

HERITAGE REPORT

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 1: **SUMMER 2019**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR	2
NEW FACES	2
REMEMBERING KEN RUCKER	2
MINI-GRANT UPDATES	3
MHAA GRANT PROPOSALS	3
PARTNER UPDATES	4
FUNDRAISING THANKS	4
UPCOMING EVENTS	4
HISTORY DAY 2019	5
AFRICAN AMERICAN RESEARCH PROJECT	5
HERITAGE PROFILE	6



NATIVE AMERICAN DRUMMERS

HERITAGE DAYS 2019

Please join us for the 22nd annual Heritage Days on Saturday, June 29 and Sunday, June 30 and celebrate Montgomery County history, culture, and nature!

We are excited to introduce new locations this year including an open house at the refurbished Swains Lockhouse 21 in the C&O Canal National Historical Park. Located in Potomac, Swains Lockhouse is joining the Canal Classrooms Program offering educational opportunities for grades K-12, and the Canal Quarters group of historic canal lockhouses available for overnight rentals. This is also the inaugural Heritage Days for Black Rock Mill in Seneca Creek State Park, which celebrates Maryland’s important place as the “wheat basket” of the United States from the mill’s opening in 1815 until the Civil War.

This year, we are delighted to welcome some of our Heritage Harvest Festival partners in the Agricultural Reserve: Rocklands Farm Winery, Soleado Lavender Farm, and the Sculpture Garden and Studio at Alden Farms. Gaithersburg Latitude Observatory, one of six observatories around the world created to measure variations in latitude caused by the earth’s wobble, will celebrate its 120th birthday.

If history inspires you, Harpers and Oakley Cabins and historic Brookeville and Sandy Spring provide opportunities to study local African American heritage. If nature beckons, Audubon Naturalist Society’s Woodend Sanctuary and Izaak Walton League Conservation Farm await.

continued on page 5



LOOK FOR OUR UPDATED WEBSITE, WHICH WILL DEBUT LATER THIS SUMMER. THE REDESIGNED HOME PAGE MAKES IT EASY FOR VISITORS TO FIND FUN, INTERESTING THINGS TO DO IN THE HERITAGE AREA, AND FOR PARTNERS TO ACCESS A TOOLBOX THAT INCLUDES LISTS OF SERVICES, GRANT INFORMATION, AND MUCH MORE.

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



Our 2019 grantees are wrapping up some exciting HM-funded projects – a moving vocal program featuring music and stories of Montgomery County African American history is being produced by Washington Revels, the C&O Canal Trust is opening the newly renovated Swains Lockhouse Canal Classroom on

Heritage Days Weekend, and new interpretive panels will be going up at White's Ferry. Thanks to all our partners for another year of inspired and enriching projects showcasing Montgomery County!

We continue to monitor and review ongoing planning items including unusual cell tower placement proposals, the proposed expansion to I-270, and challenges to the county Management Plans.

Montgomery County Parks' Rustic Roads and Seneca Creek State Park are two partners bringing new programs to the heritage area. I've spent several beautiful spring days exploring their new sites and spectacular, winding country lanes. We're working with both groups to get programs up and running for all to enjoy.

Come and enjoy Heritage Days weekend, June 29 and 30! Nearly 40 sites will be open for free and will shine a spotlight on the wonderful diversity of our county. And mark your calendar for the Heritage Harvest Festival on October 5 and 6 when partner sites in the Agricultural Reserve will be open for your enjoyment.

And finally, we welcome our new and returning county officials and look forward to working with them!

HERITAGE MONTGOMERY STAFF

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Lori Ranney, Deputy Director
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Jamie Williams, Program Manager
jamie@HeritageMontgomery.org

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



NEW FACES

We are very pleased to welcome two new members to the Heritage Montgomery Board of Directors: Abby Clouse-Radigan and Rebecca Ballo.

Abby is the librarian at the Bullis School in Potomac. She has a PhD in Comparative Cultural and Literary Studies. As a Mellon Fellow at Wesleyan University, she taught about the history of museums, the politics of collections, and Native American cultural property rights. She has also worked as a researcher for the Smithsonian Institution and at the White House Historical Association, which published her newly released book, *Official Residences Around the World*. Abby serves on the board of Historic Medley District, Inc. in Poolesville.

Rebecca is Supervisor of the Historic Preservation Section at the Montgomery County Planning Department and board member for Virginia at Preservation Action. Before assuming this role in 2018, she managed the design, review, and approval process for Arlington County's 40 historic districts and previously was a preservation planner in the City of Alexandria and Prince George's County.

REMEMBERING KEN RUCKER



With sadness we share the passing of Ken Rucker, National Capital Trolley Museum's Director of Administration and President of the Board of Trustees. Ken was a Heritage Montgomery board member and a great friend to our organization.

Born in Washington, D.C., Ken taught social studies for 37 years, first at St. Mary's Catholic School and then at Atholton High School. He is remembered as a dynamic and inspiring educator by his many students. Ken served the Trolley Museum for 50 years. He led the museum through several transitions, including recovery from a 2003 fire and development of the current \$10 million campus, which assures the museum's success for years to come.

