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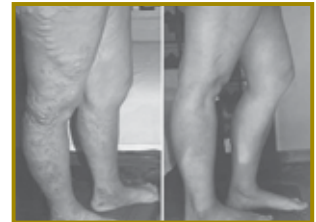
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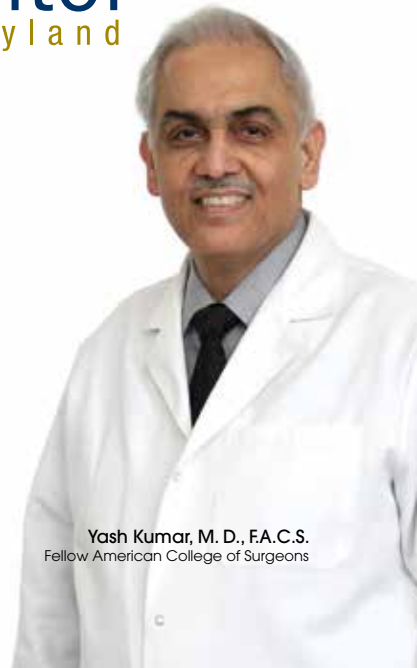
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**Editor's Note**

# What's Old is New Again, And Again



**I** HAVE TEENAGE TWINS — ONE BOY, ONE GIRL. LIFE OFFERS NO BETTER SOCIOLOGY experiment than parenting a set of boy/girl twins. It's fascinating how two children, exposed to almost an identical environment, can grow into such remarkably different people.

My daughter is a savvy shopper, always hungry for a bargain and not afraid to do a little work to get a good deal. If I gave her \$50 to shop, she'd come away with 10 garments, most of them second hand, and most of them from Goodwill or some seller on Poshmark or Pinterest. My son sticks to a few name brands; he wants to spend zero time shopping and decides he needs a new golf shirt when he's scheduled to golf with a friend in an hour. If I gave him \$50 to shop, he'd say he needs another \$10 to get the one item he likes.

When I was young there was no internet to shop for used goods, and while there were consignment shops, I don't remember shopping at them. My grandparents were yard sale hounds — they spent weekends going around to all the Yard sales looking for good deals, just to amass enough stuff to have their own yard sale to sell all the stuff they got at yard sales! I hated going to yard sales and I really hated working at my grandparent's yard sales.

The fact that my daughter is thrifty — she'll spend hours shopping at Goodwill and come home with everything from a handmade quilt to a North Face jacket — is interesting because I know she didn't learn that from me.

I think it's a generational thing. My daughter finds a lot of inspiration for thrifting and "upcycling" through social media. If an influencer shares how she made throw pillows out of an old curtain — you better believe there are going to be a lot of young people suddenly looking for old curtains to make their cool new pillows. And I don't think my daughter is an outlier. I know other girls her age who enjoy the hunt for good second-hand finds, or using old things to make new things. My grandparents lived through the Great Depression so I understand their mindset for a good bargain, to reuse items again and again. But for my daughter, it's just fun, and I think she's somewhat aware of how mass production and manufacturing contributes to bigger global issues.

I am always impressed when my daughter shows me her second-hand bounty, even though I sometimes think to myself that whatever she got is something we might have donated to Goodwill three years ago. Bravo to the younger generation for being smart and savvy consumers. Your great-grandparents would be proud. Learn more about thrifting and upcycling in the article on page 60.

Best,

*Kym Byrnes*

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LARRY HUSHOUR, MAYOR, MOUNT AIRY

# Inspired by the Town's People, Committed to Success

by KYM BYRNES photography by NIKOLA TZENOV

**L**arry Hushour grew up in a small Texas town with one traffic light and went on to marry his wife, Mary, and raise two children; serve in the U.S. Navy for 20 years; and work as an airline pilot. In 2000, the Hushour family settled in Mount Airy and Larry gradually became “immersed in all things Mount Airy” — including local government. The town was dealt a devastating blow in August when Mayor Patrick Rockinberg, who served in the position for more than 10 years, passed away from complications of cancer. In a November special election, Hushour was elected to serve out the remaining mayoral term. He takes charge at a time when running a small town presents many challenges, but Hushour is optimistic, saying his degree in economics will serve him well, and that he is inspired by the perseverance and resilience of the folks who live and work in the town and are committed to its success.

**Mayor Patrick Rockinberg passed away in August, leading to the special election in which you were elected the new mayor. What was Mayor Rockinberg like to work with, and what kind of feelings come with picking up where he left off?** I am honored the citizens of Mount Airy elected me to finish out this term as mayor. I'd say in the vast majority of Pat's political life, we were side by side on almost every issue. On the rare occasion we disagreed, it was always amicable and respectful. My memories are all good of events, hobbies and joint projects such as Rails to Trails and Mackenzie the Caboose. When we did disagree, Pat would say, “We'll have to agree to disagree,” and I knew the conversation was over and moved on with a handshake and no hard feelings.

**What brought you to Mount Airy?** Mary is a native Marylander, born on the Eastern Shore. As a new airline pilot, in an environment requiring a lot of time away from home, it was natural we would return somewhere near her family. We had a friend living in Mount Airy who offered to show us around the area. Once we got a feel for the communities and the schools, we pretty much knew we would love it here!

**You served on the Town Council for four years (president for two of them) and have run for mayor in the past. What is it about Mount Airy that makes you want to serve in a leadership role?** I have to admit, I was a complainer for my first couple of years in Maryland, mainly due to state taxes. The culmination of such tantrums usually ended with Mary saying, “Why don't you do something about it?” So, when an annexation

was approved that many people felt was not in the best interest of the town, I became involved in the referendum process. This led to a familiarity with local government and the joining of the Board of Parks and Recreation. Our kids were in Scouts as well, and that sparked the need to learn more about the history of the town. In a perfect storm, I became immersed in all things Mount Airy. I am fascinated by the history, heritage and people of our town. Our local service clubs are outstanding, and volunteers work hard to preserve and enhance our town. It is my greatest hope that my time as mayor will not only keep the day-to-day operations going, but facilitate, enable and inspire citizens to continue taking pride in our town and helping to keep Mount Airy a wonderful place in which to live.

**What are some of the most important things for you to accomplish as mayor? What are some priorities as you move forward?** I ran on controlling growth to the best extent possible. We have definite challenges since we have basically stayed stagnant for about a decade. But we know that some development needs to occur to stay viable in the coming years without raising taxes. In 2021, it became apparent we were about to open the floodgates on many major projects in a relatively short time. My objective is to make sure we grow at a reasonable pace and amount that protects our town from becoming the very communities we chose to abandon when we moved to our new home. As well, our long-term residents deserve to know that the town government is working to protect, preserve, uncover and restore the history and heritage of Mount Airy. There is a lot of pride in our town. I want it to stay that way. ▶ CONTINUED ON PG. 16

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– LARRY HUSHOUR

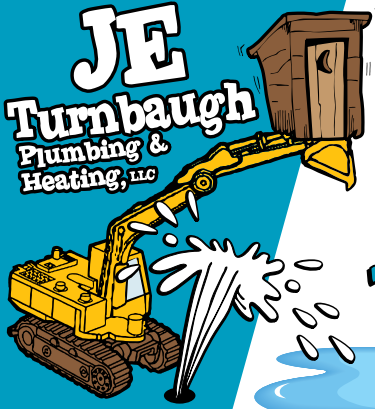
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**Your term as mayor began in November, so while you're still somewhat new to the position, what are some challenges of leading a small town?**

Of course the pandemic is wreaking havoc on every municipality in Maryland. That is a constant issue requiring weekly, if not daily, re-evaluation. And being elected in November is not the best time of year for easing into office. Dozens of events occur in November and December. I was fortunate in keeping up with town and county issues from the time I left office in May until the November election. So even though it felt like a firehose of meetings, events and other functions, thanks to a great staff and superb commissions, Mount Airy managed to successfully navigate through some extremely busy months.

Our challenges ahead will be continuing to monitor the COVID-19 situation and disseminating information to the citizens of the town. We recently lost our local paper and have to be creative in getting information to the communities. In particular, our more seasoned citizens are extremely reliant on print media. We must actively fill the void until another entity is able to produce a method to keep the citizens aware of the town's news. Traffic and growth will be challenges as well throughout my term. And keeping a balanced budget will undoubtedly draw on my degree in economics and the skills I gained as a naval officer.

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**Mount Airy straddles two counties, Carroll County and Frederick County. What kind of pros and cons does that situation present for town residents?**

For government, the pro is an ability to get answers from two different sources, and also to utilize the physical resources from two different entities. The con is keeping up with issues on both sides of our town. We have more meetings to attend making sure we are not missing out on opportunities.

For our residents, we have challenges as well. We literally have kids living across the street from each other attending different schools. It is not unusual to join a Scout troop or play youth sports and meet kids for the first time even though they live right down the street. As an elected official, we are keeping a very close eye on the state's redistricting plan. Currently the legislative districts overlap the entire town across the county lines. Our representation on a state level may soon be altered, and we will need to adapt to make sure we are represented fairly in Annapolis.

**You served in the Navy for 20 years. Are there aspects of that experience that make you particularly well suited for mayor?** I do think my Navy background provided some great experience that is transferable to serving as mayor. I led a civilian maintenance department of about 60 mechanics and well over a million dollars. I've

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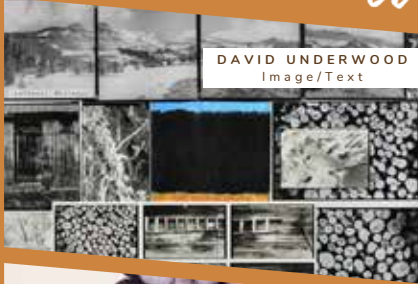
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## Q&A Larry Hushour

◀ CONTINUED FROM PG. 17 worked with a lot of people of varying capabilities and personalities. As a mayor, there are some adjustments mainly due to the military's rank structure, but I am surrounded by good people and we are working well together. Professional courtesy goes a long way in any environment. I think my career in aviation has assisted as well. Landing on aircraft carriers and serving during the Gulf War keeps things somewhat in perspective. I am not so easily rattled by most of the issues facing our town.

**What are your hopes for Mount Airy, not just what is within your purview as mayor, but broadly. What do you hope for in the coming years for Mount Airy's residents and business owners?** Our historic Main Street is truly a Maryland gem. I've always said it is a diorama of Americana. It is a walk through time. Our shops occasionally come and go, restaurants may change hands on occasion, but the feel of Mount Airy always stays the same. My hope as mayor is to make sure our historic Main Street maintains that quality. And along that vein, it is extremely important to make sure we do not allow development along the edge of our town to detract from a vibrant Main Street. To do so requires better walkability into town, quality parking, family-fun events and ensuring development complements our Main Street.

**Anything else you want folks to know about you or Mount Airy?** The history of Mount Airy is truly fascinating. Many do not realize that Mount Airy is actually at an elevation of 800 feet. Heading west, you climb from Baltimore along the Patapsco River to get here. And then you drop down into Frederick along creeks to meet the Monocacy River and continue to the Potomac River. This is significant because in 1830, the merchants of Baltimore established the B&O Railroad to get their goods to the C&O Canal and points further west. Building a railroad over Parrs Ridge (Mount Airy) in 1830 was one of the greatest challenges undertaken in our country at the time. Please come visit our museum in our historic train station and take a walk along the Old Main Line trail and rekindle that sense of the industrial spirit as you stand exactly where workers cut through the ridgeline in the 1830s to make Maryland a truly amazing state. Mount Airy is so much more than a rail stop. Come visit us! 

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The Carroll Community College Foundation hosted its annual "Kickoff to the Holiday Season in Carroll County" **STARRY NIGHT** on Dec. 3 to benefit the college's students and programs. Learn more at [www.carrollcc.edu](http://www.carrollcc.edu).  
- photography by Nikola Tzenov



**Carroll Community College Foundation Starry Night** 1 Heather & Sheriff Jim DeWees, Kathy & Commissioner Stephen Wantz 2 Dee & John Brock 3 Terri Keene & Marty Hill 4 Jenni Shinderman, Heather Smith 5 Denise & Angel Parissi 6 Rachael Bollinger, Katie Bollinger, Emily Miller 7 John Yingling, Donna & Mark Falcone

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1



2



3

The **CARROLL COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HOLIDAY CONNECTIONS**

was held Dec. 8 at Antrim 1844 to help kick off the holiday season for the members of the Chamber.

