The Williams Family

Part of an article - Daily Mail Newspaper - April 26, 1975

occupied' Fort Frederick for 54 years

Nathan Williams died on November 26, 1836. Auster and Ammy's daughter, Ann or Amy, affectionately recall her name and that of Nathan and Ammy as the people who lived in the fort. Ammy was a slave who came to the fort to care for her grandson, Andrew. The Williams family also owned a farm near the fort. The house was described as a 'two-story, mansion house', and it was located on the site of the recent caretaker's dwelling immediately to the west of the fort. The walls of the fort had largely been stripped of windows, doors, and interior fixtures. The floors and fireplaces had been knocked down, and the wooden buildings burned by enemy troops.

The mortage by the end of the Civil War, largely by selling produce to Confederate soldiers and the Union army, was achieved by selling produce to the Rebels by night. They were highly regarded by the Elvin Hoover family who owned a farm across the road. Another son, Elias, moved to Ohio; a son of Big Sam had also gone to that state where descendents still reside.

Charles and Andrew 'father' was also a son of Nathan and Ammy, and he went to Storer College in Harpers Ferry. He married Bertha, a daughter of John and Ann, and they lived in the house that later became the residence of A. J. Michael. It was there that Andrew Williams was born.

When rural free delivery was established in the nation, Charles was appointed the first carrier in the Indian Springs district, delivering the mail by horse and buggy. He was also responsible for collecting: children from 1886-1912, in a school on the fort premises.

Hagerstown - his memories of the fort have been largely augmented by return visits to the site and by conversations with his late father and bachelors Uncle John and Uncle Sam. There were three sisters besides 'Bertie', Ella, Virginia and Catherine, who married Henry Hopkins and lived in the fort premises.

The Post-War depression...
Former slaves farmed Fort Frederic for 54 years.

Here is the little-known story of the Williams family before, during and after the Civil War in Washington County. [See page 3]
Maryland from the community perspective

There is an interesting, little-known story about a freed slave and Fort Frederick, the stone walled French and Indian War fort that was built in 1756 at Big Pool, not far from Clear Spring in western Washington County.

Fort Frederick was built to protect our western frontier in the French and Indian War, was used as a refuge for early settlers when Indians went on the war path, was pressed into service as a prison for British and German soldiers during the Revolutionary War, and from time to time during the Civil War its heavy stone walls (although in disrepair) became fortifications for Union troops guarding against Confederate raids on the C & O Canal nearby, and the B & O Railroad just across the Potomac River.

Although it was built solidly as a wartime fortress, Fort Frederick never saw an actual battle. Today, with its stone walls largely restored by Civilian Conservation Corps young men during the Depression, and its original barracks rebuilt as a Bicentennial project in 1976, Fort Frederick is a state park and tourist attraction just off Interstate 70 west of Clear Spring.

My interesting, little-told story is about Nathan Williams, a freed slave, who bought Fort Frederick in 1857, raised a family, developed the property into a productive farm, and prospered largely during the Civil War years (1861-1865) by selling farm products to Union and Confederate soldiers on both sides of the river. All together, Nathan and his family operated the farm for 54 years...almost 25% of Fort Frederick's 234 years (to date).

Andrew Williams had a painted copy of his Grandfather Nathan's family photograph hanging in his home on North Avenue in Hagerstown. This photo is on our front cover.

Andrew Williams was born at Fort Frederick in a house that was removed in recent years to make way for new visitor parking in what is now a state park. He remembers his early childhood...playing on the fallen stones of what originally had been the east wall of the fort. His grandfather had pulled down one corner of the fortress wall where he then erected a barn. Inside the wall, Andrew recalls, were farm animals, grapevines, garden produce, and a small fruit orchard. Just outside the walls was his grandfather's home...not far from his own home. Plus more tilled fields.

"Playthings" recalled by Andrew Williams were discarded muskets and lots of Indian arrowheads.

The wooden barn inside the stone walls that Andrew remembers from early childhood was a replacement for the original stone barn erected by Grandfather Nathan, and which burned before Andrew was born.

Andrew went on to work as a boilermaker with the Western Maryland Railway at the Hagerstown roundhouse (1924-1954), and as a mechanic with the Hagerstown Housing Authority (1954-1974), and as a member of the Board of Commissioners for the Authority (1975 to the present). He is proud of his father and his grandfather and his great-grandfather.

Great-grandfather, "Big Sam" Williams, was born as a slave in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley...in Rockingham County. "Big Sam", six feet, four inches tall, and weighing 220 pounds, bought a farm near Hedgesville, Virginia (later West Virginia), two years after obtaining his freedom through Catherine Shaw, a Quaker lady in Washington.

(continued on page 4)
Some pertinent recent-years milestones?

Maryland bought the Fort property in 1922. Then, 11 years later, restoration of the walls would begin under the CCC program of FDR's Depression government. George L. Schindel of Hagerstown was the restoration boss, and the very first Park Superintendent (1933-1939). Washington Reed, borrowed from the Colonial Williamsburg restoration program, was architect for the Fort Frederick restoration.

Subsequent issues of our magazine have served to document later phases of progress and restoration for Fort Frederick. In our April 1976 magazine, we told the story about the close-call the state had with building historically incorrect barracks within the walls for our nation's Bicentennial. Then, our June 1976 issue reported (in words and pictures) on the dedication and unveiling of the rebuilt barracks on May 1, 1976. Still later, in our May 1980 issue, we re-told the story of the 1956 history pageant staged at Fort Frederick for the Fort Frederick Bicentennial.

These, and other back issues of the magazine are still available to new and recent-year subscribers. Interested? Give us a call!
WHEN FORT FREDERICK WAS A FARM

This photo showing farming operations within the deteriorating walls of Fort Frederick was printed in 1986 calendar published by the Clear Spring District Historical Association.

Charles went to Storer, the historic Black college located in Harpers Ferry. He married Bertha Hull of Hancock. And, as I have noted, they lived in a house just west of the fort. It was here that Andrew was born.

Charles "made history" here in two ways: He was one of the first teachers for early "schools for the colored", as well as the first carrier of U.S. Mail on rural routes in the Indian Springs district.

Andrew Williams supplied me with an outline of the history of Black schools on the local scene.....including references to "Fort Frederick School for the Colored". The first mention was made of this school in 1876 when Nathan Williams was named trustee. It was being taught on December 13, 1893 by Bettie Williams, but was to be discontinued at the end of the winter term as the appropriation had been exhausted.

In 1896, Charles Williams was appointed teacher at $50 per term. Charles Williams continued as the teacher until 1902.

While much local history orbited around the Nathan Williams holdings at Fort Frederick, it is within the context of evolving and growing "national" history that I am prompted to emphasize my research at Fort Frederick. Examples:

Nathan and Ammy Williams bought Fort Frederick for $7,000 in 1857.....just seven years before the C & O Canal was opened to Hancock, and 18 years before the canal was built to Cumberland (from Georgetown outside of Washington.)

The Civil War began and ended during Nathan Williams' tenure at Fort Frederick (1861-1865). And Nathan died in 1884, 27 years after

County. The colorful patriarch was a popular fiddler for barn dances in the Hedgesville area.

Some 11 years later, "Big Sam" and his family moved across the Potomac into Maryland where they bought and moved onto the 200-acre farm in the "bend of the Potomac River" .... later (and still) known as The Neck.

At age 81, in 1884, "Big Sam" sold his Neck Farm and moved with his wife into a small house on Boyd Road near Clear Spring where they remained until their deaths.

Nathan Williams and his wife, Ammy, also a freed slave, had seven children: Virginia, Ella, John, Bettie, Silas, Samuel, and Charles. Charles, as I have noted, was the father of my friend, T. Andrew Williams. Charles made some local history, on his own, as well as rearing an outstanding family.

January 1990
Fort Frederick is the only extant British stone fort of the Colonial period in the United States. This fortification was built in 1756 and was the cornerstone of Maryland's frontier defense.

The fort also saw important service, first as a haven for terrified settlers during Pontiac's Uprising, and then as a prison for British and German soldiers during the Revolutionary War. It was even occupied for a short time at the outbreak of the Civil War. Fort Frederick was, in fact, identified with most of the important events in Maryland's early history.

Unlike the wooden fortifications built along the frontier during the French and Indian War, this structure has withstood the ravages of time. Its massive stone walls stand today as they did two centuries ago; a monument to the farsighted planning of Governor Horatio Sharpe and a magnificent relic of Maryland's rich and proud historic heritage.
Feb 21 1975

Having purchased the Fort Frederick tract from the State Mr. Williams had to resort to anyway possible to pay for the land.

During the Civil War when money was extremely tight Mr. Williams was really in a squeeze. At the time the Confederate was camped at back creek a place near Cherry run (??) which was the same at that time. They were desperately in need of such items as coffee, sugar, salt and flour. So Mr. Williams being a shrewd operator collaborated with them to deliver the goods, but in return he just didn't get paid for that, for at the same time there were Union soldiers camped at Fort Frederick and Mr. Williams would in turn bring back valuable information concerning troop movements of the Confederates.

These operations went on for sometime until some army intelligence officers became

Andrew Williams Telling how his Grandfather Nathan Williams bought Fort Frederick.
Wise to the transactions and felt that he was contributing too much to the rebels and arranged to place him under arrest.

Fortunately, there was an old white man by the name of Murray that heard of the plan and he waited until Mr. Williams had crossed the river; then he in turn crossed over and told him just was up and Mr. Williams was forced to leave his team and wagon in Virginia and walk about ten miles down the river to McCope's ferry to get back to Maryland unnoticed, and thereby escape arrest.

Upon returning home he was questioned and warned if he were caught that he would be imprisoned. But during the time he made a substantial amount of money to help pay for the property.

J. Andrew Williams
Feb 21 1975
Fort Frederick State Park

How to get there:
In Washington County, one mile east of I-70 (Exit 12, Md. 56)

Best days and times to go:
Weekends, afternoons

Things you don't want to miss:
Firing of a six-pound cannon at 2 and 4 p.m. on weekends

What to wear:
Comfortable clothes and walking shoes

Age groups that will enjoy this activity:
Five and up
Inside the fort's 17-foot-high wall are 1 1/2 acres of land that were used by colonial, American and Union forces.

Landmark captures history of three wars
By JASON GRANT  
Staff Writer

Ever hear the phrases, “sleep tight” or “flash in the pan” or “lock, stock and barrel?”
Sure you have, but do you know where they came from?
You can find out if you take a trip up Interstate 70 west to Fort Frederick State Park, about half an hour outside Hagerstown.
The fort is the park’s main attraction.
Its outside is an impressive stone barricade.
Inside lies an acre and a half of land that British colonial, American and Union forces used in three wars.
Most of the oddly shaped stone wall still stands from its creation, but the missing parts have been reconstructed.
The stone wall is 17 feet high, four feet wide at its base, and two feet at its top.
The original fort was built under the direction of Royal Governor Horatio Sharpe in 1756 for soldiers defending the Western Frontier of Maryland during the French and Indian War.
The Maryland Forces used it. They were troops formed in the colony of Maryland on a mission to defend its borders and its settlers during war with French settlers and Indians who wanted territory.
The majority of the war was fought over the control of the Ohio Valley, parts of which were found on the other side of the Allegheny Mountains.
The stone barricade looks like an irregular square with diamond-shaped corners jutting out. It was copied from a French design.
The protruding corners, called bastions, were formed so that any wall attacked always had a cross-fire pattern defending it. At each bastion, gun decks were built for cannons.
Inside the fort are two large, reconstructed barracks rebuilt on their original foundations. The rectangular structures each have many rooms on their two levels.