A leader in State museum organizations and mentor to many, he will be remembered for his dedication to providing top-notch experiences to the public and holding us all to a high standard. We will miss his wry wit, love of food and travel, and his keen observations on all things.



ANS WOODEND NATURE SANCTUARY

MINI-GRANT UPDATES

Our Mini-Grant partners continue to create, educate, preserve, and document the history and heritage of Montgomery County. Highlights of a few projects we funded this year:

- Speakers and special events at the Sandy Spring Slave Museum. “The Living Museum,” a special Black History Month program, featured 14 actors who portrayed civil rights figures throughout American history.
- The making of *Land of Woodend*, an Audubon Naturalist Society (ANS) documentary celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Woodend Nature Sanctuary. The film explores the transformation of the 40 acres that are home to ANS environmental programs and documents restoration efforts that include a forest, stream, meadows, native plants, an accessible trail, mansion upgrades, and more.
- The development of “Stories and Music from Heritage Montgomery’s African American Trail” by Washington Revels. We will be announcing a schedule of performances very soon.



FY 2019 MHAA GRANT PROPOSALS

In April, Heritage Montgomery was pleased to submit strong proposals for State grant funding through the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority. We requested a record \$600,000 this year, with grant awards to be announced in June. If you have a project in mind, give us a call – it’s never too early to start planning for the next round of grants, and we are happy to help!

Audubon Naturalist Society – a \$37,722 capital request for building repairs of Woodend Mansion.

C&O Canal Trust – a \$14,888 multi-heritage area request to develop an app that will enable visitors to the C&O Canal National Historical Park to plan trips.

Germantown Bank – a \$100,000 capital request for basement and building repairs in this 1922 structure at the heart of the Germantown Historic District.

Glen Echo Park Partnership – a \$94,783 capital request for restoring the exterior of the 1933 Art Deco Spanish Ballroom.

Menare Foundation – a \$11,000 capital request for restoring the Reconstruction-era bank barn at Button Farm Living History Center in Germantown.

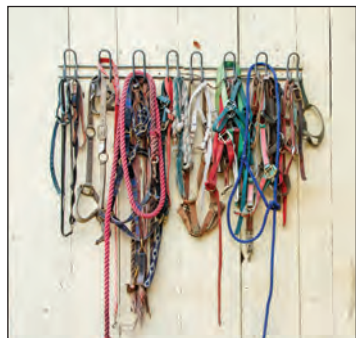
Sugarland Ethno-History Project – a \$50,000 capital request for repairing the roof of St. Paul Community Church, a historical landmark and resource center for this significant African American community.

Town of Brookeville – a \$35,000 capital request for roof and building repairs of the historic circa-1810 Brookeville Academy.

Sandy Spring Museum – a \$29,325 non-capital request for heritage research documenting the history of Sandy Spring’s African American communities.

Montgomery County Department of Transportation – a \$100,000 capital request to build a bike and hike path that will connect Woodlawn Manor, downtown Sandy Spring heritage sites, Sandy Spring Slave Museum, and Olney Theatre.

PARTNER UPDATES



Heritage Montgomery Executive Director Sarah Rogers recently met with the Montgomery County Parks' Rustic Roads Committee to discuss ongoing efforts to protect and promote the county's network of rustic and exceptionally rustic roads.

Seneca Creek State Park and Patuxent State Park are rolling out new programs and introducing new trails and hikes for nature lovers of all ages. You will find a monthly listing of events for each park on the Heritage Montgomery website's Calendar.

Pleasant View Historic Association is starting some significant restoration projects at their site in North Potomac, due to a capital grant from MHAA.

FUNDRAISING THANKS



Our sincere thanks to the many contributors to our fundraising efforts for fiscal year 2019.

Thanks to your generosity we were able to support a growing

number of worthy Mini Grants that provide necessary funding for a wide variety of projects throughout the Montgomery County heritage area.

Bruce Adams
Dr. & Mrs. Heinz Bachmann
Sheila Bashiri
Don Barron
Joel Chalfin
Judith Christensen
Abby Clouse-Radigan
Tony Cohen
Comcast
Mary Duvall
Ying Fang
Don G. Housley
Deborah Hursh
John Keller
Susan and Bill Kirby
Sarah Mathis
Sherri & James McMahon

Eileen McGuckian &
Phillip Cantelon
Montgomery County Govt.
Judy Mroccka
Carol Oberdorfer
Wesley & Constance Paulson
John & Phyllis Pentecost
Marylin Pierre
Helen & Harold Pskowski
Kenneth Rucker
Heidi Schlag
Joseph & Martha Shannon
Allison Weiss
Jacqueline Wershale
Patricia & Edward White
Susanne Brunhart Wiggins
Laura Anderson Wright

UPCOMING HERITAGE AREA EVENTS



Glen Echo Summer Concert Series

Thursdays at 7:30pm., through August 29
Glen Echo Park, Glen Echo

Weekend Walk in the Woods

First Saturday of the month, 9-10am
Woodend Nature Sanctuary, Chevy Chase
Audubon Naturalist Society

Silver Spring B&O Railroad Museum Open House

First Saturday of the month, 10am-3pm (closed July)
8100 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring
Montgomery Preservation

