

The Carroll **Courier**

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

Happy Birthday Carroll County!

Saturday, January 23

2:00 PM

**The Legacy of the Six Nations:
The Haudenosaunee Confederation and
Pre-colonial Government in Carroll County**

Keynote Speaker: Kevin Dayhoff



Photo courtesy of Kelly Heck

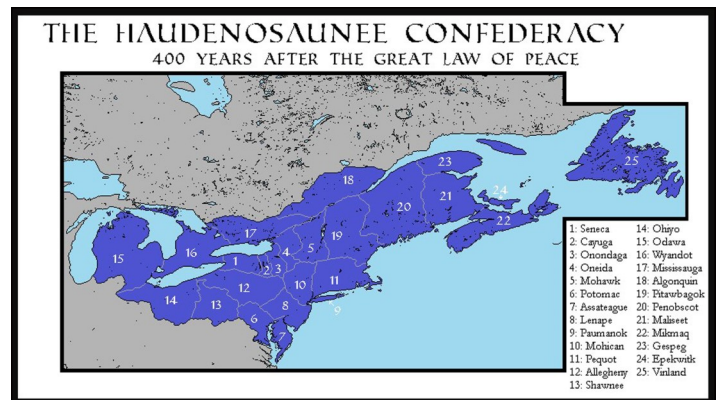
Before 1744, the predominant government in Carroll County was the Haudenosaunee Nation — the “Six Nations”— which played a key role in the evolution of American democracy. Much of our current way of life is owed to the heritage and legacy of the Haudenosaunee Nation. Several main roads in Carroll County have their beginnings as Haudenosaunee trading routes. And several towns in Carroll County — Patapsco for example — had their beginnings as Haudenosaunee settlements.

The Haudenosaunee government was one of the first true participatory democracies in history. It also incorporated full political and leadership rights for women. It was not until after the Treaty of the Six Nations was signed on July 4, 1744, with the Haudenosaunee Nation, and the dispute over the Mason-Dixon Line was settled in 1767 that settlers started to come to Carroll County in greater numbers.



This program will be live via Zoom. Registration is required to access the program. Registration will be available at www.hsccmd.org/events.

Since we can't meet and share birthday cake, everyone who registers will be entered in a drawing to win a gift certificate for a cake from Starry Night Bakery.





From the Executive Director



Board of Trustees 2021

Chair

Kristen McMasters

Vice Chair

Charles O. Fisher, Jr.

Corporate Secretary

Jennifer C. Munch

Treasurer

Tyler J. Codd

Past Chair

Frank J. Batavick

Trustees

Glenn S. Bair

Thomas C. Beach IV

Larry Bohn

Dale Bowman

Lynette Brewer

William L. Brown

Jay A. Graybeal

Bernard L. Jones, Sr.

Josh Kohn

William Palm

Jill Schultz

James M. Shriver III

Terry Smack

Douglas P. Velnoskey

Lynn Wheeler

Staff

Curator of Collections - Catherine Baty

Assistant to the Executive Director -

Catherine Lusher

Data Assistant - Beverly Staub

Bookkeeper - Darlene Ellis-Jenkins

Dear Members and Friends of the Historical Society,

I made the very difficult decision to step down from the position of Executive Director of the Historical Society on December 11. My time with you, over this past year, will be unforgettable. Who would have thought that I would be asked to put on a tuxedo and ride around in a 1930s Model-A Ford to help raise critical funds for the Society during a global pandemic? If you did, can I ask you for six lottery numbers between 1 and 70?



Kidding aside, the Executive Director position is not an easy one and made incredibly more difficult by COVID-19. The number of "irons in the fire" (finances, properties, programs, exhibits, human resources, COVID-19 planning, grants, volunteer-coordinating, etc.) can make one's head-spin—and it spun mine. Nevertheless, from my perspective, I believe we accomplished a lot during 2020. Before COVID-19, our wine event turned into a

wine-tasting, we partnered with the Boys & Girls Club of Westminster, and we began our evening lecture series, *Talks at the Tavern*. During the pandemic, we partnered with the Community Media Center to bring you our *Box Lunch Talks* and *Talks of the Tavern* on Zoom. If you are a Facebook user, you may have seen our posts increase exponentially during the spring and summer.

