



# LancasterHistory

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## November 2023 Upcoming Events

*from LancasterHistory*

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

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### Four Presidents & A Constitution

Thursday, November 2

5pm Reception, 5:30pm Lecture | LancasterHistory

**\*\*NOTE FOR MEDIA: A dedicated press release about "Four Presidents & A Constitution" was disseminated on October 23. Please check our [Press Room](#) for this release.\*\***

On Thursday, November 2, join LancasterHistory as we welcome author David Fisher to discuss how the four United States presidents who served between 1850 – 1865, including James Buchanan, viewed their obligation to the United States' Constitution.

All American Presidents are sworn into office with an oath to “preserve, protect, and defend the

Constitution of the United States,” but interpretations of that obligation have varied from one executive to another. How should history view the presidents who served between 1850 – 1865, including their successes and failures, in the context of various constitutional provisions, such as its clauses and amendments? Is there a “higher law” than the Constitution and, if so, when should it be invoked? Author David Fisher will discuss these various Constitutional interpretations in the context of the four presidents who served between 1850 and 1865, including James Buchanan.

**David Fisher** is the author of the *Presidential Chronicles*, a series of books and videos on American history as seen through the lives of the Presidents of the United States. Fisher has a Bachelor of Arts in Communication from Stanford University and a Masters of Business Administration from Santa Clara University’s Leavey School of Business. He has held multiple positions in his life, including that of a play-by-play announcer and computer systems analyst. He has also worked for a variety of high-level government offices, such as the Internal Revenue Service, the U.S. Government Accountability Office, and the Department of Defense. He currently works as a Risk Solutions Lead at Guidehouse, a public sector and commercial market consulting service provider, in Washington, D.C. *Presidential Chronicles* is his first book series.

## EVENT DETAILS & HOW TO REGISTER

This event is expected to take place in person at LancasterHistory on Thursday, November 2, 2023. Doors open and the reception begins at 5pm. The lecture will begin at 5:30pm. The lecture will also be livestreamed to Zoom at 5:30pm for those who wish to join us virtually.

This program is free and open to the public. In-person attendance requires advance registration in order to guarantee a seat. Due to capacity restrictions, tickets may not be available at the door. Virtual attendance requires advance registration in order to receive the Zoom link. Register online by clicking the appropriate link below or by calling (717) 392-4633. Registration will close online on Thursday, November 2 at 5:30pm.

[REGISTER TO ATTEND IN PERSON](#)

[REGISTER TO ATTEND ONLINE](#)

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

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## Historic Trees of Lancaster County: Part 2

**Saturday, November 4**

**2pm** | LancasterHistory

**\*\*NOTE FOR MEDIA: A dedicated press release about "Historic Trees of Lancaster County" was disseminated on October 24. Please visit our [Press Room](#) for this release.\*\***

On Saturday, November 4 at 11am, join the Friends of the Tanger Arboretum and presenter Len Eiserer for “Historic Trees of Lancaster County: Part 2.” Learn about local, still living trees with

intriguing, historical connections. Trees include those with connections to the 1787 Constitutional Convention, the 1876 Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, and Lancaster's 18th & 19th-century silk industries.

**Len Eiserer** received his Bachelor's degree from the University of Maine and his doctorate in Psychology from Bryn Mawr College. He has taught for 38 years and currently teaches at Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC). He maintains the website, [Tree Treasures of Lancaster County](#), and serves on the board of the Friends of the Tanger Arboretum.

*Historic Trees of Lancaster County: Part 2* will take place on Saturday, November 4 at 11am at LancasterHistory, 230 North President Avenue. Tickets are free, but advance reservations are highly recommended. (Walk-in tickets are not guaranteed.) Tickets [may be reserved online](#) or by calling (717) 392-4633. Ticketholders should check-in at LancasterHistory's museum before proceeding into the auditorium in Ryder Hall.

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

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## Prohibition: The Misunderstood Reform

Thursday, November 9

5pm Reception, 5:30pm Lecture | LancasterHistory

**\*\*NOTE FOR MEDIA: A dedicated press release about "Prohibition: The Misunderstood Reform" was disseminated on October 30. Please visit our [Press Room](#) for this release.\*\***

On Thursday, November 9, join LancasterHistory as we welcome Villanova University's Dr. Mark Schrad who will discuss the reality of temperance as a broad-based progressive movement linked to fights for the abolition of slavery, suffrage for women, and public health.

