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Photo by: Lance C. Bell

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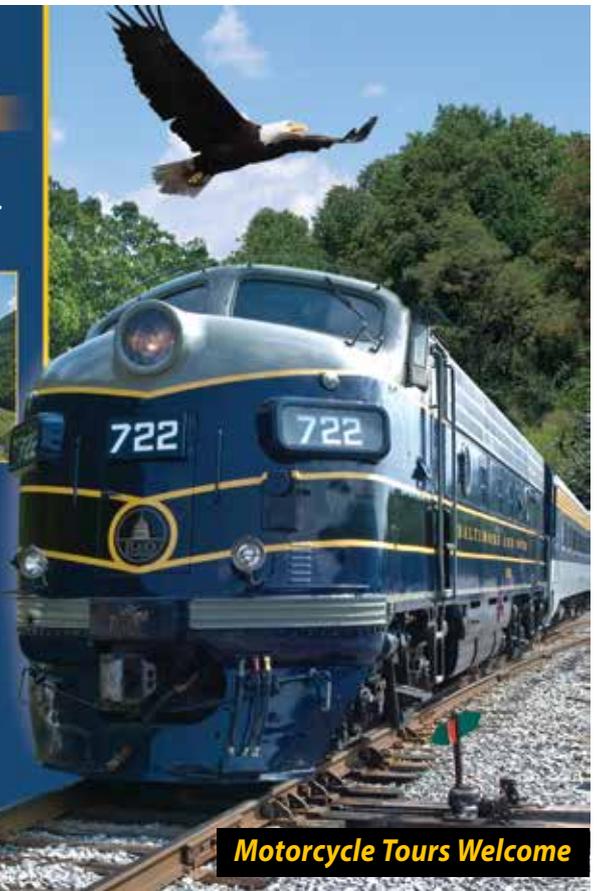
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Cover: A composite of two photos by Lance C. Bell featuring the Fly-In at Garrett County airport. This year's event will take place August 22, 2015. See article on page 58.



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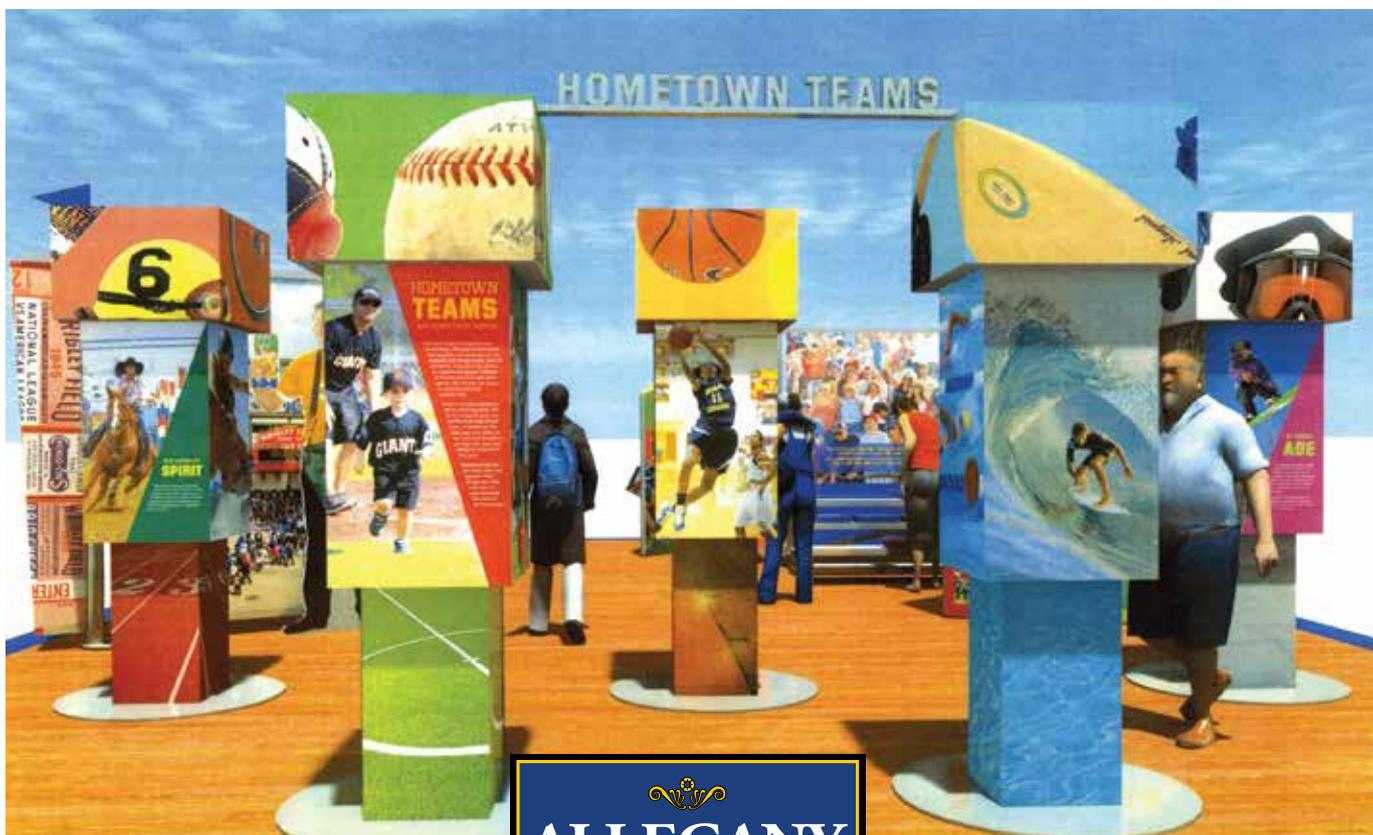
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# HOMETOWN TEAMS: How Sports Shape America

## Smithsonian Exhibits at Allegany Museum



ALLEGANY  
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Beginning in February 2015, and continuing through November, a family-friendly interactive exhibit will visit several communities throughout the State of Maryland. Museum on Main Street, a partnership of the Smithsonian Institution will be presenting **Hometown Teams – How Sports Shape America**. This innovative project provides one-of-a-kind access to Smithsonian exhibitions and educational humanities programs. The traveling exhibit will visit Annapolis, Federalsburg, Cumberland, Galesville, and Howard County, Maryland.

From **May 30 – July 18, 2015** the Allegany Museum, 3 Pershing Street, Cumberland, MD, will host the exhibit. Opening day will include a Welcome Ceremony with ribbon cutting, Lefty Grove memorabilia, refreshments and more.

An exhibit extension at the Allegany Museum will include baseball and Special Olympics. In the 1930s Cumberland was home of the Colts, a Yankee farm team. Because of

this, the NY Yankee team, including Babe Ruth and other famous players came to Cumberland in 1931 and 1932 for exhibition games. Another famous Yankee, pitcher Robert Moses “Lefty” Grove, was born and raised in Allegany County. During the 1930s, a wooden baseball stadium situated at the terminus of the C&O Canal and the B&O railroad was an integral part of Cumberland’s downtown. The Allegany Museum exhibition extension will also highlight the Special Olympics. One of Cumberland’s citizens, Jake Reynolds, won a gold medal in alpine skiing at the 2013 World Winter Olympics in South Korea.

In addition to the Smithsonian main display at the Allegany Museum, venues throughout the region will contribute artifacts and information focusing on various local sport interests.

With a history of strong athletic programs, Allegany College of Maryland, 12401 Willowbrook Road, Cumberland, has

a dedicated gallery that will be used to create a display of memorabilia, photos, and video that demonstrates the role of sports in the College's history and culture.

The Allegany County Public Library System operates several branches including locations in Lonaconing, Cumberland and Frostburg. The famous pitcher Robert Moses "Lefty" Grove was born in Lonaconing in 1900. The Lonaconing Library, 76 Main Street, Lonaconing, will host a book discussion about the career of this amazing pitcher.

The Frostburg Museum, 69 Hill Street, Frostburg, will feature sports exhibits focusing on the former Beall High School and will also host showings of the documentary video produced by the Mountain Ridge High School Research Methods class, focusing on sports at schools in the Frostburg, Mt. Savage and George's Creek communities.

Frostburg State University, 101 Midlothian Road, Frostburg, maintains an exhibition in their athletic facilities about players who are part of the college's Hall of Fame.

Mountain City Traditional Arts, 25 East Main Street, Frostburg, will create a display about Frostburg's newly created roller derby team that is gaining popularity. In addition they will present displays on track & field and cross country, and will also offer scrapbooking and quilting workshops that use sports jerseys and uniforms.

The focus at the C. William Gilchrist Museum of Arts, 104 Washington Street, Cumberland, will be on marble playing as Western Maryland is home to several outstanding marble players who have won National championships.

The Gordon-Roberts House, 218 Washington Street, Cumberland, has decided to incorporate the themes of high school cheerleaders, drill teams and music marching bands through presenting uniforms and other information about these groups that provide valuable support to sports teams.

Hometown Teams was created by an innovative partnership that brings Smithsonian exhibitions to rural areas. Allegany Museum is excited to have been chosen by the Maryland State Humanities Council to be one of five venues in the state to host this traveling exhibition celebrating sports in American communities. For more information visit [www.alleganymuseummd.org](http://www.alleganymuseummd.org).



**Top and facing page:** Representations of the Smithsonian "Hometown Teams: How Sports Shape America" exhibits.

**Middle photo:** The 1931 Cumberland Colts, a Class C team of the Yankees farm system. Vito Tamulis (kneeling, 2nd from left), gave up a home run to Babe Ruth in the 1931 exhibition game at Cumberland's Community Ballpark.

**Bottom photo:** Early 1900s Cumberland baseball team. *Courtesy Dan Whetzel.*



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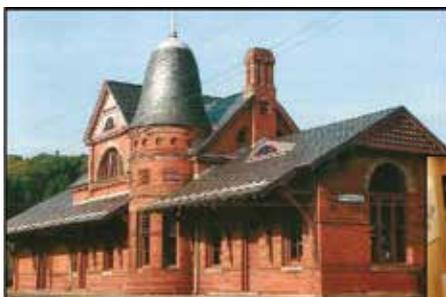







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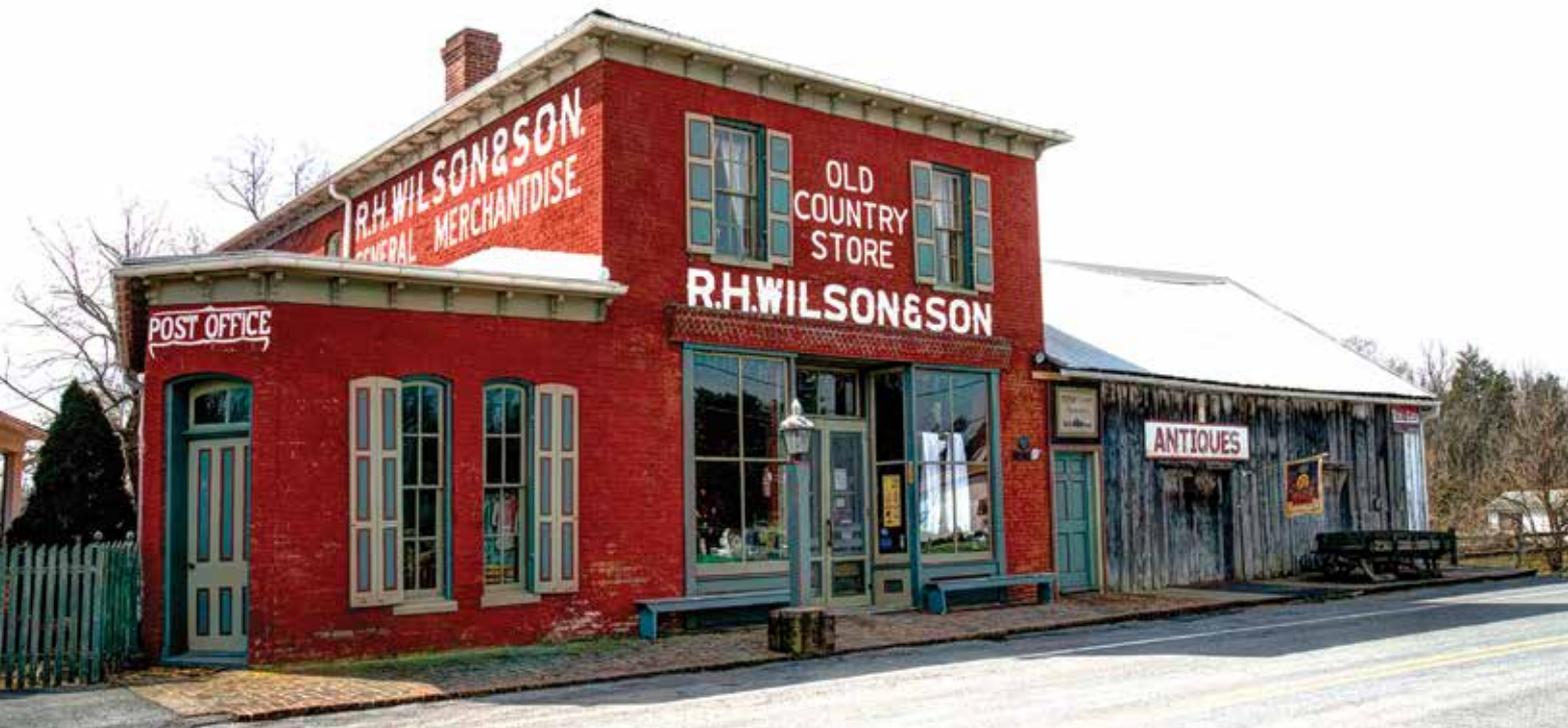


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## Wilson General Store

Written by: **Sara Mullins**  
Photography by: **Lance C. Bell**

The old country store, once a mainstay of communities throughout the United States, has become an endangered species. But the Wilson General Store is still open for business, continuing this venerable tradition. Located in Clear Spring on the National Pike, otherwise known as Route 40, it's easily accessible from I-70, just west of Hagerstown, Maryland, in a bucolic setting steeped in history. The store serves as the focal point of Wilson Village, a small community that also includes a one-room schoolhouse near the banks of Conococheague Creek.

"It's the best kept secret in Washington County," says Burma Miles, the owner of RoadRunner transport service and Antietam Tours. "Wilson's General Store is the biggest treasure in the area, like going back in time. Civil war soldiers used to stop there." Burma should know. She brings many visitors to the store and says it's a popular stop on her tours.

Rufus J. Wilson established the R.J. Wilson & Son Old Country Store in 1847 as a general store, post office, and feed store. He ran the store until he died of pneumonia in 1883. His son John continued the family business until 1919. The Martin family ran the store for the next 50 years. And then Wilson's Country Store closed in 1975.

Lewis and Francis Horst, owners of Hagerstown's Horst Milk Transfer Company, purchased the property in 1984.

Using their own funds, the Horsts restored the Wilson Village and Wilson Store with its original fixtures and merchandise. In 1996, Wilson Village was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In 2012, Donny and Jenny Bowers of Middletown purchased Wilson Village. Years ago, Donny attended the one-room schoolhouse and wanted to share the Wilson Village legacy with their children.

Stepping inside is like entering a time machine into the 19<sup>th</sup> century, with sights and smells evoking a sense of nostalgia for a simpler time.

Proprietors Patty Barnhart and Bonnie Mills greet visitors from the long counter to the store's right, where they point out a multitude of memorabilia in every direction and encourage visitors to explore and ask questions. On display is the store's ledger in Rufus Wilson's handwriting.

"It was like a Walmart back then," says Patty.

A pot-belly stove near the front door offers warmth and comfort to an area near the front window where old vets





sit and swap war stories. His and hers long johns hang from the ceiling. Toward the rear of the store, an impressive oak freezer case made by Ottenheimer Brothers of Baltimore features intricately carved trim. A slide-top Coca-Cola cooler in the center of the store is filled with A-Treat sodas in a multitude of flavors.

It could take several years to explore all the merchandise. A sampling includes more than 100 jars of penny candy, numerous display cases with retro toys, gloves, and handkerchiefs, and an antique medicine chest full of tonics and old-time remedies. Patty and Bonnie are pros in cutting and wrapping exactly the right amount of block cheeses, and seasoned sausages for customers. Top sellers include candy, aged Wisconsin cheese and several flavors of homemade, hand-cut potato chips. Local honey from Blairs Valley is also popular. Hand-made crocks featuring the store name are popular and practical souvenirs.

