Since 2007, the Montgomery County History Conference has been a venue for people of all ages and backgrounds—civic leaders, students, lifelong learners, museum professionals and volunteers, history buffs, genealogists, and the general public—to explore and celebrate the many facets of our past that shape our community to this day. Hosted annually by Montgomery History in partnership with Montgomery College, this daylong gathering is recognized for its challenging and thought-provoking presentations, workshops, performances, and panel discussions covering a wide range of local history topics.

The 2020 Conference will kick off with County Councilmember Evan Glass presenting the rainbow Pride flag that flew over the Executive Office Building during Pride Month in June to Montgomery History for accession into our permanent collection. The opening session will feature Royce Hanson, the former Chair of the Montgomery County Planning Commission, delivering a talk on the history of the Agricultural Reserve (one of the most requested topics every year). This will be followed by breakout sessions featuring wide-ranging topics such as recent archeological findings from the site of the Seneca Store, suburban growth in the 1960s, the historically African American community of Lyttonsville, and local Prohibition. We are also pleased to offer for the first time a session in Spanish to look at Latino immigration into the county in the late 20th century.

Afternoon breakout sessions will feature topics such as Marriott’s growth from Hot Shoppes to hotels, a history of the Montgomery County Sentinel, stories from the Aspin Hill Pet Cemetery, a look at 19th century medicine, and the legacy of three lynchings that took place in the county in the late 19th century. The conference's closing session will be a captivating performance of WWII correspondent Ernie Pyle by actor Steve LaRocque. The conference will once again culminate with a networking reception for presenters, sponsors, and attendees.

Register by January 3rd and save $10 with early bird registration!

We hope you can join us for the 2020 History Conference!

If you have questions, please call Montgomery History at 301-340-2825 or visit us online at MontgomeryHistory.org/Events/HistoryConference2020/

We are grateful to the following for sponsoring individual sessions:
8:00-8:45 am  REGISTRATION & COFFEE

8:45-9:15 am  OPENING REMARKS
Matthew Logan, Montgomery History, Executive Director
County Councilmember Evan Glass, Pride flag donation

9:15-10:30 am  MORNING GENERAL SESSION
"Looking Backward: A Future History of the Montgomery County Agricultural Reserve (c. 2080)"
Royce Hanson
Sponsor: Kiplinger Family Foundation

10:30-10:45 am  BREAK

10:45-11:45 am  MORNING CONCURRENT SESSIONS
Option 1:
"Mapping the Past: Archeological Investigations at the Seneca Store"
Karl Franz and Heather Bouslog
Sponsor: Archeological Society of Maryland, Mid-Potomac Chapter, Inc.

Option 2:
"How Montgomery County Changed in the 1960s"
Bob Bachman
Sponsor: Mary Kay Harper Center for Suburban Studies

Option 3:
"Lyttonsville: 167 Years and Still We Struggle"
Charlotte Coffield and Patricia Tyson
Sponsor: Heritage Montgomery

Option 4:
"Historias de pioneros hispanos construyendo comuninad en el condado de Montgomery (1960s-1970s)"
Stories of Hispanic Pioneers Building Community in Montgomery (1960s-1970s)
Cuentistas | Storytellers: Leonor Guillén, Lourdes Gutiérrez, Maria Helena Malagón, Beatriz Weiss, Ken Weiss, and Teresa Wright
Moderadora | Moderator: Karla Silvestre
Sponsor: Montgomery College
Session in Spanish with English translation available

Option 5:
"Dry Oases: Local Prohibitions of Alcohol in Montgomery County, Maryland"
Prof. Ranjit Dighe
Sponsor: 7 Locks Brewing

11:45 am-12:45 pm  LUNCH BREAK
Sponsor: M&T Bank

12:45-1:45 pm  AFTERNOON CONCURRENT SESSIONS
Option 1:
"Aspin Hill Pet Cemetery: Montgomery County's Famous Four-Legged Friends"
Julianne Mangin
Sponsor: Heritage Montgomery

Option 2:
"Marriotts and Motor Cars: Made for Each Other"
Katie Dishman
Sponsor: The J. Willard and Alice S. Marriott Foundation

Option 3:
"The Montgomery County Sentinel: The Evolution of Local Journalism Since 1855"
Paul Schwartz, Tom Farquhar, and Daniel Kucin Jr.
Sponsors: Dan and Nancy Balz

Option 4:
"Dr. Edward E. Stonestreet and the Legacy of 19th Century Medicine"
Clarence Hickey
Sponsor: Montgomery County Medical Society

Option 5:
"By Hands of Parties Unknown: Remembrance and Reconciliation of Three Lynchings in Montgomery County"
Anthony Cohen
Sponsor: Montgomery County Lynching Memorial Project

1:45-2:00 pm  BREAK

2:00-3:15 pm  AFTERNOON GENERAL SESSION
"Byline: Ernie Pyle"
Steve LaRocque
Sponsor: Brown Advisory

3:15-4:15 pm  RECEPTION
Sponsor: Montgomery History Board of Directors

ALL DAY  GENEALOGY ROADSHOW
Hosted by the Montgomery County Genealogical Society. Experts will be on hand to help you overcome brick walls researching your family tree.

Register online at: https://HC2020.Eventbrite.com