The 18th Amendment and national prohibition is typically attributed to a uniquely American temperance movement, composed of conservative, puritanical zealots intent on legislating what one can and cannot drink. In reality, temperance was a broad-based and progressive international movement against the predatory "liquor traffic" that subordinated public health and well-being to the pursuit of private profit. Placing the American temperance experience in proper international context lays bare the shortcomings of conventional wisdom about prohibition, and delivers a more nuanced understanding of social movements in both American and world history. This talk will give global context to our new exhibit's discussion of prohibition in Lancaster County.

**Dr. Mark Schrad** is a Professor of Political Science and Director of Russian Area Studies at Villanova University. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and is the author of three books with Oxford University Press, including *Vodka Politics: Alcohol, Autocracy, and the Secret History of the Russian State* (2014), which has been translated into a half-dozen world languages. His most recent book, *Smashing the Liquor Machine: A Global History of Prohibition* has been awarded a coveted *Kirkus* starred review, and is the winner of the Francesco Guicciardini Prize for the Best Book in Historical International Relations from the

## EVENT DETAILS & HOW TO REGISTER

This event is expected to take place in person at LancasterHistory on **Thursday, November 9, 2023**. Doors open and the reception begins at 5pm. The lecture will begin at 5:30pm. The lecture will also be streamed to Zoom at 5:30pm for those who wish to join us virtually. Copies of *Smashing the Liquor Machine* will be available for sale in the Museum Store while supplies last. Dr. Schrad will be available to sign copies of his book starting at 5pm.

This program is free and open to the public. In-person attendance requires advance registration in order to guarantee a seat. Due to capacity restrictions, tickets may not be available at the door. Virtual attendance requires advance registration in order to receive the Zoom link. Register online by clicking the appropriate link below or by calling (717) 392-4633. Registration will close online on Thursday, November 9 at 5:30pm.

[REGISTER TO ATTEND IN PERSON](#)

[REGISTER TO ATTEND ONLINE](#)

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

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## LancasterHistory's ExtraGive Open House

**Friday, November 17**

**9:30am - 5pm** | LancasterHistory

**\*\*NOTE FOR MEDIA: A dedicated press release about "LancasterHistory's ExtraGive Open House" will be disseminated on November 6. Stay tuned or visit our [Press Room](#) after November 6 for this release.\*\***

Join LancasterHistory on Friday, November 17 to celebrate the ExtraGive with our special ExtraGive Open House! From 9:30 am - 5 pm, be the first to see a preview of the latest major exhibition, *Thieves & Vagabonds: A History of Law & Justice in Lancaster County*. You can also enjoy a visit to the Research Center and light nibbles and drinks throughout the day. Ride the good vibes of ExtraGive Day while spending it with history (& friends) at LancasterHistory! LancasterHistory Members and ExtraGive donors to LancasterHistory are free.

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

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## "Thieves & Vagabonds: A History of Law & Justice in Lancaster County" Exhibition Opens

## Opening Friday, November 17

**\*\*NOTE FOR MEDIA: A dedicated press release about "Thieves & Vagabonds" will be disseminated on November 2. Stay tuned or visit our [Press Room](#) after November 2 for this release.\*\***

LancasterHistory is excited to unveil its newest exhibition, *Thieves & Vagabonds: A History of Law & Justice in Lancaster County*, on Friday, November 17, 2023. The exhibition offers visitors an immersive journey through Lancaster County's tumultuous history of law and justice from the 18th century to the 20th century.

Covering a vast timeline, from the early European settlers' interactions with Indigenous peoples, to the idealism of the civil rights movements of the 20th century, *Thieves & Vagabonds* shines a light on lawmaking, lawbreaking, and the impact of both on the Lancaster community.

### Highlights from the Exhibition Include:

- Two Lady Justice statue heads from atop the Lancaster County courthouse;
- Books from the colonial law library of Jasper Yeates;
- A jury selection drum used at the Lancaster County courthouse from the early 1800s until the 1970s;
- An 1851 door from a Lancaster County Prison cell;
- Two liquor stills confiscated by police during prohibition;
- The service weapon that belonged to Elwood Gainor, a victim of murder and only Lancaster City police officer to be killed while on duty; and
- The black and pink banner used by the Pink Triangle Coalition during marches for LGBTQ civil rights in the 1990s.

### ***Thieves & Vagabonds***

The title "Thieves & Vagabonds" is derived from the 1728 petition to Governor John Penn which asked for the creation of Lancaster County. The petition highlighted the challenges of policing distant wilderness areas and the aspiration to instill peace, safety, and justice through the government, courts, and prisons that would enforce laws in the new county.

