



# COURIER

*The Carroll*

Published by the Historical Society of Carroll County, Maryland, Inc.

There's something so appealing about a night of old-time music flowing from a country barn in our own Carroll County. The Historical Society of Carroll County is planning an evening of music, food and fun with its Bluegrass, Bourbon and Bocce event, Friday, September 10, from 6 to 9 p.m. at Rob's Bluegrass Barn, 821 View West Drive, Westminster.

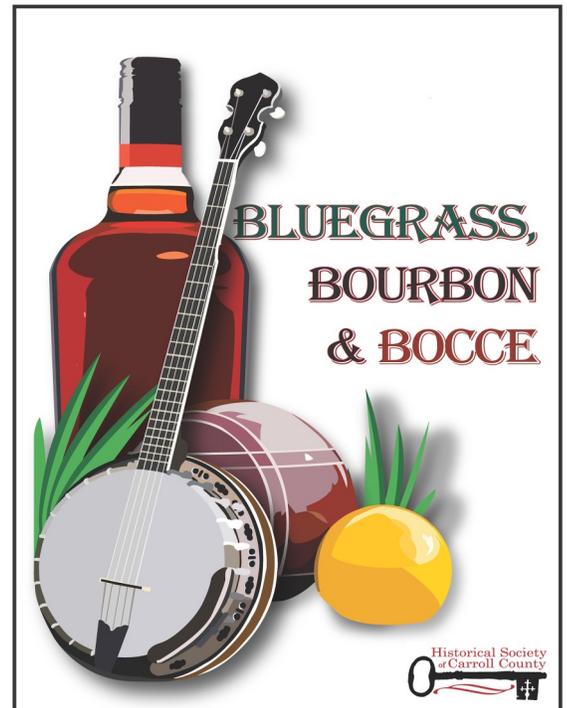
Jennifer Munch is a HSCC board member and chair of the event. We are repeating the sold out event that we first had in 2019. Those who attend will enjoy the music of nationally known bluegrass band, **Sideline**. This six-piece, hard-driving bluegrass band from North Carolina is sure to stir souls with their unique blend of songs, ranging from pulse-pounding, dynamic barn burners to emotional tunes sung from the heart.

Ticket holders will want to bring a blanket or lawn chair to stretch out on the lovely lawn to soak in the sounds. Tickets cost \$40 per person in advance or \$45 at the door. In 2019, we sold out and there were no door sales!

Company. In addition, beer from Johansson's and a variety of wines will be available for purchase. After dinner, attendees are invited to play bocce ball under the stars on a lighted court. We are going to have a referee from the Baltimore Bocce Club on hand. If people want to play bocce, it's there and it's part of the admission. And if they want to learn how to play bocce ball, there will be people who can help them learn the game.

Bluegrass is uniquely American music, and we are excited to reach out to members of our community who may not know much about HSCC and all the things that we do. This evening will be lots of fun under the stars with good music and good food.

We are looking for Sponsors to defray the costs. Let us know if you want to participate as a sponsor or if you know a business looking to join us in sponsorship.



To purchase tickets or for more information, call the Historical Society 410-848-6494, purchase them online at [www.hsccmd.org](http://www.hsccmd.org) or email [info@hsccmd.org](mailto:info@hsccmd.org).



Attendees will enjoy gourmet burgers, hand-cut fries, and frozen custard from The Cow, plus soft drinks and free bourbon tastings from Patapsco Distilling



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## Carroll County, MD, Inc. 2021

210 East Main Street, Westminster, MD 21157

410-848-6494 · info@hsccmd.org

Office & Shop hours: Wed-Sat 10 a.m.-4 p.m.;

Sun 1-4 p.m.

Library: Wed-Fri 12-4 p.m.; Sat 9 a.m.-noon



MARYLAND CENTER  
FOR HISTORY AND CULTURE

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## A Message from the Interim Director/Chair



So here we are and growing! We have been slowly coming back to full swing at HSCC. Our events are moving along and our hearts are happy. Come check out our fresh painted doors and new website additions of virtual exhibits. We are rounding up new volunteers and thinking of new ways of connecting and being a more active and vibrant Society for all of our friends and members.

Although there will be a full acknowledgement of all our *Legacy Gala: Getting the Message* Sponsors, I want those who have committed to us as we go to press, to know how much we really appreciate your support. I am listing the early sponsors here and I know you will want to thank them when you see them in the community.

