



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

Interesting local history, accessed from our archives

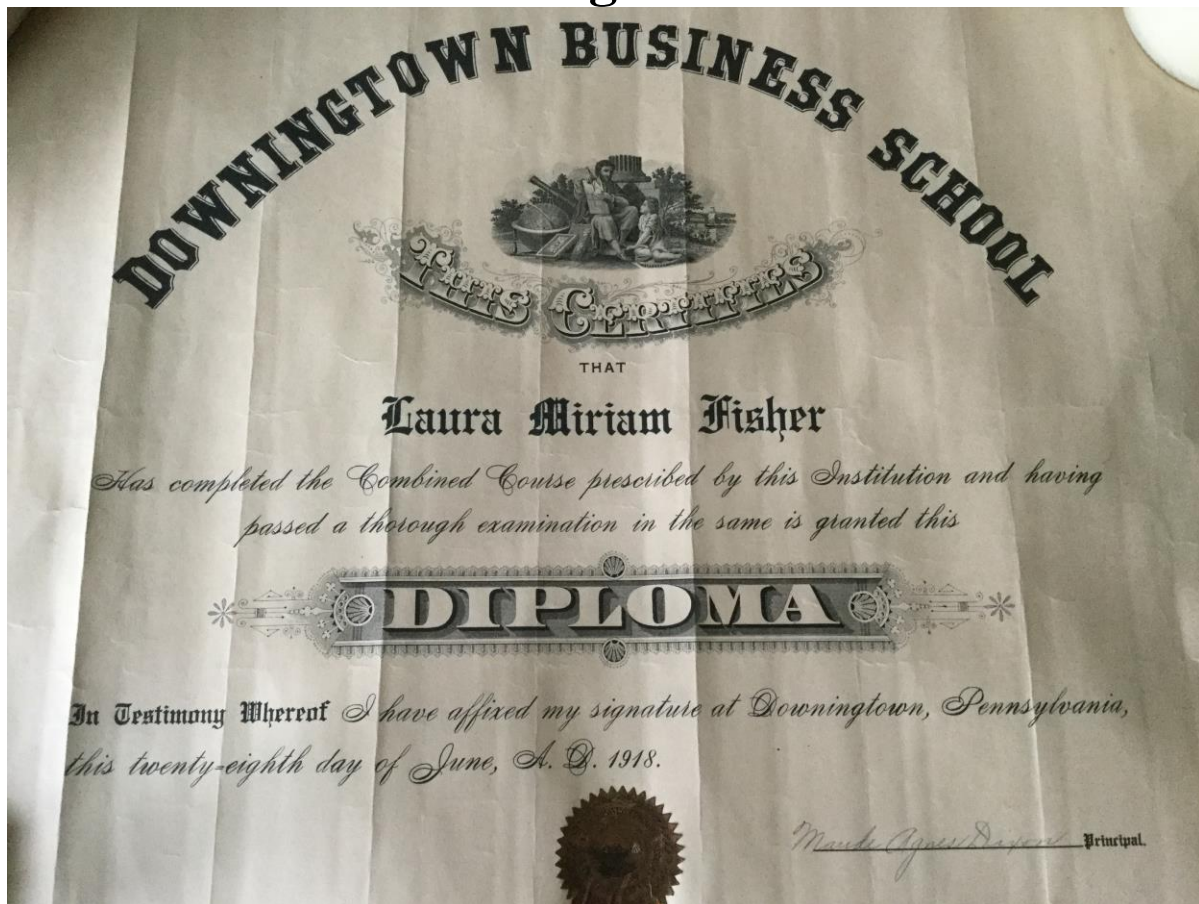
www.downingtownareahistoricalsociety.org

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

Vol. 8, No. 35

August 31, 2017

Where was the Downingtown Business School?



This week's mystery competition is a little different because we know there was a Downingtown Business School in the early 20th Century, and that Maude Agnes Dixon was the school's principal, according to the diploma above, which was sent to us by Iva Darlington Siever. However, we don't know anything about where the school was located in the borough, when it was in business, or any other interesting information about the school. Please send your response to: dahs19335@gmail.com

What was happening here 52 years ago

Noted below are news items originally published in local papers in early April of 1965:

- Downingtown's **Borough Council** granted Triangle Publications a community antenna TV franchise, which would provide four additional channels and clearer reception of the existent network channels. The venture would enable the borough to enjoy a 5 percent share of the local system's profits.

