



Downingtown Area Historical Society
Hist-O-Gram

Interesting local history, accessed from our archives

www.downingtownareahistoricalsociety.org

Vol. 4, No.40

October 3, 2013

Where and What Is This?



The first person to correctly identify the building 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 November 1977

The following news items were originally published in the *East Branch Citizen* 36 years ago.

Messiah Lutheran Church, Downingtown, celebrated its **75th anniversary**. A history of the church was written by Jane Davidson. Members of the anniversary committee were: Carolyn Hadfield, chairman; Dixie Shirk, Wanda Snyder, Anna Grube, Isabelle Collins and Belle Murray.

Edward Gillespie, Downingtown, was invited to serve as a delegate on the Governor's Conference on Libraries and Information Services in Harrisburg.

Sharon Forbes, who had been an exchange student in Finland the past summer, spoke to members of the **Downingtown Golden Age Club**.

Paul Ciotti and Jerry Ware were drum majors of the 150-member **DHS marching band**.

DHS sophomore Mary Jefferies won the District I girls' **cross-country championship**, and came in fourth at the state championships.

Colleen Murtaugh, Nancy Urban, Ronnie Dellamotta and Kathy Herion were named to the **All Ches-Mont field hockey team**.

Whippets named to the **All Ches-Mont soccer team** were Jamie Bogush, Darryl Bull, Leigh Hannum, Jeff Davis and Scooter Farling. And Paul Hurley was cited as Coach of the Year.

The expansion of **Downingtown Junior High School** was dedicated. The \$3.4 million project, which included a wing for the PE and music departments, increased the school's capacity to 893 pupils.

Recent **property transfers** included: 802 W. Pennsylvania Ave., Downingtown, \$44,700; 1365 Ridgeview Circle, West Bradford, \$53,900; 418 Carmarthen Court, Uwchlan, \$442,940; 98 McIlvain Drive, East Caln, \$65,000; 10 Waterview Road, Upper Uwchlan, \$58,000; 126 Lambeth Court, East Brandywine, \$43,655; 13 Dogwood Lane, West Pikeland, \$105,000.

Borough councilman Fank Manetta won a prize for the costume he wore in Downingtown's **Halloween parade**, which was sponsored by the Optimist Club.

New members of **Lionville Community Methodist Church** were Gerry and Ruth Beaver, Richard and Pat Camarra, and Robert and Nancy Jones.

Members of the **Uwchlan Hills School Home and School Association** responsible for the Book Fair were Kitty Aughey, Carol Mowday, Ruth Ann Gillooly, Joyce Reinbrecht, Anne Buell, Kay Buhner and Linda Rogers.

The 277 DHS students who took the **SAT exams** averaged 458 in the verbal test and 482 in math. National averages for college-bound pupils who took the two tests were 429 in verbal and 471 in math.

Bethel AME Church, Downingtown, celebrated its 85th anniversary by having a banquet at St. Anthony's Lodge. Members of the anniversary committee were Isabelle Robinson, Diane Horsey, Helen Watson, Earl Thomas, Barbara Asparagus and Viola Asparagus.

Downingtown's borough council said it would not provide at least one police officer to minimize traffic problems and accidents on streets in the DHS area because, Council President Vince DiEuliis said, the high school is a regional facility, serving students from seven townships as well as the borough.

The attorney, who presided over a five-day appeal hearing in July, ruled that Chester County had an excess number of acute care beds and that the **Bishop Neumann Hospital** advisory committee had not been denied due process when its plan to build a \$23.8 million facility on the Caln-Downingtown border was rejected.

Jane's Tavern won the **flag football league**, sponsored by the Downingtown-Uwchlan Recreation Commission, when it beat National Security 26-0. Touchdowns were scored by Brian Boggs, Mike Massimini and Pat Dougherty.

Tearing down a house built in 1750 so additional parking would be available for members and guests of the **Downingtown Moose Lodge** on West Lancaster Avenue was temporarily halted when Helen Filoromo, chair of the borough's Historical Commission, complained that the work was being done without a permit.

DHS students chosen to attend the annual Student Management Conference, sponsored by **Lukens Steel Co.**, were Rob Rambo, John Dagher, Steve Wisdom and Anne Kennedy.

In the Downingtown School District, 755 students attended **private or parochial schools** during the 1977-78 school year. That was a 13.8% increase over the previous school year.

Ellis Brown, coach of the undefeated **Lionville Junior High** football squad, was honored at the team banquet. Also cited were Fed Dellamotta, outstanding back, and Dave McNamara, outstanding lineman.

Fourth graders at West Ward School in 1955



Caroline Ash provided this 1955 photo of her fourth grade class at West Ward School, Downingtown, taught by Florence Moore. Members of the class, identified in vertical rows, were: first row, Barbara Thompson, Ernestine Boggs, Harold Stewart, Carol Lee Thomas, Mary E. Englerth, Helen Lawrence; second row, Carol Miller, Caroline Ash, Grant Smith, George Fredd, Ruth Ann Wilson, Gerald Perkins; third row, Paula Tweed, Donna Thompson, Joyce Stern, Nancy Katherman, Gerald Matthews, David Pollock; fourth row, Mark Jones, Tommy Williams, Suzanne Berkey, Barbara Heidelbaugh, Harry Stong; fifth row, James McCausland, Clifford Murdaugh, Helen Simmons, Mary Ann Chilla, Robert Mendenhall.

(Editor's Note: Got any classroom shots from when you were a pupil in a Downingtown area school? We'd love to publish them, as long you can provide the students' names as well.)

No one identified where this barn is located



Your friends and family can be Hist-O-Gram subscribers

Tired of forwarding copies of each week's Hist-O-Gram to friends and family? If you want any of them to become a subscriber to our free Hist-O-Grams, tell them to go to our website: www.downingtowntareahistoricalsociety.org, and type their email address into the sign-up box on the home page.

We won't share or sell any email addresses. Or if you want your email address deleted from the list, contact us at: Info@downingtowntareahistoricalsociety.org.

Your last chance to win 12 dinners worth \$250 each

The Downingtown Area Historical Society is conducting a Restaurant Raffle. Only 250 tickets will be sold, and the lucky winner will receive vouchers for 12 dinners. Each voucher, which are transferrable, has a value of \$250 and a total value of \$3,000, to be spent at the participating restaurants. They include: Beaver Creek Tavern, Dilworthtown Inn, Duling-Kurtz, Eagle Tavern, Four Dogs Tavern, General Warren Inn, Grill at Fore, Kimberton Inn, The

Orangery, Ship Inn, Thorndale Inn, and Yellow Springs Inn. In most cases, the vouchers aren't useable on weekends and don't cover alcoholic beverages.

Names of the winners will be drawn at a party for all ticket purchasers, which will begin at 4 PM Sunday, Oct. 6 at Ashbridge House, our headquarters on Route 30 in East Caln, next to the Chick-Fil-A Restaurant. And consolation prizes—including a \$500 Wine Sampler, and two Bed & Breakfast stays, one night each for two—will be awarded at the drawing party, where light refreshments will be served.

Tickets, which cost \$75 each, can be purchased by calling: the Historical Society, 610-269-1709; Darryl Ferron, president, 610-679-2425; or Carol Grigson, treasurer/archivist, 610-269-5413. You also can buy tickets by coming to Ashbridge House, between 2 PM and 4 PM on Sundays. Tickets are tax-deductible since the Historical Society is a 501(C)(3) non-profit organization.

If you need more information, send an email to: Info@downingtowntownareahistoricalociety.org.

Proceeds from the raffle will be used to help maintain Ashbridge House, and preserve the historical materials, photos and artifacts in our archival collection.

Paid ads for businesses

Vance Usher, Registered Representative

Providing a courtesy financial advisory service whose objective is to create a portfolio of:

- 1) Investment Grade Bonds - To achieve preservation of principal, and a stream of monthly income, to meet your budgeted living expenses.
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Free ads for Non-Profits

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Wednesday, Oct. 9, **Making Sense of Medicare** - Presenter, Ellen Good, MSW, will speak about how Medicare works, managing your plan, cost issues, and how to maximize coverage. Program includes question/answer session. Program will be from 6:30-7:30pm.

Thursday, Oct. 10, **DAPI Ghost Report** - The Downingtown Area Paranormal Investigators' program will include a combination of photos, video, and electronic voice phenomenon of investigations held in the Downingtown area and at the library. The program will be from 6:30-7:30 PM.

Operation Military Christmas Stocking

Help send holiday spirit to our troops in Afghanistan. Suggested pocket-sized items to be dropped off on weekdays between 9 AM and 4 PM at the East Brandywine Township building, 1214 Horseshoe Pike or on Saturdays and Sundays at the Village Hardware, Horseshoe Pike, Guthriesville, BEFORE Friday, Oct. 11: games, chapstick, candy, and small game books (Sudoku, crosswords), nail clippers, Q-Tips, hand sanitizer, baby wipes in individual packs, individual dry soups, packets of individual-size hot and cold powdered drinks, nuts, Trail Mix, and trial-size men's deodorant, shampoo and body wash. No glass or aerosol items can be shipped. For more info, call the township at 610-269-8230.

Prescription Drug Take-Back Day

The Downingtown Police Department and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will give the public another opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous, expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs on National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day from 7 AM to 2 PM on Saturday, Oct. 26. Bring your medications for disposal to Downingtown Borough Hall Annex Building at 4 W. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked. For more information, call 610-269-0344, ext. 200.

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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.

There is plenty of parking in the Kerr Park lots, as well as in the Borough Hall parking lot.

Savings opportunities available at DARC

Discount Movie Tickets: \$8, 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.

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October 10, 2013

Let's give this shot another shot!



We ran this photo two weeks ago, and no one identified its location. However, we suspect at least one person will recognize where the beautiful barn pictured above is located this time. The first person to correctly identify the barn will be recognized as a truly perceptive scholar. Please send your responses to: Info@downtowntownareahistoricalsociety.org.

Local news more than 67 years ago

The following news items were originally published in local newspapers in May 1946.

Harry Van Tassell, editor-publisher of *The Archive* in Downingtown for 40 years, reported that he had sold the weekly newspaper to Robinson McIlvaine. A Harvard graduate from Downingtown, McIlvaine had recently completed five years of service with the Navy, after serving as assistant to the Chairman of the Republican National Committee from 1938 to 1941. *The Archive* had been published in Downingtown under that name since 1875, and was a lineal descendant of Chester County's first newspaper, *The Temperate Zone*, founded in 1809.

Norman Howe was appointed trustee at **Central Presbyterian Church**, Downingtown, to fill the unexpired term of Austin Windle, deceased. Trustees who were re-appointed were Leo Hamilton, Evans Miller and Norman Pannebaker.

Officers of the Downingtown **Moose Lodge**, who were installed by Arthur Phillips, past governor, included: Donald Dixon, governor; Harry Hilton, junior governor; Fred Bowers, prelate; Francis Francella, treasurer; Walter Adams and George Crosby, trustees.

The **Dutch Cupboard** on Bondsville Road (now the Thorndale Inn) was reopened by Eleanor and Jackson Taylor.

Newly elected officers of the **Lyndell Christian Temperance League** were Mrs. Earl Mercer, president; Mrs. Ralph Eppenhimer, vice president; Mrs. Charles Popjoy, secretary; Mrs. George Hannum, assistant secretary; and Mrs. B.A. Hughes, treasurer.

Members of the **Downingtown Woman's Club** elected the following officers: Leta Tweed, president; Mrs. Charles Ezrah, vice president; Mrs. George Aumiller, recording secretary; Mrs. Thomas Deets, corresponding secretary; and Mrs. David Ross, treasurer.

Samuel Evans, who had been a teacher in the Coatesville School District, was hired as principal of Downingtown Junior-Senior High School.

The Women's Missionary Society of **Windsor Baptist Church** in Upper Uwchlan had a Welcome Home dinner for those who had served in the military in World War II. Veterans who attended were Clyde Harner, Maurice Garvine, LeRoy Trego, Frank McBride, Homer Darlington, Paul and Ralph Moore, Ellsworth Maxton and Joseph Taylor.

Elected as officers of the **Downingtown Rotary Club**, which was meeting at the Exton Lodge for the first time, were W. I. Pollock Jr., president; Herman Faucett, vice president; Herman Kramm, treasurer; Robert Peters, secretary; Richard Warren, assistant secretary; and Shartle Brookover, program chairman.

The **West Bradford School Board** was debt-free after it paid the last two bond issues related to the \$10,000 it borrowed in 1936 to finance the construction of the Marshallton School. The loan was supposed to be paid off in 1956; however, the debt was completely cleared 10 years early, in 1946.

DHS pitcher **Ray Barrow** tossed two no-hitters in one week, when the Whippets beat Pottstown and Coatesville. However, in an extra-inning battle the following week with West Chester, to determine the leader of the Suburban Conference, Downingtown lost to the Warriors, 2-1. West Chester pitcher Bob Ludwick limited Downingtown to one hit, a single by Dick Dague. Philadelphia Phillies scout "Jocko" Collins came to the game to check out both pitchers.

Info found in school Farm Show and Concert programs

Caroline Ash's recent donation of memorabilia from her days in the Downingtown School System included a program for the 1958 Farm Show at DHS and two Spring Concert programs from when she attended the Junior High.

Before the high school started annual Homecoming weekends in 1963, the big social event at DHS every fall since 1941 was the Farm Show, sponsored by the high school's Future Farmers of America and Future Homemakers of America clubs. Don't forget, most of the townships, which now comprise the Downingtown Area School District, were farm communities in 1958.

Winners of Agricultural competition—corn, potatoes, fruits, vegetables, milk, eggs, dairy cattle, poultry and tractor driving—received heifer calves and baby chicks, donated by local farms and hatcheries. The Homemakers' competition focused on the eight different garments and nine categories of baked goods they made, and Home Decorations such as cut flower arrangements and table centerpieces.

The highlight of the two-day show was the crowning of the Harvest Queen and her court. Candidates were selected by members of the FFA, and members of the high school's senior and junior classes voted to determine who was the Queen.

Officers of the FFA in 1958 were James Beggs, president; Jack Hoffman, vice president; Lee Huey, treasurer; Jeff Peterson, secretary; Albert Hultz, reporter; James White, sentinel; Lamar Howe, chaplain; and Harry McMinimee. Harold Klinger, who taught Agriculture at the high school for many years, was the faculty advisor.

And officers of the school's Homemakers group included Judy Hogan, president; Kathy McMinimee, vice president; Barbara Garris, secretary; Betty May, treasurer; Shirley Evans, reporter; and Linda Billman, historian. Alice Gee was the faculty advisor.

Highlights of the Spring Concert in April 1958 included songs from several Broadway musicals sung by the choruses. Soloists were Ann Galt, Pamela Leach, Carol Lillard, Carmella Cressman, Galucha March. And several selections were sung by a group, known as "The Keystones," comprised of Jimmy Connor, Robert Shank, Neil Shields, Lewis Wilson and Thomas Yerkes.

The concert included selections by the Elementary Band, as well as the Junior High Band. The Junior High Majorettes also participated.

Officers of the Junior High Band were Tom Yerkes, president; Judy Jones, vice president; Joan Farra, secretary; and Kenny Draper, treasurer. And officers of the Girls Chorus were Becky Kemp, president; Bunny Hilton, vice president; Linda Dillon, secretary; and Ruth Wertz, treasurer. Also, officers of the Junior High Mixed Chorus included Judy Jones, president; Thomas Yerkes, vice president; Joyce Stratton, secretary; Helen Simmons, treasurer; and Lee Berry, electrical engineer.

In the concert presented in April 1959, Thomas Pollock, a teacher, was the guest conductor of the Mixed Chorus, and William Byham, another teacher, sang a solo. Students who took turns directing the Junior High Band were Neil Shields, W. I. Pollock and Robert Shank.

Officers of the Junior High Band were Neil Shields, president; Kenny Mills, vice president; Mark Jones, secretary; and Susie Fox, treasurer. Ruth Ann Miller and Barbara Thompson were the librarians. And the Elementary School Band's officers were Kenny Sigle, president, and Eddy Connor, vice president.

And officers of the Mixed Chorus were Neil Shields, president; Nancy Gindin, vice president; Janet Yanascogli, secretary; and Carol Lillard, treasurer.

Joseph Poltrone was head of the Junior High's Music Department at that time.