On a tour of the soldier’s housing, you’ll learn that the expression, “sleep tight” came from the rope that supported the straw beds used by 18th-century commissioned and non-commissioned officers.
When the long rope strapped across a wooden frame started to sag, the officers would have to untie them and pull them tighter.
You’ll also learn that “flash in the pan” came from the misfire of a musket. A tour guide at the park will blow out a misfire for you. When he does, a large flame jumps out of his firing mechanism, sometimes singing the brim of his cap.
And a musket, it turns out, has three parts: “lock, stock and barrel.”

rediscovering Washington County

At 1 and 3 p.m. on weekends, tour guides dressed in reproductions of the Maryland Forces uniforms give formal demonstrations of a soldier’s life during the 1700s.
A six-pound cannon is fired just outside the fort at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. on weekends.
“A very good crowd pleaser,” says David P. Miller, historical interpreter at the fort.
Muskets are fired on request, he says.
Other features of the fort include an actual 40-foot well, and an accessible walkway near the top of the fortress which soldiers used for lookout.
Linda Walsh, 36, stumbled upon the park and the fort with her family while traveling up the East Coast back to their Connecticut home, after vacationing in Cape Hatteras.
“This is the kind of place I like, where you can walk around on your own and look at stuff at your own pace,” she says.
Fort Frederick is the only extant British stone fort of the Colonial period in the United States. This fortification was built in 1756 and was the cornerstone of Maryland's frontier defense.

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Facts about Fort Frederick

- Fort Frederick is on land that was purchased by Maryland from Lancelot Jacques, a French Huguenot merchant of Annapolis.
- Construction of fort was ordered by Horatio Sharpe, royal governor of Maryland from 1753 to 1769.
- Sharpe supervised the construction of the stone fort in 1756. The design of the work followed the style developed by Sebastian de Vauban, a French army officer.
- The fort gets its name from Frederick Calvert, who was the sixth Lord Baltimore.
- The fort represents one of the largest fortifications built during the French and Indian War.
- It's main purposes were to keep a chain of communication open between Fort Cumberland and Conococheague and provide a safe haven from marauding Indians.
- The fort encloses 1½ acres of ground and has a perimeter wall about 1,660 feet in length. The walls are about 17 feet high with a thickness of 4½ feet at the base, tapering off to 3 feet at the top.
- In 1763, the Treaty of Paris was signed bringing an end to the French and Indian War.
- In 1777, the fort was again pressed into service — this time as a prisoner of war camp for British and Hessian soldiers captured at Saratoga when General Burgoyne surrendered.
- Union troops were stationed at the fort during the Civil War to protect the nearby Chesapeake and Ohio Canal and the B&O Railroad.

Fort Frederick

Fort Frederick is the only French and Indian war fort on the North American continent still standing on its original site. The Maryland Assembly appropriated $6000 to build Fort Frederick in 1756. With the War of Independence over and the Western frontiers well beyond Maryland, the Maryland General Assembly sold the fort property at public auction on Sept 5th, 1791, to Robert Johnson for $1,800. The property was used as a farm, and the walls of the fort were permitted to fall into disrepair. The barracks and huts were stripped of windows, doors, and floor planks. The chimneys were knocked down and the wooden buildings set afire, as a quick method of obtaining nails, a costly item in those days.

In Sept 15, 1857, Nathan Williams, a free-colored man, bought "Johnson's lot" and 80 acres of land more or less, "and Kindness enlarged 115 acres." Johnson's lot was Fort Frederick land. Deed office records show Joe Haines staked Williams to buy the property for which he paid $5000, a lot of money in those days and he repaid it in a remarkable short time.

"Nathan's parents, Sam and Priscilla Williams, and four children, Henry, Katie, Sam Jr., and Nathan, were sold at the auction block in Martinsburg, Virginia.
Feb 21 1975

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J. Andrew Williams

Feb 21 1975
This act was recorded September 15th, 1837.

John W. Williams, county clerk.

The act of 1806 being referred to says, that a deed made by Maria Miller, wife of Edward Williams, of the state of Maryland, in the name of a certain Richard Call, who was born on the twenty-fourth day of March in the year eighteen hundred and thirty-two, being the same year, of age, was issued by the clerk of the court of the state of Maryland, being the person qualified to issue the same, and the same is a true and full account of the true value of the property, as shown by the deed, in the absence of any evidence to the contrary.

The act of 1806 is as follows:

I, Maria Miller, being the person qualified to issue the deed, do hereby certify that I have received the sum of ten dollars, being the true value of the property, as shown by the deed, in the absence of any evidence to the contrary.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this twenty-third day of September, in the year eighteen hundred and thirty-two.

Maria Miller, wife of Edward Williams.

Edward Williams, sachem.

Richard Williams.
These two negro families lived in Shanktown. Joe Haines staked Nathan Williams to buy what is now the Fort property for which he paid $7000. This was a lot of money in those days and he repaid it in seven years. Nathan had three sons, Charles, Sam and John. Charles lived in the late A. J. Michael home, which adjoins the Fort property. He was the mail carrier in Big Pool at one time. Sam lived at the homeplace at the Fort. John, a bachelor, made his home with Charles and worked at various farms in the area.

Henry Hipkins (probably related to the Williams') lived in a house on the road into the Fort.

I believe one of his descendents might still be living in Hagerstown. Also one of the Williams men works at Walnut Towers.

This information from

J. W. Murray
Big Springs, Md.

Ethel Baerstall
Big Pool, Md.
VALUABLE YOUNG LIMBER CEDAR TIMBER:

This valuable young limber cedar timber, consisting of 500 acres, is situated in the immediate vicinity of the town of [Town Name], [County], [State]. The timber is well established and has shown a steady growth in recent years due to favorable climate conditions. The timber is ideal for the production of lumber, poles, and other timber products.

INFORMATION ON TIMBER:

- **Acreage**: 500 acres
- **Tree Species**: Young limber cedar
- **Location**: [Town Name], [County], [State]
- **Growth Rate**: Steady growth in recent years
- **Market Potential**: High demand for limber cedar products

LAND AND IMPROVEMENTS:

The timber is surrounded by a well-developed road system, making it easily accessible. The area is also characterized by fertile soil and abundant water resources, which contribute to the overall health of the timber.

FUTURE PLANS:

The owner of the timber is considering various options for development, including the establishment of a timber management plan that would ensure sustainable harvesting practices. This plan would not only preserve the natural beauty of the area but also provide economic benefits to the community.

CONCLUSION:

The valuable young limber cedar timber in [Town Name], [County], [State] offers a promising opportunity for investors and developers interested in sustainable timber management and wood products production.
OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND.

In the darkness and in deathlike silence. The whispered word "Indians" was sufficient to silence the youngest child with the silence of terror. Indeed, Block Houses or forts were frequent places of refuge during the years following Braddock's defeat which may well be called the reign of terror. They were simple affairs and only a few space or house surrounded by a stockade which was too high for the Indians to scale and too substantial to be penetrated by a rifle bullet. They were provided with apertures through which the fugitives could shoot those who ventured within of their deadly rifles. When danger threatened all the families in a neighborhood would gather into the nearest fort—frequently remaining in it all the summer, the men going out in parties to cultivate the fields and only returning to their homes late in the autumn when the Indians had left for winter quarters. Under such conditions the summer was a dreary season indeed and the advent of winter was looked forward to as a blessed release.

It was to turn this tide of murder and outrage that Fort Frederick, whose massive walls are still standing on a bluff overlooking the Potomac in the western part of Washington County, was constructed. When Washington returned from the disastrous campaign against Fort Duquesne, he immediately set about building a Fort at Winchester, purchasing the land and superintending the work in person and bringing up one of his slaves from Mount Vernon to do the blacksmith work. About the same time the Maryland Assembly appropriated £6,000 to build Fort Frederick. Fort Cumberlands being too remote to be any protection whatever to the settlements, the work was done with remarkable celerity under the direction of Governor Sharp and at the close of 1755 a few months after it was begun it contained a garrison of two hundred men. This old fort, which is now remaining in a fair state of preservation and is almost the only military monument of the ante-revolutionary times left to us in the State, is situated on a bluff or spur of North Mountain, a hundred feet above the Potomac river and about a quarter of a mile from it, overlooking the river and the "Big Pool," a beautiful sheet of water. Early in the century a writer gives us this description of it: "It is still standing on the Maryland side of the Cohongorunot. Its walls are entirely of stone four and a half feet thick least twenty feet high, and have undergone but little dilapidation. Its location is not more than about twelve miles from Martinsburg, Va., and about the same distance from Williamsport, in Maryland. It encloses an area of about one and a half acres exclusive of the bastions or redoubts." Mr. John V. L. McMahon described it as in a like state of good preservation when he examined it in 1828. It was constructed of most durable materials in the most approved manner. Its exterior lines were each one hundred and twenty feet in length, its shape being quadrangular, its curtains and bastions were faced with a thick stone wall; and it contained barracks sufficient for the accommodation of three hundred men. Governor Sharp purchased a hundred and fifty acres of land upon which to build the Fort. In the Legislature of 1892 a joint resolution was adopted looking towards the recovery of the fort by the State for the purpose of a permanent camping ground for the State militia, it being accessible by the Western Maryland railroad, which passes near the fort. Nothing was done under this resolution and in 1901 the Legislature appointed a commission to make a report upon the subject. A portion of the walls of the Fort have been taken down to give place to a barn. One of the hinges of the huge door which was preserved until recently, weighed forty-two pounds. During the war of the Revolution, British prisoners were kept in the fort and during the late war in 1861 the place was occupied for a short time by a Maryland Federal regiment under General Kenly, who knocked a hole in the wall through which to p'oin' a cannon. The fort was sold by the Legislature in 1790. The following is an extract from an address of the House of Delegates on the 15th of December 1757: "Though Fort Cumberland may be constructed, for anything we know, near a place proper for the stationing of a garrison at, for his Majesty's service in general, reluming as we have been informed, between eighty and ninety miles from the settlements of the westernmost inhabitants of this Province, and in the truth of this information are confirmed by your excellency's message of the 11th of this instant, wherein you say the distance from Fort Frederick to Fort Cumberland, by the wagon road, is 75 miles, and consequently the carriage of provisions thither very expensive, we humbly conceive it cannot be reasonably desired, that the people of this Province should be burdened with the great expense of garrisoning that
Fort, which, if it contributes immediately to the security of any of his Majesty's frontier subjects, it must be those of Virginia or Pennsylvania, who do not at present contribute anything towards the support of it that we know of. We understand, the most common track of the Indians in making their incursions into Virginia (which have been lately very frequent) is through the wild desert county lying between Fort Cumberland and Fort Frederick and yet we cannot learn that the forces at Fort Cumberland (though the most of those that are in our pay the summer past, have been stationed there, contrary, we humbly conceive, to the law that raised them) have very rarely, if ever molested these savages in those their incursions; from whence we would willingly presume their passage is below the Ranges which troops stationed at Fort Cumberland, can with safety to that fort extend themselves to; and consequently, that any security arising from those troops, even to Virginians who are most in the way of being protected by them, must be very remote, and to us much more so.