- Downingtown realtor Everett Hoopes announced that a strip mall, would soon be constructed on the **site of the former West Ward School**, across West Lancaster Avenue from the recently opened U. S. Post Office. Hoopes also noted that four of the mall's seven stores had been leased, and that it would accommodate parking for 75-100 cars.

- The Downingtown Lions Club and the borough's schools conducted a memorial ceremony on April 22 in observance of the 100th anniversary of when **the funeral train transporting President Lincoln's body** from Washington to Springfield, IL, stopped at the Downingtown Railroad Station. Raymond Baugher, superintendent of schools, gave the benediction, which was the same benediction Baugher's great-uncle gave at the November 19, 1863 dedication of the Soldiers' National Cemetery at the Gettysburg Battlefield, the same day when Lincoln delivered his legendary address. Peggy Woodland president of the DHS Student Council, was the mistress of ceremonies.

- The **Pickering-Brandywine Joint School District** raised its teachers' starting salaries from \$4,800 to \$5,000.

- Norman Piersol was elected chairman of the **Wallace Township planning commission**. Also elected were Carl Maenak, vice chairman; John Corry, recording secretary; and Sarah Frankenfield, secretary-treasurer.

- Philip Ham won Downingtown's **Cub Pack 2 Pinewood Derby** grand championship, and Jerry Keen was the runner-up. Other den champions were Blake Dorman, Dan Katherina and Tommy Hipple.

- Members of the Luther League, who had roles in a Biblical drama performed at **St. Paul's Lutheran Church**, Lionville, included Russell Klein, Lois and Linda Dahlberg, Thomas Isinger, Steve Stoudt, Helen Bittmann, Debbie Devaney, Lynn Jaeschke, Donna Zeltwanger and Charles Martin.

- Officers elected to lead the **Chester Springs Athletic Association**, which met at Hallman's Store, were Clarence Byer, president; Ray Hamilton, vice president; Harold Hallman, treasurer; Mrs. David Cory, recording secretary; Mrs. Ray Hamilton, corresponding secretary; and Elmer Miller, membership chairman.

- Members of the **Lionville Elementary School Home and School Association's** planning committee for a Spring Fair were Mrs. Richard Irrgang, Mrs. Eugene Sowers, Mrs. Alexander McCausland, Pete Hayes, Mrs. Eric Bittmann, Mrs. Richard Kerber and Les Smith.

- Mrs. Donald Schwartz and Mrs. Orville March, ways and means co-chairmen of the **Downingtown Junior Woman's Club**, presented a \$1,427 check to Mrs. William Reinhold, chairman of the Tom Thumb Nursery. The club raised the funds for the donation from its recent fashion show.

- Participants in the **gymnastics program** at Lionville Elementary School, who won medals at a tri-state meet in Philadelphia, were Charlotte Baker, Gail Fogelman and Leslie Hayes.
- Elected as officers of the **Marshallton branch** of the Chester County Hospital Women's Auxiliary were Mrs. L. B. Steele, president; Mrs. Richard Brigham, vice president; Mrs. Lawrence Davis, secretary; Elizabeth Jones, corresponding secretary; and Mrs. Morris Wood, treasurer.
- DHS musicians who participated in the Southeastern Pennsylvania **District Band Festival**, held at Phoenixville High School, were Lee Cohen, Barbara Curry, Lois Carson, Lynne Dowlin, Jim Schofield, Rojayne Ellis and Bonnie Ker.
- West Chester Hendrson's Jon Matlack, a **future major league pitcher** and the National League's Rookie of the Year in 1972, had a 2-0 lead on Bob Boyer's DHS baseball team for four innings until the sophomore hurler ran into trouble in the fifth frame. That's when Matlack gave up walks to Downingtown's Danny Phipps and Carl Harper, and loaded the bases when he was charged with an error on a wild pitch to first base after DHS pitcher Chris Murray laid down a bunt. Downingtown forced in its first run when John Piersol got a walk, and then the Whippets sewed up a 3-2 win when Roy Nellius's single drove in Harper and Murray.
- Downingtown area students attending **Bishop Shanahan High School**, who visited Rome on a trip sponsored by Philadelphia Society for Latin Students, included Shirley Cozzone, Donna Capriotti, Joanne Mento, Marlene DiLuigi, Carol Kissh, James Perella and John DiEugenio.