Editor's Note: The programs for the DHS Farm Show and the Junior High Spring Concerts, cited in the article above, are primary examples of the type of materials we're constantly seeking for our archival collection. And we suspect that almost every Hist-O-Gram subscriber has similar old printed programs from when they, or their kids, were involved in local school, scouts, teams and clubs. You'll feel wonderful when you finally get rid of those printed materials, which have been cluttering up closets, basements, attics and garages for years. You can drop them off between 1 PM and 4 PM on a Sunday at Ashbridge House, our headquarters next to the Chick-Fil-A Restaurant in the Ashbridge Square Shopping Center on Route 30. And if Sunday afternoons don't work for you, email us at Info@downingtowntownareahistoricalociety.org, and we'll set up a time that's more convenient.

It's at 171 Crawford Road in East Brandywine Twp.



Stephen Ziobro, who now lives in Washington, DC, is a truly perceptive scholar because he was the first person to correctly identify this as the house at 171 Crawford Road in East Brandywine. The original part of the house, owned by Bill and Norma Steimer, was built in 1763 and is for sale. The photo was taken by Mike Dunn.

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Brief, but important

1. Remember the vintage photo of West Ward School students sitting at their desks in last week's Hist-O-Gram? Remember when we claimed they were fourth graders? Well, Caroline Ash, who provided the photo, contacted us as soon as she opened her Hist-O-Gram and told us they were sixth graders, not fourth graders.

No catastrophe. We just should have realized when we saw the kids in that photo that they could not have been fourth graders, because they looked so angelic and mature.

2. Congratulations to Ron Meacham of Downingtown, who won the Historical Society's Restaurant Raffle last Sunday. That means he and his wife, Karen, will be having a delicious meal at a dozen local, historic restaurants over the next 12 months.

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Friday, November 15 from 4-7 PM and Saturday, November 16, from 9 AM to 4 PM-The Friends of the Downingtown Library will hold a **Fall Flea Market** upstairs at the Downingtown Library. Look through your attics, closets and drawers, and plan to recycle your unused or gently used gadgets, linens, glassware, toys, etc. to help the library. Donations will be accepted from October 21 through November 13. No clothing or furniture. Goods may be dropped off upstairs at the Downingtown Library Monday through Thursday (9 AM to 7 PM), Friday (9 AM to 4 PM) and Saturday (9 AM to 3 PM)).

Thursday, November 14 at 6:30 PM-**Backyard Birdwatching**. Learn about the histories, habitats and lifestyles of common Chester County birds. Register online via www.downingtowntownlibrary.org or call 610-269-2741.

Tuesday, November 19 at 6:30 PM-**A Brief History of the Trains of King of Prussia**. Historian Michael Shaw will present a program on the past, present and future of the King of Prussia railroads. Register online via www.downingtowntownlibrary.org or call 610-269-2741.

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Downingtown area news 52 years ago

Noted below are items, which were originally published in local newspaper in the first two weeks of November 1961.

DHS juniors William Ash, William Pollock, Nancy Heugh and Susan Whittaker were nominated for the **Americans Abroad** program, sponsored by the American Field Service.

The PTA of the **East Brandywine-Wallace Joint School District** held a Ballot Box Bake Sale on Election Day, to benefit the library of the new Brandywine-Wallace School. Quart containers of chicken corn soup, as well as baked goods, were sold at the polls in Guthriesville and Glenmoore.

A special offered by the **Howard Johnson's Restaurant** in Exton was a multi-course roast turkey dinner, for only \$1.29.

The Halloween Party for seventh graders at **Downingtown Junior High** was planned by these teachers: Joseph Tremul, chairman; Sara Aumiller, tickets; Richard Thatcher, prizes; Kathryn Neal, Susanne Rogers and James Frey, refreshments; Elizabeth Simpson, Josephine Volpe and Joseph Poltrone, entertainment; and Pierina Bloise and Judith Ficca, decorations.

Whippet linemen Ellis Brown and James Yamshak each intercepted a Phantom pass and ran for touchdowns, as **DHS beat Phoenixville 16-6**.

The Downingtown Area Joint Elementary School Board decided to offer **hot sandwiches** on a trial basis at East Ward School and Marshallton School. Neither school had a cafeteria.

Edith Moore and, Warren Supplee, Uwchlan; Charlotte Norris and Kenneth Frey, East Caln; and Margaret Anderson and Horace Rodgers, West Bradford; retired as members of the **Joint Elementary School Board** because that board had merged with the Joint High School Board.

Participants in the dedication of the new **Beaver Creek School** in Downingtown included Donald Jenkins, principal; Elmer Schrupf, board president; Raymond Baugher, superintendent; Weldon Bicking, authority chairman; Carl Garrison, director of elementary education; Seth Pope, county school board president; Theodore Rogers, school board solicitor; Charles Menas, PTA president; and George Nixdorf, past school board president.

Members of Intermediate **Girl Scout Troop 314**, Glenmoore, went door-to-door, collecting sheets and pillow cases for cancer patients.

Representatives of the **Blue and Gold student newspaper** at DHS, who attended the PA Scholastic Press Assn. convention in State College, were Barbara Rothas, Nancy Tibel, Gail Dilworth, Sharon Donaghy, Stephen Pollock, Constance Smedley and June Williamson.

More than 75% of the registered voters in **Uwchlan Township** went to the polls in the general election. Winners included Russell Miller, supervisor; Grace Gordon, auditor; Harvey Happersett, tax collector; and Harry Ruth, constable. All were Republicans.

Other winners were Thomas Brookover and Robert Hadfield, who ran on ballots for school director in Downingtown, Uwchlan and East Caln. And Earl Langford won the election for supervisor in East Caln. In West Bradford, Edwin Hill and Austin Fowler were elected supervisor, while Robert Hodge and Walter Fetherolf won school board positions. In Upper Uwchlan, Bertha McCardell edged Janet Garvine by four votes in the tax collector race.

Dion, the doo wop singer appeared at the Exton Roller Rink, after he left The Belmonts. On the night of Dion's appearance, there was dancing at the rink was from 8:45 to midnight. His big hit at the time was "Runaround Sue." You can see Dion singing that hit on YouTube at:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=0jefJpr-3no.

Winners of the costume judging at the Halloween Party at **St. Paul's Lutheran Church**, Lionville, were Joan Acker, prettiest; Richard Meredith, ugliest; Judy Bittmann, cutest; and Mary Fitzgerald, most comical.

And winning youngsters in the costume competition at the Halloween Party at **St. Paul's UCC**, Lionville, were Mary Ellen Fagley and Gale Temple, best couple; Mary Ann Corneal, funniest; Carol Lewis, prettiest; Christine Koser, ugliest; and David Coover, most original.

Also, winners at **Hopewell Methodist Church's** Halloween Party were: David Newlin, prettiest dress; Kathy and Judy Kring, most original; Kenneth Dowlin, funniest; Harry Yost, ugliest; and Linda Kemp, hardest to guess.

Girls who became full-fledged members of **Brownie Troop 210 in Marshallton** were Katie Anderson, Cathy Busby, Carol Caldwell, Doris Collins, Cindy Edwards, Molly Schlinger, Elva Fowler, Barbara Griggs, Patrice McLearn, Cathy Newman, Villa Mae Osborne, Patti Riggins, Jane Walton and Bonnie Hoxter.

Members of the Ladies of St. Joseph's in Downingtown who won prizes for their Halloween costumes were Mrs. Vincent Clark, oldest; Mrs. Anthony DiLuigi, most original; Mrs. Ernest Panetti, prettiest; Mrs. Tony Mattioni, ugliest; Mrs. Matthew Menna, most authentic; Mrs. Adam Ehling, funniest; Mrs. George Kalbitzer and Mrs. Joseph Cipollini, ugliest pair; Mrs. John Morris and Mrs. Andrew Mento, most authentic pair.

Officers of the **Marshallton School PTA** were Austin Fowler, president; Mrs. Donald Moore, vice president; Mrs. Clarence Middleton, secretary; Mrs. Robert Ludwick, corresponding secretary, and Mrs. William Grigson, treasurer. Committee chairmen of the organization included Mrs. John Griggs, membership; Mrs. Paul DiMatteo, Mrs. Albert Anderson and Mrs. Preston Davis, program; Mrs. Robert Hodge and Mrs. Barrett Cleaver, ways and means; Mrs. Austin Fowler, project; and Mrs. Joseph Kirkner, hospitality.

First DHS Homecoming was held 50 years ago

About 1,500 DHS alumni attended the first DHS Homecoming game, which was held on Saturday, October 12, 1963. It was sponsored by the DHS Alumni Association, which is still recognized as the nation's oldest high school alumni group in continuous operation.

The Homecoming program began with a parade, from East Ward School to what is now known as DiSerafino Stadium. Charles Ax emceed the ceremonies and introduced the Homecoming Queen, Diana McDermott, and her court to the crowd of more than 3,700 people.

Following welcoming remarks by Joseph Travaglini, president of the Alumni Association, and other school officials, members and coaches of past DHS championship teams were introduced by former players, Clarence Wilkerson and Herbert Lee. Those honored coaches and the years their teams won championships were: Spurgeon Gingrich, 1926; Francis Tweed, 1938, 1939 and 1940; Howard Caskey, 1951; and Ray DiSerafino, 1957 and 1958.

The halftime program, emceed by Lewis Capriotti, included Congressman Paul Dague presenting a special plaque to Coach Tweed. And Julian Girafalco and John Donofrio presented a monetary gift to Tweed on behalf of his former players, local residents and friends from Lukens Steel Co. Also, Mrs. Tweed received a gift from Mary Sheehan Cardwell, a former cheerleader captain, on behalf of former cheerleaders. Following the game, a reception was held in the Junior High.

However, the festivities were tainted by a 26-6 loss to Phoenixville. The Whippets got rolling momentarily, when John Miller took the opening kickoff and raced 80 yards for an apparent TD.

But that quick score was nullified because of a clipping penalty, and Downingtown's offense was stalled for the rest of the game. The Whippets finally scored in the fourth quarter when Clark Bartell blocked a Phantom punt and, subsequently, DHS quarterback Jim Bob Price crossed the goal line on a one-yard run.

Homecoming events were expanded to two days in 1976, when the parade was switched to Friday night. That was the year Gladys Brookover and Nicky Anderson were honored for establishing and organizing the Homecoming Queen competition for 13 years. In recent years, the parade has been held on Thursday night, and the Homecoming game has been played on Friday since lighting was installed at the stadium. After, DHS was split into two high schools 10 years ago, each school has had its own Homecoming activities.

The first Homecoming Day Committee included: Charles Menas, chairman, Charles Ax, Marion Noll, Gladys and Thomas Brookover, Mary Cardwell, Lewis Capriotti, John Donofrio, Julian Girafalco, Joseph Travaglini, Elma Miller, Robert Williams, Clarence Wilkerson, Herbert Lee, William Ifert, Ray DiSerafino and Joseph Tremul.

Members of the welcoming Committee were Creston Shoemaker, Robert Ash, Graham Bentley, Marian Philips, Paul Dague, Charles Way, George Bousum, Grace and Perry Tyson, Maurice Yohn and William Ash.

Noted below are the Homecoming Queens over the years. The list was provided by Donna Lang Kneisley of the Alumni Association

1963 Mrs. Diana McDermott Wagner *	1983 Miss Christine Moody
1964 Mrs. Cheryl Jordan Rhoades	1984 Miss Jackie Utz
1965 Mrs. Paula Scharek Johnson	1985 Mrs. Paula West Green
1966 Mrs. Cindy Kent Rodgers	1986 Miss Bobbie Stephens
1967 Ms. Donna Usher	1987 Miss Julie Pry
1968 Mrs. Susan Patrizio Johnson *	1988 Miss Nikki Benedix
1969 Mrs. Rose Gazzero Borromeo	1989 Miss Megan Englund
1970 Mrs. Diane Mitchell Hilton	1990 Miss Marcy Mackey
1971 Mrs. Ivy Bertoncini Fessenbecker	1991 Mrs. Wendy Thomas DeSanto
1972 Mrs. Rose Mascherino Ciarlone	1992 Miss Dana Becker
1973 Mrs. Janice Mattioni Caridi	1993 Miss Nicole Luman
1974 Mrs. Kathy Kallmeyer Strode	1994 Miss Ericka VonHacht
1975 Mrs. Donna Valentino Reilly	1995 Miss Monica Beible
1976 Mrs. Linda Mattioni Wolfe	1996 Miss Megan Hughes
1977 Mrs. Karen Hall DeMarco	1997 Miss Lisa Vacca
1978 Mrs. Gina Rambo Celii	1998 Miss Heather DeRafelo
1979 Mrs. Denise Mancini Pratel	1999 Miss Sarah Polite
1980 Miss Sue Bertram	2000 Alison Sanauvong
1981 Miss Jenny Weldon	2001 Antoinette Johnson
1982 Miss Elizabeth Salzarulo	2002 Nicole Mirasola

DHS EAST

2003 Shadia Arouni
2004 Mona Qaddoumi
2005 Kate Giere

DHS WEST

2003 Nicole Scotto
2004 Denise Campbell
2005 Kai Lawson

2006 Courtney Caporizzo
2007 Audrey Snyder
2007 Leigh Reichert
2008 Jenna Bair
2009 Colleen Hughes
2010 Maria Golden
2011 Kaitlin Brennan
2012 Maura Sugg
2013 Erin Mullin

2006 Michelle Scotto
2007 Molly Caso
2008 Kendra Shockley
2009 Madison Davenport
2010 Blake Owens
2011 Kelly Boyle
2012 Sarah Bartels
2013 Maddie McGrail

* Deceased

(Editor's Note: You can read more about Coach Tweed and his football teams in the November 15, 2012 Hist-O-Gram, which is part of the November-December 2012 group of Hist-O-Grams available at: <http://www.downingtowntareahistoricalociety.org/Histograms/2012%20Hist-O-Grams/Nov-Dec%202012.pdf>.)

Family Files now number 8,300

The volunteers who spend Sunday and Thursday afternoons clipping and pasting newspaper articles, and WCU student Michael Homan, who constantly updates all the online information on our 8,300 Family Files cards in our Archives, continue to make progress. That total means we have Family File cards on more than 8,300 individuals who have a connection with the Downingtown area.

The cards are filed by each individual's last name, and the first letter of their first name. And many cards contain more than one article.

Articles, which are clipped from local newspapers and pasted on Family File cards, include engagements, weddings, deaths, retirements, achievements, promotions, etc. Though most of the articles were published in papers sometime after 1969, we have begun collecting older articles from local newspapers which are on microfilm.

To see if we have any information on your family members, click on the online indexes on our website, www.downingtowntareahistoricalociety.org. You may be surprised.

Your friends and family can be Hist-O-Gram subscribers

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We won't share or sell any email addresses. Or if you want your email address deleted from the list, contact us at: Info@downingtowntareahistoricalociety.org.

It's on Moore Road in Upper Uwchlan Twp.



Morris Farnum is a truly perceptive scholar because he was the first person to correctly identify the location of the barn, pictured above, as on Moore Road in Upper Uwchlan Township. By the way, more people sent us responses (several were correct, but were received after Morris's) on this **Where and What Is This?** competition than we had ever received before. And most of those people had never participated in the contest in the past. We suspect that so many people had responded when we ran this photo for the second time this week because so many subscribers assume that someone always identifies the location of the photo as soon as each Hist-O-Gram is released. Obviously, that's not true.

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Senior Center's Harvest Hop

7-11 PM Saturday, November 9, Griffith Hall at Ludwig's Fire Co.

Enjoy Swine, Wine & Brew Too!!! Featuring a fabulous Pig Roast and our signature drink: Apple Pie. Live Music provided by local band: Holt 45. Basket Raffles, Beer-A-Mid Raffle, Games & More.

Benefits Downingtown Area Senior Center. Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Reservations are \$40 per person (tickets are held for guests at the door). Cost includes: buffet dinner, local craft beer and selection of wines. For ticket reservations, or sponsorship

opportunities, call Sue McIntyre at 610.269.3939 or email Sue directly at Susan.McIntyre@downingtownseniors.org.

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Downingtown Lions Club's "William Woodruff Memorial" Pancake Breakfast will be held Saturday, November 23. Serving will be from 7:30 AM until 11:30 AM at Central Presbyterian Church 100 W. Uwchlan Ave., Downingtown. The cost for adults is \$6 and children (4 to 12) is \$4; 3 year olds and under are free. Benefits: "Sight First Kids" and local groups in need.

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There is plenty of parking in the Kerr Park lots, as well as in the Borough Hall parking lot.

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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.

