Caring for over 400 parks—scattered across nearly 37,000 acres—Montgomery Parks is the steward of our public lands. At the heart of our park system is the commitment to protect our county’s precious ecosystems, to celebrate our cultural treasures, and to foster community connections.

From quaint pocket parks in urban areas to the pastoral open spaces in the countryside—every park strengthens the long-lasting bonds between man and nature. These special places are where memories are created, skills are learned, and environmental stewards are born.

As the official non-profit partner of Montgomery Parks, the Montgomery Parks Foundation is dedicated to championing the values and benefits of the system. Through private and public philanthropy, we invest in the enhancement and expansion of projects, programs, and advocacy for the parks. Inspired by our passionate and dedicated supporters, we are unwavering in our commitment to the growing needs of the community.
Message from the President

Dear Friends,

Calendar year 2019 was a difficult one for the Montgomery Parks Foundation for reasons that many of you are already aware of. It was in large part due to your loyalty and forbearance that the travails of early 2019 were overcome, and together we were able to raise more funds to support Montgomery Parks in 2019 than in the prior year.

In early 2019, the Foundation discovered that funds had been misappropriated by a senior staff member. The Foundation immediately took steps to notify our donors, the Board, officials, and the community about this discovery and set forth to recover the funds.

The Foundation adopted a strategy involving the following controls:

- instituted new internal protocols for receiving, recording, and depositing funds
- began an internal audit of every transaction for the period 2015-2018
- contracted a qualified CPA firm to conduct an external audit, resulting in a clean 2018 and 2019 audit
- The Foundation also promptly initiated a parallel litigation audit to support any needed action to recover the misappropriated funds.

The Foundation was able to recover all misappropriated funds along with additional monies to cover the external expenses incurred.

As the Foundation stabilized, the Board decided to hire Ms. Katie Rictor as Executive Director during the last quarter of 2019. Within a short matter of time she reorganized, restructured, and revitalized the Foundation with a new style of leadership — bringing positive, forward-thinking approaches to begin 2020.

It is your continuing faith in the Foundation that has allowed us to serve the community and support our local parks. I hope you will reflect on the projects within this 2019 Annual Report and remember that they were only made possible because of your support and commitment to the Montgomery County Parks and your community.

Thanks to donors like you, we are ready to move forward into a bright future and are excited to work together to make our park system the best it can possibly be. Thank you for partnering with us and for your continued confidence and support.

Sincerely,

John M. Robinson
President
Montgomery Parks Foundation

We are pleased to welcome Katie Rictor as the new Executive Director of the Montgomery Parks Foundation.

Over her 12-year career, Rictor has helped raise over $20 million dollars for various non-profits around the country. She has championed everything from early childhood education to preserving Italian American culture. Most recently, Katie worked with USA Field Hockey to raise funding to support the Olympic field hockey team. She is passionate about marrying the desires of the donor with the needs of the organization. Katie is excited to lead the Foundation in promoting the beauty of the county’s parks while encouraging the community to invest in and advocate for their local green spaces.
For The Love of Gardening

A TRIBUTE STORY AT BROOKSIDE GARDENS

Standing on an elegant stone terrace overlooking the Aquatic Garden pond at Brookside Gardens brings a sense of peace to Tom Comstock, who sought to create a tribute garden when his husband, Harry T. Dewey, passed away in 2016.

Tom wanted visitors to experience the enchantment of a beautiful garden to remember Harry, a thirty-year volunteer with Brookside Gardens. “Gardening was a central part of Harry’s life. He enjoyed it immensely,” said Tom.

Through Tom’s gift, Brookside Gardens and the Montgomery County Parks, in partnership with the Montgomery Parks Foundation, designed and built a memorial garden worthy of a man truly dedicated to nurturing plants. The garden was intentionally designed as a tranquil walk along the edge of the pond, to reflect Harry’s calm nature.

