

July 2021

Harford Heritage News

250th Anniversary of Founding of Harford County—2023

200th Anniversary of Lafayette's Tour of America— 2024

Bel Air Hosts Logo Award Ceremony

Over the past year, Harford 250 sponsored a contest encouraging local artists to submit ideas for a logo to identify programs and celebrations planned for 2023. The Town of Bel Air generously provided the prize money for the winning logo. Local artists, students and residents generously submitted some exceptional drawings for consideration. A subcommittee of five evaluated each submission and selected the winning logo, which was submitted by Karen Schoelkopf. This logo is the emblem of the Harford 250 celebration and will figure prominently in publicity about upcoming events and on the Harford 250 website, which was launched on June 21, 2021 at www.harford250.org.

Mayor Amy G. Chmielewski introduced the award recipient at the Bel Air Town Board's June meeting. She noted that on December 6, 1773, the Maryland General Assembly approved the formation of a new county to be named Harford County, separating this area from what was originally Baltimore County. Part of this proclamation was the requirement to establish a county seat. This eventually led to the development of the Bel Air we know today. In 2023, the county will commemorate its 250th anniversary with a year-long celebration. The Town of Bel Air is proud to be part of this event by showcasing the Event Logo and presenting Ms. Karen Schoelkopf with her prize for submitting the winning logo.

Harford 250 Website Online

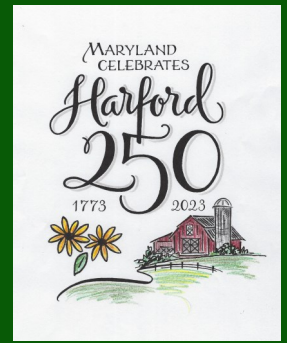
Visit the new Harford 250 website www.harford250.org. While this is still a work in progress, the new site, which includes a description of the group's Mission, all current and past newsletters, a place for participating groups to submit events, and a link for individuals to plan their stay in Harford County. The website is a convenient site to learn about all planned Harford 250 events along with contact information.

In the near future, a timeline will be added graphically recounting Harford's history. The site will also include a section providing information on how to get involved either as a participant or a supporter, a media information section describing all planned activities and for those of you who provide your logo, the site will include logos and links to various participating organizations .

Take a minute to visit the site and add planned events for 2023.

Trivia Project Meets Goal

The Trivia Committee has collected more than 250 Trivia Questions and Answers for the Harford 250 Trivia project. Some of these Trivia questions will be shared with interested businesses/organizations for use during their celebrations. Get a jump on the answers by reviewing the questions on page 2.



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Trivia Questions for July

1. What famous musician called Edgewood home from the late 1940s through the early 1950s when his father was employed at Edgewood Arsenal?
2. What mineral, present today in county street names and geographic areas, was discovered in great abundance north and east of Jarrettsville in the early 1800s and used at that time primarily for creating pigments for paints and chemicals for leather tanning?
3. Found at the Harford County Historical Society, the Empire State Building, and the Library of Congress' John Adams building, what prized "marble like" rock, was once heavily mined in northern Harford County?
4. In 1724, a new town and major seaport was laid out along the shores of the Gunpowder River in what is now Harford County. What principal export was also a major form of currency at the time?

Sharing Your Story

Stories for our Harford 250 Anthology continue to come in, each showcasing a different perspective and time in Harford County. To give you a brief glimpse of one of the recently submitted Anthology stories and an idea of what is to come; we are including an excerpt from *The Daneker Clock, a tale of how one thing can lead to another* by George F. Harrison, Jr. Meanwhile, we encourage you to consider submitting your own story. Details on how to submit are included at the [end of the newsletter](#).

Charles Rutherford Daneker, Sr. had a long time fascination with clocks, especially the stately Grandfather clocks that stood in the entryway of many elegant homes. He admired the craftsmanship and the sounds of the chimes every quarter hour, but he never really thought that one day he would be making them.

He was not a clockmaker, but the manager for Harford and Cecil County for the C & P Telephone Company which had begun a large expansion of service to the counties surrounding Baltimore City in the first few years of the 20th Century. He had only been recently married to a widow with three young children when he was transferred to Bel Air.

He built a substantial house on East Broadway in the then-new development of Ingle-side with a separate apartment on the second floor to accommodate his growing family, which by then included three more children. That apartment would later prove to be a boon to a new business prompted by the U.S. entry into World War Two.

