

MEMORANDUM

April 16, 2013

TO: Health and Human Services Committee

FROM: Vivian Yao, Legislative Analyst *mf*

SUBJECT: **Worksession: FY14 Operating Budget**
Non-Departmental Account-Montgomery County Historical Society

Those expected for this worksession include:

Thomas Kuehhas, Executive Director, Montgomery County Historical Society
Jennifer Bryant, Office of Management and Budget

Budget Overview

For FY14, the Executive has recommended level funding of \$32,250 for the Montgomery County Historical Society (MCHS), which is included in the Historical Activities NDA (©1).

The Historical Activities NDA includes a total of \$287,090. The remaining balance of \$254,840, after subtracting the amount allocated for MCHS, is recommended for the Historic Preservation Commission, which was reviewed by the PHED Committee on April 8.

	FY10 Approved	FY11 Approved	FY12 Approved	FY13 Approved	FY14 CE Rec	% Change FY13-FY14
Expenditures						
General Fund	\$64,500	\$32,250	\$32,250	\$32,250	\$32,250	0.0%
TOTAL Expenditures	\$64,500	\$32,250	\$32,250	\$32,250	\$32,250	0.0%

For FY11, the County reduced funding for the Historical Society by 50% from the \$64,500 level that MCHS had received for many years. In the October 26, 2012 letter (©2-4) from MCHS to Executive staff requesting restoration of funding at pre-FY11 levels, MCHS Executive Director Kuehhas explained that the 50% reduction in funding in FY11 resulted in the following: permanent closing of the Waters House in Germantown; elimination of the staff archivist position; the reduction in public hours at the Jane S. Sween Library, the Beall-Dawson Historic Park, and the Stonestreet Museum of 19th Century Medicine; and reduction of staffing

levels within the organization, which has "affected every aspect of the society's ability to conduct business."

Director Kuehhas emphasized that the organization's efforts "remain focused on a core educational mission encompassing collecting, preserving, and interpreting the history Montgomery County." Restored funding at the level of \$64,500 would be used to support the organization's education program, outreach efforts, staffing to support the library and the Montgomery County Archives, historical research projects, quarterly newsletter and bi-annual journal, and other programs.

Funding under the Executive's recommended level would be allocated as follows:

Education and Outreach	\$10,500
Library and Publications, and Museum	\$17,750
<u>History Day & History Conference</u>	<u>\$ 4,000</u>
TOTAL	\$32,250

More detailed budget information for the organization can be found at ©4.

Programming Updates

MCCHS provides the following highlights for programming planned in FY14:

Diversity initiatives

- MCCHS has organized a Student Advisory Group to outreach to new and diverse individuals in the community. The group is comprised of high school students who will make recommendations to the Board and staff on future programming and exhibits.
- MCCHS has also adopted initiatives designed to broaden and increase the amount of 20th century material and ethnic diversity represented in its collections, both in artifacts and archives.
- The organization is also expanding its multi-lingual outreach education initiative Montgomery Connections, into the community (presentations in English, Spanish, and Chinese).

New events and interpretive programs:

- "Boxwood Tea Party" will be modeled after the tea room operated by the Dawson sisters in the boxwood garden of the Beall-Dawson House. It will feature period tea blends and sandwiches, scones, and other desserts.
- "Tea and Cupcakes" would be a similar event aimed at a younger crowd, and would be ideal for Girl Scout troops.
- "Seen but Not Heard: A Tour from the Perspective of the Help" will take visitors through the home as if they are servants of the Bealls. It will provoke visitors to look at

those who lived in the house from another perspective, and can also provide more information on African American history in Montgomery County.

- "Beall-Dawson Tavern Night" is an event aimed at a young professional crowd, provides an opportunity to familiarize a younger audience with the Society and the Beall-Dawson house. Upton Beall's father-in-law, Adam Robb, was a local tavern owner and the Bealls frequently entertained guests in their home.

A calendar of events for MCHS for the remainder of FY13 is attached at ©6, and the MCHS Annual Report for FY12 is attached at ©7-17.

Council staff recommendation:

Council staff recommends approval of the Executive's recommended funding for MCHS. The Committee recommend restoring funding for the organization as funding sustainability allows.

Montgomery County Archives

The Montgomery County Archives are the permanent repository of County Government records of enduring value. Prior to FY11, MCHS operated the archives through a contract with the County and received \$10,000 annually to support a part-time archivist for about 10 hours per week to make the archives minimally available to the public. The arrangement terminated as a result of FY11 budget reductions. The archives were moved to Broome School in FY11 because of construction scheduled on the Red Brick Courthouse, its prior home.

