

THE LEGACY

NEWSLETTER OF THE HOWARD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Fall 2018, Volume 55, Number 4

THE HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR IS ON THE OLD FREDERICK ROAD NATIVE AMERICAN TRAIL (ROUTE 99)

BY PAULETTE LUTZ

The 2018 Holiday House Tour follows an old Native American Trail in northern Howard County. Before there were any roads, there were deer trails, which eventually became the paths used by the Native Americans in the county. These paths widened to wagon trails as the settlers moved westward into the county. Old Frederick Road, which is also known as Route 99, is one of these trails.

The houses on the tour this year are reflective of the "farm houses" and mill houses that prospered in the northwest section of the county. Most of these farms were self-contained with blacksmith shops, gardens, cattle and stock and grain crops for income.

Daniels 1810

Daniels, formerly known first as Elysville and then as Alberton, was the largest town along the Old Frederick Road. It is the hometown of former Howard County Executive and State Senator James N. Robey.

A mill was first constructed in the area by Thomas Elys in 1810 and in the 1830s the textile mill community became known as Elysville after the company. The mill passed to the Okisco Company in the 1840s and was renamed Alberton after the son of the owner, James Albert Gary. In 1940, the mill was purchased by C. R. Daniels Manufacturing Company and the town became Daniels. In 1968, the owner announced to the remaining 60 citizens that he would be closing the doors to the factory; however, the flooding of Hurricane Agnes left the town in ruins.



Linnwood Manor

Linnwood Manor 1860 Samuel F. Cobb House

The history of Linnwood is closely tied to the mills at Alberton, about three-quarters of a mile to the northwest, on the Patapsco River. James S. Gary purchased for \$13,845.75 two lots, one of which was to become "Linnwood" in 1864. James S. Gary died in 1870 and the lots became the property of the Gary Manufacturing Company.

The company leased the Linnwood lot (41 acres) to Charles McCummeskey in 1877 for a period of 99 years at a cost of \$3,657.50, with an annual ground rent of one cent. He sold the property in 1896 to Samuel F. Cobb for \$4,500.

Continued on Page 4

HCHS MUSEUM

8328 Court Ave., Ellicott City, Maryland 21043 (Formerly First Presbyterian Church) (410) 480-3250

> Hours: Friday, Saturday and Sunday: 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. www.hchsmd.org

HCHS ARCHIVE AND HISTORICAL CENTER

The Charles Miller Branch Library and Historical Center 9421 Frederick Rd., Ellicott City, Maryland 21042 (410) 480-3250 (voice)

Hours: Monday and Tuesday, 1:00-8:00 P.M. Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 1:00-5:00 P.M.

President's Message

STEVE CASTRO



The holidays are rapidly approaching and we have an outstanding event to help you celebrate the season! This makes a wonderful holiday gift for the people in your life who are "hard to shop for." It benefits the Howard County Historical Society (HCHS) and it is our largest fund raiser of the year.

This event is the crown jewel of HCHS that grows in popularity every year. **The Historic Holiday House Tour** is on Sunday, December 9th from 1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. This year's theme is "The

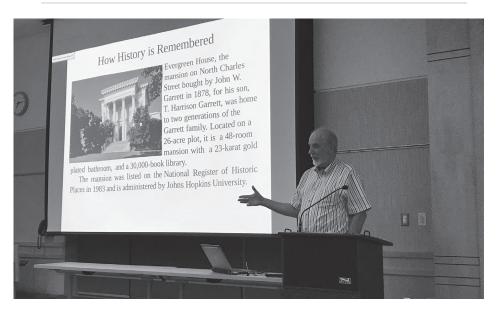
Old Frederick Road (Route 99)." The Old Frederick Road which began as a Native American Indian trail, is one of the oldest roads in Howard County. Starting at Daniels, we will visit two houses of the mill town, Linnwood and the Thomas Farm Tenant House. We will also visit the Gary Memorial United Methodist Church that served the town of Daniels and surrounding area. We will travel along Route 99 to Mount Hebron, McKenzie's Discovery and Mt. Pleasant that are wonderful examples of the large farms that populated the northern section of the county. This event sells out every year, so be sure to buy your tickets at www.hchsmd.org or visit our offices on the second floor of the Miller Branch Library, 9421 Frederick Road, Ellicott City, Md. \cdot\frac{1}{2}

Editor's Note

JANET KUSTERER

The Holiday House tour is a welcome start to the holiday season. We are so lucky to have so many lovely historic homes in Howard County, and that these owners are willing to share their wonderfully preserved homes with us. And speaking of preservation, I'd like to

offer congratulations to our Executive Director, Shawn Gladden, who recently was honored by Preservation Howard County for his outstanding historic preservation initiatives. This is a well-deserved recognition of his continuing dedication to our historic community.