As summer faded, our Legacy Gala was an exciting night of entertainment, interviews with local prominent barrier breakers, and an online silent auction. Our net proceeds were over \$70,000! This amount was well beyond our expectations for a virtual event. Our only in-person event since March was held in October. Mimi Ashcraft led a group of enthusiastic history-lovers through the Westminster cemetery regaling us with stories of the people buried there.

In terms of the future, all the components for a bright future for the Historical Society are already here: a beautiful campus, three historic buildings, a deep collection of local artifacts, research librarians passionate about helping people, interesting programs, and a Board of Trustees that wants to be part of something greater than themselves.

I am confident that your next Executive Director will be able to steer the Historical Society in a direction that will bring staff, volunteers, members, and the community together in their love of Carroll County history.

Thank you for all you do for the Historical Society. Be well.

Steven Jakobovic

© The Historical Society of Carroll County,
MD, Inc., 2021

210 East Main St.

Westminster, Maryland 21157

410-848-6494

Info@HSCCmd.org

www.HSCCmd.org

Office hours: T-S, 10:00 - 4:00

Shop hours: Open for curbside pick-up

Library: Ready to help by phone or email

BUSINESS MEMBER

~ Computer Network Solutions ~

A Message from the Chair

Dear HSCC Members and Friends,

I am not sure why, but I always get a little nostalgic around the holidays. I think of days long ago and festive occasions with old, old traditions. The days were filled with cookies and cards, fancy meals, special clothes, and lots of parties. I normally smile as I look back and think of all the wonderful things that made the time special. Things have really changed this year, but I am still going to smile. We at the HSCC do have a great deal to be thankful for. With your help, we have a lot to look forward to in the New Year.



There are a few things that really haven't changed. Love of home, family, and HSCC remains the same or stronger. There is the love of friend and neighbor and hopefully a better appreciation of all those people you don't think about who bring you food, fuel, medicines, and necessities. The excitement of putting on events and celebrating our past is really fun with so many folks interested in pursuing the past. On one hand we have every reason to be closer to others and yet, we remain parted for so many reasons. Let's let the holidays bring us all closer, safer and bolder.

2020 will be easy to put in my rearview mirror. I won't miss the pandemic or the general rancor of people I thought I knew. One thing I do miss is seeing all of you in person. I will be stepping in as Interim Executive Director again as Steve transitions to new opportunities. We will all miss Steve and his steady leadership. I look forward to reconnecting with many of you on a more routine basis. We will begin a search for another Executive Director in the New Year. Please know that whatever happens, the HSCC Board wants to do what is best for our staff, volunteers, and members. Please say an extra prayer for us all!

If you have some uplifting stories of the community history, please share them with all of us. I could really use some stories of Carroll's past right about now. I am certain our entire HSCC Board would like to wish all the community a quiet and sacred holiday season. Please stay safe, warm, and bright, knowing we care about you and are planning for next year to see you all right back here.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kristen McMasters".

Kristen McMasters
Chair, HSCC Board



Thanks for Your Support!

As members of the Historical Society of Carroll County, you have a critical role in our success. Within the last few weeks, you should have received our Annual Fund letter. There are many uncertainties over whether we can hold our 2021 fundraising events because of COVID-19. Will we have a Gala? Will a virtual wine event be as successful as our in-person wine events? We don't know. That's where you come in now. Your donation to our Annual Fund keeps our heat on, keeps our internet connected for our Zoomed *Box Lunch Talks*, and keeps the staff working to run things smoothly and raise funds. Please consider calling 410-848-6494, ext. 200 or go to our website to donate: hsccmd.org/get-involved/donate/. Thank you for your generosity!

