

THE BULLETIN  
OF THE  
RADNOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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VOLUME VII

2012

No. 2

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*HEADQUARTERS AND MUSEUM*

THE FINLEY HOUSE  
113 WEST BEECH TREE LANE  
WAYNE, PENNSYLVANIA 19087

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*Visitors Cordially Welcome.*

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*“The Radnor Historical Society is committed to preserve, protect, present, and promote the history of Radnor Township.”*

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The Bulletin of the Radnor Historical Society has been printed annually and distributed to members of the Society since 1950. Today, each issue is printed the year following its cover date, so that reports on the Society's programs and developments correspond with the year shown on the cover.

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Expanded content for some of the articles featured in this issue can be found on our website: [www.radnorhistory.org/bulletin](http://www.radnorhistory.org/bulletin)

## Errata

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The following are corrections and clarifications to the 2011 Radnor Historical Society Bulletin:

- p. 16: An unidentified Radnor Township employee was shown in a photograph (copied below) from the *Suburban & Wayne Times* collection. The woman has since been identified as Mrs. Lucretia W. Hummel, an assistant secretary of the Township. According to her death notice in the *Suburban* in 1953, she served our township for 26 years, 22 of them as secretary to the Board of Commissioners and other boards and commissions.



*If you spot any errors, have any comments about this Bulletin, or if you would like to contribute to future editions, please write to the editor at [webmaster@radnorhistory.org](mailto:webmaster@radnorhistory.org).*

## President's Letter

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Our historic preservation work was probably the shining light for the Society in 2012. In May, the War Memorial on S. Wayne Avenue was re-dedicated. For 18 months the Society worked with the Bateman-Gallagher American Legion Post and the Wayne Public Safety Association to raise money to restore and expand this wonderful monument. One of our members, Gene Hough, polished the bronze, and we added some benches, widened the walkways, enhanced the plantings, and added new flagpoles. The results are outstanding!

Then, in June, the Downtown Wayne Historic District was placed on the National Register of Historic Places. While this designation doesn't actually protect downtown Wayne, it gives it bragging rights. Our goal was to show residents, developers, and businesses that we have something special that should be enjoyed with pride. We worked on this project for a number of years, and one of our members, Brad Palmer, one of the owners of the old *Suburban & Wayne Times* building, finalized the paperwork and pushed it through.

In the Fall, the township installed a granite marker outside a pizza shop on County Line Road near the Bryn Mawr Hospital. This marker was found close by about 4 feet underground during some road work, and was donated to the Society for safekeeping. We believe this is a very old marker and "15 to C" is chiseled on the top. We checked with some roadside marker experts, but could not find a definitive answer as to its exact purpose. It could mean 15 miles to Chester, which is about the right distance from the location of its discovery.

Finally, our Historic Plaque Program added several more properties to its list of recipients.

Our array of programs showcased many very interesting events. A lovely historical walking tour of Garrett Hill was enjoyed by the attendees. We had several very popular events with the Radnor Memorial Library which were very well attended. Videos of many of these events are on our website, [www.radnorhistory.org](http://www.radnorhistory.org), in case you missed them.

Donations continue to come in, and we are always pleased to discover what comes through the door! We love surprises, so if you have any memorabilia that pertains to Radnor, please contact us. Thank you!

Ted Pollard  
President

## A Remembrance

### *Carol Creutzburg*

27 February 1921 – 16 May 2012

We note with sorrow the death of Carol Creutzburg, longtime active member of our Society, Board Member, writer, illustrator, inexhaustible source of happy memories of Wayne and its people.



The daughter of Harry Creutzburg, founder of Main Line School Night, Carol spent much of her life in the family home on Poplar Avenue, in Wayne. Eventually her health made it advisable for her to move to Devon Manor, where she died on 16 May 2012. She was 91. Her house, which should have been preserved as an historic site, has been demolished, and replaced with two others. The Creutzburg Center, in Harford Park, is named in honor of her father.

At one point in her life Carol left Wayne and spent some time in Greenwich Village, New York, where she drew many of her special greeting cards. She had a particular fondness for cats, whom she portrayed with great sensitivity and appreciation. On her return to Wayne she wrote and illustrated many articles for *The Suburban and Wayne Times*, which are preserved in an album at the Finley House.