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Downingtown Area Historical Society
Hist-O-Gram

Interesting local history, accessed from our archives

www.downingtownareahistoricalociety.org

Vol. 4, No.43

October 24, 2013

Where and What Is This?



The first person to correctly identify the site in this photo will be recognized as a truly perceptive scholar. Please send your identification entries to: Info@downingtownareahistoricalociety.org.

More local news published 52 years ago

Noted below are news items, which were originally published in local newspapers in the latter part of November 1961.

Some 200 people attended a dinner to celebrate the **Downingtown Methodist Church's** 100th anniversary in November 1961. The program, emceed by Raymond Dennis, included a trio--Carol Lillard, Bonnie Dawson and Donna Thompson--that sang two numbers, and Emily Lewis presented a resume of the church's history.

Before the church received a charter in 1861, the congregation, which met in private homes from 1824 until 1833, was served by circuit riders. A small plot on East Lancaster Avenue was purchased from Thomas Webster for \$250 in 1833, and a tiny, stone church was built there by Richard Webster. The original church property was sold in 1860, and a larger church was built across the street, on the site of where the East Ward School was opened in 1923. A new church was built in 1890, on Brandywine Avenue where the DNBFIRST Bank's operations center is now located. The cost of that project, including the land and removal of a carriage shop, totaled nearly \$14,000. The parsonage, next door, was constructed in 1905. A Sunday School addition to the church was completed in 1927. The present church, on East Lancaster Avenue, was dedicated in 1982.

Billy Perdue, 8, of Marshallton, had a story he wrote published in *Jack and Jill Magazine*.

Persons elected to lead **First Baptist Church**, Downingtown, were Mrs. Leon Gabel, Mrs. Theresa Eshelman, Thomas Philips and George Bell, trustees; John Frazer, Thomas Gabel and Gordon Stilwell, deacons; Mrs. Lydia McManus, clerk; Mrs. Marvin Shirk, treasurer; Mrs. Gerald Lammey, financial secretary; Wilbur Felten, Sunday School superintendent; Mrs. Ralph Ralston and Josiah Ashenfelder, directors; Clarence Miller, choir director; Mrs. Benjamin Russell, organist; and Elizabeth Miller, Joyce Felten and Mrs. Donald Shields, assistant organists.

DHS seniors who were in the cast of a **three-act play**, directed by Evelyn Hamilton, included Bill Meronry, Helen Simmons, Robert Robinson, Susan Vail, Neil Shields, Anne Lathrop, John McNamara, Betsy Kinlock, Caroline Ash, Gayle Davis, Eileen Shirley, Bonnie Eachus, Nancy Tibel, Steve Wilson, Harry Simms and Billie Stern.

Junior High students who attended a **medical conference**, sponsored by the Chester County TB and Health Society and the Valley Forge Army Hospital, were Connie Hamilton, Marilyn Harmon, Janet Strawsnyder, Audrey Strouse and Peggy Woodland.

To entice Christmas shoppers, the **Barmay Store**, at Pennsylvania and Wallace Avenues, Downingtown, was offering three pairs of seamless nylon stockings for \$1.85, and at **Griffith's Hardware**, 123 E. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown, it cost only \$8.87 for a toaster, an electric can opener or an automatic 12-cup coffee maker.

Members of the **Junior High soccer team** learned fundamentals of the sport taught by coach Lawrence Devlin, but they didn't play any matches. The players were David Corry, David Robbins, Willy Von Hacht, Richard Biondi, John Caldwell, Eric Dietrich, Kenneth Dunn, Robert Geist, Joseph Kirkner, David Jahaney, Wesley Marion, Russell Trego, Paul Bien, Kenneth Sigle, Jay Rambo, Ethan Berry and William Morris.

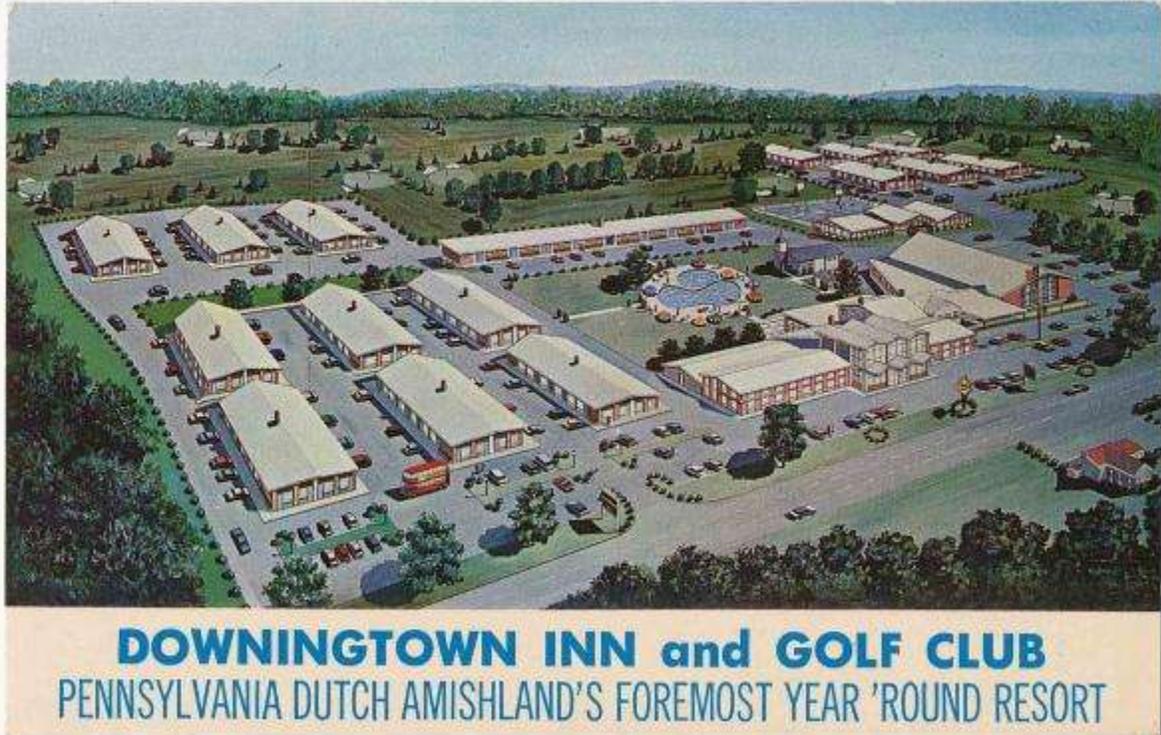
Members of **Brownie Troop 83**, Downingtown, accompanied by leaders Mrs. Herbert Tompkins and Mrs. James Murphy, toured the Eachus Dairy in West Chester. The group included Brenda Murphy, Jean and Michelle Guerrieri, Joan Morris, Denine Koth, Patty Foy, Carol Steidler, Grace and Ann DiBerardinis, Trudy Laird, Joyce Beam, Rosemary Gazzo, Susan Mento, Kathy Windle, Catherine Martin, Diane Peterman, Nancy Barlow, Betsy Robbins and Joan Hartman.

Members of the newly formed **Wallace Township Park and Recreation Committee** were Ralph Hannum, chairman, Betty Templin, Rev. Leonard Bjorkman, Mrs. Robert Mason and Kenneth Comstock.

Customers at **Town Motors** on Route 30, East Caln, only had to put down \$10 if they wanted to buy a 1960 Ford station wagon for \$2,299 or a four-door 1960 Dodge Dart for \$1599.

The outweighed **DHS football squad** beat Coatesville 12-0 on Thanksgiving Day. The Turkey Day classic was the 38th meeting of the two schools. Pint-sized (5-2, 130 pounds) Gordy Flowers scored the first TD, on a drive that featured long gains by Flowers and Walt Horsey. The second Downingtown touchdown was scored in the fourth quarter, after Whippet guard Alvin Wells recovered a Coatesville fumble, and quarterback Jim Price connected with end Sam Westmoreland on a 53-yard pass play.

Downingtown Motor Inn opened in November 1961



The Downingtown Motor Inn, on Route 30 in East Caln opened in November 1961. The 100-acre resort motel complex included convention and banquet facilities that could accommodate as many as 2,500 guests, two swimming pools, and the 1896 Restaurant and cocktail lounge. The Motor Inn's owners were Samuel Tabas, founder; Charles Tabas, chairman; and Daniel Tabas, president. After an 18-hole golf course was built, it was known as the Downingtown Inn and Golf Club. In 1983, the Tabas family sold its holdings in the Inn to the Ramada Corp. in exchange for stock. The Inn was demolished in 1994, and a year later the 750,000 square foot Brandywine Square shopping center opened on the site.

(Editor's Note: Since many of you Hist-O-Gram subscribers worked at the Motor Inn when you were younger, we'd love to publish some of your interesting recollections of what it was like working there. Please send your recollections to: Info@downingtowntareahistoricalociety.org).

It's Croft Cottage on Devereux Road in Glenmoore



Wallace Township historian John Miller is a truly perceptive scholar, because he was the first person to correctly identify the building in the above photo (taken by Mike Dunn) as Croft Cottage, on the Devereux Road in Glenmoore

Recollections of Downingtown's early football teams

We retrieved much of the information for the article about the first DHS Homecoming in 1963 for last week's Hist-O-Gram from the program for that day's football game. The program also included many recollections of the beginnings of interscholastic football in Downingtown.

The first football game apparently was played on November 11, 1899, when Downingtown faced the "Athenians" from West Chester, which probably wasn't a high school team. And it's likely that not all the players on the Downingtown squad were high school students back then either. It's also unclear where the game was played, but Downingtown tallied the only score when a player named Duff "kicked a goal" in the first half.

Things didn't go well after that, according an article in the *Daily Local News*, because: "The final outcome of the game cannot be determined since the game was called on account of darkness. When the Athenians left the field, they took the ball with them, but it was recovered before the West Chester team left town."

The Athenians probably travelled to and from the game in a horse-drawn wagon, since the trolley line between Downingtown and the countyseat didn't get rolling until 1902.

The next record of a DHS football team was briefly reported in the *Daily Local News* in October 1901, when the local high school was seeking games on its "suitable athletic field" with teams whose players weighed an average of 125 pounds.

We're not sure where that "suitable" field was located in 1901. But in the early in the 20th Century, Downingtown's football team used the field behind the high school (later West Ward Elementary School) on West Lancaster Avenue and on two baseball diamonds. One diamond was located across Lancaster Avenue from the high school, where Priori's Mattress Warehouse is today, and the other was on the baseball field in the middle of the race track, located near the intersection of Boot Road and Route 322.

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Ghost Walks

Downingtown Historical & Parks Commission & Downingtown Area Paranormal Investigators are teaming up again to bring you the 5th annual Downingtown Ghost Walk throughout two frightening days. The spooktacular activity includes a guided tour to some of Downingtown's most historic and haunted landmarks. Downingtown Paranormal Investigators will present documented stories in order to give tour-walkers an evening that is spooky and historic.

Tickets are \$7; they're on sale at these Downingtown locations: Borough Hall, 4 W. Lancaster Ave.; Margo's Old Fashioned Ice Cream, 131 Mill Rd.; and Downingtown Country Gifts, 147 E. Lancaster Ave. Walks start at Dane Décor, 216 E. Lancaster Ave. Walking Tours will be led by historical figures from Downingtown's past. Walk dates are: Saturday, Oct 26. Line forms at 4:15 PM. No Admission after 8:30 PM and Sunday, Oct 27. Line forms at 3:45 PM. No Admission after 8 PM.

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

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Vol. 4, No.44

October 31, 2013

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Local news originally published 67 years ago

Noted below are items which were first published in local newspapers in early June 1946.

Members of **Girl Scout Troop 17**, Downingtown, who earned second class art-craft and home-making badges, were Anna Horsey, Beulah and Marion Wilkerson, Julia and Harriet Boggs, Kathryn Watson, Dorothy Flowers, Frances Sweeney, Lucille McNeil, Geneva Smith and Frances Styer.

And members of **Troop 94**, Downingtown, who earned second class pottery badges included Joan Forbes, Betty Gilkin, Nancy Brookover, Connie Hamilton, Sara Taylor, Frances

Mascherino, Barbara Conley, Patty Kennan, Catherine Myers, Doris Ann Cox and Joan Thomas. Marilyn Rogers and Mary Jane Bird received badges for clothing.

Upper Uwchlan honored local men and women who served in World War II by having their names engraved on a **marble monument**, which was installed on a plot where an Honor Roll had been located.

The DHS auditorium was filled at the high school's **64th commencement**, when 101 students graduated. Eight of the graduates included boys who were in the military service: Henry Hall, Willard McKinney, Paul MacIntire, John Mascherino, Albert Menna, Anthony Mattioni, James Powell and James Stewart. Students who received faculty awards in various subjects were Margaret Roop, English; Jane McCausland, social studies; George Windolph, mathematics; Marjorie Windle, science; Barbara Hemphill, language; Betty Jane Zook, commercial; Irma DelPaggio, home economics; Anthony Cozzone, shop; Theresa DiBerardinis, vocal music; Jean Esworthy, instrumental music; Roger Van Valkenburg, agriculture; and Harry Crosson, art.

Eighth graders who graduated from **West Bradford Consolidated School** were Arnold William Laird, Betty Wallace, Virginia Elaine English, Robert Ernest Martin, Rose Caroline Nixon, Ronald Francis Yetter, Lilyanne Gyger, Frances Adella Sweeney, Shirley May Lamborn, Carl Bane, Kathryn Marie Griffith, Daniel Frank Place, Frances Agnes DiMatteo, Margaret Alice Newman, Clair Harold Plank, Freda Lorraine Seeds, Guy Thomas Hadden, William Flinn and Joyce Powell. The girls wore long dresses and the boys wore dark coats and white trousers at the graduation ceremony.

Elected as officers of the Live Wire Class of **Downingtown Methodist Church** were Mrs. George Barr, president; Madeline Laird, vice president; Mrs. Paul McCombs, secretary; and Emily Lewis, treasurer.

Don White was appointed DHS **head football coach**; he succeeded Vincent Daher, who served in that capacity for three years.

Newly elected officers of the **Women of the Moose** were Dorothy McClure, senior regent; Marian Judd, junior regent; Mary Algiers, recorder; Carrie Francella, treasurer; and Ethel Bagshaw, chaplain.

Students at **Lionville Elementary School** who had the highest average for their grade included Schuyler Rennard, first grade; Alice Smedley and Samuel Matthews (tie), second grade; Kathleen Matthews, third grade; and Meredith Ruark, fourth grade. And

Mazie Smedley and James Moses were eighth grade graduates; both planned to enter West Chester High School.

Eighth graders who graduated from the **Upper Uwchlan School System** were: Windsor School, Sara Funderwhite, Dorothy Edwards, Dickey Moore, Curtis Jones, and Richard Gottier; Font School, Betty Peck, Barbara Trego, Mary Henley and Joseph Styer.

And eighth grade graduates of **Indiantown School**, Wallace Township, who planned to enter the ninth grade at Downingtown Junior-Senior High School in September were Esther Irey, who had highest average, Joseph Young, Richard Adams, Merle Hannum, Betty Simmers, Janice Shingle, Betty Sensenig and Helen Miller.

Clip Joint will be open Sunday, Nov. 3

The next clipping and pasting session will be held from 1-4 PM on Sunday, Nov. 3 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.

Early DHS Homecoming Queens and their chaperones



Jennifer Wagner sent the photo above of early DHS Homecoming Queens and chaperones, after she saw the article in our October 17 Hist-O-Gram about the 50th anniversary of the first DHS Homecoming in 1963. The photo includes those who were Homecoming Queens and chaperones between 1963 and 1971. They were, left to right: front row, Dianne McDermott* (1963), Diane Mitchell (1970), Paula Scharek (1965), Donna Usher (1967), and Susan Patrizio*(1968); back row, chaperone Mrs. Nikki Anderson*, Cheryl Jordan (1964), Rosemary Gazzo (1969), Cindy Kent (1966), Ivy Bertocini (1971), and chaperone Mrs. Gladys Brookover*. The women who have an asterisk behind their name are now deceased.

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It's the Old Caln Friends Meeting House



Bud Bruton, who called in his guess from Dallas, TX, is a truly perceptive scholar because he was the first person to correctly identify this building as the Old Caln Meeting House. Located at Old Caln Meeting House Road and East Kings Highway, the Meeting House is the oldest building in Caln Township. For three centuries, it has been a place of worship for Quakers, or members of “The Religious Society of Friends of the Truth”. Built in 1726, the east room was added in 1801. Today, the Meeting House is maintained by a board of trustees, all of whom are Quakers, and the Old Caln Historical Society. You’ll find more information about the Meeting House by accessing www.oldcalnmeetinghouse.org/history.htm.

