

April 2023

# Harford Heritage News

250th Anniversary of Founding of Harford County—2023 to March 2024

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

## Harford 250 Showcase a Huge Success

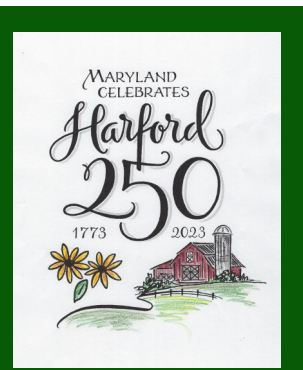
On March 31 and April 1, 2023, hundreds of county residents joined together to initiate this year's celebration. For those of you who were unable to attend, the event featured the best of Harford with music, entertainment, art, exhibits, photography, a train garden in a trolley, Wildlife Adventures and more. But this is just the beginning of the Harford 250 adventure.

The Friday Evening First Look was attended by a Who's Who in the county's business and cultural community. Among the speakers were County Executive Bob Cassilly, Bill Kelly of The Kelly Group, Honorary Chair Kim Waters, and Bill Walden, President of the Historical Society of Harford County. The invocation was offered by Pastor Mark Nolan, New Hope

Baptist Church. Other speakers were Denise Dregier, Executive Director of the Harford Community College Foundation Melanie Meoli Robinson, President of the Dresher Foundation, Matt Scales on behalf of the Harford Chamber of Commerce and Elizabeth Wise, CEO of University of Maryland Upper Chesapeake Health

On Saturday. Family Fun Day, people began arriving well before the official start time of 10 AM. The afternoon sun drew more folks outside to enjoy the Ma & Pa Trolley and the Fire Prevention House.

Numerous oral histories outlining the life stories of local residents were recorded and are being edited for a program to be shown on Harford TV. Here are just a few highlights from the event.

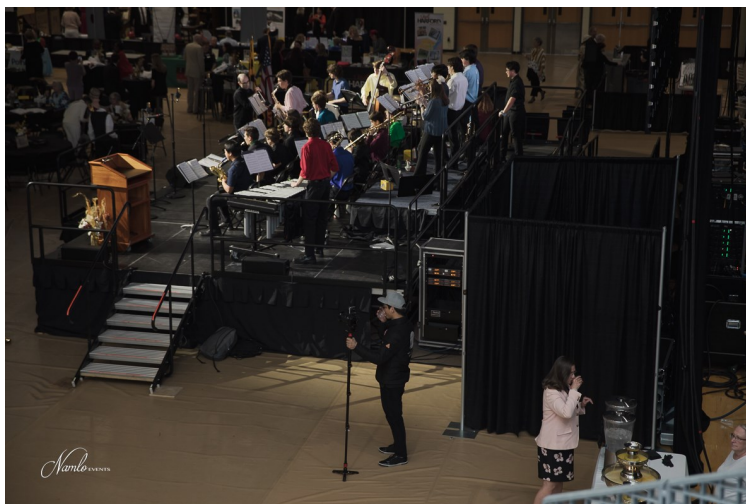


- ♦ [Showcase Photos](#)
- ♦ [Art Winners](#)
- ♦ [HSHC Reopening](#)
- ♦ [APG Demo Day](#)
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Photos by  
NAMLO  
Events







## And the Winners Are...

Numerous artists competed in the Harford 250 Heritage Art contest which had divisions for works by both professional and amateur artist. The upper concourse of the HCC Arena was transformed into an art gallery featuring those submissions plus the amazing Barn Paintings of Joan Hodous and a display by the Harford County Photography Group. Lissa Abrams ably judged the professional art works. A People's Choice ballot determined the winners in the amateur division. And those winners are:

### PROFESSIONAL

- First place – Denise Matuk-Kroopa – Painting – Lock House
- Second Place – Pam Wilde – Painting -- Grist Mill
- Third Place – Diane Gibson – Painting – Gunpowder Falls
- Honorable Mention – Denise McDaniel – Painting – Big Tree

### AMATEUR

- History of Harford Co. – Linda Vecchio – Painting -- Susquehanna Historic I
- Spirit of Harford Co. Frank Kulik – Painting – Harford Gothic
- People of Harford Co. – Linda Vecchio – Painting -- Local Strawberry Planting
- Places of Harford Co. –
  - ◆ Adult Lisa Cox – Painting –Medical Hall
  - ◆ Youth – Arianna DeJesus



# THANK YOU TO THE SPONSORS OF THE Harford 250 Showcase



## Spring Into History –Reopening of the Historical Society and the Harford Museum Launch, May 20, 2-6 PM

Everyone is invited to this amazing family fun day to mark the reopening of the Historical Society of Harford County and the Launch of Harford Museum on May 20. 2-6 PM at 143 N. Main St., Bel Air. This is your chance for a behind the scenes tour, a first look at the long-awaited county museum. Learn about county history and your part in it. Enjoy great food from area food trucks, music, a selfie booth, and an opportunity to try Harford 250s *All About Pale Ale* in the Society's Beer Garden. Be sure to bring the kids. There will be a mini "archeological dig" for the little ones and kids' treasures to explore.

