

Jenkins Journal

LANSDALE, PA

MAY, 2012

The Gwynedds ends show season

May 8 program features a township split in two

The society concludes its 2011-2012 Community Program series with *The Gwynedds*, a retrospective of Upper and Lower Gwynedd, Tuesday, May 8 at the Lansdale Parks and Recreation Building.

The Gwynedds is the final installment of a five-part series featuring the municipalities that surround Lansdale and comprise the North Penn area.

Previous shows focused on the histories of North Wales, Montgomery Township, Towamencin and the Hatfields. Because Upper and Lower Gwynedd were a single governmental body until 1891, both will be included in the May 8 program.

The 7:30 p.m. show will feature vin-



THE WEST POINT HOTEL in Upper Gwynedd, now the Pizza Tyme Saloon.

tage photographs as part of a video presentation produced by Steve Moyer with assistance from researcher Latia Johnson.

The parks and recreation building is located at Seventh St. and Lansdale Ave. There is no admission charge.

Montoya, Walton honored at annual banquet



RAYMOND WALTON

Leopoldo Montoya received the society's 2012 Edwin G. Holl Historic Achievement Award for his research into the life and accomplishments of Lansdale architect Milton B. Bean.

Montoya, of Wyncote, has spent more than 12 years tracing Bean's voluminous body of work that may include more than 1,000 buildings throughout eastern and central Pennsylvania.

Among Bean's designs were the Hotel Tremont, the Music Hall and Lindenwold Castle along with dozens of schools, public schools and commercial buildings and hundreds of private residences in the Bucks-Mont region.

Montoya's interest in Bean was sparked after he purchased a home designed by the Lansdale architect in 1999. In the years that followed, he tracked down

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LEOPOLDO MONTOYA

Railroad is theme for Founders Day

With hopes that no hurricanes are on the horizon this year, Lansdale Borough is formulating plans for the second annual Founders Day on Saturday, Aug. 25.

The theme of this year's event will be the importance of the railroad to Lansdale's early development. There will be special railroading displays at the society's museum room, various downtown locations and possibly the 1903 passenger station which looks much like it did when it first opened..

The Jenkins Homestead will be open for tours and a

variety of exhibits will be set up on the grounds, weather permitting. Work on the John Jenkins assessor's office should be completed in time for Founders Day.

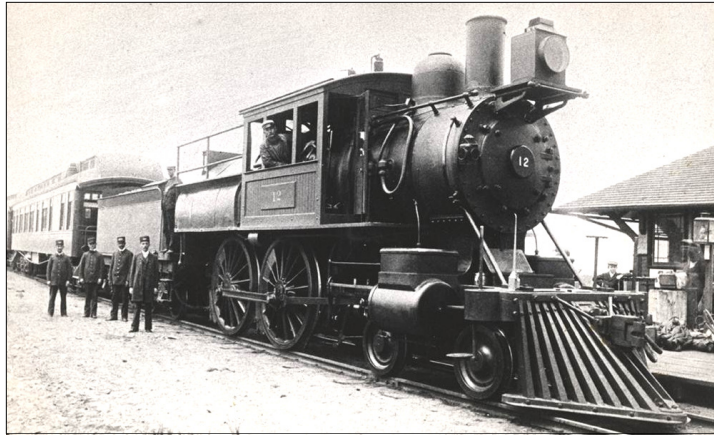
A new feature of this year's Founders Day will be the presentation of the first Lansdale Lifetime Achievement Award to a person whose long-time

commitment and dedication has had a positive influence on the community.

The annual Festival of the Arts will be held at Memorial Park during the day and fireworks will be launched from Weaver Field in the evening.

Many special events for people of all ages are being planned by organizations and businesses in the downtown district.

Also, the society may revive our downtown walking tour on Sunday, Aug. 26. The tour was previously held in 2009 and 2010.



Work progressing on Jenkins assessor's office

Thanks to the carpentry skills of Ed Scheuring, a new set of bookshelves has been installed in the Jenkins assessor's office, which is scheduled to open on Founders Day in August.

The bookshelves replace built-in shelves that were used to store bound newspaper volumes during the days when the society's business office was in the room.

In coming weeks the walls, trim and shelves will be painted. Still to come are a refurbished desk, a table and chairs, and period lighting.

One portion of the room will be reserved for a display that will include the Jenkins family tree, an overlay map of the original Jenkins farm and a display case that will include family artifacts.



Montoya, Walton receive annual awards

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and documented Bean's work one building at a time.

The award was presented to Montoya by President Dick Shearer at the society's annual banquet April 10 at William Penn Inn.