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Vance Usher, Registered Representative

Providing a courtesy financial advisory service whose objective is to create a portfolio of:

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Senior Center's Harvest Hop

7-11 PM Saturday, November 9, Griffith Hall at Ludwig's Fire Co.

Enjoy Swine, Wine & Brew Too!!! Featuring a fabulous Pig Roast and our signature drink: Apple Pie. Live Music provided by local band: Holt 45. Basket Raffles, Beer-A-Mid Raffle, Games & More.

Benefits Downingtown Area Senior Center. Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Reservations are \$40 per person (tickets are held for guests at the door). Cost includes: buffet dinner, local craft beer and selection of wines. For ticket reservations, or sponsorship opportunities, call Sue McIntyre at 610.269.3939 or email Sue directly at

Susan.McIntyre@downingtownerseniors.org.

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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.

There is plenty of parking in the Kerr Park lots, as well as in the Borough Hall parking lot.

Savings opportunities available at DARC

Discount Movie Tickets: \$8, 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.

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Downingtowntown Area Historical Society
Hist-O-Gram

Interesting local history, accessed from our archives

www.downingtowntownareahistoricalociety.org

Vol. 4, No.45

November 7, 2013

Where and What Is This?



The first person to correctly identify the building 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@downingtowntownareahistoricalociety.org.

DHS Alumni Association establishes Hall of Fame

The Downingtown Area High School Alumni Association has established a Hall of Fame, to recognize alumni who have made a distinguished mark in their career, positively contributed to society, or achieved success in a worthwhile endeavor.

The Hall of Fame Selection Committee has begun seeking nominees worthy of induction. Nominations must be submitted and received either by mail or online by November 30.

Nomination forms can be accessed via:

www.downingtowntownalumni.org/Documents/DHS%20Hall%20of%20Fame%20Nomination%20Form.pdf.

The Selection Committee will choose no more than 10 candidates each year. Selections will be announced by January 31, and the inductions will take place at the annual Alumni Association banquet. For more details about the banquet, access: www.downingtowntownalumni.org.

Inductions into the Hall of Fame will occur every year. The Selection Committee reserves the right to determine whether or not nominees meet the requirements for acceptance. Self-nominations will not be considered. Nominees must have graduated from any Downingtown Area High School at least 10 years ago. All nominations will be held in consideration for two years.

Nominees' accomplishments will be considered in the following areas: Arts and Entertainment, Athletics and Coaching, Business and Professional Affiliations, Charitable Involvement, Education and Community Service, Military Achievement, Politics and Government and Science and Engineering.

For more information, visit the DAHS Hall of Fame website, www.downingtowntownalumni.org, or contact: DAHS Hall of Fame Committee, 540 Trestle Place, Downingtown, PA 19335, or call (610) 269-8460 ext. 6208, or send an email to: downingtowntownalumni@gmail.com.



This 1927 photo of the display window of Theodore Griffith and Son's store in Downingtown's business district shows that they carried a wide array of hunting supplies. Among the stuffed animals on display, that's a skunk in the lower left corner. Marianne Griffith donated the photo.

Downingtown area news items 67 years ago

Noted below are news items originally published in local newspapers in late June 1946.

The State Highway Department revealed that it awarded contracts to resurface Route 30 in Downingtown, from the Swan Hotel in Center Square to the borough's western boundary. The project included removing the **trolley tracks**, which had been installed on West Lancaster Avenue in 1906.

Editor's Note: Here's a brief history of the trolley system in Downingtown, published in the January 26, 2012 edition of *The Hist-O-Gram*.

"The West Chester Street Railway Co. won the contract in 1902 to build the street car line that extended from West Chester's High Street and ended at the Swan Hotel at the intersection of Brandywine and Lancaster Avenues in Downingtown, and ultimately would reach Coatesville.

After installation of the Downingtown branch reached Lancaster Avenue, extending the line westward along Route 30 in the borough was begun almost immediately. But expectations that the expansion all the way to Coatesville would be completed in three months were unfulfilled, as a series of obstacles stalled the project until 1906.

The section between Downingtown and Coatesville became the West Chester Street Railway's most profitable section, by 1919. And in the 1920s, twice as many trolleys were operated on the Downingtown-Coatesville link, at 30-minute intervals, while street cars on the Downingtown-West Chester branch never ran more frequently than once an hour.

By 1927, West Chester Street Railway's revenues were beginning to drop, and the company raised its price, for each of the five zones in the 14.5 miles between West Chester and Coatesville, to a dime. Despite the fare increase, trolley service revenue continued to decline, primarily due to the availability of competing bus service, the growing popularity of automobiles, and improved highways. As a result, the Railway company shut down its trolley business in 1929, and focused on its bus operations. The company's land assets were sold for \$350,000 at a public sale in January 1930."

The Downingtown Chamber of Commerce announced that a **nylon hosiery plant** would soon be built at an undisclosed site in the borough. The Chamber's recently elected officers were W. P. Canby, president; James McGowan, vice president; F. W. Bicking, treasurer; and Everett Hoopes, secretary. Elected to the board of directors were Herbert Kreider, J. J. Joyce, J. J. Brownstein, E. L. Towson and Creston Shoemaker.

Officers sworn in to lead the Auxiliary of the Charles F. Moran **American Legion Post** were Mrs. Leroy Helms, president; Mrs. John Fisher, treasurer; Esther Williams, recording secretary; Mrs. C. O. Brown, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Paul Dague, historian; Anna Dougherty, chaplain; and Mrs. Jessie Scott, sergeant-at-arms.

Teachers and their assistants for the 93 kids attending the **Lionville Vacation Bible School** were Mrs. Schuyler Rennard, kindergarten; Elizabeth Happersett, first grade; Helen Windle, second grade; Mrs. John Carmichael, third and fourth grades; Anna Dewees, fifth and sixth grades; and Mrs. Garfield Matthews, seventh, eighth and ninth grades. Caroline Matthews was the First Aid nurse. Rev. George Harting of St. Paul's E & R Church was in charge, and he was assisted by Rev. George Bass of St. Paul's Lutheran.

Students at **Margaretta Helm's nursery school**, who graduated to first grade, included: Richard Anderson, Billy Donohue, Jakey Edge, Eddie and Judy Gregg, Mary Ann Hamilton, Joan Kent, Sally Laird, Timmy Mahan, Fay Manzi, Jocko Nelson, Jerry Ross, Duer and Betty Smedley, Bobby Stevens, Champ Stehman and Tommy Yost.

Firemen honored for their meritorious service by the Downingtown Rotary Club were William Backenstose of the Alert Fire Co. and Percy Hyde of the Minquas Fire Co.

Seven former **Marshallton School** students, who graduated in 1946 from West Chester High School, were Betty Keehn, Mabel Sellers, Jane Hall, Mary Ciaffoni, Robert Ludwick, Richard Johnson and Grant Hadden.

Newly elected officers of the **Downingtown Lions Club** were Dr. Harlan Sharp, president; Charles Emery, first vice president; Herbert Bowersock, second vice president; William Allen, third vice president; Vinton Smedley, secretary; Joseph Matthewson, treasurer; Evans Miller, financial secretary; Fred Hill, tail twister; Mervin Thomas, assistant tail twister; Rev. Lester Brubaker, lion tamer; and Nelson Jones, assistant lion tamer.

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Anyone know where this house is located?



Many of our Hist-O-Gram subscribers assume that the location of every **Where and What Is This?** photo is correctly identified within minutes after each week's edition is released. Nope! For example, no one even tried to guess the location of this one. So, we'll give it another shot in a week or two.

Block captains needed for Luminaria project

Good Neighbors in the Downingtown area who want to make the Christmas holidays brighter this year are being asked to participate in the Downingtown Area Historical Society's Luminaria project.

The tradition of displaying as many as 15,000 lighted Luminaria candle sets along the sidewalks and driveways of homes in Downingtown and the surrounding townships has been a local Christmas Eve tradition for more than 30 years.

The Historical Society is looking for volunteers who will serve as block captains, to help make the Luminaria project a success by taking orders from neighbors, friends and family for Luminaria sets. The sets are comprised of a candle positioned in a plastic base, which is placed in a wax-coated paper bag.

The Luminaria project is a major source of funding for the Historical Society. Proceeds from the project are used for the continued restoration and maintenance of 304-year-old Ashbridge House, the Historical Society's headquarters, and to preserve its archival collection of documents, photos and artifacts. Ashbridge House is located in front of the Ashbridge Square Shopping Center, on Route 30 in East Caln.

For additional information, call Carol Grigson, project chairman, at 610-269-5413.

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

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Vol. 4, No. 46

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Downingtown area news 36 years ago

Noted below are news items which were originally published by the *East Branch Citizen* in November 1977.

The addition to the **Downingtown Junior High School** was dedicated. The building's capacity was increased to 893 pupils. The \$3.4 million project included renovation of the school's older sections, as well as the new wing, used by the physical education and music departments.

Property transfers included: 802 W. Pennsylvania Ave., Downingtown, \$44,700; 1365 Ridgeview Circle, West Bradford, \$53,900; 418 Carmarthen Court, Uwchlan, \$42,940;

18 Webb Road, East Caln, \$73,426; 10 Waterview Road, Upper Uwchlan, \$58,000; 126 Lambeth Court, East Brandywine, \$43,655.

Members of **Boy Scout Troop 70** who went on a weekend camping trip were Grant Angeny, Scott Bell, Dave and Steve Bishop, Lester Doubts, Joe Handoe, Tom Horblinski, Scott Millward, Eric Raysor and Eric Skinner.

Elementary level students in the Downingtown School District paid 45 cents for **Type A lunches**, and secondary students paid 55 cents for their lunches.

New members of **Lionville Community Church** were Gerry and Ruth Beaver, Richard and Pat Camarra, and Robert and Nancy Jones.

Drum majors of the 150-member **DHS marching band**, directed by Gary Wagner, were Paul Ciotti and Jerry Ware.

DHS soccer coach **Paul Hurley Sr.** was named the Ches-Mont League's Coach of the Year. Players who made the all-league team were Jamie Bogush, Darryl Bull, Jeff Davis, Scooter Farling and Leigh Hannum.

Members of the **DHS field hockey squad**, who made the All Ches-Mont team, were Nancy Urban, Colleen Murtaugh, Ronnie Dellamotta, and Kathy Herion.

Members of the **Uwchlan Hills Home and School Association** who were responsible for putting on a Book Fair were Kitty Aughey, Ruth Ann Gillooly, Joyce Reinbrecht, Anne Buell, Cheryl Gerry, Kay Buhner and Linda Rogers.

Roberta Ekdahl received a **4-H** national award for dog care and training, and Tammy Chiesa participated in the State 4-H Horse Show in Harrisburg.

New members of **Brownie Troop 117**, Marshallton, were Rosemary Brady, Jennifer Doyle, Rae Lewis, Deborah Miller, Erica Spizzirri, Melanie Kefer, Erin McGrady, Michelle Moody and Jennifer Stanley.

Charles Shagren was in charge of the **PRO** (Pupils Reaching Out) program at DHS, which involved 102 students earning credit for their jobs in the community.

The **Downingtown Christmas Committee**, comprised of people representing local churches, service clubs and the school district, planned to bring holiday cheer to 55 local families.

The **Robert Henri Beauty Center**, 151 W. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown, was offering a permanent, haircut and styling to senior citizens on Tuesdays and Wednesdays for just \$16.

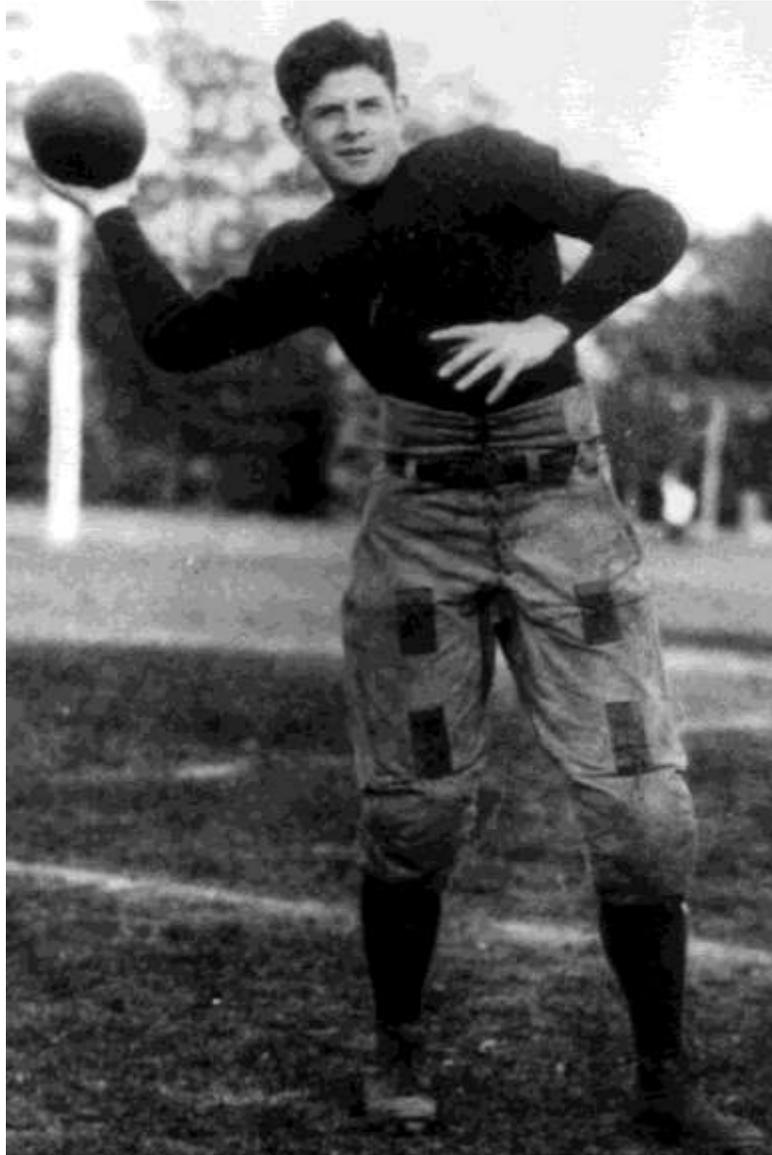
Rev. Barry Ridge, pastor of Messiah Lutheran Church, was the featured speaker at the **Downingtown Ministerium's** Thanksgiving Eve Service, held at Downingtown Methodist Church. The DHS Concert Choir sang special music at the service.

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Downingtown's Charlie Way was an All-American at Penn State

Charlie Way, Class of 1916, probably was the first DHS graduate to earn national recognition and be written about in newspapers across the country. Way received all that ink because he was a consensus (Walter Camp, International News Service and United Press) first team All-American football player at Penn State in 1920.



Charlie Way, when he was a Penn State halfback.

Born in Embreeville in 1897, Way moved to Downingtown with his family when he was three years old, and his father was a foreman in the warehouse of the Cohansey Glass Manufacturing Co., on Chestnut Street in the borough.

As a senior on the DHS football squad, Way scored 32 of 33 touchdowns the team scored during the 1915 football campaign. Beating Coatesville 33-0 on Thanksgiving was the highlight of the season.

However, football wasn't a major high school sport back then. In fact, there was nothing big time about DHS in those days. The high school was sequestered in a few rooms in a school, which was built in 1910 on the south side of West Lancaster Avenue (near where the Messiah Lutheran Church now is) and housed students in grades one through twelve. There were about 30 students in Way's graduating class. The facility became the West Ward Elementary School, after the Junior-Senior High School was built on Manor Avenue in 1932. West Ward was razed in 1961.

When Way played for DHS, the football and baseball teams practiced on a field across the street from the school, where Priori's Mattress store is now located. And with just 12-13 players on the team, there wasn't much scrimmaging, and it would have been difficult to justify hiring assistant coaches.

Home games were played on the field in the middle of the racetrack, where horses harnessed to sulkies raced on Saturdays and holidays, at the intersection of Boot Road and Route 322. There was no band or cheerleaders, and only 100-200 fans came to games, recalled Way.

Way also remembered that none of the DHS players had a complete uniform in those days. They wore their own knickers, and added cleats to an old pair of shoes. Their protective equipment was usually limited to a padded vest and hip pads.