LIBRARY LECTURE SERIES WITH LABOR HISTORIAN BILL BARRY, Oct. 15, 2018.

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Send Us Your Articles

Anyone interested in contributing articles or photographs or anything of interest to the Society, please call the Library at 410-480-3250 or email Janet Kusterer at janetkusterer21042@gmail.com

Executive Director's Message Shawn Gladden



I t is a busy time of year for the Howard County Historical Society! We have been hard at work with our popular public programs like the Ghost Tours,

Historic Walking Tours of Ellicott City, and Lunch Lectures while also planning our 42nd Annual Holiday House Tour. This year's tour promises to be the best yet! We have secured 6 locations this year and will accommodate 320 guests this year (a new high for us). The tour continues to grow in popularity and is one of the most prestigious events in the county during the holidays. By the time that you are reading this newsletter, we would have already held our "Elegant Evening for Ellicott City" Dinner / Dance benefit on November 17th. This was an event that we partnered with Winterset Ballroom Dance Club and the 1st Presbyterian Church of Howard County. The proceeds from this event will go towards restoring the stain glass windows in the museum, while proceeds from our silent auction will go to Ellicott City Flood relief fund.

In other fundraising initiatives, we were able to raise \$7,000 as a part of a Match Campaign sponsored by an anonymous donor who pledged to match whatever we raised up to \$10,000 before the end of the year. We are still confident that we will meet our goal for the Match campaign. If you are a Business member or sponsor and would like to consider the Howard County Historical Society as a part of your end of year giving, please contact me directly at director@hchsmd.org.

We will be starting Phase 1 of construction on the 2nd Quaker Schoolhouse by the 1st Quarter of 2019. We have applied for county and state grants to help us complete the





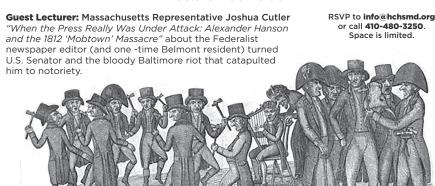
ALEXANDER HANSON (LEFT) WILL BE THE SUBJECT WHEN REPRESENTATIVE JOSHUA CUTLER (RIGHT) SPEAKS ON FEBRUARY 24TH.

renovations by the end of 2019, with 2020 targeted as the opening for the Education Center / Children's Museum. There will be private sponsorship opportunities for this exciting new concept in 2019, once again if you are interested, feel free to contact me directly.

Our annual meeting in 2019 will be on Sunday February 24th at Miller Library from 1:00 – 3:00. We are very excited to welcome Massachusetts Representative Joshua Cutler who will lecture on his published paper "When the Press Really Was Under Attack:
Alexander Hanson and the 1812
'Mobtown' Massacre", about a one-time
Howard Countian (Hanson, who lived at
Belmont) who was the target of antiFederalist attacks in Baltimore during the
War of 1812. The lecture promises to be
very interesting, and timely. We thank
Representative Cutler for making the
trip to address our members and guests.
We will be sending out email invitations
in January, please makes sure to RSVP
through our website when available. \$\frac{1}{2}\$

Howard County Historical Society Annual Member's Meeting and Lecture

Sunday February 24th, 2019 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. **Meeting and Luncheon** 1:00 - 2:00 **Lecture** 2:00 - 3:00



Thomas Farm Tenant House ca. 1880

The Thomas Farm Tenant House is significant for its association with Howard County's 19th century agricultural history, as a building constructed on the Thomas Farm, and for its association with Howard County's late 19th and early 20th century industrial history, as a building owned by workers at Daniels Mill.