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During my years as President of our Society, she, as Vice President, kept me on track; in her firm but quiet way she reminded me of things that needed to be done, and resisted things that should not be done: “O, Bennett, we can’t do that.” Usually she was right.

Carol, though humble, was every inch a lady, serene and gracious at all times. She dressed impeccably, always in muted colors, which were very becoming to her, but with interesting and characteristic touches. I particularly remember a pair of earrings made from acorns. I never saw her wear anything but a skirt – “pants” were not ladylike.

She rode her bicycle everywhere she went; to my knowledge she never had a car, and depended on friends for transportation when the bicycle would not do. There was a little red flag on a tall staff attached to her bicycle, so she could be spotted in more aggressive traffic. She spent a lot of time at the Finley House (“The Society”), and we would often find her bicycle parked by the front steps.

The last time I talked with Carol I was at Devon Manor recovering from an operation. We arranged to meet one afternoon in the gazebo in the garden. She was her same old self, asking questions and making thoughtful comments. That’s the way I remember her. She was one of the “treasures” of the Radnor Historical Society, and we shall miss her.

*Bennett Hill*  
*February 2013*

## Featured Articles

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# A Visit to a Former Wayne Diner, Reborn in Buffalo

By Greg Prichard

*A version of this article first appeared in Radnor Patch on May 23, 2013*

In many ways, 1950s Wayne was the quintessential small American town. If one were to travel back to Lancaster Avenue in those days, they would witness patrons coming and going from the old Lancaster County Farmers Market or Acme store, students (both junior and senior high) going to the Sun Ray drugstore or the Woolworth's lunch counter, and police officers helping pedestrians cross the Avenue. What one would not see is throngs of people waiting in line for restaurant tables on North Wayne Avenue.

These modern day eateries are now what drive our local economy, and have earned North Wayne Avenue the moniker of "restaurant row." Without a Xilantro or Teresa's, where would somebody have gone to eat as a hungry Wayne pedestrian in 1955? There were, of course, the lunch counters, and perhaps a fancy restaurant or two. And then there was the Wayne Diner, right in the middle of Lancaster Pike across from Louella Avenue.

The diner was originally the Main Line Grille, an early trolley car inspired building that resembled the Frazer Diner further west on Rt. 30. It was attached on its east side to the brick Neighborhood League building. In 1952, it was upgraded significantly with a prefabricated Mountain View Diner (model #446, to be exact), made of gleaming stainless steel. Mountain View was a small company known for its durable structures, many of which still serve customers. Another example can be found in Newtown Square, currently Hill's Seafood.

Elsie D'Ignazio began working in the Main Line Grille when she was 20, and later purchased the business with her husband Alnardo. Elsie continued as owner until her death in 1963, according to a newsletter produced by the American Diner Museum. It operated under the D'Ignazio family's ownership until about 1975, when it was sold and converted into a Chinese restaurant called Orient House. It is best remembered today by its later name, China Buddha, more notable for its huge sign on Lancaster Avenue rather than the old diner appearance, its stainless steel exterior walls by this time painted completely white.



*Wayne Diner owner Elsie D'Ignazio outside the diner in the 1950s. (Courtesy of Tucker Curtin)*



*One of the diner's last days in Wayne, shortly after the China Buddha was sold in 2000. (Photo by the author)*

The China Buddha's time in Wayne ended around the era of the downtown's big restaurant boom. The land on which it sat became more valuable than the old diner, and it was chosen as the site of a new restaurant by local restaurateur Margaret Kuo. She and her husband Warren were not unaware of the old diner's value and importance, however. With the help of the American Diner Museum in Providence, RI, they sold the building so that it could be moved and re-assembled elsewhere to be appreciated.

The diner's relocation hit a snag. The events of September 11, 2001 limited the transportation of oversized loads on the diner's route north, and the building certainly qualified as an oversized load. Fortunately, the delay was not a long one, and the building was on its way in October.

Fast forward more than a decade: The Wayne Diner has been reborn gloriously almost 400 miles away from its home of a half century. Tucker Curtin and his wife, Erin, have been operating the edifice as the Lake Effect Diner in Buffalo, New York, since 2002. There it stands, on Main Street in University Heights at the east end of the city, its stainless steel gleaming.