Stephanie Oberle, Director of Brookside Gardens, understands why donors like Tom feel compelled to honor a loved one at this urban oasis in Wheaton, MD. She noted, “Whether it’s the beautiful plants, a place to come and exercise, or the respite that this peaceful landscape gives to their souls. They find that connection, and it motivates them to give back to their community.”
Transporting the Past to the Present

THE REHABILITATION OF SENeca STORE

When Seneca Store closed in 2010—after serving the Poolesville community for 109 years—it was important to make this building a vibrant place once again. “Montgomery County’s historic buildings are critical to provide a sense of place and history that is tangible to all county citizens,” explained Cultural Resources and Stewardship Manager, Joey Lampl.

Undaunted by this monumental task, the Park Development, Cultural Resources and Stewardship, and Facilities Management Divisions worked together on all aspects of the store’s detailed rehabilitation. From complying with a host of preservation regulations to discovering an 18th century mill wheel pit, Parks experts worked hand in hand throughout the process.

Montgomery Parks Foundation was pleased to partner with Parks by providing supplemental funding to ensure this vital project would come to fruition. With the belief that preserving the varied histories and stories of the community is a shared responsibility, the Foundation secured a $50,000 State Bond Bill and $47,000 grant from the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority.

The Seneca Store reopened in all its former glory with a grand ribbon cutting in 2019. As it was 119 years ago, the love and care of the community around Seneca Store will keep its doors open for years to come.
Partnering with the Washington Capitals

IN-LINE HOCKEY FOR ALL

The in-line hockey rink at Ridge Road Recreational Park in Germantown, MD has always been a popular destination for hockey enthusiasts. After 20 years of exposure to outdoor elements, the aging rink was beginning to exhibit signs of wear and tear.

Along came Peter Robinson, Montgomery County native and Director of Community Relations for the Washington Capitals. He offered to refurbish two facilities in Montgomery County, which would "provide access to the sport of hockey for years to come."

Thus began a partnership between the Foundation, Parks and the Washington Capitals to create a state-of-the-art rink in Germantown and the modification of a former tennis court at Dewey Local Park in Silver Spring.

By giving back to his community, Peter was able to provide adults and children an easily accessible option to participate in the sport of hockey. In the future, he hopes to continue this burgeoning partnership by providing hockey clinics at these sites via the Washington Capitals Youth Hockey Development staff.
A Friends Group Takes the Reins

**POTOMAC HORSE CENTER ROOF REPAIR**

Renowned for its equestrian heritage, the bucolic 48-acre Potomac Horse Center (PHC) is a destination greatly valued by riders throughout Montgomery County.

Nearly sixty years after its founding, the physical infrastructure of the facility has begun to deteriorate. Thankfully, the Friends of PHC recognized the need “to repair, rebuild, and upgrade PHC’s facility to secure its future as an asset for riders of today and tomorrow.”

Working closely with the Montgomery Parks Foundation, the Friends of PHC embarked upon a campaign to raise half of the necessary funds to replace the leaking roof of an indoor riding arena. Through a fundraising event and private donations, they raised more than $70,000, helping to supplement the cost to repair the roof in 2019.

The Friends of PHC were aware they needed to take action to sustain their stake in the equestrian community. They realized, “Just as forward-thinking leaders preserved the agricultural tradition of the county, we are tasked with preserving the county’s famed riding tradition by sustaining this ‘gateway’ site for the future generations of riders.”
Establishing a Living Legacy

A TREE TRUST FOR BROOKSIDE GARDENS

PJ Ryan and Joan Rubin have spent much of their leisure time walking through national parks, forests and horticultural displays around the world. Yet, it’s a local garden that has made a significant impact upon this globetrotting couple: Brookside Gardens.

For over thirty years Joan and PJ have taken great pleasure strolling through the Gardens — particularly enjoying the diversity of trees. This past spring, they realized they wanted to leave a living remembrance of these wonderful moments and to celebrate their love of nature.

The couple decided to give an inaugural gift to establish a Tree Trust to fund the planting and replacement of trees at the Gardens, something PJ felt a strong conviction to support. As a 35-year National Park Service Ranger he “came to recognize the critical importance of trees for humanity, especially as a deterrent to climate change.”