- photography by Nikola Tzenov



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4



5



7

**Carroll County Chamber of Commerce Holiday Connection** 1 Johanna Brown, Fran Bartels 2 Seth Shipley, Mike Fox, Steve Aquino, Mike McMullin, John Yingling 3 Mike McMullin, Richard Turner 4 Brianna Griffin, Shanae Griffin 5 Amy Gilford, Nicolette Coffey 6 Don Wilson, Union Bridge Mayor Perry Jones, Dawn Metcalf 7 Marcia McMullin, Mark & Dawn Miller



Carroll Arts Center and McDaniel College held the opening of a dual-venue exhibit of the **ICONS OF AMERICAN ANIMATION** on Jan. 6 at the Carroll Arts Center in Westminster. – *photography by Nikola Tzenov*



**Icons of American Animation Opening Night** 1 Chris Battles, Fran Nickolas, Gail Slater, Angela Nickolas 2 Lynn Wheeler  
 3 Louise Patten, Harley White 4 Michael Rosner, Victoria Engel 5 Christina Bixler, Michael Vidmar 6 Kati Townsley, Ann Gilbert, Caroline Babylon  
 7 Lynne Griffith, Ray Arnold, Moriah Tyler

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Wednesday, April 13 | 6 – 8 p.m.

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## **Summer Camp Guide 2022** *compiled by* HEATHER MORRIS

**Is your camper ready to have fun this summer?**

Carroll County has camp options for all ages and interests – from sports to theater to nature and more! Help your child explore, learn, stay active and make new friends at the wide variety of camps offered in Carroll County this summer.

**ABC CARE****Westminster and Eldersburg locations****410-751-3700 - ABCCareInc.com**

June 13-Aug. 31, Pre-K thru 8th grade. 9th-12th grade "Counselor in Training" (CIT) option. Full-day and extended-day camps at locations in Eldersburg and Westminster. Early Bird specials and discounts available. (Start date dependent on CCPS and inclement weather days).

**SOUTH WESTMINSTER LOCATION**

**ABC Care Deer Park Adventure Camp** Weekly swimming field trip to Coppermine Cascade Park in Hampstead. Weekly adventure field trips for roller skating, ice skating or bowling. Weekly themes, hiking, nature activities, sign language, sports, arts and crafts, and STEM activities. Lunch available for purchase on Friday. *Deer Park United Methodist Church, 2205 Sykesville Road*

**ELDERSBURG LOCATION**

**ABC Care Eldersburg Adventure Camp** Swimming field trips once a week to Coppermine Cascade Park in Hampstead. Weekly adventure field trips for roller skating, ice skating or bowling. Weekly themes, hiking, nature activities, fishing, pedal boats, sports, STEM activities, arts and crafts, sign language and clubs. Lunch available for purchase on Friday. *Piney Run Park (Pavilion 6), 30 Martz Road. Transportation from Watkins Park in Mt. Airy.*

**ABC Care Fierce Fabulous Friday Trips** Grades 4-8, with limited enrollment. Specific field trip locations for select Fridays to be announced. Fun day of field trips, team-building activities and adventure. *Field trips leaving from both locations.*

**BETH TFILOH SUMMER CAMPS****400 Delight Meadows Road, Reisterstown****410-517-3451 - BTCamps.org**

June 20-Aug. 12. Summer Camps for ages 2-14. A wide variety of activities, including sports, ropes and challenge course, arts and crafts, boating, nature center, theater and much more. Campers 5+ swim twice a day. The younger campers enjoy the playground, splash pad, music and Tarbut (Jewish culture). Sixty acres of outdoor fun.

**Nursery Camp** Ages 2-4. Program includes structured activities such as physical education, water play with water tables and sprinklers, story time, arts and crafts, singing, nature and Friday Kabbat Shabbat.

**Lower Camp-Day Camp** Pre-K to 5th grade. Art, singing, Tarbut, swim lessons, sports, dance, splash pad, boating, nature center and more.

**Kinder Camp** Ages 4 through entering kindergarten. Provides many of the same activities as the Lower Camp, such as sports, swimming, and art, but with an abbreviated day to accommodate younger campers.

**Upper Camp-Senior Camp** Grades 5-8. Archery tag, survival skills, ropes course, arts, sports, boating, nature. Daily swimming instruction. Senior campers participate in special events such as color war, talent show, field trips and carnival.

**Varsity Sports** Grades 4-8. Skill building, competitive play and fun. Football, baseball, golf, soccer, tennis and more led by "Baseball Warehouse."

**Art Camp** Grades 3-8. Ceramics, copper enameling, jewelry making, mosaics, macramé, papier-mâché, quilting, stitchery, and more.

**Survival Camp** Grades 5-8. Hands-on program that includes fire building, knife skills, climbing

rappelling towers, caring for animals, constructing a campsite, preparing and cooking food, riding zip lines, and camping out under the stars.

**Theater Camp** Grades 3-8. Acting lessons, audition tips, voice direction, character development, memorization skills, blocking, and more.

**Travel Camp** Four-day-a-week program taking daily field trips visiting amusement parks, water parks, laser tag, baseball games and more.

**LT Program** Leadership training for teens entering grades 9 and 10. Program consists of developing skills and attitudes necessary to becoming a counselor or instructor.

**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF WESTMINSTER SUMMER FUN CAMP****71 E. Main St., Westminster****410-386-0135 - BGCWestminster.org**

Weekly from June 13-Aug. 19, Hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. with before and after hours available. Ages 6-13. Weekly themes, includes a weekly field trip, arts, sports, STEM, leadership, video game competitions, etc. Lunch/Snacks included (subject to change). \$30 registration fee; \$130/week (subject to change).

**CAMP INCLUSION****443-398-8537 - CampInclusion.org**

A summer day camp designed for children and young adults of all ages and abilities. Activities include sports, fitness games, arts & crafts, table games, weekly field trips & more. Visit website for dates.

**CARROLL COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL****91 W. Main St., Westminster****410-848-7272 - CarrollCountyArtsCouncil.org**

June 27-Aug. 5. Camps explore the arts from theatre to arts and crafts projects. All camps will be held in-person. Each camp will be tailored for a specific age range and interest. More details will soon be available on the website. Registration for CCAC members opens March 1 and the general public can register beginning April 1. CCAC members receive a 10 percent discount on all classes and camps. Families enrolling two or more children are eligible for a discount. Tuition assistance is available through the Tom Holder Memorial Arts Scholarship Fund.

**CARROLL COMMUNITY COLLEGE****1601 Washington Rd., Westminster****410-386-8000 - carrollcc.edu**

Summer!Kids@Carroll and Teen College, a Carroll Community College tradition for children and youth ages 5 to 15, will hold camps from June 27 through Aug. 19, on the College campus in Westminster.

Choose from the nearly 150 full-day (9 a.m.-4 p.m.) and half-day (9 a.m.-noon and 1-4 p.m.) formats. Select a morning and an afternoon with extended care hours to make a full day of fun. For dates and times, visit the website. These camps are recognized for engaging children and youth in a wide variety of educational enrichment topics, from art and creativity to science and technology, in a small group environment. Most camps have a 1 to 8 adult to camper ratio. Camp instructors, many of whom are professional educators, lead the camps as they have for the past 17 years. Lunch and snacks are not included. Campers bring their own food or purchase a week of lunches in our new Grub Club.

▶ CONTINUED ON PG. 30



◀ CONTINUED FROM PG. 29

**CARROLL COUNTY 4-H CAMPS**

700 Agriculture Center Dr., Westminster

410-386-2760 • 888-326-9645

<https://extension.umd.edu/locations/carroll-county/local-4-h-youth-education/camp-and-summer-programs>

**Residential Camps** Younger Residential Camp June 20-23, ages 8-11 as of Jan. 1. Older Residential Camp July 11-15, ages 10-16 as of Jan. 1. Campers will join the youth-focused 4-H camp family at Hashawha Environmental Center, which features canoeing, archery, outdoor games, crafts, youth-led educational lessons, songs, campfires and other events and activities.

**Clover Day Camps** Youth ages 5-7 years old as of Jan. 1 at the Carroll County Extension Office. Scholarship assistance available.

**CARROLL COUNTY DANCE CENTER & BALLET CONSERVATORY**

6300 Georgetown Blvd. #105, Eldersburg

410-795-3255 • [CarrollCountyDanceCenter.com](http://CarrollCountyDanceCenter.com)

**Summer Dance Camp** Aug. 1-5. Ages 6-12. 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. \$325. Students experience a wide variety of dance forms, including ballet, jazz and more. They design and create fabulous costumes and scenery and practice the fundamentals of stage makeup. Families are invited to attend a performance held at the end of the week. In addition to dancing, children play games, tell stories and have a wonderful time! Dancers bring their own lunch. Morning and afternoon snacks are provided. Previous dance experience recommended.

**Fairy Tale Pre-Ballet Camp** July 11-15 and July 25-29. Ages 4-6. 9 a.m.-noon. \$185. Each day begins with a pre-ballet class, then dancers watch a professional video performance or read a book relating to the theme of the week. Dancers create a costume or prop as an arts and crafts activity and then have rehearsal for their performance dance at the end of the week. A snack is provided each day. Families are invited to attend a performance held on Friday.

**Treasure, Rainbows & Unicorns Camp** July 18-22. Ages 5½ -10. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (extended care available for an additional fee). \$299. Great for dancers and children new to dance! Spend each day dancing, making crafts, and playing games. Bring a sack lunch. Morning and afternoon snack provided.

**Animal Planet Camp** July 5-8. Ages 5½ -10, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (extended care available for an additional fee). \$285. Great for dancers and children new to dance! Spend each day dancing, making crafts, and playing games. Bring a sack lunch. Morning and afternoon snack provided.

**CARROLL COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION & PARKS**

410-386-2103 • [ccrecrepark.org](http://ccrecrepark.org)

Offers many camp opportunities throughout the summer months to keep youth and teen minds and bodies active. A complete list and program details can be found in the Carroll County Department of Recreation & Parks registration website. The department's camp guide and listings will be available on the registration site in February.

**Come Back to the Farm Museum this Summer!**

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**JULY 18 - 22**  
 Rising 4th - 6th Graders  
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**LIVING HISTORY CAMP**  
**JUNE 27 - JULY 1**  
 Rising 3rd & 4th Graders  
**JULY 11 - 15**  
 Rising 5th & 6th Graders  
 Campers enjoy fun hands-on experiences about rural life in the 1800s including old-fashioned games, craft projects and historic skills.

For more information, visit [carrollcountymuseum.org](http://carrollcountymuseum.org) or call 800-654-4645

2022 camp sessions contingent on Maryland's COVID-19 regulations at time of event.

500 S. Center Street  
 Westminster, MD 21157



### CARROLL COUNTY FARM MUSEUM

500 S. Center St., Westminster

800-654-4645, [CarrollCountyFarmMuseum.org](http://CarrollCountyFarmMuseum.org)

**Living History Camp** June 27-July 1, for rising 3rd and 4th graders; July 11-15, for rising 5th and 6th graders. Uses fun, hands-on experiences to teach children about rural life in the 1800s, including old-fashioned games, craft projects and historic skills.

**Farm Camp** July 18-22, for rising 4th, 5th and 6th graders. Lets children experience living off the land as farmers for a week — caring for animals, gardening, cooking and more.

### CAMP T.R. - CARROLL HOSPICE

Hashawha Environmental Center, 300 John Owings Rd., Westminster • Jessica Roschen, M.S., Bereavement Counselor at Carroll Hospice, 410-871-7656, [jroschen@lifebridgehealth.org](mailto:jroschen@lifebridgehealth.org)

A weekend grief camp for children ages 7-15 who have lost a loved one. June 3-5; held annually the first weekend in June. Overnight camp, arrive Friday evening and leave Sunday afternoon. Availability is on a first-come, first-served basis. Camp T.R. offers outdoor adventurous activities throughout the weekend, including swimming, hiking, and canoeing. The camp has grief-related activities such as making memory books, a grief play, and a butterfly release. Each child is paired with a volunteer throughout the weekend. Meals are provided throughout the weekend. Camp T.R. is free. Registration is required; Applications are due May 10.

### CARROLL INDOOR SUMMER SPORTS CAMP

515 Old Westminster Pike, Westminster  
410-857-5098 • [Carroll-Indoor.com](http://Carroll-Indoor.com)

June 20-Aug. 26. All day sports camps for ages 6-13. Prepared lunches, daily or weekly rates. Drop off as early as 7:30 a.m., pick up as late as 5:30 p.m. Age specific activities in an indoor climate-controlled environment. Multiple sibling discount.

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2710 Hampstead-Mexico Rd., Hampstead

Jessica Dannel: 410-239-3366 • [Coppermine4Seasons.com](http://Coppermine4Seasons.com)

**Mini Miners** June 6-Sept. 2 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. for ages 4-5. Young campers will have a blast with highly trained staff in engaging age-appropriate games, arts and crafts, sports, swimming, nature walking, themed activities (Everyone's Birthday, Backwards Day, Dinosaur Invasion, etc.), splash pad, inflatables and so much more! Early rate of \$250/week and final rate of \$275/week. Before and after-care are available.