Curtin has acknowledged the diner's Main Line roots in various ways that would make a visitor from our area feel at home. Take, for example, the framed copy of a *Suburban* newspaper article about the diner's re-birth in the back

room. Or the classic photos of the Wayne Diner that grace the pages of the Lake Effect's menu. Curtin even planned to call the diner "Margie's Main Line Diner" before settling on the "Lake Effect" name.

Certain elements of the classic diner were restored to resurrect its original atmosphere. The colorful, glittering ceiling material is one example

of an authentic 1950s feature, as is the pink and blue tile floor. A photograph of Elsie D'Ignazio at the candy counter by the door in the Wayne Diner inspired a re-creation for the cashier in the Lake Effect. Modern necessities, such as a greatly expanded kitchen that is not part



of the original building, have ensured that the Lake Effect Diner can serve diner fare that is above average in quality, but with a classic ambiance.

According to Tucker Curtin, the Lake Effect Diner sometimes has guests who recall eating at the Wayne Diner or its successors. Just a few months

ago, he says, relatives of the D'Ignazios visited and gave him a pristine copy of the Wayne Diner's 1960s-era menu, which offered a ham and cheese sandwich for 50 cents and a grilled choice t-bone steak (the most expensive item on the menu) for \$3.45.

The Lake Effect Diner is very successful today, offering both typical diner fare (with high quality ingredients) and specialty items. It maintains its classic American diner appearance and feel with quality and service that is popular with its college-age clientele – the University at Buffalo is a short distance away. Its unique menu even earned it a visit from Guy Fieri on the Food Network program "Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives." Fieri spray-painted his likeness on a section of the diner's stainless steel interior.

It is perhaps a shame that Buffalo's gain means a loss for Wayne. It may have been difficult to see potential in the worn out Chinese restaurant on East Lancaster Avenue, especially with the painted facade that masked its true identity. Wayne certainly does not lack restaurants these days, and even has the long-running Minella's Diner to fill the need for typical diner fare. And yet, where it once had two classic diner structures (the old original Minella's was replaced in 2003), today there are none.

While Wayne may have missed out on having its own restored, authentic American diner a decade ago, Buffalo's Tucker and Erin Curtin deserve credit for seeing potential in the old building and creating something new and exciting from a relic of Wayne's past.

*The Lake Effect Diner is located at 3165 Main Street, Buffalo, New York*

*It is open 7 days a week, 7am to 10pm*

*More information: [www.curtinrestaurants.com/lake-effect-diner.html](http://www.curtinrestaurants.com/lake-effect-diner.html)*



## Featured Articles

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# The Evans Arboretum and Today's Ithan Valley Park

By Peter Kingsbery

### *A walk taken*

John Harshberger, a noted Botany expert and professor at the University of Pennsylvania, described a 2-mile walk he had taken in the late 1800s down Roberts Road as “brisk and invigorating.” His destination was a plot of land at the junction with South Ithan Avenue. Once reached, he met the owner, John Ramsey, who gave him a tour of beautiful trees, exotic plants and shrubs not native to Pennsylvania. He also learned about a miller who years before owned this land and established this collection.

Harshberger was intrigued by this property and was to visit, research, and write about it and the miller multiple times over the next 30 years.

### *The early life of John Evans*

John Evans was born in 1790. His family ran a farm and mill on approximately 130 acres. The oldest of 5 children, John learned how to run the family business and at the early death of his parents, shared ownership of it with his brother.

### *Turning point*

John's experiences and values up until this point were largely impacted by his Quaker upbringing and relationship with nature through his efforts in farming and milling. As a young man, he travelled to Troy, New York and worked in a mill, often spending his free time on long walks in the woods.



JOHN EVANS.



EVANS' HOUSE AND GROUNDS IN 1897.

After returning home to his family farm, he assumed responsibility for the farm and mill, eventually buying out his brother's share, married, had children and raised them to work the farm and mill. In the late 1820s, he received a visit from a relative who was picking up his daughter from the nearby Westtown School. John saw Dr. William Darlington's book *Florula Cestrica*, documenting local flora and fauna, which was used as a textbook at the school. This book sparked his interest and influenced his future vocation in collecting and growing specimens. In addition, he was to learn that the varied conditions of his own property including sun, shade, moisture, and aridity offered an ideal setting for a range of specimens and their individual requirements.

