
The Gristmill Gazette

Jerusalem Mill Village
News & Notes
Spring 2020



2811 Jerusalem Rd., Kingsville, MD

www.jerusalemill.org

410-877-3560

Scheduled Events

All activities are in the village, unless otherwise indicated.

Saturday, May 2nd: Annual Spring Dinner at Richardson's Barn. **Postponed** due to Coronavirus restrictions. Future date to be determined.

Saturday, May 9th: Yard Sale – **anceled** due to Coronavirus restrictions, but we'll still accept donated items (see page 5). Mark your calendars for the Fall yard sale on October 10th!

Saturday, May 9th, Second Saturday Serve Volunteer Day. **Canceled** due to Coronavirus restrictions.

Saturday, May 16th, Mid-Atlantic Vintage Baseball League game between the Chesapeake Nine and the Keystone BBC of Harrisburg. **Canceled** due to Coronavirus restrictions.

Saturday, May 23rd, 11 AM: Harry Brooks Memorial Joust. Witness Maryland's official state sport! The jousting field is located behind the stone bank barn on Jericho Road. Will be canceled if social distancing restrictions are still in effect.

Monday, May 25th, Annual Amy's Memorial Ride, in honor of Baltimore County Police Officer Amy Caprio, killed in the line of duty on May 21st, 2018. **Postponed** until August 8th, as part of the First Responder's Day celebration.

Friday, June 5th through Sunday, June 7th: Civil War encampment, cavalry demonstrations, and re-enactment of Gilmor's Raid on the General Store. For more details, see "In the Spotlight" article on pages 2 & 3 of this newsletter. Will be canceled if social distancing restrictions are still in effect.

Saturday, June 6th, 11 AM: Founder's Day Joust. Another chance to witness Maryland's state sport! Located on the jousting field behind the bank barn on Jericho Road. Will be canceled if social distancing restrictions are still in effect.

Saturday, June 13th, 9 AM 'til noon: Second Saturday Serve Volunteer Day. Come help us with a wide variety of tasks throughout the village. All tools, materials, equipment and safety gear will be provided. We'll meet on the porch of the General Store. Everyone is invited. Will be canceled if social distancing restrictions are still in effect.

Saturday, June 20th, 11 AM: George Kreutzer Memorial Joust in the field behind the stone bank barn on Jericho Road. Will be canceled if social distancing restrictions are still in effect.

Saturday, July 4th: The annual Kingsville parade has been **canceled** due to the Coronavirus. As expressed by the Parade Chairman, "...necessary planning of the parade falls well within the period of quarantine and social distancing, limiting our ability to effectively plan and fund the parade."

Details on all of our events are available on our web page at www.jerusalemill.org or the Jerusalem Mill FaceBook page.

A Visit from Maryland's Lieutenant Governor

On February 28th, Maryland Lt. Governor, Boyd Rutherford, visited Jerusalem Mill Village for a scheduled tour of this part of the Gunpowder Falls State Park. Mr. Rutherford took the time to take a walking tour of the entire village, with stops for living history discussions in the grist mill, miller's house, joinery/woodshop, blacksmith shop, and McCourtney's general store. As he walked, he was also briefed on the tenant house, Jerusalem mansion, bank barn, vintage baseball field, and jousting field, with a final stop at the covered bridge. Special thanks to Friends of Jerusalem Mill participants Diane & Hugh Pry, Betsy Keithley, Mark McDonald, Harry Sanders, Henry Irving, Brian Kalman, Michele and Jack Benesch, Wayne Markey and Rick Decker for making the visit very informative and entertaining. Thanks also to the park rangers and staff who assisted with the tour.



Lt. Gov. Boyd Rutherford with living historians (L to R) Betsy Keithley, Diane Pry, and Hugh Pry. Photo courtesy of Jack Benesch.