**Scouts** June 6-Sept. 2 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. for ages 6-7. Scouts participate in a wide variety of activities that will engage them all summer long. Campers will participate in age-appropriate games, arts and crafts, sport lead up games, swimming, hiking, themed activities (Mario Kart Day, Spy Day, Learn Magic), splash pad, inflatables, and more. Early rate of \$250/week and final rate of \$275/week. Before and after-care are available.

**Explorers** June 6-Sept. 2 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. for ages 8-9. Is your camper ready to be challenged and explore new things? Explorers will participate in sports, swimming, hiking, archery, obstacle courses, and team building with occasional roller skating trips to Sportsman's Hall and laser tag. Themed days (Ninja Warrior, Minecraft, Shaving Cream Battles) along with other fun and silly adventures await. Early rate of \$250/week and final rate of \$275/week. Before and after-care are available.

**Trailblazers** June 6-Sept. 2 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. for ages 10-11.

Trailblazers are experienced and ready to

► CONTINUED ON PG. 32



# Discover Spring in Your Parks!



Get out and get active this Spring! See our 2022 Spring Programs & Camps Guide at [ccrepcamp.org](http://ccrepcamp.org) for upcoming programs, activities, and special events!

## 20% OFF CAMPS WITH EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION\*

Over 25 themed camps including — Art, Splash and Swim, Sports and More, Dance, American Girl, Survivor, Amazing Race, Junior Zookeeper, Superhero, CSI and much more.

Register at [merrittclubs.com/camps](http://merrittclubs.com/camps).

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◀ CONTINUED FROM PG. 31

have fun. Campers will spend their summer engaging in sports, games, team building, obstacle courses, archery, shelter building, and swimming with occasional roller-skating trips to Sportsman's Hall. They'll also enjoy themed activities (Olympics, Game Show, Minute to Win It) and one field trip per week. (Hickory Falls, Laser Tag, Dave and Busters, etc.) Early rate of \$250/week and final rate of \$275/week. Before and after-care are available.

**Ultimate Sports Camp** June 20-Aug. 19 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. for ages 6-11. Ultimate Sports Camp gives campers the opportunity to engage in high energy games that reinforce skill fundamentals, sportsmanship, teamwork, and dedication while developing an all-around athlete. Camp will feature age-appropriate instruction in baseball, basketball, soccer, NFL Flag Football, Capture the Flag and kickball. All campers will have daily swim time. Early rate of \$250/week and final rate of \$275/week. Before and after-care available.

**Jr. Counselor Camp** June 7-Sept. 2 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. for ages 14 and 15. Early rate of \$150/week and \$175/week final rate

Coppermine's Jr. Counselor Camp is an excellent way to get hands-on experience in a supervised setting as they learn from our experienced child development leaders. Campers will work directly with our senior counselors and staff, demonstrating character development skills and leadership while providing enthusiasm assisting younger campers each day. To be accepted for the Junior Counselor program at Cascade Park individuals must complete our online application.

**Teen Camp** June 20-Aug. 19 for ages 12-14. Early rate of \$350/week and \$375/week final rate. This includes an off-site fun-filled day camp designed for teens ages 12 to 14 with all activities led by on-site facilitators. Campers will attend daily field trips that include amusement and water parks, ninja warrior and climbing courses, and high energy activities such as laser tag and water tubing. No two weeks are the same.

**Coppertrek Academy** June 20-29 for ages 13-15. Early rate of \$370/week and \$395/week final rate. Nature is where we go to become who we are meant to be. CopperTrek gives your teen the opportunity to develop leadership skills while learning to camp, paddle, and navigate the outdoors. Transformational adventure and fun featuring low and high ropes, day trips, team-building, swimming, wilderness first-aid, hiking, orienteering, and an overnight under the stars at Cascade Park. Overnight experience is Thursday to Friday.

**Specialty Sports Camps** Half-day and full-day. Camps include field hockey, volleyball, basketball, soccer, and lacrosse. Campers bring a packed lunch, and can bring or purchase snacks.

**FULL MOON FARM**

**4326 Louisville Rd., Finksburg**

**Christine Hryzak: [chryzak@gmail.com](mailto:chryzak@gmail.com) • [FullMoonFarm.com](http://FullMoonFarm.com)**

June 20-24; July 11-15; Aug. 8-12 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Ages 5-12 Tailors each day based on the campers' interests and abilities, as well as the weather. Camp activities include morning/afternoon riding lessons, horse care lessons, crafts, nature hikes, games, demos featuring our advanced riders, and guest speakers. Activities range from learning how to properly groom, tack, and bathe a horse, to listening to guest speakers, to horse-related games and crafts. Campers learn about breeds, markings, tack, barn management, horse health, and horse care and safety. Campers bring their own lunch in a cooler and a water bottle. Water refills and two daily snacks are provided. Cost: \$425 per week (Early-bird price). Price increases to \$455 ten days before the first day of each camp week.



**THE GODDARD SCHOOL OF ELDERSBURG SUMMER PROGRAM**

6300 Goddard Park Dr., Eldersburg

[DEldersburgMD@GoddardSchools.com](mailto:DEldersburgMD@GoddardSchools.com) • [GoddardSchools.com](http://GoddardSchools.com)

June 13-Sept. 2. Enroll for individual days, full weeks or for the entire summer. Open 7 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday-Friday. Ages include all children who have completed kindergarten through age 12. Field trips, entertaining visitors and shows, arts and crafts, theme weeks, and sports. Morning and afternoon snacks are provided; lunch is provided by the parents. The rate is \$72/day; families may choose as many or as few days as they wish.

**MCDANIEL COLLEGE SUMMER CAMPS 2022**

**Green Terror Basketball Camp-Boys Day Camp**

Session 1: June 13-17; Session 2: Aug. 1-5. For ages 7-17. The camp teaches the basic fundamentals of basketball that may be applied individually, and in a team setting. Teamwork will be stressed. The camp is directed by Kevin Curley, men's head basketball coach at McDaniel, and McDaniel men's basketball players work as coaches and counselors to ensure that each camper receives quality individual instruction. *Information: [mcdanielathletics.com/information/camps-clinics/index](http://mcdanielathletics.com/information/camps-clinics/index)*

**Harmony College East** June 16-19. Some of the top vocal and performance coaches across the U.S. and Canada provide classes and coaching for individual singers, quartets as a group, choruses and also directors and prospective directors for those interested in barbershop singing.

**Maryland Boys State** June 19-25. This program of the American Legion is for boys who have completed their junior year of

high school with numerous activities to participate in, which includes legislative sessions, court proceedings, law enforcement presentations, assemblies, bands, chorus, and recreational programs. Participants who complete the full Boys State Program and are admitted to McDaniel College will automatically be considered for a \$10,000 annual merit scholarship. Participants also have the option to receive two college credits by attending the camp. *Information: [mdlegion.org/boysstate](http://mdlegion.org/boysstate)*

**Summer Science Academy** Session 1: June 19-24; Session 2: June 26-July 1; Session 3: July 10-15. For students in Grades 9-12. Summer camp for science-oriented high school students, offering a variety of courses in each session. Students who successfully complete at least one session of the Summer Science Academy and who have not already been admitted to McDaniel College will receive a guaranteed minimum \$40,000 scholarship to attend McDaniel College as an undergraduate. *Information: [summerscienceacademy.com](http://summerscienceacademy.com)*

**Green Terror Softball** Session 1: June 20-22. Session 2: July 10-13. For ages 7-18. Directed by Phil Smith, head softball coach at McDaniel, players develop fundamentals and increase skill level with areas of focus including throwing, infield, outfield, hitting, base running, sliding and bunting. *Information: [mcdanielathletics.com/information/camps-clinics/index](http://mcdanielathletics.com/information/camps-clinics/index)*

**Ray Campbell Adult Tennis Camp** June 24-26. Camp offers instructors and coaches with years of professional playing and coaching experience to help improve the participants' tennis game by explaining and demonstrating strokes, serves, spins and strategies in actual game situations. *Information: [peterlr58.wixsite.com/campbelltenniscamp](http://peterlr58.wixsite.com/campbelltenniscamp)*

▶ CONTINUED ON PG. 34

# Dreaming of Summer Camp...



**Register for 2022 ABC Care Summer Camps NOW!**

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◀ CONTINUED FROM PG. 33

**Nike Field Hockey Camp at McDaniel College** June 24-26. For ages 11-18. The camp prepares players at any skill level, providing the chance to master the fundamentals and develop proper mechanics through a mix of drills, games and competitive play. The camp is directed by McDaniel field hockey coach Caitlin Ashley. *Information: [www.ussportscamps.com](http://www.ussportscamps.com)*

**Point Guard College** Session 1: June 27-July 1; Session 2: July 5-9; Session 3: July 18-22; Session 4: July 25-29. For high school students entering Grades 9-12. This basketball camp helps players develop the skills and habits to become the smartest player on the floor. Sessions are limited to 80-120 players with a 12:1 player-to-coach ratio. *Information: [pgcbasketball.com](http://pgcbasketball.com)*

**Common Ground on the Hill Traditions Week** July 10-16. In-depth courses in art, dance, a variety of musical instruments, film, writing, songwriting, spoken word and literary arts, and a broad range of discussion courses are offered, as well as evening art lectures, concerts, dances, and jams. College credit available. *Information: [commongroundonthehill.org](http://commongroundonthehill.org)*

**Nike Volleyball Camp at McDaniel College** July 11-13; July 14-15

For ages 12-18. This overnight camp offers All Skills and Position Specialty programs, designed to help players fine-tune their skills through drills and competitive play. The camp is directed by McDaniel women's head volleyball coach Jennifer Feldmann and assisted by current McDaniel volleyball assistant coaches and players. *Information: [ussportscamps.com](http://ussportscamps.com)*

**Nike Girls Lacrosse Camp** July 18-21. For ages 9-18. Players are immersed in the sport of lacrosse, learning the fundamentals as well as new techniques. McDaniel women's head lacrosse coach Kristin Ramey directs the camp. *Information: [ussportscamps.com](http://ussportscamps.com)*

**Green Terror Men's Soccer Camp** July 21-23. For ages 11-19. Directed by Steve Corrieri, head men's soccer coach at McDaniel, players participate in technical and tactical training sessions to experience competitive play and develop their skills. *Information: [mcdanielathletics.com/information/camps-clinics/index](http://mcdanielathletics.com/information/camps-clinics/index)*

**Green Terror Women's Soccer ID Camp** July 24. For ages 14-19. Camp is designed for players to improve technical skills and play in small-sided and full-field environments to get a feel for the college level of play.

The camp is directed by Sandy Lagana Bly, head women's soccer coach at McDaniel, and assisted by current McDaniel women's soccer staff and players. *Information: [greenterrorsoccercamps.com](http://greenterrorsoccercamps.com)*

**Nike Soccer Camp at McDaniel College** July 25-28. Day Camp for ages 8-16. Camp is designed to provide players with the support to improve technically and tactically with individual and small group training, plus full-field matches. The camp is directed by Sandy Lagana Bly, head women's soccer coach at McDaniel College, and assisted by McDaniel women's soccer staff and players. *Information: [www.ussportscamps.com](http://www.ussportscamps.com)*

**MERRITT CLUBS IN ELDERSBURG**

**1388 Progress Way, Eldersburg**  
**410-549-8855 • [MerrittClubs.com/camps](http://MerrittClubs.com/camps)**  
 June 20-Aug. 26. Camps run weekly from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. with before- and after-care available. Offering themed camps throughout the summer for all children ages 4-14. There is pool time in the family fun pool, water games, or recess daily in all camps to ensure that campers get fresh air and exercise throughout the week. There are specific half-day camp times available for Pre-K to 2nd grade campers each week. Campers pack their own lunch and snacks as well as bathing suit, towel, sunscreen, and closed-toe shoes. Camp themes include Amazing Race, American Girl (Be Strong, Be Brave, Be-YOU-tiful), Around the World, Art, Carnival, Cheer Camp, CIT (Counselor in Training), CSI, Dance, DIY, Fairy Tale, Jedi Training, Junior Zookeeper, Little Picasso, Mini Splashers, Mini Sports, Outdoor Adventure, Secret Agent Spy, Splash and Swim, Sports and More, Superhero, Survivor, Weird Science and more.