### Levels of Support

Communication King - \$5,000

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### Sponsors who make a Difference!

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Kohn Creative and the Community Media Center of Carroll County for all their unmatched assistance in creating the Gala.

We are very aware that this has been a tough year for all our HSCC Business Members, HSCC members, and staff. This support tells me that we are going into the end of summer and the fall ready to continue to educate, preserve our heritage and encourage our Carroll County residents to know how we got here. Good job HSCC, and let's keep it going!

Kristen McMasters

# Walking Tour of Historic Deer Park Cemetery

Join HSCC on Saturday, September 18 at 10 am for a walking tour of one of Carroll County's historic cemeteries: Deer Park Methodist Cemetery in Smallwood. The tour will be led by cemetery historian and HSCC volunteer Steve Sinnott.

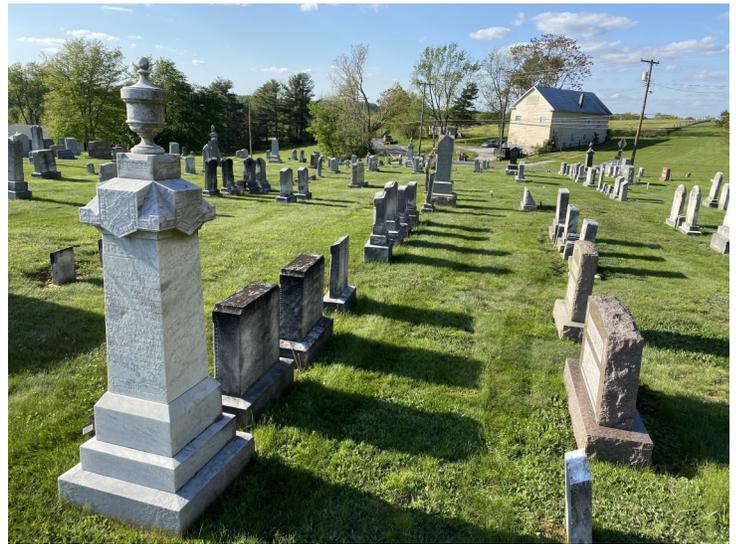
Deer Park Chapel was incorporated in 1854 and soon afterward the area to the rear of the church was used for burials. Over 200 eight-grave burial lots were sold originally. Originally, each owner maintained their own plot—digging the graves and caring for the site. The cemetery has expanded several times over the years and is the final resting place for over 1,500 local residents. Among these are 161 veterans, including the first casualty of the Spanish-American War. Their stories are sometimes humorous, sometimes tragic, and they make a fascinating introduction to local history you probably never knew.

The tour is suitable for ages 10 and up. **The tour requires standing for 1 hour and walking on uneven ground as well as paved roadways.**

Please wear comfortable shoes and dress appropriately for the weather.

The cemetery is located at 2200 Sykesville Road, behind the old Deer Park Methodist Church (now The Maryland Store). The tour begins at 10:00 a.m. Please arrive at the cemetery entrance 15 minutes before the tour for check-in.

Tour costs **\$5 for HSCC members** and **\$10 for non-members**. You may



purchase the Deer Park Methodist Cemetery book for \$20 directly from the Maryland Store. **Tickets must be purchased in advance. Space is limited. Reservations are requested by September 10.** No refunds can be made after the reservation deadline. Purchase tickets at [www.HSCCmd.org](http://www.HSCCmd.org) or call 410-848-6494, ext. 200, to reserve your spot. Rain date is September 25 at 10 a.m.

## A "Death" in the Sherman Family

For three weekends in October, we will be hosting a wake for the Sherman family in the early 1800s at the Sherman–Fisher–Shellman House on campus. We will be recreating a wake and visitors will be able to hear Elizabeth's story of being a widow in Westminster from the 1820s until her death in 1842. You may be surprised to hear that on the death of her husband, Jacob, Elizabeth could not inherit her own house. Prayers will be said as Elizabeth attended Krider's Lutheran Church (now St. Benjamin's Lutheran Church) in Westminster. Her daughter Eve will come and tell about the difficulty of life with such a big household.

