

HERITAGE REPORT

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NATIVE AMERICAN DANCERS AND DRUMMERS TAKE CENTER STAGE AT ROCKVILLE'S COURTHOUSE SQUARE DURING HERITAGE DAYS 2019

HERITAGE DAYS 2019

Hundreds of visitors and residents hit the road at the end of June to explore Montgomery County's rich history, culture, and beautiful natural resources during the 22nd annual Heritage Days. This annual countywide event gives visitors free access to small, specialized museums as well as larger sites - all with programming and performances specifically developed for the weekend.

The county's African American history was celebrated at Sandy Spring Slave Museum with traditional storytelling, jazz performances, and museum exhibits. In Olney, Oakley Cabin African American Museum and Park offered guided tours, art projects, music,

and historic games that recalled life in free black communities after the Civil War.

We joined in celebrating Montgomery County Historical Society's 75 years of preservation, research, and stewardship of the county's past and looked forward to our continued collaboration. Peerless Rockville helped kick off our Native American Trails initiative by hosting performances by Native American dancers and drummers.

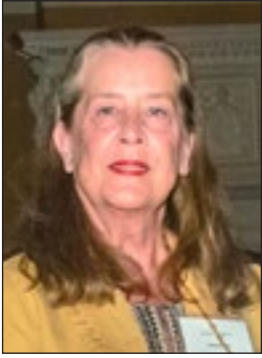
Seneca Creek State Park rangers gave visitors a glimpse of 19th-century life at the Grusendorf Log House, the last surviving home from Germantown's earliest settlement. The Boyds Historical Society provided a "show and tell" plus



HERITAGE MONTGOMERY IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE AWARD OF A \$100,000 AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE PRESERVATION PROGRAM GRANT TO THE WARREN HISTORIC SITE IN MARTINSBURG. THIS FY 2020 GRANT IS TO STABILIZE AND REPLACE THE HISTORIC CHURCH ROOF AND SCHOOLHOUSE ROOF AND FLOOR. WHEN COMPLETED, THE SITE WILL PRESENT NEW PROGRAMMING FOCUSING ON LOCAL AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURE AND HISTORY AND PROVIDE A VENUE FOR COMMUNITY EVENTS.

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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



Greetings, All!

Let me start this letter with great news – all eleven of our FY20 Maryland Heritage Areas Authority (MHAA) State grants were fully funded (see our website for a complete list). These awards of up to \$100,000, total over \$1.6 million dollars (with match) supporting projects and enriching communities here in Montgomery County. Thanks to all of our partners, county officials, fans, and donors for helping to make this a record breaking year for HM.

And more good news – all twelve of our smaller Mini Grants for heritage area projects under \$5,000 were also fully funded. Projects will be completed next year so get ready to enjoy new offerings at our museums, parks, and sites!

Our beautiful Agricultural Reserve, in the northern part of the county, continues to be discovered! While many of us have enjoyed exploring the Reserve for years, it is a pleasure to share it with new visitors from near and far. Amazing businesses – vineyards; specialty farms; hike, bike, and water trails; art studios; and produce stands – are taking root across a landscape steeped in history. We continue to work with stakeholders and the county to ensure a great experience in a special place for visitors, farmers, and residents alike.

We are very pleased to share the news that a Preservation Award from the Maryland Historical Trust will be awarded for the work completed on Loving Charity Hall at the Warren Historic Site in Dickerson.

And last, but not least, please remember us in your year-end giving. So many of the programs that provide much needed support to our county's rich heritage resources rely on your gift. Additionally, please let us know if you or your business would like to sponsor a particular project or program.

Have a peaceful and safe holiday season!

FY 2020 MINI-GRANT RECIPIENTS

Heritage Montgomery Mini Grants for projects up to \$5,000 are available annually to local nonprofit organizations and government entities to help fund heritage projects and programs. We are pleased to announce \$25,175 in funding for the following projects in FY 2020:

Glen Echo Park Partnership – for videos celebrating the 1921 Dentzel carousel's 100th anniversary

Hyattstown Mill Arts Project – for heritage-themed participatory musical programs

King Barn Dairy MOOseum – for Phase 4 of the IMS mapping project exhibit and webpage

Montgomery Countryside Alliance – for the Ride for the Reserve bike ride

Montgomery County Food Council – to update the Montgomery County Food and Beverage Guide

Montgomery County Historical Society – for the Montgomery County History Conference

Montgomery County Public Schools – for Montgomery County History Day

Rustic Roads Advisory Committee/Montgomery County Planning – for a Rustic Roads tour brochure

Sandy Spring Museum – for a cultural study of historically black communities

Sandy Spring Slave Museum – for a seminar and cultural event series

Town of Brookeville – to replace 15-star flags and flagpoles

Warren Historical Site – to repair and replace sign/marquee

HERITAGE MONTGOMERY STAFF

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Like us on Facebook

This project has been financed in part with State funds from the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority.