Annual Meeting Held Virtually

The Historical Society's virtual Annual Business Meeting was a great success. Kristen McMasters, Chair of the Board of Trustees, welcomed members while Steven Jakobovic, Executive Director, and Tyler Codd, Treasurer, provided updates on the Society. A summary of Tyler's report can be found below. Jakobovic spoke about the Society's 2020 accomplishments—starting with the 183rd County Birthday in January and through the virtual Legacy Gala in September. Codd provided an in-depth look at the budget and cash forecast. Thanks to a few emergency grants, a successful Annual Fund and a very good Gala, the Society is in good financial shape through the first third of 2021.

Charlie Fisher, chair of the Governance Committee, presided over the first-ever online election of Board of Trustees nominees. Josh Kohn and Larry Bohn were both elected and will begin their three-year terms in January 2021. Bohn, a lifelong resident of Carroll County, is active in the community and currently serving his 12th year on the Board of Shepherd's Staff. Kohn, a 27-year resident of Carroll County, is co-founder of Kohn Creative, a full-service design firm located on Main Street in Westminster. Doug Velnoskey, Jim Shriver, Tom Beach, and Glenn Bair signed-on for additional terms. We said good-bye to Marcia Duffy, Jaime Ridgely, and Jim Lightner as they resigned from the Board. While all three made significant contributions to the Society, Jim Lightner's years on the Board and his leadership on several of the Society's committees were highlighted. Thank you to Marcia, Jaime, and Jim!

We closed the evening with a presentation from Allison Tolman of the Maryland Center for History and Culture. Allison gave members an inside look of the MCHC's exhibit, *Spectrum of Fashion*.



A Report from Our Treasurer

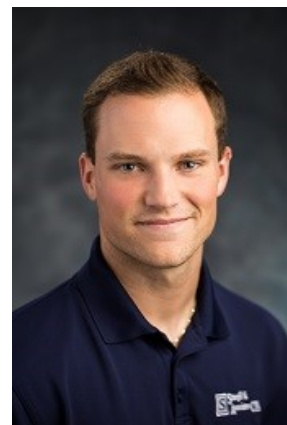
The society has been navigating uncharted waters this year, in more ways than one. From a financial perspective, our Executive Director and staff members have been busy ensuring that all avenues are explored, from federal and state money giveaways to existing grant conversions, and a very successful virtual gala. As the Treasurer of the Society, I have seen first hand the hard work that has gone into keeping our society's finances in order.

With that said, the society has approximately \$150,000 as of this writing to carry our operations through the winter. As many of you know, the monthly expenses incurred this time of year approximates \$30,000, thus we have about 5 months of reserve dollars. The Finance Committee estimates that our reserve will be depleted come late Spring/early Summer, right in time for our annual Gala and funds disbursement from the County.

In normal times, this would be expected, as Gala proceeds and the County would carry us through another Fiscal year. However, in the current unknown environment, the County has already reached out to discourage us from planning on the same amount of funding as last year, and it would be aggressive to assume another "Virtual" Gala could reach similar heights.

To make the message clear, our Executive Director and staff has done a phenomenal job putting us in a financial position to succeed, but it will take a combined effort that includes our members going forward. We thank everyone for their efforts in this trying time, cheers to a brighter 2021!

