



LancasterHistory

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July 2025 Upcoming Events

from LancasterHistory

Please scroll to the bottom for updates on hours and current exhibitions.

July Storytime

Every Thursday in July
10-11am | LancasterHistory

Gather 'round for Storytime each Thursday this July! Each week, we'll read aloud from a book centered on a historical theme or story, followed by a craft or activity inspired by that week's book.

For July, the books schedule is as follows:

- **July 3:** [Of Thee I Sing: A Letter to My Daughters](#) by Barack Obama (Illustrated by Loren Long)
- **July 10:** [Froggy Learns to Swim](#) by Jonathan London (Illustrated by Frank Remkiewicz)
- **July 17:** [Abe Lincoln: The Boy Who Loved Books](#) by Kay Winters (Illustrated by Nancy Carpenter)
- **July 24:** [Sofia Valdez, Future Prez](#) by Andrea Beaty (Illustrated by David Roberts)
- **July 31:** [Acorn Was A Little Wild](#) by Jen Arena (Illustrated by Jessica Gibson)

Storytime is free, and registration is requested to ensure we have craft supplies for everyone. Storytime is designed for young readers, ages 2-6, but older and younger siblings or friends are welcome to attend. Register for all Storytime programs or individual programs [online](#) or over the phone by calling (717) 392-4633.

Storytime will take place outdoors unless it rains, in which case it will be moved indoors. We kindly ask that at least one (1) adult 18 years or older attend for every household.

This event takes place at LancasterHistory, 230 N. President Avenue, Lancaster, PA.

Wheatland "At Your Own Pace"

Saturday, July 5

Entry Every 30 Minutes from 10am - 3pm | LancasterHistory

Explore President James Buchanan's Wheatland at your own pace. On this self-guided tour, you can explore the President's home and see what you want for as long as you want. Tour guides will be stationed around the mansion to provide visitors with information about the spaces, objects, and people who once called Wheatland home.

At-Your-Own-Pace tours are great for families (pick up a scavenger hunt from reception on your way in!) and those who want to take their time viewing the mansion in contrast to our regular 'guided tour' experience. Spend as little or as much time (within operating hours!) as you'd like in President Buchanan's beloved home.

"At-Your-Own-Pace" Tours are only available on Saturday, July 5. Entry times are every 30 minutes from 10am (first tour entry) until 3pm (last tour entry). Ticket purchase also includes self-guided access to LancasterHistory's museum exhibitions. Tickets are \$17/Adult (14+), \$15/Senior (65+), \$10/Youth (6-13), and free for children 5 and under. LancasterHistory Members receive complimentary admission. [**This tour is eligible for our Museums for All rate!**](#)

To purchase tickets in advance, please [**go online**](#) or call (717) 392-4633. Advance tickets are strongly recommended.

This event takes place at LancasterHistory, 230 N. President Avenue, Lancaster, PA.

History Happy Hour

Thursday, July 10

5:30-7:30pm | The Stevens & Smith Center

In addition to being the home of Thaddeus Stevens and Lydia Hamilton Smith, the corner of South Queen and East Vine Streets is home to a rich history of beer and brewing. Here, in 1759, John Frick founded one of the oldest breweries in Lancaster. In the 1860s, the building became a popular lager beer saloon where even the teetotaling Thaddeus Stevens occasionally enjoyed a drink. Enjoy a drink and light bites at LancasterHistory's popular History Happy Hour, inside the Stevens & Smith Center!

A lively talk about the Stevens & Smith Center's brewing and drinking history will be hosted by **Stephanie Townrow**, Director of Interpretation & Exhibitions at LancasterHistory's Thaddeus Stevens & Lydia Hamilton Smith Center and a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Delaware. Stephanie brings a deep knowledge of historic foodways and years of experience researching Stevens, Smith, and the history of the site—as well as a love of beer and history.

History Happy Hour will take place on Thursday, July 10 from 5:30 – 7:30pm at the Stevens & Smith Center, 13-15 East Vine Street, Lancaster, PA. Doors open at 5:30pm and the main program will begin at 6pm. We're excited to partner with [Raney Cellars Brewing Company](#) of Millersville, PA who will be providing and serving History Happy Hour's beer selection for the evening!

Tickets are \$35/person and include access to event, the program by Stephanie Townrow, and a drink and light appetizers. Event suggested for ages 18 or older, and individuals must be 21 years or older to consume alcohol. Non-alcoholic beverages will also be available.