An interesting fact is that a few old window frames removed for new window installation were marked "E. A. Talbot, Ellicott City" a lumber firm that was in business from 1849 to 1991. The Thomas family purchased over 158 acres of land primarily for farming, including the lot where Thomas Farm Tenant House is located, from the Gary Manufacturing Company in 1876. Charles Thomas, a prosperous local farmer, presumably constructed the ca. 1880 building.

In 1894, Charles (who was then 83 years old) sold 64 acres around the house to Robert Yates, florist and one-time Ellicott City mayor, who lived on Main Street in Ellicott City.

In 1906, Yates sold the house and just over 14 acres back to George Thomas, another of Charles Thomas' sons. In 1910, George Thomas, then 64, farmed the Thomas property, where he lived with three daughters, Miriam, Lula (both of whom worked as seamstresses) and Elinor.

The period of industrial worker's ownership began in 1912, when George Thomas sold the house and five acres to John Collins. In 1910, Collins and his wife Jennie lived with his mother Mary and his sisters Nanny A. and Katie at Alberton Mill. John repaired looms and Nanny and Katie were both weavers



THOMAS FARM TENANT HOUSE

The Gary Memorial United Methodist Church 1879

The Gary Memorial United Methodist Church is important to Howard County and the State of Maryland historically as a part of the local history of Daniels. Constructed in 1879 by James A. Gary in memory of his father James S. Gary who formed the James S. Gary and Son Manufacturing Company. He acquired the Alberton Manufacturing Company (formerly called Sagoman Manufacturing) located at what is today called Daniels.

According to a 1979 article in the "Heritage," published by Historic Ellicott City, Inc., "By 1856, the community consisted of the mill, an oakum factory, a store, a church and 106 inhabitants." Even today, the Gary Memorial UMC is an active and supportive part of the Daniels community.

Not only did James A. Gary have the Methodist Church built, but he also advised a theological student at Woodstock College, Father Van Krivel, that a lot and \$750 would be donated toward the establishment of a Catholic Mission at Alberton, that became St. Stanislas Kostka. The story goes, that Father Van Krivel would skate down the Patapsco River in the winter, conduct the Sunday Services and then skate back to Woodstock. The ruins of St. Stanislas Kostka are still standing in Daniels.

Mount Hebron 1808

Further down the Old Frederick Road from Daniels is Mount Hebron. Mount Hebron is believed to have been built in 1808, the year of the marriage of Chief Justice Thomas Beale Dorsey to Milcah Goodwin. They had nine children.

Thomas pursued the practice of law and excelled in his profession. From 1824 to 1848, he was an Associate Judge of the Court and was Chief Justice of the Court of Appeals from 1848 to 1851. While pursuing this career path, he made the daily trip from Mount Hebron to Annapolis on horseback.

On January 29, 1851, Judge Dorsey presented to the Maryland Constitutional Convention the petition requesting that the "Howard District" of Anne Arundel County be made a separate county. The petition was granted and on July 4, 1851, Howard County became the 21st county of Maryland.

During the Civil War, Mount Hebron was the scene of an extensive search by Union Troops for Ned Thompson, kin to John Rogers (great-grandson of Judge Thomas Beale Dorsey). Thompson, while serving in the Confederate Army, ran blockades carrying quinine to troops stricken with malaria. Thompson was traced to the Dorsey home which was thoroughly searched. He was hiding beneath the attic floor and was able to escape on horseback, passing the very gallows that had been built for his execution!

Today, Mount Hebron House, on seven acres of property which includes an outdoor amphitheater, is owned by the Mount Hebron Presbyterian Church. Mount Hebron is used for weddings, showers, community meetings and business events.



MacKenzie's Discovery

McKenzie's Discovery 1890 Blacksmith Shop 1897

McKenzie's Discovery, also known as "No Less" and "Hannon House" stands on one tract of land that was once two tracts, "Addition to Hobson's Choice" and "McKenzie's Neglect." This property adjoined Mt. Hebron and was once thought to be part of it.

