



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

Interesting local history, accessed from our archives

www.downingtownareahistoricalsociety.org

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

Vol. 7, No. 14

April 7, 2016

Where and What Is This?



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

What locals were talking about 36 years ago

Noted below are news items that were originally published in the *East Branch Citizen* in early April 1980:

- **Howard Caskey**, legendary social studies teacher and football coach at DHS for 32 years, announced his plans to retire. When he joined the high school faculty in 1948, the Penn State grad and former lineman for the Nittany Lions, was earning the princely base salary of \$2,150 a year. Caskey was paid \$250 a season when he was head football coach for six or seven years, after earning \$150 extra while serving as an assistant for two seasons. Although DHS was the smallest high school in the Ches-Mont League when he was head football coach, the Whippets won the first league football championship by defeating Tredyffrin-Easttown 8-0. Caskey spent 21 years as chief negotiator for the Downingtown Area Education Association (DAEA), the teachers' collective bargaining unit, trying to increase teachers' salaries and improve their benefits. When he was hired, Downingtown teachers were eligible for just five sick days. He was intimately involved in the creation of the teachers' first salary schedule and first major medical insurance program. Back then, Caskey said he often carried on negotiations with individual school directors. And sometimes they included visiting a board member's home and discussing options over dinner.

- Although the school district's income and expenses were projected to increase by \$18,391, a 20 per cent hike, in the 1980-81 school year, the **Downingtown School Board** avoided a tax increase by eliminating several planned projects. They included dropping a proposal to buy land and build a maintenance facility, which would cost \$98,000, and only spending part of the proposed \$273,000 needed for repairing the roof of DHS. However, the \$300,000 needed to either purchase of Chemical Leaman Tank Lines' offices on Wallace Avenue in the borough, or construct a building for the school district central administrative offices were kept in the budget.

- A groundbreaking ceremony for a new educational-fellowship building—to be known as the Lockwood-Reilly Building—was held at **St. Paul's Episcopal Church** in Exton. Plans for the one-story building included six classrooms, a library, two offices and two restrooms.

- The cast of the Brandywine Players, from **Downingtown United Methodist Church**, who had roles in the production of "Dirty Works in High Places," included: Bob and Traudi Stevens, Peggy and Charles Espenlaub, Rev. Dick, Linda and Rick Wolfe, Frances McAllister, Shirley and Bob Moyer, Marilyn and Warren Walter, Margie McCombs, Henry Simmons, Joyce Harmon, Lee Bradley and Nancy Azbill. Tom Bradley was the director.

- Elected to the board of the Lutheran Christian Women's group at **St. Paul's Lutheran Church**, Lionville, were Mary Lammey, president; Nancy Heydt, vice president; Polly McCabe, secretary; Sandy Service, treasurer; Barbara Meier, Christian action; Elsa Green, membership; Mary McCurdy and Dorothy Hrynkow, programs; and Karen Ely, hostess.

- Recent **property transfers** included: 265 Peck Road, Uwchlan, \$79,000; 1642 Ithan Circle. West Bradford. \$51,120; 200 Karen Drive, Downingtown, \$48,145; 25 Saybrooke lane, Upper Uwchlan, \$89,900; 429 Bianca Circle, Caln, \$46,500; 91 Old Kings Highway, West Whiteland, \$90,000; 19 Downing Circle, East Caln, \$75,000.

- Assuming leadership positions at **Calvary Fellowship Church**, Lionville, were: Bill Matthews, assistant director of ushers; Cheryl King, church clerk; Clyde Broadbelt, chairman of the Christian education committee; Bob Wilson, Bible school superintendent; and Randy Junkins, chairman of the missionary committee.

- **First Baptist Church**, Downingtown, had hired an architect to design a new building on its property at Lloyd and Pennsylvania Avenues.
- Elected as officers of the Christian Endeavor Group in Chester County were these members of **Windsor Baptist Church**, Eagle: Stan Miller, president; Charles Popjoy, first vice president; Dave Supplee, registrar; Elmer Murdoch, social supervisor; Gregg Runyen, recreation superintendent; and Carole Styer, reporter.
- Trustees for 1980 at **Marshallton Methodist Church** were Clinton Fetterman, president; Ronald Trimble, vice president and cemetery chairperson; and Susan James, secretary.
- The **DHS baseball team** continued its win streak to six, as it swept a pair of doubleheaders, over Unionville and Pottstown. Larry Protivnak was the winning hurler, and Ed Novak had two hits and four RBIs in the first Unionville. Jay Oakes had two RBIs, and Vic Johnson notched the mound decision by allowing just four hits in the second contest. Tom Quinn and Bob Trauger combined to toss a no-hitter, as DHS clobbered undefeated Pottstown 10-1 in the opener. In the second game, Novak had two of the Whippet hits, and Greg Wilson got the third. Ed Lasorda, the winning pitcher, allowed only one run on two hits.
- The **DHS lacrosse squad** rallied to beat Chichester 10-5, after losing to Marple-Newtown 7-0 in its season opener. Debbie Kramer paced the Whippet attack with four goals against Chichester.
- Although the Blue and Gold lost to Sun Valley by an 81-51 margin, **DHS girls track team** coach Edie Hille said she was pleased with how the team performed. Hille cited Renee Gallman's wins in the 100-meter and 200-meter dashes, and as a member of the 400-meter relay team. Also, Melanie Wix won the 800-meter run, and Tina Arcaro placed first in the high jump.
- Hopewell United Methodist Church won the **Adult Church Basketball League** playoffs by beating Central Presbyterian 75-67. Top scorers for Hopewell in the final were Tom Flood (30), Greg Caldwell (21) and Jim McGinnis (19). Offensive leaders for Central were Scott Wiltrout (21) and Mike Lee (10).

Our Wish List

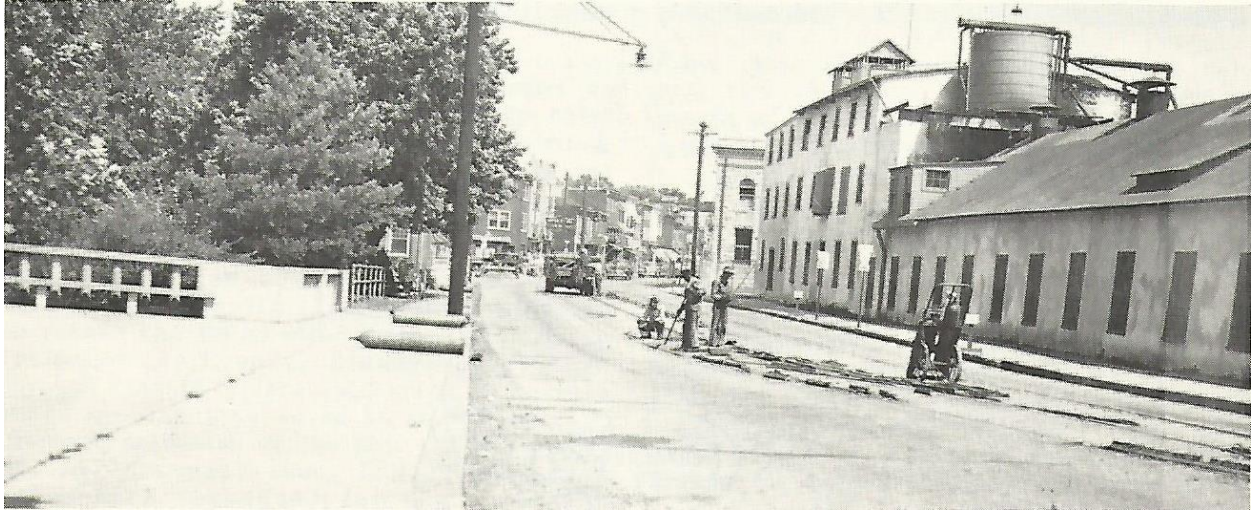
The items listed below in our Wish List notes the materials with a Downingtown connection the Historical Society especially needs to reach its archival goals.

- Vintage uniforms worn by members of the DHS or Junior High sports teams or marching bands, and those worn by members of local fire departments in parades.
- Any yearbooks or newspapers published by DHS, or by Downingtown and Lionville Junior High Schools.
- Any printed materials related to: the Downingtown Young Whippets, Downingtown Little League, Downingtown Babe Ruth League or the Downingtown American Legion Baseball teams, and the Downingtown Girls' Softball League, the Lionville Youth Association, the West Bradford Youth Association, or the East Brandywine Youth Athletics.

If you need more info about any of these requests, please send an email to:

Info@downingtowntareahistoricalociety.org.

They were tearing up tracks as part of scrap drive during WW II



Although we received many responses, Austin Windle provided the most complete answer when he told us the workmen in the photo above were tearing up the old trolley tracks on East Lancaster Avenue in Downingtown in the early 1940s because the scrap metal could be used as part of the war effort. The tracks had been used by the West Chester Street Railway Co. trolley system in Downingtown since 1902. And by the 1920s, the trolley service, between Downingtown and Coatesville, made stops every 30 minutes, according to *Trolleys of Chester County*, published by Harold Cox in 1975. With an increasing number of cars being used by Chester County residents and improved roads, trolley use declined in the late 1920s, and service through Downingtown was discontinued in 1929.

What was happening here in the spring of 1955

Noted below are snippets of news originally published in *The Archive* 61 years ago:

- Officers of the Married Couples Group at **Messiah Lutheran Church**, Downingtown, were: Mrs. Robert Hadfield, president; Mrs. Richard Thomas, vice president; and Mrs. Elmer Hemberger, secretary-treasurer.
- The **Downingtown Laundromat**, operated by John and Alice Hogg, was opened at 137 E. Lancaster Ave., in the borough.
- Members of **Cub Pack 8, East Brandywine**, who earned a Bobcat badge were John Schreiber, Kenny Matthews, Kenny Barnes, Richard Dawson, Tommy and Kenny Furlong, Leslie Sheeler Jr., Richard Watts and Tommy Hayes.
- The new, two-room, \$50,000 addition to the **Marshallton Elementary School** was dedicated.
- The **Viaduct Mill**, at West Lancaster and Viaduct Avenues in Downingtown, discontinued operations.
- Ralph Lineinger was elected president of the **Downingtown Rotary Club**. Other officers were: Bob Plank, vice president; Ed McCausland, treasurer; Clarence Dorsey, secretary; and Henry Smith, sergeant-at-arms.
- Some of the models who participated in the “Brides Through the Years” fashion show put on by members of the Bethany Bible Class at **Hopewell Methodist Church**, included Virginia

Guiney, Rhoda Fitzenmeyer, Millie Biondi, Mary Pratt, Mrs. John Fisher, Esther Zittle, Mrs. William Peters, Gladys Wagner and Mrs. Rose Chamberlain.

- **Corbin “Doc” Hutchison**, who had been running his drug store on East Lancaster Avenue in Downingtown for 63 years, turned it over to **S. Dickey Hutchison**. And **Dr. David Yager** opened a dental office across the street, at 115 E. Lancaster Ave. in the borough.

Grumpy Jenkins to be inducted into DHS Alumni Hall of Fame

Editor’s Note: This is the third of four profiles on those persons who will be inducted into DHS Alumni Association’s Hall of Fame. The induction will take place at the Alumni Association’s 132nd annual banquet on Saturday, April 16, at the Downingtown Country Club. You can access more info on the banquet via: www.downingtowntalumni.org/banquet.html.

Also, the DHS Class of 1971 will hold its 45th reunion at the Alumni Association banquet on April 16. Contact Nancy Mattioni McFalls at nmcfalls@comcast.net if you have not received an invitation.

If you’re a hot rod or drag racing enthusiast, you have William “Grumpy” Jenkins (1930-2012) to thank for many of the innovations that transformed the field. They include redefining the Pro Stock class with his 1974 Chevy Vega with the use of a McPherson strut front suspension and a dry sump oil system, both of which are in use today. Those are part of the legacy of “Grumpy’s Toys,” which have delighted racing fans throughout the industry.

After he graduated from DHS in 1949, Jenkins started drag racing before going to Cornell University, where he majored in mechanical engineering. After that, he returned to racing, and built 30 cars that set national records. He is considered the “Father of Pro Stock” and was inducted into numerous motorsports halls of fame, national and international, for his engine building skills, including the International Motorsports Hall of Fame and International Drag Racing Hall of Fame. His engines were used to win five NHRA Pro Stock championships and three American Hot Rod Association championships.

Jenkins was ranked #8 on the National Hot Rod Association’s list of the 50 greatest drivers. And in 1973, *Time Magazine* featured him as the highest paid athlete of the year, tied with the great Wilt Chamberlain.

He was nicknamed “Grumpy” for his no-nonsense attitude and little time for idle chatter with his racing colleagues.

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

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

www.downingtowntareahistoricalsociety.org/Histograms.html.

Group Photo of the Week:



Were these guys heading down to Exton for a huge hot dog at Dick Thomas's, after bagging gym class and hoping to get back to DHS in time for Mike Remetz's trigonometry class? No way. This is a photo of the officers of DHS Class of 1956. They are: Sam Matthews, president, and Peggy McCausland, secretary in the front seat, and in the back are Irv Rubincam, vice president, and Joan Piersol, treasurer. Most important: They were pictured in Mickey Sciarretta's red Pontiac convertible.

How to access each of the March 2016 Hist-O-Grams

If you missed any Hist-O-Grams published in March 2016, you can access each of them via:

March 3-- www.downingtowntareahistoricalociety.org/Histograms/2016%20Hist-O-Grams/March%203%202016%20Hist-O-Gram.pdf.

March 10--www.downingtowntareahistoricalociety.org/Histograms/2016%20Hist-O-Grams/March%2010%202016%20Hist-O-Gram.pdf.

March 17-- www.downingtowntareahistoricalociety.org/Histograms/2016%20Hist-O-Grams/March%2017%202016%20Hist-O-Gram.pdf.

March 24-- www.downingtowntareahistoricalociety.org/Histograms/2016%20Hist-O-Grams/March%2024%202016%20Hist-O-Gram.pdf.

March 31-- www.downingtowntareahistoricalociety.org/Histograms/2016%20Hist-O-Grams/March%2031%202016%20Hist-O-Gram.pdf.

If Father Did the Washing Just Once!

If every father did the family washing next Monday there would be an Electric Clothes Washer in every home before next Saturday night.

For fathers are used to figuring costs. They'd say: The electricity for a week's washing costs less than a cake of soap. Human time and strength are too precious for work which a machine can do so cheaply and well.

Coffield Electric Washer

Arrange for a demonstration on your next wash day.

CHESTER VALLEY ELECTRIC CO.

SECOND FLOOR

DOWNINGTOWN NATIONAL BANK

PHONE 34 W

We need your help at clip session on Tuesday evening

We're looking for volunteers to participate in the Historical Society's clip/paste sessions, to be held from 6:30-8:30 PM on Tuesday, April 12. The session, which involve clipping and pasting newspaper articles for our archival collection, will be held at Ashbridge House, our 307-year-old headquarters, next to the Chick-Fil-A restaurant in the Ashbridge Shopping Center on Route 30 in East Caln.

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

Free Ads for Non-Profits

Readers on the Run

The Downingtown Library's Readers on the Run road races will be conducted on Green Street in the borough on Saturday, April 9. They will start at 8 AM with a 5K run, followed by a 1-mile race at 8:15, and then a 100-yard dash for kids at 9 AM. Entry fees for the 5K and Walk are \$25 before April 2 and \$30 on race day. The Kids' Dash costs \$10. To register online and for more info, access: www.racemenu.com/readers.

Oldies Dance Party

The Downingtown Area Senior Center will have an Oldies Dance Party fundraiser, featuring Philadelphia disc jockey Jerry Blavat, also known as "The Geator with The Heater" and "the Boss with the Hot Sauce." You're encouraged to join the fun, from 9-11 on Saturday, April 9 at the Covered Bridge Room in Kimberton. Tickets are \$75 each and that includes food, beer, wine and raffles. Contact the center at 610-269-3939 to reserve your tickets.

Book Sale

The Friends of the Downingtown Library will hold a spring book sale on Friday April 15 from 5-7:30 PM and on Saturday April 16 from 9 AM to 4 PM. There will be a wide selection of adult fiction and non-fiction, young adult and children's books, audio books, movies and music CDs. Donations of gently used children's books, adult books, DVDs, CDs and books on tape for the sale are now being accepted. No textbooks, encyclopedias or magazines, please. Donations can be dropped off at the library, through April 9 during regular business hours. For more details, contact the library at 610-269-2741.

Lecture series in E. Brandywine

East Brandywine's Historical Commission will present the following lectures at 3:30 PM on the Sundays noted: **April 17**, at Bondsville Mill Park, 1647 Bondsville Road, Bryan Thompson Nowak, Horticulturalist at Morris Arboretum, will take you on nature walk and sheds some light on our local landscape; **May 15**, Mathew Kalos will discuss what he's uncovered in his archaeological digs in Chester County, at the East Brandywine Township Building, 1214 Horseshoe Pike, Guthriesville.

Nite at the Races

The Downingtown Good Neighbor Christmas Parade Committee will have a Kentucky Derby Nite at The Races at 6 PM on Saturday, May 7 at St. Anthony's Lodge on Church Street, Downingtown. Visit dtwonchristmas.com for tickets and more information. Tickets are \$25 per person and include "food and beer" and soda. There also will be raffles, 50/50, Lady with the Best Bonnet, Best Dressed Couple, and Gentleman with fanciest bowtie contests. Adults only. Must be 21 to attend.

True Story of Amelia Earhart's Disappearance

Richard (Ric) Gillespie, historian, author, executive director of TIGHAR and aeronautic researcher will present Finding Amelia - The True Story of the Earhart Disappearance in a West Caln Historical Society program at 7 PM on Tuesday, April 19 at the West Caln Municipal Bldg., 721 W. Kings Hwy., Wagontown. The program is free and open to all.

Drug Take-Back Day

The Downingtown Police Department will again partner with the US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to participate in National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day, from 10 AM to 2 PM on Saturday, April 30. This is an opportunity for the public to safely discard unwanted, unused and expired prescription drugs. Bring your medications for disposal to the Downingtown Borough Hall Annex Building at 4 W. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked. For more info, call 610-269-0344, ext. 200.

Alert's Golf Outing

Downingtown's all-volunteer, Alert Fire Co. will host its third annual golf outing at Ron Jaworski's Downingtown Country Club as a fund-raising event, and they are asking for local and national sponsorship for this event. The outing will take place on Monday, May 2. You can access more details on the outing via www.alertgolfouting.org/.

East Brandywine Golf Outing

The 5th annual East Brandywine Fire & Police Golf Outing will be held on Monday, May 9. Sponsored by and held at Applecross Country Club. There are still available opportunities for sponsors. There also will be an auction and raffle opportunities. Additional information can be found at: www.ebfc49.org.

Flea Market/Craft & Antique Sale

Table space is available for a flea market/craft/antique sale from 9 AM to 2 PM on Saturday, May 14 (rain date May 21) to be held on the front lawn of the Caln Township Municipal Building, Municipal Drive, Thorndale. Sponsored by the Old Caln Historical Society. Call Joan at 610-384-9496 or Lois at 610-384-8153 for more information.

Brochure on DARC classes & activities

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

Banquet room for rent

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

Joseph's People, Downingtown chapter

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



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News items published 36 years ago

Noted below are news items originally published in the *East Branch Citizen* in the latter part of April 1980:

- A special showing of the science fiction film “**The Blob**” was put on at the Chester Springs Library by Vince Spangler of Chester Springs, who had been the chief set electrician, when the movie was made in the area during the summer of 1957. Much of the film’s interior scenes were shot in Good News Productions’ buildings now occupied by the **Historic Yellow Springs Foundation** in West Pikeland. The essence of the film was that 26-year-old Steve McQueen, in his first starring movie role, and his girlfriend in the movie were trying to warn people in their hometown about a monster, composed of a viscous silicone substance, enhanced with red gasoline dye so it would show better in the technicolor movie.

Scenes in the movie also were at Phoenixville’s Colonial Theatre, at a Royersford supermarket and at the former Spring City High School. The climactic scene was shot at the Downingtown Diner, at Downing and West Lancaster Avenues in the borough. That’s when the monster attacked the diner while most of the lead characters were trapped inside. The teenagers reached safety when the monster was sprayed with carbon dioxide.

The only local person who had a speaking role was Rev Thomas Ogden, pastor of **Downingtown Methodist Church**. Local firefighters who had non-speaking parts in the scene at Royersford supermarket were: Bob Pollock, Elmer Schrumpf, Al Peterman, Richard Keers, Harry Flinn, Gerry Williams, Bill Dawson, Paul Backenstose and George Dowlin. Sonny Sciairretta drove the **Alert Fire Co.’s** Seagraves fire truck in that scene. Locals who were in the crowd outside the diner, with their hotrods, were Richard Cabott, John Walker (later DHS basketball coach) and Lou Rambo.

- Residents of the Rhondda Homeowners Association in **Uwchlan Township** wanted the **Downingtown School District** to reconsider its policy against school buses entering residential developments to pick up students. Parents of 51 children in that development expressed concern for the safety of their youngsters while they waited for a school bus to pick them up at the intersection of Ship and Llandoverly Roads. But Uwchlan Township officials didn’t want to open up a cul-de-sac at the other end of Llandoverly Road because it would create another hazardous intersection. Also, when the parents suggested that school district should hire a crossing guard to supervise the students while they waited for a bus, a school director said that was the parents’ responsibility.

- New members of the **Downingtown Chamber of Commerce** were Eagle Tavern, Donnolo’s Flowers and Thrift Drug. Anniversaries were celebrated by Romig Electronics, 35th; Albert Burkhardt, 20th; Downingtown Wallpaper and Paint, 18th; Southeast National Bank, 10th.

- Specials at **Giunta’s Downingtown Meat Market** in the 4 Js Mini-Mall at 123 E. Lancaster Ave., included boneless strip steaks and whole filets for \$4.29 per pound.

- Mrs. Lyle Shoemaker was elected president of the **Uwchlan Conservation Trust**. Other officers were Hervey Painter, vice president; Robert Rodkey, secretary; Lacy Lackey, treasurer; and Mrs. Joseph Hemphill, corresponding secretary. Mrs. Elmer Hartwick and John Young were directors.

- Elected as officers of the **Woman’s Community Club of Uwchlan** were Mrs. Richard Newman, president; Mrs. James Borrer, first vice president; Mrs. Walter Uhler, second vice president; Mrs. Robert Schlomann, recording secretary; Mrs. Winfield Howe, corresponding secretary; and Mrs. Lewis Frame, treasurer.