The Archives continue to be housed at Broome School because the Red Brick Courthouse (post-construction) is currently housing future tenants of the new Judicial Center Annex. DGS reports that temporary space to house the collection will become available in FY14 in the Red Brick Courthouse or the Grey Courthouse. Neither of these locations are permanent options, and in any case, the archives must be relocated from the Broome School in the next year to 18 months due to construction on that building. Council staff notes that the environmental conditions in the Red Brick Courthouse are likely to be better than the conditions prior to construction, but conditions in either the Red Brick or Grey Courthouses may not meet COMAR's temperature and humidity standards for archival records.¹ **Moreover, the proposed FY14 budget for MCHS does not provide funding for recataloguing the documents currently in storage and making them accessible to the public.**

Council staff notes that the Archives has not functioned adequately as a historical archives for a significant period of time and has been out-of-compliance with State mandated requirements. Because of the lack of storage space and funding for staff support, the Archives has not received records from the County since FY2000. **Because the County has lacked resources to review records for historical significance after they have passed their**

¹ MCHS has previously discussed problems regarding the archives with the Committee. MCHS alerted the Committee to the poor condition of the archives, having been stored in the basement of the Red Brick Courthouse, which lacked appropriate temperature and humidity controls and was subject to flooding.

useful life, it is likely that records of historical value have been and will continue to be destroyed. Moreover, the collection has a substantial backlog of unprocessed records, and the contents of the unprocessed records are generally unknown.

The collection includes sought-after records of policymakers including the County Council. In 2011, a Ph.D. candidate in history at Boston College wrote to the Council suggesting that information in the County Archives: "are not just of historical importance but are also of ongoing concern to residents and of interest to scholars [The] contents of the collections lead me to conclude that they represent one of the most complete and important sources of information about post-1945 suburban history in the Washington, DC metropolitan area and arguably in the United States."

In order to provide a functional historic archival program, the Council would need to increase its investment in the Montgomery County Archives to provide the following:

- **Adequate Storage Facilities:** Facilities should have appropriate temperature and humidity controls, be free from flooding, and be large enough to accommodate additional County records of historical significance.
- **Access to Public:** Records should be accessible to the public.
- **Archival Program:** There should be defined processes for identifying records of historical value and transferring them from the County Records Center to the historical archives.
- **Adequate Staffing:** There should be enough staff time to ensure that the Archival program is carried out, backlogs are processed, and records are made available to the public.

Council Staff presents the following options for funding the Montgomery County Archives and urges the HHS Committee to recommend at least the minimal amount of funding needed (\$45,000) to ensure that County Government records of continuing historical value are not being destroyed after they have passed their useful life or have been digitized.

Minimal funding of \$45,000 to develop and implement a process to ensure that County records of historical value are not destroyed: This funding would support a 20-hour per week Archivist and provide a small operating budget for necessary archival supplies and office equipment. The position would work in collaboration with the Department of General Services to develop and implement a system of records review to ensure that County records of historical value are not destroyed when they have run their useful life or have gone through the digitizing process. The Archivist could potentially leverage volunteer support through local university archival programs, and may begin the work of re-cataloging the existing archives collection currently in storage when space is made available with the goal of making the collection available to the public. It is not likely that this level of funding would allow progress toward cataloguing unprocessed records already in the collection or make the collection available to the public more than a minimal amount.

Additional funding of \$80,000 to support construction of an adequate facility within the County Records Center: Through this additional funding, a space for the collection would be built within the County Records Center. The facility would be temperature and humidity controlled and would comply with State requirements for archival facilities. The facility would prevent or minimize the further degradation of fragile records. Council staff understands that G.O. bonds are not eligible to finance construction of this nature.

Provide \$320,000 for a full-service archival program: This amount of funding would provide for the following: the hiring of a full-time archivist and part-time administrative assistant; construction of an adequate facility in the County Record Center; the equipment or contractual support needed to begin digitizing the collection; archival supplies; office equipment; and other miscellaneous expenses.

Finally, Council staff notes that the Committee may be interested in exploring the possibility of developing a long-term solution to housing the County Archives collection and co-locating them with the MCHS historical archives collection. MCHS is interested in exploring a public-private partnership to develop a one-stop Archival facility at the King Farm Barns, a historical facility on 355 north of King Farm, owned by the City of Rockville. The City of Rockville currently does not have a plan for the facility, and additional information can be collected if the Committee is interested in exploring this opportunity.

FY14 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY13 Approved	32,462,450	0.00
FY14 CE Recommended	32,462,450	0.00

Historical Activities

This NDA contains a General Fund appropriation of \$287,090 and provides funding for the following agencies and programs:

- **Historic Preservation Commission:** The Historic Preservation Commission's main responsibility is to administer the historic preservation ordinance including recommending Montgomery County sites of potential historical significance. These efforts are administered by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC).
- **Historical Society:** Funding for the Montgomery County Historical Society provides support for the Society's Education Program staff, educational and outreach programs for County residents, and to maintain the Historical Society's research library and museums.

