

A NORTH PENN PORTRAIT DETAILS

The video documentary, *A North Penn Portrait*, produced by the acclaimed historian John L. Ruth and his son, cinematographer Jay Ruth, will be featured at a special Lansdale Historical Society Community Program, Tuesday, Feb. 10, 6:45 p.m., at the Lansdale Parks and Recreation Building.

A North Penn Portrait, originally produced in 1987, traces the history and development of the region from the late 1700s through the late 20th century. It is a four-part, two-hour program originally sold as a VHS tape by the North Penn Chamber of Commerce and underwritten by Rosenberger's Cold Storage and Dairies.

To preserve this important program, it is being remastered for DVD from the original film reels for this show.

The documentary is divided into four 30-minute segments, the first describes the Colonial area including native Americans, early immigration, primitive farming and industry and the region's participation in the Revolutionary war. Part 2 spans the period from the Revolution up to the Civil War, describing farm life, folk art, canals,

turnpikes, the coming of the railroad and western migration.

In Part 3, the emergence of towns - due largely to the railroad - is discussed along with town culture, education, newspapers, trolleys, the automobile and World War I. The concluding segment is focused on 20th century changes brought on by World War II, the increased dependence on the car, recreational patterns, a new wave of immigrants and the changing use of our land.

Also included in the documentary are vintage movie clips and interviews with members of Montgomery Township's Knapp family, historian Isaac Clarence Kulp Jr., Bertye Boorse, the postmistress of Montgomeryville, and state Sen. Edwin G. Holl, to name a few.

Because of the program's length, the show will begin at 6:45 p.m. and there will be a 15-minute intermission after the first two segments are shown. Refreshments will be provided.

The Parks and Recreation building is located at 7th St. and Lansdale Ave. Additional parking is available behind Lansdale Catholic High School. There is no admission charge but donations are appreciated.