- New members of the **Downingtown Senior Center** were Beulah Compton, Audrey Thompson, Leota Stiper, Flora Stevenson, Ernestine Brown, Elizabeth Heisey, Dorothy Hogan and Ruth Beswick.
- Sixth graders at **Old East Ward School** sold sets of spices as a fundraiser to help defray the costs of their annual camping trip. As the top seller, Maurice Smith won a free camping trip.
- Patty Forbes and Matt Mingione received the Outstanding Senior Awards at the **DHS Alumni Association's** 93rd annual banquet.
- The **DHS track team** won the Chester County Relay Championship. Among the six relay teams that won an event were the 440 relay unit, comprised of Brent Sweeney, Reese Hunt, Ted Robinson and Rick Stonewall.
- After the **DHS baseball squad** suffered an 18-4 loss to West Chester Henderson in its Ches-Mont opener, Coach Carl Houpp's Whippets bounced back with a 5-2 win over Great Valley. Butch Williams went three-for-three, and Ed Novak enjoyed a two-for-two day, which included a homer and four RBIs. Winning pitcher Bob Trauger, who went the distance, also got two hits.
- The **DHS softball team** improved its record to 5-1, as it won four games in one week. The Whippets beat Phoenixville 3-1, despite collecting only three hits. Winning pitcher Dianne Repp, gave up only one hit and recorded six strikeouts. Then pitcher Judy O'Connor also gave up only one hit, as Downingtown blanked Great Valley 8-0. Repp, Dianne Stoner and Sherri Clayton each stroked two hits. Coach John Davisdson's squad closed out the week by winning a doubleheader over Octorara. Jenny Gerlach got four hits in the 8-1 opener. In the nightcap, winning hurler Laura Kulkis gave up only two hits and struck out nine. Leading the DHS offense were Repp, with three hits, and Melinda Horne and Melanie Massimini, each contributing two hits and two RBIs.
- Coach Sally Anderson's **DHS girls' lacrosse team** rallied to beat Pottstown 9-7. The Whippet offense was led by Barrie Benjamin, who tallied three goals, and Sue Widen, who scored two.
- After the **DHS boys' tennis squad** lost to Phoenixville by a 6-1 margin, the Whippets rallied to beat O.J. Roberts 6-1. Singles winners in that match were Frank Englund, Chris Blank and Dave Hammer. Downingtown also whitewashed Pottstown 7-0. Whippet doubles teams that won included Tom Lambert and Mike Biddle, Alvin Walton and Bill Jemison, and Lance Landgraf and Frank Pechin.
- Recent **property transfers** included: 126 Baker Drive, Uwchlan, \$72,500; 417 Bianca Circle, Caln, \$46,500; 331 Norwood Road, East Caln, \$55,500; 13 La Via Vida, East Brandywine, \$82,000; 100 Lloyd Avenue, Downingtown, \$66,500.
- Two **Downingtown Junior High students** won awards for the wood racers they designed for the American Industrial Arts Association competition, which involved students from 22 states. They were Shane Rodgers, first place, and John Sciandra third place.

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It was Gindy's office at Boot Road and Chestnut Street



Steve Marcocci is a truly perceptive scholar because he was the first person to correctly identify the site in the photo above as the rear of the building that once housed the office of the Gindy Manufacturing Co., at the southeast corner of Chestnut Street and Boot Road in Downingtown. The Gindy plant was attached to the rear of the office building. The site is currently occupied by Sunbelt Rentals.

Founded by David Ginsburg in 1940, Gindy's 250 employees were producing enclosed aluminum truck trailers at the East Caln site by 1965. In January 1966, however, a fire destroyed the plant, and the operation was moved to Eagle. Budd Co. acquired Gindy in 1975. And in 1985, Budd sold the business to Thayer Trailer Co., which closed in 1987.

The photo was provided by Ron Tipton, who took the picture in 1955. Back then, Ron and his family lived on the second floor of the Gindy office building. Most interesting is the fact that the left side of the photo shows that trees once lined both sides of Boot Road.

What locals were talking about 72 years ago

Noted below are news items originally published in the *Downingtown Archive* in the spring and summer of 1944:

- **Monthly tuition rates** for the 1944-45 school year, which were paid by township school boards to the Downingtown School District for each student who lived outside borough, were: \$6.50 for elementary school pupils and \$10.25 for secondary school students.
- Sixty-four seniors received diplomas at the **high school's 62nd commencement**. Faculty award winners were: Mary Mingione, commercial; Paul Shuman, science; Howard Bicking, mathematics; Miriam Popjoy, languages (French and Latin); Miles Acker, social studies; William McNeal, vocational; and William Meoli and Elvin Welch, art.
- James McGowan was appointed to the Price Panel of the **Downingtown War Price and Rationing Board**, to supervise the administration of used car ceiling price regulations.
- The **Ivoryne Gum Co.** was seeking girls to wrap gum packs at its production facility at 143 West Lancaster Ave., Downingtown.
- **DHS football coach** Vince Daher reportedly signed a contract to be a lineman for the Philadelphia Eagles, whose ranks were depleted by many players serving in the military. However, Daher was still at the helm in August when some 30 Whippets went to the pre-season football camp for a week near Pughtown. Also, the DHS junior varsity and the Junior High School varsity football teams were scheduled to play several away games for the first time since gas rationing made that impossible during the WW II era.
- **Downingtown's Memorial Day Committee**—comprised of Leo Hamilton, Warren Yocum, Joseph Miller, Robert Dougherty and Paul Dague—made the following announcement: "Out of deference to the times and in keeping with the solemnity which should attend occasions such as this in wartime, the usual parade will be dispensed with this year." However, the traditional services at St. Joseph's and Northwood cemeteries and the tossing of a wreath into the Brandywine in honor of those Navy personnel who died at sea were continued.
- The store in **Guthriesville**, which had been recently bought and remodeled by Earl Bryant, was destroyed by a fire, despite the efforts of six fire companies.
- An **Honor Roll**, in recognition of the 66 Wallace Township residents and members of the Glen Moore Fire Co. who were serving in the military during WW II, was dedicated in ceremonies at the fire hall. Mrs. Granville McCardell and Mrs. Marvin Furlong, who had sons in the military, assisted in the unveiling. Members of the Honor Roll committee included Rev. David Stewart, Ernest Philips, John Galt, Walter Davis, George Crosby and Walter Jones.
- Certificates were presented to these members of the **Safety Patrol** at West Ward School: Donald Greenleaf, captain; and Lucy DiCarlo, assistant captain; Rose Formica, Marie Doto, Eugene Davis, Leo Ciarlone, Frank DiPietro, Preston Miles, Anthony Mento, Beulah Wilkerson, Francis Cozzone and Emanuel Rodri.
- Frank Celii and Jane Fennelly were the King and Queen of the **DHS Junior Prom**.
- Those who bought an extra war bond received a pass to see "Pin Up Girl," starring Betty Grable, at the **Roosevelt Theatre** on Brandywine Avenue.
- Members of the **Downingtown Lions Club** elected Nelson Dennis president. Also elected were Richard Burroughs, first vice president; Dr. Harlan Sharp, second vice president; Charles Emery, third vice president; Ralph Kinsey, secretary; Evans Miller, financial secretary; Joseph Matthewson, treasurer; Thomas Deets, tail twister; Fred Hill, lion tamer; and Arthur Lowry and Karl Snell, directors.

Vintage Ad of the Week:

A NEW COMMUNITY OF

SPLIT LEVEL HOMES

WITH A MINIMUM OF ½ ACRE LANDSCAPED LOT

WELCOME TO

Marshallton Farms

ONLY
\$14,990
10% Down

**Look at These
Exciting
Features:**

- 3 BEDROOMS
- DINING ROOM
- 1½ BATHS
- LIVING ROOM
- KITCHEN
(with GE Oven)
- FINISHED RECREATION
ROOM
- FINISHED UTILITY
ROOM
- HOT WATER
BASEBOARD HEAT
- SLIDING PATIO DOOR



**ONLY 4 MILES WEST OF WEST CHESTER
ON RT. 162, FOLLOW THE SIGNS !!**

**THE
BUY OF A
LIFETIME!**

SEE IT NOW!
SAMPLE OPEN
SUNDAY 1 P.M.
TILL DARK

MARSHALLTON FARMS, INC.

This ad was published in the February 24, 1964 edition of the *Daily Local News*.

Wilson Pollock to be inducted into DHS Alumni Hall of Fame

Wilson F. Pollock, Jr. graduated from Downingtown High School in 1958, was Class President, and was voted “Most Likely Male to Succeed.” He went on to earn a bachelor’s degree in Architecture at Penn State and a master’s from Columbia University. After working at Cambridge Seven Associates in Cambridge, MA, in 1971, he founded ADD - Architectural Design Development.

ADD Inc. grew from two people at its founding in 1971 to over 200 employees and over \$20 million net fee revenues per year at the time Wilson retired. Projects designed and built by the firm in that timeframe included many new and renovated developer office buildings, high tech facilities, corporate headquarters, multi-building master plans, shopping centers, mixed use facilities, university dormitories, and residential condominium and multi-tenant rental buildings. Over 1,000 young people worked at ADD while Wilson was at the helm.

In 1984, Wilson, who by that year had received widespread recognition for his leadership of the very successful architecture company, joined the Boston Society of Architecture (BSA). In 1998, BSA launched a new magazine, *Architecture Boston*, and he served a three-year term on its editorial board. He then assumed the position of chair of the editorial board for six years as the magazine thrived.

One of his greatest legacies was to transform ADD through an employee stock ownership plan to ease the transition upon his retirement. He said, “I wanted the firm to continue on for years after my retirement because I cared about my legacy and ADD Inc.” Since his retirement in 2005, Wilson has served as a consultant to many firms in strategic management.

Wilson and his company have won too many awards to enumerate here, but they included having ADD chosen as the 1995 Small Business of the Year by the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce, the first service provider so honored. Individually, he was honored with a Wilson F. Pollock, Jr. Day on April 23, 1995 for his dedicated service to his adopted hometown of Newton, Massachusetts. In 2011, he was awarded a Doctorate of Entrepreneurial Leadership degree from Boston Architectural College.

Wilson is an avid sailor, with years of experience in both coastal and off-shore sailing that includes races from the US East Coast to Bermuda and passages to islands in the Caribbean. As a member of the Jamestown Yacht Club in Rhode Island, he served on the Board of Trustees; and in several leadership positions. He also is a talented painter, getting his start at age 4 when he sent drawings to his Uncle Fred who was serving in Patton’s Third Army in Europe during World War II.

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

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

www.downingtowntareahistoricalociety.org/Histograms.html.

Free Ads for Non-Profits

Book Sale

The Friends of the Downingtown Library will hold a spring book sale on Friday April 15 from 5-7:30 PM and on Saturday April 16 from 9 AM to 4 PM. There will be a wide selection of adult fiction and non-fiction, young adult and children's books, audio books, movies and music CDs. Donations of gently used children's books, adult books, DVDs, CDs and books on tape for the sale are now being accepted. No textbooks, encyclopedias or magazines, please. For more details, contact the library at 610-269-2741.

Trout Rodeo

The Brandywine Trout and Conservation Club will have a free Trout Rodeo for kids who are 15 years old and younger, from 9 AM to 2 PM on Saturday, April 16 at Kerr Park. Registration opens at 8 AM in the park, near the playground.

Lecture series in E. Brandywine

East Brandywine's Historical Commission will present the following lectures at 3:30 PM on the Sundays noted: **April 17**, at Bondsville Mill Park, 1647 Bondsville Road, Bryan Thompson Nowak, Horticulturalist at Morris Arboretum, will take you on nature walk and sheds some light on our local landscape; **May 15**, Mathew Kalos will discuss what he's uncovered in his archaeological digs in Chester County, at the East Brandywine Township Building, 1214 Horseshoe Pike, Guthriesville.

USO Dance

The Downingtown Historic Commission is sponsoring a World War II-style USO dance at 5 PM Saturday, April 23 at Kerr Park. Music will be provided by DJ Paul. No rain date. If possible, come in 1940s or 1950s attire. Tickets—\$5 a person and \$8 a couple—are available at Margo's Ice Cream Parlor, The Orangery Restaurant, or at Downingtown's Borough Hall. Proceeds will be used for the construction and placement of the Civil War cannon at the Downingtown Veterans' Memorial in Kerr Park.

Nite at the Races

The Downingtown Good Neighbor Christmas Parade Committee will have a Kentucky Derby Nite at The Races at 6 PM on Saturday, May 7 at St. Anthony's Lodge on Church Street, Downingtown. Visit dtwonchristmas.com for tickets and more information. Tickets are \$25 per person and include "food and beer" and soda. There also will be raffles, 50/50, Lady with the Best Bonnet, Best Dressed Couple, and Gentleman with fanciest bowtie contests. Adults only. Must be 21 to attend.

True Story of Amelia Earhart's Disappearance

Richard (Ric) Gillespie, historian, author, executive director of TIGHAR and aeronautic researcher will present Finding Amelia - The True Story of the Earhart Disappearance in a West Caln Historical Society program at 7 PM on Tuesday, April 19 at the West Caln Municipal Bldg., 721 W. Kings Hwy., Wagontown. The program is free and open to all.

Drug Take-Back Day

The Downingtown Police Department will again partner with the US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to participate in National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day, from 10 AM to 2 PM on Saturday, April 30. This is an opportunity for the public to safely discard unwanted, unused and expired prescription drugs. Bring your medications for disposal to the Downingtown Borough Hall Annex Building at 4 W. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked. For more info, call 610-269-0344, ext. 200.

Alert's Golf Outing

Downingtown's all-volunteer, Alert Fire Co. will host its third annual golf outing at Ron Jaworski's Downingtown Country Club as a fund-raising event, and they are asking for local and national sponsorship for this event. The outing will take place on Monday, May 2. You can access more details on the outing via www.alertgolfouting.org/.

East Brandywine Golf Outing

The 5th annual East Brandywine Fire & Police Golf Outing will be held on Monday, May 9. Sponsored by and held at Applecross Country Club. There are still available opportunities for sponsors. There also will be an auction and raffle opportunities. Additional information can be found at: www.ebfc49.org.

Flea Market/Craft & Antique Sale

Table space is available for a flea market/craft/antique sale from 9 AM to 2 PM on Saturday, May 14 (rain date May 21) to be held on the front lawn of the Caln Township Municipal Building, Municipal Drive, Thorndale. Sponsored by the Old Caln Historical Society. Call Joan at 610-384-9496 or Lois at 610-384-8153 for more information.

Brochure on DARC classes & activities

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

Banquet room for rent

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

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

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

Vol. 7, No. 16

April 21, 2016

Where and What Is This?



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

What locals were talking about 52 years ago

Noted below are news items originally published in local newspapers during the latter part of April 1964:

- State police conducted **gambling raids** and made arrests at two area clubs and a private business. The Staties confiscated a fish bowl at the Downingtown Moose Lodge, seized two pinball machines at the VFW Post, and found a pinball machine at a gas station in Guthriesville.
- The **Pickering-Brandywine Jointure School Board** raised the starting salaries for new teachers from \$4,500 to \$4,800, to remain competitive with neighboring school districts. And these Brandywine-Wallace students were selected to participate in the Chester County Music

Festival: Doug Trumbauer, Loretta Moore, Ruth Ann Givler, Diane Downing, Carl Koppenhaver, Steve Fetters and Terry Merkle.

- Members of the **West Bradford Fire Co.** participated in a training course, which was a supplement to their training at the Chester County Fire School. Charles Maxwell, a member of the fire company and an associate at the Fire School, directed the training sessions.

- Elma Miller, social studies teacher at the high school, received the **DHS Alumni Association's** Distinguished Service Award for being the Association's financial secretary for many years. Also honored at the Association's 77th annual banquet were Janine Davis and Richard DiEugenio, who were named the Outstanding Seniors in the DHS Class of 1964. Besides Miller, other Alumni Association officers were: Joseph Travaglini, president; George Dowlin, first vice president; James Burns, second vice president; and Eloise Sigle, recording secretary.

- The Washington Camp in Downingtown of the **Patriotic Order Sons of America** was celebrating the 75th anniversary of its founding in 1888. And members who were honored for their 50 years of service with the Washington Camp included Harvey Happersett, George Perry, Clarence Happersett, Wilmer Johnson, and George Mercer.

- The class which was received into the membership of **Hopewell Methodist Church** in East Brandywine included: Edward Fryberger, John Cropper, Roger Nellius, Bruce Welsh, Stephen and Anne Lucas, Stephen Miller, Kathy Yost, Lynn Bower, Candy Harrison and Dennis Newlin.

- The **Glen Moore Fire Co.** was conducting a "Mile of Dollars" fundraising campaign. The campaign's \$10,560 target was to be used to make the final payment on new apparatus.

- Second graders at **East Ward School** who participated in a February assembly included: Donna Marcocci, Melanie Pegan, Patty Grubb, Larry Blevins, and Roslyn Maholland. Elmer Dunn and Kay McLucas, who all described their illustrations of events in Abraham Lincoln's life. And those who danced a minuet for George Washington's birthday were James Linderman, Teddy Simmons, David Eshleman, John Bowman, Michael Bare, Marcy Hessinger, Nancy Mullen, Jeanette Stern, Linda Tolan and Betsy Smith.

- Members of the **DHS girls' varsity basketball team** who received letters from Coach Thelma Heller included Janine Davis, Linda Davis, Cindy Dellet, Jan Fetherolf, Susie Martin, Shirley Smith, Brenda Wilkerson, and Elizabeth Von Hacht. And jayvees who received letters from Coach Edith Hille were Deborah Dunn, Kathryn Reichard, Joanne Katherman, Janet Rissell, Diane Wilkerson, Martha and Miriam Alexander and Carol Patrizio. Managers receiving awards were Donna Rissel, Sharon Fennelly, Judy Brown, Vicki Thomson and Cindy Bowe.

- DHS pupils who had featured roles in the student production of "**A Year and a Dame**" were James Helms, Marlene Harple, David Fennelly and Isabelle Scarborough. Their understudies were Kenneth Matthews, Mary Ellen Crosby and Wayne Hurtt.

- Juniors inducted into the **National Honor Society** at DHS included Linda McCombs, Margaret Woodland, Donna Hilton, Carol French, Martha Menas, James Sanders, Robin Mattison, Paul Bien, Edwin Conner, Cindy Dellett, Linda Pyle and Cheryl Krapf.

- Members of **Cadette Girl Scout Troop 252**, who completed a babysitters training course, were Ann Barron, Katie Hallman, Joan DiEnna, Cheryl Miller, Chris Shreier, Nancy Sload, Beverly Whitson, Susan Seel, Karen Souder, Polly and Linda Quigley, Noreen Mahoney, and Liz and Barbara McIlvaine.

It's on South Village Ave. in Lionville



Ted Fleck, who used to write for the *East Branch Citizen* before he started teaching at Garnet Valley High School, is a truly perceptive scholar because he was the first person to correctly identify the location of the house in the photo above. Built in 1815, the house is located at 34 South Village Ave. in Lionville. Ted knew that because his aunt and uncle, Nancy and Jack Fleck, used to live there.

Making History Today:

Marsh Creek robotics students win national award

Team 80J Cannonball of the Vexmen, comprised of students from the Marsh Creek Sixth grade Center, won the Think Award at the 2016 CREATE U.S. Open, held on April 9 at the Mid-America Center in Council Bluffs, Iowa. The team was comprised of Irene Abraham, Divyesh Gabbireddy, Maria Thomas, Manuel Thomas and Aerin Yoder.

Team 80J Cannonball performed extremely well overall placing seventh out of 89 teams in the qualifying rounds and seventh in autonomous robot skills against middle schools from more than 20 states. The “Think Award” is presented to a team that has successfully utilized autonomous programming modes during competition. Quality, consistency and success of autonomous programs, as well as the ability of the students to explain the programming process,

help to determine the winner of the award. Cannonball was honored by receiving one of only four judged awards at the middle school level.

The Downingtown based Vexmen teams compete in the Vex Robotics Competition, which is largest and fastest growing robotics competition in the world, with over 12,000 teams competing in 33 countries. The top teams are invited to the U.S. Open through special qualifications at local events. This is the first year that the Vexmen have won an award at the U.S. Open.

The Vexman is a Vex Robotics Competition team and part of the Brandywine Robotics group, a non-profit organization. The team includes 23 high school and middle school teams, comprising 120 students and 40 parent mentors.

Brandywine Robotics also supports FLL (First Lego League) teams that compete regionally and nationally. The organization consists of students mainly from the Downingtown Area School District, which participates in Project Lead the Way (PLTW).

Local news in the spring of 1955

Noted below are news items originally published in *The Archive* in the spring of 1955:

- **Youth Day** began in Downingtown with a parade which featured three bands and 26 floats. Then the following DHS students assumed local government positions for the day: Ronald Jefferies, burgess; Roxanne Gibson, Joyce Lewis, Grant Amway, Norris Miller, Louise DiPietro and Gail Lammey, borough council; Richard Short, borough manager; William Wisler, supervising principal (superintendent of schools); Valdis Ivanson, DHS principal; George Buller, elementary principal; Jack Moore, Kenneth Johnson, Betty Henderson, Barbara Ford and Janet Fazzini, school directors.
- Officers of the **East Brandywine PTA** were Mrs. Charles Newlin, president; Mrs. Earl Ames, vice president; Mrs., John Piersol, recording secretary; Mrs. Joseph Inslee, corresponding secretary; and Jay Lammey, treasurer.
- Downingtown realtor Everett Hoopes announced plans to **build 300 houses** in a tract, which would increase the number of homes in the borough by 30 percent. The development's plans included 25 acres in the northeast section of the borough and on the adjoining 155 acres in East Caln Township. Hoopes wanted the borough to annex the East Caln section of the plan.
- The Downingtown **A & P Store**, at 28 W. Lancaster Ave. (where the Police Station is now located) was selling canned hams for \$1.14 per pound.
- Honor roll students at **Lionville Elementary School** included Margaret Corey, Janet Windle, Matthew Stiffney, Joanna Pope, Robert Ruark, Linda Poole and Barbara Stimson.

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Vintage Ad of the Week:



Even in his sleep he likes to look at
-the FURNITURE DISPLAY at
MURPHY'S
"BETTER FURNITURE" IN DOWNINGTOW

This ad appeared in the April 21, 1948 edition of the *Daily Local News*.

Congratulations Nancy!



Nancy Thompson of East Brandywine was honored at a recent surprise party given by Girl Scout leaders from the Downingtown Service District for her 50 years of volunteer service. That service began in 1966 when she took on a leadership position with a daughter's troop.

In addition to serving on numerous Girl Scout Council and District committees, and heading many projects over those 50 years, her leadership activities have included: developing an annual maple sugar program which continues to draw nearly 300 participants, and as a tree identification trainer.

In recognition of her efforts, Nancy had received many honors, including the Legion of Honor, Outstanding Leader, Lights of Loyalty and Volunteer of Excellence Awards.

In her honor, the Nancy Thompson Award will be given annually to Downingtown District Girl Scouts at each level of the organization for those who have been outstanding in at least one of the following activities: community service, Girl Scout tradition, local history, and trees and streams. Nancy also has been a longtime volunteer at the Downingtown Area Historical Society, where she participates in our monthly Clip and Paste sessions on the first Sunday of each month.

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

Our Wish List

The items listed below in our Wish List notes the materials with a Downingtown connection the Historical Society especially needs to reach its archival goals.

- Vintage uniforms worn by members of the DHS or Junior High sports teams or marching bands, and those worn by members of local fire departments in parades.
- Any yearbooks or newspapers published by DHS, or by Downingtown and Lionville Junior High Schools.
- Any printed materials related to: the Downingtown Young Whippets, Downingtown Little League, Downingtown Babe Ruth League or the Downingtown American Legion Baseball teams, and the Downingtown Girls' Softball League, the Lionville Youth Association, the West Bradford Youth Association, or the East Brandywine Youth Athletics.