He decided to go to Penn State because it was the "cheapest place to go." And since Way only packed 115 pounds on his 5-8 frame when he showed up at State College as a walk-on, the head coach wasn't going to waste a scholarship on him, no matter how fast and shifty he was.

But Way's broken field running exploits—e.g. he tore off on runs of 70, 55 and 45 yards when Penn State clobbered Maryland 57-0—justified a scholarship in his sophomore year.

And Penn State's coaches were dismayed when Way left the team at the beginning of his junior year to serve in the Army during World War I. However, he bulked up to about 140 pounds while serving in the military, so he was a more durable halfback when he returned to Penn State in 1919.

(Editor's Note: This is the first of a two-part story; the concluding section will be in the Nov. 21 Hist-O-Gram. Most of the information in this article was extracted from articles written in 1977 by DHS English teacher Randy Dietrich, for the East Branch Citizen, a Downingtown weekly.)

Seeking info on the Kathermans

We have been contacted by Joerg Kattermann, who lives in Germany. He is seeking info on his relatives, members of the Katherman family, living in the United States. He knows there are several members of the Katherman family who settled in the Downingtown area.

Joerg can be contacted via email at: j.kattermann@t-online.de.

Was 'What the War Means To Us' course taught in Downingtown?

Rena Eachus Francella of Downingtown recently donated a bunch of neat things, which were kindly delivered to us by Ruth Ann Protivnak.

One of them was a booklet entitled, "What The War Means To Us," which was a Teaching Guide put out by the U.S. Office of Education in 1942, to help teachers explain World War II to secondary level students. The Guide, which was used by history teachers of junior and senior high school pupils across the nation, so the students could "really understand what this war means, how it was forced upon us, what is at stake, and what we want to win for ourselves and

for the world in the victory. However, since the course was not mandatory, we're not sure if it was offered at Downingtown Junior-Senior High School between 1941 and 1945.

"It is important that organized education promote common understanding of certain basic facts and problems," noted John Studebaker, U.S. Commissioner of Education. "This cannot be achieved by an occasional assembly. Nor can it be achieved by leaving these fundamental things to chance coverage by the regular curriculum. . . . This is an all-out war. That means conversion of industry from production of consumer goods to expanded production of the tools for victory. It means shifting millions of competent people from constructive peacetime activities into the armed forces."

Since "schools hold an important sector in this battle line," noted the guide, they were expected to conduct hour-long "forums" about the war every day. And although most school systems already had a full class schedule they were encouraged to add an extra period to each day's schedule so there would be enough time for the special "forums," just as business and government had already extended the length of their work days.

We've included this story to determine if how local schools handled changes brought about by World War II, because it's one more example of the incredible impact that war had on American society.

That's why we're asking Hist-O-Gram readers tell us personal stories about how their parents and grandparents coped with major changes during the WW II era, such as surviving when the major breadwinner was serving in the military and not bringing home a paycheck, and staples such as tires, gasoline, shoes, meat and butter were rationed. Please send your recollections to: Info@downingtowntoreahistoricalociety.org. We'll publish the most interesting stories.

We have "cousins" in Toronto, Canada

We recently received a letter from Nancy Sinclair, who lives in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. She wrote:

"I was born and grew up in Coatesville and have lived in Toronto, Canada since 1973. My home here is in the Ashbridges Bay neighbourhood and I live on Ashdale Avenue near Lake Ontario. A few blocks from my home is the Sarah Ashbridge estate. Sarah Ashbridge and her family left (Downingtown) Pennsylvania in the 1790's, I believe, and settled on a large tract of land in what is now the east end of Toronto. The Ashbridge descendants lived in and/or owned their large home until the latter part of the 20th Century and it now belongs to the Province of Ontario.

Unfortunately, the home is not open to the public, except on the rare special occasion, and it was on one of those days that I toured the home and was excited to see a map of the area in Pennsylvania where the Ashbridge family had lived in the present day Downingtown area. There is a plaque on the grounds explaining the background of Sarah Ashbridge and commemorating the family's significant impact on our thriving present day community."

We hope to get more info on our area's Canadian cousins.

It will be part of the Christmas in Marshallton House Tour



John Carbo is a truly perceptive scholar because he was the first person to correctly identify the early 18th Century house in the photo above as one on Strasburg Road in the village of Marshallton in West Bradford Township. The house, completely restored in 2003-2004, was once known as the “High Pine” because of the tall pine tree in the yard. The house is one of the sites on the Christmas in Marshallton House Tour on Saturday, December 14. See the classified below for more details on the tour.

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Free ads for Non-Profits

Programs at the Downingtown Library

Pre-registration is required for the programs listed below, which will be offered at the Downingtown Library, 330 E. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown. You can sign up by accessing www.downintownlibrary.org/ or by calling 610-269-2741.

Friday, November 15 from 4-7 PM and Saturday, November 16, from 9 AM to 4 PM, The Friends of the Downingtown Library will hold a **Fall Flea Market** upstairs at the Downingtown Library. Look through your attics, closets and drawers, and plan to recycle your unused or gently used gadgets, linens, glassware, toys, etc. to help the library. Donations will be accepted through November 13. No clothing or furniture. Goods may be dropped off upstairs at the Downingtown Library Monday through Thursday (9 AM to 7 PM), Friday (9 AM to 4 PM) and Saturday (9 AM to 3 PM)).

Thursday, November 14 at 6:30 PM-**Backyard Birdwatching**. Learn about the histories, habitats and lifestyles of common Chester County birds. Register online via www.downintownlibrary.org or call 610-269-2741.

Tuesday, November 19 at 6:30 PM-**A Brief History of the Trains of King of Prussia**. Historian Michael Shaw will present a program on the past, present and future of the King of Prussia railroads. Register online via www.downintownlibrary.org or call 610-269-2741.

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In addition to the house tour (no tour ticket required) Marshallton United Methodist Church will host a variety of events, including a luncheon served in Fellowship Hall, live music in the

sanctuary, a country store and holiday cookie sale, and a gallery highlighting the work of local artists Dennis Park, David Katz, Sherry McVikar and Leander Fontaine.

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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.

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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



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

Interesting local history, accessed from our archives

www.downingtownareahistoricalsociety.org

Vol. 4, No. 47

November 21, 2013

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.

DHS West band won state championship

Congratulations to the DHS West marching band, under the direction of Ed Otto, for winning the state championship, at Hershey earlier this month. You can see their championship program on YouTube at: <http://youtu.be/lmFC1uCS0hk>

Local news items published 52 years ago

Noted below are items which were originally published in local newspapers in December 1961.

Edward Novak, principal at **Lionville Elementary School**, took advantage of the 11-degree weather and created an ice rink outside the school so students could skate there during break periods and after school.

The **Downingtown Chamber of Commerce** endorsed Thomas Courtless to fill the seat on Borough Council, which had been vacated by George Snyder. And elected as members of the Chamber's board of directors were W.P. Canby, Horace Rodgers, Richard Warren, Edward Towson, Earl Radcliffe, Warren Strawsnyder, Raymond Baugher, Ray Sheeler, Chandler Cushman, Thomas Roberts, David Yaeck, Richard Lehr, Carl Nelson and Kennard Porter.

With only one returning starter, Sam Westmoreland, coach Jack Appleby's **DHS basketball team** opened its season with a two-overtime win against Oxford. And despite Westmoreland's 22- point effort, Octorara, another Southern Chester County League opponent, beat the Whippets 62-4 in Downingtown's second game.

Richard Lichty, a member of **Boy Scout Troop 115**, Downingtown, was awarded the rank of Eagle. Also recognized at a Court of Honor were Joseph Valente, life scout, and Francis Esposito, star scout.

Elected as officers of the ninth grade at **Downingtown Junior High** were Linda McCombs, president; Donald McDermott, vice president; Donna Cox, secretary; and Stephen Meacham, treasurer. And members of the Junior High's **Boys Cooking Club**, under the guidance of Mrs. Katherine Neal, were James Aaron, Leonard Collier, William Hall, William Kline, Jogn Landis, Kenneth Lee, Norman Matthews, Peter Plank, Russell Slater, Russell Trego and Alan Wills.

Members of the **Ladies of St. Joseph Catholic Church**, who participated in a Nativity tableau, were Mrs. Ernest Panetti, portraying the Blessed Mother; Mrs. Mervin Paylor, St. Joseph; and Mrs. John DiBernardi, Mrs. Anthony Doto, Mrs. Mary Ann Malin and Mrs. Frank Delio, as angels.

Invested in **Brownie Troop 262**, Chester Springs, were Ann Dilworth, Dianne Fink, Hope Hollifield, Deborah Kimmel, Robin Knox, Celeste Alfieri, Betty Miller, Cathy Vail, Mary Katherine Smiley, Ann English and Rebecca English.

Special offerings for Christmas shoppers at the **Downingtown Farmers Market** included: two pair of Ban-Lon men's socks, 75 cents; bulky, women's knit cardigan sweaters, \$3.97; a Chatty Cathy talking doll, \$9.77; and an H-0 three-car train set, \$14.91.

Downingtown Borough Council agreed to buy a 47-acre tract of land on the east side of Wallace Avenue, north of the borough line, which was owned by Maxwell Mizell.

Elected as officers of the **Downingtown Opti-Mrs. Club** were Mrs. Jack Bray, president; Mrs. Francis Swisher, vice president; Mrs. Clifton Walton, treasurer; and Mrs. Clair Langham, secretary.

Elected to lead the **DHS Future Teachers of America Club** were Barbara Thompson, president; Nancy Heugh, vice president; Sandy Kopenhagen, secretary; Joanna Pope, treasurer; Gayle Davis, historian; and Robert Shank, parliamentarian.

The **Marshallton PTA's** classroom mothers included: Mrs. Elva Fryberger and Mrs. Beryl Bradley, kindergarten; Mrs. Ruth Durnall and Mrs. Betty Hall, first grade; Mrs. Clyde Busby and Mrs. Wesley Walton, second grade; Mrs. Earl Riggins and Mrs. Samuel Wilson, third grade; Mrs. George Hornberger and Mrs. George Fling, fourth grade; and Mrs. Allan Wilgis and Mrs. Warren Rissell, fifth grade.

Members of **Cub Pack 83**, Lionville, who earned wolf badges and arrow points were Richard Faddis, Kevin Miller, Barry Lambert, Ricky Gilbert, Dan Hayes, Ralph Hill, Harry Rauch Jr. and James McQuail.

Charlie Way also was an All-Pro player

(Editor's Note: This is Part II of a two part story on Charlie Way, DHS Class of 1916. You can access the first part via:

<http://www.downingtowntareahistoricalociety.org/Histograms/2013%20Hist-O-Grams/November%2014%202013%20Hist-O-Gram.pdf>.)

After serving in the Army for a year during World War I, Way returned to Penn State in the fall of 1919, his junior year. But he wasn't offered a full scholarship until he told head coach Hugo Bezdek that he was considering an offer from West Point. In those days, the rest of the 3,600 students at Penn State were paying \$75 a semester for tuition.

Obviously, Way earned his keep.

In an article before Penn State beat Penn 10-0 at Franklin Field in 1919, a Philadelphia reporter wrote, "the Downingtown youth weighs only 138 pounds, and he's as fast as the proverbial flash. On the last two Saturdays, he has run back the opening kickoffs for touchdowns."

And when Penn State suffered its sole loss in 1919, a 19-13 setback to Dartmouth, Way was responsible for all of the Nittany Lions' scoring, by running back the opening kickoff 90 yards, and by scooping up a fumble and running 85 yards for another touchdown.

In his final home game at Beaver Field in 1920, Way sealed a 20-0 victory over Nebraska and ensured Penn State's undefeated season, when he sprinted for touchdown runs of 53 and 57 yards. Before that game, the Cornhuskers had been unscored upon.

And before the Pitt game in 1920, Grantland Rice, whose writing is one of the reasons why the 1920s was called the "Golden Age of Sports," claimed Way was "the best broken field runner in the East."

When Way was named a first-team, consensus All-American halfback in 1920, the other All-American halfback was Notre Dame's George Gipp. According to the 1940 film *Knute Rockne: All American*, Gipp fell ill and when dying he asked Notre Dame coach Knute Rockne to promise that, when things were going badly for the team, he should inspire them by asking them to 'win one for The Gipper'."

Ronald Reagan, who portrayed Gipp, told Rockne in the film: "And the last thing he said to me, 'Rock,' he said, 'sometime when the team is up against it and the breaks are beating the boys, tell them to go out there with all they've got and win just one for the Gipper'." That's when Reagan was given the nickname Gipper, and he later used the quotation when seeking election as US president.

Way also was on the track team and held Penn State's record for the broad jump for several years.

After he earned a degree in finance in 1921, Way played for the Canton Bulldogs, one of the original members of the National Football League, while helping to coach the Dayton College football team that fall as well. Then he coached the Allentown (PA) High School team for two seasons, in 1922 and 1923. In 1924, he returned to the pro game, when he played for the NFL's Frankford Yellowjackets, forerunners of the Philadelphia Eagles, and was named to the league's All-Pro team. After spending the 1925 season on the coaching staff of Virginia Tech, he was an

all-league player for the Philadelphia Quakers, undefeated champion of the American Football League in 1926.

Way said the pros played 20 games a season back then, and he was paid \$125-\$150 a game, which was “good money” in the 1920s. And during his pro career, he played against icons such as Red Grange, Jim Thorpe and George Halas.

After he retired from football, Way owned a taxi service and sold insurance during the Depression era. Then he worked as an auditor for the IRS from 1937 until 1963, when he retired.

Way, who married Helen Parker, his high school sweetheart, died on Jan. 31, 1988. He’s buried in the cemetery of Grove United Methodist Church.

Information in this article was accessed from stories written in 1977 by Randy Dietrich in the East Branch Citizen, as well as articles published in the Philadelphia Inquirer, New York Times, and Philadelphia Evening Public Ledger. A scrapbook and many other materials about Charlie Way’s football and track career at Penn State are held in the Archives of the Pattee Library at Penn State University, University Park, PA).

When was Route 282 paved in Lyndell area?

A Hist-O-Gram subscriber needs information on when Route 282 was paved in the Lyndell area. They believe it was in the late 1960s. If you have ANY info on the date when the paving was done, please send an email to us at: Info@downingtowntareahistoricalociety.org.

Student newspaper brings back memories for Class of 1952

One of the items Ruth Ann Protivnak recently donated to the Historic Society was a copy of the May 1952 *Blue and Gold*, published by the students of Downingtown Junior-Senior High School, in the building now occupied by the STEM Academy.

Interesting items in the newspaper included:

After senior class president Ralph Pacinelli delivered a welcoming address at the Class of 1952’s commencement, Barbara Seibert, Patsy Piersol and Sarah Popjoy spoke on various aspects of the theme of citizenship. Carolyn Pritchard and Ronald Piersol sang solos, and Rev. Kenneth Buckwalter, pastor of Hopewell Methodist Church, delivered the invocation and benediction.

One of the highlights of the Concert Band’s annual program was a trumpet duet by Joseph Ursini and Attmore Pollock.

The Letterman’s Club was going to use part of the \$600 in its treasury to buy a movie camera to film some of the football team’s games. The club’s officers were Buddy Supplee, president; Ralph Miller, vice president; and Johnny Talierco, treasurer.

John Talierco and Patsy Piersol received the Alumni Association Senior Awards at the association’s annual banquet at the Alert Fire Co.

Mary Jane “Birdie” Bird and Ralph “Patchy” Pacinelli were named the Senior Girl and Boy of the Year.

The Junior High Dramatic Club put on a play entitled “Augie Richards, Private Eye.” Members of the cast included Tommie Sheen, Louise DiPietro, Angeline Stampone, Eddie Caudill, Claudette Rimel, Jackie Bartelmo, Janet Fazzini and Jeanette Luminella.

Senior members of the National Honor Society were James Duca, Shirley Harple, Patsy Piersol, Janet Kriebel, Vanessa Edelen and Barbara Seibert. New members were Mary Ann Fazzini, Carrol Lewis, Jay Walton, Joan Pollock, Sarah Popjoy, Eleanor DiEulis, Clinton Law, Patsy Osborne, Shirley Wells, Howard Charles and Connie Hamilton.

It's on Highspire Road in East Brandywine



Shelley Francies, a longtime resident of downtown Lyndell in East Brandywine, is a truly perceptive scholar because she was the first person to correctly identify the building in the photo above, taken by Mike Dunn. The original part of the house was built by John McClure in 1748, according to Barbara Paul's *A History of East Brandywine Township*. It became known as Lyndenwood, after two additions were built in in the 19th Century. Ruth and John Kaltenbach bought the property in the early 1960s. Daniel Rhoades, the current owner, is restoring the place.

