



MEDIA RELEASE

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History is Coming Alive in Preparation for 2022's 250th Anniversary Celebration **EC250 Asks Visitors to Ellicott City “Where’s George?”**

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ELLICOTT CITY, MARYLAND -- George Ellicott, a member of Ellicott City’s founding family, is reported to be returning to his old stomping grounds as the 250th anniversary of the town draws near. **Visitors to Ellicott City are encouraged to look for George out and about in town this fall on October 24, 31 and November 8 between noon & 4pm.** When they spot George, individuals can snap a photo, share it in a Facebook post using the hashtag **#IFoundGeorgeinEC** and tag **@EC250**. All photos shared will be entered in a random drawing to win a one-of-a-kind, handmade wooden bank featuring an original ornate metal P.O. Box door from Ellicott City’s old Main Street Post Office.

George Ellicott was born in Bucks County Pennsylvania in 1760 to Ellicott City founding father Andrew Ellicott and his wife Elizabeth. George Ellicott married Elizabeth Brooke and together they had 7 children. George moved to Maryland as a teenager and assisted in surveying new roads early in the mill town's development. George Ellicott lived for forty years in a locally quarried granite house built on the east side of the Patapsco River. His home sat on the site of what is now the former Wilkins-Rogers flour mill. In 1972 the structure was flooded during Tropical Storm Agnes. While his brother Jonathan’s adjacent home was destroyed, George’s home remained enough intact to later be moved across the street in 1983 to where it still stands today in Oella at the corner of Frederick Road and Westchester Avenue. George Ellicott passed away in 1832 in Ellicott City.

Historic reenactor Steve Bilanow will bring George Ellicott back to life for EC250’s “History Comes Alive” educational promotion. Steve, a resident of Columbia, has been recreating George (the son of Ellicott City’s founding father Andrew Ellicott) since 2009. He chose to portray George after volunteering at the Benjamin Banneker Historical Park and Museum and participating in the museum’s annual Colonial Market Fair.

Steve, who shares an interest in astronomy with his historical persona, says, "I have become fascinated with available details of the history, and the community that fostered these mill developers in their ambitious efforts."

EC250 anticipates more in town sightings of George, his relatives, and other historic figures relative to Ellicott City’s history as the anniversary year approaches. “Where’s George?” and future “History Comes Alive” appearances are sponsored by Patapsco Heritage Greenway and Ellicott City’s Main Street Oriental Rugs business owner Mojan Bagha.

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