

## DATES TO WATCH

### SMHS ANNUAL GIGANTIC USED-BOOK SALE

Every Saturday in October, SMHS will be open for the annual Gigantic Used-Book Sale. Thousands of books will be available of all genres and for all ages. SMHS members receive a 10% discount on their purchases and all children receive one free book. On the last weekend of the sale (Sat. October 31<sup>st</sup>) we will offer "Books by the Bag" for \$6.00. The sale runs on Saturdays, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, and 31<sup>st</sup>, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

### P&Z MEETING

Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 p.m. at the South Mountain Heritage Society Building, 3 E. Main St., residents are encouraged to attend Planning & Zoning meetings: planning our town's future today.

### DLC FALL EXPLORER'S WEEKEND

Sat. & Sun., October 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>  
Guided orchard tours, bee keeping, cider/food pairing classes & free tasting of all apple types that are ripe, last year there were 32! See [www.distillerylaneciderworks.com](http://www.distillerylaneciderworks.com)

### OCTOBER TOWN MEETING

Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, 7:30-8:30 pm the Town Meeting will be held at the Burkittsville Ruritan, 500 E. Main Street.

### CASH & BASKET BINGO

On Friday, Oct. 23<sup>RD</sup> St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church of Burkittsville will hold a Basket and Money BINGO at the Jefferson Ruritan. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. & games begin at 7 p.m. (More details inside.)

### SPOOK HILL CIDER & WINE 4 MILE RUN

The third annual Spook Hill Cider and Wine 4 Mile Run will take place on Saturday, October 24, 2015, 8:30 am, starting on the Burkittsville Ruritan Grounds. See more in the article!

### TRICK OR TREAT & PARTY

Trick-or-treat will be held on Sat., October 31<sup>st</sup>, from 5-7 p.m. Leave your porch light on to welcome our costumed kids! There will be a party at 7 p.m. for the younger set, (1-12 yrs) at the Burkittsville Ruritan Club, 500 E. Main Street



Excavated Pipes Before and After Cleaning- by Jody Brumage

(Water Company continued)

The water system began with two springs atop South Mountain, which fed into two separate reservoirs. The larger had a capacity of 35,000 gallons and the smaller could hold 6,000 gallons. Construction of the system progressed rapidly. Though the state had recommended the use of iron pipes, the water company opted for wooden pipes, bound with wrought iron straps as a more cost effective solution. Two miles of pipe were laid to connect the reservoirs to the town and then to carry water into each individual house. The Frederick Daily News reported on September 19, 1913 that the pipes had reached the town and that houses were being connected to the system.

The water system was completed by early 1914. A brief article in the January 1914 issue of "Fire and Water Engineering" magazine stated that a pressure of 100 pounds could be drawn from the system and water could "be thrown over the highest church steeple in the town." Plans for the water system included the addition of fire hydrants in town and provisions in the company's charter allowed for industrial use of the water, though it is not known if any Burkittsville businesses took advantage of this offer.

By 1918, the five year-old water company was becoming insufficient to serve the town's needs. The system had a total daily output of 10,000 gallons which matched exactly the amount used each day by 40% of the town residents whose homes were connected to the system. In the effort of increasing the water supply, the decision was made to dynamite the springs in the hopes of opening up more water pressure. The opposite happened, the dynamite blast splintered the veins of water and the springs went dry.

Today, the water company that went bust 97 years ago provides an interesting anecdote to the town's history. Much of the infrastructure installed in 1913 remains under Main Street, uncovered every couple of decades during major road projects. When the town square was repaved with cobblestones in 2000, a segment of the pipe was unearthed and given to South Mountain Heritage Society. Fifteen years later, as work continues on rebuilding drainage pipes on the east end of town, more of the pipe has been unearthed and a large segment has been obtained by the museum. These artifacts will prove very important to understanding our community's history, its progressiveness, and its survival in the face of difficulty. August, 2015

## The Burkittsville Backyard Produce Exchange Cans Beets! Paul and Shelby Beaver hosted a beet pickling and canning demo



Branching out from the Facebook group, folks got together to learn canning and pickling techniques, talk about produce growing, sources and the right way to peel a beet! It was a great way to spend a summer afternoon. This residents' group shares produce with each other as well as recipes, plant cuttings and gardening hints.

[www.facebook.com/groups/BurkittsvilleBackyardProduceExchange](http://www.facebook.com/groups/BurkittsvilleBackyardProduceExchange)