Group Photo of the Week



Members of the 1965 DHS cross-country team were, left right: front row, Larry Davidson, William Inslee, Philip Barwell, Philip Stewart, Chris Taylor, Fred Pollock, Eric Emery, Eric Horsey; second row, Douglas Dowlin, Leslie Stine, Eric Dietrich, Mike Alexander, Clifford Emery, Wesley Snyder, Michael Baer, Bernard Morris, Greg Newswanger, John Caldwell, Mark Peterson, Robert Lewis, Herbert Brown.

What locals were talking about 84 years ago

Noted below are news items originally published in the June 1933 editions of the *Downingtown Archive*:

- Although classes wouldn't be conducted in the new building until September 1933, area residents had an opportunity to see the **new junior-senior high school** (now the STEM Academy), when baccalaureate, commencement, class day and advancement exercises for students who had completed grade school were conducted in the new facility.

Construction of the \$160,000 school was essentially completed in less than a year, after 15 acres on the east side of Manor Avenue were purchased from the Pollock family. That purchase was made possible when the school district sold a plot of land on the north side of West Lancaster Avenue, directly across from the West Ward School.

- The new school, which has a limestone exterior, was designed by John Mowere, of Phoenixville, who also had been the architect for the East Ward School, Borough Hall and First Baptist Church. In addition to administrative offices, a library, a gymnasium and 10 general classrooms, the school had specially equipped rooms for art, music typing, chemistry, physics, home economics, and industrial arts, plus an auditorium with a seating capacity of 715.

- During the HS **commencement exercises** for 71 graduates, Dorothy Brookover, valedictorian, and Lillian Reutter, salutatorian, received gold medals. Glen Wagner, who received the faculty medal for service, was the master of ceremonies. The DHS Alumni Association awarded \$25 each to outstanding seniors Dorothy Musselman and Wayne Raysor.

- The **Alert Fire Co.** kicked off its annual fair with an "industrial parade," which included representatives of most of the borough's businesses, through town. Among the fair's attractions for nine nights were a merry-go-round and a different band playing each night. In addition to a gate prize being awarded every night, a new Chevrolet Master Six roadster was the grand prize given on the fair's final night.

- Downingtown's **Memorial Day** service was moved to Kerr Park for the first time. Previously, it was conducted at Northwood Cemetery. Burgess Leo Hamilton, the grandson of a Confederate soldier from Virginia, delivered General Logan's order. The purchase of a 4.9 caliber cannon, which reportedly was 25 feet long and weighed 7,000 pounds, was being considered for installation in the park's Veterans' Triangle.

Clip Joint will be open on Sunday, September 3

You'll find a wonderful respite from all of the Labor Day weekend's festivities by coming to the Historical Society's monthly Clip Joint session, from 1-4 PM on Sunday, September 3, when you'll have an opportunity to help clip and paste newspaper articles for our archival collection. The session will be held at Ashbridge House, our 308-year-old headquarters, next to the Chick-Fil-A restaurant in the Ashbridge Square Shopping Center on Route 30 in East Caln.