“People love the Porter’s Salve and Rosebud Salve we sell,” says Patty. “It’s something they grew up with.”

There’s more to see beyond the store. Visitors can venture into the adjacent antique shop that was the

**Above: Visitors, family and friends sit awhile and “shoot the breeze” in a welcome environment reminiscent of days gone by. Creaking old wood floors sing to the tune of the old timers and the heat of the pot belly stove.**

**Top right: Many items, new and old, are available on time-worn shelves and historic tip-out cabinets from early hardware stores, complete with small glass panels for content viewing. Memorabilia hangs from the ceiling, including his and hers long johns.**

**Right: Old fashioned penny candy jars line one side of the store – a hit with adults as well as children.**





**S. Dorsey Martin, Sr. and S. Dorsey Martin, Jr. managed the Old Country Store for 50 years after the death of Rufus J. Wilson. In this photo, the Martins' are celebrating 25 years in business, circa 1945.**



feed store in a former life. A fireplace flanked by a sofa and chairs serves as a small parlor and refuge from sensory overload amidst an ever-changing mishmash of antiques and sundry odds and ends. A former theatre above the store is now Patty and Bonnie's gift shop, BitterSweet Memories Home Décor. Strains of old-time gospel music, sung in four-part harmony, accompany customers browsing through the shop's collection of colonial, primitive and country style furnishings and accents.

Fans of Wilson's General Store can learn what's new through the store's Facebook page. The store is open Wednesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Sundays, 12 - 5 p.m. Bonnie's daughter Amy and her husband Mike run the store on Sundays so that Bonnie and Patty can attend church services and enjoy a day of rest.



**Above: Sisters Patty Barnhart (left) and Bonnie Mills, proprietors of Wilson's General Store.**

**Left: At the back of store is an impressive oak freezer case (still in use) made by Ottenheimer Brothers of Baltimore.**

**Bottom left: The upstairs gift shop, "BitterSweet Memories Home Décor," is full of colonial, primitive and country style furnishings and accents.**



**Wilson General Store – 301-582-4718  
14921 Rufus Wilson Road, Clear Spring MD 21722**

**From I-70, take Exit 18 – Clear Spring, MD. Turn right onto Rt. 40 and continue 4.2 miles to Wilson's General Store on the right.**



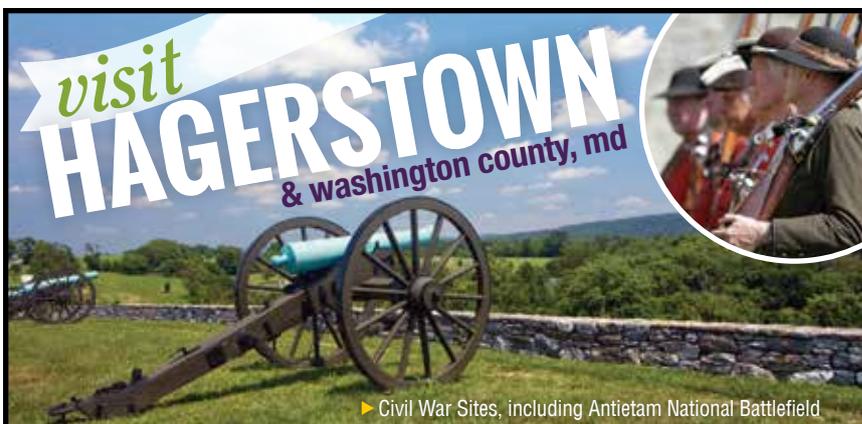
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# Frostburg State University to Offer Bachelor's in Adventure Sports Management at Garrett College

Written by: **Sara Mullins**  
Photography by: **Lance C. Bell**

Garrett County's abundant choices of outdoor recreational activities have long contributed to the area's thriving tourism industry. This scenario presents a unique opportunity for students seeking professional training in leadership and management for the growing field of adventure sports.

Since its inception in 1992, the Adventuresports Institute (ASI) at Garrett College has earned national recognition for its two-year AAS program in Adventure Sports Management. Now the Institute will team with Frostburg State University to offer a Bachelor of Science in Adventure Sports Management that may be the only such program offered in the United States. The program has one final level of approval to achieve, with a decision expected soon.

The new four-year program builds on a long-standing collaboration between Garrett College and Frostburg State University. Previously, Garrett College ASI graduates seeking a four-year degree had the option of continuing at Frostburg State University as a junior majoring in Recreation and Parks Management with a concentration in Adventure Sports. However, a 2014



survey of students in the program showed a strong interest in a bachelor's degree in adventure sports management.

Frostburg classes will be held at Garrett College, with a Frostburg professor coordinating the program from there.

"The demand is growing for managers and entrepreneurs in the adventure and outdoor recreation industry, including in the Western Maryland region," said Dr. Robert Kauffman, a Frostburg professor and coordinator of the undergraduate Recreation and Parks Management program. "This

model addresses students' need for the advanced knowledge offered by a bachelor's degree, and the industry's need for leaders and innovators in the outdoor recreation and tourism fields."

"Garrett College students can move right into the program without having to leave the area," says Mike Logsdon, professor and executive director of ASI. "This program

offers an unusual amount of hands-on work leading to certification useful in the field." Mike says that there is a strong level of interest from Garrett's associate degree graduates and current students.

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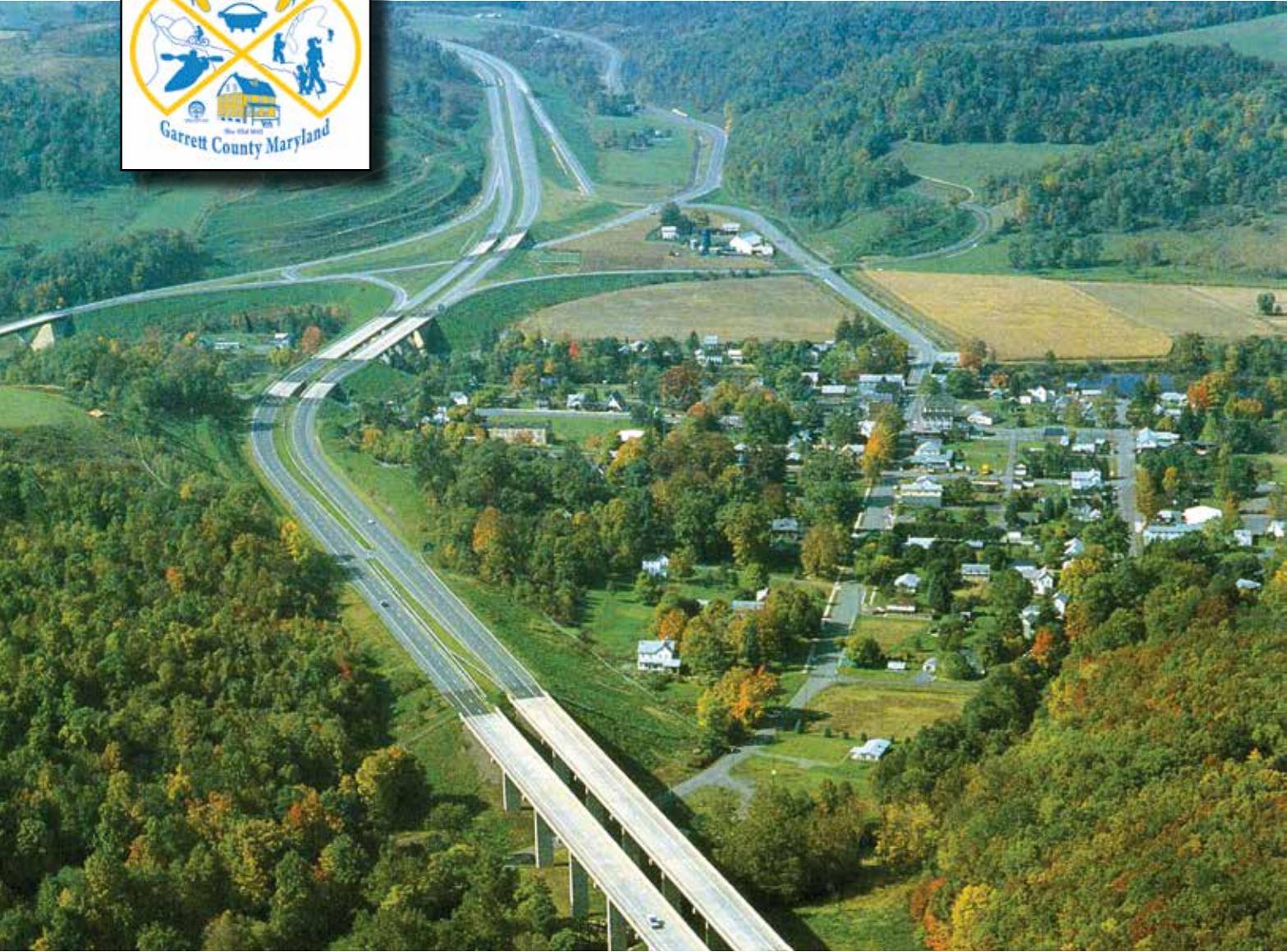


# Friendsville, Maryland

*Celebrating the Past, Embracing the Future*

Written by: **Dan Whetzel**

*Old photos courtesy of the Friend Family Association of America*



Interstate 68 looking west with the town of Friendsville on the north side.

Garrett County's past is associated with the descendants of the John Lewis Friend family. The family was the first of European descent to locate along the Youghiogheny River and their settlement marks the beginning of commercial development in lands originally inhabited by Native Americans.

John Friend was born in Delaware County Pennsylvania in 1732. He later moved from Pennsylvania and settled in

Virginia on land adjacent to the Potomac River near the present day village of Oldtown, Maryland. According to oral tradition, flooding from the Potomac River destroyed his lands, thereby causing him to explore new territory. In 1764, Mr. Friend, his son, and brother departed Virginia following trader and animal trails until they reached John's uncle at Turkeyfoot, today known as Confluence. Later they resumed traveling until encountering a village along

the Youghiogheny River inhabited by Shawnees, an Eastern Woodland tribe. Reportedly, the initial meeting with the Native Americans proved to be congenial and they engaged in commerce. Mr. Friend requested permission to occupy the land and traded implements for a few dwellings. The travelers soon returned to Virginia with a promise to come back the following year.

John Friend subsequently sold the Virginia property, loaded belongings on packhorses, and gathered livestock for the trek to Fort Cumberland, a British outpost located at the confluence of Will's Creek and the Potomac River at present day Cumberland. After arriving at Fort Cumberland in 1765, the family traveled west on Braddock's Road and then to Bear Camp Trail and the Youghiogheny River. The Friend family's tract, later called "Friends Fortune," marked the beginning of Friendsville. John Friend and wife, the former Karrenhappuck Hyatt, became parents to seven children.

Friend's legal basis for settling in the area was not formally secured for several years because Maryland's Proprietor and the Royal Proclamation of 1763 forbid it. As a condition of ending the French and Indian War, the British government sought to prohibit its subjects from migrating and settling in western lands. Furthermore, the agreement between John Friend and the Shawnees was not valid according to proprietary or king's law.

Lord Baltimore's opening of lands for settlement in 1774 did not cause Mr. Friend to formally acquire a legal title. Not until the awarding of two military lots for his service in the Revolutionary War did a formal document exist. Francis Deakin's survey of military lots west of Fort Cumberland recorded in 1787 included John Friend's property.

In 1808, John Friend Sr. deeded property in Sang Run to his son John Jr., thereby providing the last official record of the Garrett County's pioneer. Another son, Gabriel, later became Postmaster of Friends, later called Friendsville.

The Friend's settlement attracted additional settlers as hardy individuals established farms in the area. Subsistence farming along the Youghiogheny was soon augmented by industrial development because natural resources provided incentives for entrepreneurs to establish themselves in the county.

The first reported Industrial development in what is today Garrett County occurred first at Friendsville in 1802 when Oliphant of Uniontown, Pennsylvania built an iron furnace.

A *Glades Star* account of the first iron maker is brief and it may be concluded the business was short lived because a second enterprise owned by Johnnie Brobst was operating by the early 1820s. A third iron business, called The Allegheny Iron Company, incorporated in 1828 and located in the same area. Allegheny Iron Company, the only iron maker in Garrett County, was located on the left side of Bear Creek, one mile above Friendsville, and consisted of a charcoal furnace and two forges. The company's name was changed a year later to Youghiogheny Iron Works. Instruments, kettles, and tools were its primary products that required the labor of one hundred workers who lodged in company housing. The furnace and auxiliary services became a noteworthy industrial site in far western Maryland.

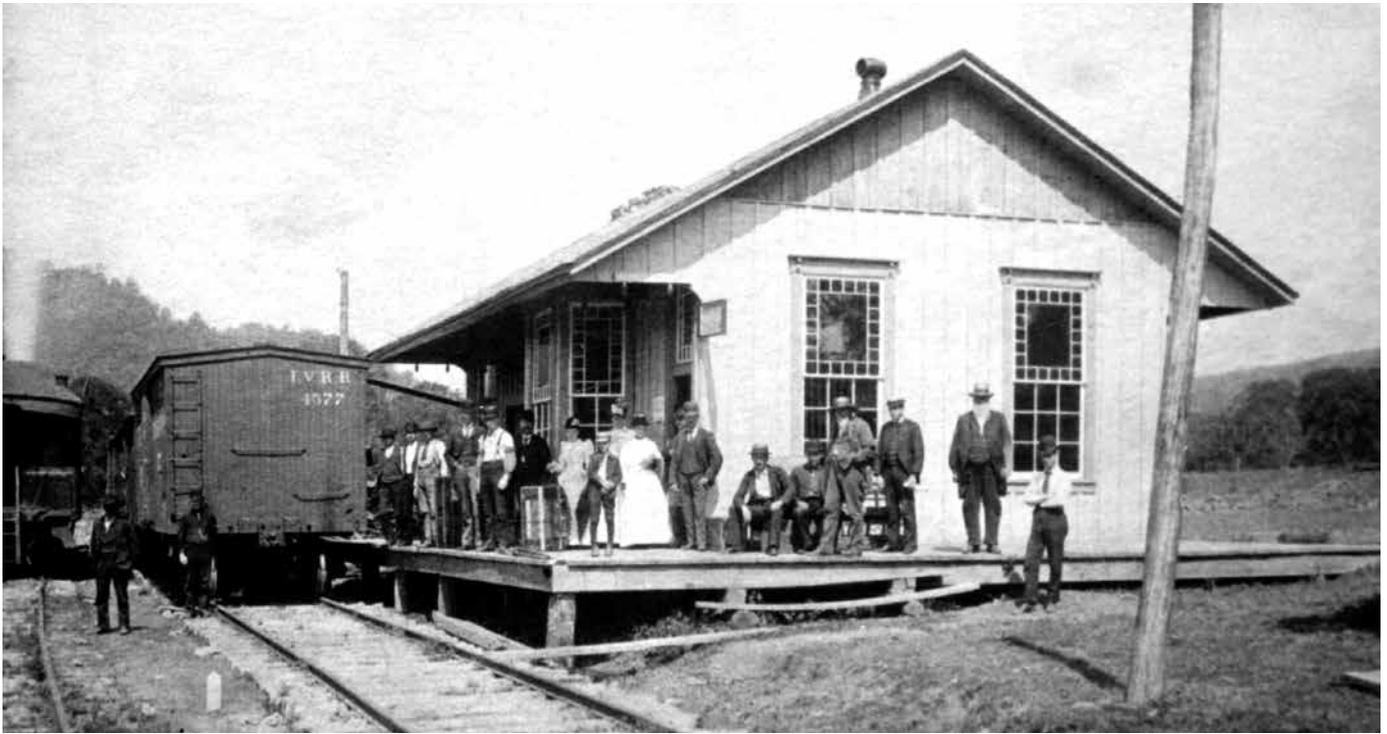
The iron works created the need for additional goods and services for employees and others in the area. A grist mill, saw mill, company store, blacksmith shop, wagon maker shop, corn house, smoke house, Post Office (established in 1830), and twelve dwellings occupied the area around the furnace, thereby marking the beginning of Friendsville as a village.