If you need more info about any of these requests, please send an email to:

Info@downingtowntareahistoricalociety.org.

Free Ads for Non-Profits

Lecture series in E. Brandywine

East Brandywine's Historical Commission will present the following lectures at 3:30 PM on the Sundays noted: **May 15**, Mathew Kalos will discuss what he's uncovered in his archaeological digs in Chester County, at the East Brandywine Township Building, 1214 Horseshoe Pike, Guthriesville.

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Muzzy Run

The 10th annual Muzzy Run will be conducted Saturday morning, May 7 on the Struble Trail in Downingtown. Registration opens at 7 AM. The events will include the races: a 5K run, at 8 AM; a Kids' Fun Run at 9 AM; and a Fun Walk at 9:15 AM. Proceeds go to the Terry Muzzy Foundation. For more details, see: <https://runsignup.com/Race/PA/Downingtown/MuzzyRun>.

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Vol. 7, No. 16

April 28, 2016

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What locals were talking about 68 years ago

Noted below are news items published in local newspapers in early October 1948:

- Among the teams honored at the **Downingtown Young Men's Association's** second annual sports banquet was the Glasstown baseball team, which won the Downingtown Community Baseball League. Members of the team were: manager Bubba Mattioni, Calvin Mingione, Albert Pizzi, John Travaglini, Charles Forte, Thomas Peazzoni, Jack Lyons, Anthony Mattioni, Joseph Forte, Peter Ippolito, Vincent Massimini, Butch DiBernardi, Albert Menna, Matthew Menna, and Dominic DiEugenio. Also, Joan Pollock and James Davis were recognized for winning events in the Junior Olympics in Philadelphia.

- Federal and state authorities raided a **huge still in the Glenmoore area**, which was operated by men from Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York. Authorities said the still was capable of producing 2,500 gallons of 180-proof alcohol per day.

- Sixty youngsters were attending the three-year-old **Downingtown Friends School**, according to Dorothy Davis, principal. The classes included: nursery, kindergarten and first through third grades.

- William Barrett was awarded a gold medal from the Downingtown Rotary Club for being the **Downingtown Fire Department's** Outstanding Fireman the second consecutive year. And the **Minquas Fire Co.** opened its new lounge and recreation room on the second floor, which had been used as a gymnasium for several decades.

- Young people in the Sunday School at **St. Paul's Lutheran Church**, Lionville, who earned advancements were: Gwen Hamer, Janet Wallace, Charles Long, David Taylor, Carl Ruth, Robert Lytle, Margaret Detwiler, Mary Drennan, Louise Shreiner, Peggy LaRose and Walter Trego

- Officers of the **Upper Uwchlan Home and School League** included Mrs. Earl Mercer, president; Mrs. Robert Fetters, vice president; Anna Lammey, secretary; and Mrs. David Finger, treasurer.

- The **DHS football team** won its second game by beating Upper Merion 13-0. The Whippets' first TD was scored by Bill Boggs, who ran 11 yards on a Statue of Liberty play. And Bill Davis tallied the second score on a two-yard plunge.

- More than 300 employees and their guests attended **Downingtown Paper Company's** dinner dance at the Columbus Center in Chester. The affair's costs were covered by the proceeds from the vending machines and concessions in the plant and the Papermakers Union.

- Plans for a **Downingtown Charity Ball**, to be held at the Chester Valley Golf and Country Club on Thanksgiving Eve, were unveiled. Proceeds from the event were to be used by the **Downingtown Christmas Committee** to buy gifts and food for needy, local families.

- Estelle Harrop of Glen Moore, a graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, sang at a concert in the high school auditorium, which was sponsored by the **DHS Music Association**. Proceeds from the concert were used to defray the cost of the Mass Cathedral Chimes, which were installed on the Hammond organ in the auditorium. The organ had been purchased with donations from the community, in memory of the young men from the Downingtown area who had died while fighting in World War II. *Editor's note: Is that organ still in the auditorium of the STEM Academy, the former Junior-Senior High School?*

- Girls who were invested in **Girl Scout Troop 10, Marshallton**, included: Glenna Hurley, Dorothy and Nancy Ford, Jean Woodward, Verna and Sylvia Hall, Elsie Lambert, and Dorothy and Mary Esther Kelsall,

We need volunteers for Clip/Paste sessions

We're looking for volunteers to participate in the Historical Society's clip/paste sessions, to be held next week, from 1-4 PM on Sunday, May 1 and from 6:30-8:30 PM on Tuesday, May 10. Both sessions, which involve clipping and pasting newspaper articles for our archival collection, will be held at Ashbridge House, our 307-year-old headquarters, next to the Chick-Fil-A restaurant in the Ashbridge Square Shopping Center on Route 30 in East Caln.

It was the original Downingtown Library



We were not surprised when no one correctly identified the building in the photo above, even though thousands of people drive through, or even OVER the site today. That's because it's the original Downingtown Library, and the little building was officially located at 229 East Lancaster Ave. in the borough. That means it was located smack dab in the middle of where Green Street intersects with the north side of East Lancaster Avenue today. That section of Green Street, adjacent to McDonald's, wasn't built until the late 1970s.

The library evolved from a private group, created ca. 1817, which was known as the Downingtown Society for the Acquisition of Normal Knowledge, to the formation several years later of the Downingtown Franklin Library Co. That private subscription library company operated out of a room in Jacob Edge's store at Lancaster and Brandywine Avenues in the borough, where the main branch of the DNBFirst Bank is now located.

In 1876, the Downingtown Library Co. was established as a stock company, and it paid \$5 a month to rent the building in the photo above. Jane Thomas was hired as the librarian; her salary was \$75 per year. And in 1913, the library bought the building at 330 E. Lancaster Ave., which was built in 1800 by Dr. William Todd and was the site of the Thomas Sisters Boarding School for Girls in the mid-19th Century. The school served as a station on the Underground Railroad. The library moved from that location in 2015, to a new facility at 122 Wallace Avenue.

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

Brief but important

- According to editions of *The Downingtown Archive*, published in the winter of 1926-27, the **borough's School Board** had purchased a plot of land—251 feet wide and 140 deep—on West Lancaster Avenue. The land was to be the site of a **new junior-senior high school** “within a very few years,” because a new secondary school was an “absolute necessity.” The building was to be constructed across the street from the West Ward School, where students in grades 1-12 were being taught at the time. The land was purchased for \$7,500 from the West Chester Traction Co. (*Editor's note: A new junior-senior high school was not built until 1932. That building, which now is occupied by the STEM Academy, is on Manor Avenue in the borough.*)

Also, the high school's **Athletic Committee** planned to raise funds to pay for fencing to be installed around the athletic field, and decided to apply for membership in the recently established Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association.

And courses, offered at the high school for the first time in the second semester, included Ancient History, Commercial Geography, Penmanship and Spelling. Also at East Ward Elementary, about 30 female students had begun to take the new Manual Arts for Girls course, which was taught by an art teacher.

- Two readers offered interesting comments about Howard Caskey, DHS social studies teacher whose planned retirement in 1980, was featured in an article in the April 7 Hist-O-Gram.

Carol Sinex Schmidt, wrote: “I loved Mr. Caskey. I credit him with being a teacher who made us THINK. In Problems of Democracy (POD) class, he would pose a situation and ask for our opinion, but always taught us to back it up with why and welcomed all viewpoints. I can well imagine he was a great negotiator for the teachers.”

And **Dr. John Rogers**, who had been an English professor at Shippensburg University until he retired several years ago, wrote: “Mr. Caskey was a wonderful teacher and a fine man. I never realized when I was sitting in his eleventh grade American History class nearly sixty years ago all that he had accomplished, especially for teachers in the Downingtown Area School District.”

- **Dr. Bill King**, a retired dentist who lives in Arkansas, informs us that his 1946 DHS classmate, George Windolph, of Nordmont, PA, and his late wife, Irene, recently were recognized by the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation for donating an easement, which permanently removes 454 acres of the Windolph's land from development. The land is 40 miles east of Pennsylvania's elk range. King also noted in his email that Windolph had lettered in football and in track as a hurdler and quarter miler at DHS, and studied aeronautical engineering at Drexel Institute. He then was a helicopter designer for Piasecki Aircraft and later, at Boeing Aircraft in Delaware County, until he retired. King concluded by writing: “I have sent this to you just for information on a man who creatively gave much to our world and in so doing gives credence to the Downingtown school system as we knew it back in our younger years.”

Thanks Jeff



Jeff Stevens, Assistant Chief and past President of Downingtown's Alert Fire Co., is shown with the fire coat he wore as a firefighter back in the late 1970s and early 1980s, which he donated to the Historical Society's archival collection. He also donated the firefighter's boots and parade dress pants and shirt he wore in the late 1970s; his DHS track team (1978-80) jacket, and the jacket given to the local baseball team he coached when it won the Downingtown-Lionville Babe Ruth League championship in 1978.

Group Photo of the Week:



Found in the 1968 DHS yearbook, this photo shows the 1967-68 cheerleading squad. They included, left to right: first row, Ruthanne Cox, Laura Jackson, Linda Bird, Jeanne Keen and Sheila Moyer; second row, Chris, Jordan, Laura Booth and Donna Usher.

Vintage Ad of the Week:

Only One More Week Till Xmas.

AT PARKE'S



The Christmas Store

You Will Find The Best Gifts For Men & Boys!

There are more desirable and appropriate Gifts for Men and Boys in this Store than were ever dreamed of by those who have not yet availed themselves of its resources.

Handkerchiefs.....	25c to \$2.50	Raincoats.....	\$4.00 to \$20.00
Scotch Wool Mufflers.....	\$3.00	Silk Shirts.....	\$4.50 to \$7.50
Woven Silk Mufflers.....	\$2.00 to \$3.50	Madras Shirts.....	\$2.00 to \$4.50
Silk Neckwear.....	65c to \$2.50	Footies.....	\$1.00 to \$3.00
Belt Sets.....	\$1.50 to \$5.00	Suspender Sets.....	
Silver Belt Buckles.....	\$2.00 to \$3.50	Van Heusen Collars.....	35c and 50c
Gloves.....	\$1.50 to \$7.50	Bill Poles.....	\$1.50 to \$7.50
Wool Half Hoses.....	50c to \$2.00	Oxfords.....	\$4.50 to \$8.00
Bath Robes.....	\$6.00 to \$7.50	Four Button Aristics for Men	
Sheep Lined Coats.....	\$8.50 to \$12.00	and Boys.....	\$3.50 to \$4.50
Wool Caps.....	75c to \$1.50	Eagle Pull-Down Caps, for boys.....	75c to \$1.50
Lumber Jacks.....	\$6.00 to \$7.50	Underwear.....	\$1.00 up
Sweaters, all kinds.....	\$2.50 to \$10.00		

Shop at Your Home Store Where You Get The Best For The Least Money. All Goods Put In Xmas Boxes Free of Charge.

114 East Lincoln Highway

Downingtown :

This ad was originally published in the December 16, 1926 edition of *The Archive*.

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

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

www.downingtowntareahistoricalsociety.org/Histograms.html.

Our Wish List

The items listed below in our Wish List notes the materials with a Downingtown connection the Historical Society especially needs to reach its archival goals.

- Vintage uniforms worn by members of the DHS or Junior High sports teams or marching bands, and those worn by members of local fire departments in parades.
- Any yearbooks or newspapers published by DHS, or by Downingtown and Lionville Junior High Schools.
- Any printed materials related to: the Downingtown Young Whippets, Downingtown Little League, Downingtown Babe Ruth League or the Downingtown American Legion Baseball teams, and the Downingtown Girls' Softball League, the Lionville Youth Association, the West Bradford Youth Association, or the East Brandywine Youth Athletics.

If you need more info about any of these requests, please send an email to:

Info@downingtowntareahistoricalsociety.org.

Free Ads for Non-Profits

Healthy Kids Day

The Greater Brandywine YMCA will sponsor a Healthy Kids Day at Kerr Park, Downingtown, from 11 AM to 1 PM on Saturday, April 30. For more details, see: www.ymcagbw.org/hkd.

Basket Bingo

There will be a Longaberger/Vera Bradley Basket Bingo at 1 PM, Sunday, May 1 at St. Anthony's Lodge, Downingtown. Doors open at noon. Tickets are \$25; includes 20 regular games. Prizes include Filled Longaberger baskets & pottery and Vera Bradley items. Sponsored by Downingtown-Thorndale Chamber of Commerce. Proceeds go to Amina C. Valocchi Scholarship Fund. For tickets: Call Rochelle at 610-383-1114 or send an email to: dimatteo003@yahoo.com.

Pancake Breakfast

There will be an all-you-eat Pancake Breakfast from 6:30 AM to 1 PM on Sunday, May 1 at St. Joseph's Catholic School. You can buy tickets at the door. Adults, \$6; Children \$3.

All Wheels Consignment Sale

The Downingtown Parks and Recreation Commission will have an All-Wheels Sale (bikes, skateboards, scooters, roller skates) at Kerr Park from 9 AM to noon on Saturday, May 14. For more details, see: <http://downingtowntown.org/Documents/ParksRec%20Commission/AllWheelsEventPR2016.jpg>.

Lecture series in E. Brandywine

East Brandywine's Historical Commission will present the following lectures at 3:30 PM on the Sundays noted: **May 15**, Mathew Kalos will discuss what he's uncovered in his archaeological digs in Chester County, at the East Brandywine Township Building, 1214 Horseshoe Pike, Guthriesville.

Nite at the Races

The Downingtown Good Neighbor Christmas Parade Committee will have a Kentucky Derby Nite at The Races at 6 PM on Saturday, May 7 at St. Anthony's Lodge on Church Street, Downingtown. Visit dtwonchristmas.com for tickets and more information. Tickets are \$25 per person and include "food and beer" and soda. There also will be raffles, 50/50, Lady with the Best Bonnet, Best Dressed Couple, and Gentleman with fanciest bowtie contests. Adults only. Must be 21 to attend.

Drug Take-Back Day

The Downingtown Police Department will again partner with the US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to participate in National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day, from 10 AM to 2 PM on Saturday, April 30. This is an opportunity for the public to safely discard unwanted, unused and expired prescription drugs. Bring your medications for disposal to the Downingtown Borough Hall Annex Building at 4 W. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked. For more info, call 610-269-0344, ext. 200.

Alert's Golf Outing

Downingtown's all-volunteer, Alert Fire Co. will host its third annual golf outing at Ron Jaworski's Downingtown Country Club as a fund-raising event, and they are asking for local and national sponsorship for this event. The outing will take place on Monday, May 2. You can access more details on the outing via www.alertgolfouting.org/.

Muzzy Run

The 10th annual Muzzy Run will be conducted Saturday morning, May 7 on the Struble Trail in Downingtown. Registration opens at 7 AM. The events will include the races: a 5K run, at 8 AM; a Kids' Fun Run at 9 AM; and a Fun Walk at 9:15 AM. Proceeds go to the Terry Muzzy Foundation. For more details, see: <https://runsignup.com/Race/PA/Downingtown/MuzzyRun>.

East Brandywine Golf Outing

The 5th annual East Brandywine Fire & Police Golf Outing will be held on Monday, May 9. Sponsored by and held at Applecross Country Club. There are still available opportunities for sponsors. There also will be an auction and raffle opportunities. Additional information can be found at: www.ebfc49.org.

Flea Market/Craft & Antique Sale

Table space is available for a flea market/craft/antique sale from 9 AM to 2 PM on Saturday, May 14 (rain date May 21) to be held on the front lawn of the Caln Township Municipal Building, Municipal Drive, Thorndale. Sponsored by the Old Caln Historical Society. Call Joan at 610-384-9496 or Lois at 610-384-8153 for more information.

Relay For Life

The American Cancer Society's annual Relay for Life will begin at 10 AM on Saturday, May 21 at Downingtown West High School. For more details, see: http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR?pg=entry&fr_id=74705.

Brochure on DARC classes & activities

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

Banquet room for rent

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

Joseph's People, Downingtown chapter

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

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

Vol. 7, No. 17

May 5, 2016

Where and What Is This?



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

What locals were talking about 36 years ago

Noted below are news items that were originally published in the *East Branch Citizen* in the early part of May 1980:

- Founded in 1905, the **Downingtown Industrial School** was celebrating its 75th anniversary. The school was established on 110 acres of farmland off Route 322 in East Brandywine, after John Trower, a Philadelphia caterer who was believed to be the wealthiest Negro in America at the time, and Rev. William Creditt, his Philadelphia pastor, made a \$5,000 down payment. The two men made that investment because they were concerned about the plight of black boys and girls whose families had migrated to northern cities from the South. The boarding school, which initially focused on teaching farming skills, was patterned along the lines of the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. The school's neighbors weren't thrilled in 1915, when the school started accepting adjudicated teenagers. However, local residents rallied to help the

struggling institution after a series of fires in 1947 destroyed the building housing classrooms and a dormitory. The school shut down in 1983.

- Male exotic dancers were attracting standing-room-only audiences at **Tee's Pub**, on Boot Road, East Caln. And the rowdy girls-night-out crowd (often armed with dollar bills for strategically placed "tip") included at least one women's group from a local church.

- Borough residents were encouraged to show their support for the appointment of Zeke **Osborne** as Downingtown Police Chief in a newspaper ad paid for by many local businesses.

- **West Bradford Township** requested that the state Department of Environmental Resources shut down the Strasburg Landfill in neighboring Newlin Township. The access road leading to the landfill was located in West Bradford, and Chester County Judge Leonard Sugarman had ruled that the landfill was in violation of West Bradford's zoning ordinance when trucks hauling waste travelled over a private road in a residential subdivision in the township to reach the dump site.

- Although an incinerator to burn insolvents had been installed and a two-year contract with the United Paperworkers and Papermakers Union had been signed, the 300 employees at the **Milprint** plant in Downingtown were notified of a shutdown in the near future.

- Downingtown **Meals On Wheels** volunteers, who were honored for their seven years of service, included Florence Creamer, Katie Rosenlieb, Dorothy Laird, Rose Pawlik, Marikay Bizal, Ita Zaferes, Mary Lee Caggiano, Jean Greulich, Marion Felton, Louise Sapper and Betty Longenecker.

- Jim McClung, representing the new **Chester Springs Library** presented a framed copy of an 1873 map of West Pikeland to the township supervisors in appreciation for their support. The library was selling 250 copies of the map, which included farms and buildings in the township and names of their owners, as a fundraiser for the library. The library also planned to sell updated and re-issued copies of Col. Clifton Lisle's "The History of West Pikeland."

- Members of **Cub Pack 23**, Downingtown, who earned badges included Brian Petty, Clarence Martin, Ronnie Donnon, Eddie Schroeder, Gregg Haupt, Fred Evans, Chris Tyson, Keith Sciarretta, Bob Fuchs, Matt Duca, John Seel, Jason Hill, David Coover, Brian King, Jamie Mendenhall, Bruce Bredeickas and Sean Morris.

- Honored at the **Downingtown Fire Department's** annual banquet were: Brian Rambo, the Alert's outstanding firefighter; Mike Miller, the Minquas' outstanding firefighter; and Charles Randy Moore, outstanding member of the Minquas Ambulance Corps.

- Elected as vestry officers at **St. James Episcopal Church**, Downingtown, were John Gillooly, senior warden; Bill Hildebeitel, junior warden; Sam Corliss, treasurer; and Anne Buell, secretary. Committee appointments included: Gordon Carpenter, finance; Clarence Mitchell, property; Steve Barnett, membership; Jack Henry, program; and Russ Fafette, Christian education;

- DHS students who were nominated for the state **Governor's School for the Arts** were Ed Otto, dance; Bruce Schelkopf, Ann Golding, and Sean Brown, photography; James Pike, art; and James Price, music.

- First communicants at **St. Paul's Lutheran Church**, Lionville, were Brooke Benedix, Timothy Kennedy, Matthew Horn, William Lammey, Christopher Neill, Jessica Robillard, Derek Wood and Mark Baker. And the confirmation class at **Hopewell United Methodist Church**, East Brandywine, included: Kim Matter, Debbie Carey, Janice Weyman, Michelle Thomas, Allyson Semple, Peter Krum, Sherry Pennell, Kim Bullock, Faith Faller and Kelly Anderson.

- Mrs. David Kohlhas was elected president of the **Downingtown Woman's Club**. Also elected were: Mrs. Philip Manno, first vice president; Mrs. Jay Lammey, second vice president; Mrs. Harold Thompson, recording secretary; Mrs. Alison Hallowell, corresponding secretary; and Mrs. Raymond Schollenberger, treasurer.

- Recent **property transfers** included: 110 Wildbrier Drive, East Brandywine, \$84,500; 505 East Lakeside Drive, West Whiteland, \$65,00; 415 Bianca Circle, Caln, \$42,900; 1399 Steeplechase Road, West Bradford, \$87,500; And 33 Downing Avenue, Downingtown, \$71,000.

- Officers elected to lead the **Auxiliary of VFW Post 475** were Nancy Baldwin, president; Sue Pulcher, senior vice president; Louisa Wilgis, vice president; Mary Lynam, chaplain; Elaine Law, conductress; Jeanette Beam, guard; Louise Wilmot, treasurer; Helen Moyer, trustee; and Pauline Klink, secretary.

- The **DHS boys' tennis team** had never won a Ches-Mont tennis championship until Frank Englund captured the singles crown. Chris Blank came in fifth. Then Englund and Blank teamed up to win the league's doubles championship.

- Coach Charlie Selcher's **DHS track squad** won two more Ches-Mont meets. In a 109-41 win over Pottsgrove and a 122-28 victory over Spring-Ford, Ricke Stonewall and Bruce Tiller both were triple winners, and Barry Boggs and Larry Williams each won two events. And the 400-meter relay team of Brent Sweeney, Reese Hunt, Tiller and Stonewall established a new DHS record (43.7 seconds) at the Penn Relays.

- The **DHS softball team** garnered three more wins. Laura Kulkis held Pottsgrove to three hits and had two hits as the Whippets beat the Falcons 12-2. And Julie Sten rapped out two hits and two RBIs. And Dianne Repp gave up just two hits, and Melanie Massimini knocked in the winning run, in a 3-2 win over Marple-Newtown. Judy O'Connell gave up only one hit and Bonnie Oberteuffer got two hits, as the Whippets clobbered West Chester East 11-2.

- Jimmy Poluch caught the first and largest carp, and the first trout, at the Fish Rodeo, sponsored by the **Downingtown Sportsmen's Association**. Other winners were Bobby Sarmento, first and largest perch; Jim Evoli, first and largest crappie; Dan Orloski, largest blue gill; and Buddy Coleman, first blue gill.

- **Bob Trauger** tossed a no-hitter as the DHS Whippets white-washed St. Pius X 9-0. The Whippets pounded out eight hits, including triples by Dave Kucera and Tom Quinn, and a double by John Vandenberg.

- The team of Vern Shaw and Dave Brown came in first in the running and canoeing biathlon competition at the two-day **Lyndell Festival**. The team of Nick Giunta and Dale Krapf placed second in the race which attracted 90 participants, said Tom Skaloda, director. Richard DiRocco and Penn Fry teamed up to win the biathlon's junior division.

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www.downingtownareahistoricalociety.org/Histograms.html.