Your friends and family can be Hist-O-Gram subscribers

Tired of forwarding copies of each week's Hist-O-Gram to friends and family? If you want any of them to become a subscriber to our free Hist-O-Grams, tell them to go to our website: www.downingtowntownareahistoricalsociety.org, and type their email address into the sign-up box on the home page. We won't share or sell any email addresses. Or if you want your email address deleted from the list, contact us at: Info@downingtowntownareahistoricalsociety.org.

Ashbridge House won't be open this Sunday afternoon

Ashbridge House, our 304-year-old headquarters ON Route 30 in East Caln, will not be open on Sunday, Nov. 24. However, we'll have our regular clipping and pasting session from 1-4 PM Sunday, November 24.

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Free ads for Non-Profits

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Downingtown Area Historical Society
Hist-O-Gram

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www.downingtownareahistoricalsociety.org

Vol. 4, No. 48

November 28, 2013

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More local news items published 52 years ago

Noted below are items which were originally published in local newspapers in the latter part of December 1961.

The **Downingtown Chamber of Commerce** announced that Rex Morgan, Philadelphia TV personality, would be the featured speaker at its annual dinner in January.

Cut your own Christmas trees were available for \$2 at **Tallwood Farm**, 3.5 miles north of Downingtown on Route 282. (*Editor's Note: Anyone know what happened to that farm?*)

The **Ladies Auxiliary of St. Anthony's Lodge**, Downingtown, sponsored a teen dance on Christmas night. Music was furnished by the "Galaxies."

The new **Brandywine-Wallace Elementary School**, which cost \$396,000 to build, was dedicated. The school included 12 classrooms, a special education room, a kindergarten room, a health suite, a library, a music room and a cafetorium. The school's capacity was 451 students. In 1961, about 350 pupils from East Brandywine, Wallace and Upper Uwchlan attended the school.

Officers elected to lead the **Alert Fire Co.**, Downingtown, were William Barrett, president; George Nixdorf, vice president; Elmer Schrupf, recording secretary; Arthur Glauner, financial secretary; Richard Myers, treasurer; Leslie Sheeler, trustee; Alfred Peterman, assistant chief; Walter Peazzoni, captain; Lewis Wilson and Thomas Lee, lieutenants; Paul Backenstose, Fred Gates and Clair Langham, fire police.

Members of **Brownie Troop 243**, who visited residents of nursing homes to deliver Christmas favors they made and sing carols, were Nancy Kohlhas, Linda Stoner, Turie Hayes, Cindy Mitman, Debbie Berry, Sharon Charles, Mary Fitzgerald, Debbie Seibert, Sandy Piersol, Terri and Robin Pearson, JoAnn Carey, Gail Wills and Barbara Pulinka. Leaders of the troop were Mrs. William Keen, Mrs. Joseph Wills and Mrs. David Kohlhas.

Downingtown Paper Co. officials claimed they were being harassed by Downingtown Borough Council, regarding proposed land condemnation ordinances, sought to stop the paper company from dumping sludge and waste in the lake area slated to be converted into the Fairmount Park. The 47-acre tract involved in the proposed park extended north from Pennsylvania Avenue and east from Wallace Avenue. Parts of the tract were owned by the East Caln Realty Co., a subsidiary of Downingtown Paper; the Bicking Paper Co.; and Mrs. Maxwell Meisel, a borough resident.

Officers installed at the **Ladies Auxiliary of the East Brandywine Fire Co.** were Mrs. Elmira Thomas, president; Mrs. Mae Swarner, vice president; Mrs. Hannah Harner, recording secretary; Mrs. Harold Dague, treasurer; Mrs. Pauline Moses, financial secretary; and Mrs. Helen Frazer, chaplain.

And officers elected by members of the **Downingtown Branch of the Needlework Guild** were Mrs. Frank Smedley, president; Mrs. Paul Pollock, vice president; Mrs. Robert Garrett, secretary; and Mrs. Stanley Seneff, treasurer.

The **Downingtown Junior High Science Department**, supervised by Rita Gleason and Joseph Tremul, put on a skit that dramatized a trip to the moon. Members of the cast included James Schofield, John Caldwell, Eric Dietrich, Howard McGirk, John Barton, Joan Acker, Barbara Baum, Gene Martin and Edwin Conner.

Officers of the **Future Homemakers of America Club** at the Junior High were Deborah Dunn, president; Priscilla Asparagus, vice president; Diane Wilkerson, secretary; and Linda Wheatley, treasurer.

New officers of the Churchwomen group at **St. James Episcopal Church**, Downingtown, were Mrs. Charles Mead, president; Mrs. George Lord, first vice president; Mrs. Marshall Waltz,

second vice president; Mrs. Maurie Davis, treasurer; Mrs. Fred Pollock, assistant treasurer; Mrs. Albert Herman, recording secretary; and Margaret Whitecar, corresponding secretary.

The Lords and Ladies of **Central Presbyterian Church**, Downingtown, put on a Christmas pageant. The cast included Thomas Peazzoni, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Stevens, Harry Foreman, Robert Sheeler, Ira Buckwalter, Donald Bireley, Norman Pannebaker, George Nordblom, Lewis Prekup, Robert Forrest, William Barrett and George Whiteman.

New officers of the Women's Association at **Fairview Presbyterian Church**, Glenmoore, were Mrs. Gilbert Cornog, vice president; Margaret Howson, program chairman; Mrs. Edwin Kalemjian, treasurer; Mrs. John Kelly, fellowship chairman; and Mrs Frank Styer, nominating committee.

The **DHS boys' basketball team** overcame a five-point, halftime deficit and beat Pottsgrove 53-47 to win the Royersford Jaycees Holiday Basketball Tournament. Leading scorers for the Whippets were Bill Pollock, 14 points; George Murphy, 13; and Eugene Williams, 13. Downingtown made it to the finals by clobbering Clifton Heights 61-16.



Square dancing was one of the many activities at St. Paul's Lutheran Church's old fashioned picnic, which was part of the Lionville church's year-long 175th anniversary celebration.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Lionville, is 175 years old

In 1838, Lutheran and German Reformed residents of the Lionville area agreed to build a Union Church together, at the site of the White School, near the current St. Paul's United Church of Christ on Worthington Road in Exton. Peter Stiteler donated the land, and John Hartman's bid of \$1,483 won the contract to build the tiny one-story, stone structure. Hartman was to furnish all materials, excepting the date stone, door sills and delivery of water for the masons.

The new church, named St. Paul's Church in Uwchlan at the time, was dedicated in November 1838, and the two congregations agreed to have services on alternate Sundays. Rev. Peter Ruthrauff, who already was the pastor of three other Lutheran churches nearby, took on the pastorate of St. Paul's as well. St. Paul's charter of incorporation was granted by the Court of Common Pleas of Chester County in February of 1844.

In 1852, the Union Church arrangement was dissolved, and the Reformed congregation purchased the interests of the Lutherans for \$700. And \$300 of the \$700 was used by the Lutherans to purchase a small parcel of land in the village of Lionville, from Mordica and Lydie Lee, where a two-story, stone church was built for about \$4,000. The church was dedicated on

January 1, 1853. This church building was located where "the Nurtury" is now located. Also in 1853, St. Paul's Sunday School was established. From the land not used for the church, was dedicated as a cemetery. In 1860, the congregation purchased its first parsonage for \$1,500, it was situated on a lot diagonal to the second church.

St. Paul's was one of the few early Lutheran congregations to never have had a German language service. There was a tendency on the part of English-speaking congregations to be less conservative than their German-speaking brothers and sisters.

From 1877 until 1899, St. Paul's was part of a two-church parish, with St. Matthew's Lutheran on Route 401, Chester Springs. However, progress at St. Paul's continued. In 1881, the sanctuary was renovated, new furnishings were added, and the old windows were altered and replaced with stained glass ones, three of which were memorial windows. There also were new chandeliers, a chancel railing was installed, and frescoes were painted on the ceiling.

In 1883, the Women's Missionary Society was formed, and the Christian Endeavor (Youth) Society was formed in 1887. A year later, two acres of ground were added to the cemetery. And in 1896, a new parsonage, located diagonally across the street from the church, was purchased with funds bequeathed by the Misses Rebecca and Isabel Acker.

The two-church arrangement with St. Matthews was concluded in 1899 when St. Paul's hired its first full-time pastor, Rev. Charles Streamer.

The new century saw the people of St. Paul's enlarging the chancel, rearranging the furniture and adding an altar. The oil lamps in the church and the parsonage were replaced with electric lights in 1921. However, financial hardship forced the congregation to sell the parsonage in 1928. After the sexton's home was remodeled, it became the new parsonage.

Like the rest of the United States, financial challenges continued for St. Paul's, through the Depression and World War II years. And in 1943, the church arranged to share a pastor with Messiah Lutheran of Downingtown. That joint-charge situation continued until 1959, when Rev. Roy Gulliford became St. Paul's full-time pastor in 16 years.

Despite the challenges in the post-World War II era, a new organ was purchased in 1949, and St. Paul's portion of the pastor's annual salary was raised to \$1,200 that year. In 1951, the Luther League was formed, and a new roof was put on the roof in 1955. And in 1956-57, the chancel was remodeled, and a classroom, a kitchen and bathrooms were added to the back of the church.

By 1962, membership had grown to 273, and the church's 125th anniversary was celebrated a year later.

(Editor's Note" This is Part I of a two-part article. The second installment will be published in next week's Hist-O-Gram. Information in this story was gleaned from "The History of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lionville, Pennsylvania, 1838-1988," which was written and compiled by Paul Schuler.)

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DHS Class of 1953's 60th reunion



The DHS Class of 1953 had its 60th reunion this fall. The photo above, provided by Ruth Ann Protivnak, shows those who attended the reunion. They were, left to right: first row, Annabelle Jackson, Margueritte Hartz, Peggy Lang, Betty Foreman, Doris Borchert, Pat Stevens, Kay Keitt, Dorothy Park, Judy Herman, Doris Wilson, Esther Wuertz and Diane Leister; second row, Mildred McDonald, Raymond Hamilton, Edie Perdue, Liz Wagoner and Mary Jo Tracy; back row, Ruth Ann Protivnak, Elvin Hershey, Ken Comstock, Lew Kinsey, Howard “Duke” Charles, Jack Francella, Joe Woodward, Paul Stevens, Bill Davis, Francis Petrella, Donald Smith, Bob Arters, Hayes Carr, Bob Pierce and Charles Popjoy.

Clip Joint will be open Sunday, December 1

The next clipping and pasting session will be held from 1-4 PM on **Sunday, December 1** 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 convenience

It's at 115 Downing Avenue, and it's for sale



Mike Woodward is a truly perceptive scholar because he was the first person to correctly identify

this as a photo of the house at 115 Downing Avenue, Downingtown. It was owned and occupied by three generations of the Burns family. The current owner, Denise Ciarlone, is selling it. For more details see: http://www.zillow.com/homedetails/115-Downing-Ave-Downingtown-PA-19335/9140913_zpid/

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The show will be sponsored by DHS West's National Art Honor Society (NAHS). The NAHS at DHS West conducts activities throughout the school year, including visits to St. Martha's Manor, a senior retirement facility for senior citizens, to brighten the residents' holidays; help organize DHS West art shows; visit the Downingtown School District's middle school and elementary schools to help with students' projects; and promote to art-related activities in the community.

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Tickets are \$25 in advance or \$30 on the day of tour. They can be purchased at Marshallton United Methodist Church on Strasburg Road in the village, or by accessing www.marshalltonchurch.org, or by calling 610-696-5247. Tickets will also be available and delivered upon request through the office of Kit Anstey, Prudential Fox & Roach Realtors, 610-836-2348 or Kit@AnsteyTeam.com. Additional ticket sale locations include Highland Orchard's Farmer's Market and the Holiday Cottage in Marshallton.

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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.

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

Interesting local history, accessed from our archives

www.downingtownareahistoricalociety.org

Vol. 4, No. 49

December 5, 2013

Where and What Is This?



The first person to correctly identify the building, 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@downingtownareahistoricalociety.org.

Hot news in the Downingtown area in December 1977

Noted below are items that were originally published in local newspapers 36 years ago.

Demolition of a pre-1750 house on West Lancaster Avenue, next to the **Downingtown Moose Lodge**, was temporarily halted by the borough, after Helen Filoromo, a neighbor and chairperson of the Downingtown Historical Commission, claimed the work was being done without a permit. Moose officials said the demolition contractor failed to take care of the permit before he started tearing down the pre-Revolutionary War era house, so the Moose could increase the size of its parking area.

The **Downingtown Farmer's Market**, destroyed by a December 1976 fire, re-opened in time for the Christmas shoppers on the day after Thanksgiving.

The number of students who reside in the **Downingtown School District**, but attended a private or parochial school in the 1977-78 school year, rose to 755. That was an increase of 92 pupils (13 percent) over the previous school year.

Recent **property transfers** included: 2 Spruce Drive, West Bradford, \$88,500; 142 Brookfield Court, East Brandywine, \$51,143; 133 Lakeview Drive, Uwchlan, \$56,000; 404 Norwood Road, East Caln, \$89,900; 9 Surrey Lane, Upper Uwchlan, \$59,500; 304 W. Pennsylvania Ave., Downingtown, \$51,000.

Thirteen-year-old **Scott Farnum**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Farnum, Downingtown, shot an eight-point buck near Marshallton.

DHS football players named to the All Ches-Mont team were Chris Celii, Craig Thompson, Al Schofield, John Chilla, Harry Valentino and Tony DiOttavio.

Those responsible for the Live Wires' Christmas party at **Downingtown Methodist Church** included Louise Bruton, Annetta Schollenberger, Eleanor Algier, Elizabeth Carpenter, Helen McGill, Hazel Miller, Jean Steeley, Alverta Wagoner, and Beverly and Grace Woodward.

New officers of the Woman's Association at **Central Presbyterian Church** were Bette Smith, president; Vivian Piersol, vice president; Ann Pearson, nominating committee; Cindy Staggers, Ruth Circle; Melanie Brown, Sarah Circle; and Janet Schucker, Martha Circle.

Officers of the **Lionville Youth Association** were Paul Seymour, chairman; Don Wix, president; John Nagle, operational vice president; Phyllis Duckinfield, secretary; and Dorothy Foster, administrative commissioner.

Marian Mason and Jan Lewis were appointed to the **Wallace Township Park and Recreation Commission**.

Robbie Kirkbride of East Caln was named the top Cub Scout in Pennsylvania.

Officers of the **Downingtown Chamber of Commerce** were Richard Herbster of National Central Bank, president; Joseph Stauffer, Brandywine Savings and Loan, first vice president; and Jim Doran, Downingtown Savings and Loan, second vice president. Mike Doyle, Jefferson Bank, was the only newly elected director.

Officers of the **West Bradford Fire Co.** were Bill Tuting, president; Dennis Riggins, vice president; Pat Tuting, treasurer; Glen Schmidt, financial secretary; Jack Hines, fire chief; Mern Bedsworth, fire police captain; and Honey Johnson, president of the Ladies Auxiliary.

Please support our Preserve and Protect Programs

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- **Help local organizations.** We continue to provide a place for meetings of Downingtown area **Girl Scout** leaders, and helped Girl Scouts earn badges. And we did a program for the **Downingtown Woman's Club**. Also, we're going to help the Woman's Club celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2014.

• **Work on our archival collection.** Newspaper articles about local people are clipped and pasted on 14 x 9 cards by volunteers every week. They comprise the Family Files, which now include clippings on more than 8,000 people. Also, we continue to add to our on-line index, noting all the names in the Family Files, which can be accessed on our website. And we continue to clip and paste articles about local governments, schools, churches, clubs and teams

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Part II

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Lionville, is 175 years old

(Editor's Note: This is the second part of an article on the history of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Lionville, which was founded in 1838. Information in this installment was gleaned from "The History of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lionville, Pennsylvania, 1838," by Paul Schuler, and a supplemental history, covering 1988-2013, by Cheryl Baker. You can read the first part of the story by accessing:

www.downingtownareahistoricalociety.org/Histograms/2013%20Hist-O-Grams/November%2028%202013%20Hist-O-Gram.pdf).