WASHINGTON REVELS JUBILEE SINGERS CELEBRATE EMANCIPATION DAY

EMANCIPATION DAY AT BUTTON FARM

A crisp, sunny November day provided the perfect setting for an Emancipation Day celebration at Button Farm, located just north of Gaithersburg within Seneca Creek State Park and Maryland’s only living history center depicting 19th-century slave plantation life.

In commemoration of the November 1864 declaration that freed the enslaved people of Maryland, attendees gathered around a roaring bonfire and took turns reading aloud the names of those freed in Montgomery County. Following the reading, visitors climbed aboard a hay wagon for a ride across the fields to tour a pre-1864 cemetery for enslaved persons.

Later in the day, Washington Revels Jubilee Voices gave a concert of traditional African American songs from the county and told stories of escape and freedom. There was a sing-along for the crowd which was met with enthusiasm. This performance was made possible by Heritage Montgomery Mini Grants for research and development of the program, which will be performed at other county locations in the coming months. When details about these performances become available, they will be announced on the HM website.



A HAYRIDE TAKES VISITORS TO THE HISTORIC CEMETERY



SWAIN’S LOCKHOUSE HOSTS CANAL CLASSROOM INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS THAT ALLOW VISITORS TO STEP BACK IN TIME AND EXPERIENCE LIFE ALONG THE CANAL

PARTNER PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

The past six months have seen substantial progress in some of our partners’ projects and the completion of several significant milestones for Heritage Montgomery and Maryland Heritage Areas Authority (MHAA) grants.

In June, we celebrated the completed restoration of Swain’s Lockhouse (Lockhouse 21) in C&O Canal National Historical Park with a free open house as part of Heritage Days. The lockhouse, which was restored by C&O Canal Trust to its 1916 appearance, now serves as an education center and part of the Canal Quarters program for overnight stays.

HM is assisting the National Capital Trolley Museum with interpretive signage for their newest exhibit, “Jim

Crow on Streetcars,” scheduled to debut during Black History Month in February. The new exhibit provides a compelling narrative of segregation on the region’s public transportation systems.

King Barn Dairy MOOseum in Germantown has completed the latest stage of the MOO-ISM Map Project that provides a geographic and historical chronicle of Montgomery County’s dairy farms. This wealth of information can be accessed through an interactive exhibit at the MOOseum and on their website.

Seneca Store (formerly Poole’s Store) in Poolesville officially reopened in October after extensive restoration by Montgomery Parks. The property originally served the community as a general store, opening in 1901. This project was funded in part by the Maryland Historical Trust based on input and work with Heritage Montgomery.

FUNDRAISING APPEAL



As you plan your year-end giving, Heritage Montgomery asks that you consider supporting us with a financial contribution. Because we are not a membership organization, this single, annual fundraising appeal has a significant impact on our efforts to promote county history, culture, and distinctive natural areas.

In fact, many of the highlights in this newsletter – Heritage Montgomery Mini Grants, Heritage Days, and Heritage Harvest – are made possible in part by our donors.

To donate online visit HeritageMontgomery.org and click on the “Make a Donation” box at the bottom of the home page. Or, for information on how to send your donation directly to HM, contact the office at 301-515-0753 or email info@HeritageMontgomery.org. Thank you for your support!

AFRICAN AMERICAN RESEARCH PROJECT



This autumn we had the pleasure of working with Ryan Johns, a senior in UMBC-Shady Grove’s Public History Program and HM intern. Ryan assisted with African American Heritage research, the National Capital Trolley

Museum’s “Jim Crow on Streetcars” interpretive panels, and logistical work supporting Heritage Harvest, Emancipation Day at Button Farm, and more. We wish Ryan the best in post-graduate life!

HERITAGE AREA WINTER PROGRAMS



During the chilly winter months, take advantage of numerous opportunities to enjoy cultural presentations and lectures on a variety of topics, do some research, and even join in sing-along and play-along musical events. Details can be found on the Heritage Montgomery online calendar.