Throughout the exhibition, LancasterHistory invites visitors to think critically about their personal perceptions of law and justice. Why do we have laws? What is justice? Is justice truly blind? The exhibition and future related educational programming aim to promote introspection and community dialogue on the complexities of law and justice.

### How to Visit

The exhibition opens to the public on Friday, November 17, coinciding with the ExtraGive. After November 17, the exhibition will be on display during regular operating hours at LancasterHistory, Monday - Saturday, 9:30am - 5pm. Visitors can see the exhibition by purchasing a General Admission (or Yuletide General Admission) ticket or a Museum Exhibitions Only ticket. LancasterHistory Members visit for free.

## The Invention of Childhood: Victorian Children's Books

**Saturday, November 18**

2pm | LancasterHistory

**\*\*NOTE FOR MEDIA: A dedicated press release about "The Invention of Childhood" will be disseminated on November 8. Stay tuned and check back at our [Press Room](#) for this release after November 8.\*\***

LancasterHistory invites the public to explore the fascinating world of children's literature from the Victorian era during its upcoming hands-on *Collections Up Close* program and pop-up exhibit titled "The Invention of Childhood." The event is scheduled for Saturday, November 18, at 2 p.m at LancasterHistory.

Attendees will have the unique opportunity to view and handle illustrated children's books from the period, pulled directly from LancasterHistory's expansive collections. The program will explore the balance between play and education within these works, how they reflect Victorian attitudes towards labor and empire, and the influence of technological advancements on book design during this era.

The *Collections Up Close* series offers attendees a closer look at specific artifacts, documents, and photos from the LancasterHistory collections. Led by knowledgeable LancasterHistory staff and visiting experts, these programs are conducted in a conversational setting, allowing participants to uncover the narratives behind each object. Through these stories, the items not only shed light on Lancaster County's history but also emphasize its significance within the broader context of American history.

Due to the intimate nature of the *Collections Up Close* programs, the capacity for "The Invention of Childhood" event is limited. Advance registration is strongly recommended to secure a spot. Tickets are priced at \$10 for LancasterHistory Members and \$15 for Non-Members. To purchase or reserve tickets, interested parties can visit the [LancasterHistory website](#) or call (717) 392-4633.

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

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## Yuletide at Wheatland

**November 20 - December 30, 2023**

**\*\*NOTE FOR MEDIA: A dedicated press release about "Yuletide at Wheatland" will be disseminated on November 1. Stay tuned and please check back at our [Press Room](#) for this release after November 1.\*\***

LancasterHistory invites the public to experience the rich history of the festive season with its annual event, *Yuletide at Wheatland*. From November 20 to December 30, 2023, attendees can observe the holiday traditions of the late 1800s through the eyes of President James Buchanan's niece and nephew, Harriet Lane and James Buchanan "Buck" Henry.

These guided, history-infused holiday tours provide an intimate look at Christmas in the years after Buchanan's death in 1868. Attendees will explore how the holiday spirit blossomed during the Second Industrial Revolution, from the advent of electric tree lights to the burgeoning culture of gift-giving and entertainment.

Tickets are now available for purchase [online](#) or by calling (717) 392-4633. For additional details and FAQs, visitors are urged to refer to [LancasterHistory's official website](#).

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

## **EXHIBITIONS COMING NOVEMBER 17**

### **COMING SOON | 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 - *Black Lancastrians in the Arts: A Lasting Legacy***

Explore the enduring work of African American artists in Lancaster County. This new photo exhibit highlights the music, films, and performances of artists like Madeline Anderson and The Tranells through historical images in LancasterHistory's archives. Examine how these individuals navigated Lancaster from the Fulton Opera House to J.P. McCaskey High School and the impact they left on local, national, and international institutions.

## **LANCASTERHISTORY HOURS OF OPERATION**

## **NOVEMBER HOURS 2023**

LancasterHistory is open Mondays through Saturdays from 9:30am to 5pm to the public.

Tours of Wheatland are available from 10am to 3pm. The Research Center is open Tuesdays - Saturdays from 9:30am to 2pm for appointments.

### **NOVEMBER EXCEPTIONS TO HOURS**

President James Buchanan's Wheatland will be closed to tours from November 12 - 19 (all other operations on normal schedule). The Research Center will be closed to the public on November 17 and 24. All operations of LancasterHistory will be closed on November 23 for Thanksgiving.