Tyler Codd, CPA, CVA
Treasurer



Upcoming Events

Normally the *Courier* includes an insert with our full Calendar of Events. But, recently we've had to make significant changes to the schedule. Below is an updated calendar for the next few months. There may be additional changes, so, please check our website (hsccmd.org) and Facebook for updates. **When registering for a virtual program, please watch your email for the link that will let you join the program. We've had reports of the confirmation going to members' junk/spam folder, so please check there if you do not find it in your in-box.**

- Jan 19** **Box Lunch Talk** ~ *Carroll's African American Soldiers and Sailors in the Civil War*, 12-1 p.m. Carroll County contributed a large number of its free and enslaved African American men to fight for the Union during the Civil War. Most ended up in the infantry, but some were assigned to the cavalry and others to the U.S. Navy. Join Mimi Ashcraft in exploring the stories of these men, the challenges they faced in segregated military service, the battles in which they fought, and their families' efforts for pensions after the war ended. This program will be live via Zoom. Registration is required to access the program. Registration will be available at www.hsccmd.org/events.
- Jan 23** **Carroll County Birthday celebration** ~ This year, the annual event goes virtual. See p. 1.
- Feb 13** **Winter Wine Tasting** ~ the annual event goes virtual; first of two unique presentations. See p. 9.
- Feb 16** **Box Lunch Talk** ~ *Amidst the Mischief & the Misery: the Story of Three Famous Civil War Caregivers*, 12-1 p.m. Recently, Civil War scholars have finally begun revealing in detail how our colossal American tragedy turned the nation into a "Republic of Suffering." Burt Kummerow, director of Maryland's Four Centuries Project, discusses three famous Americans—Clara Barton, Walt Whitman, and Louisa May Alcott—who were eyewitnesses to what Barton called the war's "mischief and misery." Their brilliant accounts of the suffering they witnessed "brings the war to our doorsteps." This program will be live via Zoom. Registration is required to access the program. Registration will be available at www.hsccmd.org/events.
- Mar 14** **Winter Wine Tasting** ~ the annual event goes virtual; second of two unique presentations. See p. 9.
- Mar 16** **Box Lunch Talk** ~ *The Manchester Historical Center*, 12-1 p.m. Originally opened in 1989, the Manchester Historical Center moved to its new, expanded location in 2018. Volunteers Betty Smith and Belva Lamotte provide highlights from the town's history, share the history of the museum, and give an overview of the more than 3,000 items in its collection. This program will be live via Zoom. Registration is required to access the program. Registration will be available at www.hsccmd.org/events.
- Mar 20** **Past Times for Children** ~ *Country Fair*, 10-11:15 a.m., Cockeys.
- April 17** **Past Times for Children** ~ *Mary Shellman: A Westminster Icon*, 10-11:15 a.m., Cockeys.
- April 20** **Box Lunch Talk** ~ *Carroll County Almshouse Beginning to End: 112 Years of Caring*, 12-1 p.m. The facility that is now the Carroll County Farm Museum served originally as the county Almshouse. Beverly Humbert, a volunteer at the Farm Museum, has been researching the almshouse and will reveal what she has learned about how it functioned as a farm, the people that lived there, and how it served the community for 112 years. This program will be live via Zoom. Registration is required to access the program. Registration will be available at www.hsccmd.org/events.
- May 15** **Past Times for Children** ~ *Native Americans*, 10-11:15 a.m., Cockeys.
- May 18** **Box Lunch Talk** ~ *An Introduction to the Westminster Historic District Commission and Local Tax Credits for Historic Structures*, 12-1 p.m. Westminster has some very unusual public assistance to preserve and protect historical structures within the local historic district. Local, state, and Federal tax credits are available to taxpayers. Kristen McMasters, Chair of the Westminster Historic District Commission, will explain standards and eligibility of this financial incentive program. This talk will offer assistance and guidance as to how to apply and what to expect during the rehabilitation of our neighborhood's older structures. This program will be live via Zoom. Registration is required to access the program. Registration will be available at www.hsccmd.org/events.
- June 15** **Box Lunch Talk** ~ *On Account of Sex*, 12-1 p.m. 2020 marks the 100 anniversary of the passage of the 19th amendment to the United States Constitution. Marilyn Hanchett reviews significant events that led to voting rights for women, and explores their continued relevance supporting today's discussions about women's and civil rights. This program will be live via Zoom. Registration is required to access the program. Registration will be available at www.hsccmd.org/events.