## APG Proving It Demo Day—May 20

Join us for APG's *Proving It* Demonstration Day! On May 20, 2023, enter our gates to learn about the extraordinary missions we prove every day through hands-on exhibits and demonstrations. The Exploration Zone see a performance from our U.S. Army Drill Team (Old Guard), an Army Aerial demonstration, and much more. We'll also feature a ticketed Live Fire Show to witness up-close APG's testing capabilities for the Warfighter.

Safety and security of our visitors is our number one priority. To safeguard the safety of all the Live Fire Show will be a ticket-only activity during APG's Proving It Demonstration Day. Tickets are free and only required for entry to the Live Fire Show that begins at 3p.m. All other activities are open to the general public with no ticket required.

To find out more information, including show times, activities, and ticket distribution, visit [tinyurl.com/APGDemoDays](https://tinyurl.com/APGDemoDays).



U.S. Army Aberdeen Proving Ground

# DEMO DAYS

SAVE THE DATES! MAY 19-20, 2023

Join team APG as we demonstrate our most extraordinary capabilities. Come see, feel, and learn about the Army's most unique missions behind our gates.

## APG's Future Force EXPLORATION DAY

MAY 19, 2023

OPEN TO PRE-REGISTERED HCPS STUDENTS!

Students will complete a tour of duty as they explore the Army's most unique careers and observe a Live Fire exercise.

## APG's Proving It DEMONSTRATION DAY

MAY 20, 2023

OPEN TO THE TICKETED PUBLIC!

Experience the Army and APG's most extraordinary capabilities through interactive demonstrations and displays including a Live Fire demo, aerial performance, and much more.

FOR MORE INFO, VISIT:  
<https://tinyurl.com/APGDemoDays>



## THE CITY OF HAVRE DE GRACE WELCOMES

# Two Historic Ships

June 1-5 and June 23-25

### Docking at Hutchins Memorial Park

100 Congress Ave

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TOUR TIMES VISIT [EXPLOREHAVREDEGRACE.COM](https://www.explorehavredegrace.com)

Logos: HAVRE DE GRACE MARYLAND, HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HARFORD, Harford 250, STAR SPANGLED BANNER, LOWER SUSQUEHANNA HERITAGE GREENWAY

PRIDE OF BALTIMORE

MARYLAND DOVE

## Pride of Baltimore II and The Dove

As part of our continuing celebration of Harford 250, two historic ships will be voyaging to Harford in June. The *Pride of Baltimore II* docks at Frank J. Hutchins Memorial Park on June 1 and offers Public Deck Tours on June 2, 3 and 4. The *Pride* and ships like it are an integral part of our county's history. This type of topsail schooner served the country well during the War of 1812, a time when Havre de Grace was under attack by the British. Come relive this exciting time in our past.

On June 23, the *Dove* will sail into Havre de Grace. The *Dove* is a replica of the small, 40-ton capacity cargo ship purchased by Cecil Calvert and investors so that the colonists would have their own ship to use once Ark had sailed for England. The *Maryland Dove*, a tall ship built in 1978, is Historic St. Mary's City's floating ambassador and one of its most popular exhibits. Public tours of the ship will begin at Frank Hutchins Memorial Park on June 24 and June 25, 10 am - 5 pm. Come experience how your ancestors would have traveled from a far-off continent to the new world.

# Harford 250 Events—March to August 2023

Here is a partial list of 2023 events planned to date:

April 13— Garrett Island: Its History & Archeology, Havre de Grace Opera House, 7 PM

April 22 – Hosanna Storyteller Series at Hosanna School Museum, 1 PM

Virtual Tour – The History of US Routes 1 & 40 in Harford County 6 PM

Dream Builders Ball – Habitat for Humanity Susquehanna's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala

April 28— Archeology of Town Life on the Eve of the American Revolution, HCC, 7 PM

