

The HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HARFORD COUNTY, Inc.

Preserving Our Past For Your Future



143 N. Main Street
Bel Air, MD 21014

Society News

May / June 2011

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The Historical Society of Harford County, Inc., headquarters.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The year 2011 has started off well for the Society financially with no unexpected expenses so far this year. The 2011 Membership campaign through the first quarter has been successful with total membership now exceeding 800 members.

The Historical Society of Harford County has partnered with the Town of Bel Air for the Celebrating Harford Veterans event to be held on Veteran's Day, which this year is November 11 (11-11-11). This promises to be a most meaningful event and plans are rapidly moving forward.

All necessary repairs to the Hays House have been completed and the house opened on schedule in early March. The first event for the year at the Hays House is the display of the Society's quilt collection which is well worth a visit.

Over the winter, the railing on the handicap ramp to the headquarters building broke and has been removed for repair. We expect repairs and reinstallation to be completed by the end of April, but in the meantime the ramp will be closed.

Phil Brundrett, President

NEW MEMBERS

George Amoss
Linda Watters Amoss
William Amoss
Ray Anderson
Joan Appel
Cathy Babcock

Donald Brand
Ann Carlton
Jane T. Christie
Carole Coakley-Schaub
Dewana Hall
Kathleen King

Alex McComas Jr.
Sean Powell
Kathi Santora
Kevin Shilko
Judy Hal Teigue.

MAY IS NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION MONTH

Each year communities across the country celebrate the nation's historic preservation efforts. Locally there are poster contests, seminars and special events. The following article provides a brief oversight of Harford County's efforts to preserve our historic properties and heritage. Watch local papers and websites for programs and projects celebrating historic preservation in your area.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION IN HARFORD COUNTY

By Sarah Corey

Harford County Preservation Month 2011 will include the 16th Annual Historic Preservation Awards Breakfast, hosted by the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) and the Harford County Department of Planning and Zoning. The HPC is an appointed eleven member board that works closely with Planning and Zoning to advocate for the preservation of the county's historic and cultural resources. It presents awards to individuals and organizations whose contributions demonstrate outstanding achievements and commitment to historic preservation in Harford County. The Commission is particularly interested in recognizing persons or projects that enhance citizen appreciation for and understanding of the county's history, projects that protect and preserve the county's historic and scenic rural landscapes, and individuals whose work and vision have preserved the richness of the county's heritage.

A highlight in Harford County this year is the restoration of the Proctor House, the only non-religious Carpenter Gothic building within the Town of Bel Air. Built between 1860 and 1873 and enlarged in 1879, the house stayed in the Proctor family until acquired in 1965 by the Harford County Board of Education. In 2007 the Board abandoned the Gordon Street house, which remained vacant and deteriorating until its purchase in 2010 by the Kelly Group for use as additional office space.



*Proctor House before (left) and after (right) -
Gordon Street, Bel Air, Maryland*

Over the course of ten months, the Kelly Group, project architect Marta Noe, and Francis Construction Company fully restored the interior and exterior of the house. The rehabilitation of the Proctor House, which retains its significant architectural elements, clearly shows that it is possible to adaptively reuse a historic structure for commercial purposes, while also providing economic, aesthetic and preservation benefits for the Town of Bel Air and greater Harford County.

Rehabilitation projects like the Proctor House are made more feasible with the assistance of historic preservation tax credits and financial incentives. Currently the State of Maryland offers the Maryland Sustainable Communities Tax Credit Program, which encourages redevelopment of historic buildings and revitalization of older communities by offering tax credits to project sponsors. Administered by the Maryland

Historical Trust, the program provides Maryland income tax credits equal to 20% of the capital cost expended in the rehabilitation of a "certified heritage structure." The credit is available for both owner-occupied residential property and income producing property.

Harford County also maintains a rehabilitation tax credit program which is available for designated *County Historic Landmarks* and is equal to 10% of the pre-approved project costs. The Town of Bel Air also offers a local property tax

credit for pre-approved rehabilitation projects on properties listed as a *Bel Air Historic Property*.

For additional information regarding the County's Historic Preservation Program or the Preservation Awards, please contact Ms. Sarah Corey in the Department of Planning and Zoning at (410) 638-3103 extension 1369 or scorey@harfordcountymd.gov. To learn more about National Preservation Month visit www.PreservationNation.org/PreservationMonth.

