

Showcasing the
Nature, Culture & History
of **Freedom's Way**
National Heritage Area

FREEDOM'S WAY
**HIDDEN
TREASURES**

MAY 2019

www.DiscoverHiddenTreasures.org



FREEDOM'S WAY HIDDEN TREASURES

MAY 2019

HIDDEN TREASURES is a month-long celebration of the natural, cultural and historical resources located within the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area. It provides an opportunity to explore "treasures" hidden in plain sight through family-friendly, community-organized programs and activities offered free of charge.

DISCOVER exciting and unexpected stories and places within the Heritage Area's 45 communities.

EXPLORE the region's landscape, public monuments, historic buildings, agricultural properties, cultural and natural features, objects and documents.

LEARN about the visionaries and experimenters who, since before the founding of the nation, lived within the Heritage Area and formulated new ideas about the relationship between nature and society.

CONNECT with the shared stories and places that are part of your own and neighboring communities.

FIND your place in the Heritage Area!

WELCOME TO HIDDEN TREASURES

In 2014 the Freedom's Way Heritage Association was working closely with the National Park Service to complete its management plan. A seminal document guiding the organization's future, the plan required that interpretive themes be developed for the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area that articulate the reason, or reasons, for caring about it as a resource that represents a uniquely American story.

Compelling interpretive themes connect people to the natural, cultural and historical resources of a place. As a framework for sharing nationally important stories, they use those elements to create a compelling narrative through which individual perspectives flourish.

To develop interpretive themes for the 45 communities within the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area, we undertook a process of discovery. This built upon past work and explored new possibilities.

Through this process Hidden Treasures was conceived as an enthusiastic response through which to share the untold stories about the people, objects and places "hiding in plain sight" within the Heritage Area.

Five years later, the annual celebration that is Hidden Treasure has grown from one weekend to two weekends to a full month of free programs offered by our partners. Offered each May, the program continues to surprise (we never know what Hidden Treasure programs will be submitted) and enthrall as we are constantly learning about what makes the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area special.

Join us this May as we celebrate five years. Take an opportunity to explore the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area anew and please let us know what you find and discover.

Patrice Todisco
Executive Director

Thank you to our generous sponsors



Funded, in part, by the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism

FREEDOM'S WAY
National Heritage Area | Nature · Culture · History



Freedom's Way National Heritage Area is managed by Freedom's Way Heritage Association, Inc., a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that works in partnership with the National Park Service to promote the regional identity of 45 communities in Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

2019 FREEDOM'S WAY NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA PARTNERSHIP GRANT PROGRAM RECIPIENTS

On April 2, 2019 Freedom's Way Heritage Association announced the recipients of the 2019 Freedom's Way National Heritage Area Partnership Grant awards. In this first year of the partnership grant program, nine grant recipients will be working to implement a diverse range of projects within three categories: education/interpretation, communication/collaboration and stewardship/planning/resource conservation.

The Freedom's Way National Heritage Area Partnership Grant Program is a matching grant program designed to provide strategic investments in the cultural, natural and historical resources that enhance the sense of place within the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area.

A primary goal of the grant program is to foster and support the stewardship activities of municipalities and organizations that share the mission of the Heritage Area to preserve and enhance the historical, cultural and natural resources of the 45 communities in Massachusetts and New Hampshire within its boundaries.

Freedom's Way congratulates the following 2019 Freedom's Way National Heritage Area Partnership Grant recipients:

Concord, MA: The Great Walden BioBlitz

The Walden Woods Project
Partners: Minute Man National Historical Park;
Concord Land Conservation Trust; MA
DCR—Walden Pond State Reservation

Fitchburg, MA: Public Visibility & Welcome Bilingual Exhibit

Fitchburg Historical Society

Groton, MA: Plants and People: the Botany of Groton

Groton Conservation Trust
Partners: Groton School; Groton History Center;
Groton Garden Club

Littleton, MA: Native American Ceremonial Landscape Preservation at the Sarah Doublet Forest and Nature Preserve

Littleton Conservation Trust
Partner: Littleton Historical Society

Leominster, MA: Sholan Farms Interpretation

Friends of Sholan Farms
Partner: City of Leominster

Medford, MA: The Medford Slavery Memorial

Center for Citizenship and Social Responsibility
Partners: West Medford Community Center;
Medford High School; City of Medford



Medford Mayor Stephanie Burke congratulates students Liam Brady, Jasmine Hagbourne, Jenny Lu and Joseph Schmidt.

Nashua, NH: Nashua International Sculpture Symposium

Nashua International Sculpture Symposium

Sudbury, MA: Sudbury History Center Exhibit for the Semi-Permanent Gallery

Sudbury Historical Society
Partners: Goodnow Library; Town of Sudbury

Westford, MA: "From Academy to Museum" Exhibit

Westford Museum and Historical Society

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Freedom's Way Heritage Association 2018 Annual Meeting

Communication and collaboration are key to the Heritage Area concept. Both were celebrated at the Freedom's Way Heritage Association's 2018 Annual Meeting on October 28, 2018. Held at the historic Groton Inn, the Annual Meeting provided a welcome opportunity for members, friends and municipal representatives to get acquainted. An overview of the Freedom's Way Heritage Association's accomplishments, including the launch of *Heritage Stories*, an exciting multi-year initiative exploring the stories of the region's visionaries and experimenters, encouraged attendees to 'Make a Difference' in support of the Heritage Area's mission.

Retiring board members **Anne DeBoalt** and **Paul Przybyla** were recognized for their service as was **Marge Darby**, one of the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area's co-founders. Winners of the first Freedom's Way Hidden Treasures Photo Contest were acknowledged.

The Freedom's Way 2018 Annual Meeting was preceded by an open house and guided tours of the historic Governor George S. Boutwell House, home to the Groton History Center.



SAVE the DATE

OCTOBER 6, 2019 Annual Meeting

*Top photo: Left to right—Paul Przybyla, Margaret Bagdonas and Anne DeBoalt.
Inset photo: Marge Darby*

FREEDOM'S WAY PROGRAMS

Declaring Independence—Then & Now

To explore new approaches to telling history, *Declaring Independence: Then & Now* tells the story of people within the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area in the spring and summer of 1776. Using their own words, researched by local citizen-historians, the program portrays how they debated and celebrated declaring independence from Great Britain.

Offered in collaboration with the American Antiquarian Society and community partners including historical societies, libraries, and civic organizations, the program receives support from the Massachusetts Society of the Cincinnati. Performed in historic venues, *Declaring Independence: Then & Now* provides an opportunity to consider the promises made in the Declaration of Independence through the lens of both past and present, providing new insights into its meaning today. To learn about upcoming programs, visit FreedomsWay.org.



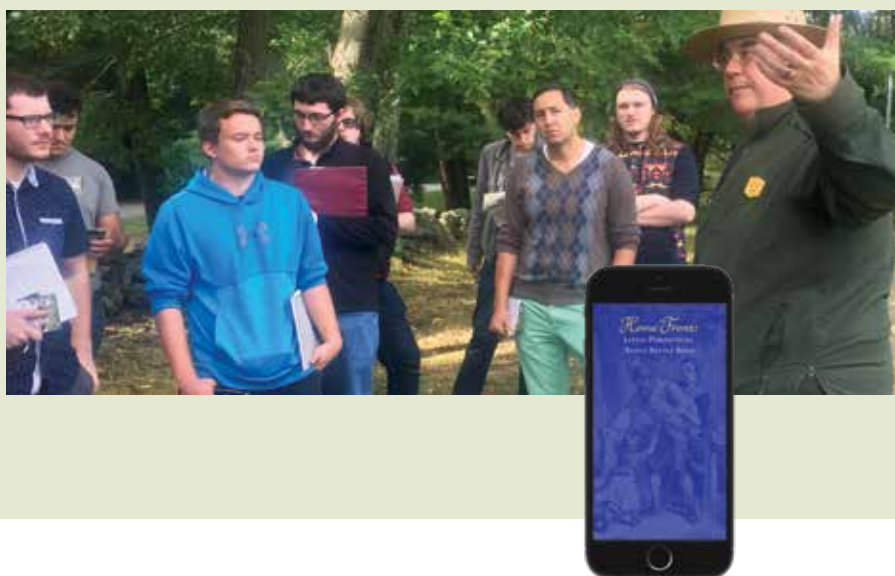
Connecting Communities: Walks & Talks Birding

After a one-year hiatus the popular *Connecting Communities: Along Our Trails* program relaunches this Spring as *Connecting Communities: Walks & Talks*. What was once a series of monthly trail activities coupled with a cultural or historical component, is now an annual series of five guided, educationally-informative walks led by local experts on a new theme each year. 2019 kicks off with *Walks & Talks Birding*. Upcoming programs in April/Woburn, MA; May/Pepperell, MA; June/Maynard, MA; July/Concord, MA and September/New Ipswich, NH. For a listing of the *Walks & Talks Birding* events and to register, visit FreedomsWay.org.



