

HERITAGE REPORT

VOLUME 15, ISSUE 1: **SUMMER 2020**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR	2
FY2021 MHAA GRANT	
APPLICATIONS.....	2
RESEARCH PROJECT.....	3
PARTNER UPDATES.....	3
HM SPONSORSHIPS	4
HM OUTDOORS/HM INDOORS	4
FUNDRAISING THANKS.....	5
NEW BOOKS	5



CAROUSEL AT THE COUNTY FAIR



COUNCILMEMBER FRIEDSON AND OTHER COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES VISIT SCOTLAND

HERITAGE MONTGOMERY IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE AWARD OF A \$100,000 MARYLAND HERITAGE AREAS EMERGENCY GRANT TO THE HISTORIC SCOTLAND AME ZION CHURCH IN POTOMAC TO REMEDIATE SEVERE FLOOD DAMAGE SUFFERED IN JULY. THESE FUNDS WILL BE USED TO REPLACE DAMAGED CHURCH INFRASTRUCTURE AND PERFORM STRUCTURAL AND SITE STABILIZATION ON THIS HISTORIC AFRICAN AMERICAN CHURCH.

HERITAGE DAYS 2020

Our 24th annual Heritage Days weekend has been postponed to October to coincide with our annual Heritage Harvest event. We look forward to a fun and safe weekend for both events and a great time out and about exploring all the county has to offer – parks, farms, wine tasting, museums, trolley rides, hiking, children’s activities, and more.

Given the setbacks for the museum, park, and tourism community caused by COVID-19 closures, the combined October event will give our partners time to develop new programs and activities and give us time to adequately promote a double feature of fun! As autumn is traditionally the kick-off for annual

fundraising drives, postponing will help our partners struggling after prolonged closures to plan fundraising strategies and remain in the public eye to assure a robust 2021 providing programs, education, and events for the public.

In the meantime, stay in touch with your favorite parks, museums, and sites on Facebook and on the Heritage Montgomery website. As they prepare to reopen, many partners are changing their on-site presentations to provide a safe and healthy visit to the public. A number of venues are featuring new on-line content. We will keep you up to date on our October Heritage events and we look forward to seeing you soon!

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



Greetings All,

I hope this finds you all safe and well.

During this challenging time, Heritage Montgomery remains at work supporting our museums, parks, and sites. Recent events have greatly impacted all of us. As re-opening plans are being laid, we stand by to offer assistance. We have an emergency funding list and museum guidelines for COVID-19 on our website. As always if you need help, give us a call.

Work here continues on heritage area brochures for the transportation history and African American heritage sites. These brochures will provide a thorough look at our county's history and a guide for everyone's explorations. An HM boundary amendment is in the works for the historic Scotland A.M.E. Zion church and grounds in Potomac.

Thank you to everyone working on the front lines! A huge thank you to our park rangers and staff who are keeping our parks up and running for all of us who need to stretch our legs – and special thanks to all of the first responders keeping things safe.

We look forward to seeing you all soon!

FY 2021 MHAA GRANT APPLICATIONS

Heritage Montgomery was pleased to submit several strong proposals for State grant funding through the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority, as well as two emergency grant applications for critical infrastructure work. In total, we requested nearly \$370,000 this year, with grant awards to be announced in June. It's never too early to start planning for the next grant round – give us a call to discuss your next project!

Scotland AME Zion Church – a \$100,000 emergency grant application for a conditions assessment report and emergency structural stabilization of the church.

Sandy Spring Museum – a \$34,268 emergency application for fire, smoke, and mold remediation.

C&O Canal Association – a \$48,890 non-capital request to assist in the planning and execution of the 2021 World Canals Conference, a global event that will be held in Maryland next year.

Glen Echo Park Partnership – a \$50,000 non-capital request for the 100th anniversary celebration of the 1921 Dentzel Carousel.

Sandy Spring Slave Museum – a \$9,000 non-capital request for the installation of an enhanced communications network at the museum.

Emergency Grants – we have received requests from seven local museums for nearly \$100,000 in COVID-19 MHAA emergency grant funds.