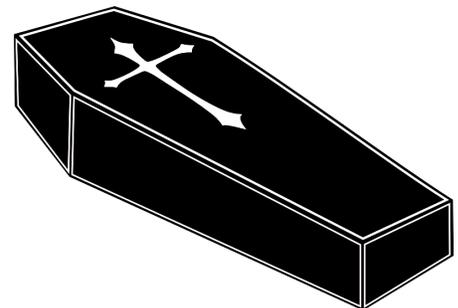
Wakes, funerals, and mourning rituals were very different from the traditional funerals that we think of today. This is before Victorian times with tons of black crepe and fancy dress. We will tell the story of simple, rural, 1820s to 1840s funeral practices accurately as an educational teaching opportunity.

We plan to address the spooky season

with some fun museum offerings. We are planning an exhibit of some of the mourning artifacts from all time periods in our collection. There will also be a virtual exhibit on our website to complement the topic. At the September 21 Box Lunch Talk, Cathy Baty and Kristen McMasters will present some of the background research done to bring this exhibition to life.

For the October series of weekends, we will have a coffin that is to period and will have as many period characters as we can get volunteers. We also plan to have local period greens that would have been used for the house and wake. All visitors will leave with a handout of some of the research highlights and research resources to do more research about Carroll County history. The handout will identify where in the Westminster Cemetery the Sherman family place of final rest can be visited.

The event will run for three weekends. The dates are: October 16 (10 a.m. to 4



p.m.); October 17 (1 p.m. to 4 p.m.); October 23 (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.); October 24 (1 p.m. to 4 p.m.); October 30 (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.); and October 31 (1 p.m. to 4 p.m.). The last tour each day will begin at 3:00.

There will be a charge of \$5 for HSCC members and \$10 for non-members for tickets. Tickets are available for each day. Watch for updated program details on our website and Facebook.

# From Kirkby Fleetham to The Historical Society of Carroll County

The story of The Shipleys of Maryland Room on Cockey's second floor begins in 1668 when a young indentured servant, Adam Shipley of Kirkby Fleetham, Yorkshire, England, landed near Annapolis. At the end of his service, Adam received 50 acres of land, acquired more land, and started a family that grew and spread over the generations.

Years later, two men traveling by car in Carroll County got stuck on a muddy detour. As Ulysses Hayes Shipley told the story, he and his team of sturdy horses rescued the travelers who turned out to be distant cousins. Ulysses told his neighbors, also Shipleys, and they formed the idea of gathering together Adam's descendants. The first gathering of The Shipleys of Maryland was in October 1925 at a church near Gist, Carroll County, MD.

Dorothy Manro Shipley, an eighth-generation descendant of Adam, was born in 1899 and raised at "Adam's Garden" between Sykesville and Eldersburg in Carroll County. It was property patented by progenitor Adam Shipley's grandson, Adam, in 1754. Dorothy's father was the second Shipleys of Maryland president, and Dorothy became an officer and leader in the organization for most of her life. She suggested that the Shipleys collect information about the family and

spearheaded the research leading to publication of *The Shipleys of Maryland 1938*. She was editor for the 1968 edition, and continued collecting Shipley genealogy and answering questions about it until her death in 1998. The Shipleys published a 2002 edition and are working on a second supplement.

In addition to her Shipley activities, Dorothy was active in feminist, cultural, and civic improvement organizations in Baltimore where she lived with her husband, Henry Raynor Granger. She had a weekly radio show and, among other jobs, was public relations director for the Baltimore Bureau of Sanitation.



After Dorothy's death, her executor offered approximately 17 boxes of her records to the Historical Society of Carroll County, which gladly accepted them as one of the few continuous histories of an old Maryland family. To make the records accessible, Michael J. Shipley of Keymar, MD, then Vice President of the Shipleys of Maryland, and Timmi Pierce, the Historical Society's Executive Director and a fellow lover of Morgan horses, settled on the idea of establishing a Shipleys of Maryland Room where the records could be stored and supplemented with additional Shipley history. After Shipley family members raised a substantial contribution to the Historical Society, a room in Cockey's on the Historical Society's campus was dedicated in 2012 "in memory of Dorothy Shipley Granger."

Since the dedication, Shipley volunteers Peggy Greene and Joyce Herbert have been organizing and inventorying the records. They have been joined by Wanda Barnes Hall, Norman Lilley, and Sherry Hartman.





# Tales FROM THE Library

By Bill Palm, Library Chair

Over the past few years, HSCC volunteers and staff have been diligently scanning a collection plat drawings and note cards that allow access to historic Maryland land records. Dr. Arthur Tracey and his daughter, Dr. Grace Tracey, in an era before computers, GPS, or even photo copy, devoted much of their lives to manually retrieving records to “reconstruct Carroll County back to the time when the first [European settler] acquired title to a parcel of land in 1719.”