Sarah Corey, a native of Maine, has been the Preservation Planner with the Department of Planning and Zoning, since 2007. She holds degrees in Geo-Environmental Studies from Shippensburg University and Anthropology & Geography from the University of Maine at Farmington. She will provide occasional articles for the Newsletter and is working on an issue on Historic Preservation in Harford County for the Harford Historical Bulletin.

BLUE STAR MUSEUM PROGRAM



The Historical Society of Harford County and the Hays House Museum are participating in the Blue Star Museum program. The program is designed to show appreciation for active duty U.S. military personnel and their families by providing free admission to participating museums across the county. Anyone on active duty with a current ID card is encouraged to visit the Society and any other participating museum and enjoy the many displays and programs offered and to accept our appreciation for his or her efforts and many

sacrifices on our behalf..

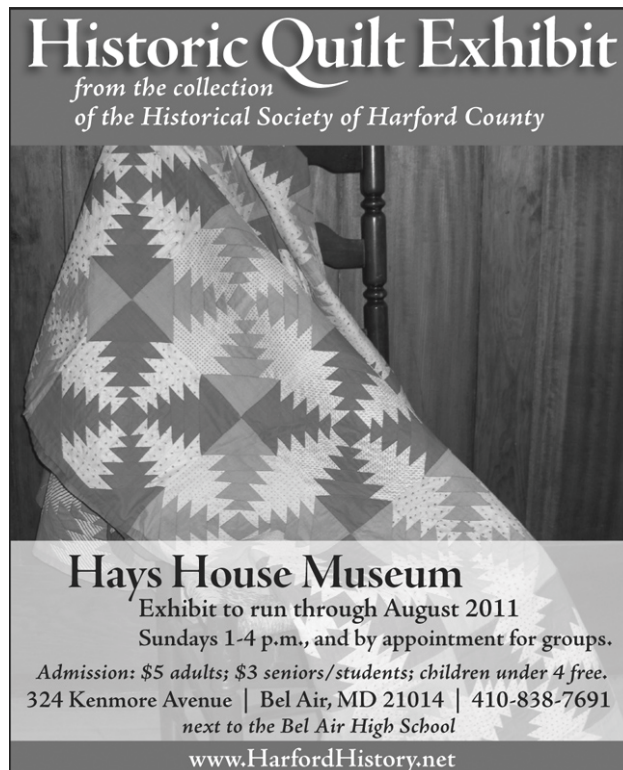
More information is available at www.art.gov/national/bluestarmuseums/2011FAQ.html. The program will officially start on Memorial Day, May 30, 2011 and run through Labor Day, September 5, 2011.

QUILT EXHIBIT AT HAYS HOUSE

This year, Hays House has mounted the first ever exhibit of the Historical Society's quilt collection. More than a dozen antique and vintage quilts are on display. Our thanks to volunteers Kathy Scholl and Betsy Keithley who devoted many hours to researching and creating the exhibit, which will be in place until October. Please plan to come by to see these beautiful hand-made creations.

Many of our special events have proven so successful that they will be held again this year, including our annual Fourth of July Open House featuring music by the Catherine Street Consort, the Ice Cream Social in August with Colonial exhibits, and the Great Plains Tipi exhibit in November. These activities make great occasions to share history with younger generations. Come and join in the fun.

The Hays House Museum is maintained by a volunteer staff of dedicated docents who do everything from conducting tours to polishing furniture and changing light bulbs. We always need new volunteers to help out so consider donating a few hours on an occasional Sunday afternoon. Also, think of the Hays House Museum as a venue for a tour when you are planning an outing for your group. Revenue from admissions, events and gift



Historic Quilt Exhibit
*from the collection
of the Historical Society of Harford County*

Hays House Museum
Exhibit to run through August 2011
Sundays 1-4 p.m., and by appointment for groups.
Admission: \$5 adults; \$3 seniors/students; children under 4 free.
324 Kenmore Avenue | Bel Air, MD 21014 | 410-838-7691
next to the Bel Air High School
www.HarfordHistory.net

shop sales help to keep Harford County history alive for future generations.

We look forward to seeing you at a Hays House event in 2011!

