

Heritage REPORT



Heritage Days 2007

The 10th annual Montgomery County Heritage Days Weekend was the most successful ever—more than 15,000 visitors enjoyed the beautiful weather while visiting the 35 historic sites across the County that were open to celebrate our history. Some highlights of the weekend were:

- The hundreds of bicyclists who stopped at the Monocacy Aqueduct on their way west to inaugurate the completion of the Great Allegheny Passage bikeway from Washington D.C. to Pittsburgh via the C & O Canal and Cumberland.
- Over 260 participants of the hike along the Underground Railroad in the Quaker settlement of Sandy Spring who discovered just what so many had to do to make their way to freedom.
- The many who sat mesmerized at Sandy Spring Slave Museum when storyteller Diane Macklin shared the saga of how her great, great, great great-grandmother came to Maryland from the west coast of Africa as a child
- The thousands who visited Glen Echo Park to enjoy activities throughout the Park, especially riding on the vintage Dentzel Carousel.

Table of Contents

Update on Grants.....	2
Mini-Grants.....	3
Heritage Montgomery Goes High Tech.....	4
Meet the Staff	5
New Board Members	5
Heritage Site Profile	6



**HERITAGE
MONTGOMERY**
Hm! History where you least expect it!



Update on Grants

Maryland Heritage Areas Authority Supports HM

Heritage Montgomery received \$155,425 for five local projects which were chosen by the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority/MHAA--(the state agency which partially funds Heritage Montgomery) for their proposals which will support County heritage activities in the coming year. Following are brief descriptions of the successful projects:

- A grant of \$50,000 was awarded to Montgomery County Park and Planning Commission to prepare for the restoration and adaptive reuse of the Woodlawn Barn in Sandy Spring as a multi-media interpretive visitors center for the Underground Railroad.

A non-capital grant of \$21,425 to the King Barn Dairy MOOseum in Germantown to provide visitors with an enhanced website and vibrant, hands-on exhibit and materials for an educational experience in an authentic dairy barn.

- The Town of Poolesville received a \$50,000 grant to develop a Streetscape Concept Plan that will help preserve its small-town character, promote pedestrian access and

enhance the visitor experience of the Town as a gateway into the Farming History Cluster of the County's Heritage Areas

- The Montgomery County Park and Planning Commission will utilize a grant of \$19,000 to construct 19 visitor entrances and associated parking for the portion of the 25 mile Rachel Carson Greenway that lies within the County.
- The Heritage Tourism Alliance was granted \$15,000 to develop a PODcast Driving Tour of the Agricultural Reserve that will be based on the existing driving tour of Montgomery's Rural Heritage Byways but will expand the focus and attract larger, potential audiences through the use of up-to-date technology

These funds are made available to organizations and businesses that promote heritage tourism and economic development in our heritage areas. We look forward to visiting the MOOseum when it opens and to completing our PODcast driving tour so that many more will come to know our historic roots and rich heritage.



Whole Foods

On June 13, The Alliance partnered with Whole Foods Market at the Kentlands in Gaithersburg in a successful fundraiser. We received a percentage of the day's sales receipts as well as the opportunity to showcase our organization in the community. Many Heritage Montgomery supporters were kind enough to stop by and shop for a good cause! We thank all who participated, especially Whole Foods and Emily Hoopes, Marketing Director.



Mini-Grants

Our Third Round of Mini-Grants

One of the most enjoyable and important actions that we take here at Heritage Montgomery is the awarding of our Mini-grants to groups in the County that contribute to interpreting, promoting, preserving, researching or supporting our heritage and historic legacy. The Heritage Tourism Alliance has conducted this grant award program for the last two years. During that time we have distributed over \$24,000 to 17 project applicants.

These Mini-grants assist:

- Heritage related, non-profit organizations located in the County
- Privately-owned businesses located in a designated Heritage Area in the County
- Incorporated municipalities located in a designated Heritage Area in the County.

Applicants must match the requested amount with in-kind or cash donations.