In the Spotlight:



Gilmor's Raid

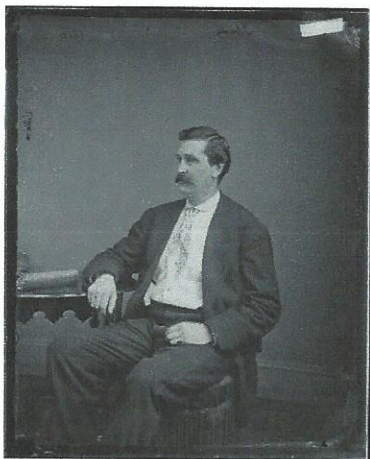
One hundred fifty-six years ago our general store was raided by a Confederate cavalry unit led by Major Harry Gilmor. The unit was on its way to Joppa to burn the railroad bridge over the Gunpowder Falls, and they needed supplies, horses and clothing. From June 5th through June 7th we will be marking this historic occasion with a Civil War encampment, cavalry demonstrations, and a re-enactment of the raid. As of this printing, our plans proceed as if the social distancing restrictions will be lifted prior to June 1st. *This event will be canceled in its entirety if social distancing guidelines are still in effect in Harford County.* A little background on Harry Gilmor and his raid:

Harry Gilmor was born on January 24, 1838, in a large house near the village of Warren, which is now part of the Loch Raven Reservoir. Portions of the foundation of their home, known as Glen Ellen Castle, are still visible from the trails on the southern shore of the reservoir.

Gilmor's military career started in 1861, after he was released from prison at Fort McHenry where he had been incarcerated as a southern sympathizer after the Pratt Street Riots on April 19th. That arrest and imprisonment only seemed to reinforce his support for secession from the union, and he immediately enlisted as a Private in Captain Frank Mason's Company (Company G) under Lieutenant Colonel Turner Ashby of the Seventh Virginia Cavalry. Within days of his enlistment, he was one of two men who volunteered to scout into Harper's Ferry to determine the location and number of Union Forces present there, essentially serving as a decoy to draw them out. Perhaps that was the first indication of his bravery and military prowess that would later lead to frequent promotions in a relatively short period of time.

Fast forward to 1863 and Harry Gilmor was already a Major, in command of the 1st and 2nd Maryland Cavalry units in Gettysburg. Then in July, 1864, Gilmor's unit was advancing from a raid in Cockeysville, after burning a railroad bridge there. According to his own account, in his book titled Four Years in the Saddle: "I had been ordered to burn the bridges of the Philadelphia Railroad, which I knew were well guarded, but, with my very slender force, I could not be sanguine of a favorable result."¹ On the way from Cockeysville to Joppa, Gilmor took the opportunity to make a surprise visit to his family on their Glen Ellen estate on Sunday, July 10th, 1864. In his book Gilmor recounts, "My mother, father, and sisters, and three of my brothers, were there, and under no little excitement. I captured the whole party on the front steps when I rode up, and – if I except some, perhaps, just complaint of my rather severe hugging ..." ². That sentiment seemed like a stark contrast to his wartime reputation as having "sloppy discipline", being a "terror of this part of the country" and "a natural marauder", and was even labeled "the gray ghost"!

The next day, on July 11th, Gilmor's unit arrived in Kingsville, leading to an encounter at Ishmael Day's house (on what is now Sunshine Avenue, one mile east of Harford Road) where his Sergeant Fields was shot by Day when Fields was trying to remove a Union flag from the porch. From there the cavalry unit advanced toward Magnolia Station to burn a freight house and bridge, to slow the Union advance on Washington. On their way to Magnolia Station Gilmor's unit stopped at Jerusalem Mill to "requisition" supplies from David Lee's General Store.³ "The Sun" newspaper account of the incident perhaps describes it best: "Yesterday was a day of great excitement in a portion of Harford county. At an early hour of the morning a squad of rebel cavalry appeared at Jerusalem Mills, and made a requisition on Mr. David Lee for horses and such articles as they needed from the store, including boots and shoes and other wearing apparel. Mr. Lee estimates his loss, including horses, and flour destroyed by the burning of the warehouse at Magnolia, at about \$1,000. The raiders spared the mill and other buildings."⁴



Post-war photo of Harry Gilmor⁵

By the end of the war, Gilmor had reached the rank of Colonel. Somewhat surprisingly, after the war he became president of a veterans' group that included old soldiers from the Confederate *and* Union armies. He served as the Baltimore City Police Commissioner from March 15, 1875 through April 12, 1878. He succumbed to complications of a war wound on March 4th, 1883, when he was only 45 years old, and is buried on "Confederate Hill" in the Loudon Park Cemetery in Baltimore.