Rev. George C. Myers became the pastor in 1964. By then, the church's membership totaled 244. Since additional classrooms and parking were needed, as the Lionville was evolving from a rural community to a suburb, expansion plans were pursued.

In 1966, the parsonage next to the church became the Parish House, where Sunday School classes were held, and a new parsonage was established at 102 Lori Circle in Exton. Also that year, a 750-pound bell, (memorializing Charles H. Martin Jr., who died in 1965 while serving with the Lionville Fire Co.) was installed on top of the church. In 1968, the Ursula Cotta Class, the Friendship Class and the Lutheran Church Women were merged into the Women of St. Paul's, and the Community Nursery School was founded.

And in 1969, the 14.3-acre Mitchell property, adjoining the church, was purchased for \$125,000. The property included an early 19th Century, stone barn, which was used by the Luther League and Boy Scouts in the 1970s. The farmhouse on that land became the parsonage, and the parsonage on Lori Circle was sold.

The congregation sponsored a refugee family of four people from Vietnam in 1975. In the ensuing years, more than 25 individuals--from Viet Nam, Laos and Poland--have been sponsored by the church.

After 10 acres of the Mitchell property was sold in 1975, land on Devon Drive (across from DHS East High School) was bought so a new church might be built there. However, when Village Avenue was certified as an historic area, the congregation decided in 1977 to stay in Lionville and make the old stone barn the foundation for a new church building, and the Devon Drive property was sold.

In 1978, the historic barn was converted to a parish building, providing classrooms, nursery space, a social hall, a kitchen and an office, and an addition, to serve as the nave, was constructed. The new church was dedicated in 1979, and a second floor was added in 1985.

St. Paul's celebrated its 150th anniversary in 1988. The following year, a computer system was installed, and an adult theatre group was formed. And after 31 years of service, Rev. Myers retired in September 1995. .

The current pastor, Rev. Mark Singh-Hueter came on board in 2004, and a partnership with Muheza Lutheran Parish in Tanzania was established in 2005.

This past September, a building expansion plan was approved, with ground-breaking projected to be in a year or two.

As of January 2013, the congregation was comprised of 1,190 baptized members, from 353 households. Average weekly attendance at worship was 286.

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What Downingtown team did they play for?



Rena Francella recently donated this photo of a 1920 basketball team. The team has a Downingtown connection, because all of the players—Clyde “Benny” Hughes, George Davis and Dave Weiler in the front row; and Joe Hertle and Isadore Bloom in the rear—lived in the borough in the 1910-1920 era, according to the U.S. Census data. Although we suspect the letters Y and the C on their jerseys stood for “Youth Club,” we’re mystified about what the large letter P stood for. Can anyone clear this up? Please send your responses to:

Info@downingtowntareahistoricalociety.org.

It's Stock Grange in the Romansville section of West Bradford



Jack Law, is a truly perceptive scholar because he was the first person to correctly identify the location of the building in the photo above as Stock Grange, which is located at 2000 Chestnut Lane in the Romansville section of West Bradford. The original section of the house was built in the 1740s. Among the country estate's owners over the past 273 years, Stock Grange was occupied by Gen. Richard Humpton, Revolutionary War hero, Dr. Charles Stone, and Claude Rains, movie star in the 1940s and 1950s.

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Come out for a night full of live music, baked goods, and artwork to benefit Autism Speaks at the Downingtown West Acoustic Show.

Downingtown Christmas Parade

The Downingtown Christmas Parade will begin at 3 PM Saturday, December 14. The parade will start in the area of Beaver Creek Elementary School, 601 W. Pennsylvania Avenue and head south on Gable Avenue to Business Rt. 30. The parade will turn left and head east on Rt. 30, continuing to Whiteland Avenue/Rt. 113. (East Ward Elementary School) The parade will turn right onto Whiteland Avenue with the exception of those motorized vehicles that may want to continue down Rt. 30 to head home. All other units must continue down Whiteland Avenue. For more details about the parade, see: www.dtownchristmas.com/ParadeInfo.html

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- **We continue to restore and maintain Ashbridge House**, our 304-year-old headquarters. Major projects we completed this year were repairing a brick stairway, and installing a new window well in the basement.
- **We help local non-profit organizations**. We provide a place for meetings of Downingtown area **Girl Scout** leaders. We also conduct programs so Girls Scouts and Cub Scouts can earn history-related badges. And we did a program for the **Downingtown Woman's Club**. Also, we're going to help the Woman's Club celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2014.
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Local news published in January 1962

Noted below are Downingtown area news items originally published more than 50 years ago.

DHS was the first high school in the area to start teaching students how to use IBM's new **Selectric typewriter**.

Six **Boy Scouts** from Troop 82, sponsored by Messiah Lutheran Church, Downingtown, qualified to participate in a Chester County Council First Aid Meet. They were Philip Barlow, George Bowman, Morris Farnum, Robert Pomento, Fred Pollock and David Robbins.

Members of the cast in a Christmas play presented at **Hopewell Methodist Church**, East Brandywine, were Mildred Yost, Linda Lammey, Carol Piersol, Patty Whitely, Jill King, Connie Smedley and Barbara Thompson.

Members of the **Guernsey Calf Club**, who met at the Deets home, were Elaine and Norma Beard, Beverly and Dawn Reese, Carroll DuBosq, Robert Deemer and Tommy Pyle.

Members of the **Downingtowntown Junior High School** boys' basketball team, coached by Milton Lutsey and John Slovinac, were Oscar Asparagus, William Baxter, Paul Bien, Phillip Henry, Stephen Meacham, Patrick Murphy, Robert Poole, Thomas Price, Eugene Prout, Jay Rambo, Kenneth Siegel and Jeffrey Swisher.

Newly elected officers of the **Minquas Fire Co. Auxiliary** were Marie Hamilton, president; Rose Simone, vice president; Helen Dague, recording secretary; Dot Peters, financial secretary; Alice Zittle, trustee; and Edna Pendergrast, chaplain.

The **Downingtown Paper Co.** and the United Papermakers and Paperworkers Union signed a two-year contract, which called for a four cents per hour wage boost, an additional paid holiday, and four weeks' vacation for employees with 25 years' service.

John B. Talierco of Downingtown, a student at Villanova's Law School, received the "Star of Italian Solidarity" decoration from the Italian Consul General in Philadelphia. Talierco, an Air Force helicopter pilot at the time, received the medal for rescuing all of the crew of an Italian tanker, which struck a ridge of reefs near Morocco in 1958.

New members of the **Downingtown Lions Club** were Gene DiSantis, Herbert Lambert, Frank Matulay, Chester Messervy, James Cressmer and Norman Cressmer.

The only two scorers for the **DHS girls' basketball team**, when it lost 46-17 to O.J. Roberts, were Nancy Gindin, nine points, and Gayle Davis, eight points.

Mrs. James Thackeray, postmistress, and her assistant, Mrs. Glenn Plank, cancelled 10,775 pieces of mail between December 13 and 23 at the **Lionville Post Office**. Many of the large packages they handled were mailed by **Worthington Orchards**.

Elmer Schrupf was presented the Citizen of the Year award at the **Downingtown Chamber of Commerce's** 17th annual banquet, held at the Downingtown Motor Inn. Also receiving special awards for spurring the borough's economy were Samuel Tabas and his sons, Daniel and Charles.

Mrs. Gilbert Hamm was elected president of the Ladies Guild of **Central Presbyterian Church**, Downingtown. Others elected were Mrs. Eugene Pollock, vice president; Mrs. Lillian Dixon, secretary; and Mrs. Joseph Brown, treasurer.

And new officers of the **Alert Fire Co. Auxiliary** were Mrs. Aubrey Dawson, president; Mrs. Anna Hannum, vice president; Mrs. Joseph Brown, recording secretary; Mrs. James Hurtt, financial secretary; and Mrs. Mary Yocum, treasurer.

New members of the **Ladies of St. Joseph's Catholic Church**, Downingtown, were Barbara Sarmiento, Rose Marie Cipollini, Carol Crenshaw and Pat Panichelli.

Anyone have a paper cutter you can donate to us?

Does anyone have a paper cutter they can donate to the Historical Society? The one we've been using to trim the card stock--on which we paste newspaper articles for our Family Files collection--is broken. Since we have to trim 17" X 11" sheets of card stock, we'll need a cutter with an 18" blade. If you wish to donate a cutter, please contact us at Info@downingtownareahistoricalociety.org. We'll gladly pick it up.

Items from first edition of the “Blue and Gold” newspaper

Among the neat items Rena Francella recently donated to us was a copy of the December 21, 1943 edition of the “Blue and Gold.” Apparently, it was the first edition of a newspaper published by Downingtown Junior-Senior High School students. Mrs. Francella also donated copies of the “Blue and Gold” published in 1944.

Fascinating items found in that first edition show that high school life 70 years ago, during World War II, was far different than it is today. Some of them were:

In the first four months of the 1943-44 school year, the students sold \$7,153.96 (that’s equivalent to more than \$70,000 today) worth of war stamps and bonds. Since the school exceeded its quota, a Minute Men Banner was hung in the auditorium.

About 325 DHS grads were in the military in 1943, and many of them wrote letters to Miss Marian Philips, a revered Problems of Democracy teacher at DHS. Joe Travaglini, a sailor serving at the Great Lakes Naval Station, wrote: “more discipline in high school makes it easier to take orders from officers.” And Leta Tweed, serving as an Army nurse on a hospital ship “somewhere in the Middle East,” wrote, “What I wouldn’t give for a grilled ham sandwich, chocolate milk and a devil’s food cake.” While overseas, Leta contracted malaria and was shipped back to the States to recuperate.

Field hockey was a new sport at DHS that fall. Members of the team were Mary Rafferty, Ada Celi, Jean Esworthy, Antoinette Petrella, Mary Lafiato, Theresa Mascherino, Rose Perduci, Eva Taraschi, Betty Titus, Mildred Wilson, Elizabeth Warren and Janet Knauer.

Members of the newly formed Hillbilly band were: Josiah Ashenfelder, harmonica; Robert Cozzone, drums; William Wagoner, fiddle; Leon McCreary, guitar; Mary Smith, mandolin; and Chester Dowlin, guitar.

The “Blue and Gold” staff included: Mary Jo Barrow, editor-in-chief; Elizabeth Bradley, junior editor; Elvin Welch, art; Sara Harrington and D. Kinzinger, humor; Dorothy Bunker, business manager. Reporters were Hazel Barnes, Esther Beale, Phyllis Booker, Dorothy Brown, Imogene Reeves, Dorothy Butler, Vera DiMarco, Peg Garwood and Peg Pollack. And the business staff included Jean Gray, Lela Pierce, Betty Quay, I.M. Robinson, Marie Stern and Peg Weimer.

Stove Co. once was a hot business here

We became curious when we saw on eBay that someone was trying to sell a cast iron “stamp press,” manufactured by the Rogers Stove Co. of Downingtown in 1884.

Never heard of that company, but Dan Lindley, who usually focuses his attention to people’s grave sites in Chester County cemeteries, came to our rescue when he discovered a lot of information about the firm while doing research at the Chester County Historical Society in West Chester.

Originally known as the Downingtown Stove Works, the private company was established in the borough in 1883. The foundry was located in the building, formerly occupied by the Benner and McLane Sewing Machine Co. And when the company was incorporated as Rogers Stove Co. in 1884, two of the officers—George and Charles Rogers—were Downingtown residents.

The product line wasn’t limited to stoves, for heating as well as cooking, since a news article noted that the company was working on an order for cast iron radiators. Also, the company was shipping a freight car full of its ranges and room stoves to New York City every week, by late 1884, according to an article in the *Daily Local News*.

Although orders from across the country continued to come in, the foundry was shut down by the Chester County sheriff in 1885, apparently due to a lack of operating capital. However, after a committee of local auditors—Joseph H. Johnson, J.H. Wells and Jacob Shel mire—checked the corporation’s book, it was decided that after 10 investors each kicked in \$500 each, the company would be on solid financial footing.

Apparently, the infusion of capital didn’t work, and the firm’s final demise occurred after a fire broke out at the foundry in 1887, per Charles Pennypacker’s 1909 *History of Downingtown*.

Now it’s an office building on Route 113, Chester Springs



Rahn Brackin is a truly perceptive scholar because he was the first person to correctly identify the building in the photo above, when it was a residence at 501 E. Uwchlan Ave. (Route 113), Chester Springs. In recent years, it was converted into an office building for small businesses, and is part of The Shops at Lionville Station retail center. The photo was provided by Phillip Hemcher, who grew up nearby.

Paid ads for businesses

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Free ads for Non-Profits

Downingtown Christmas Parade

The Downingtown Christmas Parade will begin at 3 PM Saturday, December 14. The parade will start in the area of Beaver Creek Elementary School, 601 W. Pennsylvania Avenue and head south on Gable Avenue to Business Rt. 30. The parade will turn left and head east on Rt. 30, continuing to Whiteland Avenue/Rt. 113. (East Ward Elementary School) The parade will turn right onto Whiteland Avenue with the exception of those motorized vehicles that may want to continue down Rt. 30 to head home. All other units must continue down Whiteland Avenue. For more details about the parade, see: www.dtownchristmas.com/ParadeInfo.html

Marshallton House Tour

The Christmas in Marshallton House Tour will be held from 10 AM to 4 PM on Saturday, December 14. It will feature tours of 21 historic homes decorated for the holiday season and public areas, such as The Bradford Friends Meetinghouse and the Marshallton Inn, both of which are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Marshallton, which has been an active village since 1760, is located on Route 162 four miles west of West Chester.

Tickets are \$25 in advance or \$30 on the day of tour. They can be purchased at Marshallton United Methodist Church on Strasburg Road in the village, or by accessing www.marshalltonchurch.org, or by calling 610-696-5247. Tickets will also be available and delivered upon request through the office of Kit Anstey, Prudential Fox & Roach Realtors, 610-836-2348 or Kit@AnsteyTeam.com. Additional ticket sale locations include Highland Orchard's Farmer's Market and the Holiday Cottage in Marshallton.

In addition to the house tour (no tour ticket required) Marshallton United Methodist Church will host a variety of events, including a luncheon served in Fellowship Hall, live music in the sanctuary, a country store and holiday cookie sale, and a gallery highlighting the work of local artists Dennis Park, David Katz, Sherry McVickar and Leander Fontaine.

Proceeds raised from this event will go to assist Marshallton United Methodist Church and its mission of providing support and resources for local families and community organizations.

Downingtown Winter Market

The Downingtown Winter Market will be at the Williamson Masonic Hall; 210 Manor Ave., Downingtown, from 4 - 6 PM on Thursday, December 5, 12, and 19. There be NO Market on *December 26 or January 2*. 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.

Savings opportunities available at DARC

Discount Movie Tickets: \$8, 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.

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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

Merry Christmas!



Downingtown Area Historical Society Hist-O-Gram

Interesting local history, accessed from our archives

www.downingtownareahistoricalsociety.org

Vol. 4, No. 51

December 19, 2013

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.

Local news published in late January 1962

Noted below are Downingtown area news items, originally published more than 50 years ago.

Budd Co. announced plans to establish a research lab in the building formerly occupied by the Downingtown Iron Works, 122 Wallace Ave., in the borough. Budd planned to hire mathematicians, chemists and physicists, who would conduct experiments in optics, acoustics, magnetics, polymers and nuclear physics at the site.

Officers of the **Crestmont Farms Civic Association** in West Bradford included Howard Reinard, president; Malcolm Detterline, vice president; Mrs. Martin Schmieding, secretary-treasurer. Committee chairs were Sam Wilson, recreation; Charles Snyder and Norman Sendler, membership; Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Phillips, public relations; Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Shea, welcome; and Mrs. George Lord and Mrs. Malcolm Detterline, financial.

DHS girls, who modeled clothes made by 11th grade **home economics students**, were Faye McBride, Pat Robinson, Helen Archie, Arlene Emberger, Julia and Ann Asparagus, Harriet Meads, Jean Tucker, Barbara Earnshaw, Marie Miller, Christine Alpen and Lydia Belle Herr.

A new roof was installed on **Glenmoore Methodist Church**. It replaced the slate roof, which had been built 88 years ago, when the church was constructed.

Leaders elected at the **Central Presbyterian Church's** congregational meeting were Mrs. Austin Moore, Earl Foreman, Howard VanBuskirk and Charles Seibert, elders; Mrs. Gilbert Hamm, George Buller, and Walter Touchton, deacons; Richard Howell, Charles Richmond and William Barrett, trustees.