Transportation difficulties created a financial hardship for the company because the iron had to be carried by wagons to the National Highway before making its way to Baltimore. Less expensive sources of pig iron became available to buyers causing the Garrett County operation to enter bankruptcy.

Historical accounts of the pig iron operations are brief and the sites deserve additional archaeological attention. A Maryland Historical Trust survey conducted in the 1980s



**Remains of one of the Friendsville iron furnaces.**



**Friendsville B&O Railroad Station.**

documented the location of the furnace but provided only basic conclusions including, “only traces of the furnace are existent.”

A feature of the old furnace works resurfaced in 1895 when electricity came to Friendsville. A mill race that carried water from the Youghioghenny River to the forges’ hammers was repaired and used by Leslie Friend who built a small power plant near the site. The privately owned company provided electricity to residents and businesses in Friendsville for a number of years.

The economy of the fledgling settlement began to diversify during the mid nineteenth century from pig iron production to farming, milling operations, and commercial trade. A number of flour and grist mill owners diverted the Youghioghenny River to power their equipment.

According to a report by the Maryland Historical Trust, there were a number of goods, services and shops available in Friendsville during the late nineteenth century including those of “Wheelwrights, carpenters, founderers, bridge builders, tanners, blacksmiths, and others.” The report also noted that “Some of the early commercial buildings in Friendsville, especially on Morris Avenue and Water Street, date from this period of high commercial activity.”

Friendsville’s commercial and industrial development accelerated when the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad decided to build a branch line that would serve timbering operations

in the area, particularly at Manor Land, a settlement located two miles south of Friendsville. Although the saw mill machinery was initially centered in Manor Land, Friendsville was affected by the timber boom of the 1880s because the railroad would pass through the town. Support services for locomotives and timber operations promised to increase economic activity in the town and surrounding areas.

In February 1889, the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad incorporated the State Line and Oakland Railroad in Maryland and two months later a similar process was conducted in the state of Pennsylvania. The Pennsylvania incorporation, however, produced a different name—the Confluence and State Line Railroad. Merger of the two parent companies resulted in the Confluence and Oakland Railroad, commonly called the C&O. Although the railroad’s name included the town of Oakland, the line never extended that far. The B&O quickly purchased the railroad’s stock and operated it as a subdivision, referred to as the Kendall Branch. The B&O/C&O Railroad combination brought efficient transportation to Friendsville for the first time and opened the town to eastern markets.

The new railroad extended south from the B&O mainline at Confluence, Pennsylvania to Friendsville, Maryland and was ready for service by November 1889. Italian laborers built the first leg of the line while local workers were hired near Friendsville. Completion of the railroad

was cause for a grand celebration in Friendsville when speeches and contests marked the event.

Extension of the line from Friendsville to Manor Land took several months longer. A major supporter of the railroad was the Manor Land Company, property owner that stood to benefit from increased access to metropolitan centers. Manor Land later became known as Krug, and then, Kendall before World War I. Both towns enjoyed a period of rapid commercial expansion, as railroading and timbering operations combined to create boom town conditions.

Friendsville hosted a water tank and depot to serve the steam locomotives that maintained a regular schedule for public passenger service between Somerfield and Kendall. By 1920, additional stops at Watson and Selbysport were added. The train's one hour layover in Friendsville provided for express and mail service, baggage transfers, and passengers boarding. Passengers and crews were also afforded time to eat during the layover. Another indication of Friendsville's growing importance to the railroad was the hiring of Dr. A.J. Mason, a surgeon, who maintained an office in town. Dr. Mason treated employees and passengers of the C&O Railroad.

Friendsville immediately benefitted from rail service when a stove and heading mill opened in 1890 under the direction of A. Knabb and Company. Mr. Knabb's business affiliations linked him to Oil City and Warren Pennsylvania before he established a residence and office in Friendsville. High quality pine timber was sought by Mr. Knabb for the production of wooden oil barrels, a big business before the railroad's development of metal tank cars. Production moved from the town to Kendall in 1891 where the business prospered; The *Connellsville Courier* reported in 1904, "It only takes 180 seconds to finish a barrel."

Another Pennsylvania native interested in Garrett County timberlands was John W. McCullough who arrived in Friendsville in the early 1890s. Mr. McCullough

and two partners, John W. Clark and Harry E. Clark from Indiana County, Pennsylvania, purchased land along Bear Creek and set up a sawmill east of Friendsville. A fire destroyed the mill but its memory survives to this day through the naming of Burnt Mill Road. A second mill was constructed and serviced by a wooden rail tram railroad. Mr. McCullough later replaced the wooden rails with steel ones that supported a small steam locomotive, thereby making a connection with the C&O Railroad at Friendsville.

Timberlands continued to provide incentives for McCullough and partners who decided to improve upon the original narrow gauge line and extend operations to an area between Negro and Meadow Mountains. In 1899, a new 36 inch narrow gauge line, called the Bear Creek Railroad, started at Friendsville and moved along Bear Creek in an easterly direction before climbing to the west slope of Negro Mountain, a rise of nearly 400 feet and distance of approximately 14 miles. Logging spurs added another 11 miles of track that would eventually serve four lumber companies in rugged terrain.

The Bear Creek Railroad worked four locomotives, No. 1 "Dinky" (small steam engine); No. 2, a 30 ton Climax locomotive; Number 3, a 20 ton Climax locomotive; and Number 4, a 30 ton Climax. The amount of work carried out by the engines was impressive. In 1900, a letter from Bear Creek Railroad officials to the Climax Manufacturing Company provided insight into the daily work routine. "We thought you might be interested to know that our 30 ton Climax locomotive has been handling an average load of 15 cars for a round trip, taking out empties and bringing in loads for our sawmill to the top of the mountain, a distance



**B&O Railroad bridge coming into Friendsville.**



The Bear Creek Lumber Company, circa 1890.

of 15 miles; it makes this trip twice daily.” Similar workloads were described for the other three locomotives used by the railroad.

A second account of the Bear Creek Railroad was provided in 1970 by Totten Kimmel, resident of Mountain Lake Park; his story later appeared in the *Glades Star*. Mr. Kimmel noted “The many cars used by the company...could carry from 4 to 6 cords of pulpwood per car. We need to remember that this was a narrow gauge facility and the longest railroad of its kind in the county.” Mr. Kimmel further noted that “hundreds of men were employed by the company” and were proud of their work.

The Meadow Mountain Lumber Company (chartered in 1899) built a band mill at Friendsville to process the softwoods that were unloaded from Bear Creek Railroad cars and floated in a pond prior to being processed. The Bear Creek Lumber Company, built on McCullough’s second mill site at Jenkins Flat, used a circular saw for cutting hardwoods.

A story about the Meadow Mountain Lumber Company appearing in the *Cumberland Alleghanian* on April 12, 1900 summarized the capabilities of the railroad and mills. “The Bear Creek Lumber Company has completed the narrow gauge railroad to a large tract of timber called ‘The Right of Man,’ a distance of about 15 miles and is taking the timber to the mammoth sawmill plant at Friendsville. The mill has been sawing from thirty to fifty thousand feet a day and is not yet running to its full capacity.”

Boom town conditions created the need for financial and retail services. The opening of The First National Bank of Friendsville in the spring of 1902 marked an important commercial milestone; Mr. H.C. McCandish was appointed to head the enterprise. The Garrett County Telephone Company extended service to the town in the same year. A statement from the *Connellsville Courier* in 1904 appraised the community’s prospects, “Friendsville is destined in the near future to become a town of some importance.” As an exclamation point to the town’s progress, Friendsville became incorporated in 1904.

Friendsville’s economic prosperity fostered fraternal, cultural, and social organizations. The most significant fraternal organization during the early twentieth century was the Knights of Pythias. One story demonstrates the influence and financial resources the group enjoyed.

In 1910, veteran soldiers from the Federal Army, Confederate Army, and Spanish American War gathered in Friendsville for a reunion. The Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), a Civil War fraternal organization dedicated to Union soldiers, lacked the financial resources to support the event. According to a (Cumberland) *Evening Times* article, the Knights of Pythias financed the reunion, sparing no expense. This was a considerable achievement considering there were seven thousand veterans in attendance.

Kolb’s Opera House regularly hosted events, including an Old Fiddlers Contest (1904) that drew 30 contestants and a production of “Knights of Athens” (1905) which was supported by a special excursion train from Connellsville, Pennsylvania.

Dances were also reported. One glimpse into the popularity of the activity appeared in an August 1905 issue of the Connellsville newspaper. A group, referred to as members of Camp Bachelor from Connellsville, broke camp and headed for town. “The members were invited to a swell dance on Friday. They (campers) compliment the Friendsville dancers very highly for their graceful dancing and sociability, and hope to have the pleasure sometime again.”

Department stores, hotels, food stores, hardware stores, a furniture store, and other merchandisers provided residents with goods and services typical of a small but growing town.

The good times would not last; Friendsville's prosperity was based on limited resources that began to suffer from depletion within a decade.

Exploitation of raw materials caused rail traffic on the Bear Creek and C&O railroads to decline. The narrow gauge railroad was the first and most adversely affected and ended operations around 1904. Mr. McCullough kept the No. 1 locomotive but sold or leased the other equipment to nearby companies, including the Loch Haven Lumber Company. The Loch Haven apparently entered into an agreement with Bear Creek and Meadow Mountain Lumber Companies to use some of the equipment and track until it, too, closed. In a similar way, both saw mills began to wind down business in 1904.

The C&O continued to run because of freight traffic to Friendsville merchants and the coal trade generated by McCullough's coal mine. Friendsville residents maintained regular freight and passenger service through the C&O/B&O railroads every day except Sunday into the 1930s when the Great Depression slowed business activity.

The Great Depression eventually tightened its grip on the C&O and runs were curtailed to three days per week in 1932 and only twice a week in 1937. With no prospects of better times ahead, the B&O abandoned the C&O in



Maple Street in Friendsville, looking west.

1942. Despite an attempt by the McCullough Coal Company to block the abandonment, a Federal Appeals Court upheld the B&O's decision. The federal government was seeking to construct the Youghiogheny Dam and Lake on C&O right-of-way. Although delayed by World War II, much of the former Confluence and Oakland Railroad property was acquired and then submerged beneath the water of a lake impoundment, thereby permanently ending most of the railroad's five decades of physical presence in Garrett County.

The mountains near Friendsville beckoned coal operators beginning in the early twentieth century and about the time timbering operations were winding down. Large deposits of easily acquired coal were not to be found but the coal field around Friendsville was worth development, approximately 66 square miles. Coal mining activity helped to offset the loss of the timber industry and contributed to the economic well being of the town and railroad industry.

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One of the earliest mines was operated by David Fike and a few employees who transported coal from the site in small cars and to Friendsville in horse drawn wagons. In 1915, the Fike Mine was acquired by the J.W. McCullough Coal Corporation and became the longest operating coal mine at Friendsville.

The McCullough mine closed briefly around 1916 but then began producing enough coal for commercial rail shipments to eastern markets. McCullough's mine became the most significant shipper on the Kendall Branch until 1942 when all work ceased because of the B&O Railroad's decision to abandon the line. The last year of production netted 574,930 tons of coal.

Smaller mines in the immediate vicinity of Friendsville included the Ryland Mine (1927-1935), W.W. Savage (1936-1940), and the Vitez Mine (1954-1954). The Ryland Mine was owned and operated by several individuals over the years, thereby giving the site several names.

World War II's conclusion and the end of large scale coal mining brought an end to Friendsville's industrial days; the town became a residential location. The good news was commutes to four metropolitan areas were relatively short for residents who continued to enjoy the small town atmosphere.

In recent years Friendsville has once again turned to natural resources as a means of reinventing itself. This time around, however, the natural resources are sustainable and managed with the utmost care.

Newspapers regularly reported fishing trips to the Friendsville area in the early twentieth century, so the town's recreational credentials are well established. And while fishing remains one of the popular activities available in the town, many more are now offered including world class rafting and kayaking on the Youghiogheny River and Bear Creek, float trips, biking on the Kendall Trail, and exploration of the Cranesville sub-Arctic Swamp. Recent improvements in parking and river access make the outdoor experiences more enjoyable than in past years and lodging is available to accommodate guests who wish to stay for extended periods of time.

Town projects include repurposing of the former Fox Hardware store that was built in 1885 and became a local landmark. In years past, the 5,000 square foot wooden building hosted the Friendsville Post Office, a tin shop, and a thriving retail business selling paint, lumber and furniture to settlers headed out west via the then-thriving railroad. Some of the original features, including wooden bins for containing nails and hardware, an original bank



**Top:** Quincy Murphy standing in front of his building on Maple Street. It served as a garage and confection/soda fountain; circa late 1920s.

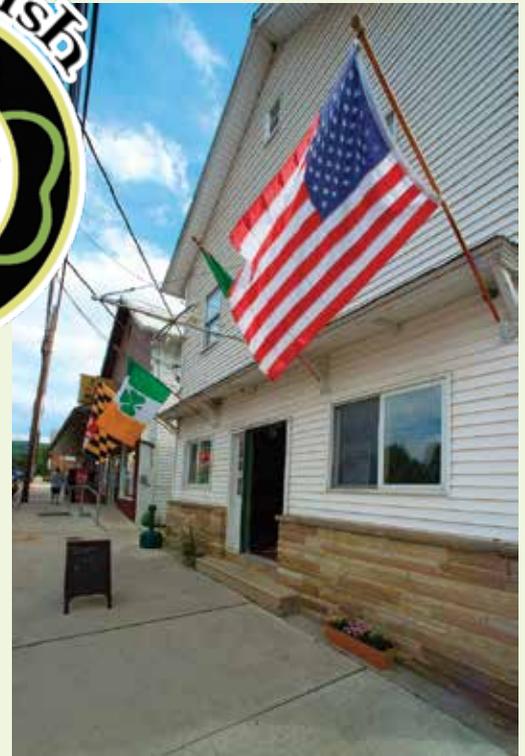
**Middle:** One of Friendsville town projects includes restoring the former Fox Hardware store.

**Bottom:** In recent years kayaking and world class rafting have become popular sports on the Youghiogheny River and Bear Creek with access at Friendsville.

wall safe, and the original 20-foot display counter remain in place and will be incorporated into future plans for potential retail and commercial use.

As Friendsville residents celebrate a milestone anniversary in 2015, they once again rely on natural resources and entrepreneurship to lead the way. One resident best stated the town's future, "Friendsville's star is on the rise."

Ken's Irish Pub is an important link between Friendsville's past and current revitalization plans. Originally constructed in 1910 and known as the local Drug Store, the business was part of Friendsville's commercial district when railroad service, coal mining, and timbering kept the town busy. Ownership passed to the "Turkey Bill" and Effie Friend family who maintained it as a commercial venture until Raymond McCullough Sr. converted the building to a general store featuring a small lunch counter. Around 1950, the building became the local tavern known as "Ken's Den," "Ken's Tavern," and simply "Ken's." A single neon "Beer" sign marked the location. Bob Sines acquired ownership in 2005 and renamed the bar "Sugar Shack," a name that remained until a small investor group led by Fred Fox purchased the business. Fred Fox, great-grandson of F.G. Fox, owner of Fox Hardware Store and a well known figure in Friendsville, renamed the bar, "Ken's Irish Pub." Renovations to the business have maintained the historic structure's integrity but also add to the spirit of renewal that has come with Friendsville's anniversary celebration.



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# The Friendsville United Methodist Church

Written by: **Dan Whetzel**  
Photography by: **Lance C. Bell**

## and its Beautiful Stained Glass Windows

The first church built in Friendsville, Maryland was the Methodist Episcopal Church located at 623 Water Street. On May 24, 1879 John T. Garey and his wife Priscilla deeded a lot on the west bank of the Youghiogheny River to Thomas H. Cuppett, William H. Steele, L. A. Friend, David Kent and J. T. Garey, Trustees of the M.E. Church "as a place of Divine Worship for the use of the ministry and membership of the Methodist Episcopal Church."

The first church building was a frame structure that served the church for approximately 16 years and was then replaced by a larger frame structure in 1898. When a fire destroyed the larger frame structure in 1920 the congregation was invited by the Lutheran Church to worship with them; the invitation was accepted and the Methodist congregation worshipped in the Lutheran Church till September 1922.