In 1817 Aaron McKenzie purchased the land from Thomas Beale Dorsey and built a log house. The blacksmith shop (1897) is believed to exist as early as 1860 when the log barn was built. The current main house was built in 1890 and was improved with additions over the years

In 1952 the land was owned by D. Clayton Lucas who sold it to Mr. and Mrs. J. Norman Otto. Mr. Otto was a German immigrant and Mrs. Otto was a descendant of the Dorseys of Anne Arundel County. Their daughter Jean and her husband, Philip A. Hanon, were well known for their love of old homes and buildings in Howard County.

Philip A. and Jean Hannon were well known for their love of old homes and buildings in Howard County. They made many improvements and restorations in "No Less." Both were very active in civic work and preserving the best in our county's heritage.

Jean Hannon was an award-winning political cartoonist for the Central Maryland News. She was a charter member of Historic Ellicott City, Inc. serving on the Board of Directors as the First Vice President. She was tasked with drawing a map with the boundaries of the Historic District by the Howard County Planning Department which ultimately established the boundaries for the Ellicott City Historic District.

However, her most rewarding experience was in 1968 when she won the contest for designing the first official Howard County flag. The red and white Crossland design incorporates part of the Maryland flag. On the first quarter, a sheaf of wheat in gold symbolizes the agricultural heritage of the county and gives a nod to the Ellicotts and Carrolls for the commencement of growing wheat. The fourth quarter contains a green outline of the county set in a gold triangle symbolizing the unique position of Howard County in the future development of the Western shore (i.e., the location between Baltimore, Washington and Frederick). Mouse pads, magnets and shot glasses with the Howard County flag are available in the HCHS Gift Shop.

Mount Pleasant Farm 1775 Howard County Conservancy

The Brown/e Family owned Mount Pleasant from the time of early European settlement in the 1700s until 1992 when the last of the Brown Family dies and left Mount Pleasant to the Howard County Conservancy.

Samuel, Ruth and Frances, brother and sisters, were the last generation that lived at Mount Pleasant after seven generations of "shirtsleeve to shirtsleeve" as Frances would put it. Ruth and Frances both were teachers in the Howard County Public schools for almost 50 years. Samuel worked at the Baltimore City Water Department for 51 years.

Their ancestor, Thomas Browne, was given a land grant called Ranter's Ridge (now Mt. Pleasant) in 1703. Thomas built a settler's hut on the land. The original homestead was a log cabin built in 1775 which is visible from a display window on the side of Mt. Pleasant today.

The original log cabin is contained within the farm house. The farm today has ornamental and community gardens, hiking trails, the original hen house and working blacksmith shop, and the oldest known barn in the state - moved to this site for preservation as a part of working history.

The Howard County Conservancy now maintains the farm "connecting people to nature" as the Browns would have wanted it. The mission of the Howard County Conservancy is to educate children and adults about our natural world, preserve the land and its legacy for future generations and model responsible stewardship of our environment. \clubsuit

Upcoming Events

LUNCH DATES WITH HISTORY 2018 LECTURE SERIES AT THE HCHS MUSEUM

The Museum of Howard County History (8328 Court Ave, Ellicott City) is proud to host a series of lectures for 2018. Bring your own lunch. Drinks and treats will be provided. Tickets are Free for HCHS Members and only \$5 for non-members.

Doors open at 11:30am. Each lecture runs noon-1:00pm followed by an optional tour of the museum 1:00-1:30pm. For more information, call 410-480-3250 or email info@hchsmd.org.

 Friday, Dec. 7th: "Columbia at 50 – 10 Things You Didn't Know." – with Maryland Reporter Journalist Len Lazarick

MILLER BRANCH LIBRARY HISTORY SERIES

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE HOWARD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Mondays, 7-8:30pm

All lectures are free. Reservations must be made through the Howard County Library System NOT the Historical Society. Call 410-313-1950 or visit www.hclibrary.org/classes-events/ to register.

 Monday, Nov 19: What the Leadership Styles of Presidents Tell Us about their Character - K. Ward Cummings, former senior adviser to members of Congress.

LEE DOLL PRESENTS MOVIES AT THE MUSEUM

Every Second Saturday

The producer showcases his productions filmed in the Ellicott City area. FREE showings every 2nd Saturday at the Museum of Howard County History (8328 Court Ave, Ellicott City). Note: the museum was not affected by the flooding and is accessible from courthouse drive. There is ample parking available at the court house which is a short walk to the museum.