**MONTESSORI SCHOOL OF WESTMINSTER**

**1055 Montessori Dr., Westminster**  
**410-848-6283 • [MontessoriSchoolOfWestminster.org/Summer-Camps](http://MontessoriSchoolOfWestminster.org/Summer-Camps)**  
 June 20-Aug. 5. Camps run from 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. (full day) or 8:30-11:50 a.m. (half day) with before- and after-care available. Ages 2-11.

**RVR (RIVER VALLEY RANCH)**

**4443 Grave Run Rd., Manchester**  
**443-712-1010 • [RiverValleyRanch.com](http://RiverValleyRanch.com)**  
 Ages 4-17 Since 1952, RVR offers local day and sleepaway camps, with activity options including horseback riding, archery, tag, zip lines, ropes course, paintball, giant pool and more. RVR offers unique challenging experiences, quality caring staff, and meaningful life impact.

▶ CONTINUED ON PG. 36

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Saturday • 9 a.m.  
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 February 26  
 March 19





## Montessori School of Westminster



OUR PROGRAMS:

- Curriculum
- Ages 2 – Grade 9
- Summer Camps
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## Camp Decision List

Description	Notes
✓ Boating Pond	<b>You Bet</b>
✓ Swimming Pools	<b>5</b>
✓ Climbing Towers	<b>(3) 60 footers</b>
✓ Water Slides	<b>Huge</b>
✓ Gigantic Zip Line	<b>250 footer</b>
✓ At Your Door Pickup	<b>Safe</b>
✓ Ages 4 to 16	<b>You Bet</b>
✓ Daily Swim Instruction	<b>Perfect</b>
✓ Certified Teachers	<b>Smart</b>
✓ Interactive Animals	<b>Fun</b>
✓ Extreme Adventure Camp	<b>Coolio</b>
✓ Affordable	<b>YES!!!</b>

You get so much more... you just have to go to the website to see

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**New for 2022 is our great Mobile APP** that will allow you to keep in touch with camp and read posts related to your child as well as sift through photos that we've taken everyday!

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**410-517-3451** [btcamp.org](http://btcamp.org)



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6505 Ridenour Way, Eldersburg, MD 21784  
443.300.6362 • info@infinitycenteraba.org

◀ CONTINUED FROM PG. 34

#### TAMI GEE'S STUDIO OF DANCE

3000 Gamber Rd., Suite #7, Finksburg  
410-861-8385 • TamiGees.com

July-August; Ages 3-teen; girls and boys. Themed dance camps, workshops and classes. Camps and workshops are offered for half and full days. Classes and workshops include ballet, pointe, tap, jazz, lyrical, modern, hip-hop, musical theatre, and acro. Snack provided.

#### WESTMINSTER DOWNTOWN YOGA KIDS SUMMER CAMP

13 Liberty St., Westminster

443-293-7423 • WestminsterDowntownYoga.com

July 11-15; 12:30-4 p.m., Ages 7-11, Cost is \$200. Children will stretch, strengthen, and energize their minds and bodies. Every day, campers will learn yoga poses, play games, create crafts, and participate in team-building exercises. Snack included (a daily mindfulness snack)

#### THE Y IN CENTRAL MARYLAND

1719 Sykesville Rd., Westminster

410-848-3660 • YMarylandCamp.org

**Y Camp** June 21-Sept. 3, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., with free before- and after-care (7-9 a.m. and 4-6 p.m.). Start and end dates subject to change and may vary by camp location. Locations include Camp Hashawha Overnight Camp and Y Camp at the Hill Y in Westminster. Camps are co-ed and are for campers entering kindergarten through Grade 10. Campers must bring their own lunch, drinks and snacks to day camp. Cost varies by camp and will be available in January 2022.

**Traditional Day Camp** Entering Grades K-6. Choose from a range of camp experiences that allow campers to explore new opportunities and natural environments.


**Summer Magic Preschool Day Camp** Entering Grades Pre-K-1. Specifically designed for our littlest "big kids," young campers will have fun with age-appropriate games and activities, arts & crafts, camp songs and more. Takes place in its own dedicated space to learn, make friends, and experience the magic of summer together.

**Ultimate Overnight Camps** Entering Grades 3-10. Age ranges differ by camp location. When children are away from home, they learn how to trust themselves more as they expand their horizons and find their sense of wonder and adventure! Overnight camp available at Camp Hashawha in Carroll County.

**Specialty Camps** Entering Grades 1-6. Specialty camps zero in on a specific area of interest such as STEM, art, sports and more. Camps include Solar System Science, Paint & Pottery, Fun-gineering, Creatures & Critters, as well as community discovery camps like In Your Community and even Virtual Field Trips!

#### YOUNG LIFE

CarrollCounty.YoungLife.org

Young Life camping is full of high adventure, crazy fun and incredible food... and it promises to be an amazing week. Teens (and families and adults) are treated to resort-quality facilities as they escape from the pressures of everyday life to have fun with friends and Young Life leaders, and hear the message of God's love in terms they can understand. Young Life camping this summer promises to be filled with lasting memories and life-changing moments! 

*Note: The camps, activities, and programs included here may not include all options that are open to the public and are based in Carroll County. This listing includes organizations which responded to questions, by or before the publication deadline. This list does not represent referrals or recommendations. It is compiled for informational purposes only.*

# PSJ Orthodontics Congratulates

## Dr. Margaret Pitrone

FOR **25** YEARS OF service!

In the blink of an eye, it's been 25 years! My heart is full of gratitude to so many people who have made my career an awesome one ... to all my patients and their families for their trust and friendship, to our entire PSJ team of doctors and staff for their dedication, passion and commitment, to our dental colleagues for the camaraderie and collaboration and for the community who have consistently supported our practice for almost 50 years. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart! Looking forward to many more years of bringing the best that orthodontics has to offer to all my patients!

—Dr. Margaret Pitrone



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## The Literacy Council can help

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- ✓ Develop workforce skills
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**From beginner to advanced, the Literacy Council offers free tutoring to adult clients in Carroll County and surrounding areas.**

Our clients are adults who want to:

- Improve reading, writing, and math skills—at any level.
- Develop workforce skills to advance a career.
- Gain new life skills—learn from the experts.
- Learn English or improve current English skills.
- Prepare for citizenship.  
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**Contact the Literacy Council of Carroll County and find out how free, one-on-one tutoring can help you meet your goals.**

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Become a  
Tutor.

Become a  
Volunteer.



*Helping Adult Learners Since 1979*

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Westminster, MD 21157  
**410-857-0766**  
**carrollliteracy.org**

# Private Schools

compiled by **HEATHER MORRIS**

If you are planning to send your child to private school, Carroll County has a wide variety to choose from. Many factors come into play when making this important decision for your family. Whether your concern is cost, academic focus, faith-based schooling, location, class size or learning environment, you are sure to find what you are looking for at one of the many local options.

## **CARROLL CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS**

550 Baltimore Blvd., Westminster  
410-876-3838 • [CarrollChristian.com](http://CarrollChristian.com)

**AGES SERVED:** 2 years-12th grade

**TUITION:** \$4,660-7,650

**ACADEMIC FOCUS:** Faith-based, college prep, leadership

## **CARROLL LUTHERAN SCHOOL**

1738 Old Taneytown Rd., Westminster  
410-848-1050 • [CLSedu.org](http://CLSedu.org)

**AGES SERVED:** K-8th grade

**TUITION:** \$7,500

**ACADEMIC FOCUS:** Exceptional education formed in faith

## **GERSTELL ACADEMY**

2500 Old Westminster Pike, Finksburg  
410-861-4400 • [Gerstell.org](http://Gerstell.org)

**AGES SERVED:** Pre-K (age 4) and kindergarten-12th grades

**TUITION:** \$12,100-26,400

**ACADEMIC FOCUS:** College preparatory, leadership, non-sectarian, values-based education

## **MONTESSORI SCHOOL OF WESTMINSTER**

1055 Montessori Dr., Westminster  
410-848-6283 •

[MontessoriSchoolOfWestminster.org](http://MontessoriSchoolOfWestminster.org)

**AGES SERVED:** 2 years-9th grade

**TUITION:** Ranges from \$4,750-13,070 depending on age and program selection

**ACADEMIC FOCUS:** Environmental education, with a focus on the outdoors that complements a standard curriculum

## **NORTH CARROLL COMMUNITY SCHOOL**

401 Stone Rd., Westminster  
410-386-0655 • [NCCS.school](http://NCCS.school)

**AGES SERVED:** K-8th grades

**TUITION:** Grades K-5 \$8,995; Grades 6-8 \$9,995

**ACADEMIC FOCUS:** Curriculum for various levels and abilities of students; STEM; literature, history and other general subjects

## **ST. JOHN CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

45 Monroe St., Westminster  
410-848-7455 • [SJWestSchool.org](http://SJWestSchool.org)

**AGES SERVED:** Pre-K (age 3)-8th grades

**TUITION:** \$6,872

**ACADEMIC FOCUS:** Faith-based STEM and technology-enriched programs

## **ST. STEPHEN'S CLASSICAL CHRISTIAN ACADEMY**

2275 Liberty Rd., Eldersburg  
410-795-1249 • [StStephensClassical.org](http://StStephensClassical.org)

**AGES SERVED:** 4 years old (junior kindergarten)-8th grade

**TUITION:** \$5,950; does not include registration, curriculum, and other fees

**ACADEMIC FOCUS:** Classical style: grammar and logic stages

## **SPRINGDALE PREPARATORY SCHOOL**

1000 Green Valley Rd., New Windsor  
443-671-2531 • [SpringdalePrep.org](http://SpringdalePrep.org)

**AGES SERVED:** 6-12th grades

**ENROLLMENT OPTIONS:** Day, 5-Day Boarding, and 7-Day Boarding

**TUITION:** Day student rate: \$11,500; Five-day boarding school rate: \$47,500; Seven-day boarding school rate: \$52,500

**ACADEMIC FOCUS:** Co-educational, multicultural boarding and day school. Authorized International Baccalaureate (IB) World School. The IB programmes encourage students to become active, compassionate, and lifelong learners who can understand and respect other people's different views and opinions.

## **THE LEGACY SCHOOL**

115 Terrapin Rd., Sykesville  
410-549-1717 • [LegacySchoolMD.org](http://LegacySchoolMD.org)

**AGES SERVED:** Ages 6-14

**TUITION:** \$27,000

**ACADEMIC FOCUS:** Students with dyslexia and related language-based learning differences

*Note: This list of area private schools is for informational purposes and is not considered a referral or recommendation. Every effort was made to include a complete listing of the private schools in Carroll County. Schools that responded by the publication deadline were included. For more information about enrollment or openings, contact the school directly.*

# Meet *the* Family *of* Myers-Durboraw Funeral Home



*Standing Beside, Caring Beyond*

When your family experiences the loss of a loved one, count on Myers-Durboraw Funeral Home to go the extra mile to help you navigate your time of need. We'll guide, support and stand beside you in making thoughtful, informed decisions.



## Get to Know our Managers



**JOSH WILLET**, a Carroll County native, was born and raised on a small family farm between Taneytown and Westminster. He attended Mother Seton School in Emmitsburg and graduated from Francis Scott Key High School in '97. Josh was a volunteer firefighter/EMT for 20 years with Pleasant Valley Community Fire Company, rising to the rank of Captain. He also worked for Taneytown Volunteer Fire Department for 12 years before deciding to pursue a career as a Mortician/Funeral Director in 2011. Josh worked for Myers-Durboraw Funeral Home from 2010-2014 and returned in 2021 as the Operations Manager.

**DAVE MEADOR** has resided in Maryland since 1984. He is a graduate of Millikin University and Winebrenner Theological Seminary. He earned a degree in Mortuary Science from CCBC in Catonsville in December, 2010. An ordained minister, Dave brings more than 40 years of pastoral experience to his work in funeral service. He is pastor of Carrollton Church of God in Finksburg, a position he has held since 1999.

**JILL ALLISON TRAIL** is a first-generation funeral director. She completed her degree in Mortuary Science in 2011, graduating from Catonsville Community College. She served her apprenticeship in a locally owned family firm and continued to work for them for 10 years. She joined the Myers Durboraw Funeral Home family in 2021. Jill also is an adjunct teacher at her college alumni CCBC, where she teaches the laboratory portion of mortuary restorative art. In her off time, she volunteers for a dog rescue, fostering many dogs over the years. Her niche is caring for dogs with disabilities, which inspired her to write a children's book that features her own rescue, bilateral amputee, Pihu (Pee-Hoo).