The contract for the present church was given to F. G. Fox July 19, 1920. By the fall of 1921, work on the church had come to a standstill and the people were discouraged, but efforts to raise money quickly renewed interest in the building. The new First Methodist Episcopal Church was dedicated August 6, 1922.

A prominent feature of the new church was the stained glass windows, artistic creations that have been enjoyed for decades by those attending services. What is not so obvious is the unique construction process that is invisible to the untrained eye.

Recently discovered documents revealed that the stained glass artwork was designed and installed by the Von Gerichten Ecclesiastic Studios from Columbus Ohio, a company that described itself as the largest stained glass studio in North America. In August 1921, correspondence

occurred between Mr. Arnold Fox, representing F. G. Fox and Sons of Friendsville, and the Ohio company. Information contained in the letter provided interesting details about the windows.

The church sent a full size paper outline of the window opening to the Von Gerichten craftsmen who, in turn, created several designs with accompanying prices for the church congregation to consider. All designs were to be completed in the German style of glass making. Windows were subsequently purchased by the congregation.

The window frames were made by F. G. Fox in his Friendsville wood planing mill. After completing the frames, he discovered they would not fit through his shop doors, so he had to cut the doors larger. The windows were installed and enjoyed by the congregation for more than a half century before repairs were needed.

Kevin Kamauf, owner of Reliable Glass Company, Inc. of Cresaptown, Maryland, carried out restorations of the windows on two occasions, in 1984 and during the fall and winter of 2012-2013. According to Mr. Kamauf, stained glass is held with came, a technical term for "H" shaped metal channels. Artists often layer different colors of glass to create desired hues and typically each layer is held within its own came. "The center section of each of the four large windows at the Friendsville Church is unique. There are two layers of glass inside the same lead came. I never saw that feature before or since. The window construction is unique to our region," stated Mr. Kamauf.

Due to the generosity of many generations, the Friendsville United Methodist Church continues to hold services on the same property donated to them over 130 years ago.

*Information sources include The Glades Star, church records, and the assistance of Carol Squires.*

**Facing page: Exterior of Friendsville United Methodist Church, Water Street.**

**Windows (left to right): "Jesus with Open Arms," donor: Building Committee J.W. Friend, Arnold G. Fox, H.J. Black, D.S. Custer, H.L. Wolf, and W.W. Savage.**

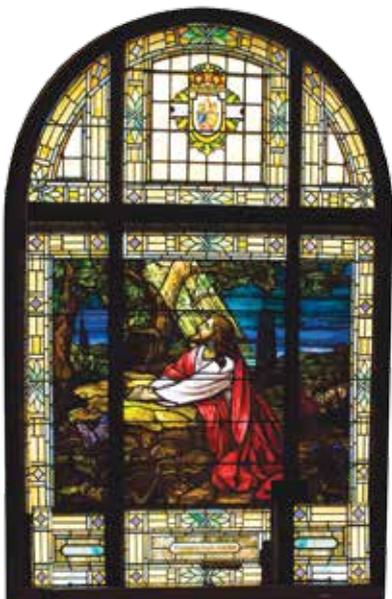
**"Jesus the Shepherd," donor: Independent Order of Odd Fellows.**

**"Jesus Knocking at the Door," donor: Rev. D.A. Friend and wife Phebe M. Friend.**

**"Jesus in the Garden," donor: Knights of Pythias.**

**Left photo: Donor, Owen Foster Friend (left window). Right window in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Brison Welch.**

**Cross and Flame over Alter: In memory of Wilbur G. Fox by his wife, Jane G. Fox and sons, James and Frederick.**



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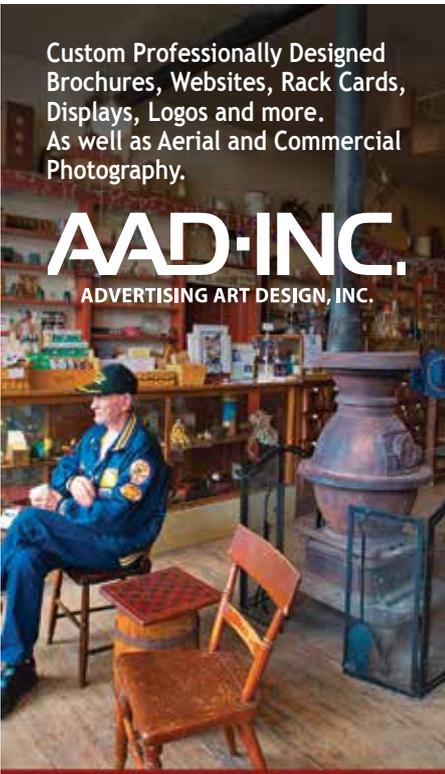
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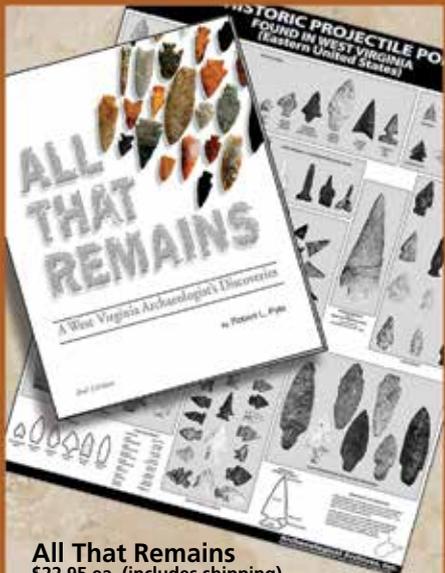
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A Cumberland Tradition

# M&M BAKE SHOP

Written by: **Sara Mullins**  
 Photography by: **Lance C. Bell**

It's 5 a.m. in Cumberland, Maryland. While most area residents are still asleep, Roger Lantz is bustling around, preparing for another busy day at the M & M Bake Shop on the Downtown Cumberland Mall. Every day, except Sunday, doors open at 5:30. Fresh doughnuts are on their way to local businesses. Early risers pop in for a baked treat before heading to work. Throughout the morning, the regulars stop by to pick up their favorite goodies before they're gone, often by noon. Delicious smells escaping from the bakery doors lure customers inside throughout the day, until closing time at 2 p.m.

Nestled in the heart of the Downtown Mall, the family-owned bakery has been a Cumberland tradition for almost 50 years. Mary Lantz, Roger's mother, bought the business in 1966 after working there when it was the Federal Bake Shop, part of a chain based in Chicago. The store was named M & M Bake Shop after Mary and her co-worker Meryl Means. After graduating from Ridgeley High School in 1967, Roger worked



**Mary Lantz**

with his mother and Mr. Means at the bakery until he entered military service. Upon his return to Cumberland, he worked at Kelly-Springfield Tire Company until it closed local operations in 1984. Roger returned to the bakery to work full-time with his mother after the death of Mr. Means.

Since then, Roger has continued the Lantz family tradition of operating an old-fashioned bakery in old-world style with the help of his loyal employees: Mary





**Above:** Bake shop employees LouAnn Bittner (left) and Mary Wilt, decorator, with owner/baker Roger Lantz. Inset: Long time employee, Penny Alkire.

**Below:** Roger with a tray of cupcakes fresh out of the oven.

Wilt, decorator, LouAnn Bittner, Rebecca Glotfelty, and Penny Alkire, who has worked with Federal and M & M Bake Shop for about 40 years. Doughnuts, cookies, brownies, breads, pies and decorated cakes are all prepared on the premises. Customer favorites include Devil Dogs, Peanut Butter Rolls and Cream Fills. The word has spread; a growing number of travelers from the D.C. metro area heading to Deep Creek Lake often stop by to pick up fresh baked goods. Many of them are now regulars.

“The community has been good to me,” Roger says. “I feel blessed every day.”



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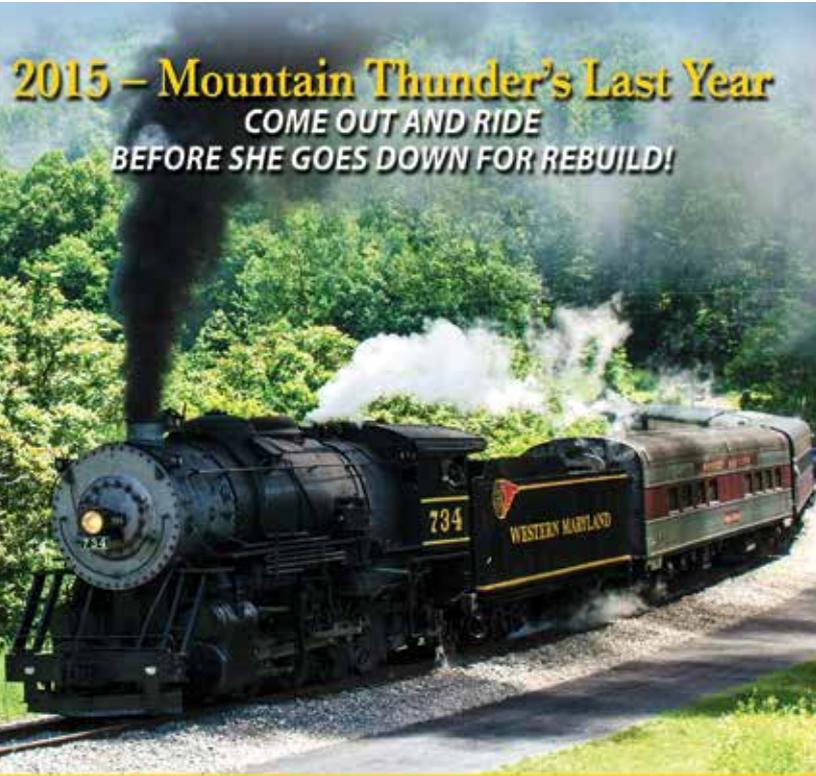
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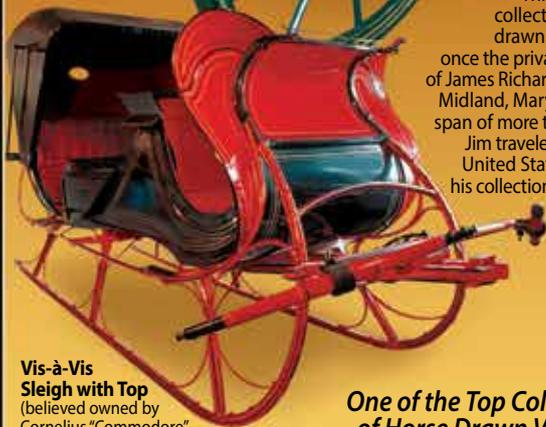
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This remarkable collection of horse-drawn vehicles was once the private collection of James Richard Thrasher of Midland, Maryland. Over a span of more than 30 years, Jim traveled all over the United States amassing his collection of carriages, accessories and more.



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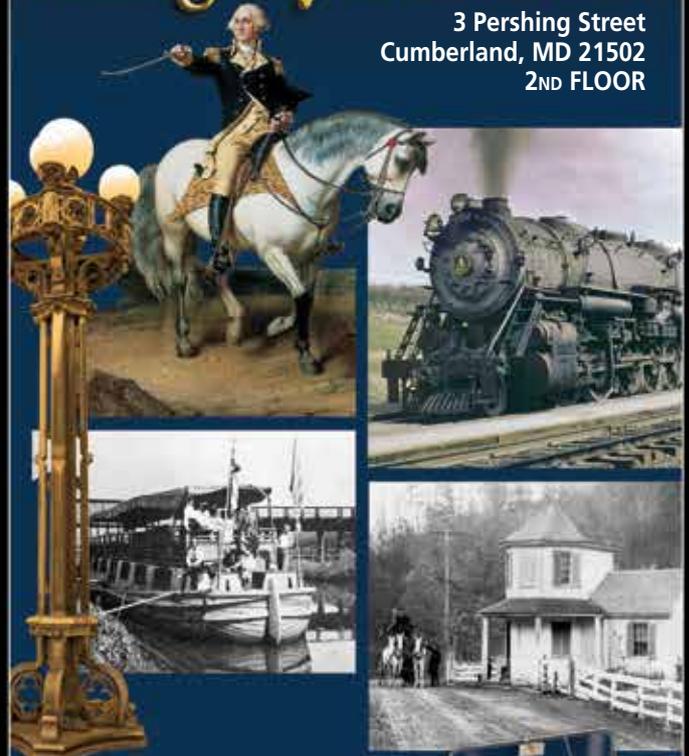


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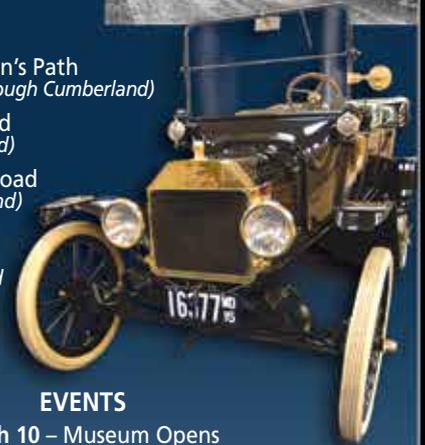
**Prehistory** – Nemacolin's Path  
(Native American Trail through Cumberland)

**1755** – Braddock's Road  
(started from Cumberland)

**1811** – First National Road  
(Originated in Cumberland)

**1828** – America's First Railroad  
(B&O was started; arrived in Cumberland, 1842)

**1828** – C&O Canal  
(was started; arrived in Cumberland 1850)



### EVENTS

March 10 – Museum Opens

**May 30 – July 18 – Smithsonian Sports Exhibit** –  
A traveling exhibition. *Hometeam Teams: How Sports Shape America*

June 13-14 – Open House/Heritage Days

Sept. 19 – 15th Annual Ford Model T & Model A  
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# SING

## For Success at Garrett College

Written by: **Sara Mullins**  
Photography by: **Lance C. Bell**

A college degree is a requirement for a growing number of professions that can make a big difference in boosting lifetime earnings. But attending college is an expensive undertaking. Tuition, fees, books, supplies, parking, housing, food, insurance...the costs can seem overwhelming. And they continue to rise. According to the College Board, "Students not receiving financial aid can expect to face, on average, from \$450 to \$1,630 more than last year for this year's college expenses, depending on the type of college." While financial aid reduces the cost of tuition and fees, students whose budgets are still stretched thin often skimp on simple necessities – like food or warm clothing.

"It was evident to faculty and staff at Garrett College that a student's ability to focus on academic success was negatively affected by hunger and the stress of meeting expenses," says Ann Wellham, a former Dean of Marketing and Enrollment Management who is now retired after 33 years' service at the College. Working with other staff and faculty members who shared her concerns, Wellham was instrumental in developing a formal organization to help students find resources available within the College and local communities. The Students in Need Group, known as SING, now receives support through a dedicated fund initiated through the Garrett College Foundation. SING received a significant boost – \$5,000 – from a "Matthew 25: Neighbors in Need Grant" awarded to the Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Deep Creek Lake, thanks to the efforts of Barbara Hafer, a member of the Foundation and church parishioner, and Lisa Swift, the church's social ministry chair.

SING's biggest fundraiser, the 4th Annual SING Flea Market, is set for Saturday, June 6, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Garrett College Special Events Center. The public is invited and admission is free. Antiques and crafts have been some of the biggest sellers. Vendors pay fees that go directly to benefit SING in exchange for a sheltered venue to sell their treasures and trinkets. Non-profit organizations can receive one 10 foot x 12 foot space at no charge, and can purchase additional space if needed.



**This year's Flea Market will take place on Saturday, June 6, 2015, at the Garrett College Special Events Center.**

Garrett College students' response to SING has been positive. "Over 700 students were assisted by SING during the 2013-2014 school year," says Kym Newmann, executive associate to the Dean of Student Life. Throughout the academic year, SING sponsors PB&J Day every Wednesday, with sandwiches available during the lunch hour. During the last six weeks of each semester, students can patronize the SING Food Pantry, where they can select five items from a variety of items. An effort to add fresh fruits and vegetables is in the works. In October, SING sponsors a Winter Clothing Giveaway that allow students to select coats, hats, scarves and gloves to help them stay warm during the often harsh winters in Garrett County.

Individuals, organizations and businesses interested in supporting SING can receive a tax deduction for donated goods or funds. The satisfaction that comes from helping a student in need succeed is an added bonus.