### *Working with Bartram Gardens and Painter Brothers*

Evans began to research botany, acquiring and growing tree and floral specimens locally, and reaching out to other collectors in the Philadelphia region. He established a relationship with Colonel Carr, director of Bartram Gardens at that time, and began traveling up and down the east coast of the United States and as far west as Ohio, collecting and sharing seeds and specimens.

John began to gain notoriety and was soon relied upon as a source of knowledge and of plant specimens. He met Minshall and Jacob Painter and

traded specimens to expand each other's collections. The Painter brothers' compilation was later to develop into today's Tyler Arboretum.

### *Correspondence with Royal Botanic Gardens*

Wishing to expand further, one of his friends recommended that Evans contact Sir William Hooker, Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens in Kew, England, as well as similar establishments in Europe. It is known and documented that Evans and Hooker corresponded and collaborated over two decades, Evans sending specimens east "across the pond" and receiving specimens back from Hooker. Of particular interest, at this same time William's son, Sir Joseph Hooker, a noted botanist in his own right, travelled to various parts of the world including the Himalayas, and sent back seeds and specimens to his father in Kew.

As an aside, in one of his letters to Hooker dated December 10th, 1854, Evans made note of the devastation of a drought in the Lake Champlain region, and being so burned out, it looked like nature could not restore it "in a thousand years." Further, he indicated he could collect no more than a pocketful of seeds. Later on in this letter, he speaks about a new city being built on the New Jersey coast called Atlantic City that he visited to collect seeds. This appears to be an indication that, at least for John, this correspondence was a true sharing of thoughts and reflections, not just a shipping bill.

### *Death and Legacy*

Unfortunately Evans did not make a catalogue of his arboretum. However by the time of his death in 1862, the result of Evans' passion and work was regarded by his peers as "in the number of distinct species of trees and shrubbery... the largest in the country."

Evans' farm and mill was run by his son-in-law until it was no longer profitable, as was the fate of so many of the mills in this area. The farm changed hands multiple times over the next few decades until purchased by W. Hinkle Smith in 1906.



MILL DAM IN EVANS' GARDEN.

Smith was a wealthy financier who accumulated his wealth through investments including railroads, the Baldwin Locomotive Works, mineral mines, and the Wright Brothers' airplane business. Smith built a large country mansion, along with formal gardens, calling it "Timberline." In his efforts, he recognized the remnants of Evans' wonderful collection and encouraged the development of this estate to take advantage of it.

During his lifetime, Smith's large staff of landscapers and outdoor maintenance crews maintained a beautiful estate rivaling so many in the area at this time. Following W. Hinkle Smith's death in 1943, his son, Hoxie Harrison Smith, moved out of the main house and witnessed the gradual demise of the grand estate, which fell into disrepair. It is not known whether the money ran out or the son had other interests beyond Timberline. We should note that perhaps as part of a township or regional tree survey, Smith walked the grounds with members of the Delaware County Institute of Science and recorded noted trees and shrubs that still remained. In the comments it was stated that of the 24 rare or unusual species of trees or shrubs identified in Radnor, 14 were located on this property.

Following H. Harrison Smith's own demise in 1966, the land was held in trust, with portions sold off to Radnor Township School District, a local developer, and a swath obtained by PennDOT as part of the Blue Route. The remaining portion of John Evans' Arboretum lies within 14 acres bordered north and south by Clyde Road and Bryn Mawr Avenue, and east and west by South Ithan Avenue and Route 476. This portion was donated to Radnor Township and became Ithan Valley Park.

### *Recent Efforts*

In 2005, a group of interested citizens conducted a tree survey, identifying 22 varieties of trees that were of note or unusual to this area. This survey has become a basis for future work. In 2011, a group formed to become the "Friends of Ithan Valley Park." The group has conducted several park cleanups, including cutting vines, establishing trails, and honoring the legacy of John Evans. For more information, contact [friendsofithanvalleypark@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofithanvalleypark@gmail.com) or visit our website at [evansarboretum.wordpress.com](http://evansarboretum.wordpress.com)

*Note: Most of the information gained for this article is from writings by Dr. John W. Harshberger and Dr William Darlington. All images are from "The Botanists of Philadelphia and Their Work," by John W. Harshberger, published in 1899 by T.C. Davis & Sons, Philadelphia.*

## Gallery: Photographs New to Us in 2012

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We are most grateful to receive many significant donations each year, all of which help expand our understanding of Radnor and its history. None are more important than photographs, which tell us a great deal about the buildings, locations, and people of Radnor Township, no matter how old or new those images are.