Vintage Ad of the Week

**Give "HER" A Gift of
JEWELRY**

**on
MOTHER'S
DAY**

A beautiful and wide assortment of Fine Quality Jewelry specially priced for Mother's Day -- Come in and see how inexpensively you can give her Jewelry,



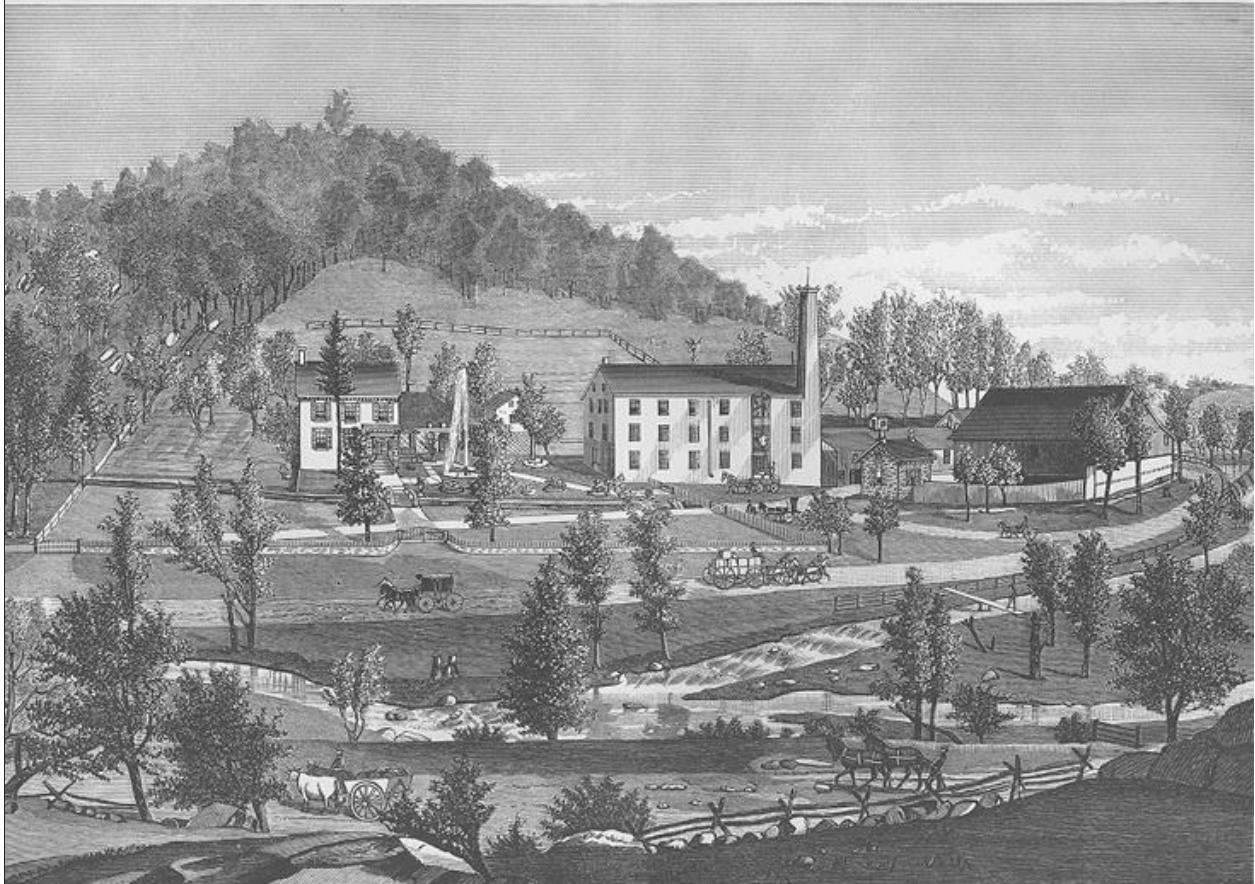
Kemery Jewelry Store
Jewelers - Watchmakers - Opticians
Downingtown, Penna.

This was originally published in the May 9, 1930 edition of the *Downingtown Archive*.