**Flea Market contact information:**  
**Rachelle Davis, 301-387-3739, [www.garrettcollege.edu](http://www.garrettcollege.edu).**

# NATURAL CHIMNEYS PARK

and Campground

Mt. Solon, Virginia

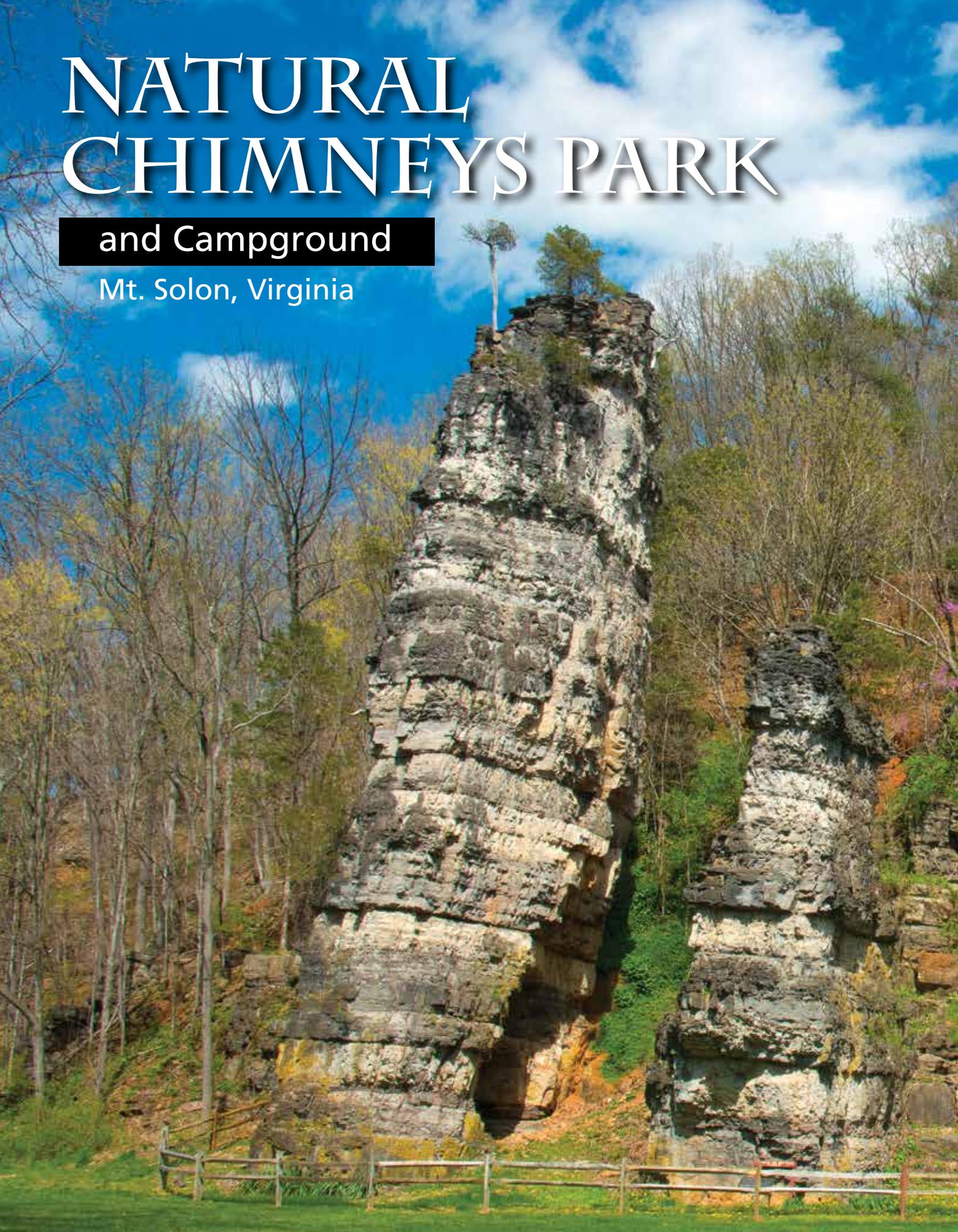




Photo by Lance C. Bell

## The Cyclopean Towers

*The natural chimneys have aroused imaginations for two centuries. Artists, poets and gentlemen of the romantic era have added to the strangeness of this natural wonder by giving the chimneys poetic names like “Vulcan’s Forge” or by likening them to Greek and medieval architecture. For a time the name “Cyclopean Towers” was applied to the chimneys, but this was later dropped in favor of “Natural Chimneys,” which was in common local usage.*

Natural Chimneys is a natural rock structure and park located near Mt. Solon in Augusta County, Virginia. The rock “chimneys” formed from limestone that began to accumulate and harden into stone about 500 million years ago in the Paleozoic Era when the region was under water. Over time, enormous upward pressures of magma and widespread geologic upheaval, which created the Appalachian Mountains, combined with erosive forces of water and destroyed weaker layers of stone. Eventually, this created the seven Natural Chimneys that tower as much as 120 feet above the pastoral terrain of the Shenandoah Valley, offering onlookers a sight unrivaled in majesty. Viewed from one angle, the formations resemble enormous chimneys standing in bleak contrast to the greenery of the Valley. Take a few steps, though, and the chimneys are transformed into the massive turrets of a foreboding medieval castle.

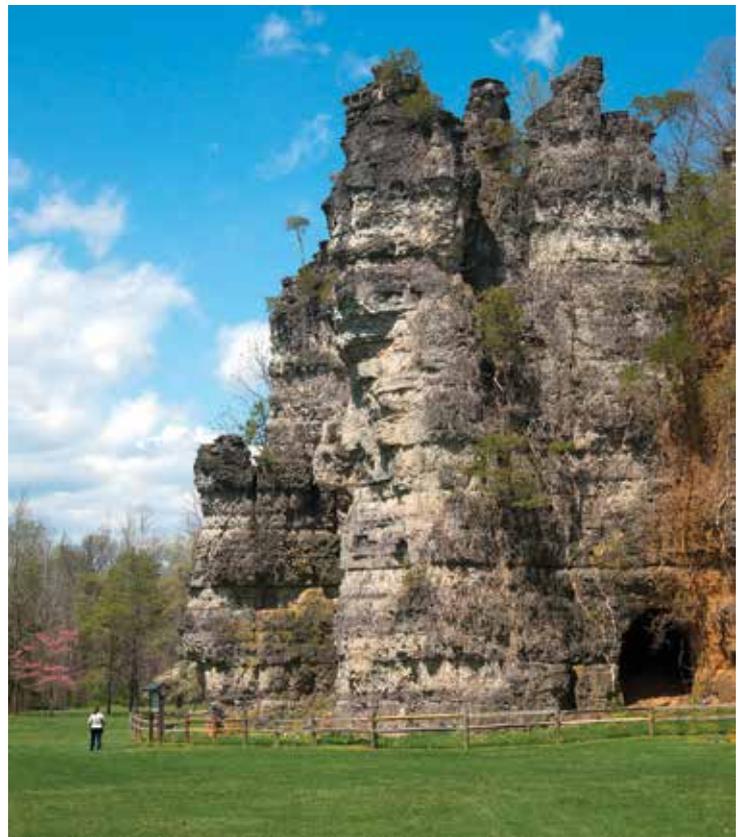
Natural Chimneys Park, along the North River, has a thirty by twenty-eight foot performance stage situated on the south end of the lawn of the Natural Chimneys that creates a dynamic environment for performances and special events, four picnic shelters available for rental, a 145 site family-oriented campground with water and electrical hook-ups, a pool, playground and hiking trails. The campground also has a separate section for primitive/tent campers with rather large, spacious sites. Camping is available in season, on a ‘first come, first serve basis,’ by advanced reservation or walk-ins/drive-ins.

[www.naturalchimneys.net](http://www.naturalchimneys.net)

Some annual events held at Natural Chimney’s Park are:

**Stone Tower Glenn Renaissance Faire –  
June 27-28, 2015 • [www.therenlist.com/fairs/stone-tower-glenn-renaissance-faire](http://www.therenlist.com/fairs/stone-tower-glenn-renaissance-faire)**

Natural Chimney’s Park is the perfect back drop for the annual Stone Tower Glenn Renaissance Faire. Emerging from the myst ascending from the Glenn, rise the spires of the Ancient Castle that gives unto this magical place its name, Stone Tower Glenn. The majestic towers look over the brilliant white tents of the Faire below. Festive music complements the joyful sounds of laughter and merriment, while the aromas of delicious foods drift through the



merchant tents filled with wondrous wares. Marvel at the archers from the Greenwood as they demonstrate their skills from lands far and near. Array thyself in your favorite garb and join us for a weekend of amazing performers, games to test your skills, and more wonders than can be enjoyed in a single day.

**Third annual Red Wing Roots Music Festival –  
July 10-12, 2015 • [www.redwingroots.com](http://www.redwingroots.com)**

A family-friendly celebration of multiple stages with dozens of high-quality national and regional bands, kids events and activities. Plenty of no frills tent camping is available on site.

**194<sup>th</sup> National Jousting Association Tournament –  
August 15, 2015 • <http://nationaljousting.com>**

The park also hosts one of the largest and oldest jousting tournaments in the eastern United States. The jousting tournament, known as “America’s oldest continually held sporting event,” is enjoyed annually, on the third Saturday of August. This tradition has made Mt. Solon home to the National Jousting Association, and the National Jousting Hall of Fame is housed within Natural Chimneys Regional Park. Since the annual tournament started in 1821 the track has been moved around Natural Chimneys Park four times. The current track has been used for the past 25 years. Augusta County owns the property and maintains the facility.

Jousting has been practiced in the United States since the 17th century. Tournaments are also held in Maryland, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia.



National Jousting Association Tournament.  
photo courtesy Virginia Tourism Corporation

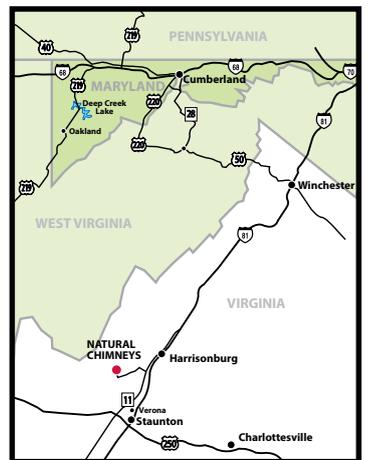


Scenes from the Stone Tower  
Glenn Renaissance Faire:

A young family enjoys the lively  
tunes of the Masquerade Ball.

Above right: Adain, one of the  
horses of the Daughters of Epona,  
greet two young maidens.

Right: The Maidens Three share  
their lore of song and rhyme upon  
the Glenn.



**From the North:** On Interstate 81,  
take Exit 240, Mt. Crawford/Bridge-  
water. Turn right onto Friedens  
Church Road (Rt. 257). Turn left on  
Rt. 42 to Mossy Creek Road. Turn  
right onto Natural Chimneys Lane.

**From the South:** On Interstate  
81, take Exit 220, toward US 11/  
Staunton. Turn left onto US 250,  
Churchville Avenue. Turn right on  
Rt. 42. Turn left onto Moscow Loop.  
Turn left onto Natural Chimneys  
Lane.

# Washington County Museum of Fine Arts: *Treasures Abound*

Written by: **Rachel B.K. Nichols**  
Photography by: **Lance C. Bell**

Hagerstown's City Park is considered the crown jewel of the city. At the center of the crown is a brilliant diamond — the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts. From the moment you approach the front archway of the museum there is a distinct sense of beckoning and welcome. Just strolling through the courtyard, past stone and bronze sculptures and a gurgling fountain lets you know that this is a special place; even the bench is a work of art.



Photo courtesy of Washington County Museum of Fine Arts

The welcoming atmosphere continues into the lobby area where visitors are met by knowledgeable docents and a friendly front desk security attendant. Staff is eager to provide each guest with an outstanding experience. On any given day you might run into the museum's director, Rebecca Massie Lane, who is happy to share her joy in this special place. Beyond the lobby, it's a dilemma of choices – go left or right? Truly, it doesn't matter, because there are treasures galore to discover in both directions, and the museum is designed in a way that leads naturally from one gallery to the next, until you end up back at the starting point.

If you've made the choice to turn left, the corridor leads to the Bowman Concert Hall and Gallery. The exhibitions in the gallery change, which is perfect for those who regularly attend the recitals, music workshops and lectures held in the hall, many of which are free. Moving from the lively Bowman Gallery leads to the Kerstein Gallery, which will soon house an exhibition of some of the museum's early 20th century collection.

In stark contrast, the next gallery features the museum's Old Masters works with paintings, sculpture and

antique furnishings. The gallery evokes the feeling of a great hall from the early Renaissance, which is the perfect showcase for these 15th-18th century works. It is here that you see the museum's first purchased acquisition and oldest painting, *Saints Mary Magdalene and Paul* by Giovanni Mazzone (c.1453 – c. 1510). The painting glows with ground gold halos, and Mazzone also carved the intricate gilded wood that perfectly frames this work of sacred art.



**The Museum's oldest painting – *Saints Mary Magdalene and Paul* by Giovanni Mazzone, 1480s.**

Here you'll also find the museum's iconic symbol, *Diana of the Chase*, a striking bronze sculpture by American sculptor Anna Hyatt Huntington from the early 1920s. This casting was donated to the museum by Huntington herself in 1941 in honor of the museum's 10-year anniversary. It was originally displayed outdoors, as was intended by the artist, but was enclosed in the current rotunda due to conservation issues in 1998.

Further along on your exploration, the Smith Gallery houses a significant portion of the museum's collection of mid-19th century art. Two very familiar figures are housed there – a bronze sculpture of Benjamin Franklin by Paul Wayland Bartlett (1865-1925) and a bust of Abraham Lincoln. If the

style of the Lincoln bust looks familiar, it is because it was carved by Gutzon Borglum (1867-1941), who created the monumental carvings at Mt. Rushmore and Stone Mountain Park. This bust is a smaller version of the same one that is kept in the crypts of the United States Capitol building.

Perhaps the heart of the museum is the Singer Memorial Gallery of American and European Art. The founders of the museum, Hagerstown native Anna Brugh Singer and her husband William H. Singer, Jr. established the Washington County Museum of Fine Arts in 1928. Hagerstown was a bustling industrial town; a railroad hub and manufacturing center surrounded by rich farmland. Mrs. Singer saw that the region also needed a dedicated cultural center that was, “necessary for the spiritual growth of Town and Country.” Their gift became the anchor for the world-class collections that are enjoyed by people from around the country.

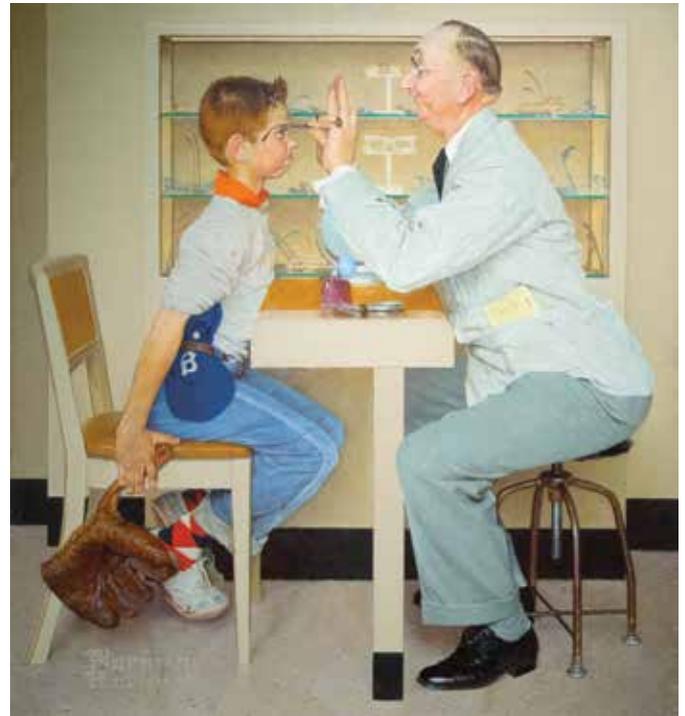
Through careful design of corridors and galleries, and the purposeful placement of artworks, visitors are often led directly toward special surprises. One of those is the oil on canvas painting *The Oculist* by Norman Rockwell (1894-1978). The image appeared on the cover of the May 19, 1956 issue of the *Saturday Evening Post*, and was purchased by the museum directly from the artist in 1957. It has been a favorite of patrons and visitors ever since.

