

New Directions

The Heritage Area of Anne Arundel County



**Chesapeake
Crossroads**
HERITAGE AREA

ChesapeakeCrossroads.org

NETWORKING PICNIC FOSTERS PARTNERSHIPS



PICNIC HELD ON AUGUST 16 AT HOT SOX BALLFIELD, GALESVILLE

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Maryland Heritage Areas Authority Awards Grants Totaling \$452,500 To Annapolis and Anne Arundel County Heritage Organizations

In July, Chesapeake Crossroads Heritage Area joined the Moore Administration in announcing 9 new grants totaling \$452,500 to local Annapolis and Anne Arundel County non-profit organizations by the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority (MHAA). The 9 local grants awarded to organizations for projects are among 100 matching grants totaling \$5 million awarded to Maryland nonprofits, local jurisdictions, and other heritage tourism organizations for heritage tourism projects and activities that attract visitors and expand economic development and



tourism-related jobs throughout Maryland.

"Heritage tourism boosts local economies, connects people to their past, and elevates them in the present," said Gov. Moore. "My administration is (cont. on page 2)

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Carol Benson, Ph.D. *Executive Director*
Hess Stinson, *Programs Coordinator*

(cont. from page 1) proud to support a diverse offering of place-based experiences and new partnerships as we work to enrich the lives of Maryland residents and visitors.”

Recent studies have established that the Maryland Heritage Areas Program provides \$2.4 billion in annual economic impact. Maryland Heritage Areas Authority grants generate \$319.8 million in state and local taxes and support 33,815 full- and part-time jobs annually. Organizations receiving grant awards include museums, parks, historic sites, educational organizations, and other entities that steward and celebrate the unique cultural and natural resources located within Maryland’s thirteen certified heritage areas, a program that is locally administered and overseen by the authority.

“Since its creation in 1996, the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority has awarded more than \$68 million dollars in grants and helped leverage more than \$1.65 billion in non-state funding for heritage tourism projects and activities in Maryland’s 13 certified heritage areas,” said Maryland Department of Planning Secretary Rebecca Flora, AICP. “These grants encourage investment in Maryland’s economy and help bring an appreciation of Maryland’s long history and rich culture to people both inside and outside of our beautiful state.”

Project grants funded by MHAA in the heritage area for FY2024 include:

- Annapolis Maritime Museum, Inc., “Master Planning and Inclusive Interpretation,” Non-Capital grant, \$47,500
- Blacks of the Chesapeake Foundation, Inc., “Elktonia Heritage Park Phase II Site Acquisition,” Capital grant, \$90,000
- Chesapeake Conservancy, Inc., “Elevating Black Voices in the New Elktonia Heritage Park’s Master Plan,” Non-Capital grant, \$47,500
- Severn Cross Roads Foundation, “Restoration of Historic Baldwin Hall – Exterior Painting,” Capital grant, \$20,000
- St Mary’s Annapolis Roman Catholic Congregation, Inc., “Renewal of Instructional Panels in the Charles Carroll House, Annapolis,” Non-Capital grant, \$25,000
- Visit Annapolis and Anne Arundel County (VAAAC), “Sharing Civil Rights Stories with Visitors,” Non-Capital grant, \$47,500

In addition, the Chesapeake Crossroads Heritage Area received funding for its FY2024 Management Grant (\$100,000), a FY2024 Two-Year Marketing Grant (\$50,000), and a FY2024 Block Grant for its Mini-Grant program (\$25,000). Together, the heritage area organizations received a total of \$452,500 from this important heritage-related State grant fund.

From Maryland’s Atlantic and Chesapeake Bay coastal areas to the unspoiled scenery of Maryland’s mountains, Maryland’s heritage areas contribute to the state’s economy by preserving and enhancing the places that attract local and out-of-state tourists. Heritage areas foster broad public-private partnerships to preserve and enhance Maryland’s historic sites and towns, unspoiled natural landscapes, diverse stories, and enduring traditions. All Maryland counties and Baltimore City have at least part of a state-certified heritage area within their boundaries. The Maryland Heritage Areas Authority is an independent unit of government chaired by the Maryland Department of Planning Secretary Rebecca Flora and is administered by the Maryland Historical Trust.

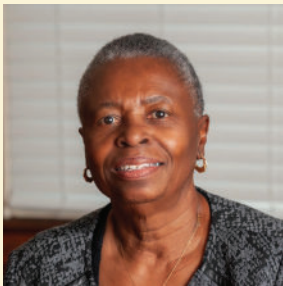
We Have Changed our Legal Name!



Chesapeake Crossroads Heritage Area has changed its legal name! As of mid-September, our legal name has changed from our original name when we were first certified as a heritage area by the state, “Annapolis, London Town & South County Heritage Area, Inc.” (ALTSCHA, Inc.), to “Chesapeake Crossroads Heritage Area, Inc.,” which previously had been our DBA/marketing name. Most of you may still remember us from our earlier marketing name, “Four Rivers: The Heritage Area of Annapolis, London Town & South County,” or simply “Four Rivers Heritage Area.” We

are proud to update our legal name in keeping with our new identity and Crossroads-focused interpretive themes.

