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MOUNTAIN MARYLAND
Gateway to the West
HERITAGE AREA
E-NEWSLETTER

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Winter 2014

Dear Sarah,

Winter is upon us! Some of you may have enjoyed the First Day Hikes offered by the State Parks here in Garrett County while others prefer staying inside and reading by the fire. There are upcoming events for you both - Winter Fest in Oakland for those winter enthusiasts and the Civil War discussion series for those

Join Our List[Join Our Mailing List!](#)**Contact Information**

15 Visitors Center Drive
 McHenry, MD 21541
 301-387-4386 Office

www.garrettheritage.com[Send us an email!](#)**Facebook**[Like Us!](#)

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

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[MHAA](#)

The Mountain Maryland Gateway to the West Heritage Area is a program of the Garrett County Chamber of Commerce

**Quick Links**

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that favor mental gymnastics. Join us and find the authentic heritage experience in your Mountain Maryland Gateway to the West Heritage Area!

Announcements & Awards**AFHA National Heritage Area Bill Introduced!**

Senators Ben Cardin and Barbara Mikulski along with West Virginia Senators Jay Rockefeller and Joe Manchin co-sponsored a Senate bill that was introduced to designate the Appalachian Forest Heritage Area as a National Heritage Area, Senate Bill 1641 West Virginia National Heritage Area Act of 2013. National Heritage Area designation will bring national recognition and helpful tools and support to benefit and improve our rural communities. All of Garrett And Allegany Counties are included in the boundaries. Stakeholders are encouraged to add your support through a new or renewed support letter from you as an individual or from your business or organization. Support letters are crucial in getting a companion bill introduced in the House and encouraging passage of the bills.

Support letters are still being accepted. You can send your letter to AFHA or directly to your Senators to support this effort!

Appalachian Forest Heritage Area

P.O. Box 1206

Elkins, WV 26241

www.appalachianforest.us

Email:

afha@appalachianforest.us

**Grant & Volunteer Opportunities**



Mountain Maryland Gateway to the West Heritage Area

The Maryland Heritage Areas Authority (MHAA) provides dollar-for-dollar matching grants to non-profit organizations and governments for capital and non-capital projects located within a Maryland Certified Heritage Area (CHA). Grants can support projects involving historical, cultural, or natural resources, sites, events, or facilities. Eligible projects must have a heritage tourism component, for example the project involves a visitor destination such as a museum, visitor center, or nature center; helps to provide facilities and services that support heritage tourism, such as rehabilitating a historic building as a Bed & Breakfast, restaurant, or other tourism related retail use or is an event that will help to create a long-term increase in visitation to the Heritage Area. Awards can be up to \$100,000.

A workshop training will be held here in Garrett County, January 17 at Garrett College. A simple intent to apply form will be due January 29th with full applications not due until March 7, 2014.

Friday, January 17, 2014, Garrett College, McHenry
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - Click [HERE](#) to register.
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Click [HERE](#) to register.
(Snow Day - January 22)

If you have any questions about the program, please contact:

Dawn Hein
301-387-4386
dawn@garrettchamber.com

Mountain Maryland Gateway to the West Heritage Area

The Heritage Area has opportunities for volunteers and partner organizations to work together to develop and enhance programming throughout the county.

Volunteers are an important part of the Heritage Area and will help make Garrett County a better place to live, visit and work.

For more information, please call or email
[Dawn Hein](#) - 301-387-4386

Around the County

Upcoming Events

Winter Fest

February 15, 2014 - February 16, 2014
Oakland, MD
FREE

Join us in downtown Oakland for the 7th Annual Winter Fest. Once again featuring expert ice sculptor Bill Sandusky. The streets of Oakland will be lined with beautiful ice sculptures, games, vendors, live music and crafters. Live carvings will also take place all day on the 15th.