- Saturday, Nov 10th: "Are You Ready?"
- Saturday, Jan 12th: "Dangerous Deception: Tales of the Fixer"
- · Saturday, Feb 9th: "Fred Mulligan's Showcase of Stars"

MUSEUM CONCERT SERIES

All events take place at the Museum of Howard County History, located at 8328 Court Avenue, Ellicott City, MD 21043. Parking is available on the street and in the Circuit Court House parking lot. Tickets are Free for a limited number of HCHS members but must be reserved. All Tickets must be purchased/reserved by 5:00pm the night before the event.

 Saturday, Dec. 15, 2018 - Columbia Jazz Band Holiday Concert

A YEAR OF OLD FASHIONED FUN Children's programs

Sessions are offered the first Saturday of each month. Each session runs from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. Sessions are suitable for children ages 5-12. Each session includes a craft. A parent or adult guardian must accompany the children. Registration is limited to 24 children per session. Tuition is \$5.00 per child, per session; there is no charge for children or grandchildren of Society members.

· Saturday, Dec. 8th: "Deck the Halls"

HOWARD COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY HELP DESK

Third Saturday of Every Month, 1-4pm

The Genealogical Help Desk is held at the Miller Branch Library Historical Center (9421 Frederick Road Ellicott City)

The Howard County Genealogical Society hosts a free help desk on the third Saturday of every month at our Archive and Research Library located on the second floor of the Miller Branch Library. This help desk is open to genealogical research in all areas of the United States, Europe and other countries. Anyone interested in genealogical research is invited to stop by and have experienced genealogists help you to "break down the brick wall" or get started on your family history. For more information call 410-480-3250.

42ND ANNUAL HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR

Sunday December 9th, 1:30-6:30pm

Sponsored by the Bob lucido Team of Keller Williams Integrity.

For information about any of our events please call 410-480-3250 or visit www.hchsmd.org/events

Guilford - A Quarry Town

BY KAITLYN MCKAY

A side from the old railroad bridge over Little Patuxent River that has been converted into a walking bridge, little remains of the town of Guilford.

The river attracted settlers to the area. The community began when the Guilford Gristmill was opened around 1750 by Charles Warfield & Elizabeth Ridgely. By 1860, it was converted into a cotton mill & was called Guilford Factory.

While Guilford had a few cotton mills - the most notable one owned by James A. Gary, the future Postmaster General under President McKinley - it was mostly a quarry town. Granite was quarried in Guilford beginning in the 1830s through 1920 when the quarry flooded with water and the equipment was destroyed.

By the early 1900s, Guilford had a large African-American community that founded the First Baptist Church of Guilford. Guilford Elementary School opened in 1954 as an all-black school; the same year the Supreme Court deemed segregation in public schools unconstitutional. By the time it had opened, Guilford Elementary School was one of four all-black elementary



schools in Howard County and the only one that's still running since schools integrated.

There was the occasional excitement: in 1945, three barns within a mile of each other were all struck by lightning and the Ellicott City Times

reported a police raid on a nightclub in 1952. But Guilford remained a quiet community after the quarry closed. Now, most of what was Guilford has been absorbed into Columbia and most of the housing that stood during Guilford's prime era is no longer standing. \$\pm\$

Patapsco Female Institute's Link to Thomas Jefferson

BY REBECCA (BECCA) DOBBS



Did you know that the great-granddaughter of Thomas Jefferson, Sarah Nicholas Randolph, was a student the Patapsco Female Institute (PFI) and later became the principal of the school? Sarah was the last principal at the PFI prior to its closure in 1891.

After she finished her term in 1885, she established an academy of her own entitled "Miss Randolph's School for Young Ladies and Little Girls," which opened in 1887. Like Almira Hart Lincoln Phelps, another influential figure of the PFI, Randolph wanted the girls to be well educated and able to work as teachers or in another profession and, therefore, prepared to support a family once they graduated. The Randolph's Young Ladies School had a very extensive curriculum, which was similar to that of the Patapsco Female Institute, as was its tuition, ranging between \$100 and \$500 per academic year. \$\pm\$

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