¹ "Four Years in the Saddle", by Colonel Harry Gilmor; Harper & Brothers, New York, 1866; ISBN 0-935523-10-3; pages 191-192.

² Gilmor, page 192.

³ Although some authors suggest the raid on Jerusalem Mill was on July 12th, this author believes there's enough evidence that the raid was actually on July 11th, between the burning of Day's house and the raid on Magnolia Station.

⁴ The Sun, July 14, 1864, page 4, citing "{Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun} Harford County, MD, July 12, 1864", obtained online from ProQuest Historical Newspapers, through the Baltimore County Public Library.

⁵ Harry W. Gilmor, photographed by Mathew Brady, source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harry_Gilmor; accessed 3/18/2020

If you want to read more about Harry Gilmore, you might consider Colonel Harry Gilmore's Raid Around Baltimore, by Robert E. Michel; Sabres & Pistols, by Timothy Ackincklose; or Four Years in the Saddle, written by Harry Gilmore himself.

To mark this historical event, the Friends of Jerusalem Mill are hosting the 9th Virginia Cavalry, Company D, from June 5th through June 7th, to educate the public on aspects of the cavalry during the Civil War and to reenact the raid on Jerusalem Mills' general store. Here's the tentative schedule of events:

- Friday, June 5th, visit the cavalry encampment and see how they cooked, ate and slept. Ask the soldiers your questions about life in a confederate cavalry unit during the war. Talk to them about their uniforms, daily tasks, preparations for battle, etc.
- Saturday, June 6th, the cavalry will demonstrate their horsemanship skills and weaponry, at 10:30 AM and again at 2:00 PM. In between those hours, and in the evening, you can again visit the encampment. Between 5:00 and 6:00 PM the soldiers will be enjoying an authentic open-hearth meal cooked by Jerusalem Mill's living historians in the miller's house behind the grist mill. Visitors are welcome to observe and take pictures.
- Sunday, June 7th. Visitors are invited to attend the informal, period-style church service, at 10:00 AM, in or near the cavalry camp. At 1:00 you can watch the raid on the general store, from the safety and security of the field between the general store and the paved parking lot.



9th Virginia Cavalry, Company D (re-enactors)

Jerusalem Mill Response to the Pandemic

The Friends of Jerusalem Mill takes seriously its responsibility to protect its volunteers, members, sponsors and visitors. Our response is best characterized in a note from our Board President, Rick Decker, to the officers and Board of Directors in early April:

“Again, I want to assure all of you that the Friends of Jerusalem Mill understands the seriousness of this highly contagious Coronavirus. We take seriously our responsibility to protect our volunteers, local and worldwide visitors and to limit the spread of the virus to avoid overloading the medical system. We are taking seriously the Governor’s and Secretary, Department of Natural Resources’

and Superintendent of Maryland Parks guidance and directives, and we are therefore taking the following actions:

1. All of the Jerusalem Mill Village's buildings were closed as of March 14th, and they will remain closed at least through April. Bulletins approved by the Superintendent of Parks have been placed on all the entrances to our living history buildings. Staff and residents can continue to access the buildings, but should respect the social distancing guidelines as the buildings remain closed to the public.
2. The Living History program is canceled at least through April.
3. We will cut grass on Thursdays, weather permitting, since we won't exceed the 10-person gathering limit, and we can maintain a very safe "social distance".
4. The April 2nd Board meeting is canceled. Any necessary business will be conducted via e-mail.
5. The April 5th Easter Egg Roll, the April 18th C.A.R.E. 5K Run/Walk, and the April 19th Vintage Baseball game are all canceled.
6. The May 2nd Spring Dinner has been postponed until Fall (date to be determined).
7. In the coming weeks we'll evaluate the need to cancel activities beyond May 2nd.