*At Myers-Durboraw Funeral Home, our family promises to serve yours as if you were a member of our own.*

*Our compassionate staff listens and takes extra measures to ensure your loved one is honored in a way that is special and memorable.*

*3 Locations  
to Serve You*

### **WESTMINSTER**

91 Willis St.  
410-848-3933

### **TANEYTOWN**

136 E. Baltimore St.  
410-756-6688

### **EMMITSBURG**

210 W. Main St.  
301-447-6244



# MYERS-DURBORAW *Funeral Home*

*For more information, please visit*  
**MyersDurborawFH.com**



LIFE ON THE HILL:

# The Dorsey Family Legacy in Early Sykesville

by LINDA L. ESTERSON

**The Dorsey Family, circa 1952. Photo supplied by the Dorsey Family**  
**FIRST ROW: Thelma, Ed, Carrie, Warren (Tom),**  
**SECOND ROW: Clifton, Romulus, Mae (Sis), Catherine, Emerson (Wee),**  
**THIRD ROW: Chester, Russell, Rosie, Everett, Vernon.**

AT THE EDGE OF SYKESVILLE, ABOVE Main Street, sits Oklahoma Hill, an area rooted in history. It was on this hill that the legacy of the Dorsey family and its matriarch established the foundation that would propel her children and other African-Americans in the community to success in the early 1900s.

Carrie Dorsey, the daughter of slaves, was the mother of 12 children. She made sure they were fed, clothed and cared for, and she motivated them to achieve more than living disadvantaged lives on the hill. Local author Jack White chronicled the Dorsey family's story in his 2014 book *In Carrie's Footprints*, following significant input from Warren Dorsey, Carrie's son. White and Warren Dorsey met by chance, and after developing a relationship, Warren asked if White would document his family's story.

"Was his family famous for any reason? No, they weren't," says White. "They are just representative of the life that the people were living up there at that time. His family was the most well off of them all. They were still dirt poor."

The book inspired town officials to rename Warfield Park, rechristening it Carrie Dorsey Park in 2018. A dedication ceremony recognized Carrie and the Dorsey family in July 2021 at the park, located about a mile from Oklahoma Hill near the entrance to the Springfield Hospital grounds.

"My mother was dedicated to moving us forward as best she could," says Warren Dorsey, Carrie's ninth child, who turned 101 in November. "She always told us kids that there would be a better day tomorrow, not really knowing exactly what that meant. But we've managed to go on, and the family proliferated into many areas and many different professions."

Sykesville Mayor Stacy Link adds, "The park was named after his mother because of ... what she was able to accomplish and offer an opportunity... constantly telling the kids to be ready for the opportunity when it arrives. She was offering them the opportunity to have the opportunity to succeed." Link notes that the

Dorseys, along with other hard-working black families during the early to mid-1900s, paved the way for future generations and the diversity that is a welcomed part of Sykesville today.

"Carrie was determined that her children find a better day," agrees Patricia Greenwald, a former schoolteacher who directed the preservation of the Historic Sykesville Colored Schoolhouse, which all 12 children attended. "And she prepared them for that. She demanded it. She demanded excellence from them."

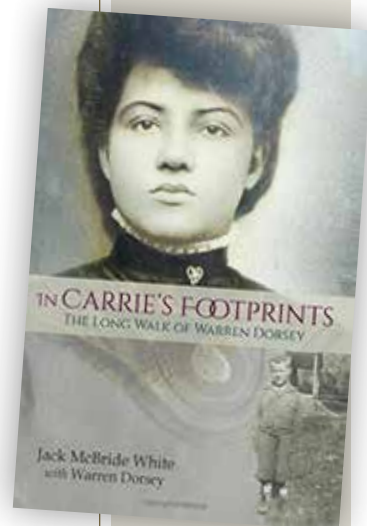
Warren Dorsey was born prematurely in 1920 on the family farm. The home had no electricity, and the only heat came from the stove, fueled by the wood found on their land. He was small, hardly breathing, and Carrie's mother, Catherine (known in the community as Aunt Kitty), delivered him, as she did his siblings and many other children on the hill. Doctors didn't provide care for the black community at the time, so women in the area pitched in to help with the delivery and to care for the baby and pray.

With his condition so grave, Warren wasn't named until an old acquaintance of Carrie's family, Professor Lee, visited by chance. During Carrie's youth, he had taught academics to many children in her community, located just five miles south of Sykesville. Professor Lee asked to name the baby Warren Gamaliel Dorsey, for the 29th president of the United States, Warren Gamaliel Harding, following his election.

During their youth, Warren reflects, it was an "unwritten rule" that all 12 children worked on the family farm on the hill, although not all at the same time. As children got older, they moved out and the family grew with additional children. The farm provided enough resources for the family to be self-sufficient. This was Ed Dorsey's goal from the time he, Carrie and their first five children moved there in 1915.

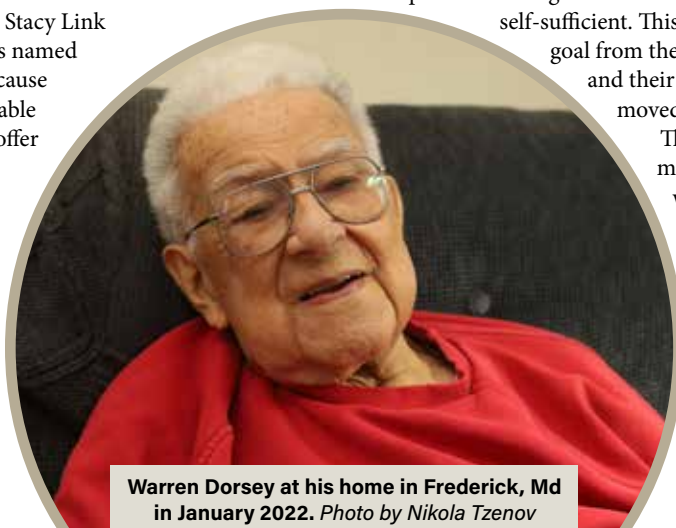
The couple had married around 1903, when Carrie was 16, and roamed from place to place as Ed sought work. He worked on a dairy farm in Virginia, returned to Bush Park near Howard County

► CONT. ON PG. 45



*"Was his family famous for any reason? No, they weren't. They are just representative of the life that the people were living up there at that time. His family was the most well off of them all. They were still dirt poor."*

**- JACK WHITE, AUTHOR OF THE 2014 BOOK, IN CARRIE'S FOOTSTEPS**



**Warren Dorsey at his home in Frederick, Md in January 2022. Photo by Nikola Tzenov**



Six generations and 160 years later, Eline Funeral Home is humbled and impassioned to serve our local communities as one of the oldest family owned and operated funeral homes in the United States.

**ElineFuneralHome.com**



Steven W. Eline

Connor F. Eline

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~ **HAMPSTEAD** ~  
934 South Main Street  
**410-239-8163**  
CREMATORY ON PREMISES

~ **REISTERSTOWN** ~  
11824 Reisterstown Road  
**410-833-1414**

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*“The farm was sufficient for us to raise our own food and just about everything we needed. My father’s dream was to be self-sufficient. And in many ways, we had become that. We were able to raise a lot of what we ate.”*

- WARREN DORSEY

◀ CONTINUED FROM PG. 43 where he was raised and later worked at Springfield Hospital as a cook. Ed quit many jobs, including from Springfield several times, over the way he and other African-Americans were treated. This fueled his desire to create his own income for the family. They settled in Sykesville on Main Street in a house behind the Harris grocery and dry goods store. Carrie did the family laundry for one of the Harris daughters in return for use of their four-room shack. Margaret Harris proved extremely generous to the Dorseys, providing shoes and clothing for the children each year.

They lived there for a while before moving up the hill, where much of the black community had settled. At one time, there were as many as 14 families on the hill, Warren says. The Dorseys bought a house on a lot of about 40 acres and built a farm.

“The farm was sufficient for us to raise our own food and just about everything we needed,” says Warren. “My father’s dream was to be self-sufficient. And in many ways, we had become that. We were able to raise a lot of what we ate.” They grew a tremendous garden — Warren recalls 200 tomato plants, for instance — and raised poultry. The expansive property also enabled the family to use its own wood for fuel, and exchange eggs and produce for staples that couldn’t be produced locally, like grains and sugar, found at the marketplace in downtown Sykesville. But the success is attributed to Carrie’s dedication.

“I often call it the Dorsey machine and she was the engineer,” Warren says. “Everybody was involved.”

Ed, Warren says, continued struggling to cope with the circumstances he was born into. Eventually, he isolated himself to keep from dealing with the reality, and Carrie and the children took over fully.

In addition to hard work, Carrie stressed education. Her children walked miles to the Old Colored Schoolhouse, which provided education for black children up to seventh grade.

“She was virtually illiterate herself, but she sat them all down each evening to do their homework,” says Greenwald, who hosts tours and talks as well as twice-weekly tutoring



LEFT: Emerson (“Wee”), Mae (“Sis”), and Warren (“Tom”) Dorsey pose for their teacher outside the Historic Sykesville Colored Schoolhouse, ca. 1930. They had worn their very best that day because the teacher said she would be bringing a camera. Photo supplied by the Dorsey family.



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▶ CONTINUED ON PG. 46

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Warren, Rosie and other descendants of Carrie Dorsey pose for a photo at the Sykesville Townhouse in July 2019 after the Town Council voted to name a Sykesville park *Carrie Dorsey Park*.

*Photo supplied by the Dorsey Family*



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◀ CONTINUED FROM PG. 45 sessions at the restored schoolhouse. “And she checked it as they were doing it. And they didn’t realize that she couldn’t even read what they were doing. ... And she insisted on manners, good dress, you know, everything that kind of set her kids apart.”

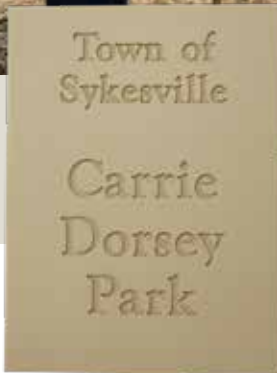
Warren remembers his mother requiring the children to adapt to being the targets of racist abuse and disrespect, teaching them to cope with the inevitable. “My mother had instructed us how to behave so that we did not be in conflict at all in the majority community,” he says. “She said, ‘Notice what people call you because you’re going to hear this a lot in your lifetime, but pay it no mind. The only thing that’s going to determine who you are and what your destiny will be throughout life is you.’”

It was her dedication to them and her dreams for them that compelled Warren and many of the other children to pursue life beyond Sykesville. Warren also cites the influence of older sister Thelma, who moved in with an aunt to attend better schools in Baltimore and earn a master’s degree from New York University. Thelma became a teacher, laying a path that many of the siblings followed.

The others who completed their schooling graduated from Robert Moton High School. They walked four miles to catch a bus in Eldersburg to get to the school, and dealt with discrimination that followed desegregation in schools. Some continued on to college. Warren moved in with Thelma and her husband in Baltimore to enroll at Morgan State College, and after six years and fighting deadly illnesses after being exposed to microbes during his research, he graduated with a degree in biology. He dreamed of pursuing



Warren Dorsey and Rosie Dorsey Hutchinson pose for a photo at the presentation of *Carrie Dorsey Park* during the Gatehouse Porch Talk. Photo supplied by Sykesville Mayor Stacy Link.



a Ph.D. to help farmers via microbiological enrichment.

He, like two of his brothers, joined the Army. Afterwards, he worked as a microbiologist at Fort Detrick for decades before federal cuts to research in the early 1970s. That led to a new career: teaching. Warren enrolled at Goucher College and was the first black man to earn a master's degree at the Towson school, according to Greenwald. He taught in Frederick, where he lived with his wife, Carolyn, and three children, and would become a school principal before retiring in 1981 at age 60.

For the last 74 years, Warren has remained in Frederick, and his children provide transportation to doctor's appointments, to his talks back in Sykesville at the Old Schoolhouse and to family reunions, which were first held in his youth in the pool room Ed built on the farm.

Multiple generations of the Dorsey family return to Carroll County each year to gather for family reunions and share updates on their lives. They discuss the past year and their aspirations for the next. During the 2021 reunion, Warren and his sister Rosie Dorsey Hutchinson, 95, gathered with their children (Warren and late wife Catherine's Glenn, Robin and Susan, and Rosie's Paula with late husband Paul Hutchinson), nieces and nephews, totaling more than 70-plus Dorseys. Warren and Rosie, who lives in Baltimore, are the last remaining of the 12 Dorsey children.

Today, Oklahoma Hill is different, with simple townhouses built through the Department of Housing and Urban Development after the shacks were demolished in the 1970s. They> CONTINUED ON PG. 49



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◀ CONTINUED FROM PG. 47 have plumbing, electricity and air conditioning, a far cry from how the Dorsey children lived decades before, with a wood stove providing the only heat and the children sleeping three to a bed on a mattress made of straw.

