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For Immediate Release

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

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Food historian to unmask PA Dutch cuisine at free lecture

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Lancaster, PA (November 13, 2018) – On Thursday, December 13, 2018, join LancasterHistory.org for a December Regional History Colloquium presentation by Dr. William Woys Weaver on *As American As Shoofly Pie: The Foodlore and Fakelore of Pennsylvania Dutch Cuisine*. Celebrated food historian William Woys Weaver will unmask Pennsylvania Dutch tourist culture while rediscovering the foods of Lancaster County's ancestors.

When visitors travel to Pennsylvania Dutch Country, they are encouraged to consume the local culture by way of “regional specialties” such as cream-filled whoopie pies and deep-fried fritters of every variety. Yet many of the dishes and confections visitors have come to expect from the region did not emerge from Pennsylvania Dutch culture but from expectations fabricated by local-color novels or the tourist industry. At the same time, other less celebrated (and rather more delicious) dishes, such as sauerkraut and stuffed pork stomach, have been enjoyed in Pennsylvania Dutch homes across various localities and economic strata for decades.

Celebrated food historian and cookbook writer William Woys Weaver delves deeply into the history of Pennsylvania Dutch cuisine to sort fact from fiction in the foodlore of this culture. Through interviews with contemporary Pennsylvania Dutch cooks and extensive research into cookbooks and archives, *As American as Shoofly Pie* offers a comprehensive and counter-intuitive cultural history of Pennsylvania Dutch cuisine, its roots and regional characteristics, its communities and class divisions, and, above all, its evolution into a uniquely American style of cookery. Weaver traces the origins of Pennsylvania Dutch cuisine as far back as the first German settlements in America and follows them forward as New Dutch Cuisine continues to evolve and respond to contemporary food concerns. He presents a rich and diverse portrait of a living culinary practice—widely varied among different religious sects and localized communities, rich and poor, rural and urban—that complicates common notions of authenticity.

Dr. William Woys Weaver is an independent food historian and author of numerous books, including *Culinary Ephemera: An Illustrated History* and *Sauerkraut Yankees: Pennsylvania Dutch Food & Foodways*. He also directs the Keystone Center for the Study of Regional Foods and Food Tourism and maintains the Roughwood Seed Collection for heirloom food plants.

About The Event: The Regional History Colloquium is a series of lectures hosted by LancasterHistory.org throughout the year. Presenters at the Colloquium are historians and scholars who are in the midst of a work-in-progress or who have recently completed a publication. Topics focus on historical issues relating to southeastern Pennsylvania and its wider borders.

The event *As American As Shoofly Pie* will take place on Thursday, December 13, 2018 in Ryder Hall at LancasterHistory.org, 230 N. President Avenue in Lancaster. A speaker's reception takes place at 4pm, followed by the main presentation at 4:30pm. The event is free and open to the public. Due to the popularity of the Regional History Colloquium series, **advance registration is required to guarantee a seat at the presentation**. Visit www.lancasterhistory.org/lectures to register online or call (717) 392-4633. Questions and accessibility requests may be directed to info@lancasterhistory.org or (717) 392-4633.

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