

Jenkins Journal

LANSDALE, PA

AUGUST, 2015

Society to add new mini-museum at Lansdale Municipal Complex

The society will be expanding to a new location in the coming weeks –but worry not, we aren't moving from our beloved digs on Jenkins Avenue.

Thanks to the Borough of Lansdale, we will establish a mini-museum in the new Lansdale Municipal Complex that will be dedicated during August 29th's Founders Day.

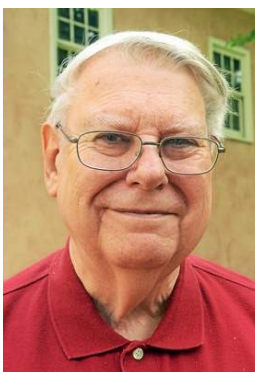
2015-'16 COMMUNITY PROGRAM SCHEDULE: P3-4

The museum will contain four large display cases and plenty of wall space to present pieces of Lansdale's history on a rotating basis throughout the

year. The location in a five-sided anteroom just outside the main council chambers will provide plenty of visibility for the public any time the borough building is open.

While the museum will be unmanned except on special occasions, visitors will be able to view the exhibits and pick up

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Shearer to receive top award at Founders Day

Mark your calendars. Saturday, Aug. 29 is the date for this year's Lansdale Founders Day celebration and it promises to be a very special event for several reasons.

One of the highlights of the day will be the dedication of the

new Lansdale Municipal Complex with ceremonies beginning at 3 p.m. Guided tours of the combination police headquarters and administration building will take place beginning at 10 a.m., ending at 2:30 p.m.

Another feature will be the presentation of Lansdale's Lifetime

Achievement Award to Society President Dick Shearer for his service to the community as an historian and long-time editor of *The Reporter*. In previous years the award was presented to former Fire Chief Jay Davel-

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Children remember parents with tree at Jenkins Homestead

A Japanese cherry tree was planted on the Jenkins Homestead lawn August 8 to honor the memory of long-time Lansdale residents Joseph and Dorothy Dwyer by the couple's children.

A son, James "Jim" Dwyer, who died last summer, requested the dedication tree in a bequest to the society that was received earlier this year. One of the his sisters, Jane Kulp, of Souderton, attended the brief ceremony. Other surviving sisters, Joanne Hespell, Bertie Lee

McKeska, and a brother, Chester, live out of state.

In addition, a brother, Joseph Dwyer Jr., and a sister, Diane Moyer, preceded Jim in death. Diane was the wife of our vice president, Steve Moyer, who conducted the dedication.

STEVE MOYER and JANE KULP discuss Joseph and Dorothy Dwyer at the tree dedication ceremony, August 8.



Founders Day to feature Borough Hall open house

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er, Parks and Recreation Director Carl Saldutti, and the late Steve Frederick, long-time North Penn High School educator, musical director and booster of many community events.

The 3 p.m. ceremony will include band music, presentation of the Lifetime Achievement Award, the unveiling of a dedication plaque and remarks by

various local officials.

Also in the offing for the day are the annual art show in Memorial Park, model train displays at the Fairmount Firehouse, a health fair, family fun area, firefighters' water battle and much more. And don't forget the annual fireworks extravaganza which will conclude the day when they launch from Memorial Park shortly after sunset.



NEW BOROUGH COMPLEX at night.

Photo/John Ernst

Volunteers needed at 3 sites for Founders Day events

As part of the annual Founders Day celebration August 29, the Jenkins Homestead and Research Center will be open 10-2:30 p.m. for tours and (hopefully) the first showing of a very historic addition to the furnishings in the homestead.

The society will be manning three sites during the day: The homestead and research center, the new museum-to-be at the borough complex and a table at Railroad Plaza. As a result, we need more volunteers than ever to help at all three locations.

If you can help, please contact Dick Shearer or Clarence Kinsey at (215) 855-1872, or (info@lansdalehistory.org) by August 27.

Mini-museum coming

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information about the society's programs and activities whenever they are in the building.

We have encountered one snag: The new display cases will not arrive in time for Founders Day so we will present a temporary exhibit on folding tables during open house tours on the 29th. The permanent setup should be in place by the end of September.

Reluctantly the society is closing its museum room in the research center until further notice. The rapidly-increasing size of our archival collection has exhausted the available storage space in both the homestead and research center. Converting the museum room to storage provides another climate-controlled area to protect temperature sensitive material.

ON SALE NOW!

The second edition of *Back In Time* has just arrived from the printers. It is available now at the Society's Research Center Wednesdays and Thursdays 11-4 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m.-noon.

It will also be sold on Founders Day, August 29, at the Research Center, the new Lansdale Municipal Complex, and at Railroad Plaza adjacent to the SEPTA station.

THE COST: \$10 or \$12.50 by mail

(Back In Time Volume 1 is still available at \$10 and \$12.50 by mail.)

BACK IN TIME VOLUME II

TALES OF THE
NORTH PENN VALLEY'S
HISTORIC PAST



**MORE STORIES FEATURING
PEOPLE, PLACES AND EVENTS THAT
HELPED SHAPE OUR COMMUNITIES**

By DICK SHEARER, Lansdale Historical Society



Clouds break for a successful Summer History Camp

The morning of Tuesday, July 14 dawned cloudy and rainy, but the early morning weather didn't dampen the spirits of the 14 boys and girls who attended our 2nd annual Summer History Camp. The sun broke through the clouds as the campers arrived at the Jenkins Homestead, and a pleasant day of games, songs, crafts, and historic activities began.

The children started their day at camp by weaving sit-upons and constructing wooden birdhouses. They also made felted soap from alpaca fleece, churned butter, planted potatoes, made wood block prints, crocheted rugs, sang songs and played games from colonial times.

The campers toured the homestead and learned how to bake cornbread over an open fire. A snack of watermelon followed by a seed-spitting contest ended the day on a happy note.

Thanks to our staff of 12 volunteers who planned and led the various activities.

If you would like to be part of the committee to plan next year's camp, or if you have a skill you would like to share with children, please call Pat Rieker (215) 368-0854, or Barbara Rieck (215) 362-2416.

--Pat Rieker



Photos by Ruth Madison



Lansdale Historical Society



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
- E-mail:** info@lansdalehistory.org
- Please send mail correspondence to:*
- 137 Jenkins Ave., Lansdale, PA 19446.
- Website:** www.lansdalehistory.org.

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Servicewomen honored at Spring Tea

The Lansdale Historical Society 5th annual Spring Tea was held April 23 at Brittany Pointe Estates. The theme was *1775 to 2015: Women Who Have Served*, a tribute to the many women who answered the call to military duty in time times of war.

Representing those U.S. servicewomen at the tea were: Carol Bishop, who served as a captain in the Army in the 1970s; Alice Harvey, Mildred Minniger Kapusta and Janet Higgins, who served in the Navy in World War II, and Virginia Horn who served in the Army in the 1990s.

The servicewomen were treated to tea and given framed pictures

of them in uniform along with a current photograph.

The tea also included a raffle featuring gift certificates, an afghan handmade by a member of the tea committee and many other items donated by local businesses.

Next year's Spring Tea, *A Colonial Tea Party*, is planned for Saturday, April 16. More information will follow in the coming months.

--Marti Drumheller



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



The Jenkins Historic Complex