Tales from the Library

- Bill Palm, Library Chair

A library is expected to be a quiet place. Stern librarians should be enforcing the silence. But for the past few months, with no patrons stopping by, it has been just too eerily still at times.

There is now a four-person crew of intrepid research librarians, just enough to handle each of our four shifts: Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings. With no patrons and no colleagues, we have endeavored to maintain an environment that is as low risk for viral transmission as could be achievable. But we are here to serve you. We are delighted to receive your research request or an email or telephone inquiry.



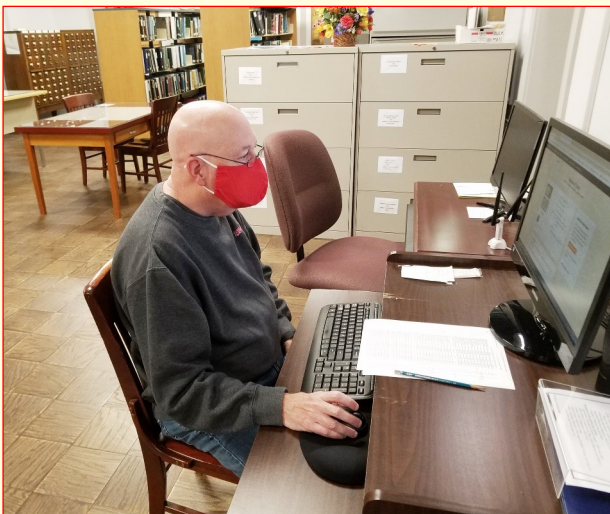
Bill Palm



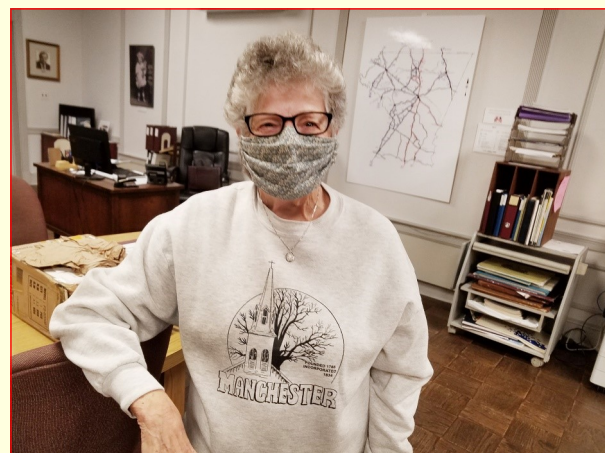
Cindy Lawyer

Perhaps your genealogy efforts have hit a brick wall. Or maybe there is some arcane aspect of Carroll County history that has piqued your interest. At this point, we cannot say when we will be open for visitors. But we volunteers will continue to have access to our books, files and maps, as well as the Tracy collection, Crapster papers, and other resources. We also use Ancestry.com, with complete US Census files, and other online services. Please do submit a research request, which is now accessible at the HSCC website. Go to the website and select LIBRARY, in dropdown menu select LIBRARY GENERAL INFORMATION, and then on the left side of the page, click on SUBMIT RESEARCH REQUEST. We still do charge a small fee (\$16 for members and \$25 for non-members).

If you have a brief question, you may send an email to us at library@hsccmd.org. Or you may call 410-848-6494, ext. 204; be prepared to leave a voice mail message.



Austin Hewitt



Belva Lamotte

And, while it's been quiet, we've been working on housekeeping tasks that are hard to do with patrons in the building. All the books have been re-organized so there is empty space on every shelf to make room for additions as the collection grows. New material that has come in for the Family History and Vertical files has been filed, the file lists updated, and new labels printed for the folders. And, as we work towards migrating our library catalog to a new database, the entries have been reviewed to standardize how authors' names and book titles are listed.