Donations of photographs have come from near and far; from life-long Radnor residents to those whose families moved away long ago but kept a part of our township with them. Through the magic of technology, we have not only received photos as donations, but have been able to make digital copies for ourselves when owners have wished to keep their originals. Even when we are not able to add photographs to our physical collection, having copies adds more pieces to the never-ending puzzle of Radnor history!

Since we depend exclusively on donors to add to our collection, please contact us if you would like to donate photographs or other items relevant to Radnor's history. We would even like to borrow images and return them if you would allow us to scan them (we will even give you copies of our high-quality scans). Write to: [info@radnorhistory.org](mailto:info@radnorhistory.org) for more information, and thank you!

*(We are working hard to put all of the Society's thousands of photographs on our website. This new online content will be a great asset to anyone researching local history. Keep an eye on [www.radnorhistory.org](http://www.radnorhistory.org) for news on this effort!)*



*Above: Wayne men pose at the fire house before leaving for boot camp during World War II.  
Below: A view of Woodcrest, the Paul and Dorrance family mansion, taken in 1953, around the time the property was purchased by Cabrini College.*





Above: A December, 1956 aerial view of Plant Avenue (left), Pennsylvania Avenue (right), and the L.K. Burket & Bro. property, complete with its railroad siding.  
Below: Radnor High School's class of 1911.



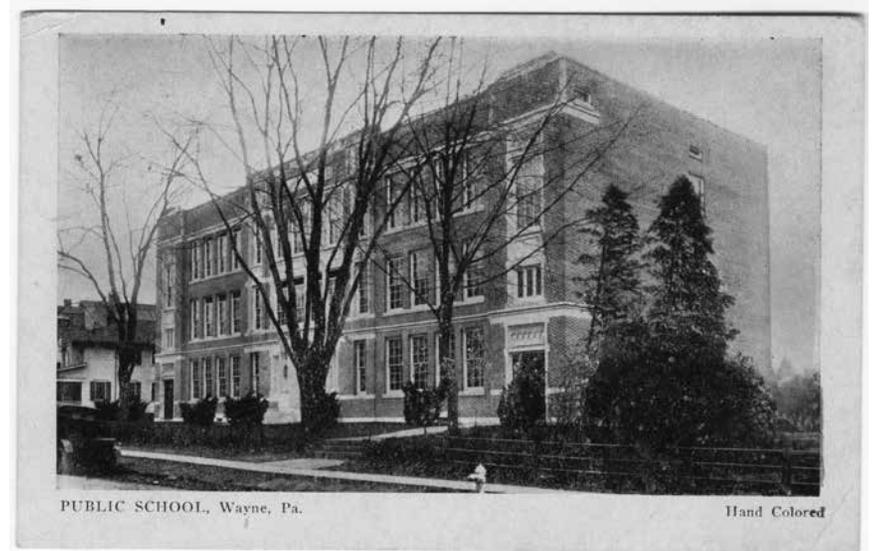
The home at 414 Woodland Avenue was an early example of Dutch Colonial Revival architecture. These two photographs by William Walter Smith accompanied his article about the house in the Dec. 1, 1911 issue of *Country Life in America*, entitled "A Fourteen-Room Concrete House for \$8,500."





*Above: The aftermath of an undated accident at Brooke Rd. on the Philadelphia & Western, the electric rail line that ran through Radnor Township starting in 1907. Though the original route to Strafford was abandoned in 1956, trains continued to run on the branch to Norristown and still operate there today. The car shown here, #168, was one of 11 cars built by the J.G. Brill Company and nicknamed “Strafford” cars because they often were used on the Strafford branch. #168, built in 1929, was restored after this accident and put back into service, and today it is kept at the New York Museum of Transportation. These cars could typically run up to 70 mph. All that were still in service were finally retired by SEPTA in 1990, an incredible 61 years after the newest of the 11 was built.*

