

WE ARE WINCHESTER

OCTOBER 2023

# OLDTOWNIST.COM

AFTERNOON TEA  
AT THE TEA CART

FREE



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Cover by Monica Baranko

## LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

Welcome to fall! While us sun lovers are lamenting for a few months, at least we have a few things to look forward to like trying new restaurants (we already have reservations for Savour, the new fine dining concept from Crush Wine Bar) and traditional fall events are in full swing.

This month we are introducing our first two Face of Winchester with many more to come. Please submit your nominations so we can highlight more of the people that make Winchester so great!



*Misty Weaver  
& Katie Jordan*

# WE ARE WINCHESTER

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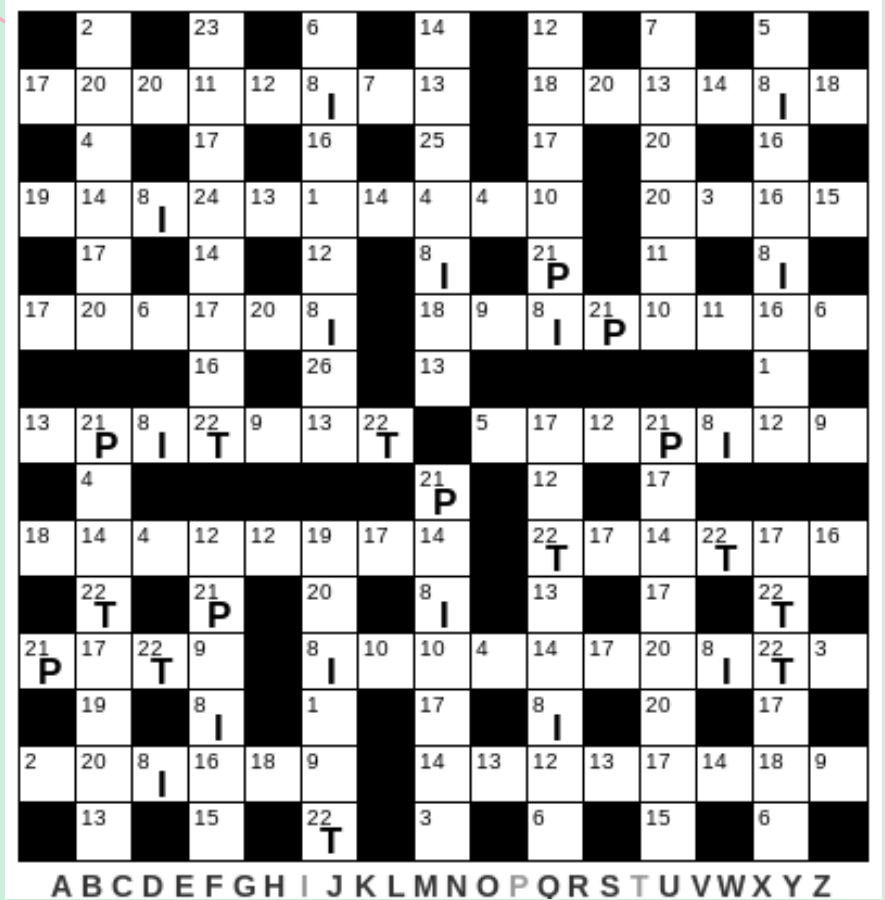


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## 217 WEST BOSCAWEN ST

When reading through accounts of historic architecture it's interesting to see the intertwining of stories and people in Winchester's past. The home which now houses the Tea Cart was originally part of lots 7 and 8 in the James Wood Addition of 1758, later transferred for placement of a church. Records never showed a church being built but part of the lot may have been used as a cemetery as human remains were found during an excavation at one point.

One past owner, John Bruce, was the architect and builder of the original Christ Episcopal Church in 1828, which housed the remains of Lord Fairfax. An entry in the account book noted \$36.75 for "digging foundation of church and reintering the bones of L. Fairfax." John's son Edward Bruce then conveyed the property to Emilie Williams, mother of Philip Williams, the attorney and judge who went on to build the Philip Williams House now known as Piccadilly Place.

Built circa 1835 and altered in 1894 according to historical records, the federal style brick home features 8 fireplaces, slate roof, wide plank flooring and original woodwork, an elegant staircase, English terrace, and double porches that invite you to sit and ponder.

The Tea Cart is the perfect addition to allow residents to enjoy the craftsmanship of this incredible piece of history in person.