It was Glen Moore's Post Office and a barber shop



Bonnie Radford and Jan Bednarchik are both truly perceptive scholars because they each correctly identified the small building in the photo above, located at Park Lane and Creek Road in Wallace Township. According to research done by Jane Davidson, the building was constructed in 1899 by David Byerly, Glenmoore's postmaster, who was the highest bidder at a sheriff sale on a William Yocum's property, which also included a two-and-one-half story residence. Byerly, who later was a Chester County commissioner, owned the property until 1944. The building continued to be Glenmoore's Post Office until 1916, when postmaster Elmer Dunwoody moved his office into his store in the village. During World War I, the building was used as a Red Cross headquarters. And it became a Post Office again when William Irey became the postmaster in 1922. In 1929, Oscar Miller built an additon to his store in the village and the Post Office was moved there by Irey. In later years, the building served as Edward Deputy's and then Dick Houck's barber shop, and TV repair business. The Post Office was moved to the Glen Moore Fire Co. facility on Fairview Road in the late 1950s. The Post Office was moved into its own quarters on Fairview Road in 1997. Most of this information was provided by Wallace Township Historical Commission members Bonnie Radford and John Miller, and archivist Sandy Brannan.

Local news items originally published in May 1955

Here are some news snippets published in *The Archive* 61 years ago:

- Charter members of the newly formed **Uwchlan Township Civic Association** included Mr. and Mrs. William Meredith, Mr. and Mrs. Philo Farnsworth, Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Windle, Mr. and Mrs. Louis D'Ginto, Col. and Mrs. Horace Shelmire, Charles Martin, Robert Bicking, Forest Abel, Edith Oberholser and Mrs. Paul Otter.
- Members of the **Downingtown Woman's Club** who were appointed to the Arbor Day Committee included Mrs. Merton Yerger, Mrs. Kurt Wandel, Mrs. Clifford Orr, Mrs. Herman Kramm and Mrs. Gordon Carpenter.
- Members of **Girl Scout Troop 181**, Downingtown, who toured the Philadelphia Airport were Patricia Daller, Patricia Dukeman, Jeanne Emery, Beatrice Fernando, Jane Moore, Jean and Carol Shisler, and Sandra Hadfield.
- Mrs. Jean William Keen was elected president of the **Downingtown Junior Woman's Club**. Also elected were Mrs. Thomas Greenleaf, first vice president; Mrs. Leon Williams, second vice president; Mrs. Francis Merkt, recording secretary; Mrs. George Loomis, corresponding secretary; and Mrs. Joseph Travaglini, treasurer.
- Elected as officers of the **Glen Moore Improvement Society** were Ralph Myers, president; Wade Scott, vice president; Mrs. Ivan Barclay, secretary; and Mrs. Gilbert Houck, treasurer.

Vintage Ad of the Week:

Downingtown's Newest Night Spot

BOB'S BAR & GRILL

127 E. LANCASTER AVE.

Bar 'B Que Chicken
Spare Ribs
Tasty Sandwiches
All Brands of Beer

FRIDAY SPECIAL

STEAMED CLAMS	3 doz. \$120
---------------	--------------

FOR RESERVATIONS OR TAKE OUT ORDERS
CALL AN 9-8866

Robert A. Hughes, Mgr.

This ad was originally published in the August 27, 1959 edition of *The Archive*.

Congratulations Francine Dague



Francine Dague, the Historical Society's treasurer, was honored as the Citizen of the Year by the Downingtown-Thorndale Regional Chamber of Commerce last week at the organization's 71st annual dinner, held at the Downingtown Country Club. Mike Glover, right, president of the Chamber, presented the award. Francine chaired the Historical Society's Restaurant Raffle for three years, and she took over the treasurer's position in January. And although she has been a Downingtown resident for just five years, Francine has taken on many local philanthropic responsibilities and raised a total of about \$400,000. Her major fundraising activities have included: Readers on the Run (a road race) and Links for the Library (a golf tournament) for the Downingtown Library; sleeping in an outside Philadelphia parking lot overnight to help her team raise \$275,000 for Covenant House; and she helped to raise over \$50,000 in goods and services for the House of the Sparrow's five-apartment house, for women between the ages of 55 and 62, in Coatesville. She was nominated by Phil Dague, her devoted husband and a borough councilman, who also is a member of the Historical Society board of directors. The Chamber also honored Victory Brewing Co. (Business of the Year Award) and Mark Kochanowsky, owner of A to Z Appliance repair, (Merit Award).

Brief but important

- Doug Bennett, former Downingtown School District music teacher and marching band director, who's enjoying retirement in the Charlotte, NC, area, responded to our query in last week's Hist-O-Gram about the whereabouts of the **Hammond organ** and chimes system which were installed as a post-World War II memorial in the auditorium of the Junior-Senior High School. In an email, Doug wrote:

"As I recall, the organ did not survive the 1976 renovation (when the building was a Junior High) too well and became unusable. There was a plaque located near the organ that signified its importance as a memorial. Therefore, we chose not to discard it, but let it remain in the auditorium as a reminder of its original significance. The chimes, were originally located on stage, but were rendered unusable since they were operated by the organ. Mrs. Maier (choral director at the time) and I decided to refurbish the chimes, restrung them, and enabled them to be used manually. As I remember, we used them with the band program for many years in lieu of purchasing a set of orchestra chimes."

- In case you missed it, check out www.facebook.com/notes/mike-tauss/donald-goes-to-downingtown/10207165084940108, which is Michael Tauss's reaction to a tweet presidential candidate **Donald J. Trump** sent last week, while he and his entourage were travelling through the borough, after making an appearance at West Chester University. Trump's tweet, which included a photo of the old DOPCA facility on Brandywine Avenue, got national coverage.

- Emily Windle has donated many of the things to the Historical Society, including numerous publications about local history, which her late husband, Spencer, collected. One of the most unique books Mrs. Windle gave us was a copy of "**The Credit Experience Guide**," published ca. 1910 by the Merchants Mercantile Agency of Pittsburgh, PA. The 180-page Guide listed the credit-worthiness of males and their occupations of residents in several Chester County communities, including Downingtown. Mr. Windle's copy had been used by William Mittel, whose Downingtown grocery store was located at 203 W. Lancaster Ave. The Guide's credit rating categories, based on participating firms' credit experience with each local customer, were: prompt pay; fair pay; slow pay; cash customers with me; considered honest, but unfortunate circumstances prevented paying me; and would request cash. And when an asterisk was printed beside a name, it indicated that person was "colored."

Join us at our clipping session on Tuesday evening

We're looking for volunteers to participate in the Historical Society's clip/paste sessions, to be held from 6:30-8:30 PM on Tuesday, May 10. The session, which involve clipping and pasting newspaper articles for our archival collection, will be held at Ashbridge House, our 307-year-old headquarters, next to the Chick-Fil-A restaurant in the Ashbridge Shopping Center on Route 30 in East Caln. Light refreshments will be served.

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

Group Photo of the Week:



The secretarial staff at DHS in 1977 included, left to right: Mrs. Shearer, Miss Brookover, Mrs. Geist, Mrs. Tagland, Mrs. Jenkins, Mrs. Klinger and Mrs. Skiles.

Access to Hist-O-Grams we published last month

If you happened to miss any of the Hist-O-Grams published in April , you can access them via:

April 7: www.downingtowntareahistoricalsociety.org/Histograms/2016%20Hist-O-Grams/April%207%202016%20Hist-O-Gram.pdf.

April 14: www.downingtowntareahistoricalsociety.org/Histograms/2016%20Hist-O-Grams/April%2014%202016%20Hist-O-Gram.pdf.

April 21: www.downingtowntareahistoricalsociety.org/Histograms/2016%20Hist-O-Grams/April%2021%202016%20Hist-O-Gram.pdf.

April 28: www.downingtowntareahistoricalsociety.org/Histograms/2016%20Hist-O-Grams/April%2028%202016%20Hist-O-Gram.pdf.

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The Downingtown Good Neighbor Christmas Parade Committee will have a Kentucky Derby Nite at The Races at 6 PM on Saturday, May 7 at St. Anthony's Lodge on Church Street, Downingtown. Visit dtwonchristmas.com for tickets and more information. Tickets are \$25 per person and include "food and beer" and soda. There also will be raffles, 50/50, Lady with the Best Bonnet, Best Dressed Couple, and Gentleman with fanciest bowtie contests. Adults only. Must be 21 to attend.

Muzzy Run

The 10th annual Muzzy Run will be conducted Saturday morning, May 7 on the Struble Trail in Downingtown. Registration opens at 7 AM. The events will include the races: a 5K run, at 8 AM; a Kids' Fun Run at 9 AM; and a Fun Walk at 9:15 AM. Proceeds go to the Terry Muzzy Foundation. For more details, see: <https://runsignup.com/Race/PA/Downingtown/MuzzyRun>.

Shredding/E-Waste

There will be a shredding and E-Waste events for borough residents only at Downingtown Borough Hall, 4 W. Lancaster Ave. on Saturday, May 14. The shredding will be available from 9 AM to noon; 3 box limit; no hard bound books, binders, spiral notebooks or plastics. The E-Waste collection, from noon to 1 PM. Items collected FREE include: computers, networking equipment, printers, LCD monitors, wires, cable, AC adapters, USP batteries and open toner cartridges. CRT TVs and monitors will be accepted for a fee. These will NOT be accepted: smoke detectors, light bulbs, monitors with broken glass, alkaline batteries, paper or cardboard, furniture, large appliances, microwaves, and items with refrigerants.

All Wheels Consignment Sale

The Downingtown Parks and Recreation Commission will have an All-Wheels Sale (bikes, skateboards, scooters, roller skates) at Kerr Park from 9 AM to noon on Saturday, May 14. For more details, see: <http://downingtowntown.org/Documents/ParksRec%20Commission/AllWheelsEventPR2016.jpgee>.

Lecture series in E. Brandywine

East Brandywine's Historical Commission will present the following lecture at 3:30 PM on Sunday May 15: Mathew Kalos will discuss what he's uncovered in his archaeological digs in Chester County, at the East Brandywine Township Building, 1214 Horseshoe Pike, Guthriesville.

East Brandywine Golf Outing

The 5th annual East Brandywine Fire & Police Golf Outing will be held on Monday, May 9. Sponsored by and held at Applecross Country Club. There are still available opportunities for sponsors. There also will be an auction and raffle opportunities. Additional information can be found at: www.ebfc49.org.

Farm Bureau's Agriculture Science Lab

Deb Ellis, egg farmer and PA Farm Bureau educator/director, will discuss "Early Learning About Agriculture" and the Farm Bureau's Agriculture Science Lab at 7 PM on Tuesday, May 17 in a program sponsored by the West Caln Historical Society and held in the West Caln Township building, 721 W. Kings Hwy., Wagontown. The meeting is free and open to the public.

Flea Market/Craft & Antique Sale

Table space is available for a flea market/craft/antique sale from 9 AM to 2 PM on Saturday, May 14 (rain date May 21) to be held on the front lawn of the Caln Township Municipal Building, Municipal Drive, Thorndale. Sponsored by the Old Caln Historical Society. Call Joan at 610-384-9496 or Lois at 610-384-8153 for more information.

Relay For Life

The American Cancer Society's annual Relay for Life will begin at 10 AM on Saturday, May 21 at Downingtown West High School. For more details, see: http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR?pg=entry&fr_id=74705.

Victory Run for Ryan

Victory Brewery is sponsoring a road race at 1 PM on Sunday, May 22. For details, see: www.runtheday.com/registration/race_info/run-for-victory2.

Fine Arts Festival

The Downingtown Main Street Association will sponsor a Fine Arts Festival at 202 E. Lancaster Ave., from 10 AM to 6 PM on Saturday, May 28 and 10 AM to 5 PM Sunday, May 29. For more info, see: www.downingtownfinearts.com/aboutdfaf.html.

Brochure on DARC classes & activities

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

Banquet room for rent

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

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

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

Vol. 7, No. 18

May 12, 2016

Where and What Is This?



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

Local news items first published 89 years ago

Noted below are items originally published in *The Downingtown Archive* in the spring of 1927:

- The **DHS Athletic Association** kicked off a campaign to raise \$3,000 so a 6-foot high, chain-link, metal fence and portable metal stands to accommodate several hundred fans, could be installed at the Downing-Wills athletic field, behind the high school on West Lancaster Avenue. The funds also would be used to replace the brick bathhouse with shower rooms at the school, and re-grade the baseball diamond.

However, when the possibility of raising some of the needed funds, by selling advertising space on the interior side of the fencing, was proposed, that possibility was vehemently discouraged when an *Archive* sports writer noted: “There is nothing more displeasing to the eye than row after row of sign boards, with their hideous cigarette and chewing gum posters.”

- Downingtown Police Chief Markward authorized local **Boy Scouts**, who were also students at DHS, to direct traffic at the intersection of West Lancaster and Downing Avenues, to protect youngsters who walked to and from West Ward School. Similar arrangements were being made to protect children attending East Ward School, who crossed the intersection of East Lancaster and Uwchlan Avenues. Also, Charles Ezrahe became the second borough Boy Scout to attain the rank of Eagle. John Windle was the first.

- Three mailmen—William Dague in the West Ward; Charles Campbell in the East Ward; and Norman Conners, auxiliary and parcel post carrier—were hired by the **Downingtown Post Office** to make deliveries to borough residences. Home deliveries were not initiated in Downingtown until after the borough’s two Post Offices were consolidated into one office in the Borough Hall, which was opened in 1926.

- Also, Borough Council insisted that the local **American Legion Post** would have to pay \$20 per month, and not \$15 as requested, to rent a room in Borough Hall. And Council agreed to purchase a Harley Davidson motorcycle for the **Downingtown Police Department**.

- The **Downingtown Hardware Store** opened for business at 145 W. Lancaster Ave. Robert Moore was the manager.

- Dr. Larue Frain, DHS Class of 1915 who was a professor at the University of Pennsylvania, was the featured speaker at the Class of 1927’s **commencement**. There were 31 seniors in the graduating class. Also, the borough’s grammar schools were sending 60 students to the junior high school. And DHS student Mary Alice McWilliams, of Lyndell, won the County **typewriting contest**, with a record-breaking speed of 60 words per minute.

- The **Downingtown Home and School League** was providing a hot lunch for some 150 students in the cafeteria of East Ward School, and the League was pressing the School Board to offer the same lunch service to West Ward School pupils. The League also had provided playground equipment and victrolas and pianos for both elementary schools.

- Downingtown’s **two high school basketball teams** didn’t have stellar seasons. The boys’ had overall record of six wins and 12 defeats. The top two scorers were Cap Wando, 201 total points, and Ted Griffith, 98 points. The girls’ squad had a 2-15 campaign. Dorothy Van Tassel won Downingtown’s sole offensive threat, with a total of 193 points.

It was Embreeville State Hospital



Patti Strauber is a truly perceptive scholar because she was the first person to correctly identify the site in the photo above as the Embreeville State Hospital in West Bradford. The facility started as the Chester County Almshouse in 1798, and it was intended to care for the insane, poor and neglected. The facility developed into a community where able-bodied residents earned their keep by performing tasks, from farming to sewing. Nearby was a potter's field, where indigent people were buried. The original facility was replaced by the county-owned hospital for the insane in 1898, and the state took over complete control in 1938. A juvenile detention was operated from 1971 until 1977. The hospital has been effectively closed since 1980, and how the 220-acre complex will be developed has been a bone of contention with West Bradford Township residents for several years.

What locals were talking about 52 years ago

Noted below are news items originally published in local papers in early May 1964:

- The **West Bradford Fire Co.** was seeking 1,165 books of trading stamps so it could buy a new Jeep, to replace the used 1953 Jeep, which was no longer dependable, according to Fire Chief William Hill.
- The restored **Uwchlan Meeting House** in Lionville was dedicated by the Woman's Community Club of Uwchlan. The Uwchlan Meeting was established in 1714, and the meeting house was built in 1756. It was remodeled in 1875. During the Revolutionary War, military surgeon Dr. Bodo Otto, who established the American Army hospital at nearby Yellow Springs, commandeered the Uwchlan Meeting House and converted it into a military hospital. Beginning in 1904, Lionville High School used the meeting house for classes, until 1932 when the school closed. Subsequently, the building was occupied by Lionville Elementary School, until 1960. The Uwchlan Grange, which had been meeting in the building since 1906, purchased the property in 1920. However, the graveyard continued to be owned by the Friends Meeting.
- Mrs. Fanny Menna, the oldest mother, crowned the Blessed Mother, as the **Ladies of St. Joseph's Catholic Church**, Downingtown, had a May Procession. Other participants included: Mrs. Lucille Sabellico, youngest mother; Mrs. Peter Short, youngest grandmother; Mrs. Anna Merkt, youngest great-grandmother; Mrs. Ann Viscichini, mother with the greatest number of

living children; Mrs. Rita Cook, mother with the most children attending St. Joseph's School; and Mrs. Joseph Driscoll, mother of the youngest baby. Elected as officers were Mrs. Norman Sandler, president; Josephine Valentino, vice president; Mrs. John Belnomi, corresponding secretary; and Mrs. Francis Dailey, treasurer.

- Elected as officers of the Women's Christian Service group at **Downingtown Methodist Church** were Mrs. Paul McCombs, president; Mrs. Walter Myers, vice president; Mrs. Donald Tyson, secretary; and Mrs. Harvey Young, treasurer. Committee chairmen included Mrs. Charles Barron, spiritual life; Mrs. Robert Troup, missionary; Mrs. Howard Adams and Mrs. Elmer Kohls, promotion; Mrs. Lambert McGuckin, literature and publications; Mrs. George Wagner, social relations; Mrs. Charles Ezra, student work, Mrs. Norman Whiteside, supply; and Mrs. Raymond, Schollenberger, children's work.

- Members of **Brownie Troop 83**, Downingtown, who attended a roller skating party at the Exton Skating Rink, included: Kathy Cozzone, Gail and Mary Beth Dague, Christine Dailey, Janice Mattioni, Debbie Valentino, Pam Fay, Barbara Loftus, Alexis Ziobro, Mary Kessel, Rose Mascherino, Susan Romano, Patty Mento, Rhonda Madrigale, Anne Huhn and Lisa Slayer.

- Tony Cosenzo accounted for two individual victories—220-yard dash and the shot put—as the **Downingtown Junior High track squad** won a triangular meet against North Brandywine and Kennett. Other Lancers who recorded individual wins were Eric Horsey, Mike Westman, Dave Bostic, Ronald Donnon and Donald Miller.

- Cindy Dellet and Shirley Smith each scored two goals, and Barbara Hadfield tallied one, as the **DHS girls' lacrosse team** tied Phoenixville 5-5.

- Award winners at the **DHS Sports Banquet** included: Rich DiEugenio and Janine Davis, most outstanding all-around boy and girl athletes; Mike Pollock and Jan Fetherolf, outstanding basketball players; Leroy Cox, wrestling; DiEugenio, outstanding football lineman; Andy Harden, outstanding back; and Clark Bartell, the Coaches' Award.

- Members of the **Cub Pack** sponsored by Fairview Presbyterian Church, Glenmoore, who earned badges were Barry Lewis, Steve Shoemaker, Roger Ire, Peter Hickey, Scott Sharp, James Burkey, Alan Chilcote, Robbie Gabriel, Mike Kelly, Peter Hickey and Mike Taylor.

- **DHS students** Kathryn Reichard and Robin Mattson were nominated for the Achievement Awards in a program sponsored by the National Council of Teachers. And winners of the Americanism Essay Contest, sponsored by the DHS National Honor Society, were: James Martin, Beaver Creek Elementary School; and Jeanne Dorsey, Downingtown Junior High; and Sandra Irwin, DHS.

- New coach Bob Boyer's **DHS baseball squad** registered a 1-0 win over Spring-Ford, as John Piersol scored the winning run on a throwing error, and catcher Rich DiEugenio threw out two base runners trying to reach second base. Also, the Whippets shut out O.J. Roberts 3-0, as Bill Anderson limited the Wildcats to four hits in seven innings, and sealed the win with a home run in the final frame.

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

Group Photo of the Week:



Back in 1965, members of the Duplicating Club at DHS, were fascinated with the mysteries of a mimeograph machine and how to clean their purple-ink-stained hands. They included, left right, Larry Nuse, Barry Piersol, Priscilla Asparagus, Connie Hamilton, Linda Poloncic and June Stenka.

Our Wish List

The items listed below in our Wish List notes the materials with a Downingtown connection the Historical Society especially needs to reach its archival goals.

- Vintage uniforms worn by members of the DHS or Junior High sports teams or marching bands, and those worn by members of local fire departments in parades.
- Any yearbooks or newspapers published by DHS, or by Downingtown and Lionville Junior High Schools.
- Any printed materials related to: the Downingtown Young Whippets, Downingtown Little League, Downingtown Babe Ruth League or the Downingtown American Legion Baseball teams, and the Downingtown Girls' Softball League, the Lionville Youth Association, the West Bradford Youth Association, or the East Brandywine Youth Athletics.

If you need more info about any of these requests, please send an email to:

Info@downingtowntareahistoricalociety.org.

Vintage Ad of the Week:

The Opportunity

is offered the citizens of Downingtown and vicinity to see Florida from our own home town

**Tuesday Evening
JULY 20, 1926**

**At 8.30 O'Clock (Standard Time) In The
MINQUAS GYMNASIUM**

MR. SHARP of the DAVENPORT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE will give a Free Illustrated Lecture on the

FLORIDA OF TODAY !

His talk covers one to old St. Augustine with its Fountain of Youth, its Slave Market and the Oldest House in America. Then down the World's Most Famous Beach to Daytona. The journey takes us to Orlando, the city beautiful; Davenport, in the Hills of Orangeland; Mountain Lake, Winter Haven, Lakeland, Tampa, across the Famous Gandy Bridge to St. Petersburg, to Tarpon Springs, the Sponge Market of the world and many of the most picturesque spots of the State.

All are welcome and will not be asked to make any investments — just an hour of recreation and play.

This ad appeared in the July 15, 1926 edition of *The Downingtown Archive*.

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

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

Free Ads for Non-Profits

Farmers Market

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

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Craft & Vendor Show

The Women's Auxiliary of St. Anthony's Lodge will sponsor a Spring Craft and Vendor Show at the Lodge, at 259 W. Church St., Downingtown, from 10 AM to 2 PM on Saturday, May 21. For more info, see: contact 484-459-1905 or staladies@hotmail.com.

Farm Bureau's Agriculture Science Lab

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Golf Outing & BBQ

Supporters of the DHS West football team are sponsoring a golf outing, BBQ and silent auction at Whitford Country Club on Monday, June 20. For more info, see: www.dwhsfootball.com/golf-outing-auction.

