



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

*Interesting local history, accessed from our archives*

[www.downingtownareahistoricalsociety.org](http://www.downingtownareahistoricalsociety.org)

*The past is never done. It is not even past--William Faulkner*

Vol. 7, No. 11

August 11, 2016

## Where and What Is This?



The first person to correctly identify the site in the photo above will be recognized as a truly perceptive scholar. Please send your response to: [Info@downingtownareahistoricalsociety.org](mailto:Info@downingtownareahistoricalsociety.org).

## What area folks were talking about in August 1980

Noted below are more news items originally published 36 years ago in the *East Branch Citizen*:

- Between \$1,500 and \$2,000 had been embezzled from the **Downingtown Little League**, according to Chester County detectives. The missing funds had been stolen from money collected at the concession stand operated at the League's field on Manor Avenue in the borough.
- Officers elected to lead the Helping Hands group at **Windsor Baptist Church**, Upper Uwchlan, were Sarah Bixler, president; Janna Cracas, vice president; Bev Runyen, program chairman; Gail Carmichael, treasurer; Eva Taylor, secretary; Alice Styer, missionaries; Barbara Gottier, special services; Emily Popjoy, hospitality; and Margie Trego, music.
- In a hotly contested see-saw balancing contest at **Wagenseller Park** playground in Glenmoore, the team of Jennifer Ely, Marni Antrim Heather Kirkpatrick and Sharyn Jones was victorious with a record-setting time of three hours and 36 minutes.
- Recent **property transfers** included: 432 Concord Ave., Uwchlan, \$73,000; 1526 Telegraph Road, West Bradford, \$58,800; 3213 Sylvan Drive, Thorndale, \$55,000; 120 Holly Drive, East Brandywine, \$88,800; 329 Jefferson Ave., Downingtown, \$46,000.
- Performances of the Passion Play at **Hopewell United Methodist Church**, East Brandywine, attracted more than 3,000 spectators. Officers of the Hilltoppers, which puts on the Passion Plays, were Ray Hunter, president; Ann Krum, vice president; Joyce Landon, secretary; and Joe and Nancy Hollister, treasurers.
- Members of the **Downingtown United Methodist Church** unanimously approved of plans to build a new church on East Lancaster Avenue in the borough, near the Downingtown-East Caln border. The church's building committee, headed by Thomas Brookover, had been working on the plans for two years.
- Downingtown's **Joey DiPietro** won the Junior World Open Pool Tournament in New York City. The 13-year-old Downingtown Junior High School student practiced four hours a day at the Corner Cue pool hall at the corner of Pennsylvania and Wallace Avenues, which was owned by his father, Carmen DiPietro.
- Four Js won the **Downingtown Fast Pitch League** championship, by beating Speedy Print Shop 6-4 in the final games of the league playoffs. Arnie Sten, with three hits, and Bill Mendenhall, who hit a three-run homer, paced the winner's offense. Four Js also won the regular season crown.

## Here's how YOU can receive a Hist-O-Gram every week

If you occasionally receive a pass-along copy of our Hist-O-Gram from a subscriber, you'd like to receive a copy of our FREE Hist-O-Gram directly every week, you can do that by accessing our website: [www.downingtownareahistoricalssociety.org](http://www.downingtownareahistoricalssociety.org), and typing your email address into the sign-up box on the home page. We won't share or sell any email addresses. And you can access previously published Hist-O-Grams at: [www.downingtownareahistoricalssociety.org/Histograms.html](http://www.downingtownareahistoricalssociety.org/Histograms.html).