In October, the Alliance awarded an additional \$17,500 in minigrants to the following recipients:

National Capital Trolley Museum, Silver Spring: \$1,000 for improved signage for the trolley cars



From left to right: Deputy Administrative Officer Tom Street, Dr. Carl A. Linden (representing the C&O Canal Association), Peggy Erickson (in rear), the late Delegate Jane Lawton, Senator Rob Garagiola and Cathie Titus.



Montgomery County Historical Society, Rockville: \$1,200 for a new brochure for the Waters House in Germantown

Adventure Theatre at Glen Echo Park: \$2,000 for the expansion of the Clara Barton program, enabling more school groups to visit the Park

C & O Canal Association: \$2,400 for a new brochure on the lost towns on the Canal, featuring photographs of the towns at Monocacy Aqueduct and White's Ferry

The Latvian Museum, Rockville: \$500 for a brochure featuring the museum's collections

Sugarland Ethno History Project, Poolesville: \$1,000 for a permanent display of African-American history

Montgomery Back-in-Time 4-H Club, Derwood: \$1,000 to fund two square dances at the Agricultural History Park

Archeology Society of Montgomery County, Mid-Potomac chapter: \$2,500 for design of brochure featuring the history of Blockhouse Point, a major Civil War site in the County

City of Rockville: \$1,500 for brochure showcasing the historic Rockville Cemetery

Glen Echo Park Partnership, Glen Echo: \$2,500 for a multi-media display of the history of civil rights in Glen Echo Park

Montgomery Preservation, Inc., Silver Spring: \$1,500 for design of a new brochure highlighting historic Silver Spring

We congratulate all the minigrant recipients for their projects promoting the heritage of Montgomery County.



Heritage Days 2007

Upcounty sites also enjoyed a boom in attendance this year; Seneca Schoolhouse, St. Paul Community Church, the Clarksburg Historical Society at the General Store, and the Waters House saw a record number of visitors. Many were attracted to the Warren Historic Site, where the Garbo Gospel Choir performed, while hundreds came to Sugarloaf Mountain Vineyard and learned about the award-winning wines produced there. The B&O Railway Station in Silver Spring and the Historic "Fire Station # 1," featuring an acoustic blues trio, lured many visitors to appreciate their roles in the history of a very fast-growing area of our County.

Save The Dates For The 11th Annual Heritage Days Which Will Take Place On June 28 And 29, 2008. It Will Be Here Before You Know It!



Left to right: Jay Friedlander, Peggy Erickson, Dr. Leonard Garcia from the Radio Jove project



Period activities at Oakley Cabin on Heritage Days

Heritage Montgomery goes High Tech

Heritage Montgomery is poised to enter the 21st century world of technology with our PODcast Driving Tour of Montgomery Rural Heritage Byways. The development and completion of this tour is made possible by grants from the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority and the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County. The PODcast will be based on an existing driving tour the Alliance designed but the new concept will allow those interested to access our audio-visual tour where and when they wish after downloading to an MP3 device such as an iPod.

Visitors will have the convenience of starting and pausing the tour while viewing the featured sites, enjoying the audio tour as if a tour guide were accompanying them. We expect that the easier, expanded access to our tour will promote a wider appreciation of our history and heritage. We plan to expand the current driving tour now featured on our website and make the PODcast tour more comprehensive by incorporating additional detailed information on the featured areas together with appropriate visual images (photographs, maps etc) and audio soundtrack (narration and music). We at the Alliance are excited that this tour will be a model for other organizations in the County that wish to develop other thematic podcasts that highlight their own mission.

***** NEWS FLASH *****

We finished recording the voiceover narration for our expanded video PODcast in mid-November and appropriate music and visual images are now being selected that will complement the narrative. We anticipate that it will be available for download from our website (and also for use as a promotional tool for County tourism) early in the new year.



Meet the Staff

We are a congenial group—of necessity as well as by choice—since we all work in the same office on the 2nd floor of the historic Waters House in Germantown. We look forward to seeing many of you during 2008.



Left to Right: Cathie Titus, Peggy Erickson, Romola Ghulamali

Peggy Erickson, Executive Director

Peggy Erickson started as the first Executive Director for the Alliance in October 2003. She is a resident of Washington Grove and has an extensive history of community involvement.