The Curator's Corner

- Cathy Baty, Curator

While we associate paintings with art museums, most history museums also have them. These are usually family portraits or works by local artists. HSCC has both. But, while paintings are common, they are uncommonly difficult to care for.

Paintings are very complex objects. A traditional painting is constructed in layers, in order from back to front, of the support, ground, paint, and coating. The support is usually a wooden frame called a stretcher. The ground for most paintings is canvas. The canvas is attached to the stretcher and keys (flat triangular wedges, traditionally wooden) in the corners adjust the tension of the fabric and to prevent bulges and creases. The ground provides a smooth surface for the paint. The paint can be a very thin single layer or multiple layers. Over the paint, there is generally a coating. The coating, synthetic or natural resins, protects the paint underneath from dirt, abrasion, and moisture.

As paintings age, all of these parts can deteriorate. The keys fall out, allowing the stretcher to move. The canvas expands and contracts with changes in temperature and humidity, causing it to stretch and sag. The paint layers will crack from the movement of the canvas. The paint will curl along the cracks and can even flake off. The coatings often darken with age and absorb dust and dirt, obscuring the original colors and details in the painting.



Detail image showing the painting with half of the varnish removed.



Conservator Heather Smith removes old varnish from the surface of the painting using solvent on a cotton swab.

Recently, one of HSCC's paintings underwent conservation treatment for all these problems. The painting is a portrait of William Winchester, Jr., son of the founder of Westminster and the man who sold Jacob Sherman the land on which the Sherman-Fisher-Shellman House was built. Conservator Heather Smith of Maryland Art Conservation performed the treatment. The back of the canvas was cleaned, new keys installed, and the tension on the canvas corrected. Deformed areas of the paint layer were flattened and the surface of the painting cleaned. A synthetic varnish was applied to protect the surface. Losses to the paint were infilled on top of the varnish so they can be removed if necessary in the future without damaging the original paint layers.

At the same time, conservator William Lewin was treating the frame. Damaged gesso was consolidated and losses infilled. The gilding is water-based so solvents could not be used to remove all the accumulated dirt without causing serious damage. The gilding was gently cleaned and the filled areas painted to match.

The two pieces were reunited and the painting re-hung above the mantel in the Dining Parlor of the house.

The total cost for the conservation was \$3,100. The money came from generous donors to the Gift for the Cause at the 2019 Legacy Gala.



The portrait back in its place above the mantel in the Dining Parlor of the Sherman-Fisher-Shellman House.

Welcome, New Members 2020

Debbie Alexander
 Bob Allen
 Lisa Ayres
 Trish Barrow
 Dawn Blizzard
 Mr. & Mrs. David Bowersox
 Paul Scoglio & Carrie Carlson-Scoglio
 Jennifer Chadwick-Moore
 Kat Conner
 Pat Dorsey
 Ellie Dorsey
 Mr. & Mrs. Paul Duffy
 John Foster
 Mr. & Mrs. Austin Hewitt
 Robert & Charlene Jones
 Deborah Kaminski
 Mary Rose Keefer
 Mr. & Mrs. Steven N. Keeney
 Jim Kunz
 Marjorie Riley Lohnes
 Linda May
 Dr. & Mrs. Alex Ober
 Jamie Pecoraro
 Vicky Powell
 Jeffrey Queen
 Sharon Stewart
 Dorothy Stoltz
 Anne Reid Townsley
 Dana Ward
 Joseph Wawrzynski
 Carol Wheatley
 Susan Wilhelm
 Lyle Wilson
 Jody Wilson

Revised Office Hours

Over the next couple months, HSCC's offices will be staffed during our regular hours (see page 2). However, limited staff will be in the building each day. Each staff member will be alternating between days in the office and days working remotely.

Email is the best way to reach the staff. For general questions, contact Catherine Lusher at ExecAssistant@hsccmd.org. For collections questions, contact Cathy Baty at Cathy@hsccmd.org. The research library can be reached by email at library@hsccmd.org or by phone at 410-848-6494, ext. 204. The library volunteers are in Wednesday through Saturday so it may take a couple days for your message to be returned.

