

**January 3, 1999**

**25 Years Ago** Bank Merger To Take Effect Today (Friday)—The merger of Maryland National Bank and Sykesville State Bank at the close of business Friday, January 4th, has been approved by the Comptroller of the Currency and all other necessary regulatory authorities. Robert D. H. Harvey, chairman and president of Maryland National, has announced that the three offices of the \$13 million-deposit Carroll County bank will open Monday morning, January 7th, as the 123rd, 124th and 125th branches in Maryland National's statewide system. The Sykesville and Eldersburg offices are located in Carroll County and the West Friendship Office is in Howard County. Combined resources of the merged banks will amount to more than \$1.75 billion. *Community Reporter* January 4, 1974.

**50 Years Ago** Truck Driver Admits His Holdup Story Was Hoax—A truck driver who reported on December 29 that he had been held-up at pistol point near Finksburg and relieved of \$15 by a Negro, actually lost the money, which belonged to the company for which he worked, in a pinball machine in Westminster, State Troopers James N. Simons and Charles Hollie reported Tuesday. William J. Heiser, 6302 Windsor Mill road, Woodlawn, the alleged victim, has admitted that the robbery was a hoax to cover up loss of the money, they said. Heiser reported that he was sitting in his truck, owned by the Davis Transfer and Storage Co. of Baltimore, when the Negro held him up and took the money. The officers said their investigation disclosed that Heiser spent an hour and a half in a pool room in Westminster feeding nickels in a pinball machine. *Democratic Advocate*, January 7, 1949.

**75 Years Ago** Knocked From A Mule And Injured—When Roy Durbin, Jr., was leading 2 mules from Baltimore to the Fowler farm, near this city, last Thursday an auto struck the mules at a point near Sandy Mount, knocking them both down. One fell on young Durbin's limb, injuring his ankle severely. The driver of the car did not offer any assistance to the boy but turned his machine and went back extricated himself and got the mules to their feet, another car passed by. The driver seeing the boy's condition halted and took him in his car and went after the mules which had headed for the city and caught them. *Democratic Advocate*, January 4, 1924.

**100 Years Ago** The vault for the Westminster Trust and Deposit Company arrived on Monday and is now being put up in the Company's new quarters in The Westminster hotel building. The vault weighs about sixty tons, and is 8 by 12 feet on the inside. It is of the very latest design, and will be equipped with safe deposit boxes. The outer door has a time lock, with three movements; the second door a combination lock, and inside of that is an iron gate. The vault will be set up and completed in about a month, and the Company expect to occupy their new quarters the first of March. *Democratic Advocate*, January 7, 1899.