Photo by Monica Baranko

# THE GHOSTS AMONGST US IN WINCHESTER

Winchester has a rich history that predates the Revolutionary War and extends through the Civil War and beyond. While historic symbols and architecture remain, others believe spirits also keep us company. Walking around old town, one can almost envision the men and women who once strolled the streets stopping by to observe what has changed. Would they be able to identify the town?

Loudoun Street, formerly Main Street, was important long before Winchester was created. It was known as the Wilderness Road, the Great

Warriors Road, and eventually the Great Philadelphia Wagon Road when families began to migrate to locations south and west as the Colonies were created and expanded. Over 50 million people now can trace their ancestors back to someone who traversed our Old Town walking mall. It stands to reason that some people never wanted to leave.

## **7 Foot Tall Indians**

Historians have proposed two possible explanations for the name of Indian Alley which runs parallel to Loudoun St. The first is a basic historical fact: when the town was created, the alley was where stables and animals were kept. Indigenous Indian tribes trading with early settlers would have stayed with their horses when traveling overnight, giving rise to the name Indian Alley. Long before that, Swiss explorer Louis Michelle reported 7-foot-tall Indians in 1707, which George Washington confirmed when remains were discovered during the construction of Fort Loudoun. Sightings of ethereal 7-foot-tall Indians with mournful expressions walking Indian Alley persist to this day during dusk.

”  
Dig under the  
partition wall at  
the far end of the  
basement and  
there ye shall find  
my remains.  
“

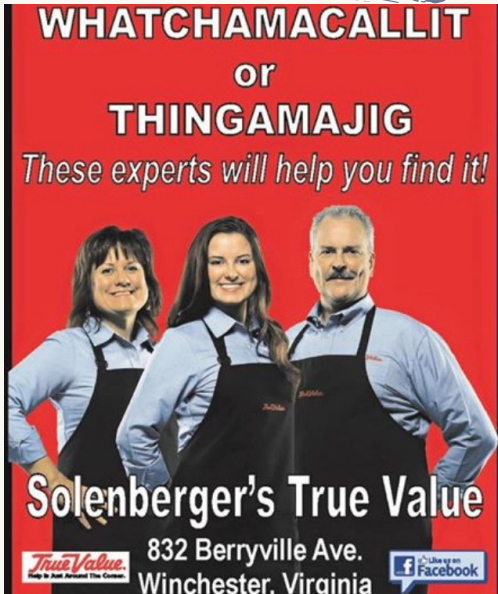
### Colonel George S. Patton

Colonel George S. Patton, grandfather of US Army General George S. Patton III, attended the Virginia Military Institute and practiced law in Charleston, Virginia, now part of West Virginia. After joining the Confederate Army at the Third Battle of Winchester on September 19, 1864, he suffered a catastrophic leg injury. Having been injured multiple times in battle up to this point, George famously said, "I'm going to live to dance on this leg again" when the doctor told him he had to choose between amputation and death. Patton convalesced at Phillip Williams' residence, now known as Piccadilly Place, where he succumbed to his injuries. It appears he was dissatisfied with his finale.

Several citizens and visitors have spotted Colonel Patton in two locations over the years. Many people have noticed him peering out the upper windows of Piccadilly Place with a worried expression on his face. Others have reported feeling a cold presence, as if they were being watched while working in the building. A key went lost for several months during renovations a few years back. While the editors of this journal were interviewing the owner, one employee leapt from her chair exclaiming that she had just sat on the lost key. Was it George who was listening to us and wanted to prove he was still alive? Several tourists have also observed a small muscular man with a thick beard in front of the Patton grave in Mount Hebron Cemetery who disappears after glancing at guests.

### Thomas Fairfax, 6th Lord of Fairfax

The first English aristocrat to settle permanently in the 13 colonies was Thomas Fairfax, 6th Lord of Fairfax. He settled in what is now Clarke County and served as a justice of the peace for Frederick County after inheriting nearly 5 million acres of land from the Culpepers on his maternal side, which comprised most of the Shenandoah Valley and Winchester. He was laid to rest in Christ Episcopal Church, which was later relocated to its current position on Boscawen St. The church planned to honor Fairfax by burying him in a crypt on church grounds in 1925, but there was one snag. After several days of excavating, the worker was unable to locate his remains in the church basement. Was he still at the old location? In a dream, Fairfax appeared to the workman and said, "dig under the partition wall at the far end of the basement and there ye shall find my remains," and he was found. His body is still interred in the church's courtyard crypt, where he lays watch over the city.