We're all in this fight together, and together we'll overcome this difficult challenge. On behalf of all of the officers, Board members & members of the Friends of Jerusalem Mill, I want to wish you and your family good health ...We look forward to seeing you in the village when this is all over. Stay safe and stay healthy!"

Since that note went out, we have also canceled the May 9th Yard Sale and Second Saturday Volunteer Day, and the May 16th Vintage Baseball Game. Additional events will be canceled beyond May 16th if the social distancing restrictions are not lifted prior to the upcoming events.

The cancellation of events and closure of our buildings adds to the loss of income from reduced memberships, sponsorships and cash donations due to the economic crisis associated with the pandemic, yet our expenses for utilities, maintenance and repairs don't go away. When this pandemic is over, we hope you'll consider starting or renewing your membership or sponsorship (if not currently active) and attend our events. We'll gladly accept donations, even at the *free* events!

Yard Sale

We realize that many of you are using your "quarantine" time to clean and organize your homes to get rid of no longer needed items and reduce clutter. We can help! We'll gladly take your usable housewares, books, tools, toys, hardware, small appliances, etc., for our Fall yard sale. If you can bring your items to the village, we can arrange a drop-off point, at a specific date and time, ensuring social distancing without close contact with village staff. Just send an e-mail to us at jerusalem.mill.curator@gmail.com to arrange a drop-off time. Sorry, no chemicals, clothing, pillows, towels or blankets. We can send you a letter of donation if you provide an itemized list of the donated materials. The Friends of Jerusalem Mill is a registered non-profit, public charity, and therefore donations may be tax deductible as charitable contributions. All of the proceeds from the yard sale are used for maintenance, preservation and operating costs of the Jerusalem Mill Village.

A Shout-out to the Departments of Public Works

Too often the work of the county Public Works Departments goes unnoticed or unappreciated. Yet their employees work hard every day to manage our water supply, sanitary sewer system, storm drains, roads, sidewalks, bridges, trash and recycling, and more. Unlike many of us, they don't get to stay home during the current pandemic, and can't work from home. They continue to go to work to ensure we have the necessary services. The Friends of Jerusalem Mill takes this opportunity to thank the Baltimore County Public Works and Harford County Public Works Departments for their hard work and dedication. Thanks to them we have better drainage at the intersection of Jerusalem Road and Jericho Road to help control the flooding; we have safe crosswalks at our overflow lot in Baltimore County, and in front of the mill and next to the parking lot in Harford County; and they recently repaired damage to the covered bridge caused by an oversized vehicle and some natural deterioration.

Jerusalem Mill Resident Helps Fight Coronavirus

There are people from all walks of life and all kinds of jobs helping in the fight against the Coronavirus pandemic. Medical professionals and first responders get the most attention, and rightfully so, because they are on "the front lines". We also appreciate that a variety of other employees can't stay home safely in quarantine, whether it's truck drivers, grocery clerks, hardware store employees, etc. They all take risks when they go to work, and we thank them for their sacrifice. In this article, we highlight a Jerusalem Mill village resident making a difference in the fight against "the hidden enemy".

Starting the second week of May, Jim White began working on a project to construct a field hospital at the Wisconsin State Fair Park in West Allis, Wisconsin, an area of Milwaukee. The field hospital was being set up in the Exposition Center, as "an alternative healthcare facility" with over 500 beds. Each



Photo courtesy of Jim White

patient space consists of three 8-foot tall walls, with a curtain entrance. The patient "rooms" are about 10 feet long by about 10 feet wide. The field hospital will be used for coronavirus patients who don't need ventilators or intensive care, if area hospitals reach their designed capacity. The project wasn't as simple as setting up some partitions and placing a bed in each "room". The "hospital" also needed backup power, a change in airflow, a patient processing center, nurses stations, a place for healthcare workers to meet, shower facilities, and a place for employees to eat their meals. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is providing \$24 million to help fund the project. This project that would normally take one to two years to build took only nine days to deliver 600 beds! Job well done, Jim! To view a video of the project, go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4XDvBhTqGRw>.