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, and 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.downingtownareahistoricalsociety.org, and typing your email address into the sign-up box on the home page. Also, you'll find access to an archive of every edition of the Hist-O-Gram we have published since 2010 via: www.downingtownareahistoricalsociety.org/Histograms.html

No one identified James Guie's property in Caln Township



The site illustrated above was published in Futhey and Cope's 1881 *History of Chester County*, is the late 19th Century estate of James Guie, who was one of the founders of East Brandywine Baptist Church. The 91-acre property, located 1002 Bondsville Road in Caln Township, had a 10-room mansion, a stone and frame barn, a frame carriage house and four frame tenant houses, as well as a paper mill. Guie's original mill was established as the Laurel Paper Mill in 1833; it was destroyed by a fire in 1865. Guie and his sons—James Jr. and William—built a new mill, the Eagle Paper Co., and it continued to thrive after James Guie Sr.'s death in 1894. Subsequently, the sons ran the mill until they both died in 1900, and the estate was sold at a sheriff's sale in 1902. Frank Rudolph bought the property and operated the mill until 1922, when he was forced to sell it to Mrs. M. A. Russell. She and her son, William Russell, were successful papermakers there until the early 1940s, when the mill was purchased by L. J. Meumier. The plant prospered until 1956. Today, "the ruins of the paper mill and barn envelop a new building, used as an office," according to an article written by Jane Dorchester in an undated edition of the *Daily Local News*.

Access to latest historic "Then & Now" photo sequences

You can see all of the "Then & Now" morphed photo sequences of local historic sites on our YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/channel/UCIh25kTu3B_uVb6lhZku7mw

We need paperbacks as well as hard cover books for our used book sale in October

Those who wish to donate used books for the Downingtown Area Historical Society's Book Sale in October can either bring them to Ashbridge House, our headquarters in the Ashbridge Square Shopping center, next to the Chick-Fil-A Restaurant, on Route 30 in East Caln, between 1-4 PM on Sundays. Book donations also can be arranged by calling 610-269-1709 or by sending an email to: dths1709@gmail.com to schedule a pick-up day and time.

Types of paperback, soft cover and hard cover books we're looking for include: Children's, History, Non-Fiction and Biographies, Sets, Fiction, current Self-Help and Computer books.

Used books that aren't acceptable for the Book Sale include: Textbooks, Old Self-Help Books, Water-Damaged Books, Books with hand-writing in them, Books with damaged or torn covers, and encyclopedias.

In case you missed last week's Hist-O-Gram

You can access the August 17 issue of our Hist-O-Gram by clicking on:

www.downingtownareahistoricalsociety.org/Histograms/2017%20Hist-O-Grams/August%202024%202017%20Hist-O-Gram.pdf

Free Ads for Non-Profits

Blood Drive

You can register for the American Red Cross blood drive, to be conducted at the Borough Hall Annex, 4 W. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown, at 2-7 PM on Thursday, August 31, by accessing: www.redcrossblood.org/rcbmobile/drive/chooseDonationTime.jsp

Clam Bake

Lionville Fire Co. 15 South Village Ave., will have a Clam Bake from 1-7 PM on Sunday, September 3. Tickets can be ordered online via: <https://lfco.ticketleap.com/2017-clam-bake/>. \$40 gets you 3 dozen clams, All-you-can-eat corn on the cob, hamburgers, hot dogs, deli salads, Fred's Homemade Clam Chowder, and Drinks - including beer. \$20 kids' tickets do not include clams or beer (for kids 3-12). Kids under 3 are free. Activities include Live Entertainment and a Horseshoe Tournament.

Fall Fun Festival

Marshallton Methodist Church, 1282 W. Strasburg Road, will have a Fall Fun Festival from 8 AM-2 PM on Saturday, September 9. Rain date is Saturday, Sept. 16. Includes a Flea Market, Homemade Baked Goods & Mum Sale. Vendors who want a have a 10x10 space for \$20 or a table for \$5 should contact Doug Gindin via 610-696-7657 or bdgin@aol.com.

Car Show

Hopewell United Methodist Church, 852 Hopewell Road, East Brandywine, will have its fifth annual Car Show from 10 AM to 2 PM on Saturday, September 9. Military and first responder vehicles will be on display for the first time. There will be a dunk tank and games for kids. Registration begins at 9 AM at the church.

Downingtown FallFest

The Downingtown FallFest, sponsored by the Downingtown-Thorndale Regional Chamber of Commerce—in partnership with the Downingtown Library, the Borough of Downingtown and Victory Brewery—will be held from 11 AM to 4 PM on Sunday, September 24 (rain date: Sunday, October 1) along Green Street and E. Pennsylvania Ave. See: <http://downingtownfallfest.com/> for details on booth space; Registration for space closes September 8.