"When, from the incursions and horrid depredations of the savage enemy in the neighboring colonies, an opinion prevailed, that a fort was necessary for the defence and security of the western frontier of this province, it was thought most likely to be conducive to those ends, to have it placed somewhere near the place Fort Frederick is now constructed; because from thence the troops that might be judged proper to be kept on foot for the security of the frontier inhabitants, might have it in their power to range constantly in such a manner as to protect them against small parties; and in case any considerable body of the enemy should appear or the Fort should be attacked, the troops might, at a short warning be assisted by the inhabitants.

"Near the sum of £6,000 has been expended in purchasing ground belonging to, and constructing Fort Frederick, and though we may not have any exact information what sum may still be wanting to complete it (if ever it should be thought proper to be done) yet we are afraid the sum requisite for that purpose must be considerable, and we are apprehensive that fort is so large that in case of attack it cannot be defended without a number of men, larger than the province can support, purely to maintain a fortification."

The contention between the Legislature and the Governor about this Fort, and the criticisms of the former upon the Governor for the expense he incurred in erecting it, so absorbed the government at Annapolis that for a considerable time the settlers were left to the tender mercies of the tomahawk and the scalping knife. Brave Col. Cresapt threatened that if more speedy measures were not taken for the protection of their settlers he would march his company of riflemen to Annapolis. Fort Cumberland was finally abandoned and the garrison, under Col. Dagworthy, removed to Fort Frederick. In 1757 a regiment under the command of Col. Joseph Chapline, founder of Sharpsburg, occupied this fort. In 1758 a party of about fifty Indians under the command of a French captain crossed the mountains from the west with written instructions to proceed to Fort Frederick and there meet another party of fifty Indians and with them to capture the Fort and blow up the magazine. After reaching the settlement on the Virginia side of the river, the path of this party was marked by the burning homes and the mutilated bodies of the defenseless settlers. But a party of frontiersmen under the command of Capt. Jeremiah Smith, met and defeated this party on the Capon river and killed the French captain. Upon his person was found the commission to attack the Fort. The party remaining together after the defeat seemed to have divided. One party of them, fourteen in number, captured Mr. Neff, who escaped and took refuge in a small fort. From thence a party of settlers pursu ed them and the Indians and were ambushed and defeated by them. The other party of fifty Indians who were forced to have met the French Captain at Fort Frederick were encountered on the Capon river by a party of settlers under Capt. Joshua Lewis who defeated them. The intention of attacking the Fort was then abandoned. One of the gangs attacked a fort on the Opequon creek, near the southwestern border of this county and massacred or carried into captivity all who were in it. On their return to the West they captured two children who remarkable history was given by the late Col. Faulkner in an address at the University of Western Virginia in 1875 as follows:

"It was about daylight, on the 17th of September, 1756, that a roving band of Indians surpr ised that little fort and murdered and scalped all they found in it. On their return from the bloody work they passed the house of Wm. Stockton, east of the North Mountain, who, about an hour before their arrival, unconscious of danger..."
The first mention was made of this school in 1876 when Nathan Williams was named trustee.

Dec. 13, 1893 it was being taught by Bettie Williams, but was to be discontinued at the end of the winter term as the appropriation had been exhausted.

July 5, 1894 it was decided to continue fall and winter terms and that a rental of $5 per term be allowed for use of the room. No mention was made as to where this room was. On Feb. 6, 1895 a third term was granted and still ordered to be continued in August 1895.

On Sept. 11, 1895 inspectors visited the school and found the place not fit for use. After this visit it was found that the reports were correct. The committee had a conference with one of the owners of the Williams farm. He suggested that a location for a new building could be secured for a nominal figure and a site was agreed upon at the intersection of the public road (rt 56) and the road leading to Fort Frederick. The road to the Fort until recent years was on the south-east side of a house now a part of the Fort property. The committee reported that there was a spring nearby for a water supply. The committee suggested two plans: 1. The purchase of a portable building, reserving the right to remove it at the pleasure of the board. 2. The erection of a cheap building of poles, the spaces between could be chinked. No plastering would be necessary except the ceiling.

On Jan. 13, 1896 N. A. McComas was ordered to erect a building, but apparently nothing was done as in August 1896 Commissioner Lesher was to secure a room, perhaps a portable one. Chas. Williams was appointed teacher at $50 per term. Oct. 15, 1896 a contract was awarded to H. L. Powers to erect a new building at a cost of $218.75, but it was noted on Nov. 26 that the bond of Powers Brothers was not accepted because of no clear deed to the land. Sept. 22, 1899 the secretary was ordered to get from Alex Armstrong the release of the mortgage on the Williams lot at Fort Frederick. Commissioner Lesher was empowered to secure from H. L. Powers the bid to erect the new building. The examiner was ordered to send to Jno. Myers the Williams deed and ask him to incorporate the omitted name. Screens were ordered in Nov. 1899 and in December a visit was made for inspection and when accepted the treasurer was to settle in full.

Charles Williams was the teacher until 1902 when Sadie B. Frame was appointed. The colored people were granted permission to hold Sunday School provided the trustees would make themselves responsible for any damage.

April 16, 1907 the school was ordered closed because of low attendance. Charles Williams went before the board relative to having his children conveyed by some means to another school. The board, having no authority by law, for spending money for such he was advised to take the matter up with the state board.

Sept. 8, 1908 it reopened, but closed again April 1909. Nov. 1, 1910 Lesher was instructed to investigate expediency of transporting some colored children near Big Pool to Williamsport or Clear Spring. Nov. 18, 1913 the superintendent was ordered to have Attty. A. C. Strite investigate the title and if found to belong outright to the County to have the same advertised and sold at public auction.

This school building is the original part of the house at the top of Johnson's Hill and is a part of Fort Frederick property. It was noted in the board records that all colored schools would be closed one half day Nov. 11, 1915 during the burial of Booker T. Washington.
Jeffery Wyand researched for me, from the Hall of Records, Annapolis Md. The 1860 and 1870 Black Census of Washington Co. I found in the 1860 Clearspring records the following information:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District 4 Clearspring</th>
<th>1860 Clearspring Blacks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Williams</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan</td>
<td>49 Blacks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ann E</td>
<td>31 Md born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samuel</td>
<td>10 Laborers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John</td>
<td>12 Domesticics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry</td>
<td>17 Other employed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M-F</td>
<td>17 Person owning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathan</td>
<td>18 real estate</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#2nd
Nathan seems to be according to court records at Washington County Court House of Washington St. Hagerstown. Nathan Wms bought a dark mulatta- 14 yr old boy. "Nathan Carl" 1857 for $150.00. Sept 15th, born Mar 15-1843. To be freed at age 25. bought from William Faulkwell. It seems he took Williams family name as so many did.

Clearspring found this later 1870 Census: Real estate: Read Will. Williams, Samuel-86 B-Va. Retired farmer 1858 1/1
Evelyn Duke is ready to give a lift to patrons of the Professional Arts Building in downtown.

Evelyn Duke's work quite full of ups and downs

By MARIE LANSER

"All I can say is this job has its ups and downs," said Evelyn Duke, who runs the only manually-operated elevator in Washington County.

From 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Evelyn rides up and down the four floors of the Professional Arts Building at 5 Public Square, wishing her "regulars" a good morning and giving directions to those looking for the Maryland tax office or electronic eyes and push buttons generally get you where you want to go.

But Evelyn hasn't heard any talk about doing away with the position she and fellow operator, Clifdean "Clif" Monroe, share. The cost of installing a new elevator would be greater than the salaries paid the two operators, she said.

The worn brass handle glides the compartment up or down with a light touch. The elevator's permit says it can
Williams Family Tree

1st Generation

Samuel William married Priscilla

Samuel - wife
4 children sold on auction black

Samuel - 4 children
B. Rockingham Co. Virginia slave
6 ft. 4 in. 1806
Bought farm near

2nd Generation

Kate Sam Jr.

Henry - wife
8 children born Ft. Frederick

3rd Generation

Nathan married Amy Symms - 19
B. 1816 - D. 1884
Paid $60.00 for
Bought Ft. Frederick

4th Generation

Samuel married Priscilla

5th Generation

Elaine - wife

6th Generation

Walter Howard married Theresa

7th Generation

Carolyn married Frank Burack

8th Generation

Marion - wife

9th Generation

Martha married James Booth

10th Generation

Aliza married John Jr.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name, etc</th>
<th>Born</th>
<th>Parents</th>
<th>Survivors</th>
<th>Death</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bertha Ann Virginia Hall Williams - wife of Charles A. Wms of Hancock</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Husband - 7 sons - 3 daughters 2 sisters Charles and Bertha 7 children were born Fort Frederick 3 children were born in C. Two children - Marvin 6 yrs old Katherine 4, his father and sisters - Katherine Howard Phila. Pa.; Alice and Evelyn home Brothet-Kenneth, Andrew, Merrill, Kermit, Melvin home John Phila, Pa.</td>
<td>46 yrs old D - at home 40 W. Church St., Hagerstown about 1924 Buried Rose Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colored Man Dies John N. Williams</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Charles A and Bertha H. Wms Wife Elva Williams</td>
<td>D - Dec 10 1965 Buried Rose Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenneth Hall Williams</td>
<td>April 26 1961 Ft. Fredrick</td>
<td>Charles A and Bertha H. Wms</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Obituaries cont'd</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Andrew Williams</td>
<td>Born</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Parents</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Survivors, wife</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Death</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ft. Frederick</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Charles and Bertha Wms</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>D - Dec 24 1989</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Buried Rose Hill</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Marvin Williams</td>
<td>Oct 19, 1922 - Big Pool Md</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C. Carroll Wms</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Children - Marvin b - Katherine, 4 sisters - Alice, Evelyn</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>D - June 3, 1965, Newton D. Baker Hospital</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnie F. Williams</td>
<td>Clearspring</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Geo. and Carrie Brown</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Son - James Wallace, 2 sisters - 3 grandsons</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>D - Dec 24 Rose Hill</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The living</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Evelyn Wms Duke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kermit Williams April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pat Melvin June 1919</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>John Halls mother</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parents - Ella Mae and Sam Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sister Ann O - April 21, 1965 - Gaithersburg Md</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John married Alice K. Tyler - Aug 22, 1908</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minnie F. Williams widow of C. Nathan Wms</th>
<th>31 W. Bethesda St</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name etc</td>
<td>Born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katherine Wm's Howard, Wife of C Walter Howard</td>
<td>Frederick</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Joyce E Tyler | 53 yrs | Andrew and Delila Wms | Parents Daughter Mrs Carolyn W Brooks, Shawmbug Ill, 1 son Steven M Tyler, 2 Sisters Mrs Elaine Daley, Frederick, Phyllis Scales, Hyatts ville 1 grandchild, nieces, nephews | }
Deed To Nathan William free colored man "Johnson's Lot" and Skiehorn - 100 acres of land more or less and Kindness enlarged 115 acres. Five thousand dollars.