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# UNRAVELING THE ART OF TEA



Allison Ritter and her mother Sue Whitbeck loved the tradition of afternoon tea, and today they share that love with guests in Berryville, and their new location of The Tea Cart at Old Water Street Inn on Boscawen St. While the Berryville location is reminiscent of historic tea rooms with a more formal flair, Allison refers to the Winchester location as more of a southern tea room, or Downton Abbey vs Bridgerton, if you will.

After years of experience at the Berryville location, Allison wanted to create a tea room that doesn't rely on walk-in traffic, emphasizing that her approach is centered on reservations and providing a special occasion experience. The Boscawen location allows space for larger parties while still having space for individual reservations with 5 separate dining areas that can be combined if needed.

The historic 1840 Federal Style home lends itself perfectly to afternoon tea. The distinction between "high tea" and "afternoon tea" is reversed in most people's minds according to Allison. High tea, historically served at high-top tables, was associated with the working class and included heartier fare to sustain individuals. In contrast, afternoon tea, or "low tea," was a more luxurious affair served on coffee tables, often in an opulent setting, and was favored by the upper class.

As we perused our teas including a spiced chai, lapsang souchong, and ginger peach, Allison dispelled the myth of extending one's pinky finger while drinking tea, explaining that this is a practice often considered offensive to the British. Instead, she emphasizes the importance of holding the tea cup with relaxed elegance. Other etiquette tips include never stirring tea in circles, always back and forth, and the tradition of adding milk to tea to preserve fine china. A tradition Allison has chosen to change slightly is serving the scones before food service, whereas it is traditionally served last in the UK, a moment that has confused some guests from out of the U.S.

Allison's approach is to adapt to seasonal ingredients and customer preferences while maintaining the integrity of the tea experience with her menus. She prides herself on offering diverse options, including gluten-free, dairy-free, and vegetarian alternatives to cater to various dietary restrictions. While traditional cucumber sandwiches abound, Allison likes to experiment with flavors such as chai shortbread with pumpkin spice buttercream and themed menus for special events.



Make reservations or learn more at [TheTeaCartVA.com](https://www.theteacartva.com)

## Faces of Winchester Nominations



Join us at Dazzling Diva Fitness - the area's premier pole + aerial studio! Let us show you how fitness CAN be fun - and life-changing!

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Know someone amazing in Winchester? We want to highlight the people that are making a difference in Winchester, from teachers, to neighbors that are always there when someone is in need. Nominate them here so we can reach out and learn more about them!

<https://forms.gle/X6GvBjsRUDphm6X59>



# SEE *October events* AND BE SEEN

## 7 BUILD YOUR OWN CEMETARIUM

Looking for spooky ol' time? Love plants and building things? Then join Raven Conjure and come build your own "Cemetarium."

[Raven Conjure](#)

## 13 HANDLEY 100TH

Come enjoy music and entertainment, food and drink, games and activities, fun exhibits, a photo booth, slide shows, merchandise, a silent auction, In Memoriam exhibit, some special surprises, and, more! [Wilkins](#)

[Athletic Center](#)

## 14 WEST OAKS FALL HARVEST

Join us for a fun day on the farm with tons of fun fall activities for the whole family! Break out your flannels and come to the farm for a fun day in the pumpkin patch, corn maze and more! [West Oaks](#)



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## 16 WORLD FOOD DAY DRIVE

It all started with a plastic tub on Victoria's front porch, and now, nine years later we have collected tons of food. We hope you'll consider joining us again this year.

[Hideaway Cafe](#)

## 28 BOOS AND BREWS

The 2nd annual Boos & Brews Halloween Brewery Crawl is coming, and it will even be bigger and better than last year! [Old](#)

[Town](#)

## 29 BLOCKTOBER

Blocktober is free fall festival with vendors, food trucks, trunk-or-treat, bounce house, games, face & pumpkin painting, free popcorn & cotton candy and so much more!

[MSV](#)

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[Old Town Events](#)  
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SUBMIT YOUR EVENT

Email your events to [otw@oldtownist.com](mailto:otw@oldtownist.com) with date, title, URL, and location, to be considered for our event calendar each month!



Anyone who is familiar with Crush Wine Bar pretty much jumped out of their chair when it was announced they are opening a new formal dining concept restaurant. Tracy and Branden Goldizen's winning combination of exemplary service and incredible fare at Crush has always left people wanting more, and Saviour will give them the chance to focus more on the food and experience.