Remembrance of 9/11 Attack

The National Iron & Steel Heritage Museum in Coatesville will commemorate the 16th anniversary of the 9/11 attack on the World Trade Center in New York City with several free events on September 11, 2017. The events include: from 8:30-10:30 AM, a program which marks the time of that day's horrific events with words from local dignitaries and music by the Lukens Band; from 10:30 AM to 4 PM, free admission to the museum's indoor exhibits and videos; 7 PM, the Lukens Band will lead a musical remembrance program.

Bus trip to Washington, DC

The Lukens Veterans Guild is sponsoring a bus trip on Tuesday, October 3 to Washington, DC. There will be a guided tour of the U.S. Capitol in the morning, followed by an opportunity to visit other sites on your own in the afternoon. The bus will stop for dinner at Lee's Landing in Port Deposit, MD, on the return trip. The bus leaves the Lukens Executive Building, 50 South First Avenue, Coatesville, at 6:45 AM and returns to Coatesville at 8:15 PM. Total cost per person is \$99. Deadline for registration and payment--to be sent to: Lukens Veterans Guild, c/o Sharon Tandarich, 50 South First Ave., Coatesville, PA 19320--is **August 31**. For more info on the trip, call Sharon Tandarich, 610-715-2993.

Library Love Fundraiser

The Library Love fundraiser will be held from 6-9 PM on Thursday, September 28, at the Downingtown Country Club. Proceeds from live auction bidding and raffles go to the Downingtown Library. Tickets are \$40. Contact francine.dague@gmail.com or gwood1139@comcast.net regarding auction item donations or sponsorship opportunities.

Run/Walk For Life

Chester County Women's Services (CCWS), a local nonprofit pregnancy care medical center, will hold its annual 5K Run/Walk For Life on Saturday, Sept. 16, at Kerr Park and Struble Trail in Downingtown. The event begins next to the Kerr Park playground, with the run/walk starting at 8 AM, followed by Family Fun Day from 9 - 11:30 AM. A children's soccer clinic and parachutes sponsored by United Sports, as well as a Kid's Run will provide entertainment for the young guests. Registration is available at www.runsignup.com/CCWS. Register before Sept. 1 to get early bird pricing and a free T-shirt. Guests are encouraged to bring a baby item such as diapers, wipes, or clothing to donate to a local families in need.

Teri's Run

Teri's Run will be held on Friday evening, September 8, starting on Green Street in Downingtown. The Kids' Run begins at 6:30 PM and the 5 K Run and 1.5-mile walk start at 7 PM. Pre-registration deadline is September 1. Refreshments will be served after the race. Raffle prizes and age group prizes donated by local supporters will be given away during the awards ceremony at 8 PM. **Proceeds are donated to the [Delaware Valley chapter of the Scleroderma Foundation](#) and the [Scleroderma Research Foundation](#), and are earmarked for research.** For more info and registration details, see: <http://www.terisrun.org/>

Kids Day in East Caln

East Caln will be held in East Caln Park from 10 AM until 2 PM on Saturday, September 16; rain date is Sunday, September 17. Fun activities include petting zoo, pony rides, sand art, moon bounce, rock climbing wall, face painting, police fingerprinting, music, free popcorn, cotton candy and water ice.

More on Milford Mills

Due to popular demand, author and historian Catherine Quillman has been invited by the East Brandywine Township Historical Commission to give another presentation on "Milford Mills: the Lost Village" at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 27 at the Township Building on Route 322, Guthriesville.. The lecture is free and open to the public. The evening will include time-to-share stories, as well as early photos taken from Quillman's expanded book, *The Story of Milford Mills and The Marsh Creek Valley*. The author welcomes any photos that you might want to share such as those of other "lost" communities, including the former village of Eagle, Byers, Dorlan's Mills and Bondsville. Refreshments will be served.

