



# LancasterHistory

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## June 2025 Upcoming Events

*from LancasterHistory*

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

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### First Friday Open House

**Friday, June 6**

**5-7pm** | The Stevens & Smith Center

Join LancasterHistory on Friday, June 6, for First Friday at the Stevens & Smith Center! From 5-7pm, enjoy a sneak peek of the Stevens & Smith Center, see the incredible progress happening at this future museum, and learn about the road ahead to opening in 2026.

Plus, we're excited to host the Landis Run Intermediate School 5th Grade for their English Language Arts (ELA) class art presentations: "The Freedom Art Project." Students will display their art that answers the question "what does freedom mean?" All are welcome to attend.

The First Friday Open House on June 6 is free and open to the public and does not require advance registration. This event is also family friendly; all ages are encouraged to attend. The event will take place at the Stevens & Smith Center, 45 S. Queen Street, Lancaster. Please use the entrance around the corner on East Vine Street.

*This event takes place at the Stevens & Smith Center, 13-15 E. Vine Street, Lancaster, PA. (Formerly 45 S. Queen Street) Please use the entrance around the corner on East Vine Street.*

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# Creeks & Critters

**Saturday, June 7**

**10am** | LancasterHistory

Summer is a fantastic time to explore life in our local creeks. On Saturday, June 7, Lancaster County Park Senior Naturalist Lisa Sanchez will bring the creek to LancasterHistory for our Nature Series program, "Creeks & Critters!" Examine various "critters" representing a sample of life from a creek and learn about the life cycle of the many insects that begin their lives in the water. Aquatic insects, such as dragonflies, mosquitoes, and mayflies, play a valuable role in our ecosystems and help tell us a lot about the quality of the water and the health of our creeks and streams.

**Lisa J. Sanchez** has been a naturalist at the Lancaster County Department of Parks and Recreation Environmental Center for 30 years. Teaching students of all ages to explore and value the wonders of nature is her passion. She enjoys helping people reconnect with the earth through education and observation. Lisa can often be found in her garden or kayaking on the river.

## HOW TO REGISTER

The event, "Creeks & Critters" will take place on Saturday, June 7 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.*

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# Wheatland "Go-At-Your-Own-Pace" Tours

**Saturday, June 7**

**Entry 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.

"Go-At-Your-Own-Pace" Tours are only available on Saturday, June 7. 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 LancasterHistory's 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.*

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## Open The Door: A Discussion of the History of Race & Baseball in Lancaster County

**Tuesday, June 17**

**5:30-8pm** | LancasterHistory

On Sunday, April 26, 1925, the Harrisburg Giants of the Eastern Colored League played the first of five official league games at Rossmore Base Ball Park in Lancaster County. The Eastern Colored League was one of many segregated leagues that existed in the first half of the 20th Century when white owners observed an unwritten but clearly understood rule barring Black players from their teams. Yet despite the bigotry they faced elsewhere, Black owners, players, and fans built the Negro Leagues into a space where they could thrive. From the Harrisburg Giants to Jackie Robinson to Black and brown players in the game today, the history of baseball isn't just about scores and statistics—it provides a lens through which to view the history of race and democracy in America.

Join LancasterHistory, local historian Jeremy Raff, and Crispus Attucks Community Center's Young Professionals of Color Network on Tuesday June 17, 2025 for a special event celebrating the Harrisburg Giants and the Negro Leagues. The evening will begin with a short film and panel discussion to celebrate the Giants' centennial and the opening of LancasterHistory's latest exhibit *Open the Door: The Harrisburg Giants, the Red Roses, and Baseball's Color Line in Central Pennsylvania*. Following the panel, we'll break into smaller groups for further discussions of sports and race in America.

### Schedule of Events

- 5:30pm – *A Century of Change* Film Screening and Panel Discussion
  - *A Century of Change*, a PBS documentary, tells the story of the Negro National League teams which were not only an economic staple in the Black community, but a source of pride. The panel, moderated by Jeremy Raff, will feature Lancaster historian Leroy Hopkins, baseball historian Ted Knorr, and India Garnett, grand niece of Rap Dixon, a star for the Harrisburg Giants.
- 6:30pm – Reception
- 7pm – Small Group Discussions

This event is free and open to the public, but registration is requested. To register, [please click here](#) or call (717) 392-4633 to register over the phone.

*Event is presented in partnership with Crispus Attucks Community Center and Young Professionals of Color Lancaster.*

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

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## Juneteenth Coffee Hour & Storytime

**Thursday, June 19**

**9-10am** | The Stevens & Smith Center

“On Juneteenth National Freedom Day, we celebrate the end of race-based chattel slavery in the United States. We celebrate this important event in our political, economic and social history. At the same time, we acknowledge the burden that slavery has left for us all.” –[Blanding Watson, President of the Lancaster Branch of NAACP](#)

On Thursday, June 19, join LancasterHistory and the Lancaster Branch of the NAACP at the Thaddeus Stevens & Lydia Hamilton Smith Center for History and Democracy for a special coffee hour and children's storytime to celebrate Juneteenth! At 9am, enjoy light breakfast treats before settling down for storytime, featuring two special guests who will read the books *Juneteenth for Mazie* (by Floyd Cooper) and *All Different Now* (by Angela Johnson). After storytime, we'll make a craft for kids to take home.

Juneteenth Coffee Hour & Storytime is free and open to all ages. Book selections are suggested for readers 12 years of age or under. Registration is appreciated to ensure we have craft supplies for everyone. [Click here to register online](#) for Juneteenth Coffee Hour & Storytime or call (717) 392-4633 to register over the phone.

Juneteenth Coffee Hour & Storytime will take place at the Stevens & Smith Center, 13-15 E. Vine Str. in Lancaster (formerly 45 S. Queen Str.), from 9 – 10am. Please use our main entrance on East Vine Street.

All are invited to join us for a walk to City Hall for the Juneteenth Flag Raising after the program concludes.

*This event takes place at the Stevens & Smith Center, 13-15 E. Vine Street, Lancaster, PA. (Formerly 45 S. Queen Street) Please use the entrance around the corner on East Vine Street.*

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## Annual Gathering of LancasterHistory

**Wednesday, June 25**

**5:30-7:30pm** | LancasterHistory

Enjoy a summer evening of history and fellowship on Wednesday, June 25! Savor decadent light bites and refreshing cocktails, explore captivating exhibits, and stroll the lush grounds of the Tanger Arboretum. Challenge your friends to lively games and learn about what's ahead at LancasterHistory! And, don't miss our exciting new way to directly support artifacts and projects: investing in our "Pet Project" Program.

Tickets are now available and start at \$100 per person. Each ticket includes admission to the event, heavy hors d'oeuvres, and drinks. RSVP by June 16 at [lancasterhistory.org/gathering](https://lancasterhistory.org/gathering).

*All proceeds from the Annual Gathering benefit the education and public programs of LancasterHistory.*

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

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## 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.

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### Special Exhibition -

### ***Open The Door: Baseball's Color Line in Central Pennsylvania*** **Coming June 9, 2025**

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” will be on display at LancasterHistory in Stoudt Gallery from June 9 – 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.