During a private pre-opening cocktail party invited guests were given a tour of the space which rivals Crush's intimate setting with a bit more formal flair. The kitchen was in full swing creating canapes including triple cream brie with cranberry and fig caviar and walnut oil that paired perfectly with the wine options showcasing the potential of their first menu.

Seating just 28 guests Saviour will offer a seasonal, multi-course, prix fix menu that will change monthly.

Contact@SavourbyCRUSH.com or call/text 540.247.9493 for reservations.



## HOW DO YOU COFFEE?

To celebrate National Coffee Day we visited Lanita Byrnes and her staff at Espresso Bar and Cafe to learn how to make latte art and delve into coffee culture. (Watch the video on our social media!)

Lanita's vision for a European cafe comes alive when you hear her speak about coffee culture. It was also apparent through the staff as they walked us through the process of creating latte art by concentrating on the science behind the pour. Ensuring the milk was steamed to the right temperature, learning the correct angle and speed to bring the espresso up through the layers of milk for maximum contrast.

Our introduction to coffee and the various ways it can be brewed, in addition to bean origin, was extremely educational and certainly made us appreciate how much love is poured into each cup. We'd love to hear what your favorite coffee is at Espresso Bar - tag us @oldtownist

Photos and video by Monica Baranko

SEE MORE BEHIND THE SCENES OF OLDTOWNIST MAGAZINE



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## Should you consider new construction in this market?

Buying new construction can be intimidating, but it offers some advantages in today's market that can cross off some worries for the average buyer.

Competition - rather than competing against other buyers, new construction offers you the opportunity to choose your home, price range, and closing needed without worrying about other buyers outbidding you.

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Ask Misty a real estate question:  
[misty@dreamweaverteam.com](mailto:misty@dreamweaverteam.com)



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## LAST CALL

### Spiced Apple Cider Cocktail



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## FACES OF WINCHESTER



## NOMINATE SOMEONE!

We are on a mission to highlight the amazing people who are making a difference in the Winchester community!

Submit your nominations here:

<https://forms.gle/X6GvBjsRUDphm6X59>



### Meredith Hancock

Meredith's commitment to her community has grown through her experiences traveling and watching family members experience loss and hardship. She gives back through W.O.W., Oasis Church, and more.

Meet Meredith:

[Dreamweaverteam.com/k15j](http://Dreamweaverteam.com/k15j)



### Elise Stine-Dolar

Elise makes a huge impact in our youth through the Bright Futures program that provides children with needed clothing, food and more, in our school systems. Inspired by her upbringing, she is dedicated to giving back.

Meet Elise:

[Dreamweaverteam.com/k69q](http://Dreamweaverteam.com/k69q)

# WINCHESTER CITY SHERIFF WILLIAM E. SALES: SAFEGUARDING THE COMMUNITY

It can be difficult to discern what areas local law enforcement serve when there are many different organizations. So we sat down with Winchester City Sheriff William Sales to discuss what roles the Sheriff's office plays in our community. Eddie, as he is known to friends, was happy to give us an overview and a tour of the courthouse. His approachability was a great reminder of the best things about Winchester, the people. Sheriff Sales made it clear he is open to sitting down with any resident just as he did us, to share how he wishes to serve the community and answer any questions.

The Winchester City Sheriff's Office plays a crucial role in ensuring the safety and security of the community, primarily through court security and various other responsibilities that encompass the welfare of Winchester's residents. We were reminded of this as we entered the courthouse through metal detectors and were shown the box of confiscated weapons they had recently collected.

One of the primary responsibilities of the Winchester City Sheriff's Office is to maintain security within the courtrooms. This includes checking individuals for weapons and ensuring that proceedings run smoothly. Sheriff Sales emphasized the importance of having a deputy in every courtroom to ensure everyone's safety, from judges to community members. The focus here is clear: maintaining a secure environment for all involved.

Sheriff Sales shed light on another critical duty: transporting individuals under Temporary Detention Orders (TDOs) to appropriate facilities. When individuals with mental health issues need more help than a local hospital can provide, the Winchester City Sheriff's Office steps in. They transport these individuals, sometimes over long distances, to facilities equipped to handle their specific needs.

The Sheriff's office also plays a vital role in serving legal documents to individuals involved in court cases within the city of Winchester. This can involve serving subpoenas, summons, and warrants, sometimes numbering in the thousands each year. Last year the courthouse saw over 52,000 court cases for Winchester City and Frederick County combined.