Brochure on DARC classes & activities

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

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Vol. 7, No. 19

May 19, 2016

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What locals were talking about 36 years ago

Noted below are news items published by the East Branch Citizen in the latter part of May 1980:

- When **Beaver Creek School** students gave up watching TV for 24 hours on "Cold Turkey Day," Philadelphia's Channel 3 broadcasted that day what the school's staff thought were alternatives to excessive TV viewing.
- Uwchlan supervisors rejected a proposal to create a **historic district in Lionville** because of negative sentiments expressed by many of the village's residents. Susannah Brody, chairman of the township's Historical Commission, noted that the village had been placed on the state's inventory of historic places and was being considered for the National Register of Historic Places. Brody also suggested that the supervisors have an environmental study done, to determine how new development could impact the village.
- New members of the **Downingtown Chamber of Commerce** were Philips Apparel, Lancaster and Lloyd Avenues; Downingtown; CDTV Service 123 E. Lancaster Ave, Downingtown; and PJ's Family Restaurant, 297 Lionville Road, East Caln. Also, Downingtown's Carriage House Answering Service was celebrating its 20th anniversary.
- Officers elected to lead Downingtown **VFW Post 845** included: Russell Baldwin, commander; Edward Cullen, senior vice commander; Fred Porrecca, junior vice commander; William Wilmot, quartermaster; Thomas Clark, post advocate; Edward Klink, post surgeon. Trustees elected were Edward Law, Allan Wilgis, Dale Guyer and Leland MacIntire,
- The **DHS girls' track team** won three more meets by defeating St. Pius X 102-30, Pottsgrove 80-52 and O.J. Roberts 89-43. Relay teams that won their events in the St. Pius X meet included: 2 mile, Melanie Wix, Megan McAuliffe, Donna Allison and Kris Brandl; and 400 meters, Tina Talucci, Jayne Dickson, Jeanne Cheek and Renee Gallman. In the Pottsgrove meet, Tina Arcaro and Georgia Newlin took first and second, respectively, in the discus throw.
- Coach Carl Houpp's **baseball team** defeated O.J. Roberts 6-3, as the Whippets scored all their runs in the third frame. Tom Quinn got two hits, Dave Kucera tallied two runs, and Vic Johnson contributed a double in that inning. Although it was a disappointing season with a 6-5 Ches-Mont record, the Whippets won their finale, a 1-0 over Coatesville.
- The **DHS tennis team** extended its win streak to six victories when the Whippets beat Great Valley 5-2. Frank Englund, Chris Blank, Dave Hammer and Tom Lambert swept the singles competition, and the doubles team of Bill Jemison and Alvin Walton also won.
- Coach John Davidson's **DHS softball team** beat St. Pius X 12-4, to end its Ches-Mont season with a 9-2 record and a four-way tie for first place. Winning hurler Diane Repp also had three hits, as Downingtown chalked up a total of 15 hits.
- The Letterman's Club Outstanding Athlete Awards were presented at the **DHS Sports Banquet** to: Doreen Warihay, Ricke Stonewall and Dave Kucera. Larry Williams and Laura Roepe won the Coaches' Awards.
- Recent **property transfers** included: 505 Grant Ave., Downingtown, \$46,900; 455-A Spruce Drive, West Whiteland, \$93,302; 10 Lisa Drive, Caln, \$46,400; 23 Dorothy Lane, Upper Uwchlan, \$82,000; 406 Forge Lane, Uwchlan, \$70,000; 2202 Cranberry Lane, West Bradford, \$74,870; 146 Woodland Circle, East Caln, \$69,000; 68 Essex Court, East Brandywine, \$49,200.
- Plans for dedication of the new **Glen Wagner Gymnasium** at DHS included a dinner and plaque to be installed on the facility. The high school building project also included an expanded band room and new classrooms. Wagner had served on the Downingtown School Board from 1966 until 1978. He also had been on the East Brandywine-Wallace School Board from 1952 until 1966, when the Downingtown District was consolidated.

- Dave Kucera was named the winner of the One-Artist Show competition at the DHS Art Department's **Living Arts Weekend**. Liz Pitkin came in second, and Mary Verzinskie placed third. Amy Verngren won the crafts section of the One-Artist Show. And Bill Moore's work took top prize for jewelry. Missy Kucera won first for her ceramics. Donna McCann exhibited the best sculpture pieces.

- Newly elected officers of the **Downingtown Historical Society** were Raymond Waechter, president; Thomas Brookover, vice president; Mary Elizabeth Nelson, treasurer; Joseph Crawford, assistant treasurer; Eleanor Landis, secretary; and Sheila Knotwell, corresponding secretary.

- New officers of the **Woman's Community Club of the Uwchlan** included Mrs. Richard Newman, president; Mrs. James Borrer, first vice president; Mrs. Walter Uhler, second vice president; Mrs. Winfield Haase, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Robert Schlomann, recording secretary; and Mrs. Lewis Frame, treasurer.

Group Photo of the Week



The DHS Class of 1971 had its 45th reunion as part of the recent DHS Alumni Association's annual dinner at the Downingtown Country Club. Classmates who attended the reunion were, left right: first row, Joe Darlington, Donna Lang, Sheila Suleski, Lee Jones, Pat Kelly, Sue Dixon, Mimi Henry and Nancy Mattioni; second row, Jennifer Werner, Cindy Stone, Dawn Burchfield and Ellen DiLuigi; third row, Pat Butler, Terry Miller, Linda Brown, Leslie Shultz, Beth Willoughby and Dave Hemberger; fourth row, Mike Milano, Carol Koser, Diane Carter, Margi Moore, Linda Dean and Stuart Pollack; fifth row, Carol Tiller, Jerry Barwell, Jim DiOttavio; top row, Frank Moore. Thanks to Nancy Mattioni McFalls, who provided the photo and names.

Can you help us fix the smokehouse?

We have been sending Hist-O-Grams to friends, as well as members, of the Downingtown Area Historical Society for six years. And since many of the more than 900 of the subscribers who receive our Hist-O-Gram every week aren't official members of the Historical Society, we are asking you for some help.

As you can understand, our commitment to preserve and maintain Ashbridge House, our 307-year-old headquarters, is a constant challenge. Currently, we have to make repairs to the small smokehouse, next to Ashbridge House on our property. It's a 19th Century structure that requires parts of the stone walls to be repointed and a cement floor has to be installed.

That's why we are asking you to show your appreciation for the free Hist-O-Gram, which arrives via the Internet at your home every Thursday, by sending us a tax-deductible donation.

And if you can't make a donation, we will continue to send you our Hist-O-Gram, free-of charge, every week.

To help us make repairs to the smokehouse, kindly complete the form below and mail it—with a check made out to "DAHS"—to: Downingtown Area Historical Society, P. O. Box 9, Downingtown, PA 19335. Or you can make an online donation via:
www.downingtownareahistoricalsociety.org/Donate.html.

Your generosity is most appreciated.

Parry Desmond, President
Downingtown Area Historical Society

P.S. Have you noticed the two new sections—the Vintage Ad of the Week and the Group Photo of the Week—we've recently added to the Hist-O-Grams?

Name: _____

Street, Town, State & Zip Code: _____

Email address: _____ Phone Number: _____

News items about the Home Front during WW II

Although U.S. newspapers were crammed with articles about World War II and how local servicemen were doing, much of life continued as usual. Noted below are news items, published by the *Downingtown Archive* during the Fall of 1944, about what was going on the Home Front:

- Republican Thomas Dewey garnered 803 (52%) of the 1,532 total votes cast in Downingtown in the November election for the **U.S. President**. Franklin D. Roosevelt, the Democrat seeking his fourth term as President, got 729 (48%) of borough residents' votes. Dewey was the biggest vote-getter in all of Chester County, with 60% of the 34,000 total votes.
- Although it would be more than 15 years until it was built, Downingtown Council was working with the State Highway Department on plans for the **Route 30 Bypass**, to be located north of the borough border.
- The 1944-45 school year began in the **Downingtown School District**, with a total enrollment of 1,026 students, including pupils from surrounding townships. There were 81 pupils in their senior year at DHS, and 91 new first graders.
- Downingtown's **Community Civic League** sponsored a series of games on Community Day on the West Ward School grounds on Labor Day. They included a football game, which included former DHS players such as Leon Brown, James Watson and Percy Miller. And in a baseball game played by youngsters, the West Ward beat the East Ward 12-11. The Committee responsible for the events included Mrs. Helen Watson, Mrs. Harriet Brown, Walter Boggs and Rev. Flowers. Proceeds from the activities were donated to the proposed Youth Center at the Minquas fire house. Members of the committee planning the Youth Center were: Leo Hamilton, chairman; C.O. Brown, Businessmen's Club; Charles Nice, Rotary Club; Elmer Schruppf, Lions Club; Mrs. C.O. Brown, Woman's Club; Dr. Charles Chaffee, Downingtown School District; Rev. Peter Van der Hiel, local churches; and Maurice Furlong, Catholic Boys Club.
- On **Bundle Day** at DHS, students collected clothing for children in disadvantaged rural areas of the U.S. as well as child victims of the War overseas. Bundle Day was part of the National Children's Crusade conducted by the Save the Children Federation.

Our Wish List

The items listed below in our Wish List notes the materials with a Downingtown connection the Historical Society especially needs to reach its archival goals.

- **T-shirts whose artwork and lettering promote a Downingtown area event, business, team or organization.**
- Vintage uniforms worn by members of the DHS or Junior High sports teams or marching bands, and those worn by members of local fire departments in parades.
- Any yearbooks or newspapers published by DHS, or by Downingtown and Lionville Junior High Schools.
- Any printed materials related to: the Downingtown Young Whippets, Downingtown Little League, Downingtown Babe Ruth League or the Downingtown American Legion Baseball teams, and the Downingtown Girls' Softball League, the Lionville Youth Association, the West Bradford Youth Association, or the East Brandywine Youth Athletics.

If you need more info about any of these requests, please send an email to:

Info@downingtownareahistoricalsociety.org.

It was the Ingleside Diner in Thorndale



Although many people thought it was the interior of the Downingtown Diner, Nancy McFalls is a truly perceptive scholar because she was the first person to correctly identify the site in the photo above as the Ingleside Diner on Route 30 in Thorndale. Nancy tells us that her daughter, Megan McFalls Simmons, started working at the diner when she was 15 years old, and continued waitressing there until she graduated from DHS. Nancy also claim's the bakery there had the "best strawberry pie in the county."

It originally was known as Zinn's Diner, after Chris Zinn established it in the late 1950s. And after Earl Reese bought it in 1966, the L-shaped diner and bakery was renamed the Ingleside Diner. The diner closed in 2001, and it was destined for a site in St. Louis, Mo. But that deal fell through, and it died a slow death in a diner graveyard in Lancaster County.

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

Thanks to our handy volunteers



Ashbridge House, our 307-year-old headquarters, needs constant attention. Three of the handy volunteers, who have been making repairs there recently, are pictured in the photos above. Jay Worrell, left photo, has done carpentry, stucco work and plumbing work for us. And in the photo on the right are Bill Brookover, left, and Jerry Thompson, who have installed a stairway railing, and cleaned up the basement and smokehouse. Volunteers like Jay, Bill and Jerry are a great asset to the Historical Society.

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

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

Vintage Ad of the Week:

HOSIERY



SILK HOSIERY

Regular \$1.50 Value \$1.39 Regular \$1.50 Value

3 PAIRS FOR \$4.00

16 Shades to choose from. All guaranteed firsts, all Silk with mercerized tops and soles, Sizes 8 1-2 to 10.

CHAMPAGNE	NUDE	PEARL	STONE GREY
ALESAN	SUNSET	CRASH	PARCHMENT
BLUSH	SHADOW	RACHELLE	
GUNMETAL	BLUE FOX	FLESH	
MOONLIGHT	BLACK	and	WHITE

KAPLAN'S DEPT. STORE

109 E. Lancaster Ave. Downingtown, Pa.

This ad appeared in the May 19, 1927 edition of *The Downingtown Archive*.

Free Ads for Non-Profits

Farmers Market

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

Craft & Vendor Show

The Women's Auxiliary of St. Anthony's Lodge will sponsor a Spring Craft and Vendor Show at the Lodge, at 259 W. Church St., Downingtown, from 10 AM to 2 PM on Saturday, May 21. For more info, see: contact 484-459-1905 or staladies@hotmail.com.

Relay For Life

The American Cancer Society's annual Relay for Life will begin at 10 AM on Saturday, May 21 at Downingtown West High School. For more details, see: http://main.acsevents.org/site/TR?pg=entry&fr_id=74705.

Victory Run for Ryan

Victory Brewery is sponsoring a road race at 1 PM on Sunday, May 22. For details, see: www.runtheday.com/registration/race_info/run-for-victory2.

Fine Arts Festival

The Downingtown Main Street Association will sponsor a Fine Arts Festival at 202 E. Lancaster Ave., from 10 AM to 6 PM on Saturday, May 28 and 10 AM to 5 PM Sunday, May 29. For more info, see: www.downingtownfinearts.com/aboutdfaf.html.

Golf Outing & BBQ

Supporters of the DHS West football team are sponsoring a golf outing, BBQ and silent auction at Whitford Country Club on Monday, June 20. For more info, see: www.dwhsfootball.com/golf-outing-auction.

Brochure on DARC classes & activities

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Banquet room for rent

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Joseph's People, Downingtown chapter

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

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

Vol. 7, No. 20

May 26, 2016

Where and What Is This?



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

What locals were talking about 68 years ago

Noted below are items originally published in area newspapers in the latter part of May 1948:

- Caroline Matthews and Ted Hammon won top honors at the seventh annual **DHS Farm Show**, which was the highlight of the social scene at the high school in the 1940s and 1950s. The three-day show was sponsored by members of the school's Future Farmers of America (FFA) and Future Homemakers of America (FHA) chapters. Matthews and Hammon won the most prizes in several competitions that included bred cattle, poultry, vegetables and fruits, canned goods, handmade clothing, flowers, baked goods, and needlework, in which the FHA and FFA members participated. The show's other attractions included a concert by the symphonic band, including featured soloists Annabelle Warnick, flute, and Janet Kreibel, marimba. And the crowd was entertained by vocals sung by Mary Trego, Arleen Hoskins, Joan Garrison, Eleanor Detterline, Margaret Sciarretta, Philomena Cozzone, Aletha Hershey, Mary Jane Detterline and Margarette Ciarlone. The show also included exhibits by local farm equipment dealers at the football stadium. Helen Doran was crowned Harvest Queen.

- About 1,500 people attended the opening of the new, \$30,000 recreation facility on the second floor of the **Minquas Fire Co.**, which had been the scene of many dances and was the home court for the DHS basketball team in the early 20th Century. In addition to the main room with a 58-foot-long bar, a TV set and bronze plaques with a Lady Godiva motif, the new recreation area also included an office and a restroom, plus areas for games such as shuffleboard and darts. Charles Bloom was steward of the new club room, as well as a fire engine and ambulance driver. Officers of the Minquas at the time were George Perry, president; Howard Loughlin, vice president; Hallan Usher, secretary; and Martin Binder, Bennett Norris and Percy Hyde, trustees.

- Joe Newlin, who had been a police officer in the borough for 20 years, was appointed as Downingtown's Police Chief, after Chet Glisson retired several weeks earlier.

- The Charles F. Moran **American Legion Post** approved the purchase of a residence on East Lancaster Avenue in the borough, next to the Downingtown Library, for \$17,000. Before buying its new headquarters, the Post had been conducting its business in Borough Hall. Newly elected officers of the Post were Edward Spamer, commander; Leon Gable, first vice commander; Duer Smedley, second vice commander; Francis Summers, adjutant; Harlan Clavier, financial officer; Paul Dague, historian; Richard Lowry, service officer; Rev. David Stewart, chaplain; and Jonathan Windle, sergeant-at-arms.

- Members of the **Odd Fellows' Pilgrim Lodge, Lionville**, who were installed as officers were: John Benner, noble grand; John Miller, vice grand; Russell Allison, secretary; Kenneth Fell, treasurer; Schuyler Rennard, warden; Samuel Supplee, conductor; Kenneth Kirkner, chaplain; and Everett Wilson, representative to the home for the aged and orphans in Philadelphia.

- Officers of the Hi-Y Club at **Marshallton Elementary School** were Jo-Anne LeFevre, president; Robert Pierce, vice president; Carlene Yetter, secretary; and Patsy Miller, treasurer.

- Installed as officers of the **DHS Student Council** were: John Windle, president; Walter Eppeheimer, vice president; Dolores Cavanaugh, secretary; Margaret Sciarretta, treasurer; Arvilla Reynolds, tribunal judge; and Mary Jane Detterline, tribunal clerk.

- Winners of the costume competition at the Sunday School's Halloween party at **Central Presbyterian Church** included: Jeanne and Johnny Bicking, best dressed; Judy Simmons and Linda Aumiller, most original; Barbara Zittle, funniest; Nancy Pannebaker and Mary Ann

Phillips hardest-to-guess. Bruce Nixdorf, Helen Simmons and Harriet Seibert won the placing clothes pins in the bottle contest.

- Mr. and Mrs. Walter McClure were doing extensive renovations to the building at 140 East Lancaster Avenue in the borough before they opened the **Colonial Bakery** there. The building had served as the East Downingtown Post Office for decades, before the two Post Offices in Downingtown were consolidated and moved into the new Borough Hall in 1926.

- Members of the **Ladies Auxiliary of St. Anthony's Lodge**, Downingtown, who won prizes for their costumes at the group's Halloween Party, included: Margaret DiLiberato, prettiest; Josephine Manetta, ugliest; Irma Del Paggio, most original; Ada Celii, Mary Celii and Rose DiBerardinis, best group; Rose DiSilvestro, and Romaine Capriotti, hardest-to-guess.

- West Chester rallied in the second half and the **DHS football team** lost to the Warriors 13-6 in a heartbreaker. The Whippets scored their lone TD when Joe Sciarretta caught a 30-yard pass from Bill Hayes in the second quarter. Downingtown's Andy DiAntonio, tackle, and Sonny Milano, center, were cited for their "outstanding" play by DHS coach Don White.

The Whippets bounced back the following week with a 20-9 victory over Bridgeport. They got on the scoreboard in the first quarter on a 30-yard pass play, from Bill Hayes to his brother, Pete. Then Phil Boggs scored on an end run in the third period, and Bill Davis sewed up the win when he ran back an interception 50 yards for Downingtown's final tally.

- Officers elected to lead the **Downingtown Visiting Nurses Association** included: Mrs. William Gibbs, president; Mrs. Stuart Outerbridge, vice president; Fannie McIlvaine, recording secretary; Mrs. Robert McIlvain, corresponding secretary; and Mrs. Joseph Huggins, treasurer.

- At a reorganization meeting of the **Downingtown Christmas Committee**, these officers were elected: Mrs. Everett Hoopes, president; James Fennelly, vice president; Mrs. Nels Olsen, secretary; and Herbert Kreider, treasurer. Howard Kennedy agreed to impersonate Santa at the children's Christmas party.

Noteworthy events in Downingtown 61 years ago

Noted below are news items retrieved from editions of The Archive, published in May 1955:

- A concert at **East Ward School** featured: a brass quartet comprised of James Dancy, Stanley Landis, Mary Englerth and James Yamshak; and selections played by these orchestra members: Kenneth Klunk, Mary Louise LeFevre, Robert Shank, Sandra Thompson, Nancy Pannebaker, Linda Aumiller and Patricia Robinson, clarinet; Gerald Matthews, saxophone; Ann Nelson, Barbara Thompson, Carol Shisler, John Parsons and Barbara Rothas, violin; Frank Newlin and Paul Katherman, cello; Dexter Carter and Ruth Lowe, bass violin.

- Patricia Sciarretta and Norris Miller were named the high school's Outstanding Athletes at the **DHS Sports banquet**.

- Huston Mattson was elected to his 13th term as president of Local 414 of the **United Paperworkers of America Union**. Other officers of that Downingtown-based Local were James Summers, vice president; Ashton Lammey, recording secretary; and George Meacham, secretary-treasurer.

- **Downingtown School District** teachers and administrators who performed in their version of the Broadway play "January Thaw" included: Emily Lewis, James Fry, Janice Weiss, Nancy Kern, Sally Lumis, Mildred Wilson, William Byham, Michael Remetz, Suzanne Rogers, Hibbert Wells, Joseph Poltrone, Henry Godshall, Thomas Stoner and Charles Emery.

Downingtown Woman's Club has dissolved

After helping to provide sustenance to our community for more than 100 years, the Downingtown Woman's Club has disbanded. If you think the local ladies spent most of their time sipping tea, think again. The Woman's Club was an integral part of the Downingtown area's fabric for decades. And the club has been an especially important force after it sold its clubhouse on Manor Avenue about 20 years ago, and showered much of the proceeds from that sale on many community projects and organizations. Despite its dissolution, the club has prudently arranged, via the Chester County Community Foundation, to continue being a significant benefactor in our community.

Vintage Ad of the Week

**If You Want a Taxi
And Want It Quick
Call 265**

**DAY and NIGHT SERVICE
Anywhere and Everywhere
CLOSED CARS**

ROBT. BACKENSTOSE, 209 W. Lancaster Ave.

This ad was first published in the *Downingtown Archive* in October 7, 1926.

It's the water tower on Bondsville Rd.



Scott Piersol is a truly perceptive scholar because he was the first person to correctly identify the site in the photo above as the water tower at East Brandywine's Bondsville Mill Park, which now is part of the township's park system.

According to information on the township's website (<http://ebrandywine.org/286/Bondsville-Mill-Park-Committee>), the first woolen factory was founded at the Mill Park site in the 1800s by Abraham Bond, who also established the village of Bondsville. Initially powered by water from Beaver Creek, that mill produced Kentucky jeans. During the Civil War, the mill manufactured uniforms for Union soldiers.

The Collins and Aikman Corp. bought the property in 1927. And during World War II, the mill produced many products for the military, including fabric for the lining of Air Force jackets. After the war, the mill manufactured men's and women's clothing fabrics, as well as a woven nylon used by the automobile industry for seat upholstery. In time, the mill was closed and the site fell into disrepair.

The township acquired the 47-acre parcel in 2005, and it has used open space funds to clean up the property and make the collapsing buildings safe. The Park was opened to the public in 2015, and the Bondsville Mill Park Committee continues to expand the trails network and further stabilize the structures there.

Volunteers who are members of the Bondsville Mill Park Committee are: David Kirkner, chairman, James Buczala, vice chairman, Martha Chamolin, Eleanor Buczala, Walter Dawson, Deke Inslee, Arne Jensen, Donald Leong, Scott Piersol, John Schroeder, Charles Stone and Matthew VanLew.

Please help us fix the smokehouse

We have been sending Hist-O-Grams to friends, as well as members, of the Downingtown Area Historical Society for six years. And since many of the more than 900 of the subscribers who receive our Hist-O-Gram every week aren't official members of the Historical Society, we are asking you for some help.

As you can understand, our commitment to preserve and maintain Ashbridge House, our 307-year-old headquarters, is a constant challenge. Currently, we have to make repairs to the small smokehouse, next to Ashbridge House on our property. It's a 19th Century structure that requires parts of the stone walls to be repointed and a cement floor has to be installed.

That's why we are asking you to show your appreciation for the free Hist-O-Gram, which arrives via the Internet at your home every Thursday, by sending us a tax-deductible donation.

And if you can't make a donation, we will continue to send you our Hist-O-Gram, free-of charge, every week.

To help us make repairs to the smokehouse, kindly complete the form below and mail it—with a check made out to "DAHS" —to: Downingtown Area Historical Society, P. O. Box 9, Downingtown, PA 19335. Or you can make an online donation via:
www.downingtownareahistoricalociety.org/Donate.html.

