-535-1762

COACH HOUSE GRILL N' BAR

Full service dining
173 Potomac St
540-514-6255

THE COFFEE MILL

Coffee shop (takeout-only)
140 Potomac St
540-514-6255

COUNTRY CAFÉ

Breakfast & lunch, casual
1715 Washington St
304-535-2327

CREAMY CREATIONS

Ice cream shop
173 Potomac St
304-535-3045

HAMILTON'S TAVERN 1840

Inventive craft menu
914 Washington St
304-535-8728

HARPERS FERRY BREWING

Craft brews
37412 Adventure Center Ln
571-420-2160

Harpers Ferry Ice Cream Shop

Ice cream & milkshakes
4330 Wilson Freeway
304-535-6305

KELLEY FARM KITCHEN

Vegetarian & Vegan
(Takeout only)
1112 Washington St
304-535-9976

LES & ALI'S SEAFOOD

Fresh catch fish market
(Weekends only)
Wilson Freeway & Blair Rd
540-931-8050

MOUNTAIN HOUSE CAFE

Cozy family inn, takeout
175 High St
304-932-0677

THE RABBIT HOLE

Casual American & drinks
186 High St
304-535-8818

SWEET ALISHA'S PIZZA

Family-owned pizzeria
180 High St
304-535-8769

WHITE HORSE TAVERN

Burgers, brews & Bourbons
4328 Wilson Fwy
304-535-6314

SHOPPING & GALLERIES

THE GILDED FLEA ANTIQUES

Antique & vintage wares
930 Washington St
304-268-0763

HARPERS FERRY PARK ASSOCIATION BOOKSHOP

(Currently under the tent)
723 Shenandoah St
304-535-6881

THE HODGE PODGE

Gifts, souvenirs & antiques
156 High St
304-535-6917

MAGPIE POTTERY

Ceramics by local artisans
163 Public Way
757-376-1748

MARY ADAMS ACCESSORIES

Eclectic jewelry
170 High St
304-535-2411

NATURE'S HEALTH AND BODY

Health & wellness products
180 High St
772-228-4367

HARPERS FERRY OUTFITTERS

Outdoor gear & bike shop
106 Potomac St
304-535-2087



RIVERS STUDIO & GALLERY

Functional & sculptural art
1346 W Washington St
703-727-2532

HB SNALLYGASTER GENERAL STORE

Whimsical goods & cafe
1102 Washington St
304-535-8728

TENFOLD FAIR TRADE COLLECTION

Hand-crafted wares
180 High St
304-579-8525

TESSOTERICA

Hand-crafted bath items
170B High St
304-535-8248

TRUE TREATS HISTORIC CANDY

Retro candy & fun treats
144 High St
304-461-4714

THE VILLAGE SHOP

Souvenirs & novelties
144 High St
304-535-8333

THE VINTAGE LADY

Jewelry & local WV goods
180 High St
304-535-1313

WASHINGTON STREET STUDIOS

Ceramic studio and classes
1441 Washington St
240-586-3030

SERVICES & ADVENTURE

APPALACHIAN TRAIL VISITOR CENTER

(Currently closed)
799 Washington St
304-535-6331

GHOST TOURS OF HARPERS FERRY

History, legend & lore
(8pm daily)
100 Church St
304-725-8019

HARPERS FERRY ADVENTURE CENTER

Rafting, tubing, cabins
37410 Adventure Center Ln
540-668-9007

TOY TRAIN MUSEUM

Family fun (open May-Oct)
937 Bakerton Rd
304-535-2521

JOHN BROWN WAX MUSEUM

(Currently closed)
168 High St
304-535-6342

RIVER & TRAIL OUTFITTERS

Rafting, tubing, kayaking
604 Valley Rd
301-834-9950

WHITE FLY OUTFITTERS

Fly fishing & light tackle
4332 Wilson Fwy
304-876-8030

RIVER RIDERS FAMILY ADVENTURE

Rafting, tubing, kayak, SUP
403 Alstadts Hill Rd
800-326-7238



•Indoor Rock Climbing Gym •Outdoor Guide Services
•Training & Technique Classes •All Ages & Abilities Welcome



LET'S TALK!
304-240-0587 | ClimbingNewHeightsWV.com
54 General Motors Access Road, Martinsburg