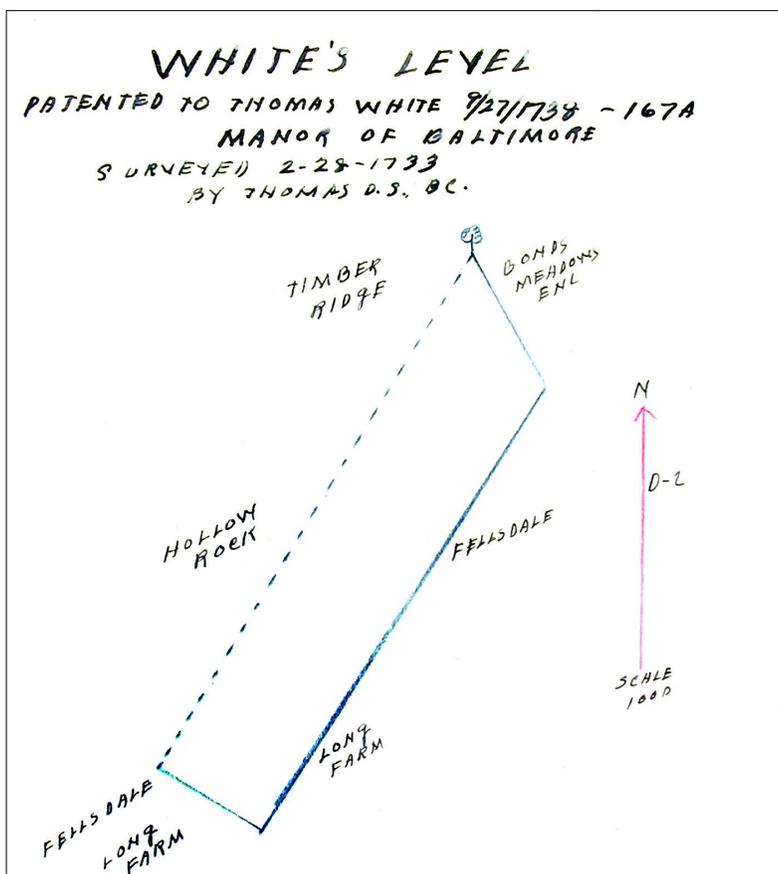
To better understand these records, it may be useful to briefly review the procedures for claiming land under the Maryland colonial government. If, perhaps in 1750, I wanted to obtain land from the governor of Maryland, I would obtain a warrant from Annapolis, providing the basic authority to claim land. I would then have a survey conducted that would map out the boundaries of my property. I would finally obtain a patent, again from the land office in Annapolis, providing a record of my claim. If I wished to expand my property, I could have a “resurvey” and gain another patent. Records also relate to the sale or inheritance of property.

In pursuing their ambitious project, the Traceys assembled “land grants, deeds, wills, plats, surveyor’s field notes etc.” They were able to assemble records for all properties in Carroll County as well as many properties in Baltimore, Frederick, Washington, and Anne Arundel Counties.

The HSCC Library now has available the land plats and associated note cards for Carroll County in digital format accessible at a library work station. Betsy Murphy deserves special credit for photographing the hundreds Tracey plat drawings and editing the files for use by researchers. Various volunteers, most notably Ann Horvath, have worked on scanning the cards. Work continues on the materials for other counties.

As an example of a typical land plat with associated notes, we have included

White’s Level. You will see adjacent properties indicated on the plat (does Timber Ridge sound familiar?). The notes in this case provide substantial detail, indicating that John White patented this land in 1738, with some details regarding location. On another included note



CFW: n-76	WHITES LEVEL	Carroll Co.
2-28-1733		167 A.
9-27-1738 John White		
EL#5-357		
EL#2-765		
At the head of a Pocossom desc. into the westernmost fork of the Patapsco - Cranberry Glade.		
Next to Long Farm; Felldale; Bonds Meadow Enl.; hollow Rock nes.; hollow rock; Timber Ridge nes.		
C.C. Env. #55		
C.C. Plat Bk., pg. 689	Thos. White, Surveyor	
B.C. 5209		
Westminster Dist.		-Cont'd.-

card, we can learn that White sold White’s Level to William Winchester in 1754 for 150 pounds. (Of course we should also note that Mr. Winchester later subdivided the norther portion of this plat to form the little town of Westminster.)