Article contributed by Ceil Fox and Betsy Lehmann, Hays House Museum curators.

GENEALOGY ACQUISITIONS

The Genealogy Division of the Library has received 111 reels of microfilm for *The Aegis* newspaper covering the years 1856 through 1984 (except 1955) and 10 reels of *The Maryland Gazette* spanning the years 1745 to 1839 (incomplete series). The donation came from Tom Berg, of Delta, PA (formerly of North Harford Middle School) and delivery was made by Jim Chrismer, a Library volunteer, in early April 2011. These newspapers will make a welcome addition to our microfilm collection.

Henry Peden, Genealogy Chairman

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HARFORD COUNTY

ONLINE CATALOG



The Historical Society’s resources are extensive, making researching them a daunting task. This is about to change because HSHC now has an electronic catalog available on the web. In the next four newsletters there will be articles on how to access the catalog, what can be found in the online catalog and how much of this project has been completed to date.

For the last four years a team of volunteers worked diligently to input a large part of the contents of the HSHC card catalog into the computer using *PastPerfect* Museum Software. The online catalog is an index of the items and information housed at the Historical Society.

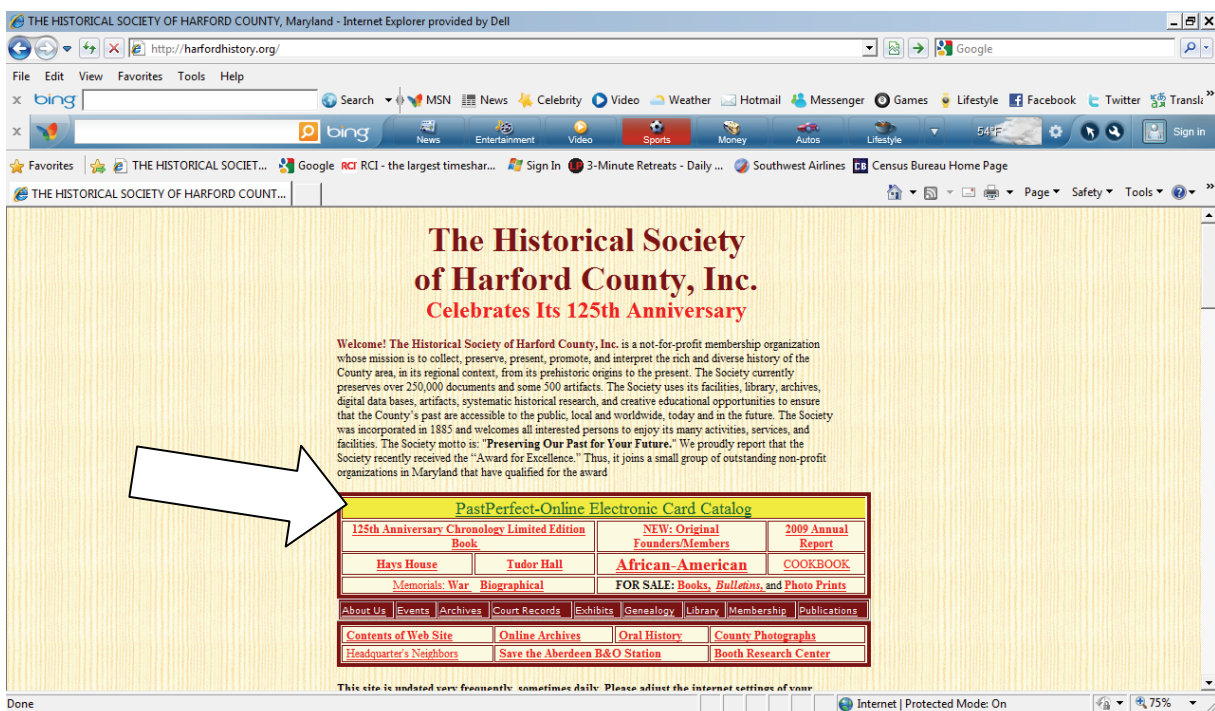
The HSHC Newsletter articles will cover these topics...

- Part 1: How to access the online catalog and what databases are available online
- Part 2: The Library/Genealogy Collection
- Part 3: Court Records and Artifacts
- Part 4: Archive Documents, Photos, Postcards & Negatives

Part 1: How to access the online catalog and what databases are available online.