The Foundation not only helped execute the Trust but will manage it to ensure that PJ and Joan’s desires for its impact will be met throughout the lifetime of the Trust.

PJ and Joan hope that others will join them in supporting the Trust. Joan said, “We want others to consider contributing to the Trust to ensure that Brookside Gardens continues in its present glory.”

*If you are interested in supporting the Tree Trust, please feel free to make your gift online and note “Tree Trust” in the comment box.*
Donor Listing

The Montgomery Parks Foundation is grateful to all of our donors who made a contribution in support of better parks and programming in our community. Every effort was made to properly and appropriately identify donors who made a gift of $50 or more in 2019. If an error or omission was made in these listings, please notify the Foundation at parksfoundation@montgomeryparks.org.

$50,000 & up
Friends of Brookside Gardens

$20,000—$49,999
John Hanson

$10,000—$19,999
FirstEnergy
Kate Huang
Frank Lee
Maryland Historical Trust
P.J. Ryan and Joan Rubin
The Olive Tree Foundation

$5,000—$9,999
BACO Realty Corporation
Gretchen Schwartz
Kona Ice of Silver Spring

$2,500—$4,999
American Rollerskaters, Inc.
Jerald Bond
Hugh Clayton
Jacqueline Crawley
Janet Davis
DNR Office of the Secretary
John Gilbert
Marina Gorbach
Royce Hanson
John Harris
Brian Marshall
Richard Mazer
Barbara Roush
John Wise

$1,000—$2,499
ASM Mid-Potomac Chapter, Inc.
David Brooks
Linda Brown
Clark Azar & Associates, Inc.
Hugh Clayton
Emily Davidson
Leonard Friedman and Randi Passamanec
Lila Fendrick Landscape Architecture
Susan Pourian
Jeffrey Reiter
John Robinson
P.J. Ryan
Jean Schiro-Zavela
Tracy Scholl
Meryl Silverman
Silver Spring Garden Club
Roger Smith
Stonehill Farm
Swank Early Skills Development
The Hanson Family
David Tobin
Roberta Weinreich
Marye Wells-Harley
Robert Wigmore

$500—$999
Stacie Benes
Judith Block
Gretchen Butts
Cavano’s Perennials, Inc.
Cynthia Clark
Clifton & Associates, PC
Lauren Cooper Van Tol
Elizabeth Coulter
Roberto DePaz
Phoebe deReynier
Fannie Mae
Nathalie Fischer
Daniel Gallagher
Timothy Gardner
Robert Garofalo
Harold Ginsberg
John Gustafson
Jerry Hawkins
Jerry and Louise Hawkins
Hoe ‘n Hope Garden Club
Carolyn Hush
Vallerie King
David Lacki
Kai Lei
Heather MacMillan
John Marino
Natasha Mukherjee
Lauren Pollin
Julia Porcino
Rita Posner
Michael Riley

Takoma Horticultural Club
Guilbert Tejada

$250—$499
John Andelin
Amy Baker
B. J. Bishop
Kevin Bowie
Susan Clarke
Bill and Diana Conway
Susannah Cooper
Floyd Davis
Bruce Dorrier
Catherine Echternach
Wakako Endo
Jody Fetzer
John Freedman
Linda French
Sandra Graham
Shanan Guinn
Pamela Hamrin
Lisa Haviland
International Monetary Fund
Mehran Khadivi
$250—$499 continued
Jody Kline
Alan Kuritzky
Jason Mabe
Nancy Mayorga
Susan Modine
Montgomery County Road Runners Club
Rebecca Nielsen
Laura Osburnsen
Ross Peddicord
Howard Phifer
Akiko Roller
Margaret Ross
Francis Schuler
Roger Scullin
Mary Steptoe
David Vismara
Abby Wiersma

