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**AUGUST
17 & 18
2024**



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GREETINGS...

from the Chairwoman



HALLO UND WILLKOMMEN!! HELLO AND WELCOME!!

Can you believe it is already our 3rd year in the new location! 3 is my favorite number and I am so very excited about this year and all of the new additions and enhancements we have made to make your time extraordinary for this weekend! From adding a new pretzel menu, to now having a hospitality cart to assist our guests that need a little extra help walking longer distances, to a new area where our Veterans can sit and be honored, and the list goes on!

We are so happy to see our returning guests, and for those of you that are visiting us for the first time, we hope you have an amazing experience and make this an annual tradition, as it is a fun time for all ages.

As you may or may not know, we are a Charitable Foundation, and our main reason for the festival is to raise money to provide scholarship funds to our Hagerstown-Wesel Sister City students that travel each year to Wesel, Germany, and or Wesel students to the US. This year we had a once in a lifetime where both countries visited each other in the same year! We were also able to provide 3 more Non-Profits foundational money, and we couldn't make these possible without you, our guests coming throughout the weekend, our AMAZING Sponsors, and our AWESOME Volunteers!! Thank you all!

We hope you enjoy the weekend and the authenticity we work hard to bring to the area. Immerse yourself into the culture of our wonderful German Bands and Dancers, and exceptional German foods and raise your glass and Prost to each other while celebrating 27 years together!

All my best,

Jill Colbert

Chairwoman, Augustoberfest Charitable Foundation



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In Memory of Stephen Lenhart

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In Memory of Jermy Martin

The Augustoberfest Charitable Foundation is a non-profit, 501(c)3 organization whose mission is to attract residents and tourists into downtown Hagerstown to celebrate the German heritage of our region and Hagerstown’s “Sister City” affiliation with Wesel, Germany.

The Foundation provides scholarships for exchange students to visit Wesel, Germany and the Wesel Students to visit USA, and when possible, funding and support for local educational institutions.

The annual Augustoberfest festival, held the third weekend in August each year, is the Foundation’s signature fundraising event. If you are interested in making a donation, volunteering at the event, or getting involved in the important work of our Foundation, please contact us at www.Augustoberfest.org.

2024 COMMITTEES



2024 Committees

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Jill Colbert
Gregg Delauney
Jenny Martin