# More local news in the summer of 1955

Noted below are items originally published in *The Archive* 61 years ago:

- **Sheeler Chevrolet** moved from the intersection of Lancaster and Manor Avenues in Downingtown to 21 E. Lancaster Ave. in the borough.
- The **Lionville Fire Co.** team outpulled the **West Bradford Fire Co.** team in the tug-of-war finals at the Goshen Fair. Members of the Lionville team included Harry and Carl Ruth, Henry Worthington, George Ruark, William Isinger, Jim Murphy, “Windy” Miller, and Jack, Harold and Leroy Trego.
- Officers of the **DHS Parents Club** were Mrs. R.T. Kent. President; Mrs. Herbert Ash, vice president; Mrs. J.P. Kahler, secretary; and Mrs. Charles Bruton, treasurer. Committee chairpersons were Mrs. Clifford Orr, program; Mrs. Lee Hamilton, ways and means; Mrs. Robert Hadfield, publicity; and Mrs. Raymond Schollenberger, membership.
- Members of **Boy Scout Troop 2**, Downingtown, who spent a week at Camp Horseshoe included: Anthony Antonelli, Dexter Carter, Thomas Edge, Mylin Plank, Sabatino Talucci, Joseph May, Philip March, Howard Hopkins, Dellett Norris, John Massimini, John Stine and Richard White.
- Rev. William Fenerty announced plans to expand **St. Joseph’s Catholic School**, Downingtown, to include a ninth grade, which could be a step toward developing a Catholic high school in the area.

## Group Photo of the Week



Officers of the Friends of the Downingtown Library group in the early 1970s were, left to right: Mrs. Jill Pettus, president; Mrs. Jane Davidson, vice president; Mrs. R.E. McKibbin, secretary; and Mrs. John Benner. Other members of the group’s executive board were Mrs. T.W. Reinbrecht and Mrs. Michael Golden.

## Brief, but important

1. In previous Hist-O-Grams, we told of several locations in Downingtown, Exton and Glenmoore, where volunteer **plane spotters** spent hours, often in an elevated shed, searching the skies for enemy planes flying over the Downingtown area during World War II. Tacked on the shed walls were cards with black silhouettes of enemy and American planes printed on them.

Bud Bruton tells us that another one of the plane spotting sites was the press box of the original DHS football field, now known as DiSerafino Stadium. The plane spotters probably often stood on the roof of the press box.

2. Speaking of World War II, the summer edition of *Immaculata Magazine* includes an interesting article on the war's impact on the area university during that period. And a significant amount of the information in the two-page story is attributed to "World War II and Chester County," which was authored by Marion Piccolomini, secretary of the History Society's board of directors. In case you missed it, you'll find a write-up on Marion's book about life here on the home front at: [www.downingtownareahistoricalociety.org/Histograms/2016%20Hist-O-Grams/March%2010%202016%20Hist-O-Gram.pdf](http://www.downingtownareahistoricalociety.org/Histograms/2016%20Hist-O-Grams/March%2010%202016%20Hist-O-Gram.pdf).

## It's the Lloyd Avenue bridge over Beaver Creek



Gregg Nelms is the truly perceptive scholar who correctly identified the site in the photo above as the Lloyd Avenue bridge over Beaver Creek, near the Downingtown-Caln Township border. The stone bridge, built in 1919, was improved in recent years. The stone building at the right is the Downingtown Municipal Water Authority's pumping station.