$50—$249
Stacey Abbott
Joan Abell
Robert Allen
Susan Allen
Terrance Allen
Anne Ambler
American Plant
Nancy Anderson
Vanessa Andrews
Ginger Armstrong
Gregory Ashe
Jo Ann Aulick
Brenda Baker
Jackie Balish
John Baur
Benevity Community Impact Fund
Ellen Bennett
Fran Berger
Paul Beswick
Heather Bierer
Paul Bollwerk
Hettie Bortz
Nelson Bortz
Mark Bradley
Dorothy Bready
Frederick Brown
Marney Bruce
Amy Brundage
Deborah Burger
Jennifer Buzzell
Sally Cameron
Susan Canada
Joan Canterbury
Christopher Carlson
Elizabeth Carney
Michele Carpenter
Nina Chace
Sagarika Chavan
Chesapeake Conservation
Landscaping Council
Gerald Cichy
Nancy Cioffari
Lauri Cleary
Leslie Clesner
Robert Cmrak
Sharon Cohany
Beth Cole
Maryruth Coleman
John Combs
Tina Coplan
Rebecca Costello
Colette Cowey
Michele & David Craig
Gayle Crouch
James Cutlip
Anne Darlington
Jeanne Davidson
Linda and Winston Davis
David DeHart
Carolyn Delgrosso
Dara Demmer
Marvin Dicker
Carolyn Dodd
Diane Donaldson
D’Ottavi Family
Lou D’Ovidio
Donna Downing
Pamela Dubois
Jenney Sue Dunner
Nick Dunstan
Elaine Dynes
Krista Egger
Jason Fabritz
Carolyn Fanaroff
Carol Farrar
Mary Fitzgerald
John Foellmer
Arlene Fonaroff
Carole Fontenrose
Hugh Frampton
Carolyn Frank
Erin Frautschy
Angela Freibaum
Patricia Friedman
John Fuller
Aries Funes
Kit Gage
Peter Gale
Leonard Gallagher
Melvin Celler
Ann-Mari Gemmill
David Gersten
Kenneth Giles
Tamara Gould
Gigi Green
Mary Gregos
William Gries
Ann Griffin
Kelly Groff
Megan Guenther
Roma Cumbs
John Gunn
Stuart Guterman
Tom Gutierrez
Nicole Halbreiner
David & Eileen Haley
John C. Hanson
Linda Haviland
Beverley Hazen
Walter Heath
Joan Hekimian
Daniel Hellerstein
Lynn Hemphill
Carol Highsaw
Donald Hill
Val Hoff
Abilgain Holden
Sean Holloway
Larry Hothen
Donald Housley
Joe Howard
Stephen Howie
Wilna Hylton
Smyrna Jackson
Michael Jacobs
Thomas Jagodits
Mary Johnston
Perlita Jones
Sheila Jones
Donor Listing

$50-$249 continued

Patrick Judge
Susan Kaminski
Lance Kaplan
Susanne Karacki
Kari Keaton
Richard Kerr
Julia Kingsbury
Carolyn Kingsley
Fran Kline
Jonathan Kopp
Laura Koundinya
Daniel & Cynthia Ladd
Eileen Lamb
Linda LaPrade
M. Elizabeth Lauther
Anthony Leahy
Cynthia Leggett
Elizabeth Leighton
Theresa Lindsey
Wayne Little
Charles Loehr
Patrick Lowman
Kira Lueders
Joel Lynch
Marie Mabe
Nancy Magurn
Douglas Major-Ryan
Valerie Mallon
Michael Mann
Carmela Mannarino
John Marshall
Michael Marx
Ellen Masciocchi
Donna Matthews
Carlos Mayorga
Alethea McCulloch
Janet McDermott
Brian McLaughlin
Flynn McLean
Christine McNerney
Tara McVed Thomas
Meyer Stuart Miller
Kathleen Mitchel
Dennis Moore
Betty Morgan
Yuri Nakai
Thomas Nelson
Dorie Newman
Bill Noal
Marie Novak
Ozkan Ozonal
Chris Pabon
Roger Paden
Alan Paller
Pamela Parker
Andre Parraway
Jean Pascoe
Jonathan Paul
Thelma Pearson
Sarah Phelps
Andrew Platt
Frank Pod
Brian Polk
Karen Pollak
Brandon Prendergast
Christina Prete
Dwight Price
Steven Quade
Nithya Raghavan
Barbara Redmond
Laurel Reitman
Scott Ritter
Richard Robbins
Peggy Robinson
Carla Rodriguez
Michael Roller
Elizabeth Rosen
Victor Rosenblum
Jan Rothman
Charles Rowell
Judith Rumerman
Clarice Runkles
Kathryn Rushing
Douglas & Doreen Major Ryan
Kimberly Samperton
Barbara Schubert
Melissa Schweiguth
Tania Scinto
Becky Segall
Jane Seigler
Stacey Shapiro
Gale Shaw
Jeffrey Smith
Ray Smith
Morgan Sullivan
Lee Talisman
Medha Tare
Renee Terselic
The Maryland Nursery
Nancy Traubitz
Pamela Zurer
Andrew and Marcia Zvara
Frederica Wheeler
Florence Winnik
Phyliss Wishnie
Barbara Waite-Jaques
Steven Watts
Joyce Waugh
Eliot Waxman
Robert Weinstock
Theodore Weitzman
Thomas Wellems
Eric Wenger
Shirley Westcott
Priscilla Whatley
Tribute Gifts

