



Downingtown Area Historical Society **Hist-O-Gram**

Interesting local history, accessed from our archives

www.downingtownareahistoricalsociety.org

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Where and What Is This?



The first person to correctly identify the building, shown above, will be recognized as a truly perceptive scholar. Please send your responses to: Info@downingtownareahistoricalsociety.org.

More local news items 52 years ago

Noted below are news items about the Downingtown area, which were originally published in local newspapers in the latter part of March 1962.

Young people who participated in a stewardship contest at **St. Paul's UCC Church**, Lionville, included Robert Worthington, Donald and Jill Corneal, Ella and Dorsey Trego, Richard Faddis, Thomas and Richard Shreiner, Charles Wertz, Rickey Gilbert, Joyce Mull, Norma Jean Walters, Bruce Emery, Linda Davis and William Behrndt.

Newly elected officers of the **Downingtown Rotary Club** were James Hines, president; Guy Kline, first vice president; Earl Radcliffe, second vice president; Ernest Smedley, secretary; Lloyd Swarner, treasurer; and Henry Smith, sergeant-at-arms. Directors elected were William Balderston, Rev. Donald Bower and Stephen MacNeill.

There was no public opposition when some 60 residents of **Upper Uwchlan** heard the township planning commission's first comprehensive plan. Members of the planning commission were Rev. Carl Kopenhaver, chairman, George Fish, George Lumis, Forrest Gottier and James Martin. The plan called for a light industrial area of about 350 acres in the vicinity of the village of Eagle.

Horace Rodgers, chairman of the **Downingtown Chamber of Commerce's** improvement committee, gave a pessimistic report on the borough's store front project. Rodgers said some store owners wanted modern fronts, while others preferred colonial fronts. And David Yaeck, chairman of the Christmas decorating committee, said that, although service clubs and other local organizations had supported putting up Christmas lights, there was little cooperation by merchants in the business district.

Second graders who participated in an assembly at **Beaver Creek School**, Downingtown, included Nancy MacDonald, Denine Koth, Paula Swoyer, Roxanne Adams, Dianne Peterman, David Kipp, Mark Dreibelbis, Richard Weaver, Deborah Seibert, Edward Green, Sandra Piersol, Terry Davis, Mona Sollenberger, Jean Jarvie, Wanda Shindle, Valerie Wilkerson and Robert Paup.

A Philadelphia planning consultant told **Uwchlan Township** residents, who attended a planning commission meeting, there was a need for "community minded" industrial companies to supply additional tax revenue. And he advised that it would be a mistake to "string out" the township's commercial development along Route 100. Instead, it would be better if the village of Lionville were a commercial center, rather than "dribble it along the highway."

Members of **Troop 314**, who helped celebrate the 50th anniversary of Girl Scouting at Fairview Presbyterian Church, Glenmoore, were Carol Baker, Ann Chalfant, Nancy Gerbron, Deborah Greenfield, Susan Hadfield, Maria Louise Pease, Yvonne Pryzemeski, Jean Reeve, Betty Saathoff, Karen Slater, and Bertha and Linda Bentley.

Fourth graders at the **Font School**, Upper Uwchlan, taught by Dixie Bradbury, who participated in a program on the settlement of Pennsylvania, included Susan Hurst, Billy Frame, Wendy Gottier, Mary Harvey, Donald Spence, Jacqueline Pitt, Kenny Peterson, Bruce Wynn, Bruce Styer, Jimmy Pinkerton and Craig Hardy.

Those who modeled clothing in the fashion show, sponsored by the Ladies of **St. Joseph's School**, Downingtown and chaired by Mrs. Michael Golden, were Mrs. Jack Crenshaw, Mrs. George Kalbitzer, Mrs. Bert Hough, Mrs. William Sheridan, Mrs. Eugenio DiClemente, Mrs. William Hall, Mrs. William Crawford, Mrs. John Doddy, Mrs. Richard Short, Mrs. Joseph Panichelli, Mrs. Nello Caporale and Mrs. Francis Allen. And eighth graders modeled dresses

were Aleta Sack, Agatha Mento, Lorraine Androwick, Joan Massimini, Cheryl Valocchi and Betty Ann Panetti.

Students who made the honor roll at **West Pikeland Elementary School** were Bobby Hayes, Teddy Jeffries, Raymond Mertz, Ricky and Bonnie Summerfield, Bonnie Trego, Sue and Bonnie Uhler, Jackie Winchell, Harry Levering, Andre and Suzanne Perreault, Kath Vail, Mary Smiley, Robin Knox, Diane Fink, Alice Dilworth, Anne English, Billy Hollifield, Karl Snyder, Karen Alfsen, Anne Louise Detweiler, Katie Hallman, Nancy Sload and Ben Woodland.

George Hilton was elected commander of the **Brandywine VFW Post 845**, Downingtown. Also elected were Harley Leavitt, senior vice commander; Herbert Lamme, junior vice commander; William Wilmot, quartermaster; Henry Thomas, chaplain; P. Y. Farnsworth, post advocate; Dr. Charles Bruton, post surgeon; and trustees Thomas Clark, Theodore Jameson, Schrack Stewart, Edward Klink and Earl Parker.

Finalists in the Downingtown Elementary School **spelling bee** were Jesse Babcock, Howard Baum, Donna Brown, Herbert brown, Stephen Caldwell, Brenda Diem, Elaine Geiger, Cheryl Geist, Susan Getty, Robert Griggs, Robert Hildebeitel, Judy Husted, Susan Jones and Linda Kipp.