There is a robust schedule of rotating exhibitions featuring objects from the permanent collection, works of living artists and notable traveling exhibitions such as the Masters of Photography show that will be on exhibit July 11 – October 25, 2015.

The work of notable photographers, including Alfred Stieglitz, Paul Strand, Edward Weston, Walker Evans, and Dorothea Lange, will be showcased in this exhibition, organized by Reading Public Museum. The photographs represent the history of photography from the 1880s through the 1980s, with a particular emphasis on the first decades of the 20th century.

Washington County Museum of Fine Arts is a place that you can visit often; a place to spend thoughtful time with old favorites or to make new discoveries.

Visit WCMFA’s website at [www.wcmfa.org](http://www.wcmfa.org) for a complete schedule of upcoming events.



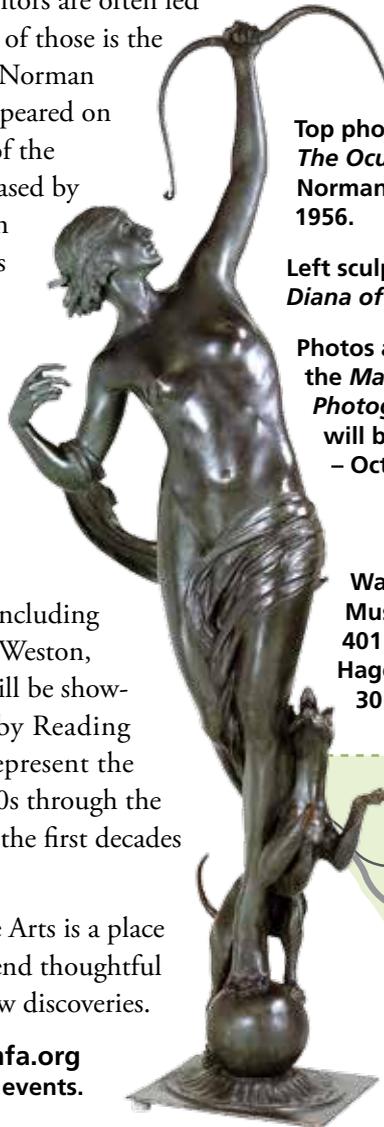
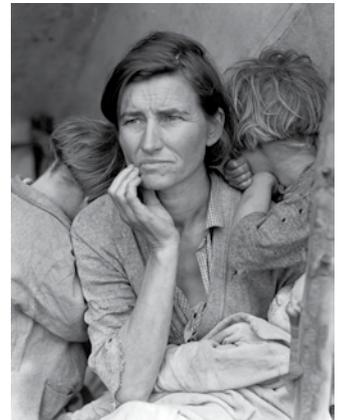
**Top photo:**  
*The Oculist* by  
Norman Rockwell,  
1956.

**Left sculpture:**  
*Diana of the Chase*.

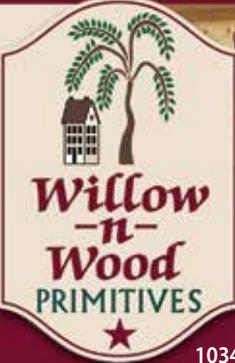


**Photos at right are part of**  
*the Masters of American*  
*Photography* show that  
will be on exhibit July 11  
– October 25, 2015.

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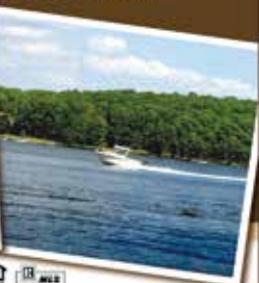
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Holly O'Brien holding son, Riley and Jason O'Brien with nephew Mathew Stoner, enjoy a family fun day.

# Family Fun at Deep Creek Lake

Written by: **Sara Mullins**

New Photography by: **Lance C. Bell**

At Deep Creek Lake, family vacations are all about having fun and creating happy memories. In McHenry, located along the Lake's shore, two family fun parks – the **Funland Family Fun Center** and **Smiley's FunZone** – offer children of all ages a wealth of activities, available rain or shine. Both parks are family-owned businesses, created by local entrepreneurs with a passion to please.

## The Funland Family Fun Center

At Funland, Tom and Sara Kuhn have been “**creating smiles**” for many years, and are proud to be Deep Creek Lake's oldest business operated by its original owners. Funland represents the fruition of the Kuhns' dream of owning and operating their own business. Tom, a native of Mt. Storm, West Virginia, grew up in a family of entrepreneurs; his father and grandfather both operated their own businesses. After graduating from West Virginia University with a degree in Physical Education and Recreation, Tom began teaching at Southern High School in Garrett County. With summers off, Tom had some free time on his hands. He started thinking about setting up a seasonal business that could be open in summer during

the primary tourism season, but closed in the winter. He decided that a family fun center would be ideal.

Now he needed a good location. “I used to drive around Deep Creek Lake and try to figure out where the growth of Deep Creek would take place,” he recalls. After a stretch of U.S. Route 219 was renovated from the Deep Creek Bridge through McHenry and on up the hill, he settled on McHenry. Tom and Sara purchased four acres on the west side of Route 219. In 1971, the couple opened the Funland Arcade, featuring a tar and chip go-kart track lined with straw bales, an open-air arcade building and a Sani-pot. They added a miniature golf course the following year. For the next 20 years, Funland operated as a summer resort without air conditioning.

During the 1990s, the Kuhns revamped Funland. In 1992, the old arcade building was replaced with a larger, enclosed arcade building set up for pizza and ice cream sales, with heating, air conditioning and restrooms. In 1994, the Kuhns added Super Collider bumper cars and improved go kart track.



**Tom and Sara Kuhn, owners of Funland, on the outdoor carousel. The remodeled Funland miniature golf course, showcasing Garrett County's natural beauty, is shown in the photo at right.**

The same year, they finally found the carousel they had long wanted, from a classified ad listing in *Amusement Business* magazine. This carousel was constructed during the early 1950s by a company in upstate New York at a time when carousel builders began replacing the traditional wooden horses with new models made of aluminum and fiberglass. Consequently, the Funland carousel features hybrid horses, with wooden bodies and cast aluminum heads, legs and tails.

“One of the things I love the most is to see grandparents take their grandchildren or great-grandchildren for a ride on the carousel,” says Tom. “All generations can relate to their ride on the ponies. Many grandparents tell me about their first ride many years ago on the carousel.”

A new century brought more changes to Funland. In 2001, a climbing wall went up. By 2003, the original miniature golf course was deemed outdated. It was replaced by a



more sophisticated course highlighting local attractions showcasing Garrett County's natural beauty, with waterfalls, streams and waterways, plus a cave. The Kuhns added a water balloon game called Water Wars. New go karts were added in 2012. “New popular games are added each year to our arcade. Kids love to play the games that give them the most tickets, so they can turn in the tickets for some nice prizes,” Sara says.

Over the years, Funland has employed local high school and college students, many of whom are now doctors, nurses, pharmacists and electrical engineers. “We have raised many kids at Funland during the summer,” Tom says. “One of the things we enjoy the most is seeing our employees succeed in life and become great citizens. Many are now married and bring their kids and grandkids. They often come back and tell us how much they enjoyed working at Funland.”

One “grad” is now a NASA scientist. Another, a pilot, met his future wife at Funland. The Kuhns' nephew Doug Knotts started working at Funland while in high school.

After earning a master's degree from West Virginia University, he came back to work at Funland.

Summer jobs at Funland remain popular with the younger generation. "They're excited to be here," Tom says. "They can make some money to help with college and have some fun."

The Kuhns have noticed a new trend, with more families renting newer, larger houses at Deep Creek Lake that can comfortably accommodate the kids, parents and grandparents for some quality time together. "They still come to Funland," says Tom. "The mini-golf course is our most popular activity, where the entire family can have fun."

Michelle Gibson of Annapolis, who grew up near Deep Creek Lake, remembers playing miniature golf at Funland years ago with her family during summer evenings. "It was a special treat to go when Grandma came," she recalls.



**Top:** Muddy Creek Falls replica at Funland's mini-golf course.

**Above:** Ribbon cutting for Funland's new miniature golf course, 2003. Sara Kuhn (left), Tom Kuhn (4th from left) and nephew, Doug Knotts (2nd from right).

**Below:** Camryn Brakeall and Allan Stevenson planning their strategy with water balloons at Funland's Water Wars game.



**Michelle Gibson and daughter, Sophie create memories while enjoying time together at Funland.**

"We'd pretend to be tourists and have ice cream cones afterwards."

Now Michelle's daughter Sophie is a Funland fan. "She has loved going there," Michelle says. "She calls Funland 'Swallow Falls' after the mini-version of Muddy Falls in the mini-golf course. She tells me she wants to go play golf at 'Swallow Falls.'

Sophie also enjoys indoor activities at Funland. "When she first saw the arcade, there was magic in her eyes," Michelle recalls. The Fighter Jet game is a favorite. "Daddy



# FUNLAND

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

is a pilot,” Michelle explains. “She also loves the carousel. There aren’t many others that she can enjoy, so it’s a special treat.”

For the Kuhns, Funland is all about family. “We have enjoyed seeing how much fun families have together,” Sara says. Tom adds, “Nothing pleases us more than seeing the kids wave good-bye and tell us they had a good time and will be back.”



**Top:** Happy Funland patrons with their prizes from collected arcade tickets.

**Above:** Holly O’Brien at Funland’s go kart track; 2014.

**Left photos (top to bottom):** Sara and Tom Kuhn’s nephews, Doug and Danny Knotts at the go kart track in the mid-1970s.

**Tearing down the old Funland Arcade building; 1994-95.**

**Beginning the moat for the new miniature golf course; 2003.**

**More construction on the new miniature golf course.**



**Jonathan "Smiley" Kessler and wife Kathy, are owners of Smiley's FunZone and an active part of the community. At right is part of Smiley's Frontier Adventure miniature golf course.**

## Smiley's FunZone

In 1981, when new college grad Jonathan Kessler first laid eyes on Deep Creek Lake, he saw business opportunity. Nine years later, after launching a successful career in real estate, he decided to develop the Fort, a commercial property he owned in McHenry alongside Deep Creek Lake, across from the Wisp Resort.

"In 1991, I decided to add the Frontier Adventure miniature golf course, and Smiley's was born," he says. His new family entertainment center also featured arcade games, plus pizza and ice cream.

Jonathan says his "constant grin" earned him the nickname Smiley while he was attending the State University of New York in Alfred. When he first arrived in Oakland to work as a surveyor, his college roommate Pete introduced him as Smiley, and the name stuck.

Smiley's gradually added attractions as the business took off. First came batting cages, Lazer Runner laser tag and Smiley's Pizzeria. Go carts and bumper boats were added in 1999. While expanding the Pizzeria in 2003, Smiley's expanded the arcades and laser tag space. In 2011, he redesigned the indoor attractions, adding more arcade games and the Spin Zone bumper cars. The Pizzeria became Smiley's Bar & Grill with the addition of a sports bar, while retaining a family atmosphere.

There's something for everyone at Smiley's. The Kiddie Carts offer children ages 4 - 10 a chance to zip around a racetrack, while the Slick Track and Road Track Carts are suited to older drivers going for speed and distance. Smiley's Frontier Adventure miniature golf features greens with rises and dips, a cave, the 32-foot Mt. McHenry waterfall and



**Above: Some of the Baltimore Raven Cheerleaders test their racing skills with Smiley's Road Track Carts. Inset: Brady O'Brien enjoys the indoor Spin Zone bumper cars.**

bridges, plus a terrific view of the Lake. There's more. Kids can climb aboard the SS Smiley and slide off the plank or fight pirates from inside the cabin. Batting cages allow hitters to select from fast-pitch or slow-pitch baseball, or slow-pitch softball to sharpen their skills. Kids 4 and up (including adults) can hone their marksmanship skills with Lazer Runner laser tag. Four mini-bowling lanes with duckpin balls and more than 50 games in the Arcade offer lots of options for fun in any kind of weather.

Smiley's arcade games rotate periodically to keep things fresh. Typhoon Lagoon, a motion simulating ride, is a favorite. A new addition, Fish Bowl Frenzy, is also a hit.

New landscaping now gives the miniature golf course a lush mountain look evoking its Deep Creek Lake setting, and several holes are refurbished each year.

Food options are plentiful. Smiley's Bar & Grill features a full bar, with Happy Hour from 11 a.m. - 6 p.m., including drink and food specials. The extensive menu offers everything from kiddie meals to traditional dinner selections. Handmade pizza, cheese fries, 16 flavors of wings, Fire Cracker Shrimp and Baked Italian Sandwich are especially popular. For dessert, the Lakeside Creamery at Smiley's offers ice cream, sundaes and milkshakes.

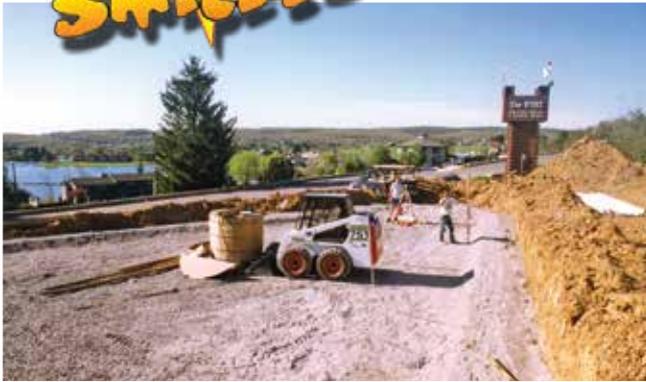
Smiley's has been part of the McHenry scene for almost 25 years, now employing 30 staff members and 40 to 50 seasonal workers. Every year, 125,000 to 150,000 fun-seekers visit

Smiley's. The busiest months are July and August. "We get 75 percent of our business during the 75 busiest days of the year," Smiley says. "We live through it and live to it!"

Megan Redinger, the operations manager, has lived through 21 years at Smiley's. "When I was 14, I came to Smiley's with my parents for what I thought was a day trip," she says. "They said goodbye, took off, and I started work that day. Since then I've been in the trenches and filled every position."

Smiley (aka Jonathan) enjoys being active in community activities. "Smiley," the mascot, is a familiar sight at area parties, parks and local events. Smiley's Fun Zone has hosted the Baltimore Ravens Cheerleaders several times during their annual cheerleading camp sessions at Deep Creek Lake. "They're great with the kids," Jonathan says. "They enjoy the rides and are happy to give autographs."





**Top left: Construction of the bumper boat pool at Smiley's FunZone.**

**Above: Jonathan "Smiley" Kessler with some of the Baltimore Raven Cheerleaders during one of their annual cheerleading camps at Deep Creek Lake.**

**Top right: Smiley and friend on the bumper boats.**

**Middle right: Kiddie carts for children aged 4 – 10.**

**Bottom right: Fun for all ages at Smiley's FunZone.**

Keeping up with current trends and technology has helped Smiley's continue to attract clientele. The new sports bar has been around long enough to bring in "regulars." Smiley's Fun Value Card debit card system has helped to streamline service while allowing customers to earn extra cash and bonus points to use at FunZone. Customers can place online orders from the menu for delivery, to go, or dine in. Smiley's web site offers a blog, and fans can check out Smiley's via Facebook, Instagram and Pinterest.

***At Deep Creek Lake, family fun never goes out of style.***



# Ann Jones

## Weaving a Life in Fabric

Written by: **Sara Mullins**  
 Photography by: **Lance C. Bell**

*“We all have our own life to pursue, our own kind of dream to be weaving...”*

– *Louisa May Alcott*

At Spruce Forest Artisan Village, Ann Jones has woven her “own kind of dream” into a rewarding livelihood as a full-time weaver, transforming yarns into fabrics she uses to create a wide range of items both useful and unique. Within her studio, located in the 230 year old Glotfelty House in the Village, Ann works with several looms to create traditional and contemporary styles varying in material, color, and texture. She prefers natural fibers like cotton, silk, rayon, and alpaca. Scarves and shawls are top sellers. Also popular are purses and custom clothing. For the home, she makes looper rugs, pillows and placemats.



