



LancasterHistory.org

Lancaster County's Historical Society & President James Buchanan's Wheatland

For Immediate Release

*All events are camera friendly, and
principals will be available for interviews.*

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LancasterHistory.org to Conduct WWI-era Artifact Harvest

Donations requested are artifacts, photos, and documents pertaining to 1910s Lancaster County

Lancaster, PA (October 23, 2017) – Do you have a great-grandparent's military discharge papers from World War I? What about old photographs in 1910s Lancaster? Packets of letters?

LancasterHistory.org would love to add them to the collection! LancasterHistory.org is actively seeking World War I-era documents, objects, photographs, and published materials related to Lancaster County from 1910-1919. The "History Harvest" is specifically looking for items that pertain to Lancaster County's involvement in World War I, such as military service, support to the troops or allies, and activities on the home front. Also requested are items related to the Influenza Pandemic of 1918 and other artifacts from the 1910s. LancasterHistory.org will accept original artifacts or digital images of items if the donor wishes to keep the originals.

Artifacts being sought for this event include:

- **Items that have a direct connection to Lancaster County**
- **World War I**
 - Navy uniform and items related to Navy service
 - Photographs and documents of activity on the home front
 - Autobiographical accounts of servicemen, diaries, and correspondence
 - Business records pertaining to the war effort

- Photographs, documents, and objects related to conscientious objectors & pacifists
- **1918 Influenza Pandemic**
 - Diaries, correspondence, documents, and ephemera
 - Photographs & objects related to the pandemic
- **Pamphlets, magazines, or other printed material with content about Lancaster County during the 1910s**

LancasterHistory.org is not accepting munitions and Army uniforms (many Army uniforms are already in the collection).

On the day of the harvest, LancasterHistory.org staff will review the artifacts and determine if they are appropriate for the collection. Donors will be asked to provide any known biographical or historical information for the items, as well as identifying information about each item. Original artifacts can be donated to LancasterHistory.org, or can be scanned and returned upon request. Donations may be used in an upcoming exhibit.

More than 5,000 Lancastrians volunteered or were drafted in World War I. Many served in the Army's 28th Division and the 11th Ambulance Company commanded by Col. Charles P. Stahr, a Lancaster physician. Pennsylvania soldiers guarded Susquehanna River bridges and the tracks of the Pennsylvania Railroad. Red Cross "Gray Ladies" sold Liberty Bonds from a miniature courthouse on Centre Square. To help conserve supplies for the troops, Lancastrians observed gasless Sundays, meatless Mondays, and heatless Tuesdays.

LancasterHistory.org previously held a History Harvest in 2007, and is always accepting gifts of historic objects, documents, photographs, or books. To make an appointment with a staff member to discuss your donation, please call (717) 392-4633. LancasterHistory.org reserves the right to be selective about what is accessioned into the permanent collection.

The World War I – era History Harvest will be held on November 14 from 10am-3pm at LancasterHistory.org, 230 North President Avenue, Lancaster. For more information on donating and the event, visit <https://www.lancasterhistory.org/history-harvest/>.

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