

Currents

The Four Rivers Heritage Area Newsletter * Vol. 4 * Spring/Summer 2005

South County Sundays: There's plenty to do in South County this summer!

South County Sundays 2005 got off to a terrific start with its first two events on May 8th and June 12th, offering a wide variety of activities for visitors.

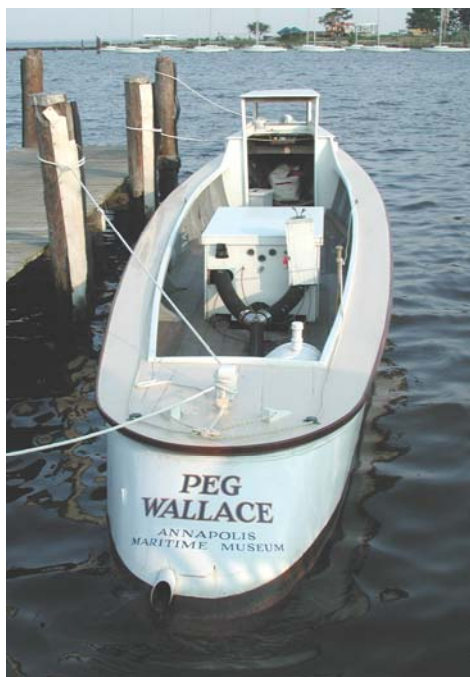
This year's South County Sundays program features fun, family-friendly activities held at several heritage-related sites in southern Anne Arundel County on one Sunday afternoon per month through October.

In honor of National Preservation Month, the theme for the May program was "Preservation & Architecture." The mid-19th century tobacco plantation dwelling of Oakwood, a private National Register property in Harwood, was opened to the public for the day, sponsored by the Harwood Civic Association and the South County Exchange. "Spring Into Deale" festivities opened the new South County Visitors Center at 5960 Deale Churchton Road. Edgewater's Historic London Town featured architectural tours of the National Historic Landmark William Brown House, and the Anne Arundel County Trust for Preservation along with the Lost Towns Project presented tobacco pipe kiln demonstrations at the site.

"African American Heritage" was the focus of our June programs, with two very special events at former Rosenwald schools. More than 90 people visited Galesville's Rosenwald school for a program sponsored by the Galesville Community Association, in conjunction with the Galesville

Heritage Society. Chesapeake Children's Museum director Deborah Wood led interactive storytelling featuring African folk tales. Anne Arundel Genealogical Society member Tina Simmons was on site with information on African American cemeteries in the county. A program at the Lula G. Scott Community Center in Shady Side, in partnership with the Shady Side Rural Heritage Society, featured a round-table discussion with historian Sherri Marsh and former educators and students, including former principal Alice Battle.

Our South County Sunday partners include Historic London Town & Gardens; the Galesville Heritage Museum, which also offers its hourly West River Boat Tours on Sundays; and Shady Side's Captain Salem Avery House, which presents "Maryland in Focus," a traveling exhibit of historic photos from the Maryland Historical Society. Shady Side's Discovery Village, also open on South County Sundays, features a permanent exhibit of photographs by Marion E. Warren and a changing South County Gallery exhibit of local artists' works, an ongoing oyster restoration project and a new launch area for kayaks and canoes. Annapolis Maritime Museum's restored 1925 Chesapeake Bay Hooper Island draketail workboat *Peg Wallace* (pictured) will also be visiting several South County events this summer.



Upcoming dates: July 10, Maritime Heritage Day; August 14, Living History Day; September 25, Farms and Harvests Day; October 16, West River Heritage Day. Please check our website for updates.

Four Rivers Makes “Heritage Connections”

On April 27, *Four Rivers* sponsored an informative afternoon program for our many historic site interpreters, staff and board members, promoting the “Heritage Connections” fostered by the heritage area. Speakers included Donna Dudley, Executive Director of Four Rivers; Dr. Greg Stiverson, President and CEO of Historic Annapolis Foundation; Donna Ware, Executive Director of Historic London Town & Gardens; Dr. Elizabeth P. Stewart, Research Historian at the Banneker-Douglass Museum; and Leni Preston, Museum Consultant. Participants were updated on the latest news at our various locations under construction and on the heritage area’s

expanding programs, and were briefed on the forthcoming *Explorer’s Guide* for visitors. A reception featuring culinary delights by Saucy Salamander followed the program, held at the Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts.



Dr. Liz Stewart speaks on the Banneker-Douglass Museum expansion

Save the Date! “Heritage Connections” Symposium set for February 11, 2006 at Anne Arundel Community College

**(Please Note: the date has been changed due to a conflict with the
Small Museum Association Conference)**

Mark your calendars now for the *Four Rivers* “Heritage Connections” Symposium, an intensive one-day Interpreters’ Training event with sessions on our area’s rich maritime and rural heritage, new visitors’ materials, and the latest interpretive techniques. The Symposium will be held at Anne Arundel Community College, 101 College Parkway, in Arnold, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Continuing education credit is available. A fee of \$25.00 includes materials, refreshments and a box lunch. Call 410-222-1805 for more information.