**Ann busy at the loom in her very colorful shop in the Glotfelty House at Spruce Forest Artisan Village.**

Her chosen occupation is one of the oldest surviving crafts. During the Neolithic period – about 12,000 years ago – people began interlacing pliable materials to create a variety of utilitarian objects. The art of spinning, creating thread by alternately twisting together and stretching out bundles of plant fibers, allowed people to create textiles by weaving or interlacing sets of vertical threads (the “warp”) with sets of horizontal threads (the “weft”). Early weavers soon developed a mechanical device, the loom, to allow greater efficiency and speed for creating textiles. Today weavers can choose from a variety of looms, ranging from the simple backstrap loom to vertical rug looms, portable

table looms and many types of floor looms.

A native of Irwin, Pa., with a family background in fiber arts, Ann seemed destined to become a weaver. Her mother and aunt were both skilled seamstresses who made their own patterns and embellished clothing with tatted lace and smocking. At a Girl Scout summer camp, she enjoyed learning how to weave with a simple drinking straw loom for making belts. For two summers, she worked as a nanny for an art teacher who had a loom in her Shadyside home. While pursuing a degree in elementary education at Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP), Ann decided to take a weaving class as an elective.

“Jean Slenker, a renowned fiber artist and instructor at IUP, who started many students on a lifetime career in weaving, was a great teacher,” she says. “I loved the class. We took a field trip to a yarn warehouse, and that’s where my love for yarn started.

The summer after her first year of teaching elementary school in Salisbury, Pennsylvania, Ann was looking for something to do during the summer. So she signed up for a spinning class at Spruce Forest Artisan Village, near Grantsville, Maryland. After learning that a spinning demonstrator was needed at the Miller House in the village she applied and was selected for the position. During the

four summers she demonstrated spinning, used natural dyes to color her handspun yarn, and used her yarn in the technique known as overshot weaving, used to make traditional coverlets. Her mentor, Betty Haupt, a former director of the Somerset Historical Society, encouraged Ann to continue weaving overshot by asking her to participate as a demonstrator at Mt. Craft Days, a fall event in Somerset, Pennsylvania.

In 1975, during her fifth summer at Spruce Forest, Ann was given permission to set up a weaving studio in the empty Glotfelty House. She focused primarily on using yarns she spun and dyed to make patterns from the American Colonial period while taking art courses and workshops to learn more about weaving. Ann began to incorporate more contemporary designs and develop her own distinctive style as her business grew. Eventually she began to offer classes in weaving and took on several apprentices to help with the shop. She has participated in crafts shows and exhibited her work throughout Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio and West Virginia.

Besides teaching school full-time and weaving at her studio, Ann earned a master's degree in guidance and counseling and helped her husband John establish his business, the Fernwood Gallery adjacent to Spruce Forest. The Gallery specializes in all-natural botanical soaps and skin care products available at the store and online.

“We keep it low-key and small,” she says. “We can manage how busy we want to be.”

After teaching for 35 years, Ann retired in 2010. She now works full-time at her Spruce Forest studio from May through December, Sunday through Saturday, except Tuesday. “I never saw myself doing this as a full-time job that could support me, but it is the perfect retirement.” she says. “It’s so much fun. It energizes me.”

During the winter months, she and John head south to Maryville, Tennessee. “I have the winter to play with new ideas” Ann says, describing plans to find new sources of yarn and focus on making vests and purses. “It’s a time to change it up.”

Ann believes that the late Alta Shrock was inspired to establish the Spruce Forest Artisan Village by Eleanor Roosevelt’s work with settlement schools, notably the



**Top photo: Cones of colorful thread used in weaving.**

**Bottom photo: Ann enjoys combining color and textures using natural fibers, as shown in these finished scarves.**

Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. These schools included courses in mountain handicrafts to help area residents preserve traditional craft skills that could help them create livelihoods for themselves and their families.

“Alta put us real solidly on the road to keeping our tradition,” Ann says. “The Village has grown so much since I started there. You never know who will visit. I love meeting new people. It keeps it interesting.”

**Spruce Forest Artisan Village • [spruceforest.org](http://spruceforest.org)  
177 Casselman Road, Grantsville, MD 21536**

# Glamping

## *Savage River Lodge*

Written by: **Sara Mullins**

Photography by: **Lance C. Bell**

Glamping – a popular trend defined as glamorous camping – has arrived at Garrett County’s Savage River Lodge in the form of eight custom-built yurts, combining the back-to-nature feel of tent camping with luxurious furnishings and amenities. Loosely clustered in a separate area from the Lodge cabins, the yurts offer guests a taste of Lodge-style luxury in a different flavor.

Traditionally used by nomads in the steppes of Central Asia, the yurt is a circular, portable tent supported by bent wood frames covered with lattice work. Unlike their precursors, the Savage River Lodge model is a permanent structure measuring 30 feet in diameter, with triple layer walls – interior canvas, gel insulation, and weatherproof canvas – that offers year-round protection from the elements. Lattices of Douglas fir and snow-load kits offer additional support for Garrett County’s abundant snowfalls.

“Guests are surprised at how luxurious they are,” says Emily Newman-Edwards, general manager of the Lodge. Each yurt accommodates up to two guests. One, Number 5, is ADA-compliant.

Amenities abound: domed skylights, Warmboard radiant heat floors, gas log fireplaces, leather and suede furniture, king size beds, and fully plumbed bathrooms with showers – and double sinks. Luxury linens, plush robes and eco-friendly toiletries offer a touch of spa ambiance. Guests can sip tea, quench their thirst with filtered water or savor French press coffee from the beverage bar. A breakfast nook provides the perfect spot for starting the day with house-made muffins and orange juice, delivered to the yurt each morning. When the outdoors beckons, guests can enjoy the sights and sounds of the surrounding forest from front and rear porches.

Building yurts at Savage River Lodge was a longtime dream for co-owner Mike Dreisbach. In April of 2013, he headed to Oregon to learn from the masters at Pacific Yurts, the iconic company that reinvented the traditional yurt in 1978.



**Yurts in tall trees of the quiet woodlands of Garrett County Maryland.**

**Below: Interior view of the spacious yurts showing all the comforts of home along with a camping atmosphere.**

On August 1, 2013, an oversized and very special birthday gift arrived for Mike in the form of eight yurts. He took charge of constructing the labor-intensive structures and customizing them in Lodge style. The result: a unique and sumptuous lodging experience for two.

**Savage River Lodge • 301-689-3200**  
**[www.savageriverlodge.com](http://www.savageriverlodge.com)**  
**1600 Mt. Aetna Road, Frostburg, MD 21532**



## Garrett County Maryland's First Doctor – Oldest Paintings in the County

The oldest paintings in the Garrett County Historical Society Museum are those of Dr. William Frey and his wife, Charlotte Coddington Frey. An unknown artist traveling throughout the country painted the portraits in the 1830s.

Dr. Frey, born in 1800 in Somerfield, Pennsylvania (which is now under the Yough Lake at Rt. 40 near Addison, Pennsylvania), was the son of Samuel and Anna Frey of Somerset County. He studied medicine in Baltimore and became a prominent doctor there. In 1823, he married Charlotte Coddington of Buffalo Run, near Friendsville, Maryland. In 1834 they moved to Selbysport, Maryland (near Friendsville) where he practiced medicine until his death in 1865. He was Garrett County's first doctor.

Charlotte Coddington Frey was born in 1802 on her father's plantation near Friendsville and Selbysport – then part of Allegany County, Maryland. She was the daughter of Samuel and Mary Coddington. Charlotte and William, considered very intelligent and well educated, raised six sons and one daughter. She was 70 at the time of her death in 1872.

### Historical Society Museum, Oakland, MD



**Dr. William Frey and his wife Charlotte Coddington Frey.**

These portraits were donated in 1999 to the Garrett County Historical Society by direct descendent, Joseph L. Bradley of New Hampshire.

*The paintings were restored by Barry Winters, artist and owner of the General Art Store, 19 East Main Street, Frostburg, Maryland.*

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# A TIME OF CHANGE

## Western Maryland Scenic Railroad

# 2015



Courtesy of the Chesapeake and Ohio Historical Society

Written by: **Jody Shaw**, WMSR

The Western Maryland Scenic Railroad, heritage railroad of Cumberland, Maryland, is reinventing and updating on many levels. As their WMSR Foundation website [www.movingfullsteamahead.com](http://www.movingfullsteamahead.com) states; they are moving full steam ahead. The 2015 WMSR season will include an even larger variety of trains, the 2nd Annual Steel Wheels celebration and the Farewell (for now) to steam locomotive No. 734. What does this mean for the visitors of the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad? It means a different heritage experience each time you visit.

The trains and available activities for the 2015 season are better than ever. Beginning in June, Saturday night dinner trains have been re-branded as 'Saturday Night Specials' and include not only murder mysteries, but also musical



performances and wine tastings. MedExpress Urgent Care will be on board once a month and available in Frostburg with special children's activities which will include

building first aid kits. Special photo sessions throughout the year featuring unique and heritage railroad scenes — diesels, steam locomotive No. 734, and other exclusive shop photo prospects will be suitable for novices, professionals, and anyone who likes to catch exceptional views with their camera.

On July 3, 2015, the WMSR Foundation and the Allegany County Historical Society will be celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the ending of the Civil War by partnering to offer a unique First Class excursion. Proceeds will benefit the Allegany County Historical Society and the Light My



Photo by Lance C. Bell

**Facing page: No. 1309 was recently added to WMSR and is being rebuilt to replace the No. 734 (above). No. 734 will undergo a major rebuild and comprehensive inspection after this season, having been in service for 15 years.**

Fire, 1309 (C&O 1309 steam locomotive restoration project). In May 2014, the WMSR acquired Chesapeake & Ohio 1309 from the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Museum. It was the last steam locomotive built by Baldwin Locomotive Works for a domestic railroad. Once C&O 1309 is restored, Cumberland, Maryland will be the home of the largest articulated steam locomotive in operation in the U.S.

The 2nd annual Steel Wheels celebration will be held September 11-13, 2015 and will include scenic excursions, Hand on the Throttle with 734, shop tours, Conductors Lunch Ride aboard a caboose, Twilight Dinner Diesel with photo opportunities, Saturday Night Murder Mystery, and a Western Maryland Transportation Heritage Banquet. Also included are special scenic and heritage bus tours of the Western Maryland Railway to Westernport and Iron Rail Days in Mt. Savage.

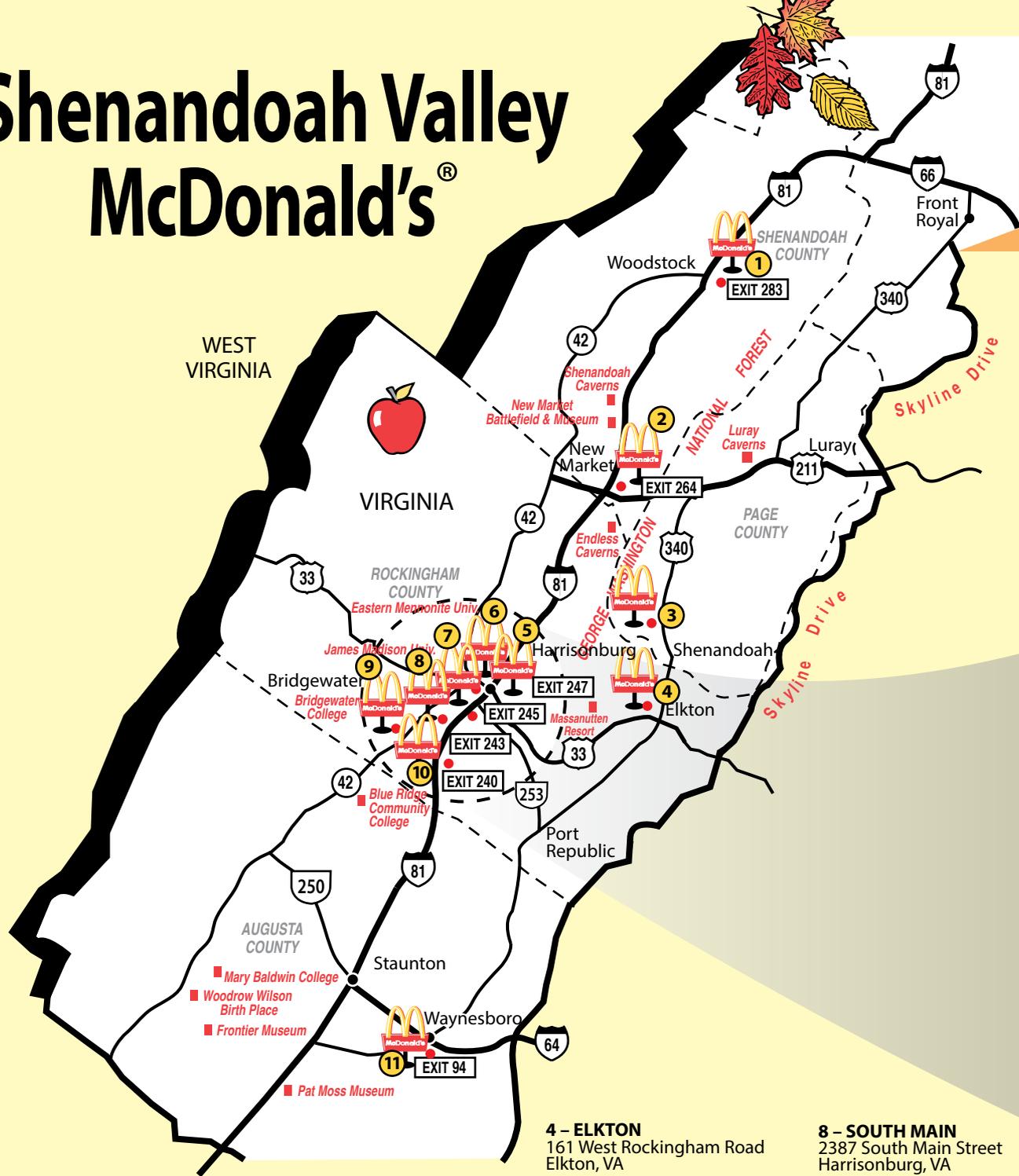
Now for the biggest story of the season...why "Farewell (for now)"? What is happening to Mountain Thunder No. 734? Steam locomotive No. 734 has been operating for 15 years at the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad

and will undergo a major rebuild after the 2015 season mandated by the Federal Railroad Administration. Steam locomotives must undergo several inspections at certain intervals in order to remain in service — the most comprehensive inspection is after 15 years or 1472 days of operation. After the 2015 season No. 734 will be out of service indefinitely. If you have not had a chance to ride behind 'Mountain Thunder' at the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad, this is the year to do it! For more information on Mountain Thunder's Farewell (for now), go to [www.movingfullsteamahead.com/content/farewell](http://www.movingfullsteamahead.com/content/farewell).

Many other new things are happening with the renovations of the railroad including new paint and updates on some passenger cars, cleanup of our shop area and volunteer opportunities for the 2015 season. Mike Gresham, General Superintendent of the WMSR, stated, "This winter has seen many changes on the WMSR. Some will be easy to spot but other changes are more subtle, however, all are focused on making the WMSR into the premier excursion railroad east of the Mississippi."

Tickets are now available at [www.wmsr.com](http://www.wmsr.com).

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# McKee Sky Ranch 2015

## All-Brands Motorcycle Event

Written by: **Dan Whetzel**

Lance C. Bell

**The 2015 McKee's Sky Ranch All-Brands Motorcycle Event** is ready for action and awaiting fans, riders, and enthusiasts. This event has something for everyone! Tom McKee, organizer and promoter, has once again assembled an exciting series of events and competitions that will draw visitors from around the country to his home in Terra Alta, West Virginia. A long time motorcycle enthusiast, Tom awaits opportunities to renew old friendships and make new ones among those sharing similar interests. McKee's Sky Ranch has become one of the largest regional attractions during the summer months and a motorcycle event of national interest.

The inaugural McKee's Sky Ranch held in 2012 featured a dual sport ride, swap meeting, bike show, and American Historic Racing Motorcycle Association (AHRMA) competition events. The rural setting, located close to interstate highways and major metropolitan areas, proved to be a hit and drew noteworthy riders. According to Tom, "Terra Alta is our home base for development. In Terra Alta, we are conveniently located but are able to safely ride rural roads with vintage motorcycles." Preston County's terrain provided ideal conditions for cross country racers and more leisurely cross country riders.