Home Front: Living Perspectives Along Battle Road

Being developed in partnership with students from Fitchburg State University and Minute Man National Historical Park, *Home Front: Living Perspectives Along Battle Road* is a historical Augmented Reality Mobile App project designed to engage new audiences in the story of April 19, 1775. In its early planning stages, the project will utilize interactive media to capture and convey the diverse perspectives of individuals, bringing the past to life through digital technology that recreates the places where the historical events occurred—providing for enhanced experiential interpretation.



HERITAGE STORIES

Stories shape our identity, connecting physical places to people and time. The past informs the present and future, providing a bridge between generations. Sharing stories provides a context for understanding the cultural identity of our communities—and the Heritage Area.

As part of an exciting, new multi-year project of the Freedom's Way Heritage National Heritage Area, a series of Heritage Stories are in development, using state-of-the-art media to share the stories of the visionaries and experimenters that lived within its boundaries. Narrated by staff, enthusiasts or volunteers who work with the Freedom's Way Heritage Association, each story provides insight into the lives of individuals who were born, or lived in, the Heritage Area and were shaped by their time here.

Discover individuals who have made a difference, have been at the forefront of social, intellectual and cultural innovations that relate to new things or ideas that the world, or at least Americans, had never seen before, and have proven enormously influential on American culture making Freedom's Way "A Region of 'Firsts' in American Invention, Thought, and Design."



"IF HISTORY WERE TOLD IN STORIES IT WOULD NEVER BE FORGOTTEN."

—Rudyard Kipling

CURATING THE HERITAGE AREA

Significant artifacts, sculptures, landscapes, monuments, architecture and artistry surround us throughout the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area. Layered with information about the people, places and historical events of the region, these treasures tell stories that immediately connect us to lives once lived and times gone by, providing a tangible portal into the rich history of the region.

Sculptures, and the stories they reveal, have been the initial focus of this initiative and are highlighted in our bi-monthly newsletters and on our website. The *Curating the Heritage Area* initiative is creating an ever-expanding virtual museum, providing insight into the extensive collections of unique artifacts and conserved landscapes found within the boundaries of the Heritage Area, for all to explore.



Sculptures: Two Big Black Hearts, Lincoln, MA; La Dame de Notre Renaissance Française, Nashua, NH; Mourning Victory, The Melvin Memorial, Concord, MA

hidden

adjective

hid·den | \ 'hi-d̩n

1 : being out of sight or not readily apparent : concealed

2 : obscure, unexplained, undisclosed

treasure

noun

treasure | \ 'tre-zhar , 'trā-\

1 : wealth of any kind or in any form : riches

2 : something of great worth or value also : a person esteemed as rare or precious

3 : a collection of precious things

WHY HIDDEN TREASURES?

As a National Heritage Area, a primary goal of Freedom's Way is to ensure that those who live, work in, or visit the Heritage Area have an opportunity to explore, understand and discover the people, places and objects within the stories that are found here.

Many, like those associated with Concord's North Bridge or Thoreau's Walden Pond are well known not only nationally but throughout the world. Others, like the story of Mary Haywood Fairbanks Whitcomb of Bolton, who was famous for her practice in herbal medicines, are more local "hidden" treasures, known only to locals.

Thus, Hidden Treasures, a month-long collaborative celebration of the "Treasures" hidden in plain sight within the 45 communities of the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area.

In just four years, Hidden Treasures has become a signature project of the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area that continues to grow. During that period more than 20,000 people have attended Hidden Treasures programs and our partners have donated more than \$300,000 of volunteer in-kind support. As we celebrate our fifth year, there are 185 partner organizations who have participated in Hidden Treasures offering 500 programs, free of charge.

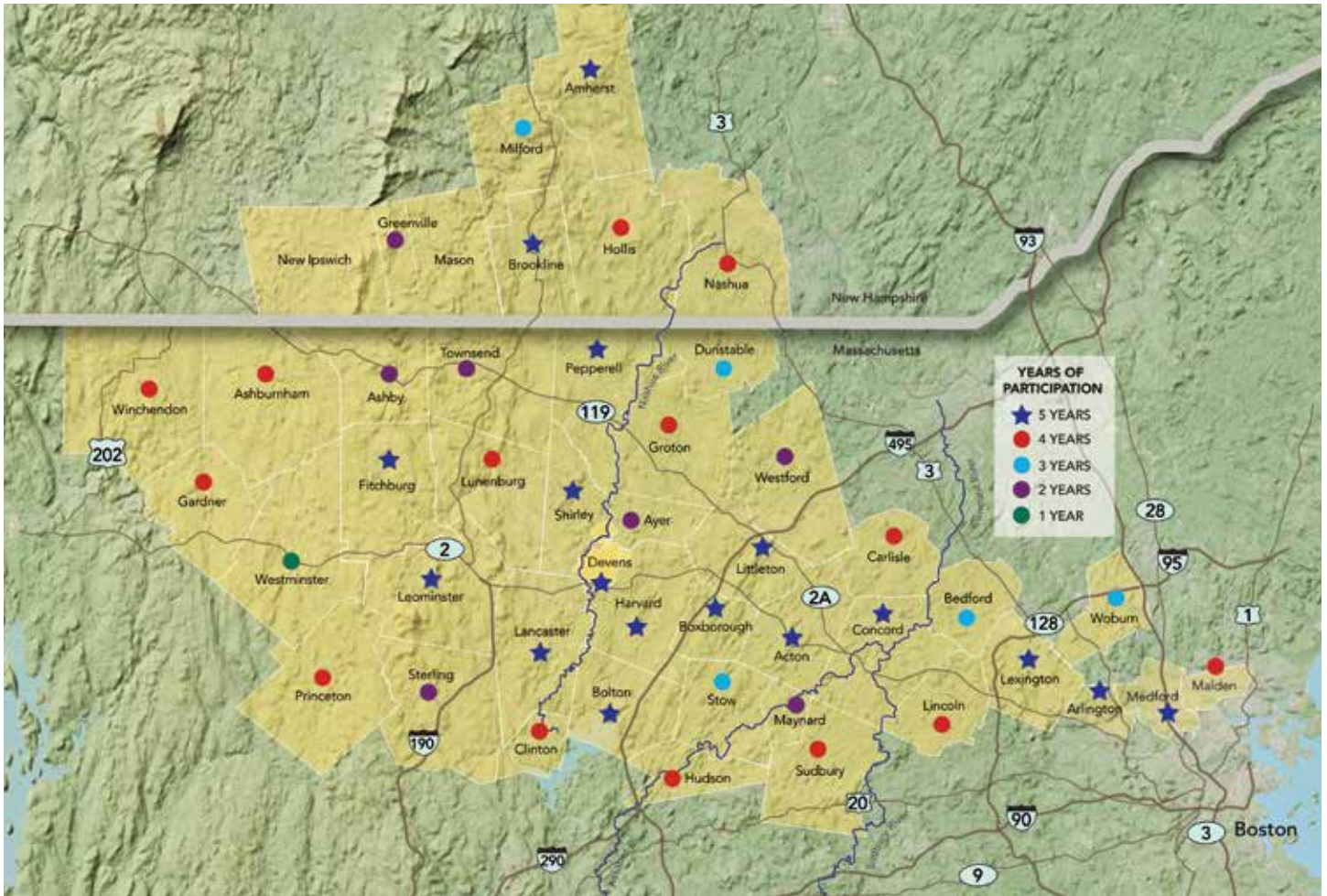
To explore is to discover, to discover is to learn. Memorable experiences awaken curiosity which provides an opportunity for individuals to connect with and find their place in the heritage area's stories, building upon its *genus loci* to empower stewardship and engage new audiences.

Discover, explore, learn, connect and find your place in the Heritage Area.

A HIDDEN TREASURE RETROSPERSPECTIVE...