Shearer also presented the annual President's Award to trustee Raymond Walton for his many years of dedicated support to the society. Ray was honored "as a thoughtful and

gifted historian whose carefully considered insights and concise recollections have benefited the society and the community for many years.

"Without him, our efforts to piece together Lansdale's complicated and sometimes confusing history would be next to impossible," Shearer said.

The society's 2013 banquet is scheduled for Tuesday, April 9, also at William Penn Inn.



THE JENKINS HOMESTEAD

Jenkins Homestead and Historical Research Center

•137 Jenkins Ave., Lansdale, PA 19446.

•Hours: Wednesdays, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Thursdays, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturdays, 9 a.m. to noon. (Tuesdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. by appointment).

•Telephone: (215) 855-1872; (215) 393-8919 (fax).

•E-mail: info@lansdalehistory.org

•Please send mail correspondence to 137 Jenkins Ave., Lansdale, PA 19446.

•Website: www.lansdalehistory.org.

May 19 Spring Tea at Elm Terrace Gardens

An Affair to Remember is the theme of the society's second annual spring tea scheduled for Saturday, May 19, at Elm Terrace Gardens.

The tea will focus on wedding traditions down through the years and feature dozens of wedding photos of local couples.

The event will be held in ETG's Dorothy Stiteler Dining Room beginning at 11 a.m.

Tickets priced at \$25 for members and \$28 for non-members must be purchased by May 12 at the society's research center or at Chantilly Floral Boutique, W. Main and Walnut Sts. No tickets will be sold at the door.

Elm Terrace Gardens is located at Seventh and Broad Sts., Lansdale. Parking is available at the First Baptist Church lot.

Marti Drumheller is chairperson of the Spring Tea Committee.

*An Affair
to Remember*



*Wedding
Traditions*

Society to participate in county history fair

Our society will be among dozens of history-related organizations participating in the second Montgomery County History Fair, Saturday Sept. 22 at Augustus Lutheran Church, Trappe.

The theme for this year's fair is *Then and Now*, based on our *Then You Saw It, Now You Don't* shows that has become an annual staple of our Community Program series.

Participating organizations will carry out the theme for their individual communities by the use of photos, videos, storytelling or on-going demonstrations throughout the day.

Historical societies – including LHS – will set up individual display areas along a 250-foot tree-lined

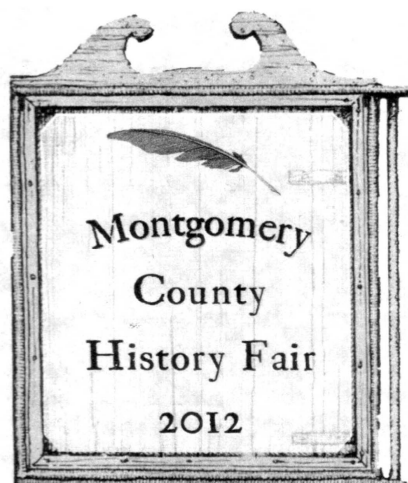
walkway that extends from German-town Pike to Augustus Church. In addition, the fair will feature food and entertainment, a craftsmans' village and a five-part lecture pro-

gram.

Throughout the day there will be tours and concerts in the historic 1743 original church, the oldest unchanged Lutheran church in the country. The adjacent cemetery contains graves dating to the congregation's pre-Revolutionary War days.

Historical societies from Upper and Lower Merion, Trappe, Pottstown, Fort Washington, Limerick, Whitpain, Skippack, Wissahickon Valley, Montgomery Township and Conshohocken are among the organizations that have already agreed to participate.

More information on the history fair will be included in a late summer edition of the *Jenkins Journal*.



IN BRIEF: Model trolley display held over

Trolleys of the North Penn region are now featured in the research center museum.

The displays include scale models, original signs, maps of routes, photographs and other information about the trolley lines that traversed the area for about 1900 until 1951 when the fabled Liberty Bell Route gave way to bus service.

The museum also features a collection of many vintage photographs



of downtown Lansdale that were displayed at Borough Hall during last year's Founders Day celebration.

Trolleys and trains will be among the modes of transportation that will be featured in the museum for this year's Founders Day.

Vote for homestead photos

Here's your chance to vote for the Jenkins complex in a photo competition now under way by the Classic Towns organization of which Lansdale is a member.

Two photographs of the homestead,

captured by Bob Kelly of Upper Gwynedd, are entered in the "History" category, along with various other photos of the borough.

Check out these and many other outstanding photos from around the region at www.Contest.classictowns.org/vote-now.

No closings this summer

The research center and homestead will be open as usual Saturday, May 26 and Saturday, Sept. 1 (the Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends).



Lansdale Historical Society
137 Jenkins Ave., Lansdale, PA 19446



The Jenkins Historic Complex