In Memory of Eve Andre
Gayle Crouch

In Memory of Darrell Baker
Robert Allen
Terrance Allen
Brenda Baker
Valerie Mallon
Valerie Mallon

In Memory of Mark Chido
Bruce Dorrier

In Memory of Richard N. Davis
Janet Davis

In Memory of Francis J. DiMisa
David & Eileen Haley

In Memory of Charles Dorian
Gretchen Schwartz

In Memory of Margaret Dwyer
Susan Pourian
Dwight Price
Raine Weiner

In Memory of Mary Ebner
Walter Heath
Thomas Meyer

In Memory of Irene W. Edwards
Arlene Foneroff
Phyllis Wishnie

In Memory of Janet Englehart
Patricia Turner

In Memory of Paige Emanivong
Clark | Azar & Associates, Inc.

In Memory of Bill English
Washington Area Roadskaters

In Memory of Selma Droznin
Roberta Weinreich

In Memory of Ann M. Garofalo
Robert Garofalo

In Memory of Kurt Grant
Stacey Abbott
Mark Bradley
Nancy Colladay
Diane Donaldson
Angela Freibbaum
Kathleen Fritsch
Aries Funes
David Gersten
Kelly Groff
Patrick Lowman
Mitchell Parizer
Celina Roberts
Steven Watts

In Memory of Bruce Goldberg
Heather MacMillian

In Memory of Alexander Gorbach
Marina Gorbach

In Memory of Gracie and Bull
Kimberly Samperton

In Memory of Linda S. Katz
Gale Shaw

In Memory of Ralph C. King
Vallerie King

In Memory of Argyle R. Knapp
Jean Pascoe
Georgea Sacher

In Memory of Harold Marshall
Brian Marshall

In Memory of Janice Martin
Betty Morgan

In Memory of Alan Marx
Michael Marx

In Memory of Charles H. McClure
Susan Allen

In Memory of Fran McClure
Frank Lee

In Memory of Hume McClure
Medha Tare

In Memory of Ermona McGoodwin
Brenda Druen

In Memory of Colleen Mitchell
Kathleen Mitchell

In Memory of Mary Nguyen
Jerry and Louise Hawkins

In Memory of Matthew Phillips
Julia Phillips
Tribute Gifts

In Memory of Miles Reinke
D’Ottavi Family

In Memory of Alan Reiter
Amy Brundage
Michele and David Craig
Erin Frautschy
Shanan Guinn
Beverley Hazen
Abigail Holden
Perita Jones
Brandon Prendergast
Richard Robb
Priscilla Whatley

