

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: David Buck

Office – (410) 767-4395

Cell – (443) 463-7139

New Historical Roadside Marker to Honor Virginia Hall

Historical Marker to Commemorate World War II Undercover Agent of Extraordinary Heroism

(April 3, 2018) Baltimore, MD – A new Maryland roadside historical marker will be unveiled in the 19300 block of York Road just north of Parkton, Baltimore County on Saturday, April 7, at 11 a.m. The marker commemorates Virginia Hall, a Baltimore County native who was an undercover agent during World War II and played a significant role in the Allied victory in France.

Hall grew up at Box Horn Farm, which was located nearby. She had sought a career in the Foreign Service, but was barred from that role after a hunting accident resulted in the partial loss of her leg. She instead qualified as a special agent of the British Special Operations Executive, secretly organizing, aiding and arming the French resistance. In the employ of the Office of Strategic Service (OSS), the precursor to the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), she organized sabotage teams that destroyed German infrastructure. Regarded by German intelligence as one of the most dangerous Allied agents in France, she evaded their efforts to capture her.

In 1945, she was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against the enemy. After the war she joined the CIA, where she worked until retirement in 1966.

The Maryland roadside historical marker program is administered by the Maryland Historical Trust in partnership with the Maryland State Highway Administration.

For information on Virginia Hall, go to:

<https://www.cia.gov/news-information/featured-story-archive/2015-featured-story-archive/virginia-hall-the-courage-and-daring-of-the-limping-lady.html>

Additional information on the historical marker program can be found at mht.maryland.gov/historicalmarkers

For those attending the ceremony, limited parking will be available on a service road adjacent to York Road just south of Stablers Church Road in Parkton. Parking will not be available on the shoulder of York Road for safety reasons.

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