Vintage Ad of the Week

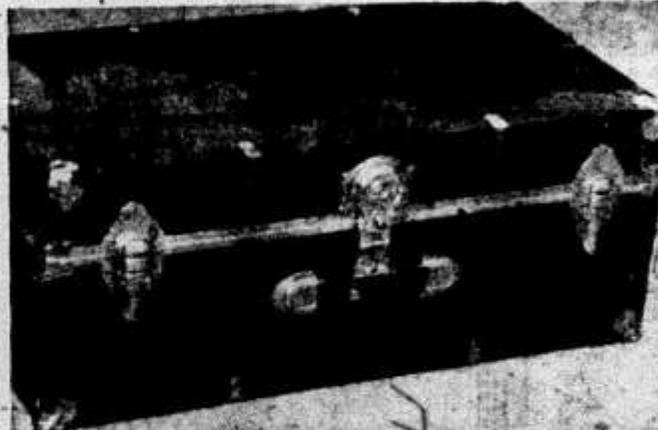


**CAMPING HEADQUARTERS**

**DOWNINGTOWN  
ARMY & NAVY**

112 EAST LANCASTER AVE., DOWNINGTOWN—269-2773

*The Best Prices in Chester County!*



**BIG 36" FIBRE  
FOOT  
LOCKER**

**\$12.99**

31 1/2 x 17 x 12  
STEEL  
FOOT LOCKERS

**\$8.44**

**AIR MATTRESS 1.77—ARMY COTS 4.88**

**CHOW KIT . . . . . special 59c**

LAUNDRY BAGS <b>77c</b>	SLEEPING BAGS <b>5.55</b>	CANTEENS <b>94c</b>	MESS KITS <b>1.49</b>	EATING UTENSILS 3-pc. Set Stainless Steel <b>59c</b>	All Wool O. D. BLANKETS <b>4.77</b>
-------------------------------	---------------------------------	------------------------	-----------------------------	--	--

**28" Steel  
Foot Lockers**

**\$5.33**



This ad was originally published in the August 17, 1964 edition of the *Daily Local News*.

# **An easier way to make a contribution, directly from an IRA, to your church or favorite charity**

In 2015, Congress made permanent the ability for individuals to make tax-free contributions directly from their IRAs to their church or favorite non-profit organization. This specific type of distribution is called a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). When done properly, a QCD will satisfy all or a portion of the Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) in the year that it is distributed, while not being added to that year's adjusted gross income.

For example, assume you are 72 years old, and your RMD for 2016 is \$5,000 which you are required to take no later than December 31 of this year. After reviewing your financials, you decide that you don't need all the RMD money to help meet your living expenses, and decide that you would like to donate some of the RMD to a local church or non-profit organization, such as the Downingtown Area Historical Society. In April 2017, for example, you take a distribution of \$3,500 and have a check for that amount sent directly to you. And the next month, you have a check for \$1,500 sent directly to your church or favorite non-profit organization. At the end of the year, you will need to count the \$3,500 that you received directly toward your gross income for 2016, but the \$1,500 that was sent directly to the church or non-profit does not get added to your gross income for the year. However, that \$1,500 does count toward satisfying your RMD for 2016.

So, before you take any RMD in 2016 or beyond, remember the needs of your church or favorite non-profit, such as the Downingtown Area Historical Society, and consider making a direct donation.

When considering a Qualified Charitable Distribution, remember these important points:

1. You must be over 70 years of age.
2. The distribution must be made directly to the church or non-profit.
3. A Required Minimum Distribution that you receive and then send directly to a church or non-profit, does not qualify as a QCD.
4. A distribution that goes directly to a church or non-profit can help to satisfy your RMD requirement.
5. A QCD must be a taxable distribution, and there are special rules to consider when your IRA includes non-deductible contributions.
6. Always consult with your financial advisor or tax consultant before making any financial transactions.

This information was provided by Bruton Financial Advisors of Downingtown.

*Officers of the Downingtown Area Historical Society are: Parry Desmond, president; Ernie Jameson, vice president; Marion Piccolomini, recording secretary; Francine Dague, treasurer; and Donna Capriotti, corresponding secretary. The board of directors includes: Harry Helms, Mike Dunn, Phil Dague and Dennis Walton. Carol Grigson is the archivist.*

# **Free Ads for Non-Profits**

## ***Chicken Bar-B-Que***

The Alert Fire Co. will have its annual Bar-B-Que at the fire house, 122 W. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown, from 4-7 PM on Saturday, August 13. You can eat-in or take-out. A complete dinner—half of a chicken, corn on the cob, baked potato, apple sauce, roll, dessert and beverage—costs only \$13.