Book IN 15 Page 210

Sold mortgage

September 20, 1866

Nathan Williams, free man of color and his wife Ann E. Williams his wife, free woman of color for the sum of four thousand and three hundred dollars deliver to Denborn, Jacques, Joel Charles, George Mish and John Bowles, payable six months.

Nathan Williams do grant, bargain and sell unto them the said Denborn, Jacques, Joel Charles, George Mish and John Bowles tract of land called "Johnson's Lot" Skiehorn and Kindness

Book MCKK 4 Page 758

Paid mortgage

Twenty Two Thousand Fifty dollars

Tobias Johnson Tract of land lying and being situated in the Indian Spring District, Washington County, Maryland. Nathan William and wife shall pay on or before June 1, 1877.

Book MCKK 3 Page 194

Bill of Sale to Martin Murray of Indian Spring District for seventy four dollars
Nathan Williams (coloured of Washington County, at the request of Nathan Williams, the following Bill of Sale was recorded October 9, 1847.}

Know all men by these present that Rebecca Faulkwell of Washington County, Maryland for myself and heirs do hereby for and in consideration of the sum of Sixty dollars to me in hand paid, grant, bargain and sell unto Nathan Williams (coloured of County and State aforesaid, one slave for the term of six years from the first day of February 1848 named Annflyms about nineteen years of age, to have and to hold the said Slave and her increase to him the said Nathan Williams and his heirs and assigns for the said term of six years. Witness my hand and seal this 25th day of September 1847.

Witness Wesley W. Faulkwell
Rebecca Faulkwell

September 25th Received of Nathan Williams a note of hand for 60 dollars for the above bill of sale
Rebecca Faulkwell
Bill of Sale for Nathan Carl - Book IN 6-152

At the request of Nathan Williams, the following Bill of Sale was recorded September 15th, 1857.

Know all men by these presents, that whereas William Faulkner of Washington County in the State of Maryland is the owner of a dark mulatto boy named Nathan Carl, who was born on the fifteenth day of March in the year eighteen hundred and forty-three, being the same boy formerly owned by the mother of the said William, and whereas the said William hath sold the services of said boy until he shall attain the age of twenty-five years to a certain Nathan Williams, a free coloured man who for more than one year has been a resident of Washington County in the State of Maryland, and the said negro boy shall be free, now therefore know ye that the said William Faulkner for and in consideration of the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars to him in hand paid by the said Nathan Williams, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged hath granted, bargained and sold and by these presents doth grant, bargain and sell unto the said Nathan Williams, his executors, administrators and assigns, the said dark mulatto boy, Nathan Carl as a slave until he shall attain the age of twenty-five years, that is to say until the fifteenth day of March in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-eight and then to be free. And the said William Faulkner doth hereby manumit and set
set free the said mulatto boy Nathan Carl
on and after the said 15th day of March
1868. To be thenceforth a free man,
discharged and released from all claims
of the said William Faulkwell or the
said Nathan Williams and from the claims
of all persons whatsoever to the
said Negro boy Nathan or to his services.
To have and to hold the said Mulatto
boy Nathan Carl as a slave until the
age of twenty five years as aforesaid
to him the said Nathan Williams his exec-
cutors, administrators and assigns, and from
and after the end of said term to be free
from all slavery or servitude whatsoever. In
witness whereof the said William Faulkwell and
Nathan Williams have hereunto set their hands
and affixed their seals this Twenty-Third
day of August in the year eighteen hundred
and fifty one.

(Seal) Nathan Williams (Seal)

Researched by

MRS. MADUERNTE DOLMAN
640 NORTH LOCUST
HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740
The first mention was made of this school in 1876 when Nathan Williams was named trustee.

Dec. 13, 1893 it was being taught by Bettie Williams, but was to be discontinued at the end of the winter term as the appropriation had been exhausted.

July 5, 1894 it was decided to continue fall and winter terms and that a rental of $5 per term be allowed for use of the room. No mention was made as to where this room was. On Feb. 6, 1895 a third term was granted and still ordered to be continued in August 1895.

On Sept. 11, 1895 inspectors visited the school and found the place not fit for use. After this visit it was found that the reports were correct. The committee had a conference with one of the owners of the Williams farm. He suggested that a location for a new building could be secured for a nominal figure and a site was agreed upon at the intersection of the public road (rt 56) and the road leading to Fort Frederick. The road to the Fort until recent years was on the south-east side of a house now a part of the Fort property. The committee reported that there was a spring nearby for a water supply. The committee suggested two plans: 1. The purchase of a portable building, reserving the right to remove it at the pleasure of the board. 2. The erection of a cheap building of poles; the spaces between could be chinked. No plastering would be necessary except the ceiling.

On Jan. 13, 1896 N. A. McComas was ordered to erect a building, but apparently nothing was done as in August 1896 Commissioner Lesher was to secure a room, perhaps a portable one. Chas. Williams was appointed teacher at $50 per term. Oct. 15, 1896 a contract was awarded to H. L. Powers to erect a new building at a cost of $218.75, but it was noted on Nov. 26 that the bond of Powers Brothers was not accepted because of no clear deed to the land. Sept. 22, 1899 the secretary was ordered to get from Alex Armstrong the release of the mortgage on the Williams lot at Fort Frederick. Commissioner Lesher was empowered to secure from H. L. Powers the bid to erect the new building. The examiner was ordered to send to Jno. Myers the Williams deed and ask him to incorporate the omitted name. Screens were ordered in Nov. 1899 and in December a visit was made for inspection and when accepted the treasurer was to settle in full.

Charles Williams was the teacher until 1902 when Sadie B. Frame was appointed. The colored people were granted permission to hold Sunday School provided the trustees would make themselves responsible for any damage.

April 16, 1907 the school was ordered closed because of low attendance. Charles Williams went before the board relative to having his children conveyed by some means to another school. The board, having no authority by law, for spending money for such he was advised to take the matter up with the state board.

Sept. 8, 1908 it reopened, but closed again April 1909. Nov. 1, 1910 Lesher was instructed to investigate expediency of transporting some colored children near Big Pool to Williamsport or Clear Spring. Nov. 18, 1913 the superintendent was ordered to have Atty. A. C. Strite investigate the title and if found to belong outright to the County to have the same advertised and sold at public auction.

This school building is the original part of the house at the top of Johnson's Hill and is a part of Fort Frederick property.

It was noted in the board records that all colored schools would be closed one half day Nov. 11, 1915 during the burial of Booker T. Washington.
Manumission papers for Nathan Curl to Nathan Williams
Nathan Wms. 86 By Va.-retired farmer  real estate 1450 - Read write
Parents - Sam & Presslive Williams
4 Children - Sam - born slave Rockingham Co. Va. owned by Catherine Shaw
Henry - sold at auction Black
Katie - Martinsburg Va.
Sam Jr. - now West Va.

Nathan - born 1816 - Died 1884.

October 1847 bought from Rebecca Faulkwell a nineteen year old slave Ann Syms, Paid $60.00 for her. This seemed to be Nathan's wife
Nathan Williams - Sam - John - Silas
Charles - Virginia - Katherine - Betty
Betty - taught at Fort Frederick school for colored
Sam lived - home place
had Eight children born at Fort - Nathan, Amy, Kathy, Roger, Bessie and Bernard "twins"
Ella and Lillian.

John bachelor - first black in county. US.
Charles - taught school - Mail carrier - Big pool area
Bartha - had 7 children - born ft. Frederick - 3 children
born Clearspring. Evelyn and 2 sons.

Melvin
Nathan and Amy Williams bought Fort Frederick Sep 15, 1857 - for $7000

Nathan's wife and children sold Fort Frederick - 1911

Sept 15, 1867 - Nathan Williams, a free colored man bought "Johnson lot" - Fort Frederick - for $5000
Sept 1857 - Nathan Wms bought 14 year old dark mulatta boy - Nathan Carl- To be set free age 25.

Mrs. Charles Dolman
540 N. Locust St.
Hagerstown, MD 21740
The Nathan Williams listed in the 1860 census seems to be the slave "Nathan Carl," Compare the age: Nathan bought 1857 shade 14 yr. old boy Nathan Carl, 1860 Census

Samuel and Pressille Williams
Samuel born slave Rockingham Co., Va. owned by Catherine Shaw. Sold at auction block in Martinsburg Va. now West Va. They bought farm Hedgesville Va. later W. Va. legally free 1828. Four children — were sold with parents:

Henry Katie Sam Jr. Nathan
Research from 1860 and 1870 Black Census of Washington Co.-I found the following information.

Eliza Cline
Joseph Moxley Band-1st Brigade USCT Civil War
Gettysburg National Ceme

John Francis Hall Oct 4/1916 - D. Jan 29 1967
Katherine Hall Johnson Balt - Died April 7, 1961
Born Hancock
Bro Leo Hall Steubenville, OH - Rose Hall

Edgar M. Ellsworth Moxley 13 - Jan 6, 1879 Hager
D. Dec. 30, 1953 Rose Hall- Delilah was

John Hall - D. 10/12/84 yrs.

Lucie Hall Q Sept 9, 1982 - B was 96 yrs. Rose Hall

Ella Mae Ray Bell Hall - Mother John Hall - D. July 4, 1941

Anna - John

Sisters Bertha Ella Mae & May Bell
D. July 4, 1941
John Hall - B Dec 25, 1887 Hancock Md
Parents - Sam and Ella Mae Bell & Sam Hall
Sister Anna M Hall - married & will
married Alice Levinia Tyler - Aug 22, 1908 Williamsport Md.
B - Aug 4, 1887 in Williamsport - one of 12 children
will
Phoenix

Hall celebrated 50th Anniversary in 1958

raised San John Francis Hall - born Oct 24. 1916
off her dead sister Carrie D Jan 27, 1967

Hobby - collecting - obituaries - black and white

John died June 10, 1972 Local hospital
Riverview Cemetery - Hancock.
John Hall mother's name - Hollums
Bertha Hancock
Chas - 3 children from Chesapeake
Evelyn Rose Pat

Peg interview Andrew Feb 21, 1975

Nathan 1860 Census dark mulatto
Born Mar 5, 1843 -
Nathan Wm children 1860
Cath 14 Sam 10 - John 4 - Henry 1

1860 Census
Nathan 18-1860 - "Nathan Carol," dark mulatto
Born Mar 15, 1843 - 14yr. old
Sold bought by N. Wm. Sept 15, 1857 = 150.00 to Wm. Faulkner
He was freed at age 25.
Nathan bought N. Carol because his children were too young to work. Oldest-Henry 1 - old Cath - 14 - had 4 children then.

Could this be Nathan Wm of Bethel St. father
illa Williams Newman - Boston, Mass. Therpo
May 1 - age 41 - brothers Nathan Wm. Pagubmow
Roger - Bernard - Lena Abeg - Cashwell - Ashley -
Rlb, Ew. Johnson - Rose Hill

over
John Hall mother your name Phenix 6 sisters

Evelyn  B, Sept 7, 1913
Hermit B, Sept 9, 1915
Pat Melvin June 14-1919

James and Queenie Jones
2426 N, 51st Street
Phila 1913

Ru锡 sister
3 children
Ches from Chesapeake
& Betho Hancock
Where born Erie, Pa
Pat
Andrew interviewed 2/21/75
Slave Nathan Coak 14 freed 2/5
Free Negro Heads of Families in U.S. in 1830
by Carter G. Woodson
Association for The Study of Negro Life & History,
Inc.-Washington DC-1925

Washington County, Md p 64-65
The number attached to each name indicates the number of persons in the household by the named individual.