2015-2019 Partnership List

Acton Conservation Trust, Acton Historical Society, Acton Memorial Library, AMC Boston Conservation Committee, AMC Boston Family Outings, Amherst Conservation Commission, Amherst Heritage Commission, Amherst Town Library, Andres Institute of Art, Arlington Historical Society, Arlington Tourist & Economic Development Committee, Ashburnham Light Infantry, Ashby Free Public Library, Ashby Historical Society, Ayer Historical Commission, Beaver Brook Association, Bedford Free Public Library, Bedford Historical Society, Bettering Boxborough Together, Bigelow Free Public Library, Bike Walk N' Bus Week, Bolton Historical Society, Bolton Public Library, Boulder Art Gallery, Boxborough Conservation Trust, Boxborough Historical Society, Boxborough Land Stewards, Brookline Conservation Commission, Brookline Historical Society, Cary Memorial Library, Chair City Oral History Project, Chamberlin Free Public Library, Citizens for Lexington Conservation, City Arts Nashua, Clark Farm, Clinton Greenway Conservation Trust, Codman Community Farms, Concord Bikes, Concord Free Public Library, Concord Museum, Concord Recreation Department, deCordova Sculpture Park & Museum, Devens Enterprise Commission, Dunstable Rural Land Trust, Facing History & Ourselves, Farrington Nature Linc, First Parish in Bedford, UU, First Parish in Concord, Fitchburg Art Museum, Fitchburg Fire Department, Fitchburg Greenway Committee, Fitchburg Historical Society, Fitchburg Public Library, Fitchburg State University, Food Link, Fort Devens Museum, Frederick Collection of Historical Pianos, Friends of Acton Arboretum, Friends of Acton Libraries, Friends of Oxbow NWR, Friends of Pine Hawk, Friends of Sholan Farms, Friends of the Assabet NWR, Friends of the Job Lane House, Friends of the Lincoln Public Library, Friends of the Middlesex Fells, Friends of the Orchard (Amherst), Gaining Ground, Gardner Community Planning & Development, Great American Downtown, Greenville Historical Society, Groton Commissioners of Trust Fund, Groton Conservation Trust, Groton History Center, Groton Old Buring Ground Commission, Groton Public Library, Groton Trails Committee, Groton Trails Network, Growing Places, Harvard Historical Society, Havard Alpaca Ranch, Historic New England—Codman Estate, Historic New England—Gropius House, Historical Society of Amherst, NH, Hollis Heritage Commission, Hollis Historical Society, Hudson Department of Recreation, Hudson Public Library, Hudson Public Schools, Iron Work Farm, Lancaster Conservation Commission, Lancaster Garden Club, Lancaster Historical Commission, Lancaster Historical Society, Lancaster Recreation, Lancaster Trails & Bike Way Coalition, Lanni Orchards, Lawrence Library, Leominster Historical Society, Leominster Public Library, Levi Heywood Memorial Library, Lexington Arts & Crafts Society, Lexington Arts Council, Lexington Bicycle Advisory Committee, Lexington Conservation Stewards, Lexington Field & Garden Club, Lexington Greenways Corridor Committee, Lexington Historical Society, Lexington Safe Routes to School, Lincoln Public Library, Littleton Community Farm, Littleton Conservation Trust, Littleton Historical Society, Lunenburg Public Library, MA DCR—Great Brook Farm, MA DCR—Middlesex Fells, MA DCR—Wachusett Reservoir, MA DCR—Walden Pond, Malden Historical Society, Mass Audubon—Dumlin Farm, Mass Audubon—Wachusett Meadow, Maynard Historical Commission, Medford Historical Society & Museum, Milford Historical Society, Millers River Watershed Council, Minute Man National Historical Park, Munroe Center for the Arts, Museum of Russian Icons, Nashoba Conservation Trust, Nashoba Valley Weavers' Guild, Nashua River Watershed Association, New England Forestry Foundation, NH Humanities, North County Land Trust, Old Frog Pond Farm & Studio, Pepperell Conservation Commission, Pepperell Historical Commission, Pepperell Historical Society, Piscataquog Land Conservancy, Princeton Historical Commission, Princeton Historical Society, Rauscher Farm, Regiment of Townsend Minutemen, Royall House & Slave Quarters, Rumford House, Shirley Historical Society Museum, Shirley Meeting House, Smith's Country Cheese, Sterling Historical Society, Stillman Dairy Farm, Stoneham Historical Commission, Stoneham Historical Society, Stow Conservation Commission, Stow Conservation Trust, Stow Historical Commission, Stow Historical Society, Sudbury Valley Trustees, Symphony NH, Thayer Memorial Library, The Bulfinch Fund, The Discovery Museums, The Drinking Gourd Project, The Food Project, The Old Schwamb Mill, The Robbins House, The Trustees—Farandnear, The Trustees—Fruitlands, The Trustees—The Old Manse, Thoreau Farm, Town of Bolton, Townsend Historical Society, Townsend Parks & Recreation, Tyngsborough-Dunstable Historical Society, Union Coffee Company, United Native American Cultural Center, US Fish & Wildlife Service, Wadleigh Memorial Library, Walden Woods Project, Westford Historical Society & Museum, Westminster Farmers' Market, William Diamond Junior Fire & Drum Corps, Winchendon Historical Society & Museum, Woburn Historical Commission, Woburn Residents Environmental Network

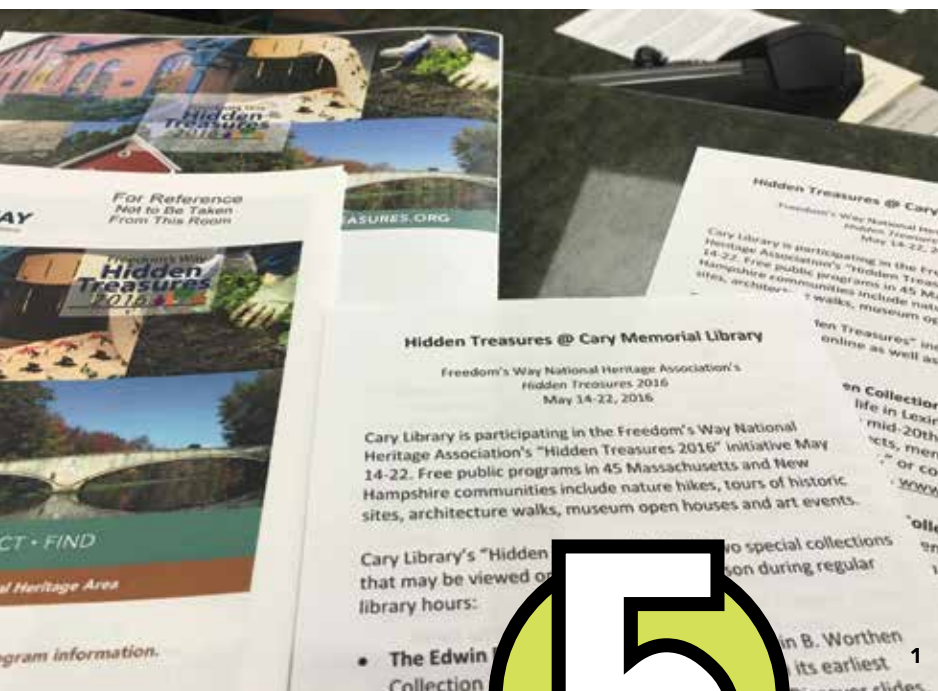


OUR ALL STAR 5 YEAR PARTNERS



500 EVENTS/PROGRAMS, \$300,000 VOLUNTEER IN-KIND RAISED IN FOUR YEARS, 20,000 ATTENDEES

HIDDEN TREASURES OVER THE YEARS



Hidden Treasures photos over the years...

1. Lexington, Cary Memorial Library, 2016
2. Acton, Discovery Museum, 2016, 2017
3. Concord, Robbins House, 2015-2019
4. Woburn, Horn Pond, 2015, 2016, 2018
5. Stow, One-Room Schoolhouse, 2015, 2016

Nature, Culture and History in Freedom's Way



1. Lincoln, Gropius House, 2017, 2018
2. Littleton, Sarah Doublet Forest, 2015
3. Harvard, Harvard Alpaca Ranch, 2017, 2018
4. Concord, Thoreau Farm, 2016-2018
5. Malden, Salem Street Cemetery, 2015, 2018
6. Concord, Brister's Hill, 2016, 2017

HIDDEN TREASURES 2019

RECURRING PROGRAMS

Historical Piano Study Center Tours

Old Stevens Library Building
30 Main Street, Ashburnham, MA
Tuesdays & Saturdays, except May 4th
Reservations required, call (978) 827-6232

Tour the Frederick Historic Piano Collection which introduces over a dozen European grand pianos that have inspired the great composers from Haydn and Beethoven, Schubert, Chopin and Brahms, through the French Impressionists. All original instruments, restored to beautiful playing condition. Visitors may play the pianos, and the owners will demonstrate them for you.

Historical Piano Concerts, Inc.