## ***Chicken BBQ Dinner***

Marshallton United Methodist Church, 1282 West Strasburg Road, will host a Chicken BBQ Dinner (either "Eat-in" or "Take-out") from 4:30-6 PM on Saturday, August 13. Besides, BBQ chicken (leg/thigh), the menu will include cole slaw, corn on the cob, baked beans, roll & butter, dessert, and beverage. Cost is \$10/adult and \$5/child (5 to 12 years of age). Contact the church office at (610-696-5247) or [office@marshalltonchurch.org](mailto:office@marshalltonchurch.org) with any questions.

## ***Run For Parks***

To register for the Run for the Parks, presented by Hopewell Road Pharmacy, to be held at 9 AM on Saturday, August 20, starting at East Brandywine Community Park, 444 Dilworth Road. Events include a 5K run, a 3K walk, and a 1K kids' run. Entry fee for the Run/Walk is \$25. For more details, see:

[www.ebrandywine.org/Calendar.aspx?EID=574](http://www.ebrandywine.org/Calendar.aspx?EID=574). <http://www.ebrandywine.org/Calendar.aspx?EID=575>

## ***Community Day & Fireworks***

East Brandywine Township's Community Day will be held from 11-3 on Saturday, August 20, at East Brandywine Community Park, 444 Dilworth Road. Events include: Shriners clowns, Speed Stack competition, fire company rescue demonstrations, hat rides, martial arts, pony rides, tennis and a car show. Rain date is Sunday, August 21.

Festivities at the park end with the East Brandywine Fire Company's fireworks, beginning at 7 PM with a fireworks show after dark. Donations and sales benefit the East Brandywine Fire Co.

For more details on Community Day, see: [www.ebrandywine.org/Calendar.aspx?EID=414](http://www.ebrandywine.org/Calendar.aspx?EID=414), and for details on the

fireworks, see: [www.ebrandywine.org/Calendar.aspx?EID=575](http://www.ebrandywine.org/Calendar.aspx?EID=575).

## ***Car & Cycle Show***

The Minquas Fire Co. Ladies Auxiliary will have its seventh annual Car and Cycle Show at Kerr Park, 11 AM – 2 PM on Saturday, August 20.

## ***Blood Drive***

Borough of Downingtown will host a Red Cross Blood Drive from 1-6 PM on Thursday, September 1 at the Downingtown Borough Hall Annex Building. To sign up, access: [www.downingtowntown.org](http://www.downingtowntown.org).

## ***Class Reunion***

DHS Class of 1986 will have its 30<sup>th</sup> Reunion, from 6-10 PM on Saturday, Sept. 10, at the Brickside Grille, 540 Wellington Square, Exton. For more info, email [dhs86reunion@gmail.com](mailto:dhs86reunion@gmail.com) or see our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/113326642077578/> (DHS Class of 1986).

## ***Trimbleville Historical Marker***

Friends of Martin's Tavern invites everyone to join them in the unveiling of the Trimbleville historical marker at 311 Broad Run Road, West Bradford. The marker commemorates the role the hamlet of Trimbleville played in the Revolutionary War, and in the cultural heritage of colonial America. The program & dedication will begin at 1 PM on Sunday, September 11.

## ***Farmers Market***

The Downingtown Farmers Market has returned to Kerr Parks. It will be open from 9 AM to 1 PM on Saturdays. For more info, see: <http://growingrootspartners.com/downingtowntown-farmers-market>.

***Brochure on DARC classes & activities***

You can gain access to the latest DARC brochure, listing all classes and activities, at: [www.darcinfo.com](http://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.

***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 reasonable. Call 610-269-3555 for more information.

***Joseph's People, Downingtown chapter***

An ecumenical support mission to help unemployed or underemployed people. The group is entirely conducted by volunteers, and has been at St. Joseph's since 1995. Meets at 7:30 PM on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month. All are welcome. Visit web page, [www.josephspeople.org](http://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](mailto:JPCheryl@verizon.net).