With some effort, and sometimes a little luck, it is possible for you to trace the ownership of any Carroll County property to its original patent. We invite you to use the Maryland Land Records, a special database of the Maryland State Archives.

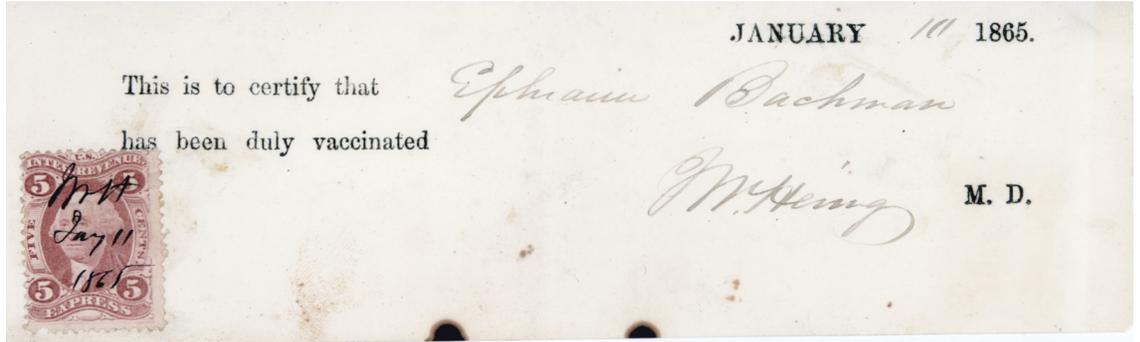
# Curator's Corner



By Cathy Baty, Curator of Collections

“Centers Set up to Give Shots.” We’ve gotten used to seeing headlines like this over the last few months as many of us line up to get our Covid vaccinations. But, this headline appeared in the *Times* in 1955 as Carroll County, along with the rest of the country, rolled up their sleeves to fight one of the most feared diseases of all—polio.

Vaccines have been around a long time. From 1775-1782 a smallpox epidemic ravaged much of North America. Most of the soldiers in the Continental Army during the American Revolution had never previously been exposed to the disease and large numbers fell ill and were unfit for duty. In February 1777, George Washington ordered that the entire army be inoculated. The inoculations were crude, dangerous, sometimes deadly, and almost always



Vaccination certificate for Ephraim Bachman, issued by Dr. Joshua Herring, January 10, 1865.

made the recipient seriously ill for several days. By administering the treatment while the army was in camp for the winter, the soldiers had time to recover before fighting resumed in the spring.

Throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century, rapid advancements were made and vaccines were developed against several diseases including cholera (1880), rabies (1885), and tetanus (1890). Progress continued in the 20<sup>th</sup> century with vaccines for tuberculosis (1921), diphtheria (1923), scarlet fever (1924), and typhus (1937). But polio was still running rampant.

Polio is a viral infection that attacks the nerves that control muscles. In most victims, it causes flu-like symptoms and sometimes a temporary paralysis of the legs or arms. In severe cases, patients are permanently paralyzed. The first reported polio outbreak in the United States was in Vermont in 1894. From there it spread like wildfire. Almost anyone could be affected, though most victims were children. Among those who had the disease as a child are Alan Alda, Mia Farrow, Donald Sutherland, Francis Ford Coppola, Joni Mitchell, Neil Young, Mitch McConnell,

Johnny Weissmuller, and Jack Nicklaus. Adults could also contract the disease. Franklin Delano Roosevelt came down with polio at the age of 39.

By the late 1940s, polio outbreaks in the U.S. disabled an average of more than 35,000 people each year. Some were paralyzed and required leg braces or a wheel chair. In extreme cases, patients were confined to a tank respirator, also known as an iron lung. This was a metal tube that enclosed most of the patient's body. A motor increased and decreased the air pressure inside the device, causing the chest to expand and contract. Parents were frightened to let their children go outside, especially in the summer when the virus seemed to peak. Travel between affected cities was sometimes restricted. Public health officials imposed quarantines on homes and towns where polio cases were diagnosed.

The search for a polio vaccine took decades and cost millions of dollars. On April 12, 1955, news of the first successful vaccine, developed by Dr. Jonas Salk, was released. Two days later, the Carroll County health department announced a schedule to inoculate all first and second grade students starting on April 18. Similar programs were launched across the country. Within two years, the number of cases dropped by 90% and by 1960 there were only 1,000 reported cases.