FY14 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY13 Approved	287,090	0.00
FY14 CE Recommended	287,090	0.00

Homeowners' Association Road Maintenance Reimburse.

This NDA provides a partial reimbursement to homeowners' associations (HOAs) for their maintenance of certain privately-owned roadways. The payment is currently restricted to through roadways, accessible to the public, which are one-quarter mile or longer and which provide vehicular access to more than four dwelling units. In FY97, an Executive Regulation was enacted allowing homeowners' associations to request that their roadways be deemed "private maintenance roads." This designation qualifies the HOAs for State reimbursement of their roadway maintenance costs. The County annually submits to the State its estimate of reimbursable miles, including those accepted as private maintenance roads. The State then reimburses the County and, subsequently, the County forwards the funds to HOAs.

FY14 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY13 Approved	49,250	0.00
FY14 CE Recommended	49,250	0.00

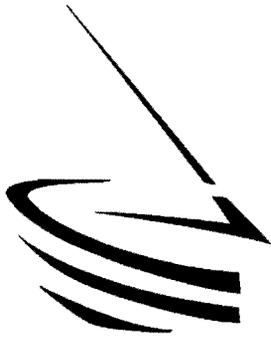
Housing Opportunities Commission

The Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County (HOC) is a public body corporate and politic duly organized under Division II of the Housing Community Development Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended, known as the Housing Authorities Law. As such, the Commission act as a builder, developer, financier, owner, and manager of housing for people of low- and moderate- (eligible) income. The Commission also provides eligible families and individuals with affordable housing and supportive services.

FY14 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY13 Approved	5,583,230	0.00
Increase Cost: OPEB Contribution	259,780	0.00
Increase Cost: Compensation Adjustment	167,090	0.00
Increase Cost: Annualization of FY13 Personnel Costs	54,950	0.00
Increase Cost: Health and Retirement Benefits	28,260	0.00
FY14 CE Recommended	6,093,310	0.00

Inauguration & Transition

The Montgomery County Charter provides for the quadrennial election of a County Executive and County Council. This NDA provides for a ceremony and smooth transition of the County Executive and County Council every four years.



October 26, 2012

MCHS

MONTGOMERY
C O U N T Y
H I S T O R I C A L
S O C I E T Y

Timothy Goetzinger, Budget and Finance Manager
Department of Housing and Community Development
100 Maryland Avenue, 4th Floor
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Dear Mr. Goetzinger,

The Montgomery County Historical Society (MCHS) requests \$64,500 for FY14 in support of historical services that benefit Montgomery County and its citizens. Funding from the County helps to:

- support educational programs for children and adults
- provide history and heritage outreach programs throughout the County
- provide research and historical resources to the public through the Jane Sween Library and Archives, the only accessible archives reflecting County history
- support Montgomery County History Day and the Montgomery County History Conference
- promote development efforts by providing funding matches

Efforts of the Montgomery County Historical Society remain focused on a core educational mission encompassing collecting, preserving, and interpreting the history of Montgomery County. As the only organization addressing the entire scope of County history, MCHS serves a unique role in creating a shared sense of place, a critical element to building and maintaining community. We *are* the County's historical society!

The Society requests a return to the full funding appropriation of \$64,500, allocated as:

Education	\$10,500
Outreach	\$10,000
Library/Archives	\$16,250
Pubs/Museums/Programs	\$27,750
TOTAL	\$64,500

1. **The education grant of \$10,500** partially pays the salary of the Education Coordinator who oversees education and outreach programs designed to encourage all County residents -- from preschool to senior citizen -- to more actively appreciate County history. Programs include exhibits, lectures, workshops, tours, speaker's bureau presentations, docent training, museum activities, history camps, school programs, and more.

2. **The Outreach portion of funding for \$10,000** creates a source of funding to assist individuals and organizations throughout the County that conduct programs and collect critical historical capital to benefit their local communities. These groups typically function with little or no staffing and few resources. They benefit from the annual Montgomery County History Conference, a professional development opportunity for the general public as well as all County history and heritage groups, and from other shared opportunities for these groups to grow and thrive.
3. **The Library and Archives \$16,250** will partially support the salary of a staff librarian and allow the Society to re-establish a part time position for a staff Archivist to continue processing of important County records. The future disposition of the Montgomery County Archives remains in question and the Montgomery County Historical Society remains the only voice for this collection, which by law requires public access not currently available. In addition, this funding provides partial support for "Paths to the Present," a valued, excellent program of County Cable Montgomery, and for storage of our artifact collection on the County's heritage, which includes two-dimensional papers and images as well as large three-dimensional items.
4. **Publications/Museums/Programs \$27,750** The Society intends to continue its historical research and projects to inform and educate the public of the unique and vibrant history of Montgomery County. MCHS plans, as specified in the FY11-14 Strategic Plan, to create exhibits and programs to provide broader perspective on County history and its impact on today's residents. This category also supports expenses related to public access to the Rockville headquarters home to the Beall-Dawson Historic Park and the Stonestreet Museum of 19th Century Medicine.