HERITAGE MONTGOMERY STAFF

Sarah L. Rogers, Executive Director
director@HeritageMontgomery.org

Lori Ranney, Deputy Director
lori@HeritageMontgomery.org

Jamie Williams, Program Manager
jamie@HeritageMontgomery.org

Like us on Facebook

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





GOSPEL SINGER AT WARREN

STUDENT RESEARCH PROJECT FOR WARREN HISTORIC SITE

History students at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County at Shady Grove recently launched a class project to create detailed documentation of the Warren Historic Site in Dickerson. The class is compiling building and site data, along with oral histories that document the post-Civil War African American community of Martinsburg. This research will be used for a future designation of the community's surviving church, school, and benefit hall on the National Register of Historic Places.

The class carried on during the shutdown, meeting virtually with site representatives and several subject-matter experts as well as cataloging existing source materials. We hope to host the group at the site this summer so they can meet the people and see the buildings associated with this great project.



BRIDGE ON MARTINSBURG ROAD

RUSTIC ROADS DRIVING AND BIKE TOUR MAP GUIDES

The Montgomery County Rustic Roads Advisory Committee (RRAC) and Heritage Montgomery have begun production of a series of Rustic Roads Driving and Bike Tour map guides. The map guides will be available this summer. RRAC is committed to the preservation of more than 100 designated Rustic and Exceptional Rustic

Roads found throughout the county. These beautiful, unspoiled historic roads lead through rolling farm country, woodlands, and villages. The roads are a great way to explore local history, flora, and fauna while offering stops at area orchards, farm markets, parks, and heritage sites. Plan a trip now at montgomeryplanning.org/rusticroads.



HANDWOVEN BASKET DEMONSTRATION

PARTNER UPDATES

We are happy to share news about the good work happening with our partners around the Montgomery County Heritage Area:

- The Germantown Bank, which was awarded a FY20 MHAA capital grant for building repairs, has completed waterproofing the basement. This 1922 building in the heart of the Germantown Historic District is now moving to Phase II of its restoration project.
- Sandy Spring Museum is well under way with an HM Mini Grant-funded Cultural Study of Historic African American Communities of the Sandy Spring Area. To learn more visit <https://www.sandyspringmuseum.org/ssblackcommunities/>.
- The C&O Canal Trust, working in conjunction with heritage areas along the canal, is in the midst of planning a vibrant celebration of 50 years as a National Historical Park in the summer of 2021. We will share more information about our plans as it becomes available!

HERITAGE MONTGOMERY SPONSORSHIPS



LECTURE AT HISTORY CONFERENCE

The beginning of 2020 featured two of Heritage Montgomery's favorite annual sponsorship events: the Montgomery County History Conference and Montgomery County History Day produced by Montgomery History and the Montgomery County Public Schools, respectively.

The History Conference once again provided a wide range of thought-provoking and fascinating presentations highlighting various aspects of life in the county. Nearly 300 attendees had a choice of 12 separate sessions focused on subjects that included prohibition, the Lyttonville African American community, stories of the Aspin Hill Pet Cemetery, and the history and future of the Agricultural Reserve. Also, for the first time, a session on the history of Hispanic pioneers in the county was presented in Spanish. Selected presentations can be viewed at Montgomery History's website.

February's History Day featured research projects from middle and high school students on the theme, "Breaking Barriers in History." Categories included papers, exhibits, performances, documentaries, and websites. With the expansion of the competition to include 7th graders, the number of entries exploded from a few hundred to more than 4,000. We congratulate the winning entries, which advanced to a virtual State-level competition in May.

Keep an eye out for next year's History Day competition and consider volunteering as a judge in 2021. It's great fun, and you'll be surprised by what you will learn!

HM OUTDOORS



HARVESTED PEACHES

Note: Many of our sites and parks will be modifying their programming. The latest information will be posted on our website.

The following is a partial list of outdoor places where you can enjoy history, culture, and nature

while getting some exercise. Stay safe and please remember to follow county and State guidance on local and group activities.

- **The C&O Canal Towpath** remains open for walking, hiking, and biking.
- **Seneca Creek and Patuxent River State Park** trails remain open for hiking and biking.
- **Black Hill Regional Park** trails remain open for hiking and biking; the reservoir is open for kayaking and canoeing. Please check ahead for Boat House status on rentals.
- **Little Bennett Regional Park** trails remain open for hiking and biking.
- **Montgomery County Bicycle Trails** remain open. For an online map listing county bike trails, please visit bikemap.montgomerycountymd.gov

HM INDOORS

Online programming is available from several of our museum and historical resource partners – the following is just a sampling of what you will find!