Regional Artists Exhibit

Ashby Free Public Library
812 Main Street, Ashby, MA
Tuesdays 10:00 AM-5:00 PM
Wednesdays & Thursdays 1:00 PM-8:00 PM
Saturdays 9:30 AM-1:30 PM

Visit the library and view this exhibit, open from April 25 through June 27, which showcases a range of art and artists from the region. The Chair City Oral History Book Series, along with carved woodblocks made at the Chair City Community Workshop in Gardner, MA will be featured.

Ashby Free Public Library
Chair City Community Workshop

Self-Guided Sculpture Park Walk

Andres Institute of Art
98 Route 13, Brookline, NH
Daily, dawn to dusk

Explore one of the largest sculpture parks in New England, featuring more than 70 original works by artists from around the world. Pick up a map at the kiosk in the parking area at the foot of the mountain, or visit AndresInstitute.org to print one and bring it with you. Dogs on leash are welcomed!
Andres Institute of Art

Smart Barn Tours

Great Brook Farm State Park
165 North Road, Carlisle, MA
Saturdays, Sundays & Memorial Day
1:00 PM-2:00 PM

Take a trip to Great Brook Farm, home of the first robotic milking machine in Massachusetts! Visit the dairy barn, get up-close with the cows and learn how today's technology makes the barn 'smart.' A \$3 per vehicle parking fee applies.
Massachusetts State Parks

Drop in Tours & Volunteer Work Days

Chair City Community Workshop
306 Central Street, Gardner, MA
Visit TraciePouliot.com for open hours.

Learn how books are made the old-fashioned way using a letterpress, woodcut print illustrations, and hand-binding techniques. Help make books that are part of the Chair City Oral History Book Series, which explores former furniture workers' stories about how they got their first job in the industry, what daily life was like, and what it was like as the industry vanished from Gardner.
Chair City Community Workshop

Self-Guided Glacial Features Walk

Gray Reservation
Hudson & Old Lancaster Roads, Sudbury, MA
Daily, dawn to dusk

SVT's Gray Reservation and the surrounding lands offer excellent examples of how we can view evidence left behind by the glacier covering our region around 10,000 years ago. Enjoy a self-guided audio tour (60 minutes/2 miles) that explains highlights, such as kettle holes, eskers and erratics at designated spots along the trail. Learn more at SVTweb.org/GlacialFeaturesWalk.
Sudbury Valley Trustees

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

May Day Monthly Highlight Walk

Zins Conservation Area
Rhodes Road, Princeton, MA
4:00 PM-5:30 PM

May Day is a beautiful time to set aside your worries and enjoy soaking in the sunlight! Join NCLT at Zins Conservation Area to hike the cart path to a wide trail that leads to the stunning Bickford Pond Reservoir.
North County Land Trust

Discovering New England Stone Walls

The Groton Inn
128 Main Street, Groton, MA
6:30 PM

Kevin Gardner, featured speaker of GCT's Annual Meeting, will explain how and why New England came to acquire its thousands of miles of stone walls, the ways in which they and other dry stone structures were built, how their styles emerged and changed over time, and their significance to the famous New England landscape, all while building miniature stone walls on a table top!
Groton Conservation Trust

Exile & Community: The Life of Carola Domar

Concord Museum
53 Cambridge Turnpike, Concord, MA
7:00 PM-8:30 PM

Reservations requested, visit ConcordMuseum.org.

Carola Domar escaped Nazi Germany in her teens and came to the States, where she married and built a new life in Concord, finding true belonging within the unique neighborhood of Conantum. This documentary film screening and discussion are presented in commemoration of Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom Hashoah).
Concord Museum
Facing History and Ourselves

THURSDAY, MAY 2

Shop. Sip. Sculpt.

Fitchburg Art Museum
185 Elm Street, Fitchburg, MA
3:00 PM-7:00 PM

It's FREE First Thursday! Help make a collaborative Sky Art-inspired hanging sculpture. Take a special tour of the current exhibition *Fire and Light: Otto Piene in Groton, 1983-2014* at 3:30 PM. Shop the Fitchburg Farmers Market 3-6 PM. Sip on your beverage of choice from the cash bar 5-6:30 PM.
Fitchburg Art Museum

SATURDAY, MAY 4

MakerDay: Star Wars Day

Bolton Public Library
738 Main Street, Bolton, MA
10:00 AM-1:00 PM

Enjoy fun and instructive projects designed to bring out the do-it-yourself spirit and willingness to learn in each of us. Swing into a MakerDay and get started on hacking and remixing the world around you. Designed to be enjoyed by all ages and levels of skill, bring your friends, family, and neighbors!
Bolton Public Library

Heywood Wakefield Walking Tour

Levi Heywood Memorial Library
55 West Lynde Street, Gardner, MA
10:30 AM

Jay Janell, local history librarian, will lead a walking tour of the former Heywood Wakefield factory. Learn about 150 years of furniture manufacturing, from raw lumber to finished products while walking among the former mill buildings. A selection of maps, photographs, and artifacts will be on display before and after the tour.
Levi Heywood Memorial Library

Items of the Past: Behind-the-Scenes Preservation

Job Brooks House - Minute Man NHP
1265 Lexington Road, Concord, MA
1:00 PM-4:00 PM

Stop by the park's historic Job Brooks House and learn about the behind-the-scenes preservation of its history! See archeological artifacts from the past that are not usually on display. Talk to the park's curatorial staff about their work, and learn about the items, their history, and how they are conserved.
Minute Man National Historical Park

Nu Muse Festival

Historic Downtown Nashua, NH
1:00 PM-7:00 PM

Main Street in Downtown Nashua, NH comes alive with music and arts each spring, at the annual Nu Muse Festival! This event features an eclectic array of local and national performers, artists, crafters, demonstrations and more. Visit DowntownNashua.org for the lineup.
Great American Downtown

Restoring Historic Windows

The Old Schwamb Mill
17 Mill Lane, Arlington, MA
2:00 PM-3:00 PM, reception to follow

Steven O'Shaunessy, Director of the Preservation Carpentry Program at Boston's North Bennet Street School will talk about the restoration process for preserving and maintaining historic windows. The ongoing restoration of the Old Schwamb Mill's eighty windows, made possible with a grant from Arlington's Community Preservation Act Committee, will be highlighted.
Old Schwamb Mill Museum

SUNDAY, MAY 5

43rd New Hampshire Power of the Past Steam & Gas Engine Meet

Little Red Schoolhouse
64 Main Street, Dunstable, MA
8:30 AM to early afternoon

Observe and listen to the chug of an old time assortment of restored antique steam engines! In their day, these engines powered the world. Also featured are displays of antique tractors and farming implements. This is a family-friendly event. Come early for freshly grilled hotdogs and hamburgers with all the fixings.
Tyngsborough-Dunstable Historical Society

Spring Bird Migration Walk

Blackman Field & Woods
23 Indian Hill Road, Groton, MA
8:30 AM-11:30 AM

Spring is here and the birds are back! Join birding enthusiasts Russ and Wanfang Murray for a walk in Blackman Field and Woods and Rocky Hill Wildlife Sanctuary to learn more about the spring bird migration.
Groton Trails Network

The First Annual Groton Traverse

Groton, MA
10:00 AM

Registration required, visit GCTrust.org.

Join GCT on the first of many annual trots across Groton! The eight to ten mile route will start in the northeast of town and ramble across the many publicly-accessible fields, woods, and hills to arrive in the village for a light picnic and libations.
Groton Conservation Trust

Cheese Fest 2019

Smith's Country Cheese
20 Otter River Road, Winchendon, MA
10:00 AM-5:00 PM

Registration required for races, visit SmithsCountryCheese.com.