The Society produces a quarterly newsletter and bi-annual journal distributed by mail and email, and frequently publishes books and brochures related to County history. Communication through a vibrant website provides online resources for the public including accessible research aids about the collections, archives, and library.

The Montgomery County Historical Society manages all aspects of the popular annual Montgomery County History Day for hundreds of middle and high school students supporting the National History Day event. Participants present history projects in school level competitions; winners progress to the County level competition, then state and finally national competition. Without these funds the Society will likely be forced to further curtail operation of the museums and libraries.

History provides a foundation on which we build our lives. The long and beneficial relationship between the Montgomery County Historical Society and Montgomery County government demonstrates a public-private partnership that is practical in both fiscal and philosophical terms. County funding support indicates an appreciation for the important work of the Montgomery County Historical Society to create a sense of community through outreach, the operation of the library and archives, the increasing scope of our education and school programs, and the growing quality of the collection, which shows in a tangible

way, our growth and maturity as a County. As MCHS actively collects, preserves, interprets, and promotes the history of Montgomery County for all County residents, we trust the County will continue its commitment by meeting our total funding request of \$64,500.

The 50% funding cuts to the Montgomery County Historical Society the last three fiscal years have forced the Society to reduce both staff and public hours at the Jane C. Sween Library, the Beall-Dawson Historic Park and the Stonestreet Museum of 19th Century Medicine. These reductions have affected every aspect of the society's ability to conduct business.

The continued 50% reduction in County funding for FY14 could necessitate further staffing reductions, reductions in public hours, and continued massive restructuring of the organization. Below is the distribution that would occur in this scenario.

Education and Outreach	\$10,500
Library, Publications, Museum	\$17,750
History Day & History Conference	\$ 4,000
TOTAL	\$32,250

Sincerely yours,

Thomas A. Kuehhas
Executive Director

cc: Isiah Leggett, County Executive
George Leventhal, County Council, HHS Committee Chair
Valerie Ervin, President, Montgomery County Council
Phil Andrews, Montgomery County Council
Roger Berliner, Montgomery County Council
Marc Elrich, Montgomery County Council
Nancy Floreen, Montgomery County Council
Nancy Navarro, Montgomery County Council
Craig Rice, Montgomery County Council
Hans Riemer, Montgomery County Council

MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SOURCES OF REVENUE

	FY13	FY12	FY11
Library & Education Services	\$12K	\$15K	\$12K
Shop Sales	\$21K	\$30K	\$26K
Programs	\$12K	\$10K	\$ 7K
Donations	\$78K	\$42K	\$52K
Grants	\$65K	\$74K	\$106K
Membership Dues	\$22K	\$24K	\$25K
Other Revenue	\$ 7K	\$21K	\$17K
Investment	\$14K (proj.)	\$14K	\$13K
Endowment	\$42K	\$42K	\$50K
 Income	 \$273K* (proj)	 \$272K*	 \$308K*
 Expense	 \$359K (proj)	 \$366K	 \$420K

EXPENSES

	FY13 (Proj.)	FY12	FY11
Program Services			
Program Educational Activity	\$104K	\$105K	\$103K
Collections, publications, and museum activities	\$ 79K	\$ 81K	\$101K
Library & Archive Services	\$ 53K	\$ 54K	\$ 61K
Museum Shop	\$ 24K	\$ 25K	\$ 30K
Supporting Services, Management and General	\$ 81K	\$ 82K	\$ 97K
Fundraising	\$ 18K	\$ 19K	\$ 28K
 Total Expenses	 \$359K (Proj)	 \$366K	 \$420K

*MCHS reports that it is able to draw a certain percentage each year from an endowment without touching the principal in order to make up the shortfall between income and expense.

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MCHS 2013 Calendar

January 26 *History Conference*

February *History, Memory, Artifact, Art: Photographs of Everyday Life Exhibit*

March 16 *History Day*

April 20 *Lecture on Rachel Carson by Linda Lear, Ph.D.*

May 4 *1812 Fundraising Event*

June 5 *Annual Meeting*

June 29-30 *Heritage Days/ 150th Anniversary of Jeb Stuart's Visit to Rockville*

September *Happy Birthday Montgomery County*

Seen but Not Heard: A Tour from the Perspective of the Help (New program)

November *Strathmore Shop-Around*

December *Holiday Tours of the Beall-Dawson House*

Montgomery County Historical Society, Inc.