May 6 –

Driving Tour: The History of U.S. 1 and U.S. 40 in Harford County, Noon

The Mill that Built a Village, Jerusalem Mill, 2 PM

May 13—Through the Ages Tea, Steppingstone Museum, 1 PM

May 20 –

Reopening & Museum Launch at Historical Society of Harford County. 2-6 PM

Hosanna Storyteller Series at Hosanna School Museum, 1 PM

Demonstration Day at Aberdeen Proving Ground

May 23— Sgt. Alfred B. Hilton Fundraiser, Maryland Golf & Country Club, 5:30 PM

June 1-5 Pride of Baltimore II at Havre de Grace

June 10 – Legacy Farms Celebration, Equestrian Center, 4-7 PM

June 17—Juneteenth Celebrations

June 23-25—*Maryland Dove* at Havre de Grace

July 4—Independence Day Parade in Bel Air

August 4-6—Chesapeake Bay Hot Air Balloon Festival

August 19—Harford 250 Night at the Ball Park

For a complete list of Harford 250 events go to [www.harford250.org](http://www.harford250.org).

Share your event plans with us at [250celebration@harfordhistory.org](mailto:250celebration@harfordhistory.org), so we include them in a future newsletter.



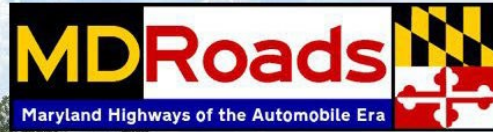


The History of US 1 and US 40 in Harford County, MD  
A Harford250 Road Meet  
Saturday, May 6, 2023



Join us for an informal lunch at 12 pm (pay for your own meal)  
Chesapeake Grille, 913 Pulaski Highway, Havre de Grace, MD

Tour Starts at 1:45 pm outside the Lock House Museum  
817 Conestee Street, Havre de Grace, MD



Please RSVP at either Eventbrite, Facebook, or AARoads:

Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-history-of-us-1-us-40-in-harford-county-md-a-harford-250-road-meet-tickets-615042126557>  
Facebook: <https://fb.me/e/2xzOS3IPY>  
AARoads.com: <https://www.aaroads.com/forum/index.php?topic=32713.0>



# Harford Legacy Farm



CELEBRATING OUR  
AGRICULTURAL HERITAGE  
HARFORD 250

Harford County Equestrian Center

Saturday, June 10, 2023

4 - 7 pm

Tickets \$20 - ON SALE APRIL 3

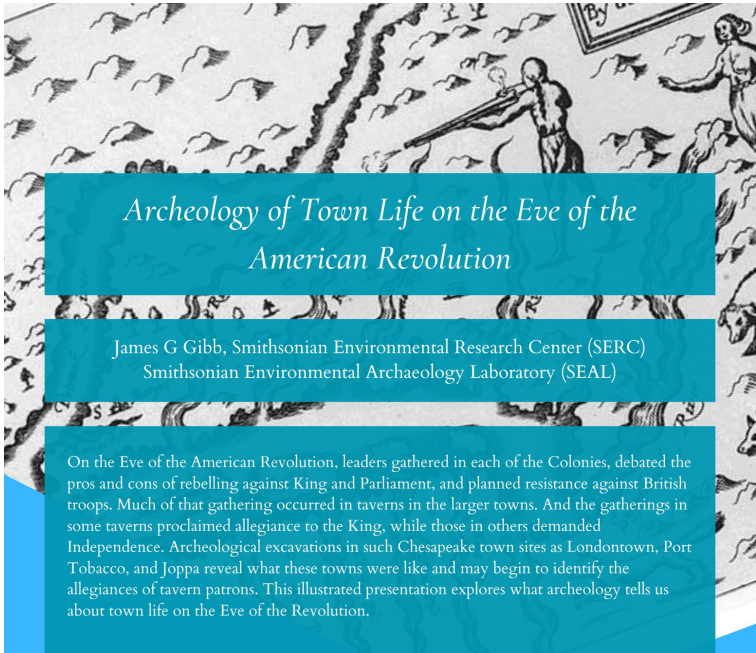
12 & under free

Dinner, Awards, and Presentation

Questions? Ask Nina Depkin  
[ndepkin@harfordlandtrust.org](mailto:ndepkin@harfordlandtrust.org)





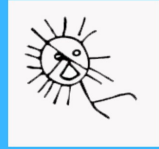


# Archeology of Town Life on the Eve of the American Revolution

James G Gibb, Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC)  
Smithsonian Environmental Archaeology Laboratory (SEAL)

On the Eve of the American Revolution, leaders gathered in each of the Colonies, debated the pros and cons of rebelling against King and Parliament, and planned resistance against British troops. Much of that gathering occurred in taverns in the larger towns. And the gatherings in some taverns proclaimed allegiance to the King, while those in others demanded Independence. Archeological excavations in such Chesapeake town sites as Londontown, Port Tobacco, and Joppa reveal what these towns were like and may begin to identify the allegiances of tavern patrons. This illustrated presentation explores what archeology tells us about town life on the Eve of the Revolution.