Your generosity is most appreciated.

Parry Desmond, President
Downingtown Area Historical Society

P.S. Have you noticed the two new sections—the Vintage Ad of the Week and the Group Photo of the Week—we've recently added to the Hist-O-Grams?

Name: _____

Street, Town, State & Zip Code: _____

Email address: _____ Phone Number: _____

Brief but important

- Ashbridge House, our 307-year-old headquarters on Route 30 in East Caln, **will be closed** on Sunday, May 29 because that day is part of the Memorial Day weekend.
- When Downingtown started to enjoy **phone service in 1906**, and its office was on the second floor of the Cohansey Glass Co. on Chestnut Street., the first subscribers were: Dr. Bremmerman, Sam Blacks' tobacco shop and pool parlor, Harry MacFarland's jewelry store, and the Downingtown Manufacturing. Co. By 1924, there were 700 subscribers to the phone service. Direct dialing (no contact first with an operator) was introduced in 1956.
- Ed Thomas informs us that there's an **interesting connection** between the Ingleside Diner and Bakery in Thorndale, which was the *Where and What Is This?* photo in the May 19 Hist-O-Gram, and Ed's cousin, Jerry Thompson (DHS Class of 1960), one of the handy volunteers at Ashbridge House, who was pictured in last week's Hist-O-Gram. Ed tells us that Jerry's mom, Mae Thompson, was the person who baked those wonderful pies at Ingleside, which many people raved about.

Group Photo of the Week



In 1976, the DHS boys' jayvee track team included, left to right: front row, Ed Zink, Mike Moore, Peter Troy, Bill Cantor, Richard Craig, Joe Weldon, Jeff Haas, Steve Ziobro, Pat Kinter; back row, manager Jesse Shutt, Scott Harrop, Ed Grabowski, Alex Roman, Tom Newlin, Jim Jameson, Mike Kane, Jim Shanley, Coach Bob Schnure.

Our Wish List

The items listed below in our Wish List notes the materials with a Downingtown connection the Historical Society especially needs to reach its archival goals.

- **T-shirts whose artwork and lettering promote a Downingtown area event, business, team or organization.**

- Vintage uniforms worn by members of the DHS or Junior High sports teams or marching bands, and those worn by members of local fire departments in parades.

- Any yearbooks or newspapers published by DHS, or by Downingtown and Lionville Junior High Schools.

- Any printed materials related to: the Downingtown Young Whippets, Downingtown Little League, Downingtown Babe Ruth League or the Downingtown American Legion Baseball teams, and the Downingtown Girls' Softball League, the Lionville Youth Association, the West Bradford Youth Association, or the East Brandywine Youth Athletics.

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Free Ads for Non-Profits

Block Party for Playground

There will be a Block Party and Barbecue from 4-7:30 PM on Saturday, June 4 at East Ward School, to raise funds for new playground equipment. Tickets are \$80 for a family of four or \$25 per person. For more details, see:

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07eclbs2yydb8cf32b&llr=qazex5cab>.

Mac & Cheese Cook-Off

The Rotary Club of Thorndale-Downingtown will have its annual Chester County Mac & Cheese Cook-Off from noon to 4 PM on Sunday, June 5 at Kerr Park. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids (6-12). For more details, check: www.eventbrite.com/e/2016-chester-county-mac-cheese-cookoff-tickets-21162657077.

History of Weaving Art

Linda Beiler, historian, author, artist, educator, will talk about the "History of Weaving Art" when the West Caln Historical Society meets at 7 PM on Tuesday, June 21. Beiler wrote *Wheat Weaving & Straw Art*, part of Stackpole Books' Heritage Crafts Today Series. The meeting, which is free and open to the public, will be at West Caln Municipal Bldg., 721 W. Kings Hwy., Wagontown.

Fine Arts Festival

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Downingtown Area Historical Society Hist-O-Gram

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

Vol. 7, No. 21

June 2, 2016

Where and What Is This?



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What locals were talking about 52 years ago

Noted below are items originally published in area newspapers in the latter part of May 1964:

- More than 750 employees and guests attended the 15th anniversary dinner-dance of the **Pepperidge Farms** operations in Downingtown. In 1949, the firm began producing bread in the plant on Chestnut Street; and in 1956, it started making cookies in the same building. In 1957, the firm began making frozen desserts in the Boot Road facility .
- **Central Presbyterian Church**, which had celebrated its 100th anniversary a year earlier, announced that it had selected a 4-acre property on Uwchlan Avenue in Downingtown as the tentative site where it would build a new church. The unimproved property cost about \$500,000, according to Charles Seibert, chairman of the church's long-range planning committee.

- Youngsters who were confirmed at **St. Paul's Lutheran Church**, Lionville, were Lois Dahlberg, Maia Fosberg, Thomas Isinger, Deborah Jameson and Sandra Payton. And those confirmed at **St. Paul's UCC Church**, Lionville, were Stephen Behrndt, Mary Louise Blake, Dale Coover, Cheryl Miller, Brian Peterman, William Reichard, Thomas Shreiner, Robert Woodward and Robert Worthington.

- Members of Ever-Ready Circle of **Marshallton Methodist Church** celebrated their 25th anniversary. Officers of the group were Mrs. Rollo Jordan, president; Mrs. Clyde Geisel, vice president; Mrs. Harry Wickersham, treasurer; and Mrs. Harold Robinson, secretary.

- The Washington Camp of the **Patriotic Order of Sons of America, Downingtown**, celebrated its 75th anniversary. Those who received 50-year membership pins were George Perry, Harvey and Clarence Happersett, and George Mercer.

- Members of the **DHS Class of 1949** who planned their 15th class reunion included: Rogers Bender, Marguerite Ciarlone Chicovsky, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Lang, Busty Ruffini, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Capriotti, Thomas Kenny, Mrs. Mary Bowman Schaeffer, Mrs. Marie Grube Carpenter, Mrs. Mary Graden Norris, Mrs. Arvilla Reynolds Usher, Mrs. Eleanor Wando Singer and Mrs. Blanche Foreman.

- Elected as officers of the **Ladies Auxiliary of the West Bradford Fire Co.** were Mrs. Harold Trego, president; Mrs. Chester Mull, vice president; Lydia Bell, secretary; and Mrs. Robert Fowler, treasurer.

- Members of the safety patrol at **Marshallton School**, who were treated to a Phillies game at Connie Mack Stadium, were Twinkle Griggs, Kevin Macolley, Kent Bonam, Martin Orloski, Gayle Clark, Pat McGeehan, Linda Bateman, Linda Hurley and Robin Renzetti.

- The National Junior Honor Society's officers at **Downingtown Junior High School** were James Long, president; Lois Carson, vice president; Sandra Dollar, secretary; and David Corry, treasurer. And Coach Robert Diehl presented awards to the following members of the Junior High basketball team: Dave Robbins, Alan Novak, Tom Nurthern, James long, John Muzii, Willie vonHacht, Wayne Kofke, Doug Gindin, Donald Boggs, George Price and Val DiEuliis.

- Officers elected to lead the Fellowship Class at **Downingtown Methodist Church** were Lionel Shaeffer, president; Edward Houck, vice president; Mrs. William Carlson, recording secretary; Mrs. Robert Burns, treasurer; and Mrs. Robert Troupe, corresponding secretary.

- Members of the **Williamson Masonic Lodge**, Downingtown, who received 50-year pins were Joseph Miller, George Young and Edwin Wagner.

- **DHS students** Linda McCombs, Janet Strawsnyder and William Behrndt had their poetry manuscripts published in the National Anthology of High School Poetry.

- Mothers who were guests at a tea conducted by **Brownie Troop 83**, Downingtown, included: Mrs. Robert Cozzone, Mrs. Richard Dague, Mrs. Eugene Loftus, Mrs. Louis Mascherino, Mrs. James Romano, Mrs. George Dailey, Mrs. James Martini, Mrs. Edward Ziobro, Mrs. John Valentino, Mrs. Henry Sieracki, Mrs. Michael Mento, Mrs. Anthony Mattioni and Mrs. Herbert Kessel.

- Members of the PTA who were responsible for **Lionville Elementary School's** May Fair included Mrs. Ralph Just, Mrs. Dale Hartsell, Mrs. Eric Bittmann, Mrs. Earl Langford, Mrs. Carl Jensen, Mrs. Eugene Sowers, Mrs. Douglas Pagett, Mrs. Wilbur Fiske, Mrs. Richard Plank and Mrs. Howard Stimson.

- **Messiah Lutheran Church**, Downingtown, celebrated paying off its \$30,000 mortgage on the parish hall by burning the documents connected with the loan.

- Using proceeds from a recent fashion show, the **Downingtown Junior Woman's Club** presented a \$1,000 check to the Tom Thumb Nursery School. Presentation of the check was handled by Mrs. George Kalbitzer and Mrs. Lawrence Jamieson, co-chairmen of the fashion show.

- Officers of the Ladies Philathea Sunshine Bible Class at **East Brandywine Baptist Church** were Grace Zynn, president; Alice Esworthy, vice president; Elizabeth Regener, secretary; Mineola Jones, treasurer; Mabel Yoder, social service; Elizabeth Mendenhall, service; and Myrtle Jefferis, devotional and secret service.

- Members of **St. James Episcopal Church**, Downingtown, who planned the spring luncheon and plant sale, were: Mrs. Frederick Seibert, Mrs. Allen Powell, Mrs. Paul Powell, Mrs. Herbert Ash, Mrs. W.P. Canby, Mrs. Jacob Edge, Mrs. Ellis Brown, Mrs. Richard Osgood, Mrs. Beatrice Kerr, Mrs. James House, Mrs. Herman Kramm, Mrs. Robert Dean, Mrs. Park Plank, Mrs. Robert McIlvain, Mrs. Samuel Corliss, Mrs. Thomas Greenleaf and Mrs. Richard Worth.

- Members of **Girl Scout Troop 252 in Chester Springs**, who rode on the Freedom Valley Special train to the World's Fair in New York included: Cheryl Miller, Chris Schreirer, Joan DiEnna, Harriet Wentz, Susan Seel, Linda and Polly Quigley, Liz McIlvaine, Linda Dilworth, Beverly Whitson, Noreen Mahoney, Jane Banfield, Katie Hallman, Karen Souder and Debbie Ott.

- The **DHS baseball team** lost its final game of the season when Great Valley outlasted the Whippets in a 13-6 slugfest. Downingtown got a three-run rally off the Patriot's second hurler Paul "Butch" Hurley in sixth inning. But after loading the bases in the next frame, Coach Bob Boyer's squad ran out of steam, and finished the season with a 4-4 Ches-Mont League record.

Missed any Hist-O-Grams published in May?

You can access any issue of the Hist-O-Grams published in May by clicking on the clicking on the coding noted below:

May 5, 2016: www.downingtownareahistoricalociety.org/Histograms/2016%20Hist-O-Grams/May%205%202016%20Hist-O-Gram.pdf.

May 12, 2016: www.downingtownareahistoricalociety.org/Histograms/2016%20Hist-O-Grams/May%2012%202016%20Hist-O-Gram.pdf.

May 19, 2016: www.downingtownareahistoricalociety.org/Histograms/2016%20Hist-O-Grams/May%2019%202016%20Hist-O-Gram.pdf.

May 26, 2016: www.downingtownareahistoricalociety.org/Histograms/2016%20Hist-O-Grams/May%2026%202016%20Hist-O-Gram.pdf.

And you can see all previous issues of our Hist-O-Gram by accessing www.downingtownareahistoricalociety.org/Histograms.html.

SEND US YOUR WASHING!

NO NEED OF WASTING your strength and energy over a wash-tub — We'll take all that work off your hands — washing and ironing your soiled clothes and linens to a faultless nicety.

Wet Wash, 15c for 25 lbs.

Rough Dry, 10c lb.

Washed and Ironed, 15c lb.

Downingtown Laundry

A. P. GOETZ, Prop.

Phone — 51-W

Dsily Collections in Coatesville, West Chester & Downingtown

Want to help at our Clip/Paste sessions?

We're looking for volunteers to participate in the Historical Society's clip/paste sessions, to be held next week, from 1-4 PM on Sunday, June 5 and from 6:30-8:30 PM on Tuesday, June 14. Both sessions, which involve clipping and pasting newspaper articles for our archival collection, will be held at Ashbridge House, our 307-year-old headquarters, next to the Chick-Fil-A restaurant in the Ashbridge Square Shopping Center on Route 30 in East Caln.

It's at 102-104 Bradford Avenue in the borough



Rose Woodward is a truly perceptive scholar because she was the first person to correctly identify the site in the photo above as the houses at 102 and 104 Bradford Avenue in the Johnstown section of the borough. A year before St. Joseph's Catholic Church was built down the street in 1852, the first Mass celebrated in Downingtown was said in the house (104) on the left, while it was owned by Irish immigrant Michael McFadden. Later that year, Mass was said once a month on the third floor of McFadden's Railroad Hotel, located where the Pennsylvania Railroad station was built. There was a store on the first floor of 104 Bradford Avenue, which was first operated by the Sbei family and then by the Capriotti family. Noteworthy: Woody Sbei, who grew up at 104 Bradford Avenue, will celebrate his 100th birthday in August. And former Downingtown Mayor Frank Manetta grew up at 102 Bradford Avenue.

Group Photo of the Week



This photo, taken when the Minquas Fire Co. celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2008, shows former chiefs of the Downingtown Fire Department at the time. They were, left to right: Jerry Keen, Tom Lee, Gregg Nelms, Hallan Usher, Mike Miller and Steve Miller.

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

Please help us fix the smokehouse

We have been sending Hist-O-Grams to friends, as well as members, of the Downingtown Area Historical Society for six years. And since many of the more than 900 of the subscribers who receive our Hist-O-Gram every week aren't official members of the Historical Society, we are asking you for some help.

As you can understand, our commitment to preserve and maintain Ashbridge House, our 307-year-old headquarters, is a constant challenge. Currently, we have to make repairs to the small smokehouse, next to Ashbridge House on our property. It's a 19th Century structure that requires parts of the stone walls to be repointed and a cement floor has to be installed.

That's why we are asking you to show your appreciation for the free Hist-O-Gram, which arrives via the Internet at your home every Thursday, by sending us a tax-deductible donation.

And if you can't make a donation, we will continue to send you our Hist-O-Gram, free-of charge, every week.

To help us make repairs to the smokehouse, kindly complete the form below and mail it—with a check made out to "DAHS" —to: Downingtown Area Historical Society, P. O. Box 9, Downingtown, PA 19335. Or you can make an online donation via:
www.downingtownareahistoricalsociety.org/Donate.html.

Your generosity is most appreciated.

Parry Desmond, President
Downingtown Area Historical Society

P.S. Have you noticed the two new sections—the Vintage Ad of the Week and the Group Photo of the Week—we've recently added to the Hist-O-Grams?

Name: _____

Street, Town, State & Zip Code: _____

Email address: _____ Phone Number: _____

Our Wish List

The items listed below in our Wish List notes the materials with a Downingtown connection the Historical Society especially needs to reach its archival goals.

- **T-shirts whose artwork and lettering promote a Downingtown area event, business, team or organization.**
 - Vintage uniforms worn by members of the DHS or Junior High sports teams or marching bands, and those worn by members of local fire departments in parades.
 - Any yearbooks or newspapers published by DHS, or by Downingtown and Lionville Junior High Schools.
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Free Ads for Non-Profits

5K for Aidan K

The fifth annual 5K for Aidan J Run/Walk for Heart-Safe Communities will begin at 9:15 AM on Saturday, June 20, on the Struble Trail, Downingtown. For details, see: www.aidansheart.org/5k-for-aidan-j-runwalk-62015.html.

Block Party for Playground

There will be a Block Party and Barbecue from 4-7:30 PM on Saturday, June 4 at East Ward School, to raise funds for new playground equipment. Tickets are \$80 for a family of four or \$25 per person. For more details, see: <http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07eclbs2yydb8cf32b&llr=qazex5cab>.

Mac & Cheese Cook-Off

The Rotary Club of Thorndale-Downingtown will have its annual Chester County Mac & Cheese Cook-Off from noon to 4 PM on Sunday, June 5 at Kerr Park. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for kids (6-12). For more details, check: www.eventbrite.com/e/2016-chester-county-mac-cheese-cookoff-tickets-21162657077.

On the Home Front During the American Revolution

Susannah Brody will present a program "On the Homefront, Stories of the American Revolution" at the quarterly meeting of the Historical Society of Phoenixville Area at 7:30 PM on Wednesday, June 15 at the Phoenixville Federal Bank & Trust Conference Center, 564 Nutt Road, Phoenixville. Ms. Brody will share stories of real people who lived in Southeastern PA at the time of the American Revolution. Light refreshments will be served after the meeting. All are welcome.

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Supporters of the DHS West football team are sponsoring a golf outing, BBQ and silent auction at Whitford Country Club on Monday, June 20. For more info, see: www.dwhsfootball.com/golf-outing-auction.

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

Brochure on DARC classes & activities

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

Interesting local history, accessed from our archives

www.downingtownareahistoricalsociety.org

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

Vol. 7, No. 22

June 9, 2016

Where and What Is This?



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What locals were talking about 36 years ago

Noted below are news items originally published in the East Branch Citizen in the first two weeks of June 1980:

- The **Downingtown Lions Club** made a commitment to raise \$4,225 to help extend the length of the Struble Trail by five-sixth of mile, by moving the starting point from Norwood Road in East Caln, into Kardon Park in the borough. The Lions kicked off the campaign by selling the Chester County Sampler, \$20 books of 150 certificates redeemable with local merchants. Most of the trail extension's total cost, \$16,900, was to be federally funded. The trail's original 3.5 miles was opened in October 1979. It followed the abandoned roadbed of the New Holland branch of the former Pennsylvania Railroad, which was known as the East Brandywine and Waynesburg Railroad when it was established in 1854, to serve dairy farms and paper mills along the east branch of the Brandywine Creek.
- An overflow crowd attended the **commencement exercises**, held in the new Wagner Gymnasium due to rainy weather, as 525 seniors graduated from DHS. Representatives of the Class of 1980 who spoke were Victoria Schlomann and John Armstrong.
- The **Downingtown Savings and Loan Association** opened a branch at the North Bailey Road intersection of Route 30 in Thorndale. Those who made new deposits of \$5,000 or more were offered a 40-piece ratchet/socket set or a "Rolls Royce" table radio.
- New members of the **Greater Downingtown Chamber of Commerce** were Princess Lee Housecleaning, 137 E. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown, and the Barbara Painter School of Dance in Exton.
- Five past presidents of the **Downingtown Rotary Club**—Grey Olliver, Dick Radcliff, Bob Schaefer, Mil Ryan and Joe McCahon—were honored when a grove of trees were planted in Kerr Park.
- Members of **Cub Pack 8**, who received Webelos awards for citizen activity, were Jim Conway, Kevin Hughes, Scott MacKenzie, Frank McComsey, David Ronca and Erik Schaible. And those who earned Webelos badges for scholar activity included Bob Brown, Gary Davis and Donnie Lynn.
- Named to the building committee at **Central Presbyterian Church** were Preston Insley, David Haddock, Lacy Lackey, Cookie Pannebaker, Wallace Strevell, James Sciandra, Fred Brubaker, Robert Hanks and Richard Nippes.
- Officers and board members of the Lutheran Church Women group at **St. Pauls' Lutheran Church**, Lionville, were Mary Lammey, president; Nancy Heydt, vice president; Louise Mullings, secretary; Sandy Service, treasurer; Mary McCurdy and Dorothy Hrynko, faith and life committee; Karen Ely, hospitality; Elsa Green, membership; and Barbara Meier, Christian action.
- Members of the **DHS softball squad**, who were named to the All-Ches-Mont team, were Judy O'Connell, pitcher; Sherri Clayton, Infielder; and Dianne Repp, infielder. Also, **DHS lacrosse players**, who made the All-Ches-Mont team were Barrie Benjamin, Doreen Warihay and Debbie Miller.
- Women who modeled in a fashion show at the **Downingtown Area Senior Center** included Blanche Dawson, Betty Bennetch, Anna DelPaggio, Gertie Woodward and Emma Musselman.

- Former **DHS lacrosse standouts**, who participated in the U.S. Women's National Lacrosse Tournament at Swarthmore College, were Diane Horsey, Dottie Dunn, Laurie Blair, Anne Kennedy, Sandy Bireley, Sharon Watson, Jeanne Minahan and Edy Lyons.
- Earl Cooke, president of the **Glen Moore Fire Co.**, announced that a parade through the village would kick off a Community Day celebration. The parade, comprised of fire trucks, Scout troops and Little League baseball players, would proceed from the village to Wagenseller Park, where there would be a carnival. The events also included a water ball and a tug-of-war contests between attending fire companies.
- **Becky Desmond**, who had been coach of the DHS girls' tennis team since 1968, was hired as West Chester Golf and Country Club's tennis pro. Desmond had established instructional tennis programs at five public sites in the Downingtown area. And she had been girls' tennis chairman of PIAA's District I since 1973.
- Recent **property transfers** included: 525 Grant Ave., Downingtown, \$45,000; 1518 Hillcrest Lane, West Bradford, \$66,500; 704 Brainerd, Uwchlan, \$114,000; 7 Stirrup Lane, Chester Springs, \$80,000.

Group Photo of the Week



Officers of the Future Teachers of America chapter at DHS during the 1967-68 school year were, left to right: Ann Bishop, vice president; Ron Donnon, president; Janis Mento, secretary; and Katie Hallman, treasurer.

Items published in *The Archive* 88 years ago

Noted below are news items found in the *Downingtown Archives* articles in January and February of 1928.

- Downingtown boys became part of the nationwide harmonica band craze, when a local band was formed after Albert Hoxie, a wealthy Philadelphia textile merchant, visited local schools in January 1928. Hoxie created the harmonica band craze the early 1920s when he established the Philadelphia Harmonica Band, an elite ensemble of 50 to 60 boys, dressed in military-style uniforms, which traveled the country and played for presidents, visiting dignitaries, and special events such as the Philadelphia celebration of Charles Lindbergh's transatlantic flight. By February, 47 boys of the 150 boys who tried out of the band were members of the **Downingtown Harmonica Band**, which practiced for an hour every Thursday afternoon at East Ward School. And the newly-formed DHS band was practicing two nights a week at West Ward School, under the direction of Amos Miley.

- Children in the Downingtown School District were given the first of three “anti-toxin serum” injections to prevent them from getting **diphtheria**. And when one student was diagnosed with having the disease, the schools were closed for one-half day so all the classrooms could be cleaned and ventilated. In the 1920s, there were an estimated 100,000 to 200,000 cases of diphtheria per year in the United States, causing 13,000 to 15,000 deaths per year.

- A landscape engineer from the State Bureau of Municipalities met with some 30 interested citizens and members of the Business Men’s Club to review plans for the **Kerr Memorial Park** in Downingtown. Officers of the park’s board of managers were Guyon Miller, president; Walter McIlvain, vice president; Ernest Smedley, treasurer; and John Noll, secretary. In addition to those officers, other member of the board were Mrs. E.P. Fisher, representing the Woman’s Club; Frank Parke and Frank McGraw, representing the Rotary Club; Perry Tyson, representing the American Legion; Park Plank and John Noll, representing the Business Men’s Club.