Rockville, Maryland



ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2011-June 30, 2012

(Includes synopses of FY10 and FY11)

Montgomery County Historical Society

July 1, 2011-June 30, 2012

The Montgomery County Historical Society collects, interprets and promotes the history, heritage and culture of Montgomery County, Maryland.

Mission Statement of the Montgomery County Historical Society

The compilation of this Annual Report has provided me with a timely opportunity to review the past few years in the evolution of the Montgomery County Historical Society. It has been a period of transition, as evidenced by a number of leadership and staff changes, and a need to navigate a greatly-altered funding landscape.

Recognition must be given to the staff, volunteers, and Board for all their efforts in not only providing continuity during this time of flux, but actively advancing the goals of the Historical Society. Even in the midst of the constant change swirling around them, the mission of the Society was uppermost in their minds. In addition to ensuring that we produced our full calendar of events and programming, the staff worked diligently to accomplish the goals set forth in the strategic plan for FY11-14. Reinterpretation of the Beall-Dawson House and Stonestreet Museum created new permanent exhibits, and, in the case of the latter, changing exhibits on various aspects of 19th and early 20th century medicine using MCHS' extensive (but rarely seen) medical collection. The consummate professionalism of the staff was never more in evidence than in April 2012, when MCHS Director of Collections Joanna Church gave a presentation as part of a panel on deaccessioning at the annual conference of the American Association of Museums in Minneapolis.

In addition to our staff members, the active and vital role played by our volunteers in the success of MCHS must be highlighted. Volunteers assist at all levels of the organization, from behind-the-scenes administrative support to interacting with the public. They serve as museum docents and guides, collections care specialists, event planners, researchers, transcribers, writers and editors, librarians, Board members and speakers. More than 400 MCHS volunteers contributed almost 14,000 hours of service over the three years covered by this report. Simply put, the Society could not function without them!

The support of our members is also critical to the Society's success. With your assistance, as well as that of our hard-working staff and volunteers, MCHS will continue to look toward the future by strengthening core programs, reaching out to the county's diverse community, and creating and improving strategic partnerships. Although MCHS still faces fiscal and resource challenges, the organization is poised to continue as a vital, stable heritage presence in the current environment and to increase its visibility throughout Montgomery County.

Tom Kuehhas
Executive Director

Jack Devine
President

2012 Events

<p>Happy Birthday Montgomery County! Montgomery County History Conference Montgomery County History Day Heritage Days Holiday Fete</p>	<p>History of Cabin John Walking Tour The "Year of the Hat" Exhibitions Student Advisory Council Reception Annual Meeting "While We Were at Breakfast..." Exhibit</p>
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Two of the members of the Student Advisory Council work on their exhibit in the "Year of the Hat" series

ATTENDANCE

	FY10	FY11	FY12	Total
Museums	1,056	1,173	1,390	3,619
Library	598	535	565	1,698

Student Programs

School Programs

MCHS continued to offer the Changes program for fourth and fifth grade Montgomery County students throughout 2010, 2011 and 2012. Fine-tuning this program, with updated information and more hands-on activities for the students, is a goal for the 2013 fiscal year.

The Visit from the Past program for pre-schools and kindergartens has grown considerably since its introduction in 2008. There has been increased enthusiasm from Montgomery County Public School kindergartens for the program this year, and we expect it to continue to grow. Several area schools have suggested more hands-on items for the students and more visuals, which we will work on adding during this upcoming school year. One idea is to include local photos of children, toys and schools from years past.

Scout Programs

Dr. Stonestreet (docent Clarence Hickey) continues to hold office hours on the second Sunday of each month, and is often visited by Cub Scouts, both Tigers and Bears, and Girl Scouts on occasion. On Sunday, October 23, 2011, MCHS hosted its first Scout Day, which was attended by 4 scout dens; a total of 38 Scouts, along with their parents and siblings, came to see Dr. Stonestreet, and get a glimpse of our popular 19th century buggy. We received positive feedback about this program; one scout leader said, "The scouts all loved it and I was amazed that the doctor was able to capture the attention of 15 8/9 year olds for 45 minutes. They were especially mesmerized by the parts of the talk that revolved around the instruments that performed procedures that were oftentimes not the most pleasant of ones." We hope to continue this program annually.

MCHS has also seen an increase in Girl Scouts and Brownies attendance even as the Girl Scout Council moves away from the Local Lore and Try-It badges, on which MCHS' current program is built. Many local troops are still interested in the Listening to the Past Try-It, run by MCHS. In 2012, six Girl Scout troops learned stories about the neighborhood around MCHS, toured the Beall-Dawson House, and tried their hand at some old-fashioned toys and games.