In Memory of Peter Roller
Margaret Douglas
Theresa Lindsey
Akiko Roller

In Memory of Jerry Seigel
Susan Canada

In Memory of Rakan Stormer
Gigi Green

In Memory of Ahmad and Syeda Z. Tajuddin
Sharmin Ahmad

In Memory of Loretta Weber
Amy Prywes

In Memory of Ron Wellman
Elizabeth Rosen

In Memory of Russell Windsor
Jean Pascoe

In Memory of Barry Wolfe
Jacqueline Crawley

In Memory of Norma J. Zess
Cynthia Leggett

IN CELEBRATION OF

In Celebration of The Hush Family
Grandchildren
Carolyn Hush

IN HONOR OF

In Honor of Nicholas Bond
Jerald Bond

In Honor of Mark and Ruth Bortz
Hettie Bortz

In Honor of H. Fraser Clayton
Hugh Clayton

In Honor of Bonita W. Cooper
Lauren Cooper Van Tol

In Honor of Paul Denicoff
Pamela Hamrin

In Honor of Rebeckah Gothelf
Stacey Shapiro

In Honor of Tony and S. Kaminski
In Allison Uehling

In Honor of Chriss A. Pabon
Shirley Yalowitz

In Honor of Hsien Ping Pao and
Mrs. Chia
Ming C. Pao
Leo Radzihovsky and Lucy Pao
Gary Wilson

In Honor of Eileen Schmidt
Susanne Karacki

In Honor of Barbara and Roger
Schwarz
Nancy Cioffari
Philippa Pressman

In Honor of Tricia Crilley Wigmore
Robert Wigmore
2019 Highlights

1 Million
COUNTY RESIDENTS SERVED
by Montgomery Parks

$500,000
STATE BOND BILLS SECURED
for cultural and educational projects

$300,000
IN-KIND GIFT
given by the Washington Capitals

$156,000+
GRANTS AWARDED
in support of capital campaigns

$50,000
DONATED AS A MATCHING GRANT
to the Josiah Henson Museum & Park
by the Foundation

Campaign Update:
THE JOSIAH HENSON MUSEUM & PARK

The Josiah Henson Museum and Park, once only an exciting vision, is now becoming a reality. Construction is well underway—transforming the original house and land, where Josiah Henson was enslaved, into a premier destination for historic education.

In 2019, the Foundation was busy soliciting grants to advance the completion of this preeminent cultural landmark along the Underground Railroad. Working in tandem with the Parks Department, we secured a $250,000 State Bond Bill that would be applied towards the final stages of the project. The Maryland Heritage Areas Authority issued a $50,000 grant in support of the museum exhibits, and the Foundation matched the grant with an additional $50,000.

The Foundation was grateful to receive a $10,000 grant from the Olive Tree Foundation, comprised of direct descendants of Josiah Henson.

The Foundation looks forward to seeing this important cultural site open to the public in late 2020. Thanks to support from our donors, we can preserve this important piece of African-American history.
Financials

Statement of Financial Position
As of December 31, 2019

Assets
- Cash and cash equivalents: $793,954
- Investments: $173,035
- Unconditional promises to give, net: $111,300
- Grant receivables: $37,500
- Prepaid expenses: $886

Total Assets: $1,116,675

Liabilities and Net Assets
- Liabilities: $16,627
- Without donor restriction: $116,446
- With donor restriction: $983,602

Total Net Assets: $1,100,048

Total Liabilities and Net Asset: $1,116,675

Total Support and Revenue: $1,233,016
- Contribution: $278,302
- In-kind Donations: $441,407
- Investment Income: $13,149
- Released Restricted Assets: $500,158

Project Detail: $766,945
- Capital Crescent Trail: $383,216
- Brookside Gardens: $193,416
- Josiah Henson: $133,826
- Other Projects: $56,487

Expenses: $1,566,154
- Program: $944,455
- Management and General: $462,008
- Fundraising: $159,691
Board of Trustees

**Officers of the Board**
John Robinson, *President*
Meredith Wellington, *Vice President*
Scott Ritter, *Secretary*
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**Ways to Give**

Donate online at: montgomeryparksfoundation.org

Mail your donation to:
Montgomery Parks Foundation
9500 Brunett Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20901

To donate by phone, please call us at: (301) 495-2587