



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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September 2017 Story Ideas

from LancasterHistory.org

Saturday, September 2, 11am & 2pm

African-American Heritage Walking Tours

Learn about abolitionists, Underground Railroad agents, preachers and entrepreneurs in downtown Lancaster. An expert tour guide takes visitors to the important places in African-American history. Sites include Black businesses on Penn Square, the site of the Elite Hotel, the Thaddeus Stevens & Lydia Hamilton Smith historic site, Trinity Lutheran Church, Lancaster County Courthouse, St. James Episcopal Church, site of the old Lancaster Train Station, Shreiner-Concord Cemetery, Fulton Hall/Old Jail and Central Market. Tours last 60-90 minutes.

Tours will be given the first Saturday of every month through October. No reservations needed. Tickets available tour days at the Lancaster City Visitor Center.

Lancaster City Visitor Center, 38 Penn Square, Lancaster

Saturday, September 2, Tours 12 - 3pm

Copperhead or War Democrat?

Living History at Wheatland

It's September 1864. Atlanta has fallen, and Sherman now marches to the sea. Farragut has taken Mobile. Grant and Lee are at a stalemate near Richmond. As the war machine grinds on, the casualties pile up by the tens of thousands. A presidential election campaign is underway, but the Democrats are deeply split – The War Democrats want the Confederacy defeated; The Peace Democrats, also known as the Copperheads, want a negotiated settlement now. But who is on what side? Former President James Buchanan is hosting friends at Wheatland. Will they reveal themselves?

Presentations are on the hour and last about 30 minutes. Coverage can be arranged for any tour. Tickets available online at www.lancasterhistory.org.

President James Buchanan's Wheatland, 230 North President Avenue, Lancaster

Thursday, September 14, 3pm

Curator's Tour of Lancaster County Quilts

Few things identify Lancaster County more than the intricate and fascinating quilts made here. Curators Wendell Zercher and Tori Pyle discuss some of the more noteworthy designs in LancasterHistory.org's extensive quilt collection, with a focus on those from Lancaster County's Mennonite and other Anabaptist traditions.

Tickets available online at www.lancasterhistory.org.

LancasterHistory.org, 230 North President Avenue, Lancaster

Thursday, September 14

Reception & Book Signing at 4pm | Lecture at 4:30pm

Plain Meetinghouses: Old Order Mennonites Gather to Worship

Regional History Colloquium

Something outsiders rarely get to see: Old Order Mennonite Meetinghouses up close. Author Beth Oberholtzer and photographer John Herr were granted unusual access to 22 of them and will show and discuss the startling utilitarian beauty of these structures which have dotted the Lancaster County countryside for over 300 years.

The event is free and open to the public. Books will be available for purchase on-site.

LancasterHistory.org, 230 North President Avenue, Lancaster

Tuesday, September 19, 12 - 1pm

Science & Nature in Lancaster County, 1870 - 1900

LancasterHistory.org National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship recipient Adam Shapiro will share findings from his research in the collections.

The event is free and open to the public. To attend the presentation, please RSVP to Emily Miller at (717) 392-4633, Ext. 133 by September 15.

LancasterHistory.org, 230 North President Avenue, Lancaster

Friday, September 29

Reception at 4pm | Lecture at 4:30pm

Sink Hole: How Kansas Crises Doomed the Presidencies of Franklin Pierce and James Buchanan

Presidential Lecture Series

Kansas: Beautiful rolling plains and agricultural riches beyond the imagination. Hardly the kind of place to sink the careers of two U.S. Presidents in succession. ...But it did. In the first LancasterHistory.org Presidential Lecture of the 2017 season, Dr. Michael Holt, Langbourne M. Williams Professor of American History Emeritus at the University of Virginia, will explain how.

The event is free and open to the public.

LancasterHistory.org, 230 North President Avenue, Lancaster

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