Accessing the catalog ...

1. On the web, go to the HSHC website... *harfordhistory.org*
2. Click on the yellow box that says: *PastPerfect-Online Electronic Card Catalog*.



Databases available online ...

On the first page of the catalog you will see the HSHC hours of operation. A list is also included of databases available online. Tabs at the left of the screen allow for direct searching of names and topics, what is available for sale at HSHC, and a tab for information on fees for having research done for you.

Home
Click + Search
Keyword Search
Advance Search
Search Results
Help
FOR SALE at HSHC
Find something of interest but can't get here?
Research For Fee

Welcome to
The Historical Society of Harford County, Inc.
PastPerfect-Online Electronic Card Catalog.

Department	Days	Hours
COURT RECORDS	Tuesday	10:00 AM to 2:30 PM
ARCHIVES	Wednesday	8:00 AM to 2:00 PM
LIBRARY	Thursday	9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
ALL	4th Saturday	10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, Except Holidays
ARTIFACTS	-	BY APPOINTMENT

THIS ONLINE CATALOG IS A WORK IN PROGRESS THAT IS UPDATED PERIODICALLY.
To search for a keyword across all available data, use the
CLICK + SEARCH, KEYWORD SEARCH or ADVANCE SEARCH buttons, left.
To peruse the available data, click on the hyper-links below.

Inventory	Abstract	Last Updated
ARCHIVES Vertical Files	Files of original documents. *** (Note: Complete data is only available on PastPerfect at HSHC) ***	18 Aug 2010

The database list has a brief summary of the index in the database and the dates when each was last updated. Databases that contain this symbol *** are not complete... it just has names and dates... a complete listing is available at HSHC. The documents listed in the databases are available to be viewed at HSHC. On the opposite page is a list of these databases.

As you can see this is a major undertaking. If you would be willing to assist with data input, please contact Judy Rogers at judyrogers211@hotmail.com. The next initiative in this project is input of postcards and photographs. Volunteer time would be based on your schedule and training is available.

This article was submitted by Judy Rogers. Mrs. Rogers is PastPerfect Chair and is charged with developing a comprehensive database of all Society records.

Inventory	Abstract *** (Note: Complete data is only available on PastPerfect at HSHC) ***	Last Updated
ARCHIVES Vertical Files	Files of original documents.	05.April.2011
ARTIFACTS	Artifacts collection (quilts, bowls, mirrors, medals, etc.).	21.Feb.2011
Cemetery Records	Individuals buried in Harford County, MD.	21.Feb.2011
COURT RECORD Books	Listing of court dockets, minute books, magistrate dockets, voting records, etc. Dates: 1773-1944	27.Apr.2010
COURT RECORDS	Names of people and companies involved in cases prior to the 1900s.	21.Feb.2011
Funeral Homes	Funeral Homes in Harford County	27.Apr.2010
Harford County Indentures	Indentures and guardianships 1774-1809.	3.March.2011
<i>Harford Historical Bulletin</i>	HSHC Publication. Vols 1-108. Index and Publications	27.Apr.2010
Harford Historical Sites	Historical sites in Harford County	27.Apr.2010
LIBRARY Vertical Files	Files of published articles and information.	27.Apr.2010
Map Index	Index of maps available at HSHC	27.Apr.2010
Marriage Records 1865-1899	Names of people married, 1865-1899	27.Apr.2010
Peden Special Genealogy Collection	Genealogical information collected by Henry Peden	10.Jul.2010
Marriage Records 1900-1930	Names of people married, 1900-1930	27.Apr.2010
Marriage Records 1931	Names of people married, 1931	27.Apr.2010
Master Family Index	Index of family names found in [Family History Binders]	27.Apr.2010
Obituaries	From September 2007.	08.July.2010
Original Tax Valuations	Tax valuations of 1896 and 1902.	27.Apr.2010
Surname Files	Newspaper articles of marriages, obituaries, misc. notes on family histories and communications between researchers and families.	27.Apr.2010

KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES

By

Larry Carmichael

I moved my family to Harford County in 1978. We settled in Joppatowne and I began working at Aberdeen Proving Grounds.