Tickets go on sale Monday, June 30, 2025 at 10am Eastern [on our website](#). Once tickets sell out, there will not be a waiting list.

This event takes place at The Stevens & Smith Center, 13-15 E. Vine Street, Lancaster, PA.

Music on the Lawn, feat. Trouble with Annie

Saturday, July 12

5-7pm | LancasterHistory

Music on the Lawn returns this summer with more fantastic local bands in James Buchanan's backyard! This family- (and dog-) friendly event welcomes attendees to relax and enjoy an evening outdoors with live music. July's concert features Trouble with Annie playing the best of country music from the '90s through the 2000s.

Tickets are free for LancasterHistory Members, \$10/Adult (18+) Non-Members, and free for Children 17 & Under. Tickets may be purchased [online](#) or by calling (717) 392-4633. Tickets are also available at-the-door with cash or card (cash preferred).

Attendees are encouraged to bring their own blankets, foldable chairs, and picnics. Well-behaved, leashed dogs are welcome. The concert is 5-7pm.

If you require any special accommodations to attend, please notify Annie Weeks at (717) 392-4633, ext. 134 or annie.weeks@lancasterhistory.org in advance. Restrooms available onsite.

In the event of inclement weather, the call will be made at noon on July 12 and ticketholders will be notified. The rain date for this event is Sunday, July 13 from 1-3pm.

This event takes place at LancasterHistory, 230 N. President Avenue, Lancaster, PA.

Butterflies & Moths As Pollinators

Saturday, July 26

10-11:30am | LancasterHistory

Discover the worlds of some of our favorite pollinators, butterflies and moths, at July's Nature Series program! Master Gardener Deb Carman will present on the niche that lepidopterans (butterflies and moths) occupy among other insect pollinators. Learn about the similarities and differences between dazzling butterflies and marvelous moths, as well as what native plants attract certain species.

Debra Carman is a Penn State Master Gardener (York County), Chair of the Native Plant Habitat Committee, and a butterfly and moth habitat specialist. Carmon's mission is to inspire others to make positive environmental changes in their gardening practices. She enjoys teaching the importance of creating environmentally friendly habitats with native plants that foster food webs for all wildlife.

HOW TO REGISTER

The event, "Butterflies & Moths As Pollinators" will take place on Saturday, July 26 at 10am at LancasterHistory. The event is open to the public. Tickets are \$10/Adults and \$5/Children (17 & Under). Friends of the Tanger Arboretum members receive complimentary admission, but should still register for the program. Tickets may be purchased [online](#) or by calling (717) 392-4633. Advance tickets recommended as walk-in tickets are not guaranteed.

This event takes place at LancasterHistory, 230 N. President Avenue, Lancaster, PA.

EXHIBITIONS ON DISPLAY

Main Exhibition - ***Thieves & Vagabonds: A History of Law and Justice in Lancaster County***

LancasterHistory's newest major exhibition, *Thieves & Vagabonds*, chronicles key moments in the history of law and justice in Lancaster County from the 18th century to the 20th century. From prisons to prohibition, *Thieves & Vagabonds* explores the making, breaking, and remaking of laws over 300 years of Lancaster County's history. Visit LancasterHistory's newest exhibition for a deep dive into crime and punishment as well as reform and repair in the Lancaster community.

Special Exhibition -

Open The Door: Baseball's Color Line in Central Pennsylvania

When Jackie Robinson broke baseball's color line in 1947, he toppled a barrier that existed nationwide for Black baseball players, including those in Central Pennsylvania. *Open The Door*, will tell the remarkable stories of teams like the Harrisburg Giants of the Eastern Colored League and men like Keith Kelley who integrated the Red Roses on the 100th anniversary of the Giants' stint playing at Lancaster's Rossmore Base Ball Park.

"Open The Door" is now on display at LancasterHistory in Stoudt Gallery through August 30, 2025. Admission to the exhibit is included with the purchase of a General Admission ticket or Exhibitions-Only ticket. LancasterHistory Members receive complimentary admission.

LANCASTERHISTORY HOURS OF OPERATION

HOURS OF OPERATION

LancasterHistory is open Mondays through Saturdays from 9:30am to 5pm to the public. Tours of President James Buchanan's Wheatland are available from 10am to 3pm. The Research Center is open Wednesdays - Fridays and the first Saturday of the month from 9:30am to 2pm for appointments.

CLOSURES

All operations of LancasterHistory, including President James Buchanan's Wheatland, will be **closed to the public on Friday, July 4** for Independence Day.



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