

, just as you are looking at this page. Please help us by adding Mountain Maryland Gateway to the West Heritage Area. Don't forget to add [jen@garrettchamber.com](mailto:jen@garrettchamber.com) to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

You may [unsubscribe](#) if you no longer wish to receive our emails.

Find out what's new with the Mountain Maryland Gateway to the West Heritage Area.

Join Our Mailing List!



Get out this spring and explore! Check out the [Friendsville Interactive History Tour](#).

## MOUNTAIN MARYLAND *Gateway to the West* HERITAGE AREA

March 2018

### In this Issue

It's been a whirlwind during the first three months of 2018! Winter enthusiasts are sure happy this year - our season extended well into the month of March. While we are thankful for a strong winter, we are also ready to embrace Spring!

The Mountain Maryland Gateway to the West attended several advocacy events in the early part of 2018 including the Heritage Legislative Reception, annual PACE Reception, and Tourism Day in Annapolis. We displayed our pull up banner and had information available for legislators who attended. We also met with our legislators to discuss support of legislation to include full funding for the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority. The additional funding will be made available to heritage projects across the state.

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



## Current & Upcoming Grant Opportunities

### New Round of Mini-Grants Slated for Late July 2018

Keep an eye out this July for the release of our FY2019 Mini-Grant round. This program is designed to provide funding for innovative exhibits, tours, marketing, planning and projects which build upon interpretive themes identified in the Management Plan including: Transportation, Man and Nature, Historic Recreation, Cultural Uniqueness.



- Projects must be non-capital and seek to attract cultural heritage tourists to the region.
- Projects must be funded dollar for dollar (cash match only)
- Projects must be completed by mid May 2019 (date TBD).

Examples of past projects and updated information will be available on our [grants page](#).

### African American Heritage Preservation Program Grants for Capital Projects

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 FY2019 funding round of the African American Heritage Preservation Program (AAHPP) is now open. The application deadline will be **11:59 pm on Saturday, July 1, 2018**. The application must be submitted through our online grant application portal.

To learn more or to sign up to attend an informational workshop, please click [here](#).

## Educational Opportunities

### Railroads of Garrett County: A History

What else do we really know about the railroads and the impact on Garrett County history? This is a newly revised course with a significant new section on the B & O Railroad during the Civil War under the presidency of John W. Garrett for whom Garrett County is named. It will cover the railroads in general terms for participants with even a mild interest in rail travel. In this class, historian, author, and educator, Dr. Neal Brooks will describe the railroads development, decline, and main purposes.



We'll discuss two companies, the B & O and Western Maryland, with remnants that are still present as part of CSX. This class is intended for a general audience interested in Garrett County and in general transportation history, not just rail fans. Participants will also learn about several railroads that have disappeared but have had significant impact, including the Confluence and Oakland, Preston Railroad, and the Jennings Brothers Railroad. Participants will find an enjoyable and open discussion method with an instructor whose long interest in railroads shows in each class. The classes will be held Thursdays, April 19 - May 10 at the Oakland B&O Museum. Cost to register for the class is \$59.

For more information and to register for the class, click [here](#) or call 301-387-3069.

### National Road Historic Presentation



Maria Day, the director of Special Collections & Conservation, will be presenting on the historic National Road Monday, May 14 at 6:00 p.m. at the Historic Casselman Inn in Grantsville. The presentation will start promptly at 6:00, if you plan to dine on your own, please do so prior. Take a virtual field trip back in time to the early twentieth century, as Marylanders explored historic and scenic wonders of our state by automobile. This talk features maps, documents, commercial art, tour guides, and other items from

Maryland State Archives Special Collections, the State's holdings of private documents and culturally-significant records. The presentation spans a cross-section of automobile history across the state: from the earliest cars in the State and paving of The National Road, to post-war leisure travel and the opening of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge. Two video clips and many photographs from the Archives' collections are included. Visit [www.visitgrantsville.com](http://www.visitgrantsville.com) for more information about all of the events during the Grantsville National Road Festival.

**Keep an eye on your inboxes for additional upcoming opportunities that will be released soon!**

## Appalachian Forest Heritage Area

Garrett County is part of the Appalachian Forest Heritage Area which extends over 16 counties in West Virginia and 2 in Maryland.



For centuries, the forests of the Appalachian Mountains have sustained local settlers, provided raw materials for America's economic expansion, and inspired visitors. The Appalachian Forest Heritage Area (AFHA) tells the story of this forest legacy and the mountain people who forged it.

The AFHA attracts visitors to discover the rich forest heritage of the highlands of West Virginia and western Maryland. Visitors explore thematic trails leading them to recreation, learning, entertainment, and appreciation experiences targeted to their own interests.