- **First Friday** genealogy help at the Jane C. Sween Library. Montgomery County Historical Society, Rockville
- **Tuesday Talks** at the Beall-Dawson House; Winter 2020 schedule to be announced. Montgomery County Historical Society, Rockville
- **History Conference** at Montgomery College Germantown Campus, January 25, 2020. Montgomery College and Montgomery County Historical Society, Rockville
- **Speaker Series** at Glenview Mansion; Winter 2020 schedule includes “Lincoln Park: A Celebration of Community” and “The Archaeology of Josiah Henson Park.” Peerless Rockville
- **Tune Circle and Song Circle**, third Saturday of each month; poetry workshop third Friday of each month. Hyattstown Mill Arts Project
- **History Happy Hour**; topics vary month to month. Sandy Spring Museum
- **Museum After Hours**; topics vary month to month. Gaithersburg Community Museum
- **Speaker Series** at the Old Bank Museum; monthly on Sunday. Historic Medley District, Inc., Poolesville
- **Conservation Café** at Woodend Mansion; environmental topics vary month to month. Audubon Naturalist Society, Chevy Chase

HERITAGE HARVEST 2019



LIVE REGGAE MUSIC ENERGIZED THE LUNCH-TIME CROWD AT ALDEN FARMS

In Early October, local residents and visitors traveled along the county's Rustic Roads and enjoyed free admission to area farms, vineyards, and art studios, and took advantage of the opportunity to purchase locally

made goods and autumn produce. Heritage Harvest – our annual autumn festival – enables the county's smaller, family farmers and local artisans to open their doors and show off the fruits of their entrepreneurial and creative efforts. Local vineyards and breweries offered visitors wine tastings, craft brews, food for sale, and live music.

Highlights included Alden Farms, which featured a stunning sculpture garden, live music, a catered

lunch for purchase, and a pop-up holiday gift shop showcasing the work of county artisans. At Linden Farm, the Montgomery County Planning Department's Historic Preservation staff offered a fascinating tour of an exceptional Rustic Road and the workings of a historic dairy barn located deep in the Agricultural Reserve.



VISITORS TO SHEPHERD'S HEY ENJOYED THE SHEEP FARM AND ENDLESS VIEWS OF THE AGRICULTURAL RESERVE

Soleado Lavender Farm, a family farm in the shadow of Sugarloaf Mountain, hosted yoga classes and *plein air* painters, and offered a fascinating talk on the subject of "Lavender and Humanity."

Plans are in the making for our 2020 Heritage Harvest celebration – watch for details on our website!

VISIT OUR GIFT SHOP!



Unique holiday gifts can be found at our online gift shop. Pick up a copy of our "African American Heritage Cookbook," an Emmy® award-winning DVD on the Civil War in Montgomery County, a DVD/CD set highlighting local African American

history, and other items that celebrate Montgomery County's history, culture, and natural beauty.

Visit our Gift Shop under the About Us tab at HeritageMontgomery.org for all your last-minute shopping!

HERITAGE DAYS 2019, *continued from page 1*



WOODLAWN MANOR CULTURAL PARK OFFERED VISITORS BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS AND HISTORIC STRUCTURES

hands-on, old-time learning activities at the historic Negro School.

We are grateful to our partners for the time and effort they put in to making Heritage Days a singular county event, year after year, and to all of our attendees. Mark your calendars for Heritage Days on June 27 & 28, 2020!

HM IS HIRING!

We are looking for a part-time Grant Specialist to support the Executive Director by managing partner grant programs and grant applications made by Heritage Montgomery. Applicants should bring experience in grant writing and management. To see a full job description, please see the News item at HeritageMontgomery.org.

COMINGS AND GOINGS



Many thanks and best wishes to Marilyn Pierre, who recently retired from the Heritage Montgomery Board of Directors. Marilyn, who practices law in Rockville, has also been civically active serving on several local boards and providing guidance to organizations. We greatly appreciate Marilyn's service.



Heritage Tourism Alliance of Montgomery County

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Germantown, MD 20876
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HERITAGE PROFILE

SILVER SPRING B&O RAILROAD STATION

8100 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring
mpi@montgomerypreservation.org
MontgomeryPreservation.org



Step into the nostalgia and excitement of train travel at the historic B&O Railroad Station in downtown Silver Spring. Lovingly restored by Montgomery Preservation, Inc., this 20th-century landmark includes the original waiting room with period furnishings and finishes, inlaid terrazzo floor, and tile ticket counter. The 1945 station is open to the public the first Saturday of every month

at no charge with special exhibits, trainspotting, a permanent model train display, children’s activities, and more.

HERITAGE MONTGOMERY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Sheila Bashiri, City of Rockville – Vice President

Heidi Glatfelter Schlag, C&O Canal Trust – Secretary

Ying Fang, CPA – Treasurer

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