Trolley Museum 82nd Anniversary Celebration

Sunday, August 25, noon-5 pm
1313 Bonifant Road, Silver Spring
National Capital Trolley Museum

Boyd's Negro School Open House

Last Sunday of the month, 2-4 pm
19510 White Ground Road, Boyds
Boyd's Historical Society

Harriett Tubman Day

Saturday, September 14, noon-4 pm
Button Farm Living History Center, Germantown

Heritage Harvest Festival

October 5-6
Multiple sites in the Agricultural Reserve
Heritage Montgomery

Ride for the Reserve

Sunday, October 13
Agricultural Reserve
Montgomery Countryside Alliance

Emancipation Day Celebrations

November 2-3
Multiple sites in the heritage area

Details for all of these events can be found on the Calendar page of our website.

AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE PRIZES AT HISTORY DAY 2019



The Underground Railroad in Sandy Spring, the tragic history of lynching, and the Great Migration's effect on the renaissance of the arts in Harlem were the topics winning special Heritage Montgomery prizes at Montgomery County Public Schools' History Day.

Held every March, History Day provides local middle and high school students with the opportunity to identify and research a topic of interest within a historical theme and to submit projects in a variety of formats. Under the 2018-2019 theme, "Triumph and Tragedy in History," submissions included exhibits, papers, documentaries, performances, and websites.

Each year, Heritage Montgomery sponsors special prizes for research and interpretation of African American heritage. This year's students provided some outstanding results – so much so, there was a tie for first place. Prizes were awarded to Dylan and Joelle Moore from the Bullis School for their senior group documentary, *The Underground Railroad: A Slave's Path to Freedom through Sandy Spring and Beyond*, and to Caleb Robinson, also from the Bullis School, for his senior individual documentary, *Strange Fruit*, an exploration of lynching as it evolved from murder to its larger use as a societal control.

Second prize was awarded to Poolesville High School's Hannah Kim and Imaan Shanavas for their senior group website, *Expression from Oppression: The Role of the Great Migration in the Development of Harlem Renaissance Art*. This project also won second place in the Maryland History Day competition and has advanced to National History Day.

Montgomery County History Day is presented by Montgomery County Public Schools working with Montgomery History and the Maryland Humanities Council, and is open to public, private, and home-schooled students. Visit MontgomerySchoolsMd.org and search "History Day" to see all the award winners.

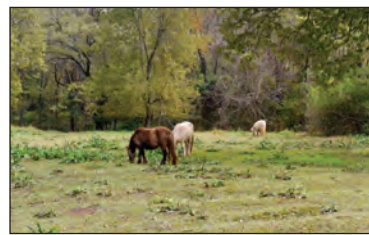
AFRICAN AMERICAN RESEARCH PROJECT



In May, we bid a fond farewell to Isabella Hlavacek, a senior in UMBC-Shady Grove's Public History Program who spent her final semester assisting us with research for HM's African American Heritage Trail project. Isabella's internship sprang from Heritage Montgomery's

ties with Dr. Melissa Blair, a UMBC history professor who has undertaken heritage preservation efforts at Pleasant View Historical Association and other historic African American communities. Isabella was also the copy editor for UMBC-Shady Grove's History Student Journal and a member of the History Student Association. We'll miss her enthusiasm, wit, and deep appreciation of tacos – and wish her a bright future.

HERITAGE DAYS 2019, *continued from page 1*



To help you make the most of your planning, you'll find some suggested groupings of participating sites by locale and topic on our website. For example,

the county's Native American History will be in the spotlight at Peerless Rockville, where dancers and drummers will perform to celebrate the beginning of Heritage Montgomery's Native American Trails project. Nearby, Montgomery History will celebrate its 75th anniversary with festivities and special programs.

Pack a picnic, load the kids in the car, and celebrate Heritage Days as you discover fascinating sites and stories throughout Montgomery County!



Heritage Tourism Alliance of Montgomery County

12535 Milestone Manor Lane
Germantown, MD 20876
301-515-0753 • HeritageMontgomery.org

HERITAGE PROFILE

GERMANTOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

19330 Mateny Hill Road, Germantown
info@GermantownMDHistory.org
GermantownMDHistory.org



town. Dedicated to preserving, archiving, and educating the community about local history, the Germantown Historical Society collects oral histories, archives important photos and papers, and sponsors public programs on local history.

The Germantown Historical Society, founded in 1990, is housed in the historic Germantown Bank Building (1922). Located in the heart of the town’s historic district, the bank features its original walk-in steel vault and safe deposit boxes.

Wide-ranging exhibits highlight Germantown’s history as a 20th-century agricultural railroad

**HERITAGE MONTGOMERY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Sheila Bashiri, City of Rockville – Vice President

Heidi Glaffelter Schlag, C&O Canal Trust – Secretary

Ying Fang, CPA – Treasurer

Rebeccah Ballo, Montgomery County Planning Department

Abby Clouse-Radigan, Historic Medley District

Anthony Cohen, The Menare Foundation

Marylin Pierre, Montgomery County Historical Society

Allison Weiss, Sandy Spring Museum