Lucinda Kester, a first grader at Sandymount Elementary, was the first student in the county to receive the polio vaccine, April 18, 1955. Dr. George Schockett, Carroll County health officer, administered the inoculation.



# Upcoming Events

Please check our website ([hscccmd.org](http://hscccmd.org)) and Facebook for updates on our upcoming events.

## JULY

**20** **Box Lunch Talk - Empire's Eagles**  
June 18, 1815. A desperate Napoleon Bonaparte flees the battlefield at Waterloo, headed for Paris. Will he stand and fight, or run even further? Author Thomas Crocker examines how the French army's top brass escaped after Waterloo—some finding their way to America and others just missing their chance to get away, including Napoleon who came within an hour of slipping aboard a Baltimore privateer. This program will be live via Zoom. Registration is required to access the program. Register at [hscccmd.org/events](http://hscccmd.org/events).

## AUGUST

**17** **Box Lunch Talk - The Bella Rose & Dianthus Bobby**  
In 1933, Italian immigrants Pasquale and Lena Donofrio opened Carroll Gardens in Westminster. Over the next 50 years their business developed well-known hybrid plants and became nationally known. Their son, John, became a nationally acclaimed landscape architect. Author Brenda Black tells the story of her grandparents and the business that remains near and dear to the hearts of gardeners in Carroll County. This program will be live via Zoom. Registration is required to access the program. Register at [hscccmd.org/events](http://hscccmd.org/events).

## SEPTEMBER

**10** **Bluegrass, Bourbon & Bocce** - Bluegrass concert by **Sideline**. Includes concert, gourmet burgers, free bourbon tastings, wine and beer available for purchase. Enjoy a game of bocce on a lighted court. 6-9 p.m. At Rob's Bluegrass Barn. See p. 1.

**18** **Deer Park Cemetery Walking Tour** - a special tour of the historic cemetery in Smallwood. See p. 3.

**21** **Box Lunch Talk - 19th Century Death Examined**  
During the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Carroll County families faced a host of issues dealing with grief and death while living in a small town. Cathy Baty and Kristen McMasters will examine 19<sup>th</sup> century death practices and how they evolved over the course of the century based on research for the special October event to be held in the Sherman-Fisher-Shellman House. This program will be live via Zoom. Registration is required to access the program. Register at [hscccmd.org/events](http://hscccmd.org/events).

## OCTOBER

**16** **A "Death" in the Sherman Family**  
Join HSCC for a unique event as we explore early 19th century funerary customs. Three weekends: Oct. 16-17; Oct. 23-24; Oct. 30-31. See p. 3.

**19** **Box Lunch Talk - Ghosts of Carroll County**  
From the infamous Legh Master, to the Opera House ghost, to the haunted silver mine, Carroll County has an array of mysterious stories. Pat Hahn, ghost walk tour guide for the Carroll County Public Library, will entertain us with some of the county's spookiest tales. This program will be live via Zoom. Registration is required to access the program. Register at [hscccmd.org/events](http://hscccmd.org/events).

**23** **Carroll County History Expo**  
Join HSCC and a variety of historical institutions together to explore local historical foodways. 9:00 a.m.-noon. At the Westminster branch of the Carroll County Public Library. Sponsored by Celebrating America. For more information go to <https://www.celebratingamerica.info/event.asp>.

## NOVEMBER

**3** **HSCC Annual Meeting**  
The event goes virtual again this year. Join us for the annual updates on the state of the Society, election of Trustees, and a special guest speaker. 7:00 p.m. Watch for registration details.

**16** **Box Lunch Talk - U.S. Army Insignia of the Great War**  
Jay Graybeal examines the American, foreign, mythological, and other influences on the development of shoulder sleeve insignia (patches) of the U.S. Army during World War I. This program will be live via Zoom. Registration is required to access the program. Register at [hscccmd.org/events](http://hscccmd.org/events).

## DECEMBER

**4-5** **Holiday Kick-Off**  
Celebrate the holidays with HSCC as the campus is decorated for the season. Tours, activities, music, refreshments. Free for HSCC members. Watch for details.

**11** **Historic Houses of Worship Tour** - Join HSCC and Shepherd Staff for a tour of a dozen historic Carroll County churches. 3-7 p.m. Watch for ticket information.



## **Business Members**

***Please support those who  
support the Historical Society.***

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