Friday, April 28, 2023  
7pm (with Anthropology Poster Display at 6pm) Harford Community College  
Edgewood Hall 132



THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
OF HARFORD COUNTY, INC. PRESENTS:

# The Mill That Built A Village

Saturday May 6th @ 2:00pm

SPECIAL SPEAKER SERIES EVENT

The Historical Society is partnering with Jerusalem Mill to host a special Speakers Series event at Jerusalem Mill, 2813 Jerusalem Road in Kingsville. Participants will meet at the Mill for a guided tour of the Mill and the surrounding village. This National Register site is a unique Harford County treasure, one of the oldest, most intact mill villages in Maryland, and possibly the entire country. The tour will be led by Rich Albright, Vice President and Curator of the Friends of Jerusalem Mill who will describe the Mill's role in both the Revolutionary War and the Civil War, the importance of the Mill in the county's development, and tell the story of one of Harford's first female doctor who made her home in the village. Along with its historical significance, this 18th - 19th century village is one of incredible natural beauty, situated along the Little Gunpowder Falls and housing one of only six remaining covered bridges in the state. We encourage you to join us for this outstanding opportunity to get up close and personal at one of Harford County's treasured attractions.

The tour will be limited to the first 30 people who sign up, so we encourage you to visit the website, [www.harfordhistory.org](http://www.harfordhistory.org) soon to purchase your ticket. Tickets cost \$15 and registration is required. Participants are encouraged to wear comfortable attire as we will be walking for about an hour and a half.

visit [www.harfordhistory.org](http://www.harfordhistory.org)  
or call the Historical Society at  
410-838-7691 for more  
information

To register for this IN PERSON EVENT

410-838-7691 [www.harfordhistory.org](http://www.harfordhistory.org)

Get Your Ticket

HOSTED BY  
STEPPINGSTONE FARM MUSEUM & HARFORD 250



# Through the Ages Tea



\$30 per person  
Saturday, May 13, 2023  
1pm - 3pm

Honor Harford County's 250th year with an afternoon at Steppingstone. Experience a tea service in the Carriage Barn, while celebrating Harford County's history.



To register email [information@steppingstonemuseum.org](mailto:information@steppingstonemuseum.org)  
or scan the QR code:  
[steppingstonemuseum.org](http://steppingstonemuseum.org) | 461 Quaker Bottom Rd Havre de Grace MD 21078



PLEASE SAVE THE DATE & JOIN US FOR OUR  
7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SGT. ALFRED B. HILTON  
MEMORIAL FUNDRAISER

TUESDAY, MAY 23, 2023

MARYLAND GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB  
5:30PM COCKTAILS, 6:30 DINNER/PROGRAM



Sponsorships Available.  
Please call: (410) 459-9411  
Please visit our website or scan  
the QR Code to stay connected.

[www.SGTALFREDBHILTONFOUNDATION.com](http://www.SGTALFREDBHILTONFOUNDATION.com)

# Harford 250 Steering Committee

Chair: Carol Deibel    Co-Chair: Jackie Seneschal

Alyssa Canepa, Main Street Design  
Angela Robertson, Town of Bel Air  
Arden McClune, Liriodendron  
Bill Walden, President, Historical Society of Harford County  
Bob Cassilly, County Executive  
C. John Sullivan, Jr. Museum representative  
Chris Potts, Historical Society of Harford County  
Chuck Castoro, Historical Society of Harford County  
Diane Sengstacke, Upper Chesapeake Chorus  
Iris Barnes, Hosanna Museum  
Jacob Bensen, Harford County P & Z  
Janika Lynch, Business owner  
Jennifer Farrell, Community Foundation of Harford County  
Jenny Falcone, Bel Air Alliance

Julie Mancine, Harford Community College  
Kelly Jara, Harford TV  
Kenny Wilson, Aberdeen Historical Museum  
Laura Bianca Pruitt, Town of Bel Air  
Lauri Orzewicz, City of Havre de Grace  
Maryann Foran, Private Citizen  
Matthew Scales, [Visit Harford](#)  
Megan Hallett, Visit Harford  
Paul Koermer, Private Citizen  
Rebecca Nappi, Aberdeen Proving Ground  
Sharon Delgado, Private Citizen  
Stephanie McKaughan, Darlington Community Council  
Vicki Jones, NAACP

*Harford County has always lain in the main stream of national life.*

*In a sense, its history is the record of our country, reduced in scale.*

Senator William S. James



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