I don't know when I first noticed the four headstones in the small Church just off Route 24, but I do remember noticing all the markers had 1882 as the year of internment. I promised myself when I had some time I would try to find out what caused what I believed must have been a family tragedy back in 1882. In the succeeding 33 years, that section of Route 24 has been designated Route 924 and Festival Shopping Center has risen from the empty field that used to lay between Routes 24 and 924.



In December 2010 I got my chance to research the burials from 129 years ago. The four headstones were all children and they were not buried on the same day. According to the information on the headstones, this family had lost four children of how many I did not know within a three week span. It did appear that the eldest son survived as he was not in this grouping and the two boys were listed as 2nd and 3rd sons. I knew the eldest daughter died and another daughter, but if these were all the female children the record was unclear. I discovered the parents of the four children are also buried in that plot, but in front of the four children, and died in the 1900s.

The reason for this tragedy was not included on the headstones and to my chagrin the family name was "Jones" adding a complexity to my search that I had not anticipated.

I drove the short distance from the Mt Carmel Church to the Historical Society of Harford County on Main Street in Bel Air. There I was given a tour and friendly tips on how I could

conduct my research. The Historical Society has a surprisingly ample amount of documented family history in its files. Much of it is still in hard copy form but progress is being made to bring things to an electronic format. My first step was to look up the names from the headstones in the Burial catalog, a

library style card file with individual burial information in place of the Dewey decimal cards. This confirmed the information I learned from the headstones.

One of the volunteers at the Historical Society then suggested I go through the "Family History Archives". This is a collection of file folders organized alphabetically. Over the years volunteers have cut out and pasted articles about the various families of Harford County. I found one article, the obituary of Annie M. Jones from the 1918 *Bel Air Times*.

Next I was pointed in the direction of the microfiche copies of the Harford County newspapers. In addition to this really extensive collection, the Historical Society has a large

collection of paper copies of these newspapers. Having the dates of the deaths I was able to find and print copies of the obituaries of all the family members,

So I was getting close but still could not find a record that provided a reason for death. Given the three week span of the death of the four children I pretty much ruled out a fire or similar disaster. Plus with the parents surviving long past 1882, it made me believe it was a disease.

I next decided to search the *Aegis* newspaper files located at the Bel Air Library. I found this article in the Dec 8, 1882 *Aegis*.

"A Bereaved Family – The family of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Jones, who live on the farm of Mr. G. Smith Norris, near Bel Air,

Larry Carmichael recently volunteered as the Society's publicist. He indicated that he is pleased to be able to use his undergraduate degree in History after many years at other pursuits. We look forward to many other fascinating articles from him in the future.

have been sorely afflicted during the past few weeks. On the 30th of November they lost a little daughter aged six years. On Saturday following, another daughter, sixteen years of age died and a few days after their little son, seven years of age died- all of them of diphtheria. On Tuesday another son nearly eleven years of age died of the same disease. The afflicted parents have now only one of their five children left. The greatest sympathy is felt for Mr. and Mrs. Jones"

What I concluded from this exercise is that if your family has a history in Harford County, the Historical Society of Harford County and the Harford County Public Library can provide you with invaluable resources to track not only your family's genealogy but how your family lived.

COMING EVENTS

ONGOING – OCTOBER 2011 – Hays House Quilt Show, 1-4 PM, 324 Kenmore Avenue, Bel Air, MD. First ever exhibit of Historic Society quilt collection. Admission fee. 410-838-7891.

MAY 15, 2011 - 2 PM Harford County Genealogical Society Tour and Picnic at the Stump-Archer Mansion in Susquehanna State Park featuring a historical look into the Giles, Stump, Carter, Archer, Stephenson, Liddell, Patterson, Clark and Baker Families. An order form for box lunches is available on the Genealogical Society website <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~mdhegs/>.

JUNE 12, 2011 – 2:30 PM Dessert Lecture "The Canning Industry in Harford County" presented by Bernie Bodt and Carole De Ran at the Historical Society of Harford County, Inc., 143 N. Main Street, Bel Air, MD. Admission fee is \$10 per person for the tea and lecture. Lecture only admission is free. **Reservations are required for the dessert and lecture. Make checks payable to the Historical Society of Harford county and mail to 143 North Main Street, Bel Air, MD 21014.** For more info call 410-838-7891.