Meet Our Volunteers

Each quarter we try to introduce you to our volunteers. As a non-profit charitable organization, with no paid staff, we greatly appreciate our dedicated volunteers. We want to share their stories with you.

We are pleased to welcome John Walker, who joined us last year. John moved to Perry Hall in 1980, where he lives with his wife, Mary Lou. He has 3 children and 5 grandchildren. He's retired from the Community College of Baltimore County, Science & Math Division. John says he was attracted to Jerusalem Mill because the village and organization provided "an opportunity to do meaningful work that has a specific objective and end result." He's volunteering at Jerusalem Mill as a general handyman, and is currently working on replacement of the Miller's House garden fence, replacement of the smokehouse-springhouse doors and door frames, and making necessary repairs to the interior of the Carriage House. When he's not working in the village, John enjoys hiking, trout fishing, family genealogy, and "fixing stuff" (a great fit at Jerusalem Mill!).

New Exhibit

We've been working the past few months on a new exhibit for the Jerusalem Mill Village Visitor Center – Museum. It is a display of cooper tools and equipment, most of which are complements of the Estate of Joseph and Ann Pipitone. The Pipitone family donated the artifacts a couple of years ago, and we've finally created the space to display them in our gallery.

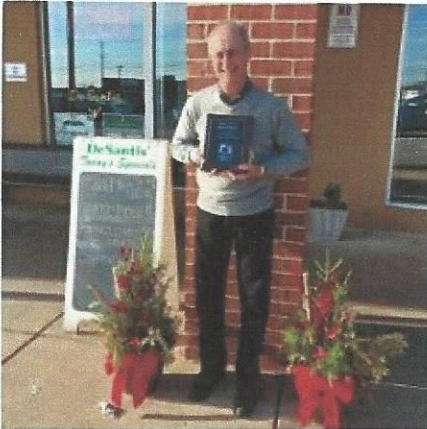
If you're not familiar with 18th and 19th century trades, you may be wondering, "What is a cooper?" A cooper is a person who makes wooden casks, or barrels. Barrels were a very important asset at Jerusalem Mill because they were needed to store and ship the village's main product, flour. Our grist mill produced as many as 20 barrels of flour per day when all four sets of millstones were in operation, and barrels were the storage method of choice because they could be stacked, were waterproof and sturdy, and were easily transported by horse-drawn wagons as well as large ships (the barrels could easily be rolled). During the most productive years of the mill, it was much more convenient to have an on-site, dedicated cooper to make the barrels rather than rely on availability from somewhere else. We know that in the 19th century the village had an on-site cooper who would make barrels out of the wood cut in the village's sawmill. The sawmill was about 15' from the northwest corner of the grist mill. According to an 1860 map, the stone building that still stands behind the mill today, served as a cooperage at the time.



Because the barrels had to be water-tight and sturdy, coopers needed to be precise when making and assembling the various parts and had a variety of tools to aide them. Stop in to see such unique tools as a cooper's axe, bung flogger, trussing adze, backing knife, pod auger, heading knife, croze, bunghole borer, jointer, boring machine and shaving bench. These tools are part of our new "rotating exhibit", so they will likely be on display for only about 12 months, after which a new exhibit will be created in its place.

Special thanks to Brandon Kelly, our Fall 2019 intern from Harford Community College, for his time and effort in researching the cooper's tools and techniques, and for assembling the exhibit. Thanks also to Fred Berg, Jack Benesch, and Kit Wattenbarger for preparing the exhibit area (permanent components). And, of course, a very special thanks to the Pipitone family for their very generous donation of the cooper tools and equipment.