Elected to lead the **Glenmoore Fire Co.** were Milton Howe, president; Frank Lutz, vice president; Roger Irej, secretary; Rev. George Doll, assistant secretary; Thomas Miller, financial secretary; William Payne, treasurer; John Reber, chief; and Thomas Reber, assistant chief.

Honored at the Downingtown Lions Club's Fall Sports Banquet at St. Anthony's Lodge were the following **DHS athletes**: Jeff Smith, cross-country captain; Alvin Wells and Ken Mills, football co-captains, and Sam Westmoreland, end on the All Ches-Mont team.

Drivers for the engines used by the **Lionville Fire Co.** were Walter Trego, Carl, Richard and Harry Ruth, George Ruark, Robert Devaney, Calvin Kirkner and William Isinger.

An agriculture student at DHS, **Edgar Donnon** won the Grand Championship for his heifer in the Jersey yearling class at the State Farm Show in Harrisburg.

Sunday School officers at **St. Paul's Lutheran Church**, Lionville, were Charles Martin, superintendent; George Taylor, first assistant; Edwin Salvesen, second assistant; Richard Ruth, financial secretary; Richard Taylor, first assistant; Lynn Spence, second assistant; Eric Bittmann, secretary; and Grace Gordon, treasurer.

Members in the cast in the DHS **Junior Class play** included Sandra Koppenhaver, Mary Hulme, Eileen Sbei, Mary Ann DiMatteo, Robert Crane, Jack Hines and Al Davis. And DHS varsity **field hockey** players who earned letters were Carol Thomas, Shirley Bowman, Mary Hulme, Katherine Kahler, Mary Ann Smedley, D-Anne Thompson, Susan Whittaker and Barbara Flinn, manager.

Members of the **Wallace Township Park and Recreation board** were Ralph Hannum, Mrs. James Templin, Kenneth Comstock, Rev. Leonard Bjorkman and Mrs. Robert Mason.

Wilmer Johnson, who recently retired as secretary of the **Brandywine Savings and Loan Association**, was honored at a banquet by the board for his 50 years of service.

Ilario Polite, proprietor of the Guernsey Cow Restaurant in Exton, was a new director of the **Downingtown National Bank**. Other directors were George Aumiller, E. D. Baldwin, Ellis

Brown, Leon Gabel, Joseph Miller, Dr. Thomas Parke, Gilbert Smedley, Richard Warren and Hastings Whiteside.

Officers elected as leaders of **East Brandywine Baptist Church** were Robert Arters, Leon Faddis, Everett Henderson, Joseph McFalls, and Elmer Moore, trustees; Marvin Zynn, junior trustee.

Ernest Smedley, Minquas Fire Co., and Thomas Lee Jr., Alert Fire Co., were honored as their company's outstanding firefighters at the **Downingtown Fire Department's** annual banquet. The volunteers had to leave the banquet twice to respond to emergency calls, and then returned to the festivities.

John Giantonio, leasing agent, announced that the **Exton Meadows Shopping Center** (now known as Exton Square) would be built near the intersection of Routes 100 and 30 in Exton. Construction was to begin in August, and May 1963 was the projected completion date.

A great Christmas gift: A Historical Society membership

Can't figure what to give someone for Christmas? How about a gift membership in the Downingtown Area Historical Society? Just complete the membership form, which can be accessed via: www.downingtownareahistoricalociety.org/2012MembershipForm.pdf.

Please support our Preserve and Protect Programs

We're asking subscribers to our free Hist-O-Grams to help us continue to conduct our **Preserve and Protect Programs**. Noted below are reasons why we're soliciting your support.

We continue to restore and maintain Ashbridge House, our 304-year-old headquarters. Major projects we completed this year were rebuilding a brick stairway, and installing a new window well in the basement.

We help local non-profit organizations. We provide a place for meetings of Downingtown area **Girl Scout** leaders. We also conduct programs so Girls Scouts and Cub Scouts can earn history-related badges. And we did a program for the **Downingtown Woman's Club**. Also, we're going to help the Woman's Club celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2014.

We constantly work on our archival collection. Newspaper articles about local people are clipped and pasted on card stock by volunteers every week. The cards comprise our Family Files, which now include clippings on more than 8,300 people. We also continue to add to our online index of all the names in the Family Files listed on our website. And we continue to clip and paste articles about local governments, schools, businesses, churches, clubs and teams.

To help us continue to conduct these programs next year, we need your help. Please send a tax-deductible donation to the Downingtown Area Historical Society.

Kindly make out your check to the DAHS and send it to: P. O. Box 9, Downingtown, PA 19335. If you have any questions, please call 610-269-1709 or contact us via info@Downingtownareahistoricalociety.org. Thank you for your continued support.

Your friends and family can be Hist-O-Gram subscribers

Tired of forwarding copies of each week's Hist-O-Gram to friends and family? If you want any of them to become a subscriber to our free Hist-O-Grams, tell them to go to our website: www.downingtownareahistoricalociety.org, and type their email address into the sign-up box on the home page. We won't share or sell any email addresses. Or if you want your email address deleted from the list, contact us at: Info@downingtownareahistoricalociety.org.

Members of Class of 1935, at DHS Alumni Assn. banquet in 1969



This clipping from the April 9, 1969 edition of the *Coatesville Record* is one of the many photos, programs, etc. from the archives of the DHS Alumni Association, which were provided to us by Ruth Ann Protivnak. We will continue publishing them periodically.

Fire at Downingtown Stove Works was Alert's first call

When Jeff Stevens, Alert Fire Co. historian, saw the article in last week's Hist-O-Gram, about the short-lived stove manufacturer in the borough in the late 19th Century, he suggested that we look at the history of the fire company, <http://www.alertfire.org/history.php>.

That's the website where we learned that the 12 Downingtown men who organized the Alert Fire Co. in August 1887, had difficulty attracting members because many citizens argued that, since their properties were insured, a fire company wasn't needed.

Despite that lack of enthusiasm, those men ran a fair for several nights in September 1887. They drew a crowd to the fair by parading down Lancaster Avenue, while wearing red, flannel shirts with the letter "A" sewn on the front. And the public slowly began to support the organizers' efforts.

Proceeds from the fair and funds gathered from the annual dues, \$1 per member, enabled the fledgling fire company to purchase its first hook and ladder truck. The Rumsey and Co. of

Seneca Falls, NY, hand-drawn truck arrived on Monday, December 19, 1887. The following night, the Alerts responded to their first fire. That's when they saved the molding room of the Downingtown Stove Works by carrying buckets of water from Parke Run to the fire in the east end of the borough.

The information on the fire company's history also noted that no men who lived east of the Brandywine volunteered to join the Alert until after the fire at the Stove Works. However, three residents of the East Ward were elected to the Alert Fire Co. shortly thereafter.

More news from early editions of the "Blue and Gold"

Last week's Hist-O-Gram included several items from the December 21, 1943, issue of the "Blue and Gold," which was the first edition of the newspaper published by Downingtown Junior-Senior High School students. Noted below is more news, published later in the 1943-44 school year. Copies of the newspapers were donated by Rena Francella.

By February 1944, the students' War Bond drive had reached more than \$17,000, equivalent to more than \$170,000 in today's dollars.

The senior class had a farewell party for the following classmates, who were leaving school in January to serve in the military: Mike Castaldi, Chet Harple, Jimmie McNeil and Andy Ippolito.

Officers of the Aeronautics Club were George Windolph, president; Hibbert Wells, vice president; William Valocchi, secretary; and William Lyman, treasurer.

Orders for "The Cuckoo," the title of the DHS yearbook for many years, were being taken. A deluxe edition cost \$2, and a paperbound copy was only \$1.

The Senior Service Girl Scout Troop at DHS was learning how to help nurses care for the sick, under the direction of Mrs. Edwin Baldwin. Members of the troop were Marjorie Windle, Betty Lou Hope, Edith Richmond, Irma DelPaggio, Josephine and Theresa DiBerardinis, and Jean Esworthy.

Also, the Junior Historian Club's officers were: Miles Acker, president; Bill McNeal, vice president; Peggy Weimer, recording secretary; Sara Maxton, corresponding secretary; and historians Miriam Popjoy and Grace DiLuigi.

The recently organized Junior High Knitting Club completed 10 afghans, which were sent to the Valley Forge Army Hospital, near Phoenixville. Ruth Schrupf won \$5 for knitting the most squares for the afghan.

Forgot to order Luminaria candle sets?

You can still buy Luminaria candle sets and/or reusable plastic bases, to put out in front of your house on Christmas Eve. They will be available at Ashbridge House, our 304-year-old headquarters on Route 30, East Caln, next to Chick-Fil-A, from 10:30 AM to noon on Saturday, Dec. 21, and from 1-4 PM on Sunday, Dec. 22. Sets of candles and bags, and reusable plastic bases cost 75 cents each.

Thanks Rosy!

Rosy Klunk donated a paper cutter to the Historical Society, after she saw a request in last week's Hist-O-Gram. The cutter will enable us to trim large card stock down to 14 X 9 sheets, on which we paste newspaper clippings for the Family Files in our Archival collection.

It's the B & B at 4701 Edges Mill Road



Bill Schew is a truly perceptive scholar because he was the first person to correctly identify the 18th Century building in the photo above as the Bed & Breakfast at 4701 Edges Mill Road, near Route 322, in Caln Township. Between 1784 and 1921, the property was handed down through two related families—Hoopes and Baugh—according to research, done by Mary L. Dugan, which was provided by the Old Caln Historical Society.

The current owners, Gail and Harvey Perry, purchased the property in 1984, when the house was in “as-is” condition. Subsequently, the Perrys restored the dilapidated, four story, nineteen-room house to its original historical condition. For interior photos of the house, see:

www.estate.com/listings/info/4701-edges-mill-road.

Paid ads for businesses

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Happy New Year!



Downingtown Area Historical Society Hist-O-Gram

Interesting local history, accessed from our archives

www.downingtownareahistoricalsociety.org

Vol. 4, No. 52

December 26, 2013

Where and What Is This?



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Local news published in July 1946

Noted below are Downingtown area items, which were originally published in local newspapers 67 years ago.

The **YMCA Camps** in West Bradford had to turn away many local people who had community memberships because they failed to make reservations for over the July 4 weekend.

The following kids participated in the Children's Day program at **St. Pauls' Reformed (UCC) Church** in Lionville: Janet Samworth, Caroline, Martha and Edward Matthews, Diane Myers, David and Christine Shaeffer, Frank Dewees, Jimmy Rennard, Happy and Bobby Pringle, and Jerilyn and Peggy Ann Whitely.

Marjorie Thorne was hired as the Downingtown School District's first **kindergarten teacher**, at East Ward School.

New President Leta Tweed appointed the following chairpersons to the **Downingtown Junior Woman's Club** board: Mrs. Thomas Pollock, Mrs. Charles Sigle, Mrs. Henry Stehman, Mrs. Edward Fahey, Mrs. Robert Williams, Mrs. John Rogers, Mrs. Thomas Lee, Dorothy Francis, Mrs. Victor Amway, Mrs. Carl Engle, Mrs. Devitt Law, Mrs. John Kaempfer, Mrs. Donald White, Mrs. Mylin Plank and Mrs. Nelson Norris.

Officers who were installed to lead Camp 293 of the **Patriotic Sons of America (POSA)** in Eagle included John Garvine, president; Robert Simpson, vice president; Harold Jones, master of forms; Clyde Harner, conductor; Raymond Garvine, inspector; Joseph Taylor, junior guard; Irvin Dewees, trustee; Walter McCardell, corresponding secretary; Herman Arters, financial secretary; and Walter Garvine, treasurer.

And those elected as officers of **Camp 338 of the POSA**, based in Downingtown, were Frank Swarner, president; Allan Harris, vice president; Thomas Phillips, master of forms; William Barrett, conductor; Robert Laird, inspector; Frank Bicking, guard; and Thomas Phillips, trustee.

The **Valley Creek Terrace**, Lincoln Highway, Exton, opened. It served ice cream, milk shakes and sandwiches, as well as dinners. And it offered dancing on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday nights. (*Editor's note: Does anyone know any more about this place?*)

Since its president since 1925, Cloyd Baldwin, had recently passed away, members of the **Marshallton School Reunion Committee** considered discontinuing its meeting.

Members of the **Marshallton Grange's** Youth Committee were Sidney Montgomery, Edith Webster, Jean Cann, Esther Hill and Robert Hayman.

New members of the **Downingtown Lions Club** were Aubrey Goudie, Carl Klunder and Joseph Atkinson. And members on the club's publicity committee were Frank Bishop, Mervin Thomas and Edward Towson.

News found in fall of 1956 editions of *Blue and Gold*

DHS grad Caroline Ash, who now lives in Chicago, has donated many interesting items to the Historical Society. Recently, she sent us a bunch of copies of the *Blue and Gold*, the DHS student newspaper, from the late 1950s. We'll start off the series of highlights with news items from editions published in the fall of 1956.

October 26 edition

Ruth Hall was crowned Harvest Queen at the 15th annual DHS Farm Show. Her court included Betty D'Attilio, Jean Timmerman, Susie Norris and Susie McCue. Members of the Future Farmers of America who were committee chairmen were Tom Newlin, entertainment; Richard Ruth, decorations; Henry Roth, commercial exhibits; Lee Stanford, prizes; Richard Rice, set-up; Henry Jankowski, refreshments; and William Smith, advertising.

Class officers were Seniors: Joe Bird, president; Barry Wickersham, vice president; Susie Norris, secretary; Helen Pannebaker, treasurer. Juniors: Bill Pollock, president; Park Plank, vice president; Mary Ann Hamilton, secretary; Bob Supplee, treasurer. Sophomores: Frank Marcocci, president; Buddy White, president; Gerry McCombs, secretary; Ann Yerkes, treasurer. Representatives-at-large were: Seniors—Ruth Brookover, Jimmy McClintock and Laura Phillips; Juniors—Nancy Powell and Bob Stevens; Sophomores—Don Yannascoli.

Officeholders on Youth Day, when seniors took over the local government for a day, included Allan Lammey, burgess (mayor); Tom Hughes and Woody Bossert, school directors; Dave Whittaker, borough manager; James DiSante, water superintendent; Dominic Mattioni, health officer; Joel Gee, fire chief; Donald D'Ginto, building inspector.

Jayvee cheerleaders were Annette Valentino, Mena Massimini, Deanie Stratton, Judy Scarborough and Nancy Jo Jefferies.

November 28 edition

Mary Jean Lillard, Suzanne Robinson, Geraldine Deets and Dominic Mattioni were named to the District Chorus.

Members of committees responsible for putting on the Senior Play were: tickets—Lee Shoemaker, Nancy Brown, Anna Marcocci, Pat Pechin, Ruth Collins and Jean Celii; costumes—Andy Reeves and Shirley Mercer; sets—Charles Berstler, Pete Sarmiento, John Hostetter and Dick Draper; properties—Grace Fry, Dolly Luminella and Doris Shank; publicity—Marge Eppolito, Jeanne Charles, Laura Phillips, Susie Norris and Joanne Quartucci.

Seniors who gave the best speeches in the “I Speak for Democracy” contest were Nancy Brown, Ruth Brookover, Marjorie Lawn, Judy Orr and Edward Popjoy.

December 21 edition

Students who participated in the talent show during the Winter Carnival included: singers Evelyn Eshleman, Ronnie Davis, Anna Marie Yannascoli, the duet of Suzanne and Eleanor Robinson, impersonator Susan Frank, acrobatic dancer Carol Shisler, an organ duet by Helen Burkhart and Jean Emery, and a piano duet by Bebe and Irvin Rubincam.

Officers of the newly formed Girls Athletic Association were Mary Ann Hamilton, president; Judy Manning, vice president; Ann Yerkes, secretary; and Polly Pennypacker, treasurer.

Your friends and family can be Hist-O-Gram subscribers

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It's at 150 Devereux Road in Glenmoore



Bonnie Radford is a truly perceptive scholar because she was the first person to correctly identify the house in the photo as at 150 Devereux Road in Glenmoore. The house was built in the early 1850s by David Dunlap. It is for sale. For more info on the house, go to: www.trulia.com/property/3073686774-150-Devereux-Rd-Glenmoore-PA-19343.

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2) Equities - To achieve market growth, and increase financial wealth, by exceeding the rate of inflation. Contact: vance_usher@netzero.com, 610-329-1056, 320 E. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown, PA 19335.

Free ads for Non-Profits

Savings opportunities available at DARC

Discount Movie Tickets: \$8, 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