- **The Montgomery County Historical Society** has launched an online collection of virtual exhibits, History Conference videos, and live-streamed lectures.
- **Sandy Spring Museum** is providing digital versions of current exhibitions, local history programming, virtual music jams, children's activities, gardening tips, and dance lessons.

continued on page 5



LAMBS AT SHEPHERD'S HEY

FUNDRAISING THANKS

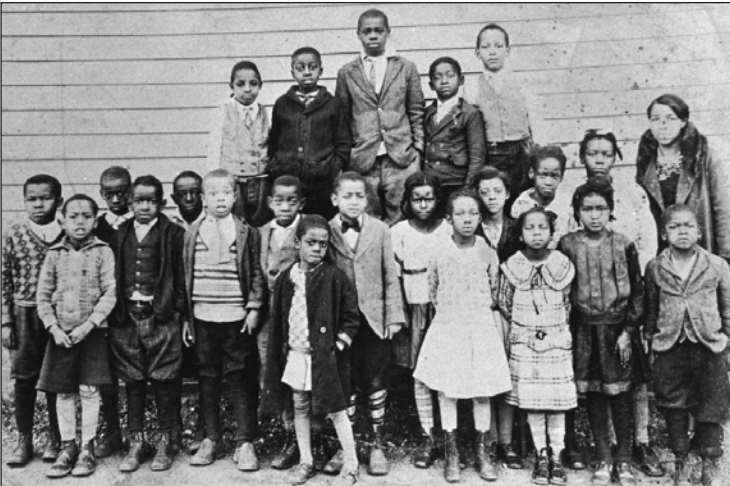
Our sincere thanks to the many contributors to our fundraising efforts for fiscal year 2020. Thanks to your generosity we were able to fund mini projects throughout the Montgomery County heritage area. In addition, your support is making it possible to provide emergency support during shutdown. Thank you!

Rebecca Ballo
Don Barron
Sheila Bashiri
Judith Christensen
Abby Clouse-Radigan
Tony Cohen
Ellen Erdelsky
Ying Fang
Janis Glenn
Don G. Housley

Carol Ireland
John Keller
Thomas Kettler
Susan and Bill Kirby
Cynthia and David Langstaff
Eric Ledbetter
Isiah and Catherine Leggett
Patricia Littlefield
Sara Mathis
Eileen McGuckian &
Phillip Cantelon

Montgomery County Govt.
Judy Mroczka
Helen & Harold Pskowski
Heidi Schlag
Sara Torrance
Allison Weiss
Patricia & Edward White
Terry Winslow
Laura Anderson Wright

TWO NEW BOOKS FEATURING HERITAGE AREA SITES



SCHOOLCHILDREN

The African American community of Sugarland is the topic of a new book by two descendants of the town's founding families, Gwen Reese and Suzanne Johnson, and local writer Jeff Sypeck. Using the extensive church archives, historic photos, and documents, the book provides a fascinating look at the men and women who established Sugarland after emancipation.

"Great Escapes: Journeys on Maryland's Underground Railroad" is the forthcoming release by The Menare Foundation, Inc. The book explores the people, places, and social forces that created a pathway to freedom for Maryland's self-emancipating slaves and allies who aided them. The book will be available this fall.

STATE RECOGNITION FOR WARREN HISTORIC SITE



OTHO THOMPSON, SARAH ROGERS, AND ELSIE THOMAS

In January, the Maryland Historical Trust presented a Maryland Preservation Award to Elsie Thomas, the Warren Historic Site Committee and Heritage Montgomery in recognition of their work to restore the

Loving Charity Hall. The project was funded by the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority through Heritage Montgomery.

HM INDOORS, *continued from page 4*

- **Glen Echo Partnership for Arts and Culture** is providing live streaming and recorded classes, virtual exhibitions, online dance and music events and videos, activity downloads for kids, and Facebook Live events.
- **Montgomery County Parks** facility staff and naturalists are offering fun, educational activities that you can do at home, including history, nature, arts & crafts, animals, exercise, and more.



Heritage Tourism Alliance of Montgomery County

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

HERITAGE PROFILE



TROLLEY CAR RESTORATION

During the coming weeks, visit our website and social media pages to learn how our partner sites and the heritage area in general are adapting to rapid changes in the ways we share information and provide access to cultural resources. We thank you for your ongoing support as we navigate this new territory. See you soon!

**HERITAGE MONTGOMERY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Laura Anderson Wright, Sandy Spring
Slave Museum – President

Sheila Bashiri, City of Rockville –
Vice President

Heidi Glatfelter 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

Allison Weiss, Sandy Spring Museum