District 4

2. Saml Williams 19

Property Owners in 1870

Williamspurt another listing is in Clearspring same year
Samuel Williams 86 retire farmer $1450 RP

Indian Spring, Md
Nathan Williams 54 wife & children
$6080 RP $1718 PP
UNDERSTAND
THE CYBER REVOLUTION

Special Issue of TIME on Newsstands This Spring Starting March 16

You've heard the buzz. But what do they mean?

And how will it affect you? TIME's editors will examine all aspects of the cyber revolution, in detail, in plain English, exactly.

They'll explain how emerging technologies will change entertainment, personal finance, and travel. You've already plugged in, you're connected. But "digital revolution" on the Internet (http://www.time.com/digital). If you want a better understanding of the future, it's an issue you won't want to miss.

Watch for the one-hour special on The Discovery Channel, Wednesday, April 5, 8:00 PM, ET/PT

Exclusive Advertiser

TIME
500 miles from nowhere, it'll give you a cold drink or a warm burger...

NASA space flights inspired this portable fridge that outperforms conventional fridges, replaces the ice chest and alternates as a food warmer.

Recognize the ice cooler in this picture? Surprisingly enough, there isn’t one. What you see instead is a Koolatron, an invention that replaces the traditional ice cooler, and its many limitations, with a technology even more sophisticated than your home fridge. And far better suited to travel. What’s more, the innocent looking box before you is not only a refrigerator, it’s also a food warmer.

NASA inspired portable refrigerator.

Because of space travel’s tough demands, scientists had to find something more dependable and less bulky than traditional refrigeration coils and compressors. Their research led them to discover a miraculous solid-state component called the thermoelectric module.

Aside from a small fan, this electronic fridge has no moving parts to wear out or break down. It’s not affected by tilting, jarring or vibration (situations that cause home fridges to fail). The cooling module, no bigger than a matchbook, actually delivers the cooling power of a 10-pound block of ice.

From satellites to station wagons. Thermoelectric temperature control has now been proven with more than 25 years of use in some of the most rigorous space and laboratory applications. And Koolatron is the first manufacturer to make this technology available to families, fishermen, boaters, campers and hunters—in fact, anyone on the move.

Home refrigeration has come a long way since the days of the ice box and the block of ice. But when we travel, we go back to the sloppy ice cooler with its soggy and sometimes spoiled food. No more! Now for the price of a good cooler and one or two seasons of buying ice (or about five family restaurant meals), all the advantages of home cooling are available for you electronically and conveniently. Think about your last trip. You just got away nicely on your long-awaited vacation. You’re cruising comfortably in your car along a busy interstate with only a few rest stops or restaurants. You guessed it...the kids want to stop for a snack. But your Koolatron is stocked with fruit, sandwiches, cold drinks, fried chicken... fresh and cold. Everybody helps themselves and you have saved valuable vacation time and another expensive restaurant bill.

And because there are no temperamental compressors or gasses, the Koolatron works perfectly under all circumstances, even upside down. Empty, the large model weighs only 12 pounds and the smaller one weighs just seven. Full, the large model holds up to 40 12-ounce cans and the smaller one holds six.

Just load it up and plug it in. On summer trips, plug your Koolatron into your cigarette lighter; it will use less power than a tail light. If you decide to carry it to a picnic place or a fishing hole, the Koolatron will hold its cooling capacity for 24 hours. If you leave it plugged into your battery with the engine off, it consumes only three amps of power.

Limited-time offer. Because Contraid is bringing this offer to you directly, you save the cost of middlemen and retail mark-ups. For a limited time only, you can get this advanced, portable Koolatron refrigerator at the introductory price of $99. Call today to take advantage of this special promotional pricing. Most orders are processed within 72 hours.

Try it risk-free. We guarantee your satisfaction with any product from Contraid Industries. With the Koolatron, you get our complete “No Questions Asked” 30-day money-back guarantee. Plus you get a full one-year manufacturer’s limited warranty. If you are not satisfied for any reason, just return the product for a complete refund.

The versatile Koolatron is available in two sizes. The F24A holds 30 quarts and the smaller F24B holds 16 quarts. For additional AC adapter kits receive your discount. They plug into any regular outlet.

For fastest service call toll-free 24 hours a day

800-704-1210

To order by mail send check or money order for the total amount including $6.40 (VA residents add 4.5% sales tax). Or charge it to your credit card by enclosing your account number and expiration date.

CONTRAID INDUSTRIES
200 Waterford Lake Drive, Suite 108
Midlothian, Virginia 23113
These two negro families lived in Shanktown. Joe Haines staked Nathan Williams to buy what is now the Fort property for which he paid $7000. This was a lot of money in those days and he repaid it in seven years. Nathan had three sons, Charles, Sam and John. Charles lived in the late A. J. Michael home, which adjoins the Fort property. He was the mail carrier in Big Pool at one time. Sam lived at the homeplace at the fort. John, a bachelor, made his home with Charles and worked at various farms in the area.

Henry Hipkins (probably related to the Williams') lived in a house on the road into the fort.

I believe one of his descendents might still be living in Hagerstown. Also one of the Williams men works at Walnut Towers.

This information from
J. W. Murray
BigSprings, Md.

Ethel Baedell
Big Pool, Md.
Feb 21 1975

Having purchased the Fort Frederick tract from the State Mr. Williams had to resort to anyway possible to pay for the land.

During the Civil War when money was extremely tight Mr. Williams was really in a squeeze. At the time the Confederates were camped at back creek a place near Cherry run which was safe at that time. They were desperately in need of such items as coffee sugar salt and flour. So Mr. Williams being an army operator collaborated with them to deliver the goods. But in return he just didn't get paid for that, for at the same time there were Union soldiers camped at Fort Frederick and Mr. Williams would in turn bring back valuable information concerning troop movements of the Confederates.

These operations went on for sometime until some army intelligence officers became

Andrew Williams telling how his grandfather Nathan Williams bought Fort Frederick.
Wise to the transition and felt that he was contributing too much to the rebels and arranged to place him under arrest.

Fortunately there was an old white woman by the name of Mowry that heard of the plan and he waited until Mr. Williams had crossed the river then he in turn crossed over and told him just what was up and Mr. Williams was forced to leave his team and wagon in Virginia and walk about ten miles down the river to McCope Ferry to get back to Maryland ezematied and thereby escape arrest.

Upon returning home he was questioned and warned if he were caught that he would be imprisoned. But during the time he made a substantial amount of money to help pay for the property.

J. Andrew Williams.

Feb. 21 1975
Juanita Queen of Hagerstown brought in this picture of the 1916 class of the Beaver Creek school for black students. Those pictured include: (bottom row, left to right) Helen Steward, Virginia (Buff) Snively, Wesley Snively, Mitchell Brooks, Cloyd (Bud) Snively, Roland Steward and Maurice Snively. Second row: Zoma Hipkins (teacher), Dorothy Walker, Mary Snively, Lela Snively Davis, Bessalina Male, and Horace (Skip) Steward. Top row: Leah (Brooks) Branch, Juanita M. Clark Briscoe Queen, Lillian Williams, Ella Williams, and Robert Waltz. Mrs. Queen said the school was located beside the creek near the Witmer store which later became the Paulsgrove store.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Librar</th>
<th>Folio</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IN 2</td>
<td>830</td>
<td>1847</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IN 6</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>1851</td>
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<td>IN 15</td>
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<td>1860</td>
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<td>H. E. Williams</td>
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<td>128</td>
<td>607</td>
<td>1908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>129</td>
<td>414</td>
<td>1909</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Nathan Williams (coloured of Washington County
AT the request of Nathan Williams,
The following Bill of Sale was recorded Oct-
ober 9, 1847.

Know all men by these present that
Rebecca Faulkwell of Washington County
Maryland for myself and heirs do hereby
for and in consideration of the sum of
Sixty dollars to me in hand paid, grant,
bargain and sell unto Nathan Williams (col-
oured of county and State above mentioned,
one slave for the term of six years from
The first day of February 1848 named
Ann Rhys about nineteen years of age.
To have and to hold the said slave and her
increase to him the said Nathan Williams
and his heirs and assigns for the said
Term of six years. Witness my hand &
seal this 25th day of September 1847.

Witness Wesley W. Faulkwell
Rebecca Faulkwell

September 25th Received of Nathan
Williams a note of hand for 60 dollars for
The above bill of sale
Rebecca Faulkwell
Bill of Sale for Nathan Carl - Book IV 6-152

At the request of Nathan Williams the following Bill of Sale was recorded September 15th 1867.

Know all men by these presents that whereas William Faulkner of Washington County in the State of Maryland is the owner of a dark mulatto boy named Nathan Carl, who was born on the fifteenth day of March in the year eighteen hundred and forty three, being the same boy formerly sold by the mother of the said William, and whereas the said William hath sold the services of said boy until he shall attain the age of twenty-five years to a certain Nathan Williams a free coloured man who for more than one year has been a reside of Washington County in the State of Maryland. And the said negro boy that to be free. Now therefore know ye that the said William Faulkner for and in consideration of the sum of one hundred and fifty dollars to him in hand paid by the said Nathan Williams the precept whereof is here by acknowledged hath granted, bargained and sold and by these presents doth grant, bargain and sell unto the said Nathan Williams, his executors, administrators and assigns the said dark mulatto boy Nathan Carl as a slave until he shall attain the age of twenty-five years, that is to say until the fifteenth day of March in the year eighteen hundred and sixty eight and then to be free. And the said William Faulkner doth here by manumit and set
set free the said mulatto boy Nathan Carl on and after the said 15th day of March 1868 to be thenceforth a free man, discharged and released from all claims of the said William Faulkwell or the said Nathan Williams and from the claims of all persons whatsoever to the said Negro boy Nathan or to his services to have and to hold the said Mulatto boy Nathan Carl as a slave until the age of twenty five years as aforesaid to him the said Nathan Williams his executors, administrators and assigns, and from and after the end of said term to be free from all slavery or servitude what so ever. In witness whereof the said William Faulkwell and Nathan Williams have hereunto set their hands and affixed their seals this Twenty Third day of August in the year eighteen hundred and fifty one. 

(Seal) Nathan Williams (seal) 

Researched by 

MRS. MARGUERITE DOLEMAN  
540 NORTH LOCUST 
HAGERSTOWN, MD 21740
Deed To Nathan William free colored
man "Johnson's Lot" and Skiehorn - 100
acres of land more or less and Kindness
enlarged 115 acres. Five Thousand Dollars.