Sheriff Sales discussed the importance of handling evictions effectively and empathetically. When individuals face eviction due to non-payment of rent, the sheriff's office ensures the process is conducted smoothly, recognizing the emotional challenges involved. Their presence helps prevent potential volatile situations.

The Winchester City Sheriff's Office collaborates closely with local law enforcement agencies. They provide backup in situations where the police department might be stretched thin, helping maintain public safety during emergencies or busy periods. Sheriff Sales noted that during major events or crises, such as the George Floyd demonstrations, all local law enforcement agencies worked together to address the situation effectively. Another vital role of the sheriff's office is providing security during mass care sheltering events, such as those resulting from natural disasters or fires.

Sheriff Sales emphasized the importance of community engagement. Deputies regularly participate in community events, building positive relationships and demonstrating that law enforcement officers are approachable and supportive. The Sheriff's office also collaborates with community foundations, such as the Winchester City Sheriff's Office Foundation, to support various initiatives, including sponsoring events, providing resources, and funding training for deputies.

Sheriff Sales shared his journey from considering a career in the FBI and other federal agencies to

ultimately becoming the Sheriff of Winchester. He highlighted his diverse background, which includes working in the prison system, counseling troubled youth, and providing family services. His experiences equipped him with the interpersonal skills and determination needed for a successful career in law enforcement including hostage negotiation and crisis intervention.

When asked about his vision for the future, Sheriff Sales expressed his commitment to excellence. He aims to maintain the accreditation of the Sheriff's office, hire quality employees, and provide them with the necessary equipment and training to perform their duties effectively. Sheriff Sales also advocates for transparency and encourages community members to visit the Sheriff's office to learn more about its operations.



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# STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY POLICING

We sat down with the Frederick County and Winchester City Law Enforcement Foundation, to delve into their inspiring journey, goals for 2023 and beyond, and the vital role they play in supporting community policing initiatives. Caroline Barron, the Community Outreach Director, shared insights into the foundation's impactful work and their plans to enhance law enforcement efforts in the region.

Officially founded in 2009, the foundation has been actively involved in various projects aimed at bolstering community policing in Frederick County and Winchester City. Caroline highlighted their commitment to funding out-of-budgetary items that directly contribute to community policing, ranging from providing pizzas for junior academy programs to funding essential canine units.

One noteworthy achievement of the foundation is its ability to respond swiftly to law enforcement needs. Caroline mentioned that when a law enforcement officer requires a resource, such as a canine unit, they can turn to the foundation for direct support. This flexibility allows them to address critical needs promptly.

The foundation's recent efforts include supporting events like National Night Out and organizing programs such as Kids and Cops Camps. They even assisted in acquiring a custom uniform for an honor guard member, highlighting their commitment to all aspects of community policing.

Caroline underscored the importance of community policing, emphasizing that their goal is to ensure that a child's first interaction with an officer is a positive one. To achieve this, they organize events, conduct canine demonstrations, and engage in after-school programs.

However, challenges do arise, such as the retirement of K9 officers due to handlers' career changes and shifts in drug enforcement regulations. The foundation strives to adapt to these challenges by providing funding for single-purpose narcotics dogs when needed.

Caroline also shed light on the costs associated with canine units, with each dog typically costing around \$12,000 to \$13,000. However, the foundation has been fortunate to receive support from donors like the Elizabeth Clark Foundation and private donors, which helps offset these expenses.

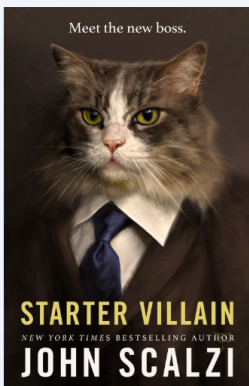
Looking ahead, the foundation aims to raise approximately \$150,000 over the next year to support various projects, including the upgrade of the law enforcement range. Caroline emphasized that their fundraising efforts are essential for sustaining and expanding their vital community policing programs.

Learn more about how you can donate or volunteer with the Frederick County Winchester City Law Enforcement Foundation at [Facebook.com/FCWLEF/](https://www.facebook.com/FCWLEF/)



**Kids & Cops camp served 60 youth this year**

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Charlie's life is going nowhere fast. A divorced substitute teacher living with his cat in a house his siblings want to sell, all he wants is to open a pub downtown, if only the bank will approve his loan.

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[WinchesterBookGallery.com](https://www.winchesterbookgallery.com) | 7 N. Loudoun St

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**Misty Weaver & Katie Jordan**

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