“That was a distressing time for me,” Warren says regarding the destruction of his family home. “I consider that was the legacy of the family and would love to see it perpetuated. But that wasn’t to be. And just as we had with what governed our lives, you accept your reality, whatever it is and move on. And that’s what I’ve done all my life.”

Warren can hear his mother’s words as if she were alive today. “You kids did the best you could with what you had,” he says. “She used to tell us, ‘There’s gonna be a better day. I hope that what you’ve taken from your living that what I predicted for you, it has become your reality.’”

“I think the success that I’ve had or the other children had could be attributed to my mother’s urging us and encouraging us by saying, ‘It’s going to be a better day tomorrow.’” 

Visit **EndPaper** on page 78 for a historic view of Sykesville in the early 1900’s.



Warren Dorsey speaks to delegates from the International Association of Country Schools conference in the Schoolhouse on June 19, 2019. Photo supplied by the Dorsey Family

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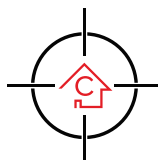
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# Hipcamping

by LISA GREGORY

photography by NIKOLA TZENOV



# Campers are Finding New Ways to Discover the Great Outdoors on Carroll County Farms



Dragos and Tiffany Butnaru at Willet Family Farm.

## THE GATE IS ALWAYS OPEN NOW.

When Jeremy Willet's family sold the farm that had been in the family for generations, the new owners built a gate to the property. And more often than not, when Willet would drive by, "the gate was closed," he says.

But it would not remain so. The Willet family bought back the farm several years ago. And that closed gate is now always open, says Willet, welcoming family, friends and acquaintances.

And travelers. Or, more precisely, campers.

The Willet Family Farm, which is located between Taneytown and Westminster, is a participant in Hipcamp, an online marketplace company offering outdoor stays and camping experiences via a website and mobile app. Participants can stay on privately owned land and privately owned farms.

"The best way to explain it is an Airbnb for camping," says Willet.

Through Hipcamping, farmers and landowners in Carroll County such as Willet, who was the first in Carroll County to embrace the Hipcamping idea, are opening up their private land to visitors who want to get away and enjoy nature and the peace and contentment that comes with it. And in doing so, they're bringing fellow landowners and farmers an additional source of revenue.

"It is money that is helping us to restore the old barn and fix horse fences," Willet says of his farm. "It is income that is important to us."

The Willet Family Farm consists of 13 acres in the middle of over 200 acres of farmland owned by various Willet family members. On his farm, Willet provides a traditional camping site and a "glamping" site for those less inclined to rough it. Glamping combines camping with glamour, and can include a heated tent and a sense of luxury, with blankets and pillows, board games and treats. The glamping tent on the Willets' farm is provided by Suite Fika in Westminster.

Costs for the camping sites vary from place to place but run the range of between \$30 to \$55 locally, and \$149 for glamping at the Willet farm. Due to county regulations, Willet and other Hipcamping participants can only host one set of campers at a time.

However, since 2019, Willet has hosted over 200 campers from across the United States, including visitors from Washington, D.C., Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York City. He has even had a couple of visitors from overseas.

So well-received has the Willet Family Farm been by campers that it has been named the No. 1 site in Maryland by Hipcamp, which based the ranking on bookings, reviews and ratings from campers. *Outside Magazine* also recently named it the favorite Hipcamp site in the state.

Those camping at the Willet Family Farm can purchase fresh eggs for their breakfast there, as well as other items. Or they can get them from neighboring farms. And Willet encourages campers to visit local restaurants, breweries and other area draws.

▶ CONTINUED ON PG. 55





# Glamping

## is Just a Call Away

by KYM BYRNES

**B**ORN OUT OF A DESIRE FOR HER VERY OWN “she shed,” Heather Burkner started Suite Fika, a new Westminster-based business that caters to those who want an outdoor experience that offers a little comfort and a touch of glam.

“I had always wanted a ‘she shed’ in my yard to have my friends over for a glass of wine or just a place to get away,” Burkner said. “I started sending my husband links to websites to buy me a tent, and I convinced him this would be even better than a she shed. Once we set up the tent and had a few backyard gatherings, I thought this would be fun to offer to other people.”

She knew a lot of people would enjoy the tented, she-shed getaway — she also realized many people might not want to invest in a tent, along with furniture and decor. So a business idea was born, and Burkner said she has been pleasantly surprised by how busy it has been.

Suite Fika shows up at your location with the tent and decorations, sets up, and then breaks everything down after the rental and carries it away. They set up in a variety of destinations, including back yards, campgrounds and privately owned properties.

“We are so excited that people have really enjoyed our little business,” Burkner said. “I honestly just figured it would be nice to rent out a few times to make back a little of what I spent in furniture and decor. But I think people really enjoy that it’s a unique party idea, and a safe way to get away during COVID when people don’t want to travel too far.”



### GENERAL PACKAGES/PRICING

Burkner said she likes working with clients to personalize the experience as much as possible, but there are some general packages to help folks determine what might work best for their needs. Here, in her words, are some of Suite Fika’s offerings:

**Glamping Delivered:** The Glamping Delivered package is our top of the line rental at \$500.

It is decorated from top to bottom, and guests have the luxury of having this at their own location. We really try to personalize the tent for this type of party, and everything is included from beds, chairs, plush rugs, inside and outside lights, movie projector, serving ware, etc.

**Glamping at Willet Farm:** Glamping at Willet Farm is a great option for those who really want to experience camping but maybe aren’t sure that they are up to “roughing it” and don’t want to spend quite as much. Glamping is, after all, “Glamorous Camping.” I like to explain that at Willet Farms they can experience all the beauty of the outdoors with all the comforts of home. It’s a fun little getaway for a couple or some friends. There isn’t electricity there, but we set up solar lights, and there is a firepit and Port-a-Pot as well. Starting price is \$150.

**Glamping at Gettysburg:** This spring we are offering Glamping at Gettysburg/Battlefield KOA, a great in-between option with rates starting at \$285. This is a good option for families that would like to try glamping but also enjoy all the activities offered at a larger campground. This campsite offers everything to keep a family busy — swimming pool, nature trail, playground, life-size games, etc. When they arrive at the campsite they can go right from their car to enjoying their stay, since we will do the setting up before they arrive.

*Learn more about Suite Fika at [www.suitefika.com](http://www.suitefika.com).*



Plenty of blankets and a heater keep the tent warm and cozy for an overnight stay.

◀ CONTINUED FROM PG. 53 Hipcamp, which began on the West Coast in 2013, reached out to Willet in an effort to expand its camping options on the East Coast. Initially, he admits, he wasn't so sure about the idea. "I read the email and was thinking, 'Well, this could be spam.'" But then he rethought it. "We did a lot of research on our end. We wanted to make sure that their values aligned with ours. They did. It was a perfect match."

Diversity and inclusion are especially important to the Willet family.

"They had zero tolerance for any discrimination whatsoever," he says. "And that has been at the heart of our farm forever. It's at the heart of our family, being a mixed-race family."

And Willet has worked hard to make sure all feel welcome. In fact, as one enters the farm, there is a sign that says "Hate has no home here" in several languages. And the word Love is painted on the barn. "It's the first thing you see when you come down the driveway," says Willet.

"We're welcoming guests from the city and urban and suburban locations," he added. "And so of course, by doing that, we are going to get this beautiful opportunity to meet a whole array of people. And that's what we love about it: meeting different religions, different backgrounds, different races, different economic statuses."

While the house and backyard area are for the Willet family's use only, there is still interaction taking place. "Sometimes we get to meet guests and our kids play together," says Willet.

As the number of campers coming to the Willet Family Farm suggests, Hipcamping is taking off. And this has been especially true during the pandemic, with its accompanying shutdowns.

"We had families who were doing home school and traveling across the United States during COVID," says Peggy Dean of Empty Cupboard Farm, which is situated between Taneytown and Westminster and is also a Hipcamp participant. "And people who were able to work from a camper on the internet."

"For so many it was their first time camping," says Benjamin Batten of Fiddlers Green Farm in Taneytown, another Hipcamp participant. "They were ecstatic to be out."

Dean recalls one woman in particular who came to her farm to camp. "She would just sit under one of our big trees and read with her dog beside her," says Dean, whose grandparents purchased the farm in 1918, and where there is a barn built in 1886. ▶ CONTINUED ON PG. 56

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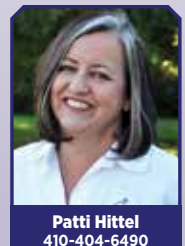
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Dragos and Tiffany Butnaru enjoyed a unique overnight hipcamping at the Willet Family Farm this past December.

◀ CONTINUED FROM PG. 55

According to Dean, the woman was involved with statistical research on COVID-19 in the early days of the pandemic. “She just wanted somewhere to get away,” says Dean, whose farm includes a pond for fishing and a fire pit. “She described the area as serene.”

Batten agrees that a lot of the draw of Hipcamping is getting away from it all. And he has just the place in mind.

“We’ve got this nice peaceful spot,” he says of a campsite on the family farm, which has been in existence since 1744, and where hemp-based CBD products are now grown and produced. “We’ve got the creek running by there, and it’s shaded in the summertime with the trees. And I think it’s just a good spot. It’s been a helpful healing place for a lot of people for a long time — family and friends. So I think that energy is felt when people come there.”

Tiffany Butnaru and her husband, Dragos, came looking for some of that peace with their two dogs, Cooper and Charles, in tow. On a chilly December day, the two came up from their home in D.C. to stay overnight at the Willet Family Farm.

“Even though the city’s wonderful, sometimes it’s nice to step away a little bit,” says Tiffany, who works for the Treasury Department. “When I was searching for a place to camp, I just thought, ‘Oh my gosh, this is something really unique to be on a farm and to be with animals.’ We really love anything that’s unique or quirky. And we liked the idea of being on a farm but also close to civilization.”

For her and those like her, it is about more than just a place to stay. “I think the reason Hipcamp has been able to get so much traction is because my generation — millennials and even the generation below us — are looking for an experience,” she says.

As for her own experience, Tiffany was especially impressed with the glamping tent. She oohed and ahed as she surveyed the plush decor. Outside, Cooper, the younger of the couple’s two dogs, is running about happily, stopping once to introduce himself to a less-than-enthusiastic rooster.

“We live in an apartment so he’s loving this,” says Tiffany.

And he isn’t the only one. As she watches her husband attempt to build a fire while struggling with Cooper, who has now stolen a branch from the pile of firewood in the hopes of starting an impromptu game of fetch, Tiffany breaks into a big grin and a chuckle.

“This is so great,” she says. **CM**



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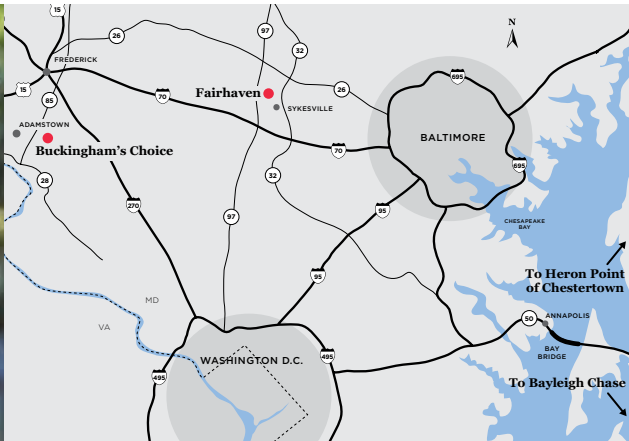
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# Thriftling is Thriving

**POPULARITY IS SURGING FOR SECOND-HAND  
CLOTHING AND UPCYCLED FURNITURE FROM  
LOCAL SHOPS & ONLINE RETAIL SALES**

*by*  
**AMANDA MILEWSKI**

*photography by*  
**NIKOLA TZENOV**



Items from Kelly + Co.



R

EMEMBER HAND-ME-DOWNS? THE OLDEST CHILD GOT the new clothes, and siblings two and three eventually inherited them in turn? The scourge of childhood for some. But it certainly made sense for cost-conscious

parents, particularly if they had invested in quality clothing that could last through (ahem) the rough-and-tumble of three boys. Fast-forward a number of years, and now those same kids, like many of their contemporaries, are paying for hand-me-downs at Goodwill and other thrift stores, and through online resale sites.

The current trend in buying secondhand clothing is primarily being driven by Gen Zers, spurred along by influencers on social media. But plenty of millennials and even baby boomers know a bargain when they see one and are doing their share to make thrift store shopping a billion-dollar industry.

Influencers aside, thrift store shopping not only offers cost savings, it also does its part for the planet. Thrifting and “upcycling” save items from the landfill. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, 17 million tons of textile waste ended up in landfills in 2018. Textiles can take more than 200 years to decompose.