Visit the farm for a fun-filled family day, including the second 5K Cheese Chase Charity Fun Run, first-ever Kids' ¼ Mile Holstein Hustle, and the annual Cheese Fest! The festival will include live local music, food trucks featuring Smith's Country Cheeses, beer, wine, and more!
Smith's Country Cheese

First Sunday at MoRI

Museum of Russian Icons
203 Union Street, Clinton, MA
11:00 AM-5:00 PM

Enjoy free admission all day, courtesy of the Nypro Foundation. Current exhibitions include: *Konstantin Simun: The Sacred in the Profane*; *Jacques' Menagerie: Hnizdovsky Prints from the Christina and George Gamota Collection*; and *Zhostovo: A Russian-American Odyssey*.
Museum of Russian Icons

Historic Rail Marker Walk

Wachusett Reservoir, North Dike
Rte 110 & S. Meadow Road, Clinton, MA
1:00 PM-3:30 PM

Take a 2.4-mile walk along the North Dike of Wachusett Reservoir to see and learn about the historic Mass Central Rail Line that once passed through Clinton. Highlights include the historic mile marker on the former rail bed: 68 to Northampton/36 to Boston, and the Wachusett Dam. Wachusett Reservoir is home to bald eagles, loons and other wildlife.
Clinton Greenway Conservation Trust

Russkie Posidelki

Museum of Russian Icons
203 Union Street, Clinton, MA
2:00 PM-4:00 PM

Join MoRI for the last posidelki of the season! Posidelki is the rural Slavic custom of engaging conversation and Russian tea and treats. This month features a presentation by the widow of Russian artist Yakov Vinkovetsky and includes a 25-minute film about his work. The presentation is followed by a discussion of the concepts he incorporated into his paintings.
Museum of Russian Icons



Ashby, Ashby Historical Society, 2018-2019

May Day Celebration Open House

Munroe Center for the Arts
1403 Massachusetts Avenue, Lexington, MA
2:00 PM-4:00 PM

The Munroe Center for the Arts will be celebrating May Day by opening its doors to the community to experience the magic that happens inside its walls. The music, drama, dance, ceramics, and visual art studios will be open and filled with demonstrations, sample classes and projects during the day.
Munroe Center for the Arts

MONDAY, MAY 6

Hikes Through History with Alison O'Leary

Hudson Public Library
3 Washington Street, Hudson, MA
6:30 PM-7:30 PM

Have you ever wandered through the woods and wondered who had been there before you? In Massachusetts, many parks and trails have been carved out of historical sites. Using maps and historic photos, Alison O'Leary, an award-winning journalist and co-author of the Appalachian Mountain Club's new guide *Best Day Hikes Near Boston*, will share her favorites with you.
Hudson Public Library

Black Abolitionists & the Politics of Violence

Concord Museum
Rasmussen Education Center
53 Cambridge Turnpike, Concord, MA
7:00 PM-8:00 PM

Registration requested, visit ConcordMuseum.org.

Wellesley College Professor Kellie Carter-Jackson, author of *Force & Freedom: Black Abolitionists and the Politics of Violence*, will discuss the tactical use of violence among antebellum black activists. Through tactical violence, argues Carter Jackson, black abolitionist leaders accomplished what white nonviolent abolitionists could not: creating the conditions that necessitated the Civil War.
Concord Museum



Ashburnham, Frog Conservation, 2016-2019

Armchair Travel Series: National Parks of the East Coast

Amherst Town Library
14 Main Street, Amherst, NH
7:00 PM-8:30 PM

Not all visits to National Parks require New Englanders to make extensive travel plans – tour guide Steve Farrar will take you to eight East Coast parks stretching from Maine to the Virgin Islands. Whether arranging for a day trip or planning a long weekend, you will learn how exciting and accessible these parks are—from the most-visited to some relatively unknown destinations.

Amherst Town Library

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

Drop in Tours & Volunteer Work Days

Chair City Community Workshop
306 Central Street, Gardner, MA
4:00 PM-7:00PM

Visit TraciePouliot.com for additional hours.

Learn how books are made the old-fashioned way using a letterpress, woodcut print illustrations, and hand-binding techniques. Help make books that are part of the Chair City Oral History Book Series, which explores former furniture workers' stories about how they got their first job in the industry, what daily life was like, and what it was like as the industry vanished from Gardner.

Chair City Community Workshop

Frog Conservation in the Nashua River Watershed

Stevens Memorial Library
20 Memorial Drive, Ashburnham, MA
7:00 PM-8:30 PM

NRWA is celebrating its 50th Anniversary with free public programs in each of its 32 communities! Chris Picone, Fitchburg State University Professor of Biology, speaks on the native frog species of Massachusetts. Visit NashuaRiverWatershed.org for a complete calendar of programs offered in 2019. Nashua River Watershed Association

THURSDAY, MAY 9

Drop in Tours & Volunteer Work Days

Chair City Community Workshop
306 Central Street, Gardner, MA
10:00 AM-1:00PM & 4:00 PM-7:00PM
Visit TraciePouliot.com for additional hours.

Learn how books are made the old-fashioned way using a letterpress, woodcut print illustrations, and hand-binding techniques. Help make books that are part of the Chair City Oral History Book Series, which explores former furniture workers' stories about how they got their first job in the industry, what daily life was like, and what it was like as the industry vanished from Gardner.

Protecting & Preserving Your Town's Indigenous Ceremonial Stone Landscape

Discovery Museum
177 Main Street, Acton, MA
6:30 PM-9:00 PM

The Indigenous Ceremonial Stone Landscape is of cultural significance to the Tribes of the Northeast. Preservationist Doug Harris will explain why these ceremonial features should be preserved, how to protect them in your area, and provide an analysis of important local sites.

Littleton Conservation Trust
Acton Conservation Trust
Boxborough Conservation Trust
Friends of Pine Hawk

Unheard Voices: Slavery in Colonial Westford

Westford Historical Society & Museum
2 Boston Road, Westford, MA
7:00 PM-9:00 PM

Award-winning living history performer Gwendolyn Quezaire-Presutti will perform the one-person play she wrote about Peggy, a slave owned by the family of Joseph Hildreth, Jr. of colonial Westford. Her work is based on Westford archival materials and gives voice to real-life accounts, struggles, self-determination, and triumphs of women.

Westford Historical Society and Museum

FRIDAY, MAY 10

Reaching into the Beyond: Victorian Spiritualism in Greater Boston

Townsend Congregational Church
3 Brookline Street, Townsend, MA
7:00 PM

Spiritualism was a joyful, middle-class movement of the 19th century that brought great peace to many who sought to connect with deceased loved ones; however, there were charlatans looking to make money off of these truth seekers. Join historian and author Dee Morris as THS kicks off its annual season of programs.

Townsend Historical Society

SATURDAY, MAY 11

Historic Neighborhood Walking Tour

Corner of High & Mystic Streets
Medford, MA
10:00 AM

Local historian Dee Morris will lead a stroll through the Hallowells' Neighborhood on Lower Mystic Street which will visit the domestic world of these families. Their stories reveal an array of independent thinkers who loved their children, neighbors and pets. Nicknamed "the Colony," these households infused creative energy into the Medford community.

Medford Historical Society & Museum

Spring Family Ponding Adventure

Peabody Conservation Area
200 Holman Street, Lunenburg, MA
10:00 AM-12:00 PM, Rain Date: May 18th

Kids of all ages are welcome to join in searching the forest for ponds or streams that provide the homes for the very important wetland creatures (such as tadpoles, frogs, dragonflies) and learn how to care for them.

North County Land Trust

MakerDay: Clay Hearts

Bolton Public Library
738 Main Street, Bolton, MA
10:00 AM-1:00 PM

Enjoy fun and instructive projects designed to bring out the do-it-yourself spirit and willingness to learn in each of us. Swing into a MakerDay and get started on hacking and remixing the world around you. Designed to be enjoyed by all ages and levels of skill, bring your friends, family, and neighbors!

Bolton Public Library

Mother's Day Tours

The Cyrus E. Dallin Art Museum
611 Mass. Ave., Arlington, MA
12:00 PM-4:00 PM

Enjoy a tour of the works of Cyrus Dallin, including a bust of the Julia Ward Howe—the Mother of Mother's Day! In 1870 Julia Ward Howe wrote the "Mother's Day Proclamation," a call to action that asked mothers to unite in promoting world peace. In 1873 Howe campaigned for a "Mother's Peace Day" which lead to the Mother's Day we celebrate every second Sunday in May.
The Cyrus E. Dallin Art Museum

Our Founding Mothers Old Burying Ground Tour

Old Burying Ground
Hollis Street, Groton, MA
2:00 PM-3:15 PM

View the monuments of the women who were active participants in the founding of Groton through its colonial and revolutionary eras, a time when death and grief were a daily occurrence. Bear witness to the silent stories of these courageous mothers and daughters and learn about colonial burial practices, early stone carvers, headstone motifs, and symbolism.
Groton's Old Burying Ground Commission

History Museum Tours

The Chapel & Wigwam Museums
5 & 17 Middle Street, Amherst, NH
1:00 PM-4:00 PM

Discover Amherst's two local history museums. Located close together, both are chock-full of interesting artifacts, many from Amherst's heyday as the shire town of Hillsborough County. Stop in for a guided tour of some of these fascinating items.
Historical Society of Amherst, NH

How Deep Is a Mother's Love?