Book IN 15 Page 226
Paid mortgage September 20, 1866

Nathan Williams, free man of color
and his wife Ann E. Williams his wife
free woman of color for the
sum of four
Thousand and three hundred dollars deliver
To Denborn, Jacques, Joel Charles, George
Mish and John Bowles, payable six months
Nathan Williams do grant, bargain and sell unto them the said Denborn, Jacques, Joel
Charles, George Mish and John Bowles Tract
of land called "Johnson's Lot", Skiehorn and
Kindness

Book MCKK 4 Page 758
mortgage
Twenty Two Thousand fifty dollars
Tobias Johnson Tract of land lying and
being situated in the Indian Spring dis-
trict, Washington County, Maryland. Nathan
William and wife shall pay on or before
June 1, 1877

Book MCKK 3 Page 194 Dec, 13, 1870
Bill of Sale. Martin Murray of Indian
Spring District for seventy four dublics
and eighty one cent paid me by Nathan Williams of Indian Springs, do hereby bargain and sell to said Nathan Williams the following property:

1 mare black - 10 years old $30.00
1 mule black 11 years old 50.00
1 Red and Spotted Muley cow 20.00
1 Sitt of Breech Bands 50.00
Red and white spotted yearling heifer 5.00
1 Two horse wagon 15.00
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name, Etc.</th>
<th>Born</th>
<th>Parents</th>
<th>Survivors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charles A. Williams</td>
<td>near Ft. Fredrick</td>
<td>Nathan and Amy Williams</td>
<td>Children - Catherine, Howard, and John Phila, Pa.; Alice, Jersey City, N.J.; Merrill Baltimore, Kenneth, Andrew, Evelyn, Kermit, Melvin - Hagerstown. Husband - 7 sons - 3 daughters. 2 sisters. Charles and Bertha. 7 children were born in Hagerstown. 3 children were born in C. Two children - Marvin 6 yrs. Katherine 4, his father's and sisters: Katherine, Howard, Phila, Pa.; Alice and Evelyn home. Brothers: Kenneth, Andrew, Merrill, Kermit, Melvin home. John - Phila, Pa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tina Ann Virginia Hall Williams - wife of Charles A. Wms.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ethel Hall Williams</td>
<td>April 26, 1901, Ft. Frederick</td>
<td></td>
<td>Wife - Elva Williams</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Born</th>
<th>Parents</th>
<th>Survivors</th>
<th>Death</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A Williams</td>
<td>near St. Fredrick</td>
<td>Nathan and Amy Williams</td>
<td>Children - Catherine, Howard, John, Phila. Pa.; Alice, Jersey City, Md., Merrill Baltimore; Kenneth, Andrew, Evelyn, Kermit, Melvin-Hagerstown</td>
<td>Died about May 1930 - Funeral: Baptist Church, Buried: Rose Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ann Virginia William</td>
<td>near St. Fredrick</td>
<td>Charles A. Wms.</td>
<td>Husband - 7 sons - 3 daughters, 2 sisters</td>
<td>76 yrs old - At Home, 90 W. Church, St. Hagerstown - Aged 58 Died 1929 - Funeral: Baptist Church, Buried: Rose Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Man Dies</td>
<td></td>
<td>Charles and Bertha Williams</td>
<td>Children were born in Frederick C. Two children - Marvin 64 yrs old, Katherine 4 yrs old, his father and sisters - Katherine Howard, Phila. Pa.; Alice and Evelyn, home</td>
<td>D, 232 N 62nd St., Phila. Pa., Sept 1955</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fort Frederick is the only French and Indian War fort on the North American continent still standing on its original site. The Maryland Assembly appropriated £6,000 to build Fort Frederick in 1756, with the War of Independence over and the Western frontiers well beyond Maryland, the Maryland General Assembly sold the fort property at public auction on Sept 5th, 1791, to Robert Johnson for $1,800. The property was used as a farm, and the walls of the fort were permitted to fall into disrepair. The barracks and huts were stripped of windows, doors, and floor planks. The chimneys were knocked down and the wooden buildings set afire, as a quick method of obtaining nails, a costly item in those days.

In Sept 15, 1857, Nathan Williams, a free-colored man, bought "Johnson's lot," and Skehorn, 100 acres of, land more or less, and kindness enlarged 115 acres. "Johnson's lot" was Fort Frederick land. Deed office records show Joe Haines staked Williams to buy the property for which he paid $5,000, a lot of money in those days and he repaid it in a remarkable short time.

Nathan's parents, Sam and Pressville Williams and four children, Henry, Katie, Sam Jr., and Nathan were sold at the auction block in Martinsburg, Virginia (now West Virginia).
Nathan Williams was born 1816, died 1884. The History of Western Maryland described Nathan as "a well-to-do colored citizen, who, born in slavery, emancipated himself long before the abolition of slaves. The fine feature of his bronze face set in a circle of white hair gave him an honorable appearance which closer acquaintance prove to be the trueful index of his character.

In October 1847, he bought from Rebecca Faulkwell a nineteen-year-old slave girl, Ann Symms, whom he paid sixty dollars for; she became his wife. The Williams had eight children: Sam, John, Silas, Charles, Virginia, Katherine, Betty who taught at the Fort Frederick school for colored and Ella. Sam lived at the homestead at the fort and had eight children born at the Fort. Nathan, Amy, Kathy, Roger, Bessie and Bernard (twins). Ella and Lillian.

John was a bachelor, who made his home with Charles and worked at various farms in the area. Silas left and went to Marion, Ohio.

Charles lived in the late H. J. Michael home, which adjoins the fort property. He taught school for a while at the fort school for colored and later was a mail carrier in the Big Pool area. He bought about 40 acres of the Johnson Tract, then sold it to H. J. Michael in 1910. The original home burned down about 1908 and Charles built another house about
1909. He later moved to the Clearspring area. Charles and his wife Bertha Lee had seven children born at the fort. Carroll Jr., the oldest, Katherine, Kenneth, all of whom are dead. Alice who lives in Cape May N.J., John died Sept. 1955 Merrill and Andrew who was the last born at the fort 1910 and who now lives in Hagerstown. Three other children were born to The C. Williams in Clearspring. Evelyn who now lives with Andrew, Kermit how of Baltimore and Melvin of Philadelphia. Because his children were too young and needing help to work his farm Nathan Williams bought a 14 year old dark mulatta boy - Nathan Carl for $150.00 in September 1857. Under the terms of his manumission (freed) papers in the Court House he was to be set free at the age of 25.

The Fort Frederick Defender of our Heritage states that Nathan Williams grand mother as a slave had taken refuge in the fort during the Pontiac uprising.

In The History of Western Maryland by Sharpe- Nathan Williams, its present owner pulled down the west bastion to make room for his barn. The fort is square with a bastion at each angle, the south bastion is the whole structure is very far from being a ruin. The huge gates one having a small pastern were in the east wall. The portal was twelve feet wide, and
The immensity of the gates maybe judged by the fact that one of the iron hinges which Williams kept until a few years ago, weighed forty-two pounds. There is not a piece of the old wood left, some curiosity seekers having carried off the last bit in 1858. Gen. Kenly first Maryland Regiment occupied the fort in 1861 and knocked a hole in the wall through which to point a gun for taking pot shots at the Confederates across the Potomac. The original armament at the fort was a gun in each bastion, worked in barbette and within the enclosure, where Nathan Williams potatoes, and tomatoes, now ripen under the summer sun.

February 21, 1975 in an interview with Andrew Williams, grandson of Nathan Williams, he revealed a few unknown facts about his grandfather. Belt Johnson was an old white friend of his grandfather. His grandfather was a very shrewd man and told how he obtained money to pay for the fort. When he was a child the fort didn’t look like it does today. The walls were cut and as kids they use to go around picking up arrowheads, musket etc. to play with, never dreaming some day they would be valuable.

In a written statement, Andrew wrote that his grandfather Nathan Williams, "having purchased the fort Frederick Tract from the state, Mr. Williams had to resort to any possible way to pay for the
land. During the Civil War when money was extremely tight, Mr. Williams was really in a squeeze. At the time the confederate battalion was camped at the back creek, a place near Cherry Run W.Va. which was Virginia at that time. They were desperately in need of such items as coffee, sugar, salt and flour. So Mr. Williams being a shrewd operator, collaborated with them to deliver the goods. But in return he just got paid for that, for at the same time there were Union soldiers camped at Fort Frederick and Mr. Williams would in turn bring back valuable information concerning troop movements of the Confederates. These operations went on for sometime, until some army intelligence officers became wise to the transactions and felt that he was contributing too much to the rebels and arranged to place him under arrest.

Fortunately there was an old white man by the name of Murray that heard of the plan and waited until Mr. Williams had crossed the river. Then he in turn crossed over and told him just what was up and Mr. Williams was forced to leave his team and wagon in Virginia and walk about ten miles down to McCoy's ferry to get back to Maryland unnoticed and thereby escaped arrest.

Upon returning home, he was questioned and warned if he were caught that he would be imprisoned. But during this time, he made substantial amount of money to help pay for the property.
Evelyn Duke's work quite full of ups and downs

By MARIE LANSER

"All I can say is this job has its ups and downs," said Evelyn Duke, who runs the only manually-operated elevator in Washington County.

From 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., Evelyn rides up and down the four floors of the Professional Arts Building at 5 Public Square, waving her "regulars" a good morning and giving directions to those looking for the Maryland tax office or the library offices or the electronic eyes and push buttons generally get you where you want to go.

But Evelyn hasn't heard any talk about doing away with the position she and fellow operator Clifford "Clif" Monroe share. "The cost of installing a new elevator would be greater than the salaries paid the two operators," she said.

The work to be done slides the compartment up or down with a light touch. The "M" on Summit says it can
Feb. 21, 1975

Having purchased the Fort Frederick tract from the State, Mr. Williams had to resort to anyway possible to pay for the land.

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Andrew Williams telling how his Grandfather Nathan Williams bought Fort Frederick.

written for Peggy Doleman
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Feb 21, 1975
Finding of 1778 letter prevented construction of wrong style barracks

(Please note: The text is difficult to read due to the condition of the page.)
YE OLDE POULTRY SHOPPE

We specialize in Fresh Poultry and Seafood

POULTRY
- Fresh frying chicken and parts
- Roasting chicken
- Young capons
- Frozen Guineas
- Ducks
- Geese
- Turkeys

SEAFOOD
- Shrimp
- Raw shrimp for steaming
- Breaded shrimp for frying
- Fresh crab meat
- Every Thursday, Friday and Saturday
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20.0 Cubic Foot Chest Freezer

This Holiday chest freezer could be your solution to today's high cost of food. Fiberglass walls, foam bottom insulation, hinged safety lid, Cold Control, power interruption light, shell condenser, and handy storage basket.

$279.98

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Lowe's of Hagerstown 1225 Maryland Ave. Phone 739-8700

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Mon & Fri. 8-9
Tues., Wed., Thurs., 8 to 5:30
Sat., 8 to 4

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMERICA
200 Years of Defending Freedom

THIS YEAR YOU HAVE FREEDOM OF CHOICE
VOTE FOR COMMON SENSE
Democrats—“Celebrates the Spirit of ’76”
HE’S IN THE “SPIRIT OF 76”
VOTE DAN RUPLI FOR CONGRESS

DAN RUPLI FOR CONGRESS from Maryland’s 6th District
“A modern day Son of Liberty” with Old-Fashion Ideas of the people . . . FOR PEOPLE.

AUTHORITY OF JUDITH B. CURTIS
When we began publishing THE CRACKER BARREL with the January issue, we promised to evolve this widely read local magazine into a publication that would both reach out further into the community's mainstream, and expand coverage of local nostalgia. This April issue has two additional features in support of these goals.