WELCOME CENTER COMMITTEE

Vennie Scally, *Chair*
Heaven Colbert

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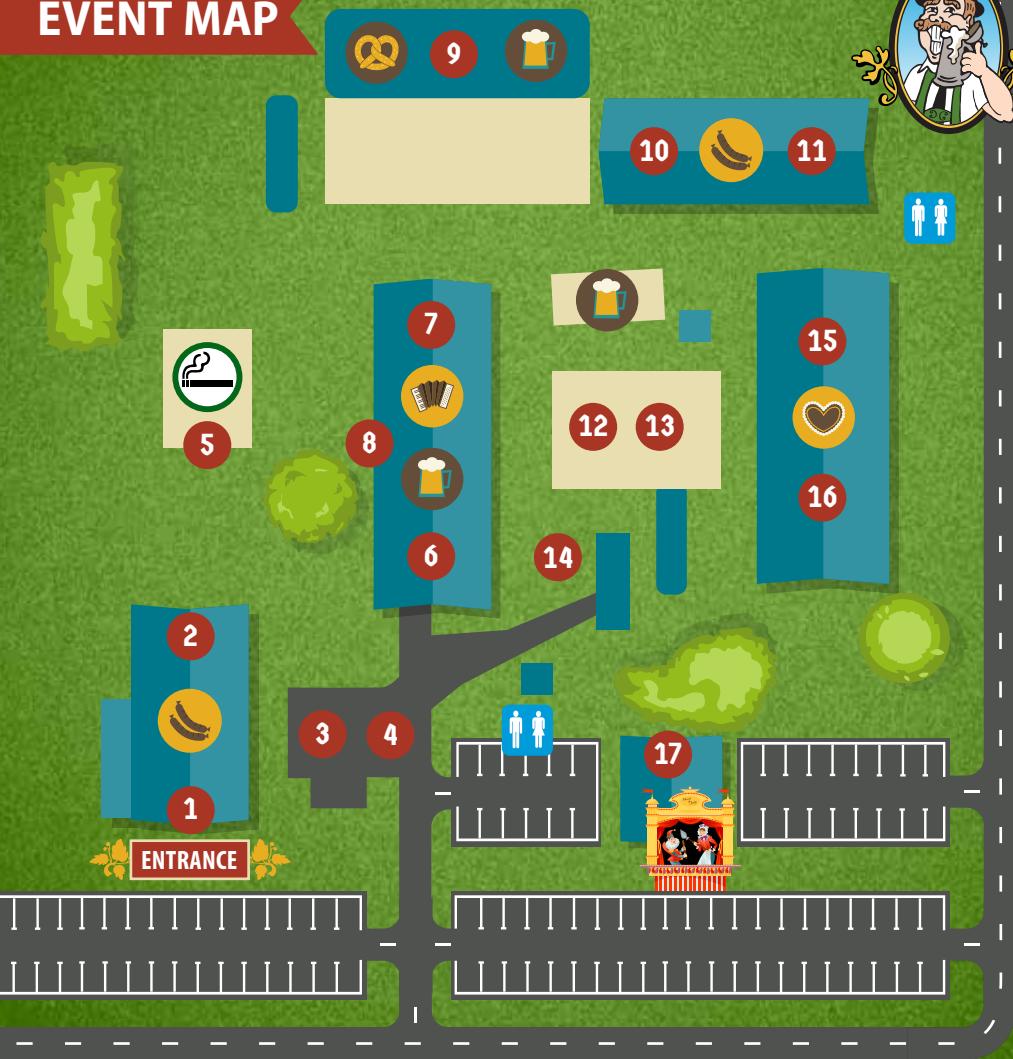
Nathan Boone