Volunteer Recognition



Congratulations to Mark McDonald on his selection by the Gunpowder Valley Conservancy as their 2019 Volunteer of the Year. As stated on their web site: "The mission of the Gunpowder Valley Conservancy is to educate and mobilize people and resources to preserve and restore the lands and waterways of the Gunpowder watershed, which drains some 500 square miles from its starting point in lower York County, Pennsylvania, through Carroll, Baltimore and Harford counties, Maryland, before reaching the shores of the Chesapeake Bay." In their January 2020 Newsletter, the Gunpowder Valley Conservancy acknowledges that Mark "...was selected as 2019 Volunteer of the Year for his 50+ hours of service to the GVC. A former teacher, Mark greatly enhanced our workshops by

developing lessons on the history of the Gunpowder River and the economics of tree planting. He hosted multiple GVC workshops at St. Paul's Lutheran in Kingsville. Always willing to share his gardening knowledge, Mark helped create a Bayscape garden at Seven Oaks Elementary School. Thank you, Mark, for your invaluable contributions to our watershed!"

Mark is a docent in our Visitor Center – Museum every Monday from 1 PM to 4 PM. As a Master Gardener he has helped out on a number of gardening and landscaping projects within Jerusalem Mill Village. We share GVC's appreciation of Mark's efforts within the Gunpowder watershed area and particularly within the village.

To learn more about the Gunpowder Valley Conservancy, visit their web site at gunpowdervalleyconservancy.org.

A Retrospective Memoriam

Since our newsletter publication was temporarily interrupted from 2015 to 2018, we haven't had the opportunity to honor one of our long-time volunteers, Mr. Latham Martin, who passed away on August 8th, 2016. Latham was a World War II veteran, having served in the Army. After the war he pursued an education at the Harford Community College, then worked as a machinist for several companies before becoming an Inspector for the federal government at Edgewood Arsenal. He was married for 65 years to his wife, Helen. Latham dedicated a lot of personal time to creating and constructing materials for displays at Jerusalem Mill. He was a charter member of the Friends of Jerusalem Mill, and oversaw the reconstruction of the grist mill and restoration of the blacksmith shop. After he passed, his family made a very generous donation of tools, hardware and artifacts. There is a park bench in the village dedicated in Latham's honor.



We Need Your Help

Because the Friends of Jerusalem Mill is a non-profit charitable organization, we rely on generous donations of time and money from our many volunteers and donors to accomplish our mission of preserving and presenting local history. Let us know if you have some time to spare and can help us continue our mission. Here's just a sample of some of the volunteer opportunities:

Docents: Greet visitors and guide them through the visitor center/museum, the general store, or the Civil War Room. Provide information about the history and operation of the village and answer questions about the park. No prior knowledge of the village history or details about the park is required. Our Volunteer Handbook has most of the information you'll need.

Special events: Plan and organize. Collect tickets/admission, set up chairs, tables, canopies, etc., direct parking, assist pedestrian crossings, guide visitors, tear-down, etc. This can be a year-round or one-event commitment.

Research/Curatorial Assistants: Identify and inventory artifacts; perform various research projects online and/or at historical societies and archives; create displays, etc. Focus areas include genealogy, architecture, archeology, history and sociology. Much of the research can be done in the comfort of your home!

Living History Interpreters: Wearing era-appropriate attire, share knowledge of various aspects of life in the 18th and 19th century. Most immediate need is for a carpenter/woodworker, toy demonstrator, cooper, tinsmith, gardeners/farmers, colonial cooks, tour guides.

Grant writers: Help us manage our grant program by preparing grant applications for a wide variety of projects and purchases. Maintain a calendar of deadlines to ensure we don't miss an opportunity or obligation. This function can mostly be performed at home or office!

Village Maintenance and Repairs: Second Saturday Serve is a year-round, monthly event open to volunteers of all ages, on the second Saturday of every month, from 9:00 a.m. until noon, to perform a wide variety of tasks. Just show up and we'll put you to work! It's a good opportunity for students to meet their graduation requirements if volunteer hours are required!