In the late 1940s, after a visit to a Bavarian Clock manufacturing plant in West Germany, Charles Daneker decided it was time to revise the company's product line. He and his sons could take advantage of the growing economy and provide tall case clocks in the Eastern United States, an underserved market. The Daneker clocks were slightly smaller than the European version so they fit better into American homes built after the war. The clocks featured Bavarian clock movements, solid brass dials and face plates with the Daneker signature in beautifully finished cabinets.

(You will need to wait for the book to find out the rest of the story.)



*Daneker Clock
manufactured in
Fallston*

Committee Updates

Tasks Completed

The Harford 250 website is launched. The website committee has been working regularly to create an excellent site to display event information.

The logo is chosen and available to participating groups. The Logo committee has disbanded having completed its tasks in fine fashion.

250 trivia questions are collected. The Trivia group has met the initial goal for questions and answers to showcase during 2023 on the Harford 250 Facebook page. Copies of the trivia questions and will be offered to members for use throughout the county during our celebratory year.

Anthology of Memoirs and Histories

The Anthology Committee is continuing to review and edit submissions as they arrive. This group consists of 12 very dedicated individuals who are doing a wonderful job of monitoring the stories we receive.

Next General Meeting — September 16, 10 AM

The next general meeting of the Harford Heritage Committee will be held in-person at the Bel Air Armory on Thursday, September 16, 2021 at 10 am. Please set this time aside on your calendar. We encourage anyone interested in engaging in the Harford 250 celebration to attend and to share your ideas and excitement with the group.

Liaisons and Contacts

Members of the Steering Committee who are assigned as liaisons to local museums, business organizations and municipalities will be contacting members to introduce themselves and to discuss your plans for the Harford 250 Celebration. Meanwhile, please send your ideas for programs or events or your organization's planned activities to us at 250celebration@harfordhistory.org.

We look forward to receiving your ideas and plans.



Courtland Hardware, 1958

Southeast corner of Main and Courtland Streets, Bel Air

Photo courtesy of the Historical Society of Harford County

Help Plan Anniversary Events: Source Material

A county's 250th Anniversary is a significant milestone. Harford's is somewhat unique in closely mirroring our nation's upcoming 250th Anniversary in 2026. Recognizing the importance of this upcoming birthday, the Harford Heritage Committee began evaluating the best way to celebrate such a major event. Research led to a number of communities whose celebrations of their 150th, 200th and 250th anniversaries provided fascinating ideas for countywide consideration. The committee has already adopted a few of these concepts into its newly launched website, but wanted to share these national websites with each of you in the hope that they may generate some local programs.

Here are a few excellent websites for your consideration.

<https://www.America250>

<https://www.santacruz.org/blog/heres-how-to-celebrate-watsonvilles-150th-anniversary/>

<https://www.southhaven.org/150>

<https://www.fxva.com/275/>

<https://coloradosprings.gov/cos-150>

<https://bedford250.com/index.html>

<https://www.cityofhuntington.com/huntington150>

<https://durham150.org> (Yesterday, today and tomorrow)

<https://www.suffieldct.gov/our-town/350th-celebration> (in planning stage)

Trivia Contest Answers:

1. Frank Zappa
2. Chromite
3. Serpentine
4. Tobacco

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HARFORD 250

SHORT STORIES WANTED!

Together, we're writing a book the Historical Society will publish.

Write a true story (in 2,000 words or less)
about places, events, and/or people
that were part of your past here in
Harford County.

Just a few examples:

- *Did you have a favorite hangout that isn't around?*
- *Perhaps a business was located elsewhere in its early days*
- *A person from the county who had a profound impact.*
- *What were some things we did 50 or more years ago that we don't do or do differently now?*

TELL US!

We want to make YOUR story, part of OUR story.

Email stories to 250Celebration@HarfordHistory.org

DEADLINE for submission is December 31, 2021

All submissions will be reviewed by a committee. The society will notify those whose stories have been selected for publication.

All submissions will be retained in the Society's Archives. Submission constitutes the individual's agreement to allow the use of the story in the anthology and also acknowledges that extracts/pictures may be used for publicity purposes. It is also understood that no payment will be given for use of the stories and pictures.