Barge House Set to Re-open this Summer

Annapolis Maritime Museum’s Barge House in Eastport (illustrated below) is due to re-open this summer after extensive renovation necessitated by the effects of Hurricane Isabel in September 2003. Visitors will enjoy a new interpretive exhibit and virtual tour of the Thomas Point Shoal Light, funded in part with support from *Four Rivers* and the Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network. Visit www.annapolismaritimemuseum.org for more information.



Goucher College to Debut Unique Historic Preservation Program in Annapolis this Fall

The program’s offerings will include courses and workshops on historic preservation, maritime heritage, Tidewater architecture, historic home interiors, underwater archaeology and homeowner tax credits.

Goucher College will host an opening reception and information session on Tuesday, September 13th from 5-7 p.m., at Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts. For more information, please call 800-697-4646.

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Carol Benson, Ph.D.

Heritage Programs Coordinator

Four Rivers Coordinating Council Hones Mission

During its May meeting, the heritage area's Coordinating Council unanimously approved new Mission and Vision statements for the organization.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of *Four Rivers: The Heritage Area of Annapolis, London Town & South County*, a 501 c 3 organization based in Maryland, is to

- Protect and Strengthen the natural, historic and cultural resources of the Heritage Area;
- Nurture its discovery through educational and recreational experiences for visitors and residents; and
- Promote the region's rich legacy.

VISION STATEMENT

"*Four Rivers: The Heritage Area of Annapolis, London Town & South County (Maryland)* envisions a society that appreciates its history and actively supports those organizations, businesses and individuals who value our heritage as an essential component of a thriving and sustainable community."

Maryland Humanities Council Awards Grants To Two *Four Rivers* Partner Sites

Sharing African-American History: Historic London Town & Gardens Receives Grant for School Program

The London Town Foundation has received a grant from the Maryland Humanities Council for a new, comprehensive African-American Humanities program for 4th, 5th, and 8th grade students. Based on archaeological discoveries resulting from ongoing excavations at the site, the expanded educational program will use hands-on activities for students to foster a more broadly inclusive interpretation of colonial history.



MARYLAND
HUMANITIES
COUNCIL

Exploring the HUMAN Experience

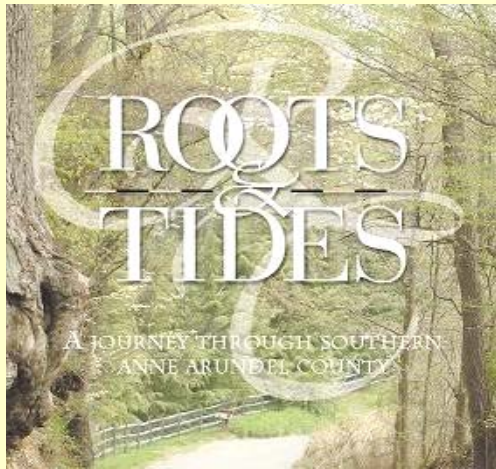
Civil War Sunday: Captain Salem Avery House in Shady Side to Host FREE South County Sundays Program on August 14

The Shady Side Rural Heritage Society has announced that a minigrant from the Maryland Humanities Council will sponsor FREE admission to the August 14th South County Sundays program at the Captain Salem Avery House, 1-5 p.m. The event will feature Union and Confederate encampments on the grounds, educational activities for children on the lawn, short talks and refreshments in the great room, historical music on the waterfront, and living history in the intimate setting of the historic house. This year, the 2nd Maryland Infantry, CAS and the 7th Maryland Infantry, USA, local reenactment troops, will bivouac on the lawn of the Museum to demonstrate how soldiers lived at the front.

2005 Heritage Awards Coming Soon

Four Rivers will once again host its annual Heritage Awards this fall to honor excellence in interpretation within the heritage area. Award categories and nomination forms will be available on our website in July, and applications will be due in the *Four Rivers* Heritage Area office by September 16th.

Look for the nomination form on our website at www.fourriversheritage.org, or call the office at 410-222-1805 for more information.



“Roots & Tides” Audiotour CD available for purchase on website

Four Rivers' award-winning Audiotour CD is now available for purchase on our website for \$15.00 (plus shipping); visit us online for your copy today!
www.fourriversheritage.org

CALL FOR FY 2006 MARYLAND HERITAGE AREAS AUTHORITY PROJECT GRANT APPLICATIONS

It's time for another (MHAA) project grant proposal round.

The Maryland Heritage Areas Authority grant program is a source of funding designed to assist and encourage preservation and heritage tourism related economic development within Maryland's certified heritage areas, including *Four Rivers*. Project proposals should be consistent with the activities and interpretive themes suggested in the Heritage Area's Certified Management Plan, now available on our website. All grant applications to the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority must be discussed with, approved by, and submitted through the *Four Rivers* Heritage Area office. Potential MHAA project grant or loan applicants must submit an “Intention to Apply” form with the *Four Rivers* Heritage Area office by July 15th. Completed applications are due in the *Four Rivers* Heritage Area office by 5 p.m. on Monday, August 1, 2005. Please call 410-222-1805 for more information.

Congratulations to Deale Area Historical Society!



Four Rivers extends its heartiest congratulations to the new Deale Area Historical Society. We look forward to working with our colleagues in Deale as their Historical Society takes shape! Visit their website for more information at www.dahs.us.

Four Rivers: The Heritage Area of Annapolis, London Town & South County is a 501 (c) 3, charitable non-profit organization, and your contributions are tax-deductible.



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