Of course, there are some who would turn their noses up at buying anything used, but it has been de rigueur in many circles for decades: think of fancy (and pricey!) antiques, estate jewelry, cars, firearms, mansions, and houses (duh).

### THE LINGO AND THE LOCALES

Not-for-profit thrift stores like Goodwill sell secondhand items for a flat fee. At consignment stores, a percentage of the sale price goes back to the owner. Some consignment stores have a declining sale price, depending on how long the item has been in the store. For instance, after two weeks on the rack, the item might be marked down by 10 percent.

There are numerous online resale sites, too — ThredUp, Poshmark, Tradesy, Mercari, and of course eBay. There is also Marketplace on Facebook as well as a number of locally administered resale Facebook pages and groups and online sites. Some major retail brands like Patagonia, REI and Levi’s operate second-hand sale sites of their own goods.

According to the National Association of Resale Professionals, there are 25,000 resale, consignment and not-for-profit resale shops in the United States. And it seems like there are just as many terms for secondhand goods: used, thrifted, vintage, antique, pre-owned, and upcycled, to name a few. And if you shop online, there are a number of different acronyms to describe an item: EUC, NWOT, NWT, NWOB.

Most of these terms mean the same thing: something you can buy that was previously used or worn by someone else. Antique usually means something 100 years or older. Vintage is used for anything from 20 to 99 years. My husband’s family’s baptismal gown, which was worn by our children’s great-grandmother, was an antique. My clothes from the ’80s are vintage.

(For the record, EUC is “excellent used condition”; NWOT is “new without tags”; NWT is “new with tags”; and NWOB is “new without box”. Which brings up an important point. Items being thrifted don’t have to be used. Some items being resold are new items that were never worn. Maybe they couldn’t be returned or were a gift that didn’t fit or wasn’t liked.

And also for the record, upcycled, which can be done to virtually anything — clothing, furniture, Airstream trailers — means to transform an old item into something new. ▶ CONTINUED ON PG. 62

Items from Kelly + Co.





Kelly + Co. carries upcycled furniture and accessories refinished by Kelly Wickesser and local vendors.

◀ CONTINUED FROM PG. 61

### UPCYCLING SPOKE TO HER HEART

For Kelly Wickesser, decorating is a lifelong interest. A native of Carroll County and previously a stay-at-home mom, she fell in love with a storefront on Main Street in Westminster, and when it became available she saw it as a pivotal moment in her life.

“I wanted to do something else you know, something to show my kids that I’m not just a mom. And I have loved decorating my whole life, and my mom had Stage Four cancer (we were going on 14 years of Stage Four cancer) and so I knew that this was the moment that I had to do it,” she recalled.

Do it she did. She opened Kelly + Co. at 185 E. Main St. on Feb. 1, 2020, amid the emerging pandemic and her mom’s battle with cancer — which to someone with a business background might not seem the most opportune moment to start a business.

Her store is about half upcycled furniture, which she refinishes herself, and the other half is stock from vendors, some of which is upcycled and handmade.

Despite having to close most in-person shopping due to COVID, Wickesser thinks that the pandemic actually helped her business, at least a little bit. “COVID kept people in their homes more and ‘home’ means much more to people now than it ever did. People want nice, well-made things in their homes. They want furniture that is solid wood, and they don’t want to wait for six months to a year to get it because COVID also changed production and delivery times.”

Most of the furniture in today’s retail market is not real wood, said Wickesser. It’s compressed wood composite with a picture of wood grain glued on the outside. When she looks for furniture to upcycle, real wood construction and dovetail joints on the drawers are two of the earmarks of a quality piece. In addition to looking for the furniture herself, many people bring furniture to her.

“One of my customers recently came to me and said, ‘I have a dresser that was my grandfather’s when he was a child and I don’t want it anymore, but would you be interested in buying it?’ I’m like, well yes, absolutely, you said ‘grandfather,’ which means old, and it’s got to be a solid piece of furniture. The fact that they asked me about this piece of furniture, to me, that’s amazing. They’re asking me if I would like an heirloom piece of furniture that’s been in their family for so many years. ... It’s an honor that they think of me first.”

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Kelly + Co. is open from Wednesday through Saturday, and business is booming. Sales have increased 146 percent since Wickesser opened her doors.

On Mondays and Tuesdays, she looks for and works on upcycled furniture, or she makes things like wreaths for the store. Merchandise moves so quickly that she always has to be at least a step ahead, a testament to the store's popularity and the need it is meeting for its customers.

Wickesser's mom, who was perhaps her and Kelly + Co.'s largest champion, passed away in June 2020. In dealing with her grief on top of worries about the pandemic, Wickesser recalled, "This little store saved me, and it also brought a lot of fun and joy for [many] people during such a scary time."

#### SAVVY SHOPPERS TAKE NOTE

Eldersburg resident Robin Stevenson began thrift store shopping about 12 years ago when her daughter was in preschool.

"A friend of mine on Facebook 'liked' some posts made by a [local] thrift store and I was intrigued! I started with two [local] spots and through the years have

► CONTINUED ON PG. 64



Kelly Wickesser, Kelly + Co., looks for quality, real wood construction to upcycle for her customers.

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◀ CONTINUED FROM PG. 63 found some other favorites,” she said.

Parents often find thrift store shopping advantageous since children outgrow clothing faster than they can wear it out. “When I realized that my kids were outgrowing their clothes in six months to a year, and I could dress them in name-brand ‘expensive’ clothing for a fraction of the cost and then either donate or resell later, it was a no-brainer,” Stevenson said.

“I have found that elementary-age girls’ clothing seems to be ‘better’ to buy due to the condition of the items,” she noted. “Little girls stereotypically tend to be neater, and since they outgrow the clothing so quickly, often the clothes appear even newer. Also, ‘dressier’ boys’ or men’s clothing tends to be nicer due to the items often being worn only once or twice and then outgrown or thrifted.”

Because the stock changes frequently, thrift store shoppers recommend buying an item you are interested in right away; when you return the item may be gone. For that reason, too, visiting thrift stores regularly is a good idea. What they don’t have one week, they might have the next.

Stevenson thrift-shopped every other week when her children were in elementary and preschool. Now she goes once every few months and shops for the entire family.

She looks for name brand or designer items that are in mint condition. “If they have tags on them, even better.” Although she has shopped for specific items — “a boy’s blue blazer or a Ravens jersey or a specific style of dress for my daughter — these days we just go for fun and with a teenager who has very specific taste in brand names and styles. We never know if we will get lucky or not.”

When outfitting a teenage daughter, the cost savings can be “off



**IN ADDITION TO HER RECOMMENDATION OF VISITING THRIFT STORES ON A REGULAR BASIS, SAVVY SHOPPER ROBIN STEVENSON ALSO OFFERS THE FOLLOWING TIPS.**


- Get recommendations for places that sell nice things. You also need a lot of patience. The racks are usually jam-packed and it takes a while to go through everything. Make sure to inspect everything carefully.
- Some large thrift stores accept almost everything they receive so you have to spend extra time and effort searching through some of their lower-quality items to find name-brand, high-quality clothing.
- Avoid shopping on weekends or at the beginning of the week when it is crowded and the clothing is picked through. Midweek seems to be a better time. Plus, most people bring in their hauls during the weekends, so they are usually unpacked and ready for sale by midweek.
- Consider thrift stores for things other than clothes. Stevenson often bought children's books at thrift stores, especially when her family did a Christmas countdown with 24 days of books, opening a new-to-them book each day.

the charts," Stevenson confirmed. So thrift stores can be a great way to ease the pain. "A 'like new' Vineyard Vines pullover that costs upwards of \$80 new might be \$19.99 at the thrift store, and you can't even tell that it was pre-owned," she said.

But there are some items Stevenson won't purchase at thrift stores, no matter how good the deal is. "Absolutely no bathing suits, bras, pajamas, or socks — and shoes have to be brand-new or never worn." And Stevenson washes the clothing as soon as she takes it out of the bag. "I don't do anything special to sanitize the items, but I also inspect the clothing carefully for stains before I purchase. Stains are a deal breaker for me!"

Stevenson also noted that she is able to find items on eBay that she can no longer find anywhere else. "For example, I had a pair of old American Eagle jeans that I absolutely loved, however they were years old and no longer in production. When I wanted them in a smaller size, I found them on eBay in fantastic condition in my desired size! [The] eBay site is great for 'specific item thrifting.' Past-season clothing, a specific piece of clothing in a specific color, toys that are no longer made, etc. People sometimes look for very specific items, which is why I resell clothing on there as well."

It appears that thrift/upcycle shopping isn't just a trend but a way of shopping that is here to stay. According to statistics from online reseller ThredUp, the resale market is expected to double in the next five years, making it a \$77 billion industry by 2025.

Visit one of Carroll County's many upcycle/thrift stores (search online for the most up-to-date list or ask a Gen Zer you know); you never know what bargains or treasures you will find. And you are lightening the load at the landfill to boot. 

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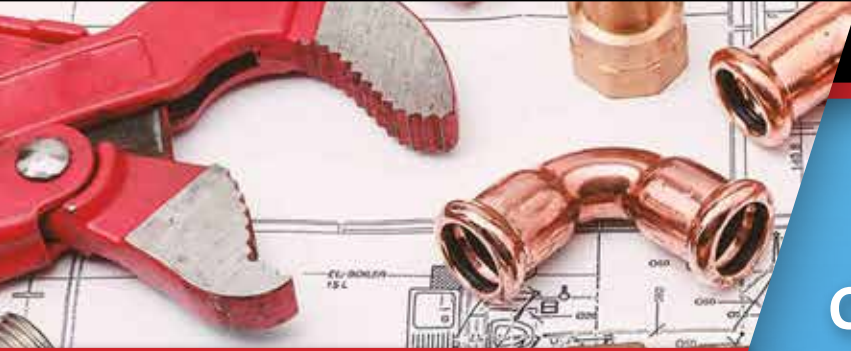


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# What **NOT** To Do For Valentine's Day

by HEATHER MORRIS



Due the hearts and chocolates and romance — Valentine's Day is upon us. Whether you are in a new relationship or you've been married for years, whether you are a fan of the holiday or would rather hide under the covers, it might be a good idea to know what your significant other is thinking, so you still have one on Feb 15. Check out this list of things not to do to keep your partner ... well ... to keep your partner!

## DON'T GET HUNG UP ON THE NEED TO CELEBRATE ON FEB. 14

Valentine's Day is a busy day for restaurants. Reservations may be hard to come by and the staff may not be as attentive if the restaurant is packed. Prices could be higher and some restaurants may even give you a time limit to keep the tables rotating in order to accommodate everyone's reservations. This year, Valentine's Day falls on a Monday, when some restaurants might be closed. The Huffington Post article "Sticky Situation: 23 Valentine's Day Dos And Don'ts" recommends taking the pressure off by opting for an alternative day to celebrate. You may be given more one-on-one attention, in a more relaxed environment, at a lower cost.

## DON'T SAY YOU DON'T WANT ANYTHING

Don't say you don't need to celebrate if in your heart you really do. Don't be afraid to communicate what you want. Julie Spira, founder of Cyber-Dating Expert, told *Bustle Magazine*, "Because Valentine's Day puts so much pressure on a couple, it's best to talk about it with your partner in advance." Your significant other can't read minds. If you tell them not to get you anything, expect them not to get you anything, and don't be upset when they show up empty-handed. Drop hints about what you like or where you'd like to go — or be direct and spell it out. But don't make them guess.

### DON'T WORK LATE

Even if you are not planning on going out, don't make this the night you decide to finish that big project or schedule a late-day meeting. Block this night off on your calendar and give your undivided attention to your significant other.

### DON'T MISS THE MARK

"It's really important when you're expressing love to show your partner that you know and understand them," Mead said. "This means gifting them with things that are important and meaningful to them." This is not the time to be selfish and give them a gift that is clearly a reflection of your own interests. For example, if you are a country music fan but she loves Adele, don't buy her tickets to the next Blake Shelton concert because that's who you want to see. If he is a meat lover, don't buy him a weekly vegan meal kit subscription. Furthermore, stay away from gifting appliances and gym memberships — even if they ask for them! And don't be scared to be creative. Valentine's Day doesn't have to be about teddy bears, cologne, roses and a heart-shaped box of chocolates. Think outside of the box — literally!