- The **DHS boys’ basketball team** “somehow managed to beat Berwyn 26-19, but the victory must have “unnerved” the players. Perhaps that’s why they “reverted to form...in a horrible exhibition of basketball” in the next game, when they lost to West Chester, according to a student reporter for the *Archive*. “We are told that Coach Remer intends to bench the entire team and use the second string in the rest of games.”

Meanwhile, the **girls’ basketball team** “completely outclassed the maidens from Unionville,” by a 26-13 margin.

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Vintage Ad of the Week

Al Martin's
Dutch Arms
RESTAURANT &
COCKTAIL BAR



ROUTE 340
between U.S. 30 and Thorndale
Exit of New Downingtown-Coates-
ville By-Pass.
THORNDALE, PA.

LUNCHEONS 11:30 A.M. to 2:30 P.M.	DINNERS 5:00 P.M. to 10 P.M.
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Sunday dinners
Noon to 7 P.M. **269-8994**

**We Cater Bowling League
Luncheons and Dinners**

This ad first appeared in the May 7, 1964 edition of the Daily Local News.
Currently, the site on Bondsville Road is known as the Thorndale Inn.

Brief, but important

- While rummaging through our archival collection of newspaper clippings, we came across an interesting article about the **Downingtown Lions Club**, published in the January 15, 1931 edition of the *Downingtown News*.

The article noted that the local Lions Club's Welfare Committee was operating a Community Welfare Room at 129 E. Lancaster Avenue in Downingtown. The Community Room operation, during those Great Depression days, served families living in an area that stretched between Thorndale, Lionville and Brandywine Manor. It was managed by Jane Guthrie Davidson, a visiting nurse. And support for the Community Room came from many individuals, businesses, churches and organizations in the Downingtown area.

Although the article didn't note how many months were covered in a report put out by the Lions Club in January 1931, its service summary included these data on the distribution of food and clothing for a period during 1930: 83 families, representing 274 individuals, received 153 grocery orders. Also, 250 quarts of milk and 150 loaves of bread were being distributed each week. At Christmas in 1930, 1,250 toys were distributed to 220 kids, and 30 baskets containing 4 pounds of sugar, 4 loaves of bread, 5 pounds of oatmeal, 2 cans of milk, 1 pound of coffee, 1 can of molasses, 2 pounds of lard, 3 pounds of soup beans, cans of corn and peas and 2 pounds of beef were distributed to needy families. That's one of the reasons why now-defunct local organizations such as the Downingtown Woman's Club and the Downingtown Lions Club, were recognized as service organizations. We miss them.

- We were thrilled to see the **DHS West track and field squad** nearly win the AAA team state championship at the PIAA meet held at Shippensburg University over Memorial Day weekend. The Whippets missed winning the team crown by just one point, to the State College team. Although DHS West wasn't a powerhouse in that sport until recently (the Whippets also won the PIAA cross-country championship this past fall) Downingtown had competitive track teams as far back as 1918. That's the year when a quartet of DHS runners—Wilmer Dolbey, John Francella, Harry Haines and Hathaway Frain—beat relay teams from much larger schools and came in second in the high school relays at the Penn Relays held at the University of Pennsylvania's Franklin Field. And the Historical Society recently received, from Austin Windle (DHS Class of 1947), a copy of the program for the 50th annual Penn Relay Carnival, the nation's biggest and oldest track and field meet, held in 1945. The program noted that the DHS team—comprised of Andrew Hertel, George Windolph, Austin Windle, Emerson King and Robert Frain—competed in the Philadelphia suburban high schools one-mile relay.

- Well, we've done it again. In our haste to put out the June 2 edition of our Hist-O-Gram during a holiday week, we incorrectly reported on the election of officers of a Ladies Auxiliary of a local fire company. The item should have noted that the newly elected officers of the **Ladies Auxiliary of the Lionville Fire Co.** (not the West Bradford Fire Co.) in 1964 were: Mrs. Harold Trego, president; Mrs. Chester Mull, vice president; Lydia Bell, secretary; and Mrs. Robert Fowler, treasurer. And we didn't notice the error until two eagle-eyed, former township managers—Ed Hill, of East Caln, and Jack Hines, of West Bradford—brought the error to our attention.

It was the Shryock Paper Co. in Upper Uwchlan



Nancy and Pete Duca are truly perceptive scholars because they were the first persons to correctly identify the site in the photo above as the former Shryock Paper Co. on Dorlan Mill Road, near Route 282, in Upper Uwchlan.

In 1833, James Dorlan bought the nearby Davis and Cooper paper mill, where he began producing waterproof wallpaper. After a change in ownership, followed by a destructive fire and reconstruction in the late 19th Century, the mill began to produce binder board.

The plant was taken over by the Shryock Brothers in 1915 and by Robert McIlvain in 1952. McIlvain sold it to his son-in-law, Charles Barber, in 1989. Shortly after the business closed, John and Linda Shelton purchased the property for \$1.3 million in 2005. In 2008, the Natural Lands Trust bought part of the property, to enhance access to Marsh Creek State Park and the Struble Trail.

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Free Ads for Non-Profits

Community Festival

St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Downingtown, will have its ninth annual Community Festival, starting each night at 6 PM, on Tuesday, June 21 through Saturday, June 25. Highlights include great food, live music and Bingo in the cafeteria every night; fireworks on Friday night, Shuttle service available from DHS West HS parking area, via Krapf's Buses, to Festival grounds. For more details and to buy discount wristbands, go to: www.stjoesfestival.com.

5K for Aidan K

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Vol. 7, No. 23

June 16, 2016

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What locals were talking about 36 years ago

Noted below are news items originally published in the *East Branch Citizen* in the latter part of June 1980:

- Competency based educational programming, which required students to take a standardized test to measure if they were achieving acceptable standards in reading, math and other courses, was shot down by the **Downingtown School Board**.
- **Tony Proftay** recalled that he started cutting hair, at age 18, in Clarence Miller's barber shop on East Lancaster Avenue in Downingtown, in 1933. Proftay said haircuts cost 40 cents in the early days and, after he took over the shop and continued snipping and clipping for 47 years, the price had risen to \$3. Also, he stopped giving shaves with a straight razor in the mid-1960s. But he planned to continue cutting hair, "as long as my legs hold out."
- DHS student Lori Schwabenbauer won the Voice of Democracy contest, sponsored by the **Downingtown VFW Post**. Martha Silver and Drew Lehr, placed second and third, respectively.
- New officers of the **Industrial Arts Student Association** at DHS were Joe Sciandra, president; Bryant Ferris, vice president; Lena Trego, secretary; Asit Upadhyay, treasurer; Sandra Wood, reporter; and Jim Piersol, sergeant-at-arms. And officers of association's chapter at Downingtown Junior High included John Sciandra, president; Dianne Sanner, vice president; Steve Foster, secretary; Eileen Ferris, treasurer; Lou Cippolini, reporter; and Shane Rodgers, sergeant-at-arms.
- **East Brandywine Township** supervisors Bud Bruton, Alan McCausland and John Cropper, plus police chief John Harp, accepted a challenge to compete in a water ball contest with members of the East Brandywine Fire Co. at the fire company's open house, as long as four of the firefighters agreed to compete in the Run For Life road race in Downingtown on the Fourth of July. Also, chief Harp reported that 25 of the 320 complaints his department had responded to in the past month were caused by cows, which had broken out of their feed lots on the farm of Charles MacFarlan, and were wandering around North Buck Road.
- Changes in the second annual **Run For Life** road race, part of the **Good Neighbor Day** celebration in Downingtown on the Fourth of July, included age brackets for each gender of runners in the race. And **Downingtown National Bank** said it would add 10 cents a mile to the proceeds for the Run For Life's total mileage completed by all the runners in the road race. Proceeds from the race went to the ambulance and rescue squads based in the Downingtown School District area.
- Kristen Swartwout and Mark Zaccarelli were recognized at the commencement exercises at **St. Joseph's Catholic School**, Downingtown, as the eighth grade students with the highest academic average. Mary Ann Jacobson and Peter Donia received the American Legion medal. There were 36 students in the graduating class.
- Members of the **Downingtown Babe Ruth League** 13-year-old all-star team included Steve Byron, Kevin Conahan, Frank DiOttavio, Brian Lowe, Chris Thomas, John Hayes, Jeff Yearsley, Rick Goukler, Charles Mann, Darryl Dunn, Larry Stine, Howard Theckston, Shane Rodgers, and Wally McCue. Alternates were Bob Luminella, Jeff McCardy and Bill Golden.
- Recent **property transfers** included: 403 Brookwood Drive, Uwchlan, \$89,900; 111 Cheryl Drive, Upper Uwchlan, \$63,250; 1511 Walton Drive, West Bradford, \$64,000; 507 North Bailey Road, Thorndale, \$60,000; 408 Longwood Drive, Exton, \$82,900; 110 Stuart Avenue, Downingtown, \$48,000; 25 Raleigh Drive, East Brandywine, \$71,450.

It was the Chester Springs railroad station



No one correctly identified the site in the photo above as the railroad station, built ca. 1900 at Chester Springs, which was served by the Pickering Valley Railroad. Established in 1871, the 11.3-mile railroad primarily transported milk and other farm products to Phoenixville. In 1906, the railroad became the Pickering Valley branch of the Reading Railroad. Passenger service was discontinued in 1934. And after the portion of the line between Kimberton and Byers was abandoned in 1948, the remaining track served the Phoenix Steel Co. mill in Phoenixville until it was abandoned by Conrail (successor to the Reading in the 1980s).

What was going on at DHS 45 years ago

Rose Mascherino Ciarlone recently donated copies of the *Penny Press* (the former name of the DHS student newspaper) published during the 1971-72 school year. As a result, Hist-O-Gram subscribers will have an opportunity to recall or learn what was going on at the local high school and what its students were doing nearly a half century ago. Noted below are some of the items published in the *Penny Press* in the fall of 1971.

- An evergreen was planted in the school's courtyard, in memory of **John "Larry" Piersol**, Class of 1965, who was killed in 1970, while serving in the Army in Viet Nam.
- **Three DHS teachers**—Elma Miller, Charles Ax and William Skelly—were named Leaders of American Secondary Education.
- The **football team** kicked off the season with a 31-0 victory over Chichester. But the Whippets lost to St. James of Chester by a 27-6 margin. And they suffered a 20-14 upset loss to Pottsgrove. Coach Chic Chiccino's crew notched its first win by beating Great Valley 24-0. Although Joe Reutter blocked a Spring-Ford punt and Lauren Mayall pounced on the ball in the end zone, the Blue and Gold lost, 15-7. The Whippets got back in the win column with a 14-6 comeback victory over Boyertown. Then they upset OJ Roberts 7-6, as Chippy Gazzo ran 86

yards for Downingtown's sole TD, and Mike Eachus' PAT ensured the win. The Whippets made it three straight with a 31-8 win over Phoenixville. And a two-point conversion by Norman Raison after he scored a TD in the first quarter made the difference, as DHS edged 22-21 in a thriller. The Whippets closed the season with a stunning 26-20 victory over Coatesville on Thanksgiving morning, as Raison scored three times. The win, which was the 50th football game between the two neighboring schools, enabled DHS to rack up a 6-3 Ches-Mont record. Joe Reutter and Paul Givler were named to first team All-Ches-Mont squad.

- Ivy Bertoncini was elected **Homecoming Queen**. Her court included Sally Miller, Michele Guerrieri, Paula Swoyer, Debbie Dinwoodie, Linda Showalter, Trudy Smith, Sharon Gilley, Sandy Piersol and Rosie Short.

- DHS girls who were finalists in the **Chester County Junior Miss Pageant** were Karen Blanck, Kathy Hawthorn and Terri Pearson.

- The **field hockey squad** trampled Pottsgrove, 3-0 in the Whippettes' opener. And Lex Ziobro scored the lone goal as DHS tied OJ Roberts 1-1. Coach Jean Shiffer's team overwhelmed Coatesville 4-0 in the next match, and Hoppy Hayes and Jayne Tinson tallied two goals each as Downingtown spooked the Phoenixville Phantoms, 5-2.

- Officers of the **National Honor Society** were Karen Kipp, president; Pat Lyons, vice president; Sally Miller, secretary; and Alexis Ziobro, treasurer. And officers of the **Drama Club** were David Venditta, president; Tom Micken, vice president; Ruth Worthington, secretary-treasurer; Richard Hall and Julie Van Loan, senior representatives; Judy Sheeler and Jane Treptow, junior reps; and Jerry Cavanaugh and Pete Filiaci, sophomore reps. Also, **Art Club** officers were Terri Pearson, president; Mary Ellen McCausland, vice president; Kathy Shreiner, secretary; and Rosie Short, treasurer. And the **yearbook editorial staff** officers were Judy Boone, editor; Loraine Smith, faculty and administration; Carol Winkelman, seniors; Jill Hand, underclassmen; Tom Hannan, sports; and Mary Tocydlowski, clubs and special events. Leaders of the **Future Teachers of America** chapter were Joan Ottaviano, president; Kathy Watters, vice president; Rene Bowman, secretary; and Janice Hawk, treasurer. Leaders of the **Library Service Club** were Tony Gallucci, president; Pat Riggans, vice president; Sandy Lee, secretary; and Robert Tkachick, treasurer.

- After a tough loss to Boyertown, the **cross-country team** garnered its fifth victory by outpacing Great Valley. Then, Dave Kipp broke the tape, followed by Steve Hemberger, as DHS edged Phoenixville for their sixth win.

- Richard Caldwell was the sole DHS student to be a semi-finalist in the **National Merit Scholarship** competition. Seniors who earned Commended status were Michael Filoromo, Meredith Grady, Joanne Hoehing, Donna Klaebel, Nancy MacDonald and Bill Williamson.

- **DHS singers** who were chosen for the District Chorus were Craig Ardrey, Ed Miller and Susan McJilton.

- Pupils who attended the **Lukens Steel Student Management Conference** were James Hasson, Gary McKee, Paul Mullen and Ken Feldman.

- A proposed **Dress Code**, which would ban insignias or emblems of other schools, trousers or slacks of extreme proportions and sweat shirts, caused quite a flap among students.

Group Photo of the Week



Members of the Salesmanship Club at DHS in 1977 learned techniques on selling products. Those who belonged to the club included, left to right: front row, R. Stonewall, D. Miller and D. Hazzard; second row, A. Brown, G. Caldwell, T. Rogalis, M. Case and M. Cole; back row, K. Smith, L. Smith, S. Lasorda, J. Treptow and J. Waldenmaier.

Our Wish List

The items listed below in our Wish List notes the materials with a Downingtown connection the Historical Society especially needs to reach its archival goals.

- T-shirts whose artwork and lettering promote a Downingtown area event, business, team or organization.
- Vintage uniforms worn by members of the DHS or Junior High sports teams or marching bands, and those worn by members of local fire departments in parades.
- Any yearbooks or newspapers published by DHS, or by Downingtown and Lionville Junior High Schools.
- Any printed materials related to: the Downingtown Young Whippets, Downingtown Little League, Downingtown Babe Ruth League or the Downingtown American Legion Baseball teams, and the Downingtown Girls' Softball League, the Lionville Youth Association, the West Bradford Youth Association, or the East Brandywine Youth Athletics.

Got some treasures in your backyard?



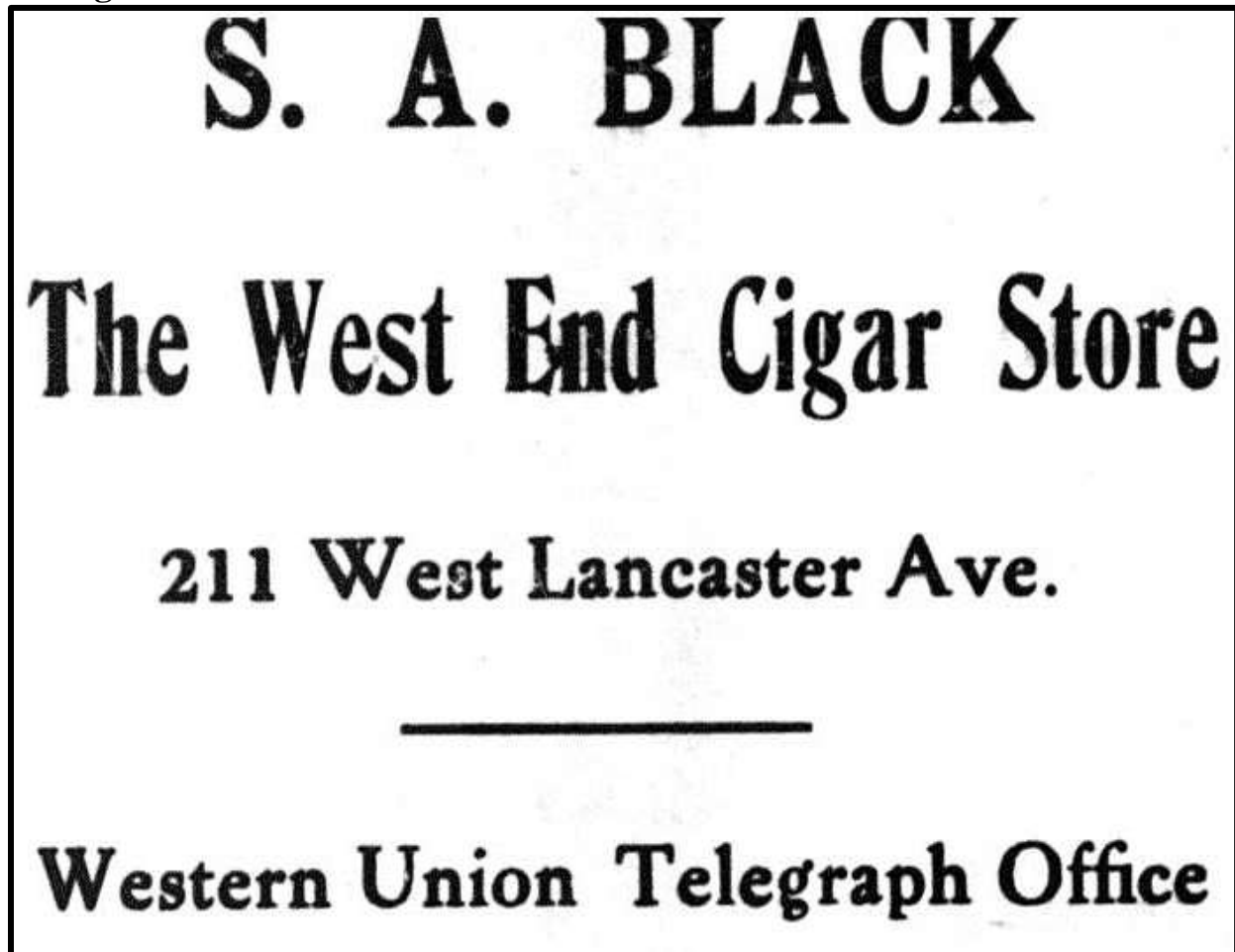
Steve Rettew, a member of the Downingtown Area Historical Society, found the items pictured above—those on the left include the tongue part of a belt buckle from a Civil War era military uniform, a collar disk worn on a World War II military uniform, a 1917 badge worn during World War I by members of the Boys Working Reserve; and on the right is an 1878 Chiantel Fondevur Saignelegier cow bell. Steve found them while doing a search, with a metal detector, of a Downingtown area property. If you think similar “treasures” are on your property and you want Steve to try to retrieve them, call him at (610) 269-7912.

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

Vintage Photo of the Week



This ad originally appeared in the October 7, 1926 edition of *The Archive*.

Free Ads for Non-Profits

Summer Jam Music Festival

The Summer Jam Music Festival series at Kerr Park will begin from 6-10 PM on Friday, June 24. The festival, sponsored by the Downingtown Main Street Association and Kimberton Whole Foods, will include music by: The Happy Pita, Mompops Artisan Popsicles, Love Chunk Cookies, Baba's Brew Kombucha and a beer garden hosted by Station Taproom. For more details, check out: <http://downingtownmainstreet.com/blog/summer-jam-series-friday-june-24>

Community Festival

St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Downingtown, will have its ninth annual Community Festival, starting each night at 6 PM, on Tuesday, June 21 through Saturday, June 25. Highlights include great food, live music and Bingo in the cafeteria every night; fireworks on Friday night, Shuttle service available from DHS West HS parking area, via Krapf's Buses, to Festival grounds. For more details and to buy discount wristbands, go to: www.stjoesfestival.com.

History of Weaving Art

Linda Beiler, historian, author, artist, educator, will talk about the "History of Weaving Art" when the West Caln Historical Society meets at 7 PM on Tuesday, June 21. Beiler wrote *Wheat Weaving & Straw Art*, part of Stackpole Books' Heritage Crafts Today Series. The meeting, which is free and open to the public, will be at West Caln Municipal Bldg., 721 W. Kings Hwy., Wagontown.

Golf Outing & BBQ

Supporters of the DHS West football team are sponsoring a golf outing, BBQ and silent auction at Whitford Country Club on Monday, June 20. For more info, see: www.dwhsfootball.com/golf-outing-auction.

Farmers Market

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

Brochure on DARC classes & activities

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

Banquet room for rent

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

Joseph's People, Downingtown chapter

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

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

Vol. 7, No. 25

June 30, 2016

Where and What Is This?



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

No Clip Joint on Sunday, July 3; hope to see you at GND on July 4

The Historical Society's Ashbridge House won't be open for the monthly clipping session on Sunday, July 3 because of the holiday weekend.

However, we hope to see you at our booth on Good Neighbor Day on July 4th at Downingtown's Kerr Park. Marion Piccolomini, author of *World War II and Chester County Pennsylvania*, will be at our booth, between 8:30 and 10:30 AM, signing copies of her book. The book celebrates the resilience and perseverance of Chester County residents in the midst of World War II.

Downingtown area news in early June 1964

Noted below are news items published in local papers 52 years ago:

- The **Downingtown Area Joint Elementary School Board** authorized the condemnation of a 21-acre tract on Broad Run Road, where a new school was to be built in West Bradford. The board also authorized the securing of an architect to design an addition at East Ward School in Downingtown.

- The **Downingtown Woman's Club**, which was organized in 1914, celebrated its 50th anniversary. Arrangements for the anniversary celebration at the Downingtown Motor Inn were handled by Mrs. Frank Lenhardt, Mrs. George Fisher, Mrs. Edgar Hutchison, Mrs. John Fisher, Mrs. Newton Thompson and Mrs. LaRue Frain.

- Newly elected officers of the **Pickering Valley Woman's Club** were Mrs. Ralph Moore, president; Mrs. Paul McCardell, vice president; Mrs. Silas Ireby, secretary; and Mrs. Robert Fetters, treasurer.

- Trustees Edward Moore, Lloyd Johnson and John Trego burned the mortgage on the **Glen Moore Fire Company's** second building, and Fire Chief Tom Reber directed the housing of two pieces of equipment in ceremonies that also included a parade of equipment from 21 fire companies.

