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Henry Ford and Harvey Firestone and wives at Swallow Falls State Park in the early 1920s -
Garrett County Historical Society

MOUNTAIN MARYLAND
Gateway to the West
HERITAGE AREA

March 2017

In this Issue

The Mountain Maryland Gateway to the West is ready to celebrate the beginning of spring! The past three months have been filled with grant program preparation and the awarding of

six additional mini-grants (see below).

In January, we attended the American Bus Association Marketplace in Cleveland, OH and met with over 20 tour operators to invite them to bring groups to our region. We also participated in the annual PACE reception and breakfast held in Annapolis. The heritage area displayed alongside the Chamber of Commerce with our pull up display banner and had the opportunity to share our area with attendees. We also met with key legislators to discuss a bill introduced to increase the Heritage Areas funding cap at the state level.

Our board member, Dave Cotton, represented our Heritage Area at a Legislative reception hosted by the state Heritage Coalition. We displayed our pull up banner along with our fellow heritage areas. The reception was well received and we thank Dave for attending!



We also participated in the annual Maryland Tourism Day in Annapolis, gathering with our tourism counterparts across the state to share how important the industry is to Maryland. Governor Hogan and Peter Franchot were both awarded the Tourism Advocate Award.

We just returned from the Pennsylvania Bus Association and the Maryland Motorcoach Association Marketplaces in southeast Pennsylvania. We distributed over 300 pieces of literature including Visitors Guides, Activities Guides, sample itineraries, profile sheets and much more. The shows were well attended and it was a great opportunity to showcase our area to potential group leaders.

Six Additional FY17 Mini-Grant Awards Awarded

- **Friends of New Germany** - Native Plant Garden Botanical Markers - \$387.50
- **Friends of New Germany** - New Germany Historic Schoolhouse Interpretive Sign - \$627.50
- **Town of Oakland** - Updated Brochures & Rack Cards - \$406.00
- **Oakland Heritage Community Foundation** - Preserving Oakland's History Audio Transcription - \$2000.00
- **Garrett Trails** - Garrett County Gran Fondo Heritage Entertainment - \$1100.00
- **Our Town Theatre** - Our Town Theatre 20th Anniversary Promotional Posters - \$1399.40

"We are excited to support these additional local projects in FY17 by leveraging the heritage area funds we receive through our management grant from the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority," said Jen Durben, Heritage Area & Groups Director. "These projects help promote heritage tourism to Garrett County."

Keep an eye out for the FY18 Mini-Grant round to be announced this summer! If you have a heritage tourism project idea, this grant opportunity may be for you!

Historic Presentation by Local Historian Al Feldstein

Monday, May 15th | 6pm | Casselman Inn

Beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the historic Casselman Inn, local historian Al Feldstein will regale us with tales of National Road, beginning with its construction and up to present day. There is limited seating to this event, so please RSVP on our Facebook event, or by emailing info@visitgrantsville.com. Come at 5:00 p.m. to enjoy a dutch treat dinner from The Casselman Inn and Restaurant or just enjoy the presentation at 6:00.



This educational presentation is funded in part by the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority.

Railroads of Garrett County - Educational Series

Starts April 27 (4 Sessions) | Thursdays | 4pm - 5:30pm | Oakland B&O Museum

I hear the train a comin', it's rolling round the bend. But what do we really know about the railroads and the impact on history? In this class, historian, author, and educator, Dr. Neal Brooks will describe their development and decline, main purposes, and longevity. We'll discuss one company that is still present, the Baltimore and Ohio which is now CSX, and the remnants of the Western Maryland railroad. You'll learn about several that have disappeared but that had significant impact including the Confluence and Oakland, Preston Railroad, and the Jennings Brothers Railroad. This class is intended for a general audience interested in Garrett County, and in transportation history, not just rail fans. And let that lonesome whistle blow my blues away.....



A native of Silver Spring, Dr. Brooks received an undergraduate degree from Towson University where he majored in history. He then continued to study history at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland and earned his Ph.D. He enjoyed an academic career of more than 40 years at the Community College of Baltimore County where his courses included both American history and Western Civilization. He divided his time between the classroom, chairing the History Department, and scholarship as coauthor of two histories of Baltimore County in addition to other published materials.

To register for this series of educational sessions, please contact Garrett College at 301-387-3069.

Grant Opportunity

The African American Heritage Preservation Program (AAHPP) was established by the General Assembly in 2010 to provide capital grants to assist in the preservation of buildings, sites, or communities of historical and cultural importance to the African American experience in Maryland. The AAHPP is administered as a partnership between the Maryland Historical Trust and the [Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture \(MCAAHC\)](#).



The Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture and the Maryland Historical Trust have awarded \$1 million to assist African American heritage preservation projects. Read the press release [here](#). Videos of the projects are available [here](#).

