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

FREEDOM’S WAY HIDDEN TREASURES

MAY 2019

www.DiscoverHiddenTreasures.org
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
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.

**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.

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

**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

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

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
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 RETROPERSPECTIVE...

2015-2019 Partnership List

OUR ALL STAR 5 YEAR PARTNERS

Bolton Historical Society  Boxborough Historical Society  Fitchburg Historical Society  Fort Devens Museum  Harvard Historical Society
Historical Society of Amherst, NH  Littleton Conservation Trust  Littleton Historical Society  Minute Man National Historical Park  Shirley Historical Society Museum

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...
2. Acton, Discovery Museum, 2016, 2017
4. Woburn, Horn Pond, 2015, 2016, 2018
5. Stow, One-Room Schoolhouse, 2015, 2016
1. Lincoln, Gropius House, 2017, 2018
2. Littleton, Sarah Doublet Forest, 2015
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
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.
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

Visit DiscoverHiddenTreasures.org for full program details, event registration and updates.
The First Annual Groton Traverse
Groton, MA
10:00 AM
Registration required, visit GCTrust.org.
Join GCT on the first of many annual tromps 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 Propane; Jacques’ Menagerie: Hnzidovskiy 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 railroad 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

Ruskie 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

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
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.
Chair City Community Workshop

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

Saturdays, 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 army 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

Visit DiscoverHiddenTreasures.org for full program details, event registration and updates.
**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 shelyahawkes@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

**Edible Wild Plants & Mushrooms with Russ Cohen**
6:00 PM-8:00 PM  
1023 Massachusetts Avenue, Lunenburg, MA

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

**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
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 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.
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.
Nashoba Conservation Trust

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

Visiting history: the Grange offers a rich history and events. 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
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

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
the flowers Boston gardeners grew in their 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

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 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 Anti-Slavery 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

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
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.”
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/

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
HIDDEN TREASURES
5 years • 500 Events/Programs • 185 Partners

SHARE YOUR TREASURES!

#HiddenTreasures2019
#FreedomsWayNHA
#FreedomsWay

www.DiscoverHiddenTreasures.org