JUNE 25, 2011 – 9 AM – 2PM, Annual Historical Society Yard Sale, 143 N. Main Street, Bel Air, MD featuring furniture, books, artwork, children's items and more. 410-838-7891. Donations welcomed.

JULY 9, 2011 - At 11 AM, the Amateur Jousting Club of Maryland will present the Bob Six Memorial Joust at the Elkridge Harford Hunt Club on Pocock Road in Monkton. This fund raising effort will benefit both the Historical Society of Harford County, Inc and the Elkridge Harford Hunt Club. Admission fee. For more information or tickets visit www.ehhounds.com or www.harfordhistory.org or call 410-838-7891.

CELEBRATING HARFORD'S VETERANS

Harford County citizens have a long history of military service dating to the earliest colonial days. The history of Harford's involvement is evident in the memorabilia and documents stored at the Society. Yet few people ever have a chance to see the collection. This year on November 10th and 11th a celebration is planned to recognize this strong tradition by inviting the public to participate in a two day event at the Bel Air Armory 39-41 N.Main Street in Bel Air. A committee consisting of Historical Society members along with town and county representatives initiated event planning in January for this Veterans Day celebration. The festivities will begin on Thursday, November 10, 2011, 5 PM to 8 PM with a wine and cheese reception at the Armory. Visitors will be treated to the music of Duke Thompson, Maryland Conservatory of Music and be able to preview the Historical Society exhibits. The exhibits will include uniforms, maps, photographs and memorabilia from each major conflict involving Harford County residents since the American Revolution. Many of these items have never been exhibited to the public. Some items of special interest include the Bush Declaration, watercolor maps produced by French troops during the Revolution, a preview of exhibit materials developed for next year's War of 1812 exhibition, photographs of Aberdeen Proving Ground's and Edgewood Arsenal's development and much more.

ARMORY CORNERSTONE LAID

Belair Filled With Visitors To Witness Ceremonies.

Belair, Md., Aug. 7.—Probably 1,500 persons assembled in Belair today to witness the laying of the cornerstone for the handsome new home of Company D, Maryland National Guard.

Starting about 2 o'clock, the line of march, which was composed of Chief of Police John Jackson, Marshal Lewis J. Williams, Julian Coale and Samuel Appleton, the Belair Band, Company D, the Armory Commission, Mount Ararat Lodge No. 44 of Masons, the County School Board, the Boy Scouts of Harford county and numerous gayly-decked automobiles filled with civilians, proceeded through the principal streets of the town and returned to the new armory.

This massive structure, which is being constructed under the guiding hand of a commission composed of General Macellin, Col. Charles A. Little, Major M. A. Reckord, Capt. Robert Archer and J. Edwin Webster, is built of handsome Port Deposit granite trimmed with limestone.

The front of the building, which measures 30x90 feet and is known as "the dead house," consists of two stories and a basement. These rooms are divided into officers' quarters, dressing rooms and a banquet hall. The main structure, or "drill shed," is 113x60 feet, with a high arched roof and basement beneath. Here there is space for lockers, bowling alleys, swimming pool, etc.

The building will be completed by October 15. The cornerstone laying ceremonies were in charge of the members of Mount Ararat Lodge of Masons. The speakers were introduced by Senator James J. Archer, who was largely instrumental in securing a \$20,000 appropriation for the armory. General Gaither stated that the building of armories for the First Regiment was no more than long-deferred justice; that such buildings would be a great aid to officers in teaching young men to learn their duty to defend their country if necessary required it.

Colonel Little, who took General Macellin's place on the program, said that our many entangling alliances with European countries that are now at war make it necessary that we shall be prepared for war. No matter how strong our President's notes may be, they are of no avail unless supported by a Government backed up by an army worthy of the name.

The Colonel expressed his approval of national defense societies.