### DON'T OVERSPEND OR TRY TO OUT-GIFT YOUR DATE

When it comes to gift-giving, Valentine's Day can be stressful. Knowing what is too much or not enough is subjective, and can vary depending on your (or your honey's) financial situation and the stage of the relationship. According to a 2019 survey conducted by Lending Tree, people in romantic relationships are more likely to be disappointed if their significant other spent too much for Valentine's Day than if they spent too little. So don't one-up your partner by giving an expensive, lavish gift that will make him or her feel bad. Instead, open up the lines of communication and discuss spending limits with each other so you are both on the same page and have reasonable expectations.

### DON'T TALK TO OR ABOUT YOUR EX

Just about everyone can agree on this sage and simple advice: Don't call or text your ex. Don't email or reach out on social media. Don't take a call from your ex, and don't reply to a message sent from your ex. And please don't talk about your ex with your current partner, even if you have something negative to say. Just ... don't.

### DON'T FORGET YOUR DATE OR IGNORE THE DAY

While Valentine's Day often seems to focus on women, don't leave your guy out. He may not appreciate flowers sent to his office, but he might enjoy a bottle of bourbon or his favorite dessert waiting for him at home. He may not want a fancy, elegant dinner out, but he might love a low-key night in with take-out from his favorite restaurant. Everyone wants to be loved and appreciated, so don't assume he doesn't want to be recognized and pampered too! And along these same lines, guys: Don't ignore the day just because it's not your cup of tea, and definitely don't forget about it altogether. Put an alert on your phone if you have to, draw a big red heart around Feb. 14, or have your mom call you to remind you, but please don't let it pass you by unnoticed and uncelebrated.


### DON'T OVERLOOK EXPERIENCES

Local therapist and life coach Carrie Mead said, "Sometimes we get so carried away with shopping in a store for a gift that we overlook the gift of experiences. Consider planning a hike at your partner's favorite location or plan a trip to a favorite museum and go ice-skating afterwards. The positive memory of this experience can last much longer than a physical gift."

### DON'T WAIT TILL THE LAST MINUTE ...

... to make a reservation, buy a gift, ask for a date. Plan ahead to not only save yourself the stress of scrambling the day of for plans, but to show your love interest that they weren't a last-minute thought. If you are a fairly new couple or just casually dating, don't assume they won't make other plans if you haven't asked them out within a reasonable amount of time.

### AND OF COURSE, DON'T BREAK UP ON VALENTINE'S DAY (OR FOR THAT MATTER, THE WEEKS LEADING UP TO THE HOLIDAY EITHER)

This should go without saying, but it may be surprising how many break-ups occur in the days and weeks leading up to Valentine's Day. According to research based on Facebook data, Valentine's Day is one of the biggest breakup times of the year. The stress and pressure of the holiday may make it tempting to let your lover go and be free of any heartfelt responsibility on this day. But, for the love of Pete (or Cupid as the case may be), please don't be "that guy" (or girl) and crush her (or him!) on or around Valentine's Day. 

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# Food & Fun

by MICHAEL VYSKOCIL *photography by* NIKOLA TZENOV

Carroll's dining community knows how to serve up yummy food at cafes and restaurants, but the county is also a premier spot for first-rate entertainment. Whether it's trivia or painting, live music or open mic, there is plenty of fun to be had in Carroll County year-round.



Meatballs Siciliana from  
84 East Woodfire Kitchen  
in downtown Westminster.



## 84 EAST WOODFIRE KITCHEN:

# Test Your Knowledge, Share the Music

by MICHAEL VYSKOCIL photography by NIKOLA TZENOV

**W**HEN PLANNING A FUN NIGHT OUT IN DOWNTOWN Westminister, make 84 East Woodfire Kitchen & Bar part of your plans. This new addition to Westminister's dining scene — which will mark one year of operations in March — has quickly gained a following among locals and out-of-town visitors.

“Our establishment is a small space,” owner Pietro Priola said. “We have only 63 seats, but it’s a very welcoming place.”

Priola takes pride in what he, his daughter Nicole and his management team have created with 84

East Woodfire Kitchen & Bar in Westminister. Priola is no stranger to the Maryland restaurant community. His family has managed restaurants such as Maria’s Sicilian

Ristorante & Cafe and Mangia Italian Grill and Sports Bar in Annapolis and the Mangia Italian Grille and Sports Cafe in the Waverly Woods Village Center in Howard County.

Priola admits that opening a new business amid the COVID-19 pandemic has been challenging, but he’s grateful to the customers who have supported the restaurant since its opening.

“Offering good food and good drinks is our No. 1 thing. Our success has been the quality of our food,” he said, “but it’s our entertainment that keeps people here after dinner.”



Nicole  
Priola





The wood-fired pizzas and wings are an appealing part of the menu. But what also appeals to guests is the delightful atmosphere that supports gatherings with family and friends.

Each Wednesday, the restaurant hosts a Trivia Night beginning at 7 p.m. "The Trivia Night has gotten so popular that guests call to reserve tables," he said. If you go, be prepared for competition among those vying for the chance to win restaurant gift cards.

On Thursday night at 8, it's Open Mic Night hosted by Greg Kneller. "Greg is a local musician from the area. He's well-known and has a great following," Priola said. He added that Open Mic Night also offers an opportunity for his team to discover new talent for entertainment bookings.

On Friday and Saturday nights, 84 East Woodfire Kitchen & Bar hosts musicians from Westminster, the Carroll County region, Howard County and Pennsylvania for live music and a late-night happy hour. Over the past several months, talent such as Marshall Stone, Chris Kross, Arielle Viola, Daisy Meadows and others have performed here.

Guests can leave their troubles behind and immerse themselves in the instrumentation and vocals of dynamite performers.

This year, Priola's goal is to open up the outdoor deck and bring the music outdoors beginning in the spring. He said he hopes to provide this space for people to come together, celebrate with delicious food and drink and enjoy local, live entertainment.

Follow 84 East Woodfire Kitchen & Bar on Facebook to get up-to-date information about entertainment offerings and schedules for upcoming live music performances. [CM](#)



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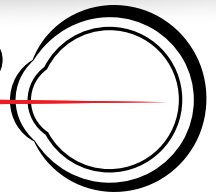
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**LocalFlavors** Entertainment Dining

STRATOSPHERE SOCIAL:

# *Enter as Guests, Leave as Family*

by MICHAEL VYSKOCIL photography by NIKOLA TZENOV



Bacon Buffalo  
Chicken  
Flatbread



Indoor Backyard



Bleu Cheese Burger

IT'S A CAN'T-STOP, WON'T-STOP PLACE FOR ENTERTAINMENT in Carroll County. Stratosphere Social is a destination for all ages to build community, share lasting memories and have fun. Inside this 24,000-square-foot facility, you'll discover dynamic offerings awaiting you at every turn.

Bowl a strike on the Brunswick lanes. Engage in friendly competition in the arcade. Battle zombies in a virtual world, or take a 7-D ride through the Amazon. Experience Maryland's first interactive ax-throwing targets as you play tic-tac-toe, Connect Four and other games that will test your skills.

"It's really about creating these spaces for people to socialize," said Hillary Pennington, director of operations. Along with owner Bryan Zuber, Pennington and the Stratosphere Social team dedicate themselves to delivering a first-rate hub for entertainment in central Maryland.

Do you like connecting with people over live music and trivia? You're in luck at Stratosphere Social. Dueling Pianos gives you an opportunity to sing along with great performers while you enjoy the company of family and friends. Put your knowledge to the test during Trivia Night each Thursday evening from 7 to 9. Interactive, fun and full of energy, this Trivia Night experience is one you'll treasure.

And what would all this entertainment be without some food and drink to accompany it? The on-site bar and restaurant at Stratosphere Social offer plenty of delicious bites and sips to satisfy your taste buds.

Pennington described the Bacon Buffalo Chicken Flatbread on the menu as "pure yumminess in your mouth." A creamy Buffalo sauce with a layer of mozzarella cheese coats the flatbread. It serves as a succulent base for toppings of seasoned Buffalo chicken, crispy bacon and red onions, and a ranch drizzle. The Bleu Cheese Burger is a sumptuous seasoned beef patty featuring bacon and onion jam, a topping of tomato, red onions and a blue cheese dressing on a grilled garlic bun.

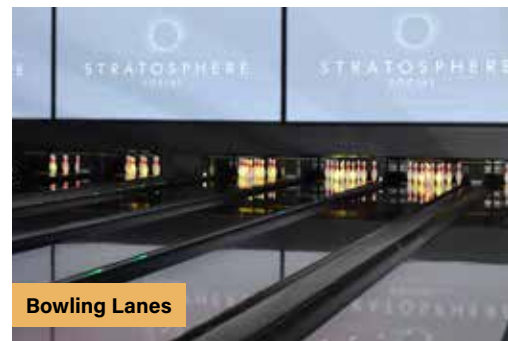
Select from among 20 different craft beers on tap, wine and cocktails like the Sykesburg Punch. This refreshing beverage blends rum, mixed fruit and coconut flavors in a drink that is out of this county with flavor.

Even if you've visited Stratosphere Social in the past, 2022 offers a new reason to return. Head to Carroll County's largest indoor backyard, a 3,500-square-foot turf surface offering endless opportunities for outdoor recreation indoors. "We'll have popular yard games like Connect Four, a giant Jenga board and more. It can be used for private events in addition to being open to the public," Pennington said. For the Big Game this year, Stratosphere Social aims to broadcast every moment of football action on a 133-inch projection screen.

You'll also want to mark your 2022 calendars for Brews and Bites. This popular event features four courses of delicious chef-created food paired with your favorite local craft beers. **CM**



Axe Throwing



Bowling Lanes



Hillary Pennington, Bryan Zuber

### STRATOSPHERE SOCIAL

1332 Londontown Blvd., Eldersburg • 443-537-2626 • StratosphereSocial.com

Oatmeal topped with brown sugar, strawberries, blueberries, yogurt, figs, honey and cinnamon



## AMERICAN ICE CO. CAFE:

# Where Coffee and Community Come Together

by MICHAEL VYSKOCIL photography by NIKOLA TZENOV

**A**merican Ice Co. Cafe is a recent addition to the downtown Westminster community. Occupying a historic building that once served as a private residence and a commercial business, American Ice Co. Cafe has quickly gained a loyal customer base since its opening in 2020. Guests will delight in the freshly brewed coffee, handcrafted breakfast and lunch specialties and frosty iced drinks.

Treat yourself to an affogato or Americano, or indulge in a botanical boba or Thai iced tea.

Start your day off on a hearty note with

the ham, egg and cheese croissant or add some zest to your midday repast with the curry chicken salad wrap.

Besides fueling guests' cravings for good food and drink, the cafe also quenches the community's thirst for a place to go for live music and entertainment.

Manager Alisha O'Malley said the open mic and live music events deliver diverse entertainment that appeals to guests.

Held every first and third Tuesday, Open Mic Nights celebrate the talents of performers young and old. "I try to make the experience as comfortable as possible," she said. "It's a really friendly environment, and the atmosphere is very supportive for new artists."



Alisha O'Malley



Curry Chicken Salad Wrap

Although the weather right now may not make you think about attending an outdoor performance, O'Malley said that last year's Saturday afternoon concerts in "the coop" — a repurposed chicken coop that now serves as a performance stage — are something you shouldn't pass up when warm weather returns. People of all musical persuasions flocked to American Ice Co. Cafe's backyard in 2021 to hear country, blues, funk and other music genres.


Several popular bands from Baltimore and Carroll counties and beyond performed here, including Ebb & Nova, ilyAIMY, Copper Bets, David Sparrow and Fetcher.

Based on the success of the live music events, O'Malley said that American Ice Co. Cafe is considering adding future forms of entertainment, such as improv, comedy or jazz nights, to their offerings.



Even when the music stops, American Ice Co. makes a pleasant retreat for visitors young and old. Upstairs spaces in the building are regularly used by individuals such as McDaniel College students who seek out the accommodations to study and catch up on their coursework. Individuals and groups can also reserve the space for private events.

O'Malley, who hails from Carroll County and has a background in music, said she feels the cafe fills a niche in the community. "It was the vision of our owner to create a place for people to come, feel welcomed, offer live music and encourage the arts in Westminster," she said.

As a member of the downtown Westminster community, the cafe participates in Main Street events. Keep an eye on the cafe's social media feeds for information about Celtic Canter activities this March. 



**AMERICAN ICE CO. CAFE**  
62 W. Main St., Westminster  
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**TOP:** Main Street  
Sykesville, ca. 1906.

**RIGHT:** This 1908  
view of lower  
Sykesville shows  
the Patapsco River  
in the foreground  
and the town on the  
north side. A steel  
bridge spans the  
river connecting  
Carroll and Howard  
Counties. In the far  
left foreground is  
the B&O station  
designed by E.  
Francis Baldwin.

*Photos supplied by  
the Historical Society  
of Carroll County*





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