Communities benefit from the AFHA in several ways. Economic markets increase for local events and attractions, tourist services, forest industry products and the arts. Communities grow stronger through local participation and regional networking. The entire region works with a shared approach to use, conservation, and appreciation of our multi-faceted forest.

**The Appalachian Forest Heritage Area (AFHA) is seeking National Heritage Area designation. This will provide national recognition and credibility, and the opportunity for substantial funding for long-term development of the project. To learn more about the national designation, please visit: <http://appalachianforest.us>**

## Upcoming Events

**Winter & Summer Mountain Fresh Farmers Market** - Select Saturdays, 4/14, 4/28, 5/12 from 11am - 1pm at the Mary Browning Senior Center located at 104 E. Center St., Oakland (enter from the parking lot in the back). Summer Farmers Market - June - October (Wednesdays & Saturdays, 10am - 1pm at the Mountain Fresh Pavilion in Oakland. For more information, visit <http://www.mountainfresh.org/>

**Footwork, Percussive Dance Ensemble** - Saturday, April 7th - 7:30pm - 9:00pm at the Garrett College Auditorium. Footworks presents a uniquely American Story: an exuberant fusion of live music, comedy, singing and a dazzling array of percussive dance forms rooted in different cultures. For more information and tickets, please visit: <http://www.artsandentertainment.org/>

**An Evening of History & Dinner** - Saturday, May 5th - 5:00pm at St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Oakland. Join the Youghiogheny Glades National Society Daughters of the American Revolution for a Dinner and an Evening of History featuring Mary Lincoln: Wife, Mother, Sister - A Living History Portrayal by JoAnn Peterson. Tickets are available for \$20 each by contacting Sherry Georg, 301-746-8357 or email [sherry152@verizon.net](mailto:sherry152@verizon.net) or Denise

**Taste of Garrett** - Sunday, May 6th - 4 - 7pm at Wisp Resort. 2018 marks the 16th annual Taste of Garrett and is a major fundraiser for Garrett Trails. 100% of proceeds go toward progress on our trail construction. The event is packed with restaurants from all around Garrett County, MD. Patrons pay one entrance fee and then can immerse themselves in tasty treats from the area's best chefs, prizes and raffles, entertainment and delicious new offerings and classic favorites from Garrett County's popular dining establishments. Cost is \$30 for adults and \$15 for children. For more information [www.garretttrails.org](http://www.garretttrails.org)

**Grantsville National Road Festival** - May 12 - 19, locations throughout Grantsville. Events include the National Road & Town Wide Yard Sale, the Little Crossings Braddock Encampment, a Historic Presentation by Maria Day, the 45th Annual National Pike Wagon Train, Cinderblocks 5, The Walking Gallery Gathers, and the Little Crossings Festival Artisan & Epicurean Faire. For more information and full schedule of events, visit: [www.visitgrantsville.com](http://www.visitgrantsville.com)

**Garrett County Celtic Festival** - Saturday, June 2nd - 11:00am - 8:00pm 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! For more information and tickets, visit: <http://gccelticfestival.com/>

**Grantsville Days at the Park** - June 22 - June 24th - Grantsville Days is held the last full weekend in June with food vendors in the park, a grand feature parade at 7:00 on Friday night, fireworks Friday and Saturday at dark and a full slate of live music, including the fabulous hubcaps! NEW for 2018 - Grantsville Days Craft Show - Grantsville Arts & Entertainment District is celebrating the 45th Annual Grantsville Days Celebration with a craft show! We will have artists showcased indoors at the Grantsville Senior Center and outdoors on the tennis courts at the town park. For more information, visit [www.visitgrantsville.com](http://www.visitgrantsville.com)

**Garrett County Gran Fondo** - June 23. The Garrett County Gran Fondo has a ride for everyone from the recreational cyclist to seasoned professionals with five supported ride options. The 125 mile "Diabolical Double", the 102 mile "Savage Century", the 62 mile "Masochistic Metric", and the 44 mile "Fabulous 44" all contain very steep and challenging hills. The "Garrett's Greatest 25" includes hills but is appropriate for the recreational cyclist not desiring to undertake the more extreme Gran Fondo ride offerings. For more information, visit [www.garrettcountrygranfondo.org](http://www.garrettcountrygranfondo.org)

*\*Dates, times and details are subject to change. Please contact event organizers for the most up-to-date information.*

There are so many events coming up this spring and early summer! Please visit [www.garrettheritage.com](http://www.garrettheritage.com) for all upcoming events.

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



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



Like us on Facebook

**Address:**  
15 Visitors Center Drive  
McHenry, MD 21541

[Visit our Website](#)

**Contact Us:**  
301-387-4386 - Office  
[jen@garrettchamber.com](mailto:jen@garrettchamber.com)