The major celebration will begin at 10 AM on Friday, November 11, 2011 in front of the Armory. A parade featuring a military band and Color Guard detachments from numerous organizations, as well as the National Guard will initiate the ceremony which will include music, speakers, a reading of *In Flanders Fields* and National Guard fly over ceremony. Details are still being finalized. Following the parade and ceremonies, a luncheon will be served in the Armory featuring nationally recognized guest speaker, Scott O'Grady. The luncheon will be limited to 200 people so anyone interested in attending should sign up early. Tickets are available through the website (See information below) or at the Historical Society, 143 N. Main Street, Bel Air, MD. The exhibits will reopen for the general public between 2 PM and 5 PM

ARMORY REDEDICATION

In addition to celebrating our Veterans, the event will include the rededication of the Milton A. Reckord Armory. The Armory's long history as the home of the National Guard and a community center goes back to 1915 when John B. Hamme won the architectural competition to design the existing building. The Armory served the National Guard from 1915 to 2010 when the facility was transferred to the Town of Bel Air. The Armory remains a center of community activities although the National Guard is now housed at APG. The long history of the Guard remains an integral part of the Armory, tracing its roots as a cavalry unit

with horses housed behind the building and a tack shop and blacksmith housed in the basement to its current mission as an Attack Helicopter Battalion.

HOW CAN YOU HELP

To make this a true celebration of Harford County's Veterans, the Committee needs your help. Please consider participating in one of the ways outlined below.

- Submit photographs of veterans and /or brief stories about local veterans' service. These will be used on the website.
- Submit memorabilia/photographs, uniforms for the War Exhibits. This could include homefront memorabilia as well as items from the individual conflicts. These should be brought to the Historical Society offices, 143 N.Main St. Exhibit materials for the Civil War, Spanish American War, Korea, Vietnam and

the War on Terror are particularly needed. **Please call ahead to make an appointment.**

- Volunteer your time to assist with exhibits, answer questions, etc. on November 10th or 11th. Call the Historical Society at 410-838-7891 or email the committee at HARCHIS@MSN.COM.
- Send a monetary, tax deductible donation to help offset event costs. Checks should be made out to the Historical Society of Harford County, Inc. , noting Celebrating Harford Veterans in the memo section of the check. Donations should be sent to Historical Society of Harford County, Inc. , 143 N. Main Street, Bel Air, MD 21014

Watch for more detailed information as event plans are finalized. Please share this information with your friends and relatives and plan to help us Celebrate Harford's Veterans!

WANTED

REFRIGERATOR - The Society is in dire need of a frost free refrigerator for use by our volunteers and to store foods for the Society's numerous events. Please contact Maryanna Skowronski 410 -838-7691 if you may be able to help us.

YARD SALE/GIFT SHOP DONATIONS - The Society is having a yard sale on June 25th at the Society's headquarters. Donations are needed to make this fundraiser a success. Please drop off any potential sale items at the loading dock behind the Society or for larger items call 410-838-7891 for pick up. Gift shop items are also needed, so keep us in mind as you do that spring clean up.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES - The Society is seeking articles on local history for the newsletter. Articles should be no more than 750 words and should tell the story of a local family, event or place in Harford County. Articles may be mailed to C. Deibel c/o the Historical Society, 143 N. Main St. Bel Air, MD 21014 or emailed to HSHCNewsletter@verizon.net.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES - The Society hosts four lectures a year and sponsor bus trips and occasional other special event. If you are interested in helping with these efforts as a chair or committee member, please contact Maryanna Skowronski, 410-838-7891. Volunteers are also needed for the Veterans Day Celebration and the On line Catalog project. Another way to help, if you have limited time, would be to volunteer for an afternoon to help with garden clean up at the Society. We would love to have your assistance, again call Ms. Skowronski at the number noted above.

GIFT SHOP GENESIS

The past few months have truly seen a new beginning for the Historical Society's gift shop. With the resignation of Lena Caron the gift shop was left without a chairperson. The Society recognized what a tremendous resource Mrs. Caron had built up over her years of oversight and wanted to retain the shop not only as a funding source, but as a community destination. In answer to a call for help earlier this year, Angela Davis stepped up to take on this tremendous responsibility. She felt it would be challenging and fun while giving her an outlet to express buried creativity, as Mrs. Davis explained, "Everybody has a creative spark within them. A physically hands on project like this helps to get in touch with that creative spark." Mrs. Davis sees this as a small, intimate project that she will very much enjoy, hoping to draw the public in through the gift shop and encourage them to further explore the varied offerings of the Historical Society and to engender an interest in the history of the county and why it's important in our everyday lives. In other words, she hopes to make the gift shop, the spark to draw people into the Society's treasures.