TEMPO, a new section intended to reflect the pulse of the Hagerstown region, begins on page 21 with a special CRACKER BARREL report on the drug scene in Washington County's schools that should be "must" reading for every resident (including every parent) in the county.

CRACKER BARREL ALBUM, a 2-page layout of old local photographs, begins on Page 16. We have planned this feature to reflect some of the many old pictures brought in or sent in by CRACKER BARREL readers.

This April issue contains 32 pages . . . the largest regular monthly issue yet published during five growing years for THE CRACKER BARREL. It is with deep appreciation that we thank our advertisers, subscribers and news stand purchasers for their continuing and growing support. Support from a still wider part of the community is needed to make it possible for us to continue the pace of expansion and improvement that we have mapped for ourselves.

Over the years and the months, we have heard from scores of local businessmen and residents regarding their interest in seeing "another media voice in this community." To these people, and to all of our readers, we say the new CRACKER BARREL . . . with TEMPO . . . is that "other voice" you have been seeking. Will you . . . all of you . . . now step forward and join in supporting this local publishing enterprise that needs the support of all in order to strengthen a traditionally shallow financial base that rests upon paid advertising, and paid subscriptions?

THE CRACKER BARREL family of readers, numbering more than 12,000, is a loyal lot. Those who choose this magazine to carry their advertising will experience productive results. On the non-advertising side, those who join the ranks of our subscribers will find enjoyable, informative and lively reading in the months and years ahead.

A. Vernon Davis
Our 16 daily flights between Hagerstown and Baltimore/Washington/Philadelphia airports provide the convenience you demand when it comes time to travel by air. One reservation . . . one ticket does it all, no matter what your destination. Free parking at Hagerstown, too, means convenience. Check your travel agent or call Allegheny: 733-6700.

ALLEGHENY COMMUTER®
HENSON AVIATION contract operator
by A. Vernon Davis

The County Health Department is going to publicly post in each local restaurant the results of periodic inspections by the department's field staff.

From the standpoint of people in the restaurant business, this is a dangerous plan. It puts in the hands of an inspector the fate of each restaurant which that inspector is assigned to visit.

Checking on sanitary conditions in public eating establishments is important, but publicly rating restaurants on the strength of one person's visit is dangerous and unacceptable. The plan must have "due process" that involves a depth of professional consideration on the part of the health department, and an opportunity for rebuttal by the restaurant operator.

There is a special issue of LIFE magazine out that considers "100 events that shaped America". The publication came to my attention during the editing of the CRACKER BARREL's Bicentennial Special, and prompted thought about the top events that have shaped our own community.

What have been the most significant developments in Washington County? The question is a timely one, since Washington County will be 200 years old in September.

My nominations would include: building of the National Pike from Boonsboro through Hagerstown, rather than by the more direct route from Boonsboro through Williamsport and on west; building of the C & O Canal; building of the railroads; Sherman Fairchild's visit to Hagerstown to see (and then buy) the local Kreider and Reisner airplane business in the 1930s; World War II production of Fairchild trainer planes and then Flying Boxcars in Hagerstown; Mack Truck's move to Hagerstown from Plainfield, N.J.; and construction of Interstates 70 and 81 so that they cross over at Hagerstown.

What do YOU consider to be the most significant local events during our first 200 years?

Last month we announced plans for the CRACKER BARREL to name and honor Hagerstown's Mother of the Year in our May issue. Why not send in YOUR nomination today. The rules are simple. Write the editor a letter telling why you feel your nominee merits recognition . . . and enclose her picture.

By the time this is published, the subject will no longer be a secret. On March 27, the Herald-Mail staged a surprise party at Fountain Head for Joe Harp . . . celebrating Joe's first 50 years with the company.

Joe, now executive editor of both papers, was my editor and boss during most of my 20 years on the Morning Herald staff. He was police and political reporter when I was hired by the late C. N. Baylor (then Morning Herald editor) upon graduation from St. Mary's High School in 1942. Joe was made editor, and later I was made assistant editor, after Mr. Baylor became general manager for both newspapers.

My scrapbooks, recently consulted in connection with the 50-year recognition party for Joe Harp, quote Joe as telling me in 1942 that, if I stayed on the paper 6 months, I would stay for life. I didn't quite stay for life, but it was for 20 years, during which I progressed to a point where (in 1948) Joe proudly advised me one day that management now considered me to be "a $50 a week man."

The photo published with this column, made in the 1950s, shows the Herald-Mail's top team: the late Garvin Hager, editor of the Daily Mail; Mr. Baylor, general manager; and Joe Harp, Morning Herald editor.

Have you signed up yet for the CRACKER BARREL cruise to Bermuda August 7 - 14?

If you haven't taken an ocean cruise, I certainly recommend that you consider doing so. My family and I sailed to Bermuda a couple of summers ago, and the trip gave me an opportunity for more complete relaxation than I had experienced since being discharged from the air force after World War III.

Speaking of World War II, did you see the announcement last month that Selective Service has closed the last of its draft boards in Maryland?

My first memory of "the draft" involves the day Pearl Harbor was bombed, and a congressman was interviewed on the radio as to whether he thought it would be necessary to draft 18 year olds. The congressman said "no," but nine months later I turned 18 and President FDR sent me a form letter that was headed: "Greeting."

The late Bill Tobias was administrator for the local draft boards during and immediately after World War II. Bill's office sent the official draft notification that got me onto the B & O train along West Antietam Street that took me, and many, many others, to Fort Meade . . . and around the world. In later years, I got another (but less official) message from Bill Tobias. On September 24, 1951, as my bride and I checked into our honeymoon hotel at Atlantic City, we were handed a telegram from Bill Tobias. It read: "Do nothing until you hear from me."

* * *

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PRE-SEASON SPECIAL!

General Electric
CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONING

COMPARE PRICE
CHECK QUALITY
Bank Financing Available

$695.00

Thru May 30th ONLY

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WHO ARE THEY?
Here are baby pictures for two locally known people. Do you recognize them? For answers, turn to page 12.

Our CRACKER BARREL Easter Greeting this year was provided by one of our readers, Mrs. R. W. Sharf of 513 Liberty Street in Hagerstown. The delightful picture of a girl picking up Easter eggs on the White House lawn goes back to the year 1894! The picture was a premium offer (see back of card, reproduced here, too) for 19th century Lion Coffee, marketed by Woolson Spice Company. The words of Easter greeting are from a 1920 postcard (1-cent postage), also loaned to us by Mrs. Sharf.
Letter written in 1778 caused major shift in barracks restoration

May first is the date for Washington County's first major Bicentennial event: the dedication of reproductions of the two enlisted men's barracks that once stood within the stone walls of the 220-year-old Fort Frederick, west of Clear Spring.

To one familiar with Fort Frederick over the years, a first visit since the state has rebuilt the two wooden structures is a bit startling...what with the brick chimneys and shingled roofs projecting above the stone walls in large, real-life scale.

To the historians and architects responsible for the restoration project, a visit today no doubt brings a sigh of relief, in view of what almost happened. The Maryland Park Service almost reproduced the wrong kind of barracks! The accuracy of the project was saved in the nick of time by the finding in Maryland's archives at Annapolis of a letter written in Hagerstown on January 15, 1778 by one Samuel Hughes to Maryland's Governor Thomas Johnson.

In September 1974, the state was proceeding with plans to erect one-story-plus-attic log barracks on the long-exposed foundations of the original buildings on the grounds within the stone-walled frontier fortress. Researchers had consulted old British and Colonial documents, contemporary 18th century writings, reports of the 1933 Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) restoration of the Fort Frederick walls, and had visited other structures dating back to the 1700s. Since there were no surviving drawings and seemingly no surviving descriptions of the Fort Frederick barracks, researchers concluded that it was most likely that there had been one-story, log barracks on those foundations...and were proceeding to reproduce same.

Then came the finding of the Hughes letter!

Hughes had been engaged by Governor Johnson to refurbish the fort for use as a prison during the Revolution. His letter of January 15, 1778, hand written during a Hagers-town stopover on a hurry-up trip to Williamsburg, gave a detailed report on the run-down status of Fort Frederick. "2 barracks two story high," Hughes listed, along with overall dimensions ("120 feet in length, 17 wide") at the bottom of his 5-page report to the Governor. A reading of the full text indicates that the buildings were of frame, clapboard construction, rather than logs as had been suspected.

"I have engaged 2000 feet of poor plank to be ready in a month at (Kersh-
What a difference 43 years can make! Old photo of main Fort Frederick entrance was made in 1933, before CCC began restoration work. New photo, made in March, shows restored walls and gate reproduction. As explained in story, gate reproduction is based upon description of 'wicket gate' in Hughes letter of 1778.

In photo of restored barracks, made in March of this year, foundations of still-to-be-restored officers quarters (Governor's House) may be seen at left.

In May 1956, when Fort Frederick celebrated its 200th anniversary, George A. Hose of Indian Springs dressed as General Grant, and posed for picture with wife, Carroll. Boy Scouts of 1956, in other photo, will enjoy looking back on themselves today... 20 years later!
any sooner. His plank will be (used for?) the Governor's house. I hope to get as much as will finish the two barracks immediately & have engaged a carpenter to do it. The materials necessary shall be engaged today — as I am obliged to go to Williamsburg have got Capt. Burgess to undertake the officers' quarters. The state wants to have authority to spend money for a mill. M. Jacques cant supply us yet.NI. Jacques cant supply a carpenter to do it. The materials necessary shall be engaged today — as I am obliged to go to Williamsburg have got Capt. Burgess to undertake the officers' quarters. The state wants to have authority to spend money for a mill. M. Jacques cant supply us yet.

The Governor's house, referred to a number of times in the letter, was the officers' quarters. The state wants to rebuild this structure, too, but did not have authority to spend money for a third building at this time.

Ross M. Kimmel, Maryland Park Service historian, provided THE CRACKER BARREL with a copy of the Hughes letter, as well as a copy of Kimmel's "supplemental report" on the Fort Frederick barracks restoration following discovery of the Hughes letter among old state records at Annapolis. Kimmel's report calls the Hughes letter "the single most informative piece of evidence regarding the fort's original appearance that has been found." It "takes the plans for restoration beyond the realm of educated conjecture to the safer ground of reasonable certainty."

Kimmel finds that the Hughes description of the barracks "is strikingly similar to the surviving 'Hessian' barrack at Frederick. The Hessian barrack is one of two buildings erected in 1777 and used to house captured British and Hessian prisoners." However, while the Hessian barrack is stone, Hughes' letter indicates that the Fort Frederick barracks were frame. Some other restoration plans were changed, because of details that surfaced in the Hughes "find":

"Archeology at Fort Frederick in the 1930s," Kimmel's report continued, "revealed evidence of porches along the fronts of the barracks. We discounted this evidence in favor of uncovered walkways in our earlier study. In view of Hughes' remarks . . . we have honorably reinstated the porches." Later in the report: "In view of the amount of brick fragments that have been recovered from the area in front of the barracks, we have decided to pave the lower level with brick."

A new reproduction main gate for the fort has now been erected, as a result of the 1778 report. Kimmel's report explains:

"The use of 'Gate' in the singular (in the Hughes letter) challenges the traditional view of a double gate at the front. A double gate was inferred from the locations of hinge anchor depressions in the wings of the gate way. The 'Wicket Gate' (written in the Hughes letter) is a hinged door cut through the main gate to permit people to enter and leave the fort singly without having to open the main gate itself."