Dr. Stonestreet with a group of Boy Scouts

National History Day

The Montgomery County Historical Society continues to organize and run the Montgomery County History Day competition. It has been held at Richard Montgomery High School for the past three years, all of which were extremely successful.

County-wide, over 4000 students from almost thirty schools have participated at the school level in 2010, 2011 and 2012 combined. Montgomery County students continue to do well at the Maryland History Day competition. In 2010, six Montgomery County entries

advanced from state to the National History Day competition, and three won special prizes. In 2011, nine Montgomery County entries advanced from state to the National History Day competition, and four won special prizes. 2012 saw the most Montgomery County advancers to the national competition, with eleven entries, and four special prize winners at the state level. In 2012, a Montgomery County student received the Special Prize for History in the Federal Government at the national competition, and two Montgomery County projects were finalists for display at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History.



A panel of judges speaks with students about their project at History Day

Student Groups

Students Participating in School Programs

2009-2010: 1,339

2010-2011: 1,926

2011-2012: 1,142

Scout Attendance

2009-2010: 219

2010-2011: 29

2011-2012: 118

Student Participation in Montgomery County History Day

2010: 2054 at school level, 231 at district competition

2011: 1784 at school level, 340 at district competition

2012: 1064 at school level, 244 at district competition

Exhibits

A wide variety of exhibits were on view during 2010 and 2011, at both the Beall-Dawson House in Rockville and the Waters House in Germantown. The Beall-Dawson House exhibit gallery was home to a popular exhibit on local pets, a display focused on musical traditions in the county, and an in-depth look at the Beall-Dawson House itself. In addition to exhibits created by other organizations, such as the Art League of Germantown and the King Barn Dairy MOOseum, the Waters House exhibit gallery featured our examination of local domestic architecture and the development of suburban neighborhoods.

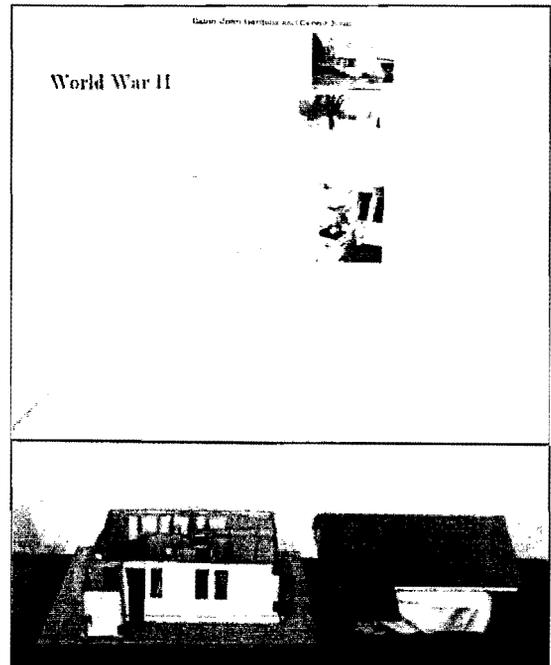
MCHS exhibits were on display elsewhere in the County, too. We were accepted as a venue for the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibit Services' exhibit "Between Fences," which we installed at the Silver Spring Civic Building thanks to the cooperation of the Arts & Humanities Council of Montgomery County. We developed a companion exhibit, "Good Neighbors," to go along with the national-in-scope Smithsonian display. Small traveling exhibits created by MCHS were on view at the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair and various county libraries. Four of our popular traveling displays were turned into online exhibits, available on our website.

FY12 Exhibits:

Beall-Dawson House

- "The Year of the Hat: Hats a la Mode" June 25 - August 21, 2011
- "The Year of the Hat: Business of Hats" September 3 - October 30, 2011
- One day exhibit: Student Advisory Council's "Fashion Then and Now" September 25, 2011
- "The Year of the Hat: There's a Hat for That" November 12, 2011 - January 8, 2012
- The December 2011 holiday decorations were based on a 1960s Christmas/Hannukah theme
- "The Year of the Hat: The Student Perspective" (curated by Student Advisory Council) January 21 - March 18, 2012
- "The Year of the Hat: The Meaning of Hats" March 31 - May 27, 2012
- "While We Were at Breakfast, Three Rebels Rode Up: Montgomery County Women During the Civil War" opened June 23, 2012

"The Year of the Hat" was comprised of five exhibits on the theme of hats and headwear, viewed through a local lens. Why do we wear hats? What does our headwear tell the world? This exhibit series included our first-ever student-curated exhibit, developed by the five members of our high school Student Advisory Council.



Waters House exhibit on local domestic architecture

"While We Were at Breakfast..." tells the story of the American Civil War as experienced by women in Montgomery County, using diaries, memoirs, letters, photographs and artifacts. Learn about the many different roles played by local women, white and black, Union and Confederate, and the ways in which they coped with the conflict happening around them.