Community Day in Caln

The 11th annual Community Day, sponsored by Hatt's True Value Hardware and the Downingtown Library, will be held from 3-8:30 PM on Saturday, September 9. Events will include fireworks, music, vendors, food, a beer garden and activities such as a photo booth, mini golf course and knockerballs.

State Police History

State Trooper Gonzales will talk about the History of the PA State Police Historical and Memorial Center at the West Caln Historical Society's meeting at 7 PM on Tuesday, September 19. The meetings are held at West Caln Municipal Bldg., 721 W. Kings Hwy, Wagontown, and are free and open to the public.

Caln Community Day

The 11th annual Caln Community Day, sponsored by Hatt's True Value Hardware and the Downingtown Library, will be held in the Municipal Park in Thorndale from 3-8:30 PM on Saturday, September 9. Events will include fireworks, music, vendors, food, a beer garden and activities such as a photo booth, mini golf course and knockerballs.

Mill at Anselma

The Mill at Anselma will host Ryan Conroy, historian and president of the Historical Society of the Phoenixville Area, who will lead a discussion about the men and woman of Northern Chester County who served in the military during WWI. This event will be held on Thursday evening, September 7, in Bell Hall at Montgomery School, 1141 Kimberton Road, Chester Springs. It will begin at 6:30 PM with a wine & cheese reception, followed by the evening's topic at 7 PM. Tickets may be purchased at the door for \$5. Members of the Mill at Anselma attend free of charge. The talk will also provide a glimpse into the current exhibit "Over There and Over Here: Phoenixville in WWI" at The Historical Society of the Phoenixville Area.

And The Mill at Anselma will also host the 97th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry (PVI), from 10 AM to 4 PM, on Saturday, September 9. The 97th PVI is a family-friendly organization of local Civil War reenactors who join in battles and camps throughout the year to preserve the memories of the soldiers and civilians that lived during the Civil War. The event includes Civil War tents on site, a rifle demonstration, a display of mid-19th century ladies clothing and children's games, and members of the 97th PVI will be instructing visitors on the life of a Union soldier.

The Mill at Anselma, on Rte. 401 (1730 Conestoga Road), ½ mile west of Route. 113 in Chester Springs, open for tours Thursday through Sunday from 10 AM to 4 PM. Visitors will learn how a mill was operated, see the 16 foot water wheel power Colonial-era gears and mill stones, and see and feel the final product as it flows from the stones. Admission to the Mill is \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors, and \$3 for children ages 4-14. Children under 4 are free. For more information, contact the Mill at 610-827-1906, email info@anselmamill.org, or visit www.anselmamill.org.

Log House Art & Craft Show

Downingtown's Historic Commission is looking for exhibitors who plan to sell original, hand-crafted items at the annual Art & Craft Show from 9 AM to 2 PM Saturday, September 9 at Kerr Park. For details, see:

<http://downingtown.org/Documents/Log%20House%20Craft%20Show/2017/2017LOGHOUSEARTCRAFTSHOWAPP.pdf>

Senior Center programs & activities

You'll find information about the programs and activities at the Downingtown Area Senior Center in its monthly newsletter at: www.downingtownseniors.org/programs/newsletter/

Open Houses in Lionville

The Uwchlan Township Historical Commission will offer several open house events in the Lionville National Historic District on the first Sunday of the month, from April through November, at the John Cadwalader House and the Edith P. Moore School. Both are located on North Village Avenue and are staffed and open from 2 - 4 PM. The Moore School is the original one-room building where children can try on clothing replicas of the period and sit at historical desks. For more info, call 610-280-9522.

Lyme Disease

The Lyme Disease Association of Southeastern Pennsylvania, an education and support group for patients and caregivers who have been affected by Lyme Disease, meets on the third Wednesday of every month at 7 PM at the Kennett Friends Meeting House on Route 82 (125 W. Sickel St. Kennett Square). Meetings are free and all are welcome. Check www.lymepa.org for directions and program information.

Brochure on DARC classes & activities

You can gain access to the latest Downingtown Area Recreational Consortium brochure, listing all classes and activities, at: www.darc.info/. 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, <http://josephspeople.org/our-chapters/downingtown/>, 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: cheryl.spaulding@josephspeople.org.