Vennie Scally



EVENT MAP



1 HAUPTINGANG – Entrance

2 SPEISESAL – Food Hall, Beer Station

3 WILLKOMMENSZENTRUM – Welcome Center

4 AUGUSTOBERFEST WAREN – Merch Market

5 SMOKING AREA

6 FRÜHSCHOPPEN – Sponsor Brunch

7 BIERHALLE – Beer Hall

8 TONBUHNE – Sound Stage

9 IMBISSE – Food Truck Market

10 HANDWERKER MARKT – Artisan Market

11 HANDELSWAREN MARKT – Common Market

12 BIERGARTEN – Beer Garden

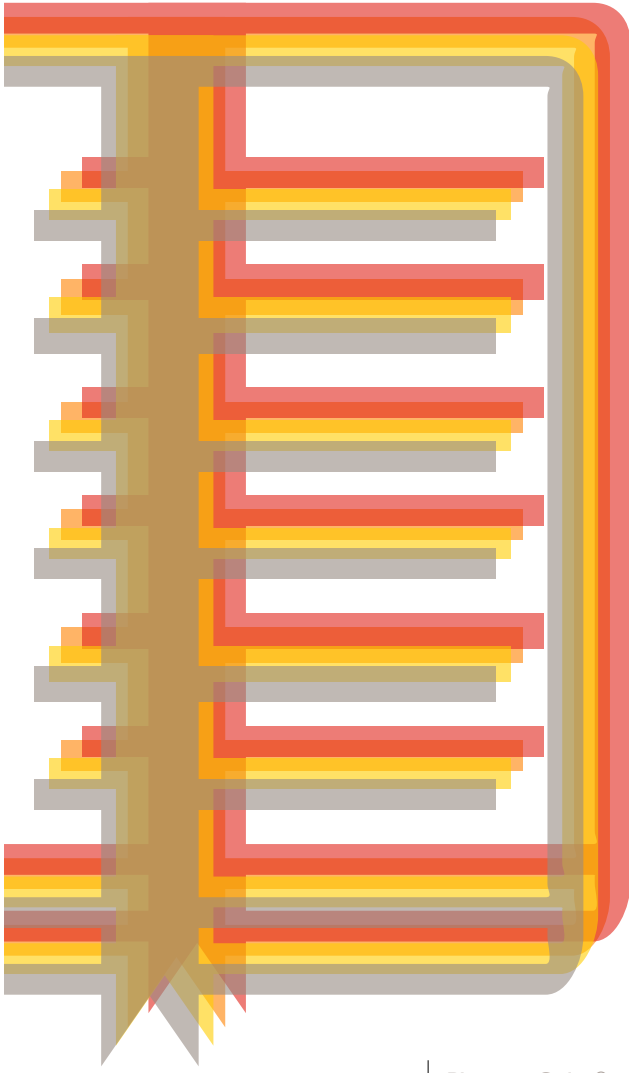
13 BIERSTATION – Beer Station

14 VETERANS AREA

15 STAMMTISCH – Eating Area

16 SPIELPLATZ – Game Area

17 KINDERWELT – Children's Area & Moon Bounces



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AUGUSTOBERFEST MENU



Enjoy authentic
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Entrées & Meals

Pork Roast Dinner with Red Cabbage & Spätzle Noodles	\$15.00
Bratwurst with Fries	\$11.00
Bratwurst	\$7.00
Frankfurter with Fries	\$8.00
Frankfurter	\$4.00

Add Sauerkraut to Bratwurst or Frankfurter for \$1

Sides

French Fries	\$5.00
German Potato Salad	\$5.00
Sauerkraut	\$5.00
Red Cabbage	\$5.00
Spätzle Noodles	\$5.00

Smittie's Soft Pretzels

Regular Soft Pretzel	\$5.00
Soft Pretzel Nuggets w/ Butter	\$5.00
Substitute Pretzel Roll	\$1.00

Beverages

BEER

Beer: (16 oz. cups)

Munich Beer	\$7.00
<i>Lager, Weiss, or Oktoberfest</i>	
Stiegl Radler Grapefruit	\$7.00
Coors Light	\$6.00
Non-Alc. Beer (12 oz. bottle)	\$5.00

Pitchers: (\$5 Refundable Deposit)

Munich Beer	\$19.00
<i>Lager, Weiss, or Oktoberfest</i>	
Stiegl Radler Grapefruit	\$19.00
Coors Light	\$17.00

1 Liter Fills/Refills:

Munich Beer	\$14.00
<i>Lager, Weiss, or Oktoberfest</i>	
Stiegl Radler Grapefruit	\$14.00
Coors Light	\$12.00

Souvenir Stein Fills/Refills:

Munich Beer	\$10.00
<i>Lager, Weiss, or Oktoberfest</i>	
Stiegl Radler Grapefruit	\$10.00
Coors Light	\$9.00

New Souvenir Glasses/Steins – Empty:

1L. Glass	\$20.00
Souvenir Augustoberfest Stein	\$25.00
Souvenir Wine Tumbler	\$15.00

(Additional charge for fills/refills)

SODA & WATER

Coke, Diet Coke, Sprite & Water	\$3.00
---------------------------------------	--------

WINE

Wine: (8 oz. cup)	\$8.00
<i>Rosé, Riesling, Dornfelder (Red)</i>	

HAUS OF MERCHANDISE



Merchandise

Short Sleeve T-Shirt	\$25.00	Commemorative Stein	\$25.00
Long Sleeve T-Shirt.....	\$30.00	Stainless Steel Stein	\$25.00
Crew Neck Sweatshirt	\$35.00	Commemorative Pins	\$7.00
Baseball Cap	\$20.00	Wine Tumbler.....	\$15.00
Key Chain.....	\$5.00		

Tax included in price.

Event Vendors

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**This list may not be all inclusive due to printing deadline.*



Wonderbar Souvenirs to Remember



Hagerstown and Wesel, Germany —

FRIENDSHIP & UNDERSTANDING

In 2024, the Sister City Affiliation between Hagerstown and Wesel, Germany, Celebrates Its 72nd Anniversary.