The FY2018 funding round of the African American Heritage Preservation Program (AAHPP) will open in February 2017. The application deadline will be 11:59 pm on Saturday, July 15, 2017. The application must be submitted through our online grant application portal. For more information or to begin your application, please click [here](#).

Upcoming Events

Bruce Elliot Book Signing "The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad's Pittsburgh Division - Saturday, April 15th, 11am - 3pm. Book Signing by Bruce Elliott of Green Bank, WV on 4/15 from 11:00 - 3:00. This book signing will take place at the Oakland B&O Museum.

A Good Ole' Garrett County Quilting - Thursday, April 13, 11am - 4pm at Amish Connections; 102 Fort Avenue, McHenry, MD 21541. Come join us for a Good Ole Garrett County Quilting. Customers are invited and encouraged to give a hand at quilting on a quilting frame while local resident **BETH JOHNSON** shows us the 'ropes' or 'stitches'! It will be a chance for our local guests and residents to see a quilting first hand and to see what goes into making one of these precious quilts. Of course, you are welcome to browse and shop while you are here! Quilting was normally done in the winter months. The new quilts would replace old worn out ones and they could use the old clothes for pieces instead of throwing them out, therefore 'recycling'. It also kept them busy in the cold weather when they could not get out and work in their yards and gardens.

Peabody Ragtime Ensemble - Saturday, April 22, Doors open at 6:45 and show starts at 7:30pm at Garrett College. The Garrett Lakes Arts Festival presents the Peabody Ragtime Ensemble, an acoustic "little big band," preserves the roots of American Jazz through performance of vintage repertoire in concert, dance and stage settings. The band has performed with and opened for stars such as Roberta Flack, Louie Bellson, the Smothers Brothers, Eubie Blake, Alberta Hunter, Aaron Copland and the Preservation Hall Jazz Band. \$19 for Adults and \$5 for Students. www.artsandentertainment.org

Grantsville National Road Festival - May 13 - 20 held throughout the Grantsville area. Celebrate the rich history of the Historic National Road with our annual festival! With fun events every day, there is something for everyone from foodies and history buffs to artists and yard sales!

www.visitgrantsville.com

Garrett County Celtic Festival - Saturday, June 3, 11am - 8pm at the Friendsville Community Park. The annual Garrett County Celtic Festival celebrates the heritage, art, and culture of Appalachian immigrants from Scotland, Ireland, Wales, and Brittany. The day-long festival along the bonnie banks of the Youghiogheny River in the village of Friendsville is a fun event for the whole family! Activities include: Musical performances by IONA, Aurora Celtic, Lynne Dale, Greg Latta, The Duffy School of Irish Dance, Potomac Highlands Scottish Country Dancers, Multiple pipes and drums bands, Highland Athletes, Shepherding demonstrations, History and storytelling, Glen of Clans, Children's activities, Artisan Marketplace. Rain or shine! There are many covered areas throughout the park in the event of inclement weather. Free parking, facilities ADA accessible. Tickets \$15 for adults, students 5-18 \$5, children under 4 are free. Discounted advance tickets available at www.gccelticfestival.com.

Oakland's Pocket Park Movies - Thursdays, June 15, June 22 and June 29th, Dusk at the Mountain Fresh Pavilion. Pocket Park movies are fun nights for the entire family! Bring your chairs or blanket and come out and join us under the Mountain Fresh Pavilion on Thursday evenings. Movies begin at dusk. www.agreatsmalltown.com

Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue featuring Thomas Pandolfi and the Maryland Symphony Orchestra - Saturday, June 17, 7pm - 9pm at Wisp Resort. The Maryland Symphony Orchestra provides a dazzling variety of programs, from the grand musical treasures of the Masterworks Series to the joyful offerings of the *MSO Pops!* and *Home for the Holidays*; from the glorious sentimentality of the *Salute to Independence* Concert at Antietam National Battlefield to the exuberance and wonder of the annual *Citi Youth Concerts* and *Kinder Konzerts Series* <https://artsandentertainment.org/>. Tickets: \$30 per adult, \$5 students.

Taste of Garrett - Sunday, June 18, 5pm - 8pm at Wisp Resort. The very best in the Garrett County area food and drink industry come together every year for Taste of Garrett. With over 30 county-wide restaurants and chefs taking part each year, Taste of Garrett is an impressive gathering of food and drink, as well as a place where vendors, big and small, come to get noticed by locals and visitors alike. \$30 per person. www.garretttrails.org.

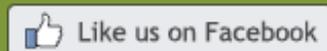
Garrett County Gran Fondo - Saturday, June 24. Garrett County and the Deep Creek Lake area boast some of the finest and most challenging cycling in North America, and the Garrett County Gran Fondo has established itself as a premier North American Gran Fondo unsurpassed in challenge, scenery, and riding quality. www.garrettcountrygranfondo.org

There are so many events coming up this spring! Please visit www.garrettheritage.com for all upcoming events.

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



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[Visit our Website](#)

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