This year's July event builds on past programs but also adds a new one. Events begin on July 23<sup>rd</sup> with a Dual Sport Ride, a three hour riding experience that combines unimproved dirt roads with moderately challenging mountain trails and stream crossings. New for 2015 is the Adventure Ride. Intended for bigger adventure bikes, the course is mostly



Karl Jarvis



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Lance C. Bell

dirt and gravel back roads that wind across the Tri-State area. The Greater Morgantown Visitors and Convention Bureau, the West Virginia Motorcycle Safety Program, the West Virginia Bureau of Tourism, and the McKee's recognize that adventure riding is the fastest growing segment of motorcycling today.

July 24<sup>th</sup> opportunities include an 80 mile road run for street and touring enthusiasts where West Virginia countryside will also provide the backdrop for vintage and smaller displacement bikes. July 24<sup>th</sup> is also Field Meet Day, complete with old fashioned motorcycle games and an opportunity to experience the state of West Virginia

Motorcycle Safety Program Simulator. Admission to the Field Meet and WVMSPS is free.

July 25-26 will offer competitive events on the natural terrain of McKee's 200 plus acre ranch. Classic museum quality motorcycles will compete, as they were originally intended in the AHRMA National Cross Country and the National Vintage and Post Vintage Motocross races.

In addition to the featured events, a swap meet, vintage bike displays, photograph exhibit, and motorcycle art will be available throughout the four days. As always the 2015 event is family and spectator friendly. *The sky is the limit!*



For more information see  
[www.MCKEESKYRANCH.COM](http://www.MCKEESKYRANCH.COM)

Karl Jarvis

# FLY-IN

## Fun at the Garrett County Airport

Written by: **Sara Mullins**  
Photography by: **Lance C. Bell**



The Garrett County, Maryland Airport is throwing a party this coming August, and the public is invited to join the fun! Set for August 22 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., the Fourth Annual Garrett County Airport Fly-In will showcase the airport as a key asset to the region that contributes to its distinctive quality of life.

From its humble beginnings as a small grass airstrip in the 1940s, the airport has recently been transformed into a modern, general aviation facility with a 5,000-foot runway and new terminal. Other updates include an Automated Weather Observation System, a pilot planning room, lobby waiting area, self-service fueling island, and 24 T-Hangars for aircraft storage. In addition to providing transportation service to meet the region's business needs, plus access to Garrett County's abundant recreational and tourism opportunities, the airport supports government services that include the military, law enforcement, Department of Natural Resources, and the Civil Air Patrol. Charter service and sightseeing tours are also available. Recent renovations have been instrumental in generating additional business revenue for the County-owned airport from air passenger, freight and ground support service, thereby supporting the region's economic development.

The Fly-In offers area residents and guests a rare chance to get up close and personal with all sorts of aircraft. There's something for everyone, even the kids. Biplanes, small jets, restored warbirds and a host of other models will be represented among an estimated 35 planes from the 1940s to the present. Helicopters and emergency vehicles, including fire engines and ambulances, will also be on display. The Mountain Top Cruisers Car Club of nearby Oakland will hold a Classic Car Show on site, featuring antique models, hot rods and dragsters from the 1950s to the present. The first 75 cars will receive dash plaques. Finally, radio controlled ("RC") Aircraft Demonstrations will round out the event's activities.

It wouldn't be a party without food! Local vendors will offer burgers, hot dogs and other hearty picnic fare for purchase. Additionally, there's the wildly popular Candy Drop for the kids, who can grab all kinds of goodies after a hovering helicopter drops its special load of candy in the grass. What could be more exciting for the little ones?

"The event was created to raise community awareness regarding the airport," says Ed Kelley, the airport's manager. "People can talk to the pilots and hear their stories. They might even be able to talk a pilot into giving them a ride!"



The Garrett County Fly-In will showcase small aircraft, biplanes, restored warbirds, helicopters, and more, as well as emergency vehicles. A classic car show is also featured with antique cars and trucks, and hot rods and dragsters.

Other events include radio controlled aircraft demonstrations, fun rides, and a Candy Drop for the kids. There is plenty of parking and picnic fare food and drink from local vendors, in pleasant surroundings at Deep Creek Lake.





# Texan T-6

## The Pilot Maker

The 1943 SNJ-5 “77” was used by the U.S. Navy for advanced flight training at Florida’s Whiting Field. Ginter Aviation, LLC, acquired the aircraft in 2005. The company offers sight-seeing rides throughout the Deep Creek area in this vintage aircraft, with pilots Captain Mike Ginter, US Navy (Retired), or Mr. David Kahley at the controls.

A few special guests will be on hand at this year’s Garrett Fly-In: vintage warbirds known as North American T-6 Texans. The T-6 Texans were built as training aircraft for pilots serving in several branches of the U.S. Armed Forces and Royal Air Force from World War II through the 1970s. Garrett Airport manager Ed Kelley describes the T-6 as the “cream of the crop.”

Manufactured by the North American Aviation Company, which eventually was absorbed by the Boeing Company, this SNJ-5 Texan boasts a Pratt and Whitney R-1340-AN-1,

Gracing the cover of this issue of *Mountain Discoveries* is the 1943 SNJ-5 “77”

Written by: **Sara Mullins**  
Photography by: **Lance C. Bell**

For more information on Ginter Aviation, LLC, please see the following website: [www.texanflight.com](http://www.texanflight.com) or Email: [TexanFlight@gmail.com](mailto:TexanFlight@gmail.com)



600 HP engine and a Hamilton-Standard 12D40, constant speed propeller.

After it was retired, this T-6 was sold to Spain, where the Spanish Air Force installed 7.7 mm Breda-SAFAT machine guns in the leading edges of each wing for use in gunnery training and ground attack. The aircraft was also modified to carry 200 kg bombs or unguided rockets under the wings. Spain stopped using "77" in 1986 and it was sold as surplus to a buyer in the United States.

Captain Ginter has taken great pains to maintain the aircraft in authentic U.S. Navy paint scheme and cockpit layout. With the exception of a few updates like a modern radio, GPS and transponder, this warbird remains true to its 1943 vintage, both in appearance and performance in flight. Today more than 600 T-6 Texans remain airworthy and serve as reminders of their important military role as "pilot makers."



**Mike Ginter (left), owner/pilot and pilot David Kahley, in the hanger with the "Texan T-6."**

**Below: Note the 7.7 mm machine gun (one on each wing) and the "pot" under the wing. The removable pot catches valuable spent brass from machine guns to be recycled.**



**A Texan landing on an aircraft carrier.**





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# Recipes

Photography by: **Lance C. Bell**



## Crab Cakes

- 1 lb. jumbo lump crab**
- 2 Tbsp. mayonnaise**
- 2 tsp. mustard**
- 2 tsp. Old Bay**
- 1 egg**
- 1/2 burger bun crumbled fine**
- salt & pepper**

Remove shells from crabmeat. Mix mayonnaise, mustard, Old Bay and egg until smooth.

Gently combine bread crumbs and crabmeat. Blend egg mixture into crabmeat. Do NOT mix and break up lumps of crabmeat. Make into patties. Bake at 350° for about 20 minutes.

*From time to time the staff at Mountain Discoveries features some outstanding cooks, businesses and friends in the DEEP CREEK LAKE area that we think our readers will enjoy. Here are just a few of the many. We will continue this in future editions and hope you may know or suggest someone in the Garrett County area you think should be featured.*

— *Bon Appétit!*



## Taylor-Made Deep Creek Vacations and Sales

Chad Taylor's cooking has been a part of life since he was about 13 as his parents owned The Dough Factory (restaurant and carry out) in Fallston, MD. Although he could work the grill, he really enjoyed making pizzas. Perhaps, it was because of the attention he got from the customers as he flipped the pizzas 4 feet into the air. He also steamed crabs both for the restaurant and for carry out and would cook 30 - 40 bushels of crabs a weekend during the summer months. During his college years, he worked at a number of restaurants, including Ruby Tuesday, Manor Tavern and the Camden Club at Camden Yard Baseball Stadium in Baltimore, MD. Now, with a wife and a family of three children, his interests have expanded to include canning, grilling, and BBQ. This crab cake recipe was very popular at the Dough Factory Restaurant and Carry Out.

Chad is one of the owners of Taylor-Made Deep Creek Vacations & Sales, along with his sister and brother-in-law, Jodi and Joe Refosco. Chad manages the Accounting and IT departments along with working in marketing. Knowledge of computers and insight also led to his founding of Vacation Surfing in Deep Creek Lake in 2001. Shortly thereafter, he partnered with others to form Silicon Travels, managing over 6,000 wireless networks in vacation homes across the country.

Taylor-Made opened its doors in 2008 and expanded into real estate in 2014. They currently have over 200 vacation rentals, offering full service property management to second-home owners, and award winning customer service to their guests and owners in Deep Creek Lake, Maryland.

## Firefly Farms Creamery & Market



**Pablo Solanet** is a native of Buenos Aires, Argentina. He came to the United States with his family when he was nineteen and is now a naturalized US citizen. Pablo's love for fine food has dominated his professional life. He holds a Culinary Professional (CCT) and Pastry Chef certification from L'Academie de Cuisine in Gaithersburg, MD. Pablo held various chef positions in some of Washington's finest restaurants before deciding to develop his considerable culinary career through cheese making.

After purchasing a home and property in Garrett County with his partner, Pablo co-founded FireFly Farms in Accident, Maryland, and served as its original cheesemaker. Pablo's inspiration is behind the first four FireFly cheeses: Allegheny Chevre, Buche Noire, Mountain Top Bleu and Merry Goat Round.

Pablo now spends the bulk of his time in FireFly Farms Creamery & Market, interacting with customers and visitors and talking about cheese, wine and food. He also serves as FireFly's Chef de Cuisine and is responsible for all FireFly Farms recipe development and chef relations.



### Mushroom, Leek, Onion & Bloomy Breeze Tart

*(This delicious recipe can be served hot or cold, as a dinner side dish or main entrée for breakfast, brunch, or lunch)*

- 3 Large sweet onions, peeled and sliced thinly**
- 4 Leek stalks, sliced thinly (white part only)**
- 1 lb. Mushrooms, preferably shitake or oyster, slightly chopped**
- 2 Garlic cloves, minced**
- 2 Packages frozen puff pastry**
- 2 Tbsp. Olive Oil**
- Salt & fresh black pepper**
- 1 lb. Bloomy Breeze, sliced**  
*(You can substitute any brie-like cheese, Merry Goat Round works beautifully too!)*
- Parchment paper**

In a large skillet, heat the olive oil. Add the onions and the leeks and sauté until cooked through and slightly caramelized. Add the mushrooms and continue cooking until mushrooms are fully cooked. Don't stir too much; let the mushrooms brown well. Stirring too much causes the mushrooms to sweat and release water. When the mushrooms are cooked, add the garlic and season well with salt and pepper. Cook for another minute. Remove the vegetable mixture from the heat, and cool it to room temperature. The vegetables can be cooked ahead of time and chilled overnight in the refrigerator.

Preheat oven to 400°. Remove puff pastry from freezer and thaw completely. Place the 2 sheets of puff pastry in a half-sized sheet pan lined with parchment paper. Using a fork, puncture the puff pastry evenly to avoid excessive "puffing."

Spread the cooled vegetable mixture evenly on the puff pastry and top with sliced cheese. Bake the tart for about 30 minutes on the bottom shelf of your oven until the pastry and cheese turn golden brown. The puff pastry may "puff" some, don't be alarmed.

Remove from oven and let the tart rest for 30 minutes before serving. The tart can be served warm or chilled.



## Telli's Deli with an Italian Flair

**Lora Lohr**, owner of Telli's Deli, grew up on Long Island, NY. While attending college, waitressing and restaurant work became her way of life. She quickly fell in love with all parts of the industry. Moving into beverage sales and still calling on restaurants she once stated, "The next time I work in the restaurant business it will be for myself."

Years later, living in Garrett County and married with one son, the opportunity presented itself. As the process of opening a restaurant came to fruition, the idea of bringing a taste of her heritage and the foods that she loves became the concept. "I wanted simple, quick and good food that was not served everywhere, even if just a small flair of difference."

April 1, 2014 was opening day for Telli's Deli (created from Lora's last name Portelli). Lora says, "I was petrified then and I still am, but I love the people I work with, as well as the people I have the privilege of meeting and talking to each day. We are family. The recipes are a combination from my mother, family and friends twisted together to create something fresh and delicious. To continue the family theme, all of the sandwiches on the main menu are named after family members. Having just celebrated our one year anniversary I look forward to expanding our menu, especially for catering and take home meals."



### Turkey Stuffing Soup

#### **Stuffing:**

**In a large bowl tear up two dozen bagels (or loaf of bread or two bags of stuffing). Set aside.**

**One stick hot or sweet sopressata, finely chopped (you can substitute with pepperoni or Italian dried sausage)**

**Two large onions, finely chopped**

**Six stalks of celery, finely chopped**

**Sauté all of the above together until soft with 2 sticks of butter**

**Add above mixture to the bowl of bread, along with twelve beaten eggs, and two quarts of chicken broth. Mix all the ingredients together by lightly tossing / fluff mix. Do not mush.**

**Let soak for 6 hours or overnight.**

**Grab a small handful of stuffing, like making a meatball, and roll in hands. Lay each ball on a cookie sheet. Bake at 350° for 30 minutes.**

#### **Broth:**

**In large soup pot sauté 2 large chopped onions, 4 chopped carrots, 2 cloves of chopped garlic, chop four stalks of celery and sauté until soft and golden. Add whole chicken and add water until entire chicken is covered. Bring to boil keeping pot uncovered. Add a dash of salt, pepper, oregano and two bay leaves. Lower heat, cover and simmer for three hours, add water if needed. Pull out chicken, shred some for broth. Use the rest of the chicken for another dish.**

**When serving, place your stuffing balls in a bowl, cover with broth and a dash of Parmesan cheese.**



## Pine Lodge Steakhouse

**Chad Fousek**, a chef at Pine Lodge Steakhouse, was born in Oakland, Maryland. Moving to Ocean City, Maryland at the age of seven he attended school, worked at two different seafood restaurants and did commercial crabbing on the side before moving back to Deep Creek Lake at the age of eighteen. Until he left the ocean, he was enrolled in the culinary program at Stephen Decatur High School. He has been in the culinary industry for twelve years. Needless to say, seafood is his specialty.

Pine Lodge Steakhouse, owned by Jonathan (Smiley) and Kathy Kessler, opened in 2002 as an independent restaurant. The Kessler's also own and operate Smiley's Pizzeria and Fun Zone, The Tourist Trap, Deep Creek Sweets, and the new Lodges at Sunset Village hotel cabin suites. Time rarely allows Smiley to work in the restaurant, but one of his most important tasks is that of food tester. He personally approves each menu item and critiques the guest experience from the tableside.

Pine Lodge offers a more diverse menu than typical for a steakhouse, serving a selection of crisp cold salads, assorted entrees and a wide range of quality steaks and seafood. Making everything they serve from scratch, their 2300° broiler steak grill sears in the flavor while their expert staff carefully prepares each steak to your order.



### Peppercorn Filet in Creamy Brandy Sauce

#### *Peppercorn Blend:*

**3 Tbsp. whole, white, red, & black Peppercorns**  
**1 tsp. kosher salt**  
**½ tsp. black pepper, ground**

#### *Brandy Sauce:*

**1 cup heavy whipping cream**  
**1 Tbsp. butter**  
**2 ounces Brandy**  
**1 ounce oil**

Add oil and heat skillet to about 400°. Don't let it smoke!  
 Roll the filet in Peppercorn blend.

Once the skillet is HOT, place the filet in it and sear all of the edges. Remove the filet and place on grill and cook to desired temperature.

While the skillet is still hot, turn off the heat and add brandy (make sure skillet is off the burner when you add the brandy). Return the skillet to the heat and ignite the brandy. Before it evaporates, quickly add the heavy cream, butter, and a pinch of peppercorn mix. Let simmer on low heat for 3 minutes until thickened. Drizzle over filet.

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