

# The Village of Springs – Host to Thousands

Written by **Harriet Berg**  
Photography by **Lance C. Bell**

The small village of Springs, PA, located on the MD/PA state line, is little but mighty in terms of providing an outlet for wholesome produce and baked items. Founded in the 1800s by primarily German and Swiss immigrants of Mennonite and Amish faith, the industrious farmers have made a name for Springs. You will want to keep a watch for the slower-paced clip clop of the horse-drawn Amish buggies along the highway.

Founded in 1958 to preserve the history of the Casselman Valley that includes Garrett County, MD and Somerset County, PA, the Springs Historical Society initiated a Farmers' Market in 1991 to provide support for the Springs Museum and the local economy. The largest in the area with over 80 vendors, shoppers travel as much as an hour or two to do their buying of fresh produce in the summer. Many of the Amish farmers continue to wear the same style clothing and use the same recipes as their ancestors of over 150 years ago.

Housed in the large Springs Folk Festival craft building with the overflow extending over the grounds, the Market is a great place to meet and greet the neighbors while enjoying breakfast and lunch made to order at the Snack Bar, operated by the local Mountain View Christian School.

Joe Bender, Springs Historical Society President, comments "The Market is one of the best things the Society has done."

After you have purchased your produce and baked items for the week, browse among the antique and flea market vendors while munching on your home baked donut or whoopee pie. Antique glass and furniture and iron ware as well as new crafts, honey and maple syrup are sure to spark an interest. Be sure to take a stroll on the self-guided Alta Schrock Nature Trail adjacent to the Farmers' Market. Total distance of the easy walking loop trail is 4/10 mile.

You will want to stop by the Springs Museum, adjacent to the Market, to visit the two-story building displaying an early school, church, store, living quarters and antique farm and industrial equipment, some manufactured in Springs in the early 1900s. Also available in the Museum are the *Casselman Chronicles*, historical and genealogical journals of the settlers and places in the area published for over fifty years. Monthly programs are free and open to the public April through November. Don't forget to come back October 5 & 6, 2012, for the Springs Folk Festival, celebrating its 55th year with over 150 craftsmen demonstrating their skills, continual music performances, hayrides and PA Dutch foods.

The Springs Farmers' Market is registered with the Bureau of Foods Safety & Laboratory Services of the PA Department of Agriculture and is located on 1711 Springs Rd., Springs, PA. It is held every Saturday beginning May 26 through September 15, 8:00 am – 1:00 pm. More information on all of the Springs Historical Society ventures may be found on [www.springspa.org](http://www.springspa.org) or call 814-442-4594.





There are many things to see and do and enjoy at Springs during the spring and summer. Farm fresh veggies, bake sales, hand crafted items of all sorts and lots of friendly smiling faces, along with plenty to talk about. Meet new friends and old friends at the Springs Farmers Market. See you there!

# Allegany Museum

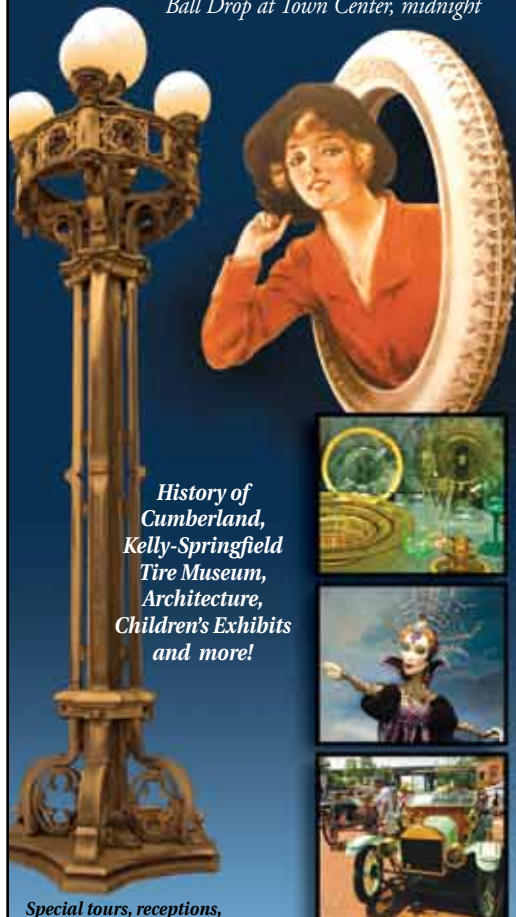
[www.alleganymuseum.org](http://www.alleganymuseum.org)

**NEW LOCATION !**  
3 Pershing Street, Cumberland, MD  
**2ND FLOOR**

Open March – Dec.; Tues. - Sat. 10 - 4; Sun. 1 - 4 pm

## 2012 Calendar of Events

- March 6 Allegany Museum Opens
- Mar.-Dec. Bus Tours – *Allegany Museum, Gordon Roberts House, Castle, etc.*
- Mar. 23 Civil War 150th Anniversary
- June 9-10 Heritage Days Open House  
*Special tours. Sat. & Sun. 10 - 4*
- June 24 Fort Hill 75th Anniversary
- Sept. 15 12th Annual Ford Model T & Model A Car & Truck Show  
*Dash plaques, goodie bags, etc. 10 - 4*
- Oct. 19 Museum of American Glass in WV
- Nov. Cumberland Goes to War
- Nov. 23 Holiday Open House  
*Entertainment / refreshments 6-9 pm*
- Dec. 31 New Year's Eve Open House  
*Entertainment, 9 pm - 11:30 pm*  
*Ball Drop at Town Center, midnight*



*History of Cumberland, Kelly-Springfield Tire Museum, Architecture, Children's Exhibits and more!*

*Special tours, receptions, or parties can be arranged.*

301-777-7200 • 301-724-4339 • 301-268-2226  
[www.alleganymuseum.org](http://www.alleganymuseum.org)