Fort Frederick was built by the Colony of Maryland in 1756 as part of its frontier defense during the French and Indian War. Although no military engagements were fought at the Fort, it served as an important supply depot for English operations against the French further west around Pittsburgh. In 1763, area settlers took refuge in Fort Frederick from rebellious Indians led by Chief Pontiac. During the Revolution, the fort was converted into a prison for captured British and German soldiers. A small force of Union troops briefly occupied the place during the Civil War.

Maryland purchased Fort Frederick and some neighboring land in 1922 and began development of what is now a state park. During the 1930s, the CCC rebuilt the dilapidated stone walls and capped the foundations of the original interior buildings. The buildings had long before been totally dismantled for materials by area residents, and supposedly much of the stone from the walls had been used in construction of the nearby C & O Canal. The barracks restoration was conceived as a Bicentennial year project for the state of Maryland.

One of the two restored barracks will be furnished in authentic 1700s barracks fashion, while the other one will be used as a museum to display Revolutionary and Civil War artifacts.
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WHO ARE THEY?
From time to time, THE CRACKER BARREL will publish baby pictures
of locally known people. Here are answers to the questions posed on Page 7.

Betty Marie Zimmerman Byers
President, Washington
County School Board
Born February 1, 1935

C. William Karn
Acting Fire Chief
for Hagerstown
Born March 29, 1924

Bring your Grandma...
...grandpa, or the little old couple next door.

FAMILY PROGRAM SET BY JAYCEES HERE TO HONOR SENIOR CITIZENS
Families of all ages, as well as senior citizens, are invited by the Hagerstown Jaycees to enjoy their first annual Spring Concert featuring “Friends ‘n Spirit” at 3 p.m. on Sunday, May 2 at North Hagerstown High School.

Senior citizens will be honored, including the awarding of the Outstanding Senior Citizen of the Year plaque by the Jaycee-ettes.

Mothers and fathers are urged to invite and bring grandmothers and grandfathers, as well as children of all ages. Jaycee co-chairmen Jim Baker and Perk Hull welcome “everyone from 1 to 101 years of age for this afternoon of fun and entertainment.”

Admission is free.

MASON-DIXON KENNEL CLUB IS 32 YEARS OLD THIS YEAR
The Mason-Dixon Kennel Club, celebrating its 32nd year of activity in the Hagerstown area, will honor the late Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Smith when it stages its 1976 show at the Hagerstown Fairgrounds on April 11.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith, both of whom died within the past year, joined the organization in 1949. He served as president from 1952 to 1971. She served as secretary from 1953 to 1973.

The club, organized on October 8, 1944 with Walter G. Ryan as first president, staged its first event, “a match,” on November 26, 1944 at Mt. Tammany Farm. There were 65 dogs entered and 300 spectators attended. In contrast, the 1975 show at the fairgrounds, had 1,416 dogs entered and several thousand spectators attended. In contrast, the 1975 show at the fairgrounds, had 1,416 dogs entered and several thousand spectators attended.

The 1976 show, on April 11, will have 115 breeds represented.
Don’t forget to start planning for your Memorial Day Celebration

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In the nation's Bicentennial year, the New York-based company that operates Maryland Ribbon Company in Hagerstown is celebrating its 100th birthday. C. M. Offray & Son, Inc., proudly celebrates its centennial as manufacturers and importers of ribbons and ribbon trims.

C. V. Offray, Jr., president and grandson of the founder, has carried on the family tradition, succeeding his father and his grandfather, who founded the company in 1876.

C. M. Offray & Son, Inc. and its divisions are today one of the country's largest and most modern manufacturers of ribbons, elastics and narrow fabrics. One hundred years of achievement in the areas of design and technological advancement in the production of ribbons woven with natural and synthetic fibers have made the company a leader in the narrow fabrics industry since its inception.

C. V. Offray, Sr. joined his father in partnership in 1920 and the company name became C. M. Offray & Son, Inc. He is listed in the National Encyclopedia of Modern Biography for his major technical developments in the industry.

In 1922, a manufacturing site was purchased in Hagerstown, located at 651 North Prospect Street for the weaving, dyeing and finishing of...
ribbons using rayon, silk, cotton, acetate and nylon fibers. By 1961 the continued growth of the company necessitated enlarging its facilities, and C. V. Offray, Jr. purchased six acres of land in the “City Industrial Park” along Willow Circle off Frederick Street, and modernized its processing and shipping operations in a new, modern one-story building of about 40,000 sq. ft.

Today, the company has now increased its land to eleven acres and its building complex now totals approximately 150,000 sq. ft., making it one of the most modern, up-to-date ribbon facilities in the United States.


Warehouses and shipping headquarters are located in Hagerstown, Dallas, and Los Angeles. In the Hagerstown plant alone 20,000,000 yards of ribbons are kept in open stock for the immediate filling and shipping of orders.

The ribbon business has come a long way since 1876. It was in that year that a seventeen-year-old fabric designer named C. V. Offray landed in New York to become a manufacturer’s representative of fabrics, silk French velvets and fancy ribbons. He was awarded the Silver Medal for design excellence from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry of France. His ribbons are today still worthy of the award he received in 1900 from his native land.

His ancestors have carried on his strong feelings that quality and service must go along with design excellence. Today more than 500 employees are responsible for the production of 250,000,000 yards of ribbon and narrow fabrics each year.
The B & O Railroad passenger station for Hagerstown was located at West Antietam Street and Summit Avenue from 1892 to 1947. This picture was taken in 1947 when demolition was getting underway.

Mrs. Leonard Unger supplied this old, old post card which shows the First National Bank Building (now Maryland National Bank) on West Washington Street in Hagerstown, across from the Court House and Hagerstown Trust. Absent when this picture was made: the Earle Building.

This view of Hagerstown's Western Maryland RR passenger Slick, 28 East Franklin Street, Hagerstown.

Lanvale Street, in Hagerstown's West End, used to frequently flood because of its low, undrained situation. Rain water, and overflow from the city reservoir, caused what came to be known as Lanvale Lake. Even fish from the reservoir could be caught in the "lake." These pictures, dated 1914, were loaned by Irvin C. Fardulis, county building inspector.
In a postcard, postmarked in 1916, and loaned to us by Nan

This picture, taken in the late 1800s, shows the old Cavetown Pike tollgate. Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Hastings, who loaned us this photo, live near the site of this long-gone tollgate and house. House in background was home of Emanuel Burns, brother-in-law of Mrs. Hastings. This picture, taken looking east along the Cavetown Pike, shows trees in the distance near the present-day site of the Grimm junkyard.

Charles J. Scharf, North Colonial Drive, loaned us these two old views of Kee-Mar College, an exclusive school for women on site of present Washington County Hospital. The school started in 1853 as the Hagerstown Female Seminary, graduated its first class in 1857.

picture, taken in 1929, shows the general store operated between 1919 and 1935 by Harry Clayton Snook, at the corner of Main Avenue and what used to be Snook Road. Williamsport and tracks run in front of the building. Building was torn down in 1935 after being used in later years as an antiques shop. Picture was taken by Marty Snook, president of County Commissioners. Harry Clayton Snook was Marty's great-uncle, and an uncle of County Treasurer Harry C. Snook.
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I hereby declare this column a SPRING CLEARANCE of leftover sayings, thoughts and mische jazz.

For example:
The little boy from Brooklyn—
He: Lookit the boid.
Teacher: That's not a boid, it's a bird.
He: Oh yeah? Then how come it chlops like a boid?

Or, the little boy who had to write an essay on Ben Franklin, after much pencil chewing, came up with this:
Benjamin Franklin was born in Boston, traveled to Philadelphia, met a lady on the street, she laughed at him, he married her and discovered electricity.

But, as you well know, the little ones soon grow up into adolescence . . . that's when the girls begin to powder and the boys begin to puff.

Oh, by the way, my dear wife's birthday is coming up shortly. For her gift, I think I'll have her tongue retreaded.

Last month she got into a big fight with the electric company over our bill. It ended in a tie. The electric company didn't get any money and we didn't get any electricity.

THE GOLDEN YEARS CLUB

I had every intention of not mentioning again "The Concerned Citizens for Crime Prevention Seminar" held at H.J.C. February 13th. But, I must say that you did read and listen. How do I know? Because we expected around 150 to attend but there were 300, an overwhelming crowd.

Now we know it should have been a two-day seminar. However, in the near future we will meet again. We promise a larger room and plenty of time for your questions. I myself had at least ten questions on my lips and we are sure many more of you wanted to talk, but there wasn't time.

Kindness and sincerity is a silent thing. True kindness is a silent force with strength of solid stone. It gladdens hearts and can change the world with its own strength alone. Don't ever doubt what kindness does accomplish. You can never do a kindness too soon because you never know how soon it may be too late. So let us all take a moment's meditation about this and try to make at least one person happy each day. Spring brings a surge of energy, so let us start right now.

In this Bicentennial year of 1976, please read your "Cracker Barrel" very carefully and of course keep them. We would never know all the facts about our community and the history made right here if our editor and his staff would not have dug around into the past for all this history. Listen to the "Bicentennial News Bits" on your radio and TV, make a scrap-book for yourself or your grandchild. It is really amazing how little most of us know. It is going to be an exciting year. So many people are going to be involved in making it just that for you.

Lorraine Davis
President
739-4085

JAMES BUCHANAN
America's Bachelor President,
Lived at Mercersburg,
Visited Hagerstown
by Reuben L. Musey
At the foot of Blue Mountain at Stony Batter, near the town of Mercersburg in the neighboring state of Pennsylvania, James Buchanan, America's bachelor President, was born in a one-room log cabin. The date was April 23, 1791.

The 15th President of the United States (from an old glass plate).

Research tells us that the Pennsylvanian visited in Hagerstown - then known as Elizabeth-Town. He was a lad of eight when his father, proprietor of a small frontier trading post, journeyed by horse and wagon to pick up supplies in the "hub" community that was developing into a thriving town. It is interesting to note that Buchanan recorded in one of his works an incident that happened that day. The horse lost a shoe, causing "a day of excitement and the journey taking more time than 'Pop' anticipated."

At that point in his life, the young boy was living in Mercersburg, where his family had moved three years previously. The southwestern Pennsylvania town, founded four decades before Buchanan's birth by Hugh Mercer, a Scotsman who served in the Revolutionary War as a surgeon, was to be Buchanan's home until he was twenty-one, when he began the practice of law in Lancaster. The energetic Buchanan also bought an interest in a tavern.

In his earlier years, young Jimmie (the name his parents and family chose to call him) worked in his father's store, learning arithmetic and bookkeeping.

As a youth, he showed a rebellious streak. This was evident when he was a student at Dickinson College in Carlisle and was expelled at the end of his first year because of insubordination. However, he was reinstated when he pledged to settle down and work hard. Keeping his promise, he was graduated the next year - with honors - at the age of eighteen, an "educational happening" for that time. Following graduation, he read law and was admitted to the bar within three years.

During the War of 1812, Buchanan volunteered and helped defend Baltimore from British attack. Returning to Lancaster, he won election to the state legislature. This was the stepping-stone that led the tall, stately Buchanan to a varied career as diplomat, congress-
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