Vist the website www.agreatsmalltown.com

or

For more information contact:

Michelle Ross

Oakland City Hall 301-334-2691

mainstreetgoba@gmail.com

The Living Earth: Two Day Environmental Studies Course

Deep Creek Lake, Garrett County, MD
April 3 & 4, 2014
Fee: \$100

Come and learn about the many facets of our physical world and how it relates to our own landscapes promoting good principles of biodiversity and the love of nature located at Deep Creek Lake Discovery Center. This 6000 square foot education and interpretive center will be the setting for this two-day course. The course includes eight, one-hour classes including a field trip on-site in the Deep Creek Lake State Park.

Discounted rooms rates are available. Sponsored by the Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland and hosted by the Mountain Laurel Garden Club this course is the first of four course offered in environmental Studies. For more information please contact Linda Harris at lindaharris355@aol.com or 301-453-3293. Registration forms can be found at www.fgcofmd.org

Educational Opportunities

Making Sense of the Civil War Reading & Discussion Series

Garrett County was selected by the Maryland Humanities Council as one of the 4 locations in Maryland to host the "Making Sense of the Civil War" discussion group. Led by local Civil War Historian John Rathgeb, the series is a reading and discussion group for public audiences. Garrett Lakes Arts Festival and your heritage area have been busy organizing the

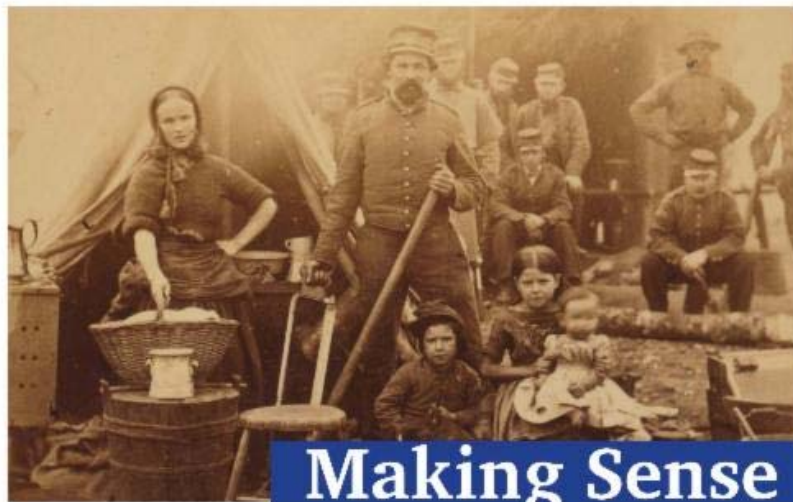
series which will be held at Garrett College January through April of 2014.

The first session will be held January 11, 2014 10:00am at Garrett College Room 201. Other sessions will feature Guest Speaker Miriam Sincell Burton to discuss habeas corpus and the Emancipation Proclamation. In addition, Jane Avery and Our Town Theatre will reprise Common Threads March 7 and 8, 2014.

Call Mary at the GLAF office 301-387-3082
or visit

www.artsandentertainment.org

Sign up to join and get your free copies of the books!



Making Sense of the American Civil War

A reading and discussion series in America's libraries

March by Geraldine Brooks | Crossroads of Freedom: Antietam by James McPherson
America's War: Talking About the Civil War and Emancipation on their 150th Anniversaries edited by Edward L. Ayers

"Making Sense of the American Civil War" is being organized as a series of five conversations that are meant to be considered together. Each conversation is itself arranged as an unfolding story, moving forward in time.

The discussion groups will be facilitated by Dr. John Hedges, Civil War historian. The discussion groups will be held at Garrett College's McHenry Campus January through April 2014. The discussion groups are free and open to the public. The Garrett Lakes Arts Festival has 25 copies of the books for this discussion group. March by Geraldine Brooks, Crossroads of Freedom: Antietam by James M. McPherson, America's War: Talking About the Civil War and Emancipation on their 150th Anniversaries edited by Edward L. Ayers and are available at no cost to some first come first serve basis for loan from the Maryland Humanities Council.

Contact the GHAC office at 301-367-7402 to reserve your spot and a free copy of the reader's guide supplies list. Reservations will be accepted through November 21, 2013.



Presented by the NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES and the AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



All the Best,

Dawn Hein, Director
Mountain Maryland Gateway to the West Heritage Area

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