The Carey House Museum
6 Union Street, Milford, NH
2:00 PM-4:00 PM

Denise Wright Fox, granddaughter of Winifred Wright, will attempt to answer that question. Winifred could be called the Mother of Milford because of her tireless involvement with the town and her effort to keep in touch with 550 soldiers during WWII. Denise will share four years of letters that her father wrote to his mother while he was serving in the war.
Milford Historical Society

Bike Walk 'n Bus Week

Lexington, MA
May 11th–19th

A week of free events including, historic walks, guided bike rides, free Lexpress rides, and more! The event celebrates and promotes healthy, sustainable, and safe

transportation options available in town. Visit LexingtonMA.gov for complete details.
Town of Lexington
Bicycle Advisory Committee
Greenways Corridor Committee
Safe Routes to School Committee

NARA Boston—Who, Why, When, & How with Seema Kenney

Hudson Public Library
3 Washington Street, Hudson, MA
2:00 PM

The National Archives at Boston, located on Trapelo Road in Waltham, MA, has an extensive collection of federal documents. Join Seema in taking a look at the Why, When, and How of researching at this facility and some of the wonderful details you might uncover as part of your ancestors' lives.
Hudson Public Library

Emerson on Love & Friendship

First Parish Church in Concord
20 Lexington Road, Concord, MA
3:00 PM-4:30 PM
To pre-register, email shelley_hawks@msn.com

Visit Ralph Waldo Emerson's home church to discuss love and friendship as sparked by Emerson's essays "Love" and "Friendship." Conversation will be led by author Reverend Jim Sherblom.
First Parish in Concord

Should Children Really Be Seen & Not Heard?

Shirley Historical Society Museum
182 Center Road, Shirley, MA
7:00 PM-8:30 PM

How did philosophies on raising children change over the 20th century? How can this be seen in their clothes, books, and games? Child-rearing techniques from the early to the late-20th century will be discussed along with a chronological display of antique, vintage, and modern children's clothes, books, and games.
Shirley Historical Society Museum

SUNDAY, MAY 12

Mother's Day Tours

The Cyrus E. Dallin Art Museum
611 Mass. Ave., Arlington, MA
12:00 PM-4:00 PM

Enjoy a tour of the works of Cyrus Dallin, including a bust of the Julia Ward Howe—the Mother of Mother's Day! In 1870 Julia Ward Howe wrote the "Mother's Day Proclamation," a call to action that asked mothers to unite in promoting world peace. In 1873 Howe campaigned for a "Mother's Peace Day" which lead to the Mother's Day we celebrate every second Sunday in May.
The Cyrus E. Dallin Art Museum

Walk the Colonial Flowers Path

Munroe Tavern
1332 Massachusetts Avenue, Lexington, MA
12:00 PM-4:00 PM

Visit the garden at the historic Munroe Tavern where only 18th century antique flowers grow, in a living museum. These are the flowers Boston gardeners grew in their flower gardens in the mid-to-late-1700s, as shown in the research by members of the Lexington Field & Garden Club who created and maintain the garden.
Lexington Field & Garden Club
Lexington Historical Society

How Deep Is a Mother's Love?

The Carey House Museum
6 Union Street, Milford, NH
2:00 PM-4:00 PM

Denise Wright Fox, granddaughter of Winifred Wright, will attempt to answer that question. Winifred could be called the Mother of Milford because of her tireless involvement with the town and her effort to keep in touch with 550 soldiers during WWII. Denise will share four years of letters that her father wrote to his mother while he was serving in the war.
Milford Historical Society

Community Partnership Concert: Celebrating Mother's Day

St. Mary & Archangel Michael Coptic Orthodox Church
39 Chandler Street, Nashua, NH
3:00 PM

Join Symphony NH musicians for their Community Partnership Concert, celebrating Mother's Day with a free concert of music from Nashua's diverse community. The performance includes music from Greece, Russia, Egypt, Armenia, and more.
Symphony NH

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15

Edible Wild Plants & Mushrooms with Russ Cohen

1023 Massachusetts Avenue, Lunenburg, MA
6:00 PM-8:00 PM

Join Russ Cohen, wild edibles enthusiast and author of *Wild Plants I Have Known...and Eaten*, to learn how to identify, responsibly forage, and prepare over three dozen of the tastiest species of plants and mushrooms the region has to offer. Russ will accompany his talk with handouts and several foraged goodies made with wild ingredients.
Lunenburg Public Library



Fitchburg, Rollstone Boulder, 2016-2019

The Garden Tourist with Jana Milbocker

Fitchburg Public Library
610 Main Street, Fitchburg, MA
6:30 PM-7:30 PM

Do you enjoy beautiful gardens? In this armchair tour of some of the best public gardens and hidden gems of the Northeast you will learn about each garden's history, horticultural highlights and special events that will inspire you to plan your own visit! The lecture is followed by a book signing by Jana Milbocker, author of *The Garden Tourist*.
Fitchburg Public Library

Frederick Douglass: An Evening with David Blight

The Fenn School, Ward Hall
516 Monument Street, Concord, MA
7:00 PM-8:00 PM

Registration requested, visit ConcordMuseum.org.

Join the Concord Museum in welcoming renowned historians David Blight and John Stauffer as they discuss one of the most important people of the 19th century: Frederick Douglass, the escaped slave who became the greatest orator of his day and one of the leading abolitionists and writers of the era.
Concord Museum

THURSDAY, MAY 16

All About the Grange

Grange Hall—Town Hall, Lower Level
511 Main Street, Dunstable, MA
6:30 PM

Speaker Calvin Chase will share all about the history and events the Grange offers, including one of Dunstable's oldest traditions, the popular annual Grange Fair! Did you know that anyone living in Massachusetts can enter their vegetables, flowers, photos, or craft items in the fair?
Tyngsborough-Dunstable Historical Society

Preservation & Accessibility in Partnership

Shirley Meeting House
41 Brown Road, Shirley, MA
6:30 PM-8:00 PM

Robert Adam, Preservation Consultant, will illustrate how the Meeting House has evolved from its 1773 roots to its recent adaptation to accessibility needs. Maintaining preservation standards while integrating ADA compliant building codes will be demonstrated. 'Hidden Treasure' artifacts found during this year's renovations will be on display.
Shirley Meeting House

Liberty Is Our Motto!: Songs & Stories of the Hutchinson Family Singers

The Lawrence Barn
28 Depot Road, Hollis, NH
8:00 PM

Originally from Milford, NH, the Hutchinson Family Singers were among America's most notable musical entertainers of the mid-19th century. They achieved international recognition with songs advancing social reform and political causes. Steve Blunt, award-winning musician and storyteller, portrays John Hutchinson as he sings and tells about his famous musical family "straight from the horse's mouth."
Hollis Historical Society
New Hampshire Humanities

FRIDAY, MAY 17

Commemorating the Influenza Pandemic of 1918

Rogers Field Memorial Park
37 Buena Vista Street, Devens, MA
10:00 AM-11:30 AM

During the fall of 1918, almost half of the approximately 35,000 troops at Camp Devens were stricken with Influenza, resulting in over 800 deaths. A memorial plaque will be unveiled during this ceremony in remembrance of the stalwart men and women who died and to those who cared for them during that time.
Fort Devens Museum
Devens Enterprise Commission

SATURDAY, MAY 18

Breakfast with the Birds 2019

Heald Street Orchard Conservation Area
88 Heald Street, Pepperell, MA
6:30 AM-10:30 AM

Join the Conservation Commission and Nashoba Conservation Trust for coffee and light refreshments before strolling through the Orchard to enjoy migrating warblers and other birds. The walk is led by a local bird expert who will identify the various bird species as we walk.
Pepperell Conservation Commission
Nashoba Conservation Trust

Concord Bike Fest

Concord, MA
Events take place throughout the day

Concord Bike Fest is a community celebration of bicycling. Whether you hammer hard for fitness, ramble around for recreation, chug along for commuting, or pedal for pure pleasure, Bike Fest wants you to come along for the ride. Visit ConcordBikes.org for complete details.

Concord Recreation Department

Spring Opening—Ashby Historical Society

Old Engine House
846 Main Street, Ashby, MA
10:00 AM-1:00 PM

Visit the Old Engine House as AHS opens its doors for the season. View current exhibits and artifacts and meet those working to preserve Ashby's history.
Ashby Historical Society

Rollstone Hill Historic "Rock Walk"

Boulder Art Gallery
960 Main Street, Fitchburg, MA
10:00 AM-1:00 PM

Enjoy a two-mile, guided and historically narrated tour of the 'Rock Walk' trail from the Rollstone Boulder in Fitchburg's Upper Common to the original site of the Boulder on the summit of Rollstone Hill. Scenic, easy walk for all ages.
Fitchburg Greenway Committee
Fitchburg Historical Society
Fitchburg Art Museum
Fitchburg State University
Boulder Art Gallery

Take the Bus, Tour the Town

Reuben Hoar Library
41 Shattuck Street, Littleton, MA
10:00 AM-3:00 PM

Reservations required, call 978-486-8202.