Mrs. Davis has a varied background that should help tremendously with her efforts here. She has been a middle school teacher, a retailer and an occasional actor in local theater productions. She is also a volunteer for the "Kids Can" program, mentoring at North

Harford Middle School. She grew up in Churchville and has lived most of her life in Harford County. For now she is concentrating on reorganizing the shop, updating displays, creating new signage and developing an attractive, interesting array of merchandise for the public to enjoy.

Everyone is encouraged to stop by and welcome Mrs. Davis to her new position and to enjoy the shop's many offerings from china to



linens, books, periodicals, genealogical resources and that last minute gift. While there, don't forget to browse in the Society's museum area to catch the latest displays. Additionally, if you might be interested in sharing your creative side, Mrs. Davis would welcome volunteers to help with the shop at your convenience. Call the Society office or visit the gift shop if you are interested in helping with this effort. As always donated items are always welcome.

DONATIONS

The Society is very fortunate to have many generous members who routinely help expand and improve the Society's collections. The following is a partial list of donations received in the last few months. We wish to publicly acknowledge the generosity of these members and to make our members aware of these new acquisitions.

Byrn and JoAnne Watson donated the historical novel *A Thundering Wind* by Gregory Barnes Watson, their son. The novel is about the hunting in the area of Havre de Grace during the early 1900s, for which they found information while doing research at the Historical Society.

Tony Berg donated 111 reels of microfilm of *The Aegis (1857-1984)* and 10 microfilm reels of the *Maryland Gazette (1745-1839)*.

Ronald Mullin donated 16 reels of microfilm of newspapers from York, Pennsylvania and Harford County, MD

Carol Deibel donated records, books, documents and photographs of Harford County accumulated during her tenure as Director of the Department of Planning and Zoning.

Jo Anne Gunther donated 16 issues of the *Bellarian* newspaper from Bel Air Senior High School from 1962-1964.

Mrs. Elizabeth Stewart W. Egeli donated seven Bel Air High School Yearbooks: 1931, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959 and 1960.

Susan West donated photographs and miscellaneous documents which belonged to her grandfather Thomas Owen Butler.

Barbara Kirchner donated the books: *Order of Battle of the US Land Forces in the World War (WW1)* and the *Congressional Directory of the 62nd Congress, 3rd Session, December 1912*.

Karen Richardson donated papers, pictures, cards, pamphlets and newspaper articles about Jarrettsville High School and its alumni.

Sandra Grafton Mitchell donated photos of the Grafton family including pictures of the Grafton home at 578 Jarrettsville Road in Forest Hill, Maryland.

John McGrain donated miscellaneous newspaper clippings and documents relating the history of Harford County in the mid to late 1900s.

Susan Osborn donated the Grove Presbyterian Church of Aberdeen, Maryland's 125th anniversary 1856-1981 Directory and several years of the Harford County Emergency Preparedness Calendars.

Brian Pabst donated the compiled genealogy of the *Heapes/Heaps, Strawbridge, Scarborough and Stokes Families of Harford County, Maryland*.

David Hodge donated the book: *Every Home a Distillery: Alcohol, Gender and Technology in the Colonial Chesapeake* by Sarah Hand Meacham.

McComas Funeral Home and Howard McComas donated two computers and Windows software. The versions of both software are the same as those currently being used at headquarters, which means they can be integrated into the network with no additional expense.

The children of the late Katherine and Curtis Scarborough donated furnishings for the Society's conference room, many genealogical materials and items for the gift shop.

Constance Beims donated a framed version of the Great Seal of Maryland signed by Governor Harry Hughes, President of the Senate, Melvin Steinberg and Speaker of the House Benjamin Cardin.

Judge William Carr donated a framed historical map of Harford County

The Historical Society
of Harford County, Inc.
143 North Main Street
Bel Air, MD 21014



Nonprofit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
BEL AIR, MD 21014
PERMIT No. 40

DATED MATERIAL
May / June 2011

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY and GIFT SHOP HOURS

Tuesday
COURT RECORDS
10:00 A.M. - 2:30 P.M.

Wednesday
ARCHIVES
8:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Thursday
RESEARCH LIBRARY
9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Fourth Saturday
ARCHIVES and
RESEARCH LIBRARY
10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.