



The Catoctin Forest Alliance Bulletin

Newsletter of the CFA

Vol. 9 No. 2 April 2019

www.catoctinforestalliance.org

Our mission is to preserve and protect the Catoctin Mountain forest for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations



Poetry Reading

by the Catoctin Forest Alliance/Catoctin Mountain Park
Artist in Residence

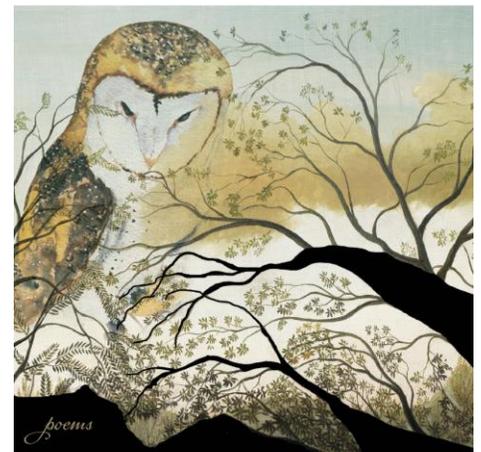
Sarah McCartt-Jackson

Saturday
May 18, 2019
1:30-2:30pm

at

The Delaplaine Arts Center
40 S. Carroll Street
Frederick, MD 21701

WINNER OF THE AIRLIE PRIZE



STONELIGHT

SARAH MCCARTT-JACKSON

McCartt-Jackson is the author of *Stonelight*, which won the Weatherford Prize in poetry and the Airlie Prize, and three chapbooks: *Calf Canyon*, *Vein of Stone*, and *Children Born on the Wrong Side of the River*, which won the Mary Ballard Poetry Prize. Hailing from Kentucky, McCartt-Jackson is a poet, folklorist, and educator who works to inspire people of all ages to connect with the natural world around them through art. You can visit her website at: www.sarahmccarttjackson.com.

Sarah will be in residence at Catoctin Mountain Park from May 1- 21



CFA/Catoctin Mountain Park Calendar 2019

May

- 1-21 Artist in Residence, Sarah McCartt-Jackson, at Catoctin Mountain Park
- 3 10 AM – 11 AM - Story time and Hike for children. Led by a Ranger and children's librarian from the Thurmont Library. Meet at the Thurmont Library.
- 5 Girl Scouts will remove garlic mustard from Chestnut Picnic Area
- 18-19 Maryland Iron Festival. Catoctin Mountain Park will be participating with the following programs:
- Saturday and Sunday, May 18 and 19** – 10 AM, 12 Noon, and 2 PM Ranger guided walks along the Charcoal Trail. Meet at the Thurmont Vista Parking Lot on Park Central Road.
- Sunday, May 19** – 11 AM, 1 PM, and 3 PM Ranger led hands-on casting and molding activity at Camp Round Meadow. Registration is recommended
<https://catoctinfurnace.org/casting-activity/>
- Sunday, May 19** – 10 AM to 5PM Blacksmith Demonstrations in the historic WPA Blacksmith Shop at Camp Round Meadow.
- 18 Artist in Residence Sarah McCartt-Jackson will read her poetry at the Delaplaine Arts Center 1:30 – 2:30 PM
- 26 10 AM -11 AM Wildflower Walk led by Park Volunteer Daryl Despres. Meet at Owens Creek Picnic Area.

June

- 7 10AM – 11AM - Story time and Hike for children. Led by a Ranger and children's librarian from the Thurmont Library. Meet at the Catoctin Mountain Park Visitor Center.
- 8 Night Sky program. Call the visitor center for details. 301-663-9388.
- 22 Salamander Safari. Call the visitor center for details. 301-663-9388.
- 26 CFA Meeting at Lewis Property 4pm (317 W. Main St. Thurmont, MD 21788)

July

- 5 10AM – 11AM - Story time and Hike for children. Led by a Ranger and children's librarian from the Thurmont Library. Meet at the Catoctin Mountain Park Visitor Center
- 15 Input for July CFA Bulletin due to lindasundergill@comcast.net for release at end of month

August

- 28 CFA Meeting at Lewis Property 4pm (317 W. Main St. Thurmont, MD 21788)

October

- 15 Input for October CFA Bulletin due to lindasundergill@comcast.net for release at end of month
- 31 CFA Meeting at Lewis Property 4pm (317 W. Main St. Thurmont, MD 21788)

November

December

CFA Christmas Open House details to be announced

New Exhibits at Catoctin Mountain Park Visitor Center

By Rangers Peggie Gaul and Carrie Andresen-Strawn

Catoctin Mountain Park recently opened new visitor center exhibits. For decades the rustic 1940's era visitor center has served as a contact point for hikers, campers and families exploring the wooded hills and creek. The new exhibits tell the story of the park's beginnings during the Depression as a Recreation Demonstration Area, the evolution of the cabin camps, including history of the presidential retreat at Camp David, the stories of civil rights and the Civilian Conservation Corps.

Come learn more about how American Indians used the mountain's resources. See how others including farmers, iron workers, the CCC, WPA, OSS, Job Corps, and many others made their mark on the mountain and how their actions molded what is today a national park,

The exhibits have engaging interactive elements for children and adults to learn about the animals, plants and people who lived in and visit the park. The exhibits are open daily 9-5. Stop by for a visit.



Adults and children alike can enjoy the new exhibits.



Young child examines models in the new exhibits.



Superintendent Rick Slade talks with Volunteer Photographer John Zuke about photographs he took for the new exhibits.

In Sympathy

John Hart, Sr. was the Chief of Maintenance at Catocin Mountain Park for over 30 years. He loved the park and spent many years maintaining the grounds and buildings in the park. He passed away recently. You can view his obituary using the link below. Rest in Peace Mr. Hart and thank you for all your service to Catocin Mountain Park.

[https://www.fredericknewspost.com/obituaries/john-hart-sr/article_9b9284a2-2d78-5ca6-9fd1-8121f7bf8e5e.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share.](https://www.fredericknewspost.com/obituaries/john-hart-sr/article_9b9284a2-2d78-5ca6-9fd1-8121f7bf8e5e.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=email&utm_campaign=user-share)

Amish Projects by Jim Robbins, CFA President

The Amish arrived March 4th to some very cold temperatures in the Catoctin Mountain followed by some snow. The cold temperatures kept the group inside doing projects the first week and a half. Because of the government shutdown, projects had to be changed and adapted during this visit. The group worked on some cabins at Greentop replacing beams in some of them. The group spent the last 2 weeks working with the National Park Historical Carpenters at Camp Misty Mount. They worked on windows, replaced roofs (damaged by trees that had fallen on them), rafters, beams, floors and work on the ends of beams. It was a great help to the Historical Carpenters to complete the work at Camp Misty Mount. Without help from the Amish, the projects would not have been completed. The group also worked on a pole building roof and placed siding on the store at Houck Area for the State Park.

The group visited Washington, DC, C&O Canal, Antietam and Gettysburg. They hiked many trails in Catoctin Mountain Park and Cunningham Falls State Park. They visited Erin Ayler, blacksmith, at his new shop in Boonsboro where they made a hook with some twists and had a great time.

The Amish returned home on March 29th. While they were here we really enjoyed their time with us in the Mountains. It is a great opportunity to talk, laugh and enjoy each other each year. The group(s) do wonderful work all for free and Catoctin Mountain Park and Catoctin Forest Alliance cannot thank them enough.



Clearing brush at the Ironmaster's House Catoctin Furnace

SUCCESS by Jim Robbins, CFA President

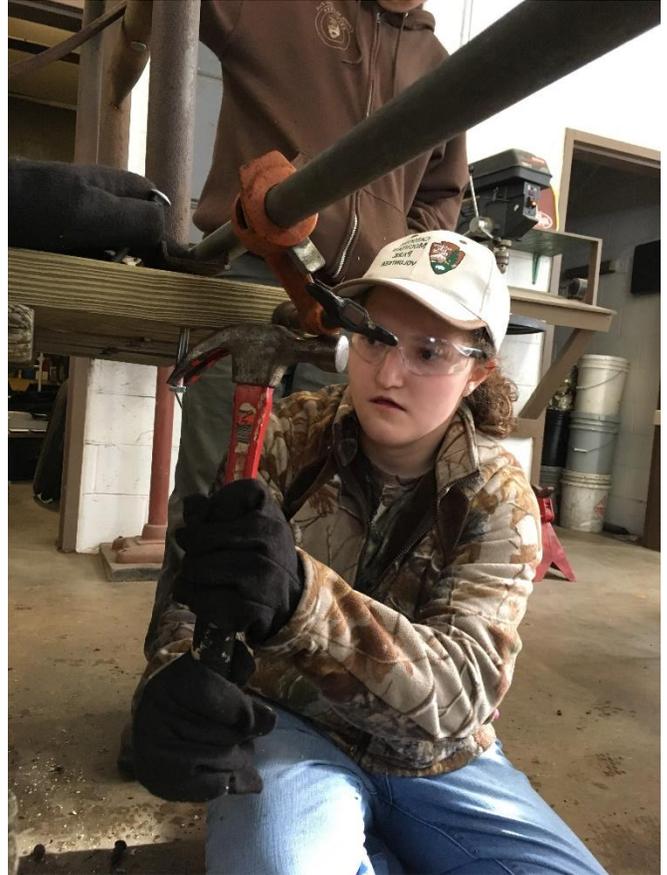
Since our last report winter has come and gone and warmer weather is here. The refurbished picnic tables are done; camp sites are repaired, cleaned and ready for the visitors in Cunningham Falls State Park. SUCCESS has been working on a trail for the Thurmont Library (loop trail) with a grant sponsored by Catoctin Area Civitan Club and Frederick Civitan Club from the Foundation for Children with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Chesapeake District-Civitan International, Inc. The grant was approved and we are in the process of working to finish the trail. SUCCESS has made 7 bird boxes, 6 bat boxes and one Barred Owl box for the trail. The SUCCESS youth, at the school, have planted seeds for plants to place along the trail about mid-May. We have also started on 3 butterfly habitats at the library. As usual we are very busy with projects that keep us very involved with the parks and the community.

Editor's Note: The mission of the SUCCESS Program is to empower students with disabilities to become contributing members of a global society by assisting them in developing social competencies, promoting their independence, and encouraging self-advocacy for them in a safe and nurturing environment. The SUCCESS Program provides

post-secondary transition education for students ages 18-21, who have completed at least four years in a comprehensive high school, and exhibit potential for working independently in the domain of competitive employment. Students earn a Maryland Certificate of Completion. They work in a community based setting to learn skills for independent living and are exposed to the world of work. At SUCCESS, expectations for each student are set high to ensure that every student experiences success in their learning and development.



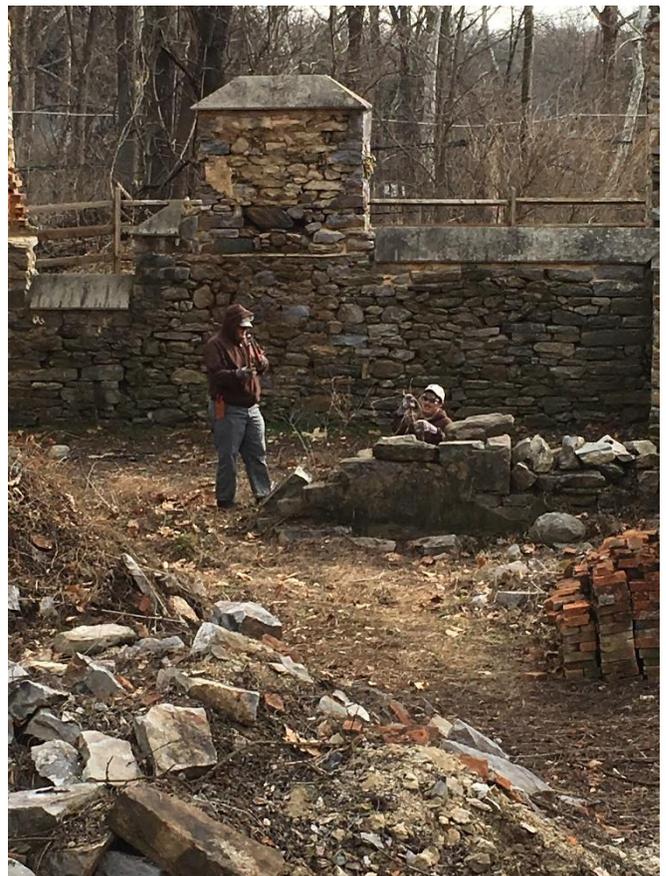
Working on new trail at the Thurmont Library.



Repairing picnic tables at the maintenance shop Manor Area Cunningham Falls State Park



Clearing brush on Thurmont Library Trail for a flower bed.



Finishing clearing brush at the Ironmaster's House.



What can I say?!

Reflections submitted by Shelley Miller

Groundhog Day/Pre-Valentine's Day Event at Springfield



The second annual CFA Groundhog Day/ Pre Valentine's Day fundraiser event held at Springfield Winery and Distillery on Feb. 8 was extraordinary. More than forty folks joined for some after-work social time and many remained for dinner and into the evening for trivia. President Jim Robbins and members of Catoctin Mountain Park were fierce trivia competitors placing third in the house. Way to go! It was a delightful evening of delicious food, good friends, and trivia fun. Guests included CFA members, Catoctin Mountain Park folks, along with additional friends and family.

CFA wishes to once again thank Bethany DellAgnello for the donation of the beautiful earrings for the fundraiser to support the educational outreach programs (including Camp Catoctin and others). The total funds raised as a result of the Springfield event was \$190 (\$100 from Springfield and \$90 from the raffle). As importantly, the event offered an evening of spreading

CFA awareness, connecting with each other (CFA members and nonmembers), and fun! The feedback regarding the night's event was very positive. A wonderful time was had while supporting CFA's environmental commitment to preserve the Catoctin Mountain Forest for present and future generations. We look forward to keeping this as an annual CFA event with the potential addition of more Springfield events in between. Thank you to all who contributed in any way! And let's start getting those teams in training for next year! (Likely the Friday before or after Groundhog's Day...TBA)

An Informative Talk on Climate Change by Joyce Tuten

The informative talk on climate change by Joyce Tuten at the Thurmont library on Feb. 26th was an enlightening evening to nearly 30 attendees. Joyce is a high school science teacher who is an expert at teaching science to non-science people. She is a member of the Middletown, Maryland Sustainability Committee, a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Climate Steward Educator and a trained Climate Reality Project Leader. There were many useful



Shelley Miller introduces Joyce Tuten

“take-aways” from the highly informative presentation. Joyce explained (in understandable terms) very serious daunting issues. Equally significant, she offered potential hope. Joyce is an inspiration to everyone she meets emphasizing that much of the long term positive impact comes from having the conversations and making steps (both small and large) toward what each of us can do (individually and collectively) to “be better stewards” of our world. Echoing a message steeped in the focus of the Catoctin Forest Alliance, I am hopeful CFA will have additional presentations by Joyce. Stay tuned. Being more conscientious of a ‘reduce (preferred), reuse (whenever possible), recycle (when necessary)’ lifestyle for the sake of preserving all of our precious resources everywhere is one of the most positively impacting steps humans can make. Thank you so much Joyce, on behalf of CFA, for sharing your wisdom and enthusiasm.

The Frederick County STEM Showcase



Shelley Miller and Debbie Mills at STEM Showcase

The CFA table located at the Frederick County Science and Engineering Fair STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics) Showcase at Tuscarora High School on March 30th offered a wonderful outreach opportunity for CFA to showcase its many offerings. There were lots of folks of all ages in attendance. We were located right next to the Thurmont Library table and not far from the Frederick County Earth Space and Science Lab table where live animals abound. The Showcase was open to the public from

9:00-11:30. Thank you for all who stopped by.



Friends of Maryland State Parks by Mel Poole

Friends of Maryland State Parks met recently with six legislators and testified before the House Appropriations Committee. Maryland State Parks had been scheduled to receive a supplemental Program Open Space appropriation of \$5.6 million. That was initially reduced to \$3.2 M during the session but has been partially restored to \$4.2 M.



MAY 18-19
AT CATOCTIN FURNACE
 10AM-5PM • BOTH DAYS

FREE ADMISSION
www.catocinfurnace.org

MOUNTAINS, METAL, & MALT

The Maryland Iron Festival, celebrated in Catocin Furnace Historic village, Catocin Mountain Park, and Cunningham Falls State Park, commemorates the state as a center for the craft of iron making.

FEATURING ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES:

- Blacksmithing & Casting Demonstrations
- Heirloom Plants & Flowers
- Cannonball Tosses & Anvil-Lifting Contests
- Delicious Historic Food
- Artists & Craftspeople
- Wine & Beer Garden
- Plein Air Artists

Festival Partners:



Special Thanks to: *FirstEnergy* Foundation



Calling Plein Air Artists!
Maryland Iron Festival
2019

Join us for the eighth annual
 outdoor art festival
 in the historic village
 of Catoctin Furnace.

Dear Plein Air Artist,

We are thrilled to extend an invitation to you for the 2019 **Maryland Iron Festival** event in historic Catoctin Furnace, Maryland. During the past seven years, more than 4,500 visitors have enjoyed the crafts, food and traditional atmosphere of the historic village during this family-friendly event. We are delighted to add our first annual Plein Air event to this spring festival.

Partnering with Friends of Cunningham Falls State Park, Catoctin Mountain Park, and Catoctin Forest Alliance, **Spring in the Village/Art at the Furnace** expanded to become the **Maryland Iron Festival** in 2019. This reflects not only a renewed emphasis on the rich history of ironmaking at Catoctin Furnace, but also a larger, village-wide event. On Saturday, May 18, the historic village of Catoctin Furnace will be filled with iron crafting, original art, handmade crafts, heirloom plants, delicious food, a wine garden, live music, and plein air artists painting at locations throughout the parks and village! Area-wide events, including the sale of plein air works, take place on Sunday, May 19, 2019.

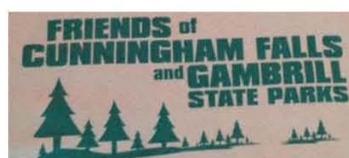
Participating artists are warmly invited to the festival's kickoff event at the Thurmont Regional Library on Friday May 17, 2019. Please plan to bring a framed finished work and easel for display at 5pm for the 6-9pm gala event. Entertainment and light refreshments provided. Maps, painting locations, event program, name tags, and other details etc., will be distributed at the kickoff event.

The registration fee for the event is \$20 and the entry deadline is **April 26, 2019**. Please send your check to Jim Robbins, Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc., P.O. Box 411, Thurmont, MD 21788. If you would like additional information, please send your name and telephone number to Jimrobbins@comcast.net.

You may also visit our website: <https://catoctinfurnace.org/events/maryland-iron-festival/> to learn more about us and the festival.

We look forward to seeing you at **Maryland Iron Festival!**
 Sincerely,

Maryland Iron Festival Plein Air Artist Event Committee



FirstEnergy
 Foundation

TIC (Trout in the Classroom) Release Schedule - Volunteers Needed

By Chuck Dinkle



Hi All,

Every year at the completion of the Trout in the Classroom program students who have spent five to six months raising and caring for their fish celebrate this accomplishment by participating in a field trip. At this time the trout are released and a number of other activities are held. The [attachment](#) is the most current information I have for Frederick County schools. The list outlines the number of students attending and the different events being planned. (Note: I am still awaiting information from a few schools on the list and will get that to you as soon as I hear from the teachers.)

Thanks to all the TIC volunteers that help make a release a special and memorable occasion for the students. It would be impossible to conduct these releases without your support. Many of you have assisted at a trout release in the past. If you haven't, the main ingredient to bring is your enthusiasm and your desire to help these students grow in their awareness and understanding of their environment and watershed. Having spent six months raising trout through a combination of classroom and hands-on activities demonstrates to youngsters both the importance of clean water and the difficulty of maintaining it. TIC helps young people to become stewards of the environment.

Field trips that involve large groups of students require more volunteer support. Teachers will bring parents to serve as chaperones and on occasion I have recruited them to help with a release. There are some tasks such as helping students release fish that require little or no experience. Parents often participate with this. However, volunteers with your background are needed for the macro and stream studies. My request is that you review the release list and let me know as soon as possible which ones you can assist with and which particular activity you would like to lead. Rarely do I have too many volunteers. If this occurs I will let you know.

In addition to the list of schools I am attaching information that I send to all teachers that includes such things as TIC Scavenger Hunt; Script I developed for water testing and conducting a stream study; Student Behavior during a Hatchery Tour; etc. These will provide some insights to what you can expect. For most of you this is not new. In addition I have never found student behavior an issue at TIC releases. The students are there because they love the experience of raising and releasing the fish.

Thank you for helping make Trout in the Classroom such a successful Maryland program. If you have any questions write or call me.

Chuck ><

(301-401-5066)

troutintheclassroomcd@gmail.com.

Consider Donating to CFA

To help CFA continue its programs to preserve and protect the Catoctin Mountain forest, please consider making a donation. CFA is a 501C3 non-profit organization so your donations will be tax deductible.

Any donation over \$20 will include a one year CFA membership. Here is what your donation could do.

- \$50 will buy notebooks or clipboards for 40 children at the week-long day camp.
- \$120 will cover the cost for one child to attend the week-long day camp
- \$125 will provide food for 40 children for one day of day camp.
- \$200 helps sponsor the Artist in Residence program
- \$364 will buy protective equipment for a SUCCESS program youth.
- \$400 will buy bus transportation for 40 children to day camp for one day.
- \$1300 will fund the SUCCESS program for one year.



Giving Levels

- **Acorn** up to \$99
- **Seedling** \$100- 499.99
- **Sapling** \$500-999.99
- **Mighty Oak** \$1000 and over

Donations checks can be made out to CFA and sent to Catoctin Forest Alliance, PO Box 411, Thurmont, MD 21788

Join or Renew your Membership to CFA

We'd love to have you join us in our mission to protect the Catoctin Mountain forest. Your support would be a great benefit to us and the forest.

To join CFA or renew your membership, please send the membership application form and a check made out to **Catoctin Forest Alliance** to the address below. **The membership dues are \$20 per person or \$30 per couple for the period December 31, 2018 to December 31, 2019.**

CFA, C/O Linda Sundergill
Membership Chairman
7015 Sunday's Lane
vest
Frederick, MD 21702

New members will receive a CFA patch

Anyone joining a committee will receive a CFA



Name(s): _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email address: _____

Committee Interest

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Strategic Planning ____ | Membership ____ | Conservation/Education ____ |
| Fundraising ____ | Artist in Residence ____ | Marketing/Publicity ____ |
| Information Technology ____ | Finance ____ | |

Visit our website at www.catoctinforessalliance.org