Augustoberfest is more than a celebration of Hagerstown's German heritage. The annual event applauds the remarkable relationship between Hagerstown and Wesel, Germany. The two cities recently celebrated their 70th anniversary as sister cities, with delegations from both towns traveling across the ocean to each other's anniversary events. This is a friendship that sprang from the ashes of war. Despite suffering 98% destruction from U.S. bombings during World War II in 1945, "hospitable Wesel" extended the olive branch to its former enemy a few years later.

Hagerstown-Wesel Sister City Affiliation



In 1951, Dr. Karl Heinz Reuber contacted Operation Democracy in New York to seek assistance in finding an American town that was suitable and willing to initiate a friendly relationship with Wesel. Dr. von Bonninghausen, county manager of Rees County, also established personal connections in Hagerstown during a tour of the United States. Hagerstown Mayor Herman L. Mills soon accepted the official offer of Dr. Ewald Fournell, Mayor of Wesel, to establish a Sister City Affiliation. The two cities joined hands by official proclamation on September 22, 1952. The Hagerstown-Wesel Sister City relationship predates the official Sister City International Program, which President Dwight D. Eisenhower first proposed in 1956.

As you make merry at the 26th annual Augustoberfest, remember the spirit of friendship and understanding that gives the event its true meaning — a spirit of cooperation that Hagerstown and Wesel officials realized was necessary to build a bridge to peace.

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Sailing on The Rhine

WESEL... TODAY

The citizens of Wesel have made a new beginning in all aspects of life. They have rebuilt their town through their faith in God, love of their native city and hard work. The look on the faces of the people who live and work in Wesel definitely shows the love and harmony that exist between its citizens and the city. Wesel lives up to its title — it is not only a great place for hospitality but also a great place to live.



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Student Exchange Program

PROMOTING PEACE AND UNDERSTANDING

In an effort to share each city's most precious resource, its children, Hagerstown and Wesel have sponsored a student exchange program since 1987.

Visits between the two cities were put on hold during the Covid pandemic. But the student exchange is back on its feet this year thanks to support from the Augustoberfest committee and from nine students and their families who put in the time to make it happen.



Students from Wesel traveled to Hagerstown for two weeks in April. Then we traveled to Germany for two weeks in June. Ten of those days were spent with our host families in Wesel; attending school, meeting dignitaries, and learning how our friends in Wesel live. Four days were spent on a whirlwind side trip to Würzburg, Munich, Rothenburg ob der Tauber, and Braubach where the students enjoyed shopping, Euro Cup watch parties, and exploring Bavaria.



Wesel students visit on odd-numbered years during their Easter holiday, and American students travel on even-numbered years after school dismisses for the summer.

WESEL CHAPERONES

Claudia Fieting
Dieter Schmidtke

HAGERSTOWN CHAPERONES

Beverly Abeles
Brian Myers

HAGERSTOWN/WESEL STUDENT PARTNER LIST 2024

HAGERSTOWN

Natalia Matuszewski
Aubrey Pulver
Katie Moser
Lauren Lewis
Jillian Hartman
Lukas Ahrens
Ian Ahrens
Grayson Pack
Noah Foltz

WESEL

Johanna Blum
Marie Sons
Laureen Keusch
Isabel Buschmann
Lisanne Hitkamp
Simon Petzel
Felix Wiegand
Ole Breuer
Dawid Gawron

Testimonials from Students

I am an alum of the Hagerstown Wesel Sister City Exchange program (1999-2000) group, and I can honestly say it changed my worldview. I wasn't sure I wanted to go to Germany in 1999 as a 15 year old, but I was excited to host Vanessa for three weeks. Once I learned that Vanessa was nervous about coming to America for three weeks, and we had such a good time together, I was ready to face my fear and go to Germany in 2000.

The "backpacking" based side trip portion of the cultural exchange taught me a lot about how to travel and deal with personality differences, skills that helped as I pursued further education and joined the workforce. Visiting the concentration camp at Dachau was profoundly sobering, and the experiential learning that occurred there taught me the importance of defending human rights for all.