Lawn Service: From April through October we cut grass (riding mowers and walk-behinds), trim around buildings and fences, weed gardens, etc. once per week, usually on Thursdays. We can use your help every week, once-per-month, or however often you can!

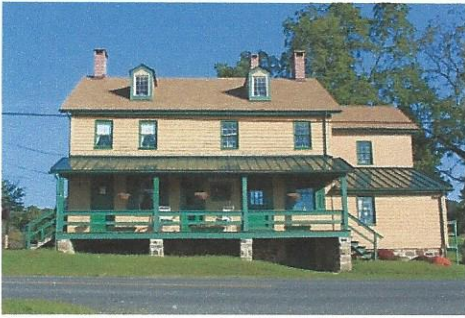
Web Master: Help us keep our web pages up-to-date. This is another function that can be performed at home or office.

Trail maintenance: Hike the wooded trails of the Gunpowder Falls State Park Central Area and pick up trash, remove debris from the trails, trim overgrowth, and report downed trees and other hazards.

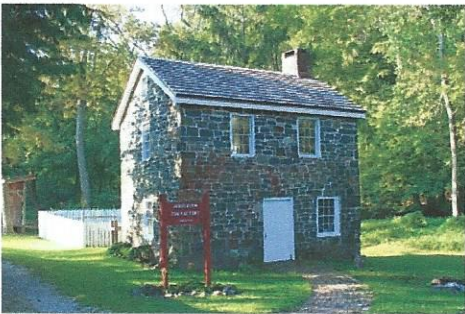
Donations: Financial contributions can be made through membership, business sponsorship, renovation and maintenance fund contributions (cash, check or through PayPal at <https://www.paypal.me/jerusalemill>), or by selecting the Friends of Jerusalem Mill as the charity of choice when you purchase through AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com). We also accept donated yard sale items (see "Yard Sale" article on page 5).

Jerusalem Mill Village Living History Program, 2019

All times listed below are subject to the availability of volunteers.



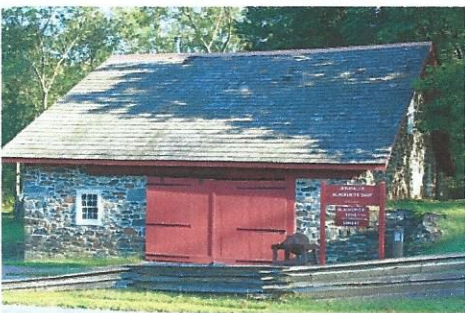
The General Store, Civil War Room and Gift Shop are open on Saturdays and Sundays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Learn about the village's connection to the Civil War, step into a 1930s general store, and browse our gift shop for a variety of souvenirs including items made by our own blacksmiths.



The Miller's House (a.k.a. "the gun shop") is open on Sundays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Watch Living History interpreters demonstrate hearth and open fire cooking, gardening, sewing or other activities of daily life in Colonial times.



The Grist Mill Visitor Center and Museum is open on Saturdays and Mondays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sundays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Learn about the village, explore our artifacts, and see how a 1772 grist mill operated.



The Blacksmith Shop is open on most Saturdays and Sundays, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. See the forge in operation as our blacksmiths demonstrate their trade.



The Springhouse was used to store perishable dairy products and other food items. A spring maintains a year-round temperature of about 56 degrees. The Springhouse is open on most Saturdays and Sundays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Thanks to our Sponsors

We are sincerely grateful to our sponsors for their generosity, enthusiasm, and belief in our mission! We encourage all of our visitors to patronize our sponsors' quality services and products. Please let them know that you saw their ad in this newsletter, and that you visited or contacted them because of their support to Jerusalem Mill. To inquire about sponsoring our many activities and events, [e-mail](mailto:jerusalemmill@yahoo.com) us at jerusalemmill@yahoo.com !

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Our concert series is supported by a grant from the Maryland State Arts Council and the Harford County Cultural Arts Board.



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Special thanks to the Harford County Special Grants, Cultural Grants, and Office of Economic Development for their continued support!

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