



Downingtown Area Historical Society
Hist-O-Gram

Interesting local history, accessed from our archives

www.downingtownareahistoricalsociety.org

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January 3, 2013

Where Is This?



The first person to correctly identify the building, which is partly shown above, will be recognized as a truly perceptive scholar. Better yet, they will win a \$25 gift card from F.H. Swisher Plumbing & Heating, to be used at a local restaurant.

Please send your responses to: Info@downingtownareahistoricalsociety.org.

Downingtown area news in January 1977

These news items about the Downingtown area were originally published in the *East Branch Citizen* 36 years ago

Chester County commissioners started condemning private properties that were blocking sewer line construction between **Marsh Creek State Park** and the Downingtown Regional Sewer Plant. The county bought the abandoned New Holland Railroad line along the East Branch of Brandywine Creek, where the sewer line, with a capacity of handling 100,000 gallons of sewage per day, was to be installed.

Four Js, an appliance and floor covering business, which had been located at Wallace and Pennsylvania Avenues in the borough, opened a new store on the site where Devitt's Hardware had been located on East Lancaster Avenue, before it burned down in 1971.

New officers of the **Downingtown Rotary Club** were Bob Schafer, president; Millard Ryan, first vice president; Dr. Joseph McCahon, second vice president; Jack Bonham, secretary; Thomas Brookover, treasurer; Lewis Wilson, assistant treasurer; and directors Bruce Bredickas, Paul Limbach, Richard Thatcher and Frank Brouse.

Members of the newly established **East Brandywine Recreation Committee** were William Zynn, Ed McDermott, Gail McCahon, Paul Leslie and Peter Frank.

Recent **property transfers** included: 102 Worthington Drive., Uwchlan, \$41,990; 210 William St., Downingtown, \$22,000; 114 Locust Knoll Road, East Brandywine, \$56,200; and 1363 Piedmont Drive, West Bradford, \$55,500;.

Elected to serve as trustees at **Downingtown Methodist Church** were Gilbert Algier, Paul McCombs, William Woodward, Charles Glass, Lionel Shaeffer, Morris Stevens, Ralph Ardrey, Dr. Charles Bruton and Charles Espenlaub.

New officers of the Sunday School at **Windsor Baptist Church**, Eagle, were James Runyen, superintendent; Alice Styer, secretary; Michele Runyen, assistant secretary; Stan Miller, librarian; Joe Cura, song leader; and pianists Rita German, Jenny Peterson, Stan Miller and Dawn Trego.

Plans for the proposed \$23.8 million **St. John Neumann Community Medical Center** were unveiled. The facility, to be located along the Caln-Downingtown border, was to have 140 acute-care beds and 150 long-term care beds.

Downingtown Area School District officials expect to see an increase at the district's secondary schools. For example, the capacity at DHS is 1,196, but the current enrollment is 1,644. However, enrollment at the elementary schools, 3,633, is below capacity (3,700), and it is projected to decline to 3,588 by the 1981-82 school year.

Local **Girl Scout leaders**, responsible for the annual cookie sale, were Mrs. James Abrams, Mrs. John Rossiter, Bill Supplee, Mrs. Robert Richey and Jean Mauger.

Tom Fulton, Alert Fire Co., and Gil Evoli, Minquas Fire Co., were honored at the **Downingtown Fire Department's** annual banquet.

Elected to the Council of **St. Paul's Lutheran Church**, Lionville, were Roland Feldman, Harry Gebhart, James Lammey, Edgar Miller, Matthew Lad and Nancy Hurst. And James Page, Louis Cracas, Joyce Miller, Joseph Moroney, Conrad Rodney and David Shaeffer were named trustees.

New part-time employees at **Central Presbyterian Church**, Downingtown, included Jean Hessler, secretary; Cookie Pannebaker, children's work coordinator; and Dave Burghart, youth worker.

Elected to the Board of Trustees at **Marshallton Methodist Church** were Robert Mackin, president; Nancy Busby, vice president; and Clinton Fetterman, secretary.

Old sign is on side of Creekside Antiques Store



Pat Butler is the truly perceptive scholar who was the first person to correctly identify the photo above in last week's Hist-O-Gram, taken by Mike Dunn. It's the sign on the side of the building at Manor and Lancaster Avenues in Downingtown, now used by Creekside Antiques (see front of store below) owned by Beth and Dana Beach. Over the years, the building was occupied by the original Ray Sheeler Chevrolet agency, a Flying A gas station, and a tax preparation service.



The front of Creekside Antiques on Lancaster Avenue.

Clip Joint will be open Sunday, Jan. 6

The next clipping and pasting session will be held from 1-4 PM on **Sunday, Jan. 6** at Ashbridge House, our headquarters on East Lancaster Avenue, in the Ashbridge Shopping Center in East Caln. Parking is available in the lot at the Chick-Fil-A restaurant next door, which is closed on Sundays. You're welcome to arrive and leave at your leisure

Coming events & activities in Downingtown area

DHS West Post Prom Party

The 10th annual DHS West Post Prom Party (P3) will be held at the Lionville YMCA. All seniors are invited, and they don't have to go to the Prom to come to the Post Prom Party.

This year's theme is "Passport to the World." The YMCA will be transformed into a night filled with fun and activities, including the indoor pool, using exciting places to tour throughout the world, while providing a safe and fun environment for all. Last year's event drew over 250 seniors and their guests.

The event is coordinated and funded by parents and members of the community. All funds that are raised will be used for the event and are utilized in securing activities, games, food and prizes.

Volunteers are needed for all committees, and parents of students in all grade levels are encouraged to get involved. Please do not wait until your child is a senior to get involved.

Those who wish to help are invited to join us at 7 PM at meetings being held in Room 139 at DHS West on Jan.15, Feb. 19, March 19, April 16 and May 14.

Please check out the P3 website: www.dwestpostprom.com for more details and to sign up as a volunteer.

Savings opportunities available at DARC

Discount Movie Tickets: \$7.50, cash only. Honored at all Regal Entertainment Group locations (Regal Cinemas, United Artists Theatres, and Edwards Theatres). Valid for all show times. There may be a \$2.50 surcharge for the first 12 days of select films or a \$2.50 surcharge for IMAX Giant Screen Theatres.

For more info/complete price list on these opportunities and upcoming programs, go to the DARC website www.darcinfo.com, or call 610-269-9260, or stop by the DARC Office (8:30 AM-4:30 PM, Monday thru Friday), 114 Bell Tavern Road Downingtown.

Banquet Room for Rent

The Downingtown (Williamson) Masonic Lodge, a non-profit organization located at 210 Manor Ave. has a Banquet Room for rent. The area is perfect for parties of up to 80 people and has a full kitchen. Rental fees are very reasonable. Call 610-269-3555 for more information.

Joseph's People, Downingtown Chapter

An ecumenical support mission to help un/underemployed people; run entirely by volunteers. We have been at St. Joseph's since 1995. Meets 7:30 PM on the 2nd & 4th Tues. of the month. All are welcome. Visit web page, www.josephspeople.org or just come to a meeting at St. Joseph's Parish Meeting Room behind the school, 460 Manor Ave., Downingtown. Call 610 873-7117. Leave Message. Leader: Cheryl Spaulding, Email: JPCheryl@verizon.net.

Hist-O-Grams are emailed weekly to members and friends of the Downtown Area Historical Society. If you want to make a comment, add your email address to the sign-up box on the home page of our website. We won't share or sell any email addresses.

Or if you want your email address deleted from the list, send an email to: Info@downtownareahistoricalsociety.org.