Stonestreet Museum of 19th Century Medicine

- "Vinson's Pharmacy" (ongoing) opened September 18, 2011
- "Medical Books from Our Collections: Beyond Gray's Anatomy" (curated by volunteer Cara Kinzelman) September 18 - October 30, 2011
- "Local Doctors" opened November 2, 2011
- Artifacts displayed for reference in school tour opened November 2, 2011

Thanks to a grant from the Maryland Historical Trust, the interior of the Stonestreet Museum, including both the "doctor's office" vignette and the exhibit cases, was redesigned, and reopened September 18, 2011. The new layout provided more flexible display and programming space, and allowed us to begin creating a series of changing exhibits that highlight the strengths of our medical collections.



A vignette from the exhibit "While We Were at Breakfast..." which tells the story of the American Civil War as experienced by women in Montgomery County using diaries, memoirs, letters, photographs and artifacts.

Traveling and off-site

- An exhibit on cows and dairy farming in Montgomery County was created for the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair, August 2011
- A small traveling exhibit on the history of Emory Grove was on display at the Emory Grove Harvest Festival, September 2011
- A traveling exhibit on the history of African American education in Montgomery County was on display at the Gaithersburg Senior Center for the month of February 2012

Sending small, image-based table-top exhibits into the community helps bring history out of the museum, and expands our outreach. Some, such as the African American education exhibit, are standard displays offered for temporary rental; others, like our yearly display at the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair, are researched and created by request for specific events.

Collections

Fiscal years 2010 and 2011 saw a number of donations to the artifact collections. These objects, including household goods, clothing, tools, books, medical implements, and art, represent many different families and institutions, and will help us tell the story of County residents through exhibits and research. Two examples that show the broad range of these donations are: a section of original plaster frieze from the circa 1815 Beall-Dawson House, donated by Charlotte Davis Duvall; and a fifty-foot canvas banner created by County residents in response to the events of September 11, 2001, donated by the Arts & Humanities Council of Montgomery County.

We accepted many fabulous donations to the artifact collections during fiscal year 2012. These objects, whether unique or 'every-day', add to the main focus and strength of our collections: the physical representation of life in Montgomery County. Though many donations have trended toward the recent past, we still receive 18th and 19th century items. Whether 300 years old or only three years old, all of these pieces help us tell the many different stories of county residents and institutions.

- Two "Vote Here!" signs, used at polling places in early 2000s, donated by Montgomery County Board of Elections
- Brownie and Girl Scout items, 1940s and 1970s, from the Sisk and Rohrbaugh families of Silver Spring, donated by Mary Grassick
- Oil painting of Sugarloaf Mountain, commissioned in 1971 by a Rockville resident and painted by local artist Florence K. Cleveland, donated by Churchill Ward
- 1912 wedding dress worn by Mary Elizabeth Dorsey Unglesbee of Germantown, donated by George Dorsey Unglesbee
- Cash register sign, 1990s-2000s, from the Gaithersburg Trader Joe's grocery store, donated by Lou Church
- 2011 Rockville mayoral election sign and literature, donated by Phyllis Marcuccio
- Political ephemera from the 2000s, collected by the donor (a volunteer election judge), donated by Dorothy Paperiello
- wedding gown and groom's accessories, Rockville, 1991, donated by Maude McGovern
- 1850s low post bed from the Hurley/Carter House, Rockville, and accessories, donated by John Carter
- Needlepointed Maryland flag, handmade, c. 1970s, donated by the Executive Branch, Maryland Chapter, American Needlepoint Guild
- Family and household items, including toys, cookbooks, kitchen tools, and wedding gifts, from the Allman family of Bethesda, mid 20th century, donated by Bill Allman
- A slide rule used at a Rockville engineering company, c. 1970, donated by Deborah Blank
- Montgomery County Metro-related items, 1970s-1990s, donated by Trish Gabroske



1850s low post bed from the Hurley/Carter House

Library

Since our last report, total library holdings have topped 5,000 books. We have begun cataloguing the Civil War books in the Charles Jacobs' Collection as a special collection. Space continues to be an issue.

As a complement to the papers of several local public servants already in our collection, we recently acquired additional personal papers of Neal Potter. Archival collections are again being managed by volunteers under staff direction.

Our photograph collection has been fully scanned into Past Perfect software, and is a small source of library income from individuals and publications. We have also received a large collection of postcards, which we are adding into the Past Perfect database, along with photographs from other collections, when they are requested.

We continue to work with genealogy club volunteers in sponsoring a popular program on the "First Fridays" of each month. Staff and volunteers from the genealogy club help both members and walk-ins from the community, beginners and long time researchers, to resolve diverse genealogy problems.