Vanessa and I both grew up to earn the title of doctor, she is a neurosurgeon, and I hold a PhD. When I was teaching as a college professor, I would draw on experiences from the cultural exchange to help me empathize with my students, particularly non-native English speakers. I remember attending Latin class with Vanessa in Wesel, in which students learned the Latin language while conversing in German. Somehow it came up that I had taken Latin, and the teacher wanted to engage me in conversation (but my German skills could not afford me to translate between three languages). I ended up bursting into tears in the classroom in frustration. The teacher was embarrassed, because they were trying to welcome me, and I was embarrassed because I was crying. Misunderstandings happen in classrooms all the time, and I am grateful for that experience in humility.

In the 20+ years since the cultural exchange program, Vanessa and I continue to keep in touch via mail, email, and social media. We both have young kids now, and I just sent her some messages the other day about the yummy "spaghetti Eiß" I made for my kids as a treat using the press her family had given me as I headed home.

– *Casey Breslin Murphy (2000 Exchange)*

The Hagerstown-Wesel Sister City Student Exchange had a huge impact on my life. Before going abroad, I had just a little experience with traveling. My family had hosted exchange students in the past, including three from Wesel (my three older siblings all participated in the exchange), so I was happy when it was finally my turn to travel to Wesel. My exchange partner taught me a lot about how different and similar things are in Germany compared to America. We instantly became best friends. He returned to visit me for my 18th birthday, and a few years later we traveled Europe together with another Hagerstown exchange student and his Wesel partner. When I went to Wesel, his family welcomed me with open arms and showed me the best time of my life. We visited many restaurants and local attractions, and they even treated me to a hot air balloon ride over the city of Wesel. I gained a second family and a lifelong friend from the exchange, and am so grateful I had the opportunity to teach and to learn with my exchange partner.

– *Kevin Abeles (2018 Exchange)*



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are proud supporters
of Augustoberfest**

Testimonial

Congratulations to the Augustoberfest Organization on its 25th Anniversary. It was great to be a part of the celebration and to see so many smiling faces at the Washington County Agricultural Education Center. In addition to this 25th anniversary, and the 70th anniversary of the Sister City Affiliation, I am celebrating my own 35th anniversary.

Thirty-five years ago, I was with the first group of families to host students in 1987. The following summer, I then traveled with the first group of Hagerstown exchange students to Wesel, Germany. There were five students and two chaperones. There is nothing like a cultural immersion experience. If you ever get the chance to do so, I strongly encourage you to do it. These sister city exchanges provide a unique experience that cannot be duplicated by other tour group excursions.

While we did travel for 10-days to see the famous tourist sites throughout the country and on the other side of its borders, the majority of our 3-week trip was spent with our host families and with our classmates at the Conrad-Duden Gymnasium. This is their equivalent of a local high school. We rode our bikes to school and attended classes. We were asked to participate in the American English and British English classes. As we took turns reading different passages, it was fun to hear our host siblings critiquing our accents and perfecting our pronunciations.

There was plenty of time for socializing too. A few of us attended, what appeared to be an equivalent of our high school prom. However, it mirrored a "Dancing with the Stars" competition, and I was amazed at the talent and perfection of so many dancers who were the same age as me. I also celebrated my birthday while I was there. My host family coordinated a party, complete with Oma and Opa in attendance. We built lasting friendships with our host families, classmates, and teachers. Recently I had a conversation with our American English teacher, Theo Lohl, about a biography I had just finished reading and he shared his perspective on the person with me.

I am grateful for this exchange experience and one of the best parts was that we didn't have to do it alone. We had sister city coordinators working tirelessly behind the scenes both here and in Wesel. Itineraries, German lessons, plane tickets, train tickets, picnics, photos with the Burgermeister, and welcoming homes were all laid out for us and established well in advance.

WHETHER IT WAS:

Hiking to the original "Sleeping Beauty's Castle" in Neuschwanstein,

Celebrating Holland's World Cup game playoff win on a train with fans who were wearing orange hula skirts made of fresh carrots,

Visiting Berlin before and after the fall of the Berlin Wall and hand chiseling our own pieces to bring home,

Sharing clothes with my fellow backpackers to extend the travel wardrobe beyond the packed 2-day rotation,

Or simply enjoying a refreshing bowl of "spaghetti eis" at an outdoor café in downtown Wesel,

We returned home with new and deeper friendships both here and abroad because of the unique experiences that we shared.