- Installed as officers of the Women's Society of Christian Service at **Marshallton Methodist Church** were Mrs. Robert Ellis, president; Mrs. William James, vice president; Alice Shoemaker, recording secretary; Mrs. Harry Wickersham, treasurer; Mrs. Hubert Stokes, secretary of missionary education; Mrs. Clifford Queen, secretary of promotion; Mrs. Edward Busby, secretary of children's work; Mrs. William Keeler, secretary of spiritual life; Mrs. Esther Hendry, secretary of promotional material; Mrs. Daniel Place, secretary of local church activities; and Jennie Lowery, remembrance.

- Award winners at **Downingtown Junior High School** included: Fred Gates and Mary Ann Hipple, American Legion Award; and Outstanding Honor Students: seventh graders Clair Koser and Cindy Ward; eighth graders Walter Goncus and Dorothy Griffith; ninth graders, Dave Corry and Sandra Dollar

- Dancers, who were part of the cast in an operetta performed by **Brandywine-Wallace School** students, included: Regina Dorsey, Jill Layne, Allan Earnshaw, Patty Evans, Bradley Livesey, Carl Snyder, Ann Martin and Steve Messner.

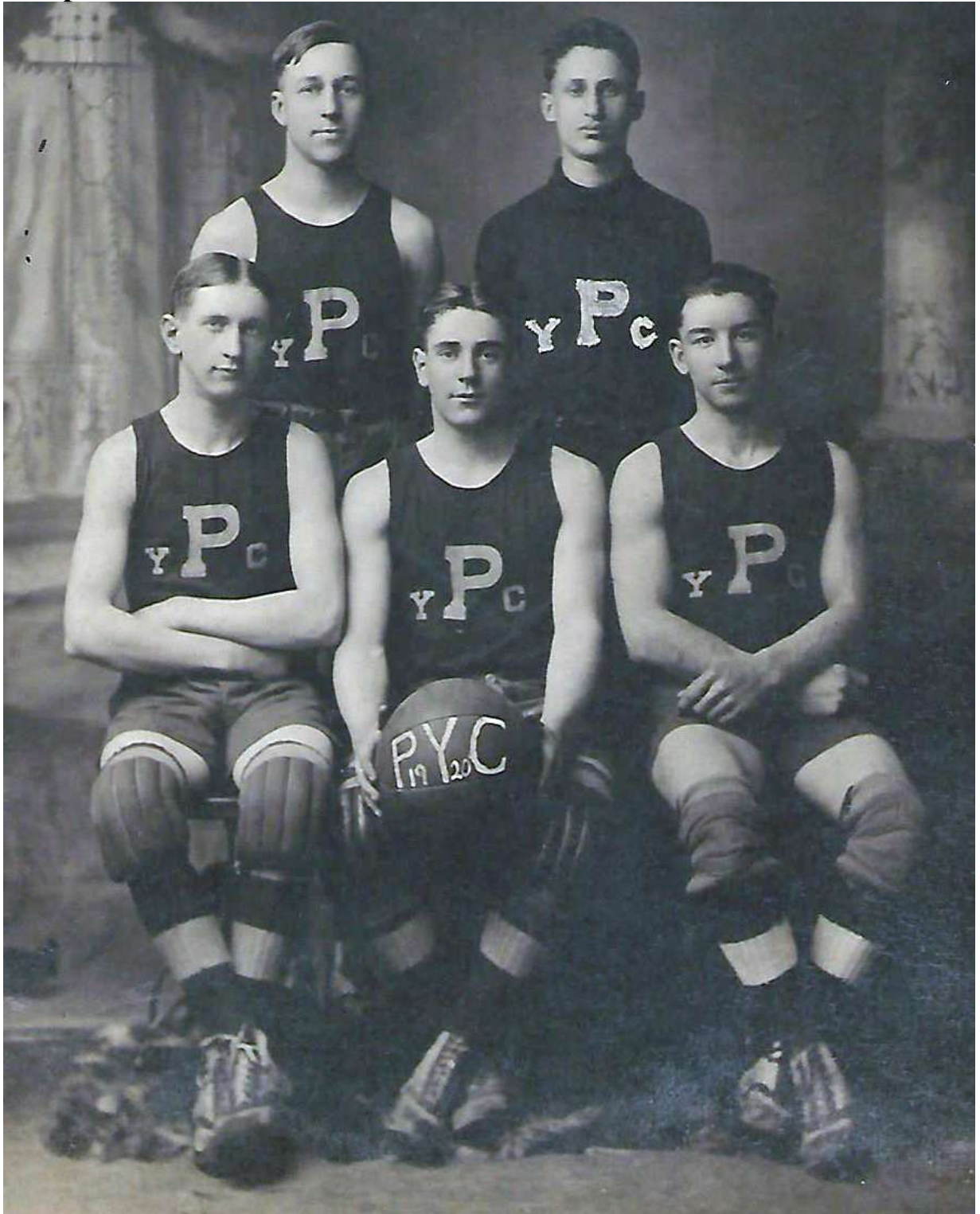
- Officers elected to lead the **DHS Band Fathers** were B.F. Piersol, president; Charles Seibert, vice president; Lambert McGuckin, secretary; and Duer Smedley, treasurer.

- **Brownie Troop 131**, Downingtown, had a mother-daughter covered dish supper, followed by presentation of first-year pins to: Sherry Andress, Melanie Lacey, Cathy Stehman, Janice Wasmuth and Connie Williams.

- Receiving **academic awards at a DHS assembly** were: Michael Dorsey, English, social studies and language; Robert Reyling, mathematics; Janine Davis, science and health-physical education; Patricia Harple, commercial; Clark Bartell, art and health-physical education; William Peppernick, agriculture; Sherry Massimini, music; Curtis Pritchard, industrial arts; and Velma Warren, home economics.

- **Rich DiEugenio**, DHS football and baseball star, received the Hugh "Butch" McDevitt Memorial Award, given annually to the Ches-Mont League's outstanding athlete.

Group Photo of the Week



All of the basketball players in the photo above lived in Downingtown in 1920, but we haven't been able to identify the PYC team they played for that year. The players were, left to right, front row, Clyde Hughes, George Davis, and Dave Weiler; back row, Joe Hertel and Isadore Bloom.

What locals were talking about 88 years ago

Noted below are items originally published in local newspapers in the summer of 1928:

- **Michael Murphy's** 156-acre estate in the Milford Mills section of Upper Uwchlan (now part of Marsh Creek State Park) was sold to several Philadelphians for \$45,000. The estate included a stone mansion with 28 rooms and six bathrooms, surrounded by a 3-acre lawn and tennis courts, plus two stone barns where race horses were kept.

(Editor's Note: Those Philadelphians were Max "Boo" Hoff and his gang of bootleggers).

- Robert Ash, president of the new **Downingtown Lions Club**, accepted the charter, which was presented by a district governor at a banquet at the Downingtown Methodist Church.

- There were 43 girls and 18 boys in the senior class that **graduated from DHS** in the 46th annual commencement, held at the Roosevelt Theatre.

- A **kite flying competition** for boys, sponsored by the Downingtown Rotary Club, and a concert by the local boys' Harmonics Band were highlights of Downingtown's Fourth of July activities. The Rotary Club had recently assumed responsibility for the Harmonica Band, and arranged for practices to be held in Borough Hall.

- Downingtown's **Charlie Way**, an All-American halfback when he played for Penn State in 1920, purchased Robert Backenstose's taxi service in the borough.

- The **American Legion Post** was considering the formation of a rifle club, which would include an indoor range for small arms and an outdoor range for heavy caliber rifles.

- Members of the **DHS basketball team**, who received varsity letters at an assembly in June, were George Perry, Orville Magill, Tom Reber, Ted Griffith, Donald White, Irwin Pollock, Allen Holman, Earl Fulton and John Windle.

Brief, but important

1. According to John Kiefel's History Of Downingtown Football Facebook page (www.facebook.com/groups/594722887247727), Keith Carter, former Whippet end (DHS Class of 2001), has been hired by the Atlanta Falcons as assistant offensive line coach, after spending the 2014 season as the offensive line coach/running game coordinator at San Jose State University. Prior to coaching at San Jose State, Carter spent two seasons as an offensive quality control coach with the Seattle Seahawks. He began his coaching career at his alma mater, UCLA, where he had played four seasons as a tight end, H-back, and fullback.

2. Greg Mascherino recently donated a copy of a printed program for a Memorial and Dedicatory Service, held on September 22, 1918 at the Downingtown Opera House, in recognition of the more than 150 local men who were serving in the military during World War I, which ended in November 1918.

The service was put on by Downingtown's Home Defense Committee, which included Hunter Wills, chairman; A.H. Standley, treasurer; Thomas Parke, secretary; and Dr. L. T. Bremerman, Henry Coates, M.A. Carr, Charles Fairweather, George Kerr, Guyon Miller, Edward Kerr, Frank McGraw, Vinton Philips, W. I. Pollock and Frank Parke.

The printed program also noted that a committee had been established in 1918 to raise money in order to buy an American flag, but it didn't mention where the flag was to be placed. Members of that committee were Charles Walker, Joseph Founds, James Eppheimer, Charles Murray, George Kerr, Austin Moore, Park Plank, Walter Henry and Patsy DiCesare.

Items retrieved from the first editions of the *Blue & Gold* newspaper

Noted below are items found in the first editions of the new DHS student newspaper, the *Blue and Gold*, when it was initially published, during the 1943-44 school year. That was during the World War II era, and 325 former DHS students were serving in the military at the time. The newspaper's contents included these highlights:

- The high school students sold \$7,153.96 worth of **savings bonds and stamps** between September 7 and December 16, 1943. By February 10, 1944, sales reached \$17,040.80.
- **Tony Mattioni**, a football star, didn't play on the DHS basketball team in his senior year because he left for the service two days before Christmas.
- The kids were excited about the new Hillbilly **Band**, which included: Josiah Ashenfelter, harmonica; Robert Cozzone, drums; Leon McCreary and Chester Dowlin, guitar; and Mary Smith, mandolin.
- The **Aeronautics Club** was formed in early 1944. In addition to building models of military aircraft, the club's activities included a visit to an airport. Officers were George Windolph, president; Hibbert Wells, vice president; William Valocchi, secretary; and William Lyman, treasurer.
- The **Junior Red Cross Club** was established to make afghans for service people at Valley Forge Army Hospital. Proceeds from dances, sale of candy and pennants at football games were used to purchase wool for the afghans.

Vintage Ad of the Week

One Cent Sale At The Sweetland Stores

Home - Made Cocoanut and Lady Fingers

One Pound, 40c - Two Pounds, 41c - Booster Day Only

GOOD HOME - MADE ICE CREAM and CANDY

The Sweetland Stores

121 E. Lancaster Ave. Penna. House Bldg

This ad was originally published in the October 7, 1926 edition of the *Archive*.

When Larkin Bridge was moved from Milford Mills



Paul Backenstose is the truly perceptive scholar who was the first person to correctly identify the site in this photo as the 60-foot-long Larkin Bridge, which was originally built in 1854 near Milford Mill, a hamlet in Upper Uwchlan, where it had crossed over Marsh Creek, a tributary of Brandywine Creek, and was rebuilt there in 1881. In 1972, the bridge was first moved a short distance before Milford Mills was flooded over by the lake at Marsh Creek State Park. The bridge was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980. After Upper Uwchlan acquired the bridge in 1998, it was relocated to the trail path near the Byers Station development on Graphite Mine Road.

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Free Ads for Non-Profits

Good Neighbor Day

Downingtown's 38th annual Good Neighbor Day will be held at Kerr Park on the Fourth of July. The day-long activities begin with the Run for Life (5K, 10K & 15K) and 5K Freedom Walk at 8 AM, followed by Big Wheel and canoe races, plus a bike decorating contest. Throughout the day you can also enjoy fabulous food, and visit 80-100 craft exhibitors. The events are capped off with a Fireworks display, which starts at dusk. Proceeds from the activities are distributed to these emergency service providers: Alert Fire Co., Minquas Fire Co., Uwchlan Ambulance Corps, East Brandywine Fire Co., Glen Moore Fire Co., and the West Bradford Fire Co. For more details, see: www.goodneighboraday.com.

Wall That Heals

Hopewell United Methodist Church and East Brandywine Township will play host this summer to *The Wall That Heals*, a 250-foot replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Part of a national tour, the replica memorial wall and accompanying mobile education center will be on display throughout the day and night, from Thursday, July 28 until Sunday, July 31 at East Brandywine Township Community Park, 440 Dilworth Road. The Wall will take a one-hour escorted route beginning at 10 AM on July 27, from Calvary Fellowship Church on Route 113, Lionville into Downingtown, where it will stop for a few minutes for wreath placement at the Veterans Memorial in Kerr Park, and then continue on to East Brandywine Community Park. For more details, see: www.ebrandywine.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=74.

Bats For Matt Softball Tournament

Softball teams that want to participate in the 2016 Bats For Matt Tournament--to be held Saturday, July 16 and Sunday, July 17 on the Downingtown Little League Field on Manor Avenue—can enter by sending an email to: BatsForMattSoftball@gmail.com, KrazzieLazzie224@yahoo.com or Bigciarlone@gmail.com. Entries close July 10. For more details, see: www.batsformatt.com/ or www.facebook.com/BatsForMatt/.

Controversial Presidential Elections

Ross Kershey, historian and professor, will speak on Controversial Presidential Elections at 7 PM Tuesday, July 19 at the West Caln Municipal Building, 721 W. Kings Highway, Wagontown. The free program is sponsored by the West Caln Historical Society, and the public is welcome.

Give Something Back Day Golf Outing

A golf outing will be held at Whitford Country Club on Monday, July 18 in support of the Fund for Chester County and the Whitford Charitable Fund. For more details on sponsorships fees and the day's events, check out: events@chescofc.org.

Farmers Market

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

Brochure on DARC classes & activities

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Vol. 7, No. 24

June 23, 2016

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What locals were talking about 68 years ago

Noted below are items originally published in local newspapers in early November 1948:

- The **Downingtown Young Men's Association's** 33-voice chorus, attired in tuxedos, presented its first concert in the auditorium of the Junior-Senior High School. They were directed by Edward Irwin, choral director in the school district. Geraldine Swarner and Margaret Helm were the accompanists. Soloists included Joseph Travaglini, Hathaway Frain, Tabby Swarner and Robert Laird. The chorus also included Charles Bransford, Gordon Carpenter, Frank Hughes, Clarence Miller, John Shisler, Peter Short, Joshua Berrier, Frederick Bicking, Allen Hughes, Wilson Pollock, Dr. Anthony Ricci, John Williams, William Ash, Harvey Young, Floyd Lilley, Gibson McIlvaine, Frank Pendergrast, Charles Rhinier and Walter Shaw.

- Harry Truman, Democratic candidate, won another term in the White House when he defeated Tom Dewey, Republican candidate, in the **national election**, for the U.S. Presidency. However, Dewey received 29,258 of the 44,489 total votes cast in Chester County. Truman only got 14,670 votes in the county.

- Gifts presented to **Downingtown American Legion** members, for their service, included: a Hamilton watch to Duer Smedley and Walter Crandall; a Legionnaire cap to Joseph Miller; cigarette lighters to William Zittle and Dan Menna; a Legion blue and gold jacket to bugler Jack Helm; and a past commander's button and badge to Harlan Clavier.

- Officers of the Adult Sunday School Class at **Marshallton Methodist Church** were Robert Ciaffoni, president; Douglas Barr, vice president; and Emma Hill, secretary-treasurer. And the church was having a Ham Supper--\$1.50 for adults and 75 cents for kids under 10.

- Appointed to the Welfare Committee at the **Downingtown VFW Post** were James Fennelly, Eugene Black and Joseph Eby. And James Ayers, Raymond Hashinger and George Hilton named to post's Christmas Party committee.

- Elected as officers of the Lutheran Men group at **Messiah Lutheran Church**, Downingtown, were Calvin Ax, president; Walter Shaw, vice president; James Steganius, secretary; and Clair Skiles, treasurer.

- The **DHS football team** scored a "major upset" when it knocked Coatesville out of contention for the county championship by beating the Raiders 19-6. Down 6-0 in the first quarter, the Whippet got on the scoreboard when Jack Helm tossed a pass to Pete Hayes in the end zone. Bill Hayes broke the 6-6 tie in the fourth quarter when he rambled 17 yards for a TD. Helm sealed the victory when he intercepted a Coatesville pass and ran it back for a score. A week earlier, Coach Don White's team blew a 6-0 lead, and lost 14-6 to Tredyffrin-Easttown.

- Winners of prizes for their costumes worn at **Halloween parties** noted below, included: **Mother's Club of Indiantown School, Glenmoore**: Ann Williamson, prettiest; Bob Young, ugliest; Barb Ford, funniest; Paula and Mark Shrader, most original.

Lionville Elementary School: Karen Rickard, prettiest; Robert Boyer, funniest; Peggy LaRose, ugliest; and Frank Dewees, hardest-to-guess.

Messiah Lutheran Church: Carl Engle, funniest; Donald Greenleaf, ugliest; Johnny Bousum and Clark Engle, most original; and Bobby Hamilton (dressed as a girl), prettiest.

Alert Fire Co. Ladies Auxiliary: Mrs. Francis Brown, most original; Dorothy Robinson, prettiest; Hazel Ashenfelter, best-dressed; Bertha Myers, youngest looking; Betty Cumens and Elizabeth Whiteman, funniest; Dorothy Brown, oldest looking; Mrs. Paul Domsohn, ugliest; and Emma Rawson, hardest-to-guess.

The Greenleaf boys were paddling in Beaver Creek in Downingtown



Michael DiBerardinis, who grew up in Downingtown and now is Philadelphia's managing director, was the first of many people who correctly identified the site in the photo above as Beaver Creek in the western end of the borough. The two boys in the photo were: in the front of the canoe, Don Greenleaf, who became Downingtown's borough manager; and paddling in the back, Tom Greenleaf, who became president of Chemical Leaman Tank Lines. The canoe they were paddling that day in August 1939 was primarily constructed of corrugated metal, which had been ripped off Al Schneider's garage roof.

Local news 88 years ago

Noted below are items originally published in the *Downingtown Archive* in the spring of 1928:

- One of the correct answers to an *Archive* quiz about local history, was the revelation that **William and Mary Streets** in Downingtown were named after the son and daughter of Joshua Kames, who built 40 homes in the west end of the borough in the late 19th Century.
- Downingtown Police Chief Markward led **several raids** in the west end of the borough, and arrested 13 men and one woman for their involvement in bootlegging activities.
- Nearly 200 people attended a **father-son community banquet** held in the gymnasium of the Minquas Fire Co. The event was planned by Raymond Greenleaf, John Noll, Elmer Schrumpf and Charles Ax. The dinner was prepared and served by ladies from First Baptist Church. Music was provided by Margaretta Mahan's Sunnyland Jazz Orchestra.
- The **St. Joseph's Dramatic Club** put on a three-act comedy, at the Roosevelt Theatre. Members of the cast included Peg Bray, Nell Sheridan, Teresa Francella, Margaretta and Mary Mahan, Roselyn Kane. John Donnelly, Jack Welsh, Andy Mento and Fred Simone.
- The 38 members of the Downingtown School District's **Harmonica Band** and Ruth Shumway, their director, travelled by bus to Atlantic City where they performed for a Rotary convention, with 35 other Harmonica Bands, in a concert on Steel Pier. The boys also participated in a boardwalk parade.

Group Photo of the Week



Members of the Downingtown Junior High marching band's silk squad in the 1978-79 school year, were, left to right: Karen Atkinson, Stephanie Hogarth, Laura Sanner, Cynthia Karahalís and Sherri Pennell.

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

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

Grand Opening==Thurs., July 1

BRANCH OF

Sherman's Army and Navy Stores

Our New Store Located on Wallace Ave., Downingtown, Near Lincoln Highway

Working Men's Outfitters

With a Complete Line of Working Clothes, such as PANTS, OVERALLS, SHOES, SHIRTS, HOSIERY, HATS, UNDERWEAR, Etc. CAMP SUPPLIES, such as COTS, CHAIRS, CAMP TEENS, HAVESACKS, Etc. HARDWARE, such as PAINTS, KNIVES, LOCKS, REVOLVERS, RIFLES, Etc. MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, such as HARMONICAS, UKULELES, SAXOPHONES, Etc. Also Trunks, Bags, Suitcases and a hundred other items too numerous to mention. Below we list a few items giving you an idea of our CUT PRICES:

Men's Khaki PANTS 89c. Value \$1.25	Blue Work Shirts 49c Value 75c	Men's Hose 9c 3 pair for 25c
Leather Tip & Palm GLOVES 49c Value 75c	B. V. D. Style Union Suits 49c Value 75c	Army Balbriggan Shirts and Drawers 39c each
Heavy Galvanized Lunch Buckets 59c Value 75c	Men's Work Handkerchiefs 4c Value 10c	Army Khaki BREECHES 95c Value \$1.75
Heavy Blue Overalls 95c Value \$1.50	Leather Putties \$1.95 Value \$3.50	White Navy TROUSERS 98c Value \$1.75
Men's Balbriggan Unionsuits 69c. val. \$1.25	Army Overalls & Jumper 79c	Army Cots \$2.98

COME IN AND GIVE US A TRIAL !
L. SHERMAN & SONS

This ad first appeared in the July 1, 1926 edition of the *Downingtown Archive*.

Free Ads for Non-Profits

Summer Jam Music Festival

The Summer Jam Music Festival series at Kerr Park will begin from 6-10 PM on Friday, June 24. The festival, sponsored by the Downingtown Main Street Association and Kimberton Whole Foods, will include music by: The Happy Pita, Mompops Artisan Popsicles, Love Chunk Cookies, Baba's Brew Kombucha and a beer garden hosted by Station Taproom. For more details, check out: <http://downingtownmainstreet.com/blog/summer-jam-series-friday-june-24>

Community Festival

St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Downingtown, will have its ninth annual Community Festival, starting each night at 6 PM, on Tuesday, June 21 through Saturday, June 25. Highlights include great food, live music and Bingo in the cafeteria every night; fireworks on Friday night, Shuttle service available from DHS West HS parking area, via Krapf's Buses, to Festival grounds. For more details and to buy discount wristbands, go to: www.stjoesfestival.com.

Good Neighbor Day

Downingtown's 38th annual Good Neighbor Day will be held at Kerr Park on the Fourth of July. The day-long activities begin with the Run for Life (5K, 10K & 15K) and 5K Freedom Walk at 8 AM, followed by Big Wheel and canoe races, plus a bike decorating contest. Throughout the day you can also enjoy fabulous food, and visit 80-100 craft exhibitors. The events are capped off with a Fireworks display, which starts at dusk. Proceeds from the activities are distributed to these emergency service providers: Alert Fire Co., Minquas Fire Co., Uwchlan Ambulance Corps, East Brandywine Fire Co., Glen Moore Fire Co., and the West Bradford Fire Co. For more details, see: www.goodneighborday.com.

Wall That Heals

Hopewell United Methodist Church and East Brandywine Township will play host this summer to The Wall That Heals, a 250-foot replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Part of a national tour, the replica memorial wall and accompanying mobile education center will be on display throughout the day and night, from Thursday, July 28 until Sunday, July 31 at East Brandywine Township Community Park, 440 Dilworth Road. For more details, see: www.ebrandywine.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=74.

Farmers Market

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

Brochure on DARC classes & activities

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

Banquet room for rent

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

Joseph's People, Downingtown chapter

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