The library has hosted groups from the public library and other historical societies to share information regarding our holdings and to promote the services we offer to the public. We have also provided a research venue for students in summer archeology camps, scout troops, history day researchers and other school projects, including students from a "Genealogy Librarian Class" sponsored by the University of Maryland.

Research services in the library occupy most of the time spent when not assisting in-house patrons. Though longer responses are generally sent out via U.S. mail, most of the inquiries themselves now come in via e-mail; most simple inquiries are responded to in the same manner, with some telephone responses as well.

Library Inquiries			
	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012
E-mail	85	100	115
Telephone	40	45	35
Letters	52	48	45
Totals	177	193	195

In addition to many individual items donated to our collections, including photographs of local homes, various theater programs, high school annuals, National Park Seminary Graduation exercise programs, and material incorporated into the family files, we've also received several major collections since our last Annual Report.

Among these are included the papers of Dona Cuttler, Evelyn T. Williamson, Blair Management (re: Falklands Apartments), several donations from the Montgomery County Board of Elections, and Neal Potter's papers. We also received a large collection of Montgomery County postcards and the Lewis Reed collection of glass plate negatives of early 20th century Montgomery County.

Fiscal year 2012 accessions included the following:

- Collection of Maps and Brochures from Metro, Glenmont Transit Impact area and supporting studies; History of Washington Gas & Light Co., 1948, and other similar items, related to Suburban Studies from Amy Federman
- Materials from Sarah Harris for the Montgomery County Board of Elections, includes voter guides, political campaign, paper ephemera, given along with metal signs for voting locations, for museum's collection.
- Carte de Visite of Major General Frank Wheaton signed and dated 25 December 1865.
- Additional materials relating to Montgomery County Elections, 1966-1975 from Board of Elections.
- Lesley Anne Simmons collection, includes four boxes of books, press clippings, oral history tapes and video tapes on Somerset.
- Ledgers and Family papers dating from 1911, for Lily Stone and Stoneyhurst Quarries. Business records from the 1920s. Photographs of stone houses and bridges, etc.
- Cheryl Singhal, Disbanding President of the local Capital PAF Users Group donated money and a set of their newsletter.
- Vernon L. Skinner Jr. donated eleven rolls of microfilm, from the Maryland State Archives, the Records of the Prerogative Court Testamentary Proceedings, Books 1-47, 1657-1777; as he has now completed his abstracting project. He has donated one copy of each volume as it has been received from the publisher, the most recent being volume 42.
- William Austen donated several genealogy books.
- Business Records from Mercer Jones & Sons, 1907-1965, of Poolesville, approximately 45 ledgers.

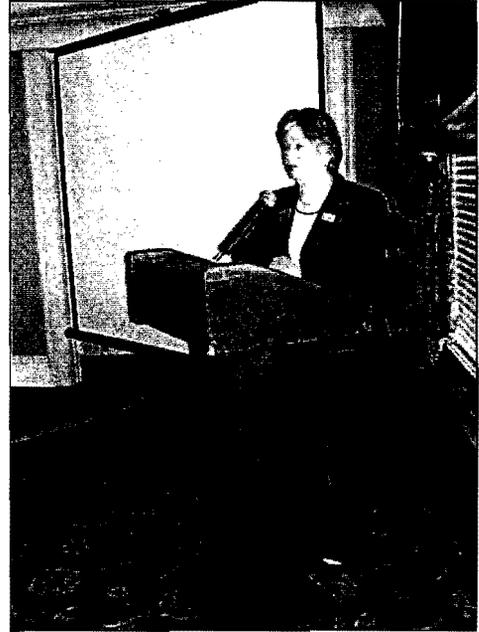


The Jane C. Sween Research Library

Speakers Bureau

The MCHS Speakers Bureau has grown by leaps and bounds over the past three years. Prior to 2007, when Clarence Hickey assumed coordination responsibilities on an interim basis, a short list of volunteer speakers existed. He took his assignment to make the Speakers Bureau more visible so seriously that he was asked to remain as the coordinator, and the program began to grow. It has now become the most requested service that MCHS offers.

The Speakers Bureau provides speakers to various groups, such as neighborhood associations, senior centers, assisted living communities, and civic clubs. For the past three years, from FY10 through FY12, the 24 member Speakers Bureau has offered 353 programs throughout Montgomery County, reaching over 11,500 people. This translates to more than two presentations per week, many of them by authors on local and national history topics. Requesting groups frequently make a donation for this community service, which across the board results in MCHS offering a quality community service at a very reasonable cost.



*Speakers Bureau member
Eileen McGuckian presents a
program on F. Scott Fitzgerald's
Rockville to a group of local seniors*

Speakers Bureau Programs				
	FY10	FY11	FY12	Total
Presentations	104	114	135	353
Audience	3252	3540	4752	11,544