As I watched the festivities of this 2022 Augustoberfest weekend, I was reminded of the importance of these cultural experiences. I encourage you to take every opportunity possible to gather, share a few stories with each other, enjoy great food together, and make new friends.

Dankeschun

– Heather Stull Williams (1997-1990 Exchange Program)



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SCHEDULE



SATURDAY

August 17, 2024

11:00 a.m. FOOD SERVICE AND MAIN TENT ENTERTAINMENT BEGIN

11:00 – 12:00 p.m.	Die Heimatklänge Orchestra
12:00 – 12:15 p.m.	Recorded Music
12:15 – 12:45 p.m.	German Hungarian Schuhplatter & Folk Dance Group
12:45 – 1:00 p.m.	Recorded Music
1:00 – 2:00 p.m.	Die Heimatklänge Orchestra
2:00 – 2:45 p.m.	Keg Tapping Ceremony
2:45 – 3:45 p.m.	Die Heimatklänge Orchestra
4:00 – 4:30 p.m.	German Hungarian Schuhplatter & Folk Dance Group
4:30 – 5:00 p.m.	Die Heimatklänge Orchestra
5:00 – 5:30 p.m.	German Hungarian Schuhplatter & Folk Dance Group
5:30 – 9:00 p.m.	dSb (die Schlauberger)

11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. VENDORS

12:00 – 4:30 p.m. KINDERWUNDERLAND

12:00 – 4:30 p.m.	Craft Time for Children
12:30 – 12:50 p.m.	Stories of Folk Lore & Maypole
1:00 – 1:20 p.m.	Professor Horn's Punch & Judy Show*
1:45 – 2:05 p.m.	Professor Horn's Magic Show
2:30 – 2:50 p.m.	Stories of Folk Lore & Maypole
3:00 – 3:20 p.m.	Stories of Folk Lore & Maypole
3:45 – 4:05 p.m.	Professor Horn's Magic Show

Horn's Punch and Judy Show is the oldest Punch show in America. *Don't miss it!*

**Horn's Punch & Judy Show is the oldest Punch show in America. This show was started in Baltimore in 1897 by a man named Edward Ross. All of the Punch performances begin and end with merry tunes from Professor Horn's hand-cranked, organ-grinder's music box. Including the music, the total length of the show is 20 minutes.*



SUNDAY

August 18, 2024

- 12:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. FRÜHSCHOPPEN — GERMAN BRUNCH**
Enjoy the best Bavarian food and drink at this exclusive German Brunch. Limited tickets (\$100) are sold separately. To inquire about availability, please talk to an Augustoberfest committee member.
- 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. VENDORS**
- 11:00 a.m. FOOD SERVICE AND MAIN TENT ENTERTAINMENT BEGIN**
(Alcoholic beverages not served until noon)
- 11:00 – 12:00 p.m.** Die Heimatklänge Orchestra
12:00 – 12:15 p.m. Recorded Music
12:15 – 12:45 p.m. German Hungarian Schuhplatter & Folk Dance Group
12:45 – 1:45 p.m. Die Heimatklänge Orchestra
1:45 – 2:15 p.m. German Hungarian Schuhplatter & Folk Dance Group
2:30 – 3:30 p.m. dSb (die Schlauberger)
3:30 – 4:00 p.m. German Hungarian Schuhplatter & Folk Dance Group
4:00 – 5:00 p.m. dSb (die Schlauberger)
- 11:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. KINDERWUNDERLAND**
- 11:30 – 4:00 p.m.** Craft Time for Children
12:00 – 12:20 p.m. Professor Horn's Punch & Judy Show*
12:40 – 12:50 p.m. Stories of Folk Lore & Maypole
1:00 – 1:20 p.m. Professor Horn's Magic Show
1:25 – 1:45 p.m. Stories of Folk Lore & Maypole
1:50 – 2:10 p.m. Professor Horn's Punch & Judy Show
2:30 – 2:50 p.m. Professor Horn's Magic Show
3:00 – 3:20 p.m. Stories of Folk Lore & Maypole

Children's area is supported by Hagerstown-Wesel Sister City Affiliation and sponsored by Antietam Broadband.