*Right: The mansion called “Harford,” better known today as the Creutzburg Center for Adult Education. The ca. 1880 Furness & Evans mansion is shown here around the time when Radnor Township purchased the home and its surrounding land with a publicly voted open space bond issue.*



*Above: A 1920s postcard of the then new Radnor High School building on South Wayne Avenue. This large brick structure was designed by architect Invin T. Catharine, built in 1923, and added onto extensively through the rest of that decade. This is a rare view of its original configuration. It was demolished for the new Radnor Middle School in 2007.*



### Programs of the Year

#### **Book Talk and Signing by Dewitt Henry, Author of *Sweet Dreams: A Family History***

*Tuesday, January 10, at the Winsor Room, Radnor Memorial Library*

*Video of this program is found at [www.radnorhistory.org](http://www.radnorhistory.org)*

Henry currently teaches at Emerson College in Boston. He is a Harvard graduate, well-known author, and the founding editor of the *Ploughshares* literary magazine. *Sweet Dreams* chronicles the early years of the author's life growing up in post-war Wayne, Pennsylvania. This is a complicated and masterful memoir of a boy's passage into adulthood in a family of privilege, torn by dark secrets, alcoholism, mental illness, and dysfunction. Books were available for purchase and signing. The event was cosponsored by RHS and the Radnor Memorial Library.

#### **The History of Radnor's Open Space Movement**

*Wednesday, February 8, at the Winsor Room, Radnor Memorial Library*

*Video of this program is found at [www.radnorhistory.org](http://www.radnorhistory.org)*

This panel consisted of local open space pioneers who were at the forefront of the action beginning in the 1960s. Their stories tell about a time when the community enthusiastically endorsed the concept of preserving the rapidly diminishing green lands in our township. Today, when the value of Radnor's open space is in question and under intense scrutiny, this informative session left listeners with an understanding of how a generation joined together to preserve this cherished heritage for the people of Radnor Township.

#### **A HARB is Not Your Enemy!**

*Thursday, March 29, at the Winsor Room, Radnor Memorial Library*

What actually is an Historical Architectural Review Board (HARB)? How much power does it have? Michel Lefevre, former community and preservation planner with the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, spoke about what a HARB is and how it directs the way communities can create and oversee their historic districts. A member of the Radnor HARB presented some recent projects that have come before it for review. This event was cosponsored by RHS and the Radnor Conservancy.

#### **Annual Dinner at The Episcopal Academy**

*Wednesday, April 18*

Annual Dinner with speakers about the history of the Academy, founded in 1785, and its move from Merion Station to Newtown Square. A tour of the new campus was available for those who were interested. The Academy's new campus opened in 2008, combining a variety of architectural styles and materials on its 123-acre campus. The first of two after-dinner speakers, Jim Garrison, spoke about the Academy's history. Garrison is a restoration architect, an Episcopal graduate, and author of *Excellence that Endures—The First 225 Years of the Episcopal Academy* (2010). Rush T. Haines, a partner with Drinker, Biddle & Reath, LLP, in Philadelphia and former Chair of the Board at Episcopal, then discussed the transition to the new campus.

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### **Talk and Tour of the Francisvale Home for Smaller Animals**

*Sunday, April 29*

*Video of this program is found at [www.radnorhistory.org](http://www.radnorhistory.org)*

History talk followed by a tour of the facility and its 16-acre wooded cemetery. Francisvale's Executive Director, Jodi Button, and the President of its Board of Directors, Melanie Shain, presented the history and led the tour. Francisvale is a non-profit, no-kill refuge which began with the rescue of a stray puppy in 1897 and has been in continuous operation since it was incorporated in 1909.

### **Annual Meeting at Overbrook Farms**

*Sunday, May 6*

Brief RHS business meeting followed by a self-guided house tour. The Andreozzi house, designed by Chester Kirk and built in 1894, is located at 5927 Drexel Road. This home is located in a neighborhood which, like Wayne, was developed by Wendell & Smith and funded by the Drexel bank. Members were able to tour this marvelously eclectic Gothic Revival home, which has been a feature of the Overbrook Farms Tour. His own superb craftsmanship, his wonderful furnishings and art, and the addition of special architectural features enhance Mr. Andreozzi's renovations.

### **History of the War Memorial, its Restoration, and the Gold Star Mothers**

*Tuesday, May 15, at the Radnor War Memorial and then the Winsