

TOURISM

SUMMER/FALL 2005

Carroll County Maryland

UNION MILLS HOSTS INTERNATIONAL SPOOM CONFERENCE

Things are hopping at Union Mills in preparation for the conference for the Society for the Preservation of Old Mills (SPOOM). This is an international organization whose purpose is to “promote interest in old mills and other Americana now passing from the present scene.” Each year the society selects, from various regions throughout the United States and Canada, a host mill that then has the

responsibility of organizing tours, workshops, seminars and other events for the two-day conference. The Union Mills committee, made up of Marlene and Ivan Lufriu, Ruth and Dick Peeling, Jane and Bob Sewell and Chuck Ives, has worked hard to make this a “Carroll County” conference.

Union Mills was selected for the 2005 national conference taking place September 9 through 11, with some optional tours on September 8. The theme of the SPOOM conference is “Mills Along the Mason-Dixon Line,” and Saturday will feature an all-day bus tour of mills in northern Maryland and southern Pennsylvania, ending at the Shriver Homestead and Grist Mill.

The projected number of attendees, from all over the United States and Canada, will be around 200. A packet of tourism materials will be sent to each registered guest. The committee expects the event to have quite an impact on Carroll County’s economic development.

The conference hotel and headquarters is the Best Western, and the Friday evening banquet held at Roop’s Mill will be catered by Johansson’s Restaurant. Rohrbaugh’s Motorcoach

will take care of transportation needs, and one of the stops will be the Mason-Dixon Steam Show Days at the Carroll County Farm Museum. Kountry Kafe and Katering will cater the Saturday evening banquet at Union Mills and will also provide box lunches each day. Rentals will be handled by Kay-Lyn’s and we are working with Cygnus Winery for some special touches.

This is an exciting and unique event for Carroll County, as well as the State of Maryland. It’s an excellent opportunity to show off our beautiful countryside and special points of interest. The conference will generate economic benefits to many individual businesses and introduce countless new people to our spectacular county, as many of the conferees will return, bringing friends and family.

We are looking for additional local businesses to sponsor other areas of this very important event. If you are interested in sponsorship, please call Union Mills at 410-848-2288. ◀



WHAT’S INSIDE

- Nonprofit Organizations Bring Guests to Carroll County
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- Advertise in 2005 Visitor’s Guide
- The Pour House Wins Best Cup of Coffee

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS BRING GUESTS TO CARROLL COUNTY

Nonprofit organizations provide a valuable service to our community through fund-raising events that also draw visitors to Carroll County. Among the innovative gatherings held here are walk-a-thons, Relay for Life, Jump Rope for Heart, art auctions, golf tournaments, basket bingos, and a Taste of Carroll food sampling. Some of these events attract 250 and more non-county residents to our area.

As well as bringing charitable dollars into the county, these organizations are giving us an opportunity to showcase Carroll County's attributes. This is a chance to make a lasting impression and entice participants to make repeat visits. While these benevolent visitors are here, they also support our businesses by filling their cars with gas, filling their stomachs at local restaurants, or stopping by local merchants for snacks, sunglasses and

miscellaneous items. There is always the chance they'll take an interest in some of our historic spots, wineries and local festivals.

Among the numerous organizations involved in these fund-raisers are the American Cancer Society, Heart Association, Carroll Hospice, Muscular Dystrophy, American Diabetes and the Multiple Sclerosis Society. For additional information on nonprofit organizations in our area, please check the United Way website at www.uwcm.org/carroll/resources/agencies.cfm.

If your charitable group is planning an activity and would like information about venues, local accommodations, restaurants or attractions, please call the Carroll County Visitor Center at 410-848-1388. The center can also supply events calendars and visitor's guides to hand out at your activity. ◀

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HOTEL/MOTEL TAX BILL PASSES IN ANNAPOLIS

House Bill 864 has passed in Annapolis and that now paves the way for the Carroll County Commissioners to impose a 5% hotel rental tax on visitors' stays at local lodging establishments. The charge will seem typical to most travelers, who are used to paying such a tax in other jurisdictions across the state and the country. The tax will not apply to any establishment with 10 or fewer sleeping rooms.

The good news is that a portion of the tax revenue collected will be used for tourism and general promotion of Carroll County. Tourism is the number two industry in Carroll County. It is anticipated that the hotel tax collected in the county will be \$300,000 or less. Because part of this new tax will fund the budget for the Office of Tourism to market and promote the county, additional dollars will be freed up for the general fund, so the entire county benefits. ◀



ADVERTISE IN 2005 VISITOR'S GUIDE

The 2005 edition of our official visitor's guide, *Destination Carroll County*, is scheduled for publication in September, just in time for the Maryland Wine Festival. This guide is fully funded by the advertisers in the book and will contain information about the county and its towns for those people traveling to Carroll. 100,000 copies will be published by the Tourism Council of Carroll County.

For information about advertising in the 2005 guide, please contact any member of the Tourism Council or go to our website at www.tourismcouncilofcarrollcounty.org. There you will find advertising rates and a form to provide your business's information and intent to advertise in this year's official guide. Don't miss this opportunity to promote your business to the thousands of visitors who come to Carroll County each year and who visit us online at our website. All advertisers in the 2005 *Destination Carroll County* guide will receive a free listing on the council's website. ◀



President Colleen Cole of the Tourism Council of Carroll County observes Commissioner Dean Minnich read the proclamation for Celebrate Tourism Week in Carroll County. More than 70 business and community leaders attended the reception held at Roop's Mill in Westminster.

THE POUR HOUSE WINS BEST CUP OF COFFEE

The readers of our newsletter have traveled across the county, tasted many cups of coffee and have voted. The Readers Choice Award for the Best Cup of Coffee in Carroll County goes to ... The Pour House in Westminster! Congratulations to them on this distinct honor. We would also like to recognize the other excellent establishments who were nominated by our newsletter readers — Harry's, The Coffee Grinder, WAWA, Gathering Grounds, Irish Moon, Jiffy Mart, Dunkin' Donuts, Plum Crazy Diner and Starbucks. Kudos to you all! ◀



SUMMER & EARLY FALL EVENTS

Christmas in July

July 1-31
Mon-Sat 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
A Greater Gift/SERRV Shop
Brethren Service Center,
New Windsor
410-635-8711

CC Farmers Market "Christmas in July"

July 9 — 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Agriculture Center
410-848-7748

8th Annual American Music and Arts Festival

Presented by Common
Ground on the Hill
July 9 — 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
July 10 — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Carroll County Farm Museum
410-857-2771

Civil War Living History Ice Cream Sundae Social

July 9 — 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
July 10 — Noon to 4 p.m.
Union Mills Homestead
410-848-2288

Annual Booksale

July 15 & 16 —
9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Carroll County Public Library
410-386-4490

Carroll County 4-H/FFA Fair

July 30-Aug 5 — 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Agriculture Center
410-848-3247 / 410-386-2760

35th Annual Old-Fashioned Corn Roast Festival

August 6 — 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Union Mills Homestead
410-848-2288

A Greater Gift/SERRV Overstock Sale

August 25-28
Thurs-Sat 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sun 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Brethren Service Center,
New Windsor
410-635-8711

Annual Car Show

August 27 — 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Taneytown Volunteer Fire
Company Carnival Grounds
410-756-6253

Steam Show Days

September 9-11 —
7 a.m. to dusk
Carroll County Farm Museum
410-386-3880

Historical Society of Carroll County Antiques Appraisal Day

September 10 —
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
National Guard Armory,
Westminster
410-848-6494, Ext. 202

The Maryland Wine Festival

September 17 —
10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
September 18 —
Noon to 6 p.m.
Carroll County Farm Museum
800-654-4645 / 410-386-3880

Westminster Fallfest

September 22 & 23 —
6 to 10 p.m.
September 24 —
10 a.m. to 10 p.m.
September 25 —
Noon to 6 p.m.
Westminster City Park
410-848-9393

Mt. Airy Jaycees Fall Yard Sale

September 24 —
8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Mt. Airy Firemen's
Carnival Grounds
301-829-6225

CARROLL COUNTY VISITOR CENTER

210 East Main Street
Westminster, MD 21157
410-848-1388 • 1-800-272-1933
Monday – Saturday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday & Most Holidays: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



CARROLL COUNTY OFFICE OF TOURISM

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224 N. Center Street, Room 100
Westminster, MD 21157
410-386-2983
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TOURISM COUNCIL

OF CARROLL COUNTY, INC.
P.O. Box 2125
Westminster, MD 21158
www.tourismcouncilofcarrollcounty.org

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TOURISM

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