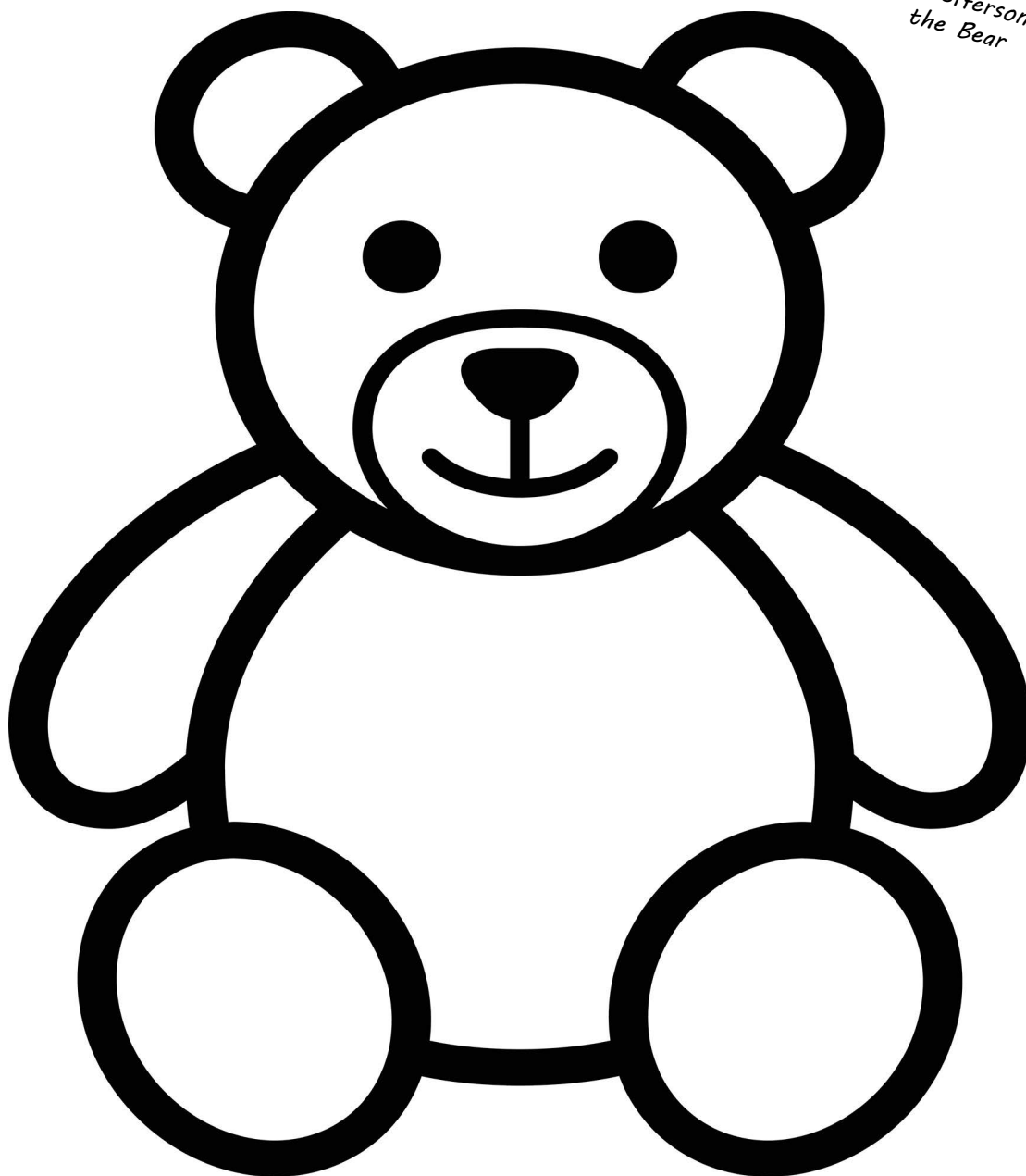
EXPLORE // COMMUNITY FUN IN THE PANHANDLE



SPREADING HOLIDAY CHEER WITH JEFFERSON THE BEAR

Happy Holidays from Jefferson Security Bank and The Observer!

*+ Jefferson
the Bear*



My holiday wish is ...

JEFFERSON SECURITY BANK and **THE OBSERVER** are excited to invite you to help Jefferson the Bear spread cheer this holiday season!

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

- 1. DESIGN YOUR BEAR!** Use the outline provided or print a full size outline of Jefferson the Bear from our website (link below). Color, paint, decorate, and accessorize Jefferson however you'd like!
- 2. INCLUDE A HOLIDAY WISH!** Share what you are thankful for this year or a wish for next year.
- 3. SHOW OFF YOUR BEAR!** Put Jefferson in a street-facing window.
- 4. FIND JEFFERSON!** Look for other bears around our community. How many times can you spot Jefferson?
- 5. SHARE WITH THE OBSERVER!** Once you're done decorating, **upload a photo of your bear to The Observer's website** (link below) or email a photo of your bear to **bear2020@wearetheobserver.com** by December 14th. Your bear may be featured in our next issue or on our website!



BUILDING COMMUNITY

Holiday Bear Hunt Sponsored by:
Jefferson Security Bank

Wishing you and your family a safe and happy holiday season!

Visit WeAreTheObserver.com/bear2020 to print an outline or share your bear