CCHA Remembers Longtime Board Member, Gertrude Makell



Our hearts are heavy as we remember our dear colleague and longtime Board member, Gertrude Makell of Galesville, who passed away in August. Gertrude was a community leader and dear friend, and a cornerstone of our efforts to preserve and share the history and heritage of Anne Arundel County. Her constant positivity and determination made an impression on all who knew her, and she had a significant impact on the heritage area's outreach into the community

and its Five-Year Planning process. She led the restoration efforts of the Galesville Rosenwald School, now the Galesville Community Center, and she was a leader again with the development of the Hot Sox Field at Wilson Park in Galesville. She was also at the forefront of the current project to create a documentary about the County's Rosenwald Schools, entitled, "Persistence, Purpose, and Preservation: Rosenwald Schools in Anne Arundel County," funded in part by a grant from the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority. Let us honor her legacy by continuing her good work.

Here is a partial list of Gertrude Makell's service to the heritage area:

- Board of Directors
- African American Preservation Committee (Founding member)
- Education Committee
- Maryland Day Planning Committee
- Small Organizations Group
- Honoree, Seventh Annual Heritage Awards (November 2010): Heritage Leadership Award

Spotlight on: Wiley H. Bates Legacy Center Quilting Project

This year, there has been extensive collaborative activity at the Wiley H. Bates Legacy Center for an MHAA grant-funded project, "The Wiley H. Bates Storytelling Project – Educate, Elevate, & Empower." The project includes the recording of oral histories of former Bates students, as well as Documentary Story Quilting by Bates community members, who have been coming together regularly to create six Storytelling quilts, to be completed in Spring 2024.

Beginning in July, former Bates students and community members joined together twice a month to contribute photos, documents, and memorabilia to be scanned for images to be used in the quilts. The Legacy Center's Board Treasurer, Joseph Butler, is coordinating the project, and historian Lyndra Pratt Marshall is heading research, document collection and scanning. Artist Dr. Joan Gaither will design the quilts from the research and documents collected. The next steps in the quilting process after research and scanning will be content selection, fabric printing, panel design, sewing and stitching, embellishing and finishing; teams of volunteers have been named to work on each quilt. Four of the quilts will group graduating classes together by decade (1930's, 1940's, 1950's and 1960's), and there will also be a quilt about the life of Wiley H. Bates, and a thematic quilt about the Underground Railroad. *Pictured above: Former Bates students gather to discuss memorabilia of the school, with historian Lyndra Marshall, right.*



Funding Available – Plan Ahead Now!

Chesapeake Crossroads Heritage Area has two funding opportunities available each fiscal year-- while funds last!

Sponsorships: CCHA has a limited amount of funding available each fiscal year that may be used towards the sponsorship of events or collaborative initiatives planned by one or more

stakeholders. We look for events or programs that foster creative collaborations among multiple heritage-related organizations to build partnerships for the benefit of our local community. Only non-profit organizations are eligible to apply, for an event or program taking place within the geographic boundaries of our heritage area. Sponsorships approved by Chesapeake Crossroads are usually in the \$250-\$500 range. For an event with a larger budget, please consider our Mini-Grant opportunity. An application is available on our website under "Sponsorships." The Sponsorships committee reviews applications on a rolling basis throughout the year. The funds will be remitted when the sponsorship is approved.



"Small Changes" Small Grant Fund: Chesapeake Crossroads is pleased to continue to offer the "Small Changes" grant opportunity to non-profit organizations with small budgets (operating budgets up to \$100,000, not including mortgage, rent or utilities). "Small Changes" grants are not for routine administrative expenses or for capital projects. Non-profit heritage-related organizations are eligible to apply, for projects to take place within our designated boundaries. The maximum grant award is \$500, and no match is required. Applications are available on our website under "Grant Programs" and are reviewed by the grant committee on a rolling basis; the funds will be remitted when the grant is approved.



SAVE THE DATES: 3/22 – 3/24 2024

Events Around the Heritage Area

During recent months, a wide range of heritage-related events took place in the heritage area, with Chesapeake Crossroads Heritage Area participation and support.

Hancock's Resolution – In May, Anne Arundel County officials celebrated 25 years of Agricultural and Woodland Preservation in Anne Arundel County, at Historic Hancock's Resolution in Pasadena (L to R, County Executive Stuart Pittman, CCHA Board member Barbara Polito, Recreation and Parks Director Jessica Leys, Former County Executive Janet Owens)

Columbia Beach – In July, CCHA Executive Director Carol Benson joined state and local officials in Columbia Beach for the dedication of interpretive signage and historical markers for "Columbia Beach Day."

Crownsville Cemetery – In September, Board Chair Tim Leahy (center left) represented CCHA at the "Say My Name" Ceremony in the Crownsville Cemetery

Treaty of Paris Festival, Annapolis – In September, CCHA joined the exhibitors at the Treaty of Paris Festival at the Michael E. Busch Library in Annapolis (L to R, Delegate Shaneka Henson, AACHS Representative Jan Baker, and CCHA's Carol Benson)

Whitehall – In September, the Blacks of the Chesapeake Foundation hosted an event at the Whitehall Estate on the Broadneck Peninsula (L to R, Lyndra Marshall, CCHA Executive Director Carol Benson, Faye Belt)



You Make the Difference!

Please remember the Chesapeake Crossroads Heritage Area in your charitable donations. Visit our website, chesapeakecrossroads.org/support for details. Chesapeake Crossroads Heritage Area, Inc. is a 501 (c) 3, charitable non-profit organization. Your contribution supports the heritage sites and organizations that make a difference to our region's quality of life.



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