Led by a guide using an audio system to point out interesting locations and answer questions, this bus tour is a convenient way to visit the many sections of town! Learn about some of the historic buildings and homes in town, hear stories of what happened there in the past, and see where changes are taking place today.
Littleton Historical Society

Home Sweet Home: Makers, Masters & Craftsmen

The Old Manse
269 Monument Street, Concord, MA
10:00 AM-4:00 PM

From grand mansions to humble colonials to mid-century modern masterpieces, the historic houses of the Trustees all have a story to tell. Explore how The Old Manse was a reflection of the taste and time of the owner, including their choice of architect, location, style, and building materials.
The Trustees | The Old Manse

Armed Forces Day Open House

Fort Devens Museum
94 Jackson Road #305, Devens, MA
10:00 AM-4:00 PM

Come by for a day of history and memories as we honor the United States Armed Forces. Learn the stories of the men and women who lived, trained, and worked at Camp Devens and Fort Devens. View new exhibits, listen to guest speakers, and enter raffles.
Fort Devens Museum

Home Sweet Home & World Fiddle Day

Fruitlands Museum
102 Prospect Hill Road, Harvard, MA
10:00 AM-4:00 PM

Learn the history of Fruitlands, take in the landscape, and explore American Art. From 12-4 PM acoustic musicians of all levels are invited to a variety of guided jams in celebration of World Fiddle Day, a day honoring the folk tradition of playing fiddle in various styles that has been passed down from generation to generation, and primarily learned by ear.
The Trustees / Fruitlands Museum

18th Annual Apple Blossom Festival & Craft Fair

Sholan Farms
1125 Pleasant Street, Leominster, MA
10:00 AM-4:00 PM, Rain Date: May 19th

Celebrate the advent of spring as evidenced by the blooming of the apple trees in Johnny Appleseed Country! Enjoy live entertainment, food trucks, wagon rides, and so much more at this historic community-owned orchard.
Friends of Sholan Farms

Guided House Tour

Boutwell House
172 Main Street, Groton, MA
11:00 AM-12:00 PM

Tour the newly renovated and decorated 1851 Boutwell House including the "Dressing Room" which has just recently been opened to the public for the first time ever!
Groton History Center

Walk & Talk with "Henry David Thoreau"

Sargent Memorial Library
427 Massachusetts Avenue
Boxborough, MA
11:00 AM-1:30 PM, Rain Date: May 19th

Boxborough is celebrating Henry David Thoreau's walk through town in 1860! Thoreau (portrayed by Richard Smith) will walk the trail and talk with participants. This event is a kick-off to a 12 trail Passports through Boxborough challenge.
Boxborough Historical Society
Bettering Boxborough Together
Boxborough Land Stewards

The History & Environmental Restoration of Bartlett Pond Conservation Area

Bartlett Pond Conservation Area
Main Street, Lancaster, MA
1:00 PM-2:30 PM

In 2014, Bartlett Pond and the surrounding area were transformed by the removal of the Bartlett Pond Dam. Learn why this project was undertaken, how humans impacted the environment from the time of Lancaster's settlement, and how the landscape changed with restoration efforts. Examine plant and animal life in and around Wekepeke Brook.
Lancaster Recreation

SUNDAY, MAY 19

Various Bird Migrations

Rome Conservation Area
69 Brookside Drive, Gardner, MA
7:00 AM-8:30 AM

Join NCLT as bird enthusiast Clay Hobart teaches about some characteristic birds, as well as how forest health and changing habitats affect bird populations.
North County Land Trust

The 90mm/Nike Meadow Historical & Ecological Hike

Middlesex Fells, Lawrence Woods
Gate 10, South Border Road, Medford, MA
2:00 PM-4:00 PM

Discover the unique history, archaeology, and biodiversity of a little-known gem in the Fells. Guided walks will tell the story of the '90mm' meadow habitat: the early history, establishment of a military installation on the site in the 1950's, the decades-long work to transform the area back into an important bird and pollinator habitat, and the challenges still ahead.
Friends of the Middlesex Fells Reservation
Massachusetts Dept. of Conservation & Recreation (DCR)

Bolton's Road to Revolution

Sawyer House Barn
676 Main Street, Bolton, MA
3:00 PM-4:30 PM

Enjoy a dramatic performance chronicling the events unfolding in the Town of Bolton long before the first shot was fired on April 19, 1775, marking the beginning of the American Revolution. Told in the voices of real people from Bolton, often in their own words, as recorded in Bolton's own records; this is the story of Bolton's Road to Revolution.
Bolton Historical Society

Evening Spring Bird Walk

Mass Audubon's Wachusett Meadow
Wildlife Sanctuary
113 Goodnow Road, Princeton, MA
5:00 PM-7:00 PM

Reservations required, call 978-464-2712.

Not a morning person? Catch the birds before they go to bed in this adult program suitable for backyard, beginner, and intermediate birders. We'll look for spring migrants and breeding species, and practice identification based on sight and sound. Bring binoculars and field guide, if you have them or borrow ours.
Mass Audubon's Wachusett Meadow
Wildlife Sanctuary

TUESDAY, MAY 21

If these Trees Could Talk: How Lancaster Has Shaped & Been Shaped by its Trees & Forests

Thayer Memorial Library
717 Main Street, Lancaster, MA
6:30 PM-8:00 PM

Town Forest Committee Chair Tim Castner will place the history of Blood Town Forest in the context of the larger history of forests in New England and evolving ideas about forest conservation and preservation. What lessons can we learn from the forest as we balance the needs of humans, wildlife, and biodiversity?
Thayer Memorial Library



Shirley, Shirley Meeting House, 2016-2019



Lexington, Munroe Tavern, 2017, 2019

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22

Book Discussion on Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass

Concord Free Public Library
129 Main Street, Concord, MA
9:30 AM-11:00 AM

Discuss the life of Frederick Douglass and view thrilling primary source material from the Library's Special Collections, including the letter Frederick Douglass wrote to Helen Thoreau and the record from the Concord Ladies Antislavery Society documenting Douglass' visit to Concord.
Concord Museum
Concord Free Public Library

From Guns to Gramophones: Civil War & the Technology that Shaped America

Wadleigh Memorial Library
49 Nashua Street, Milford, NH
6:30 PM-8:00 PM

During the Civil War, northern industry produced 1.5 million rifles, along with tens of thousands of pistols and carbines. Carrie Brown explores the technological triumph that helped save the Union and then transformed the nation. While this program tells a broad, national story, it focuses on the critical and somewhat surprising role of Vermont and New Hampshire in producing industrial technology that won the war and changed American life.

Wadleigh Memorial Library
New Hampshire Humanities

Walk the Colonial Flowers Path

Munroe Tavern
1332 Massachusetts Avenue, Lexington, MA
10:00 AM-4:00 PM

Visit the garden at the historic Munroe Tavern where only 18th century antique flowers grow, in a living museum. These are the flowers Boston gardeners grew in their

flower gardens in the mid-to-late-1700s, as shown in the research by members of the Lexington Field & Garden Club who created and maintain the garden.

Lexington Field & Garden Club
Lexington Historical Society

THURSDAY, MAY 23

Attracting Birds, Butterflies & Other Beneficials

Lincoln Public Library
3 Bedford Road, Lincoln, MA
6:30 PM-8:30 PM

Learn how to attract beneficial wildlife by meeting their needs for food, cover, and water. A variety of pollinators and other beneficials as well as plants that can sustain these organisms throughout the growing season are described, and organic methods for establishing pollinator gardens are presented.

Lincoln Public Library
Friends of the Lincoln Public Library

Relocating History: Preserving a New England Barn

Harvard Historical Society
215 Still River Road, Harvard, MA
7:00 PM-8:30 PM

New England barns are icons of our region's agricultural past but many have vanished from our landscape to make way for progress. Join HHS for a presentation that will discuss the Great Elms Barn of Harvard, MA and the journey to disassemble, move, and rebuild the magnificent structure in its new location.

Harvard Historical Society

SATURDAY, MAY 25

The Letters of Ellen Garrison: Freedom & Advocacy

The Robbins House
320 Monument Street, Concord, MA
3:30 PM-5:00 PM

Born in 1823, Ellen was an African-American educator who wrote and spoke out against the social injustices of her time. She was the first to test our country's Civil Rights Bill of 1866 in court. Come hear her words as she reaches out to those who can help bring justice and be allies in a time of radical change

The Robbins House

SUNDAY, MAY 26

"First Piano in Acton" at the Faulkner Homestead

Faulkner Homestead
5 High Street, Acton, MA
3:00 PM-5:00 PM

Visit the historic Faulkner Homestead to view the "first piano in Acton." This elegant piano forte was given in 1813 to a young

lady who later became the bride of Col. Francis Faulkner's grandson, Henry Skinner, who lived for a time in the Faulkner House. The bill of sale, complete with a glaring 19th-century misprint, is also on display.