Thanks for your patience during this difficult time!

In Memoriam, 2020

John T. Apple
 Jane Armacost
 John E. Baile
 Ann Bailey
 Frances Bartlett
 Louise D. Black
 Rodney C. Boudreaux
 Aleatha Carlson
 Malcolm Carrick
 Coetta E. Chalker
 Robert R. Clarke
 Millie Connor
 Doris Derrenberger
 A.M. Dietrich
 Katherine C. Dukehart
 Emilie Durham
 Jeanette Eckard
 Beulah M. Feezer
 C. Biddle Foster
 Darthean D. Fox
 Dorothy Fusselbaugh
 John Glass
 Dean H. Griffin
 Erma F. Groft
 V. Lanny Harchenhorn
 Doris Harry
 Maryl Harshey
 Christopher A. Heller
 Herbert P. Henderson, Jr.
 Nellie Hoke
 Sol N. Hoke
 James H. Hull, Jr.
 Carolyn A. Jennings
 Earl Lambert
 Richard C. Lang
 Joanne K. Morris
 Mary Moser
 Betty Nusbaum
 Mary Lou Poirier
 Thelma C. Reaver
 Virginia Rebert
 George D Resh, Jr.
 Kathryn L. Riley
 Mary Ellen Schaffer
 Almea A. Schilling
 Donna M. Sellman
 Barbara Serghini
 Daniel F. Shipley
 Barbara Shipley
 Lois M. Sichau
 Solveig Smith
 M. Virginia Stoner
 Howard Volkert
 R. Bryce Workman

Winter Wine Tasting

Our event goes Virtual!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 4:00 – 5:30 PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 4:00 – 5:30

BERNIE VOGEL LEADS US ON VIRTUAL TOURS OF WINES AND WINE REGIONS.

**EACH REGISTRANT WILL RECEIVE A WINE TASTING PACKAGE FOR TWO.
THE PACKAGE WILL INCLUDE TWO BOTTLES OF WINE – ONE RED AND ONE
WHITE – CHEESE, CHARCUTERIE, CRISPS, AND SWEET BITES COURTESY OF
JEANNIE BIRD BAKERY.**

**THEN, TUNE INTO THE ZOOM SESSION, JOIN THE DISCUSSION, AND ENJOY THE
TREATS IN THE COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME!**

NO WORRYING ABOUT THE COLD OR THE SNOW!

WATCH FOR DETAILS ABOUT PRICING AND REGISTRATION.

BUSINESS MEMBER

~ Carroll Community College Library ~

The Historical Society of Carroll County
210 East Main Street
Westminster, Maryland 21157

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

BUSINESS MEMBERS (December 7, 2020)

Please support those who support The Historical Society.

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| American Heritage Insurance Agency | Development Company of America | NWSB Bank, A Division of ACNB Bank |
| Barnes-Bollinger Insurance Services | Dulany, Leahy, Curtis & Brophy | P.A. Martin & Sons |
| Baughner Enterprises | Farmers & Merchants Bank - Upperco | Quantum Internet and Telephone |
| The Law Office of Thomas C. Beach, IV | Farmers & Merchants Bank - Westminster | Rob's Bluegrass Barn |
| Bowman's Feed & Pet/Home & Garden | Hoffman, Comfort, Offutt, Scott & Halstad | Samuel C. Hoff Agency |
| Carroll Community College Library | Kohn Creative Solutions | Terry's Tag & Title Service |
| Carroll Hospital Center | Literacy Council of Carroll County | Tevis Energy |
| Computer Network Solutions | McDaniel College | Thomas, Bennett & Hunter |
| The Cutting Garden | MidLantic Financial | Velnoskey Wealth Management Group |
| Dean Robert Camlin & Associates | Molli's Cafe | Walsh and Fisher |