Cathie Titus, Deputy Director

Cathie Titus joined the Alliance in October, 2004. She has lived in the Bethesda-Chevy Chase area since 1964 and was an elected Councilmember of the Town of Chevy Chase among her many civic activities. She is currently a member of the County Board of Appeals.

Romola Ghulamali, Historian and Web Guru

Romola has been with the Alliance since March 2006. Her past work experience was with the Prince George's Planning Commission. Romola lives in Germantown with her husband and 3 daughters.

New Members of the Board of Directors

At the last meeting of the Board of Trustees, President MaryKay Harper proposed three new Boardmembers who were unanimously elected. They are: John Pentecost, a retired Senior Program Advisor in the Federal Housing Administration; Dr. R. Christopher Goodwin, President and CEO of R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, a preservation planning, archeological and historical research firm, and President of the Comus Inn; and Bobby Donovan, Assistant Director of the Arts Program at UMUC and Executive Director of the Hyattstown Mill Arts Project. Also new to the Board are Scott Whipple, Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Ex-Officio, and Jeff Winstel, City of Rockville, Ex-Officio. We welcome them all to Heritage Montgomery.

We thank outgoing Boardmembers Perry Kapsch, Rick Allan and Gwen Wright for all their efforts to bring Heritage Montgomery into being and for their continued support. We've come a long way since 2002!



County Executive Isiah Leggett, Phyllis Pentecost, Executive Director Peggy Erickson, and State Senator Rob Garagiola enjoying the reception

On September 26, 2007, Heritage Montgomery held a reception at the Waters House to preview our new iPod Video Driving Tour of the Agricultural Reserve and to honor our Mini-Grant recipients. County Executive Isiah Leggett, Senator Robert Garagiola, Delegate Jane Lawton, and County Deputy Administrative Officer Tom Street, attended along with many other guests. We want to thank Whole Foods and Dave Heisler of Comus Market for their generous donations that helped make the event so successful.



Heritage Tourism Alliance of Montgomery County
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301-515-0753 • www.heritagemontgomery.org

Heritage Montgomery is a 501(c)(3), a non-profit organization and your contributions are tax deductible.

**PLEASE REMEMBER
 HERITAGE MONTGOMERY
 IN YOUR CHARITABLE DONATIONS**



Every donation has a significant impact and will be gratefully appreciated!

Heritage Site Profile



**Saint Paul's
 Community Church**
 14730 Sugarland Lane
 Poolesville, Maryland
 301-330-3937

President Gwen Reese, second from left, with other members of the community

This historic African-American church was established by freed slaves after the emancipation. The church site was purchased on October 6, 1871 for the sum of \$25.00. The deed specified that the land would be used for religious worship, a school and a burial site for people of African descent. The current church was built in 1893 and is still in use. The cemetery contains graves of freed slaves; the earliest grave dates to 1871. In the 19th century the Sugarland Community had a population of 100. It was a self-contained community consisting of a school, a church (which also served as a community center and courtroom) and store. The community worked together to provide help for members of the church. The Sugarland Ethno-History Project was established and the goal is to create a museum where members of this historical community can document their genealogy from slavery to present day.



Board of Directors

President – MaryKay Harper
 Montgomery County Historical Society

Vice-President – Steven A. Goldberg
 Hearthside Antiques

Secretary – Judy Christensen,
 Montgomery Preservation, Inc.

Fran Abrams, Arts & Humanities Council, Ex-Officio

Bobby Donovan, Hyattstown Mill Arts Project

R. Christopher Goodwin, The Comus Inn

Kelly Groff, Conference and Visitors Bureau
 of Montgomery County

Tom Kettler, Poolesville Chamber of Commerce

Chris Kirtz, The Gaithersburg Inn

Henry Lieberman, Executive Director, Sandy Spring Museum

John Pentecost

Scott Whipple, Maryland National Capital Park and
 Planning Commission, Ex-Officio

Jeff Winstel, City of Rockville, Ex-Officio