AUGUSTOBERFEST PHOTOS



1996-2023



1996



1997



1998



1999



2000



2001



2002



2003



2004



2005



2006



26 years of memories



2007



2008



2009



2010



2011



2012



2013



2014



2015



2016



2017



2018



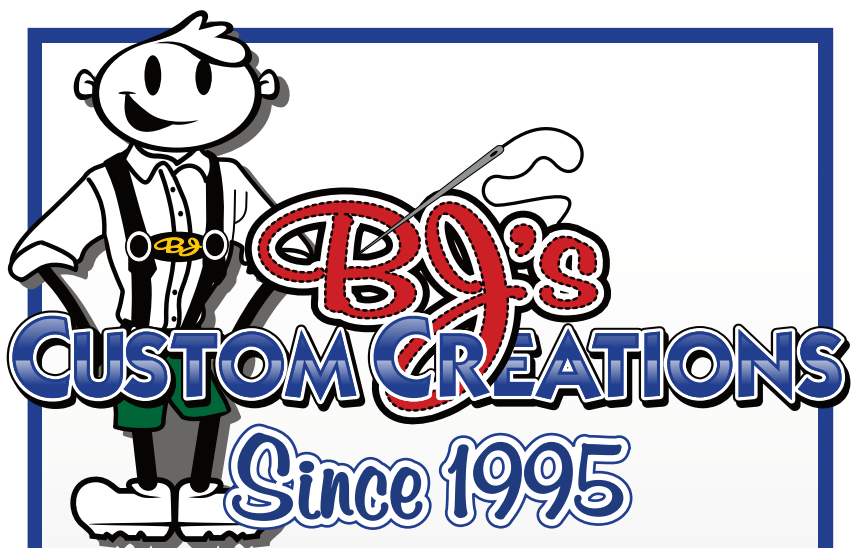
2019



2022



2023



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A toast, a toast, to happiness

Ein Prosit, ein Prosit der Gemütlichkeit,
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OANS, ZWOA, Drei, g'suffa!
One, Two, Three, drink!

ZICKE ZACKE ZICKE ZACKE HOI HOI HOI –

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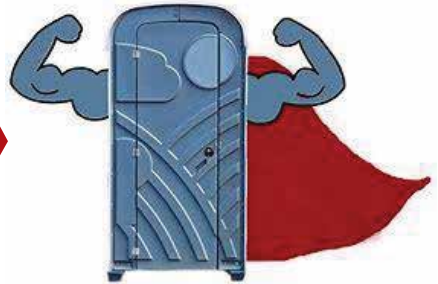
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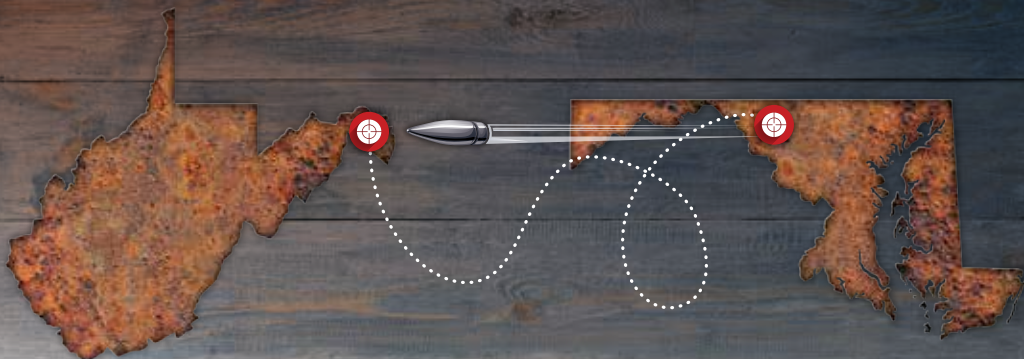
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