Models in the fashion show, sponsored by the **Alert Fire Co. Auxiliary**, Downingtown, were Mrs. Herbie Talucci, Joyce Stern, Mrs. Maynard Collier, Mrs. Frank Thraillkill, Mrs. Elmer Schrupf, Mrs. Donald Stine, Mrs. Paul Pollock, Mrs. James Bones, Velma Warren, Mrs. Robert Eickstedt and Mrs. Brooks Laird.

Fine Dining, Victorian Style, at the Yellow Springs Inn

Here's another restaurant write-up by Karen and Ron Meacham, who won the grand prize—dinners at 12 Downingtown area restaurants—in the Restaurant Raffle, conducted by the Historical Society this past fall.

Our next dining experience, using the certificates won in the Downingtown Area Historical Society Restaurant Raffle, was the beautiful Yellow Springs Inn in Chester Springs. The Jenny Lind House is the newest location for this beautifully renovated Victorian Restaurant. The house is named after the 19th century European opera star Jenny Lind, who is said to have stayed there around 1850, during the Philadelphia part of a concert tour.

The restaurant has both formal and casual dining rooms, all richly decorated with Charles Orlando's passion for antiques. We were served in the warm and cozy casual room, with a fireplace and beautiful mahogany bar. The Inn prides itself on offering heritage breeds of beef, pork, chicken and wild-caught seafood from New York and Honolulu.

Our experience included uniquely prepared appetizers of duck and chestnut in pastry, wild mushroom and pheasant soups, and stuffed portabella mushroom, fresh ricotta salad and roasted red and golden beets. Our entrées included a variety of fish - halibut, salmon and grouper, all exquisitely prepared and presented on antique china. We topped off this delicious meal with desserts of chocolate pie, crème brulee' and carrot cake. The Inn is a BYOB restaurant, but charges no corking fee and provides a variety of mixers. The service was attentive yet non-intrusive, and our server provided a wealth of knowledge about the history and renovation of this wonderful find.

We thank Charles Orlando for making this gracious donation to the Downingtown Area Historical Society's fundraising event. To learn more about the historic Yellow Springs Inn Restaurant and Catering Service, as well as Jenny Lind, visit their website www.YellowSpringsInn.com.

School principals bewail cancelling classes in song

Check out www.youtube.com/watch?v=ee2aSVzJvvY&feature=youtu.be so you can see the “No School Medley,” rocked by Downingtown School District administrators—Dr. Larry Mussoline, superintendent; Dr. Nick Indeglio, Downingtown Middle School principal; and Jon Ross, Lionville Middle School principal—as they bewailed (literally) having to cancel classes for the eighth day this school year. According to an article in the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, their presentation had attracted more than 60,000, as of this past Monday. Apparently, the principals didn’t start out as music teachers.

It’s the steeple of Glenmoore United Methodist Church



Cathy Murphy is a truly perceptive scholar because she was the first person to correctly identify the building in the photo above as Glenmoore United Methodist Church. The photo was taken by John Miller, a member of the congregation and a life-long resident of Wallace Township, where he serves as the township Historical Commission’s archivist. The church, located on Route 282, smack-dab in the center of the village of Glenmoore, was founded in 1831 as Springton Methodist Church and was originally located one mile south of the village. When the congregation outgrew that location, a church shown above was built in 1873.

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Free ads for Non-Profits

Lecture series

The East Brandywine Township Historical Commission will kick off a monthly lecture series on Sundays, at 3:30 PM, with a discussion at the township building on Feb. 23 about the Downingtown Industrial and Agricultural School. It will be followed by a lecture on the Bondsville Mill on March 30. The third lecture, on East Brandywine Baptist, will be held at the church on April 27.

Food Fight

The Thorndale Rotary Club has challenged the Coatesville Rotary Club to a food fight. The clubs are competing to collect the most non-perishable food goods through March 1. All donations can be delivered to the West Bradford Township Building, 1385 Campus Drive, during normal business hours, 7 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday.

All items collected will be delivered to the Chester County Food Bank, to benefit families in need throughout our local communities.

The Cupboard's food supply runs low every March. Your generosity will help feed hundreds of hungry families during this critical time of year.

These high-priority items that are always in short supply: canned tuna, macaroni and cheese, canned pasta, canned beef stew, chili and soups, canned fruits & vegetables, and cold and hot breakfast cereals. Please consider adding an extra item or two to your weekly shopping list.

Book sale

The Downingtown Library's Spring Book Sale will be held from 6-7:30 PM Friday, March 7, and from 9 AM to 4 PM Saturday, March 8. For more info, call the library at 610-269-2741.

Brochure on DARC classes & activities

You can gain access to the latest DARC brochure, listing all classes and activities, at: www.darcinfo.com. For more info, call 610-269-9260, or stop by the DARC Office (8:30 AM-4:30 PM, Monday thru Friday), 114 Bell Tavern Road Downingtown.

Downingtown Farmers' Market

The Downingtown Farmers' Market will be open over the winter months on the following Thursdays: Feb. 20, March 6 and 20, and April 3 and 17, at the Williamson Masonic Hall; 210 Manor Ave., Downingtown, from 4 - 6 PM. All of the farmers and food artisans at the market must grow, raise or make what they sell – meriting its classification as a "producer only" market. Consistent with the market's social mission, food drives will be held periodically to benefit the Lord's Pantry and other organizations in need of food donations. Additionally, market space will be made available to non-profit groups if their mission is similar to that of the market.

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