Iron Work Farm in Acton

Paul Revere's Midnight Ride: The Myth & The Man

First Church of Christ, Congregational
25 Great Road, Bedford, MA
7:30 PM

How did Boston silversmith Paul Revere end up riding to alert the countryside that "the British are coming" in April 1775? This fact and others will be offered when retired John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum Curator Frank Rigg talks about the impact and legacy of Paul Revere's historic ride.
Bedford Historical Society

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29

After Douglass: James Baldwin Documentary

Concord Museum
53 Cambridge Turnpike, Concord, MA
6:00 PM-7:30 PM

Registration requested, visit ConcordMuseum.org.

Attend a screening of James Baldwin: *The Price of the Ticket*, a film described as "an emotional portrait, a social critique, and a passionate plea for human equality." Following the screening of the newly restored documentary, the filmmaker, Karen Thorsen, along with Director of the Concord Museum, Tom Putnam, will discuss Baldwin's call for equality and its relevance today.
Concord Museum

New Hampshire's One-Room Rural Schools: The Romance & the Reality

Chamberlin Free Public Library
46 Main Street, Greenville, NH
6:30 PM

Hundreds of one-room schools dotted the landscape of New Hampshire a century ago and were the backbone of primary education for generations of children. Revered in literature and lore, they actually were beset with problems, some of which are little changed. Steve Taylor explores the lasting legacies of the one-room school and how they echo today.

Chamberlin Free Public Library
New Hampshire Humanities

HIDDEN TREASURES PHOTO CONTEST—Due Date: Sept 3, 2019

Calling all shutterbugs—amateur and professional photographers alike!

You're invited to submit images that

- Reflect the natural, cultural, and historical resources of the Heritage Area
- Inspire a connection to the people, places, and stories that make Freedom's Way unique
- Provide a narrative that links the past to the future, reinforcing the Heritage Area's sense of place

Photo Contest Categories

What's Your Nature?

The beauty and magic of the natural world surrounds us in Freedom's Way. Explore and share the intricate network of rivers, wetlands, forests, drumlins, hiking trails and conservation areas within the region that inspire and evoke wonder.

Show the magic and wonder of the natural world that gives you pause and provides inspiration for you to explore the Heritage Area.

Culture Reframed

From the public buildings and landscapes where the New England community was founded to the celebrations and artistic endeavors which shape our civic life today, share how culture has both defined and redefined the Heritage Area.

Show us expressions of arts and culture within the 45 unique communities of the Heritage Area.

History in the Making

History is all around us and can be found in sites, both large and small, that tell the stories of the past. The imprint of past generations is all around us and is visible in the traces of those individuals, places and events that shaped the region's formation, including the quest for freedom and independence.

Show us the treasured places that reveal the Heritage Area's history—both the stories that are well known and those that are yet to be revealed.



Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places in each category:

First Place

\$100 Restaurant Gift Certificate

Second Place

\$50 Brew Pub Gift Certificate

Third Place

\$25 Garden Center Gift Certificate

Additionally, one award will be given for each of the following:

People's Choice Award—

\$75 Gift Certificate

Youth Award (age 13–17)—

\$50 Photo Book Certificate
Chatbooks

Kids Award (under age 13)—

\$50 Photo Book Certificate
Chatbooks

For online photo submissions and complete Photo Contest rules, visit discoverhiddentreasures.org/photo-contest/.



*What's Your Nature? 3rd Prize—Red Squirrel in a Tree in Pepperell's Heald Orchard, Darcy Robinson, Harvard, MA
History in the Making, 3rd Prize—Lexington's Minute Man Statue Before a Storm, Mary Metzger, Ayer, MA
History in the Making, 1st Prize—Inside Sterling's One-room Schoolhouse, Lindsey Van Gieson, Sterling, MA*

FREEDOM'S WAY MILESTONES

Making a Difference: Women Getting It Done

The impetus for the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area began twenty-five years ago with a group of citizens concerned about the increasing loss of land and historic sites to unplanned development. With the impending dissolution of the Fort Devens military base, the group sought a way to promote the region's identity and preserve its character and sense of place.

Two enterprising women—**Marjorie Darby** and **Mildred Chandler**—became partners in this endeavor, founding the Freedom's Way Heritage Association in 1994, a nonprofit organization that would become the coordinating entity for the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area, signed into law by President Obama in March 2009.

The path to becoming a Heritage Area was winding and long, with Marge and Milly working with state legislators, community leaders and regional organizations to build grass-roots support for the idea. Forty-five communities from north-central Massachusetts and the border of New Hampshire made up the proposed Heritage Area footprint. Cultural and natural resources were inventoried and interpretive themes and organizational structure examined. As federal designation stalled in Congress, the Freedom's Way Heritage Association continued implementing a variety of programs including town tours, lectures, publications, and events, engaging partners and organizations in their mission, promoting their work and keeping the Heritage Area idea in the minds of all.

With National Heritage Area designation, Freedom's Way was on its way! Preparation of a management plan began under the guidance of Interim Director Patrice Todisco (now Executive Director) and with support of the Board of Directors, numerous committees and individuals and consultants from Heritage Strategies, Inc. The Management Plan was approved by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior in July 2015, guiding the work of the National Heritage Area and its partnership with the National Park Service.

This year as we commemorate the 25th anniversary of an idea for a Heritage Area and the 10th anniversary of becoming a National Heritage Area, we celebrate the dedication and commitment of Marge and Milly. Their legacy lives on in the organizations programs and projects, and their passion remains integral to the organization's mission:

"to connect the people, places and communities of the Heritage Area through preservation, conservation and educational initiatives to protect and promote our shared resources and encourage residents and visitors to explore our landscape, history and culture."



Top: Freedom's Way goes to the Massachusetts State House for testimony on state bill S1852 for Freedom's Way Heritage Area. September 2005.

Bottom: Co-founders Milly Chandler and Marge Darby celebrating the National Heritage Area designation, June 2009.

JUNE	1994	Freedom's Way Heritage Association, Inc. founded
	1997	FWHA Feasibility Study (ICON) created
	2000	National Park Service reviews the Feasibility Study
	2001	Addendum to Feasibility Study created
	2002	Designation before Congress
	2006	Massachusetts Legislators pass legislation recognizing the Heritage Area
	2007	New Hampshire legislators pass legislation recognizing the Heritage Area
	2007	Enhanced website brought online, featuring themes and communities
MARCH	2009	National Heritage Area Designation
	2015	Management Plan approved by Secretary of U.S. Department of the Interior
MARCH	2019	10th Anniversary of Freedom's Way National Heritage Area
JUNE	2019	25th Anniversary of Freedom's Way Heritage Association, Inc.

“NEVER DOUBT THAT A SMALL GROUP OF THOUGHTFUL, COMMITTED, CITIZENS CAN CHANGE THE WORLD. INDEED, IT IS THE ONLY THING THAT EVER HAS.”
—Margaret Mead

DISCOVER COMMUNITY PARTNERS



ARTWEEK

Friday, April 26–Sunday, May 5, 2019

Inspire your creative, sense of adventure at this annual ten-day, award-winning festival featuring unique and unexpected experiences that are participatory, interactive, mostly free (some fees apply) and fun! ARTWEEKMA.org



RIVERFEST

Saturday, June 22 & Sunday, June 23, 2019

The 18th annual Riverfest weekend celebrates the Concord, Assabet and Sudbury Wild & Scenic River designation 20th Anniversary. Free and open to all who wish to experience the river. Activities for all ages and interests exist. <https://www.sudbury-assabet-concord.org/riverfest2019>



2019 MASSHISTORY CONFERENCE

Empowering Our Communities Through History

Monday, June 24, 2019 | 8:30 AM–4:30 PM

College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA

Registration opens April 15 and is required.

The conference will focus on empowering our communities and organizations in preserving and telling the many stories of the towns and people of Massachusetts. Cinnamon Catlin-Legutko, President of the Abbe Museum in Bar Harbor, Maine is the keynote speaker. Come be energized at the possibilities. MASSHistoryAlliance.org



REV250

Celebrating the 250th Anniversary of American Independence

July 2015–July 2025

A decade-long series of programs

Two hundred fifty years ago the men and women of Massachusetts resisted the abridgement of their rights as British citizens. The outcome changed the world. This heritage and remembrances of it afford the citizens of the Commonwealth a unique role in sharing this story. REV250 brings together a wide group of partners and supporters to offer engaging and informative programs for all ages and shape the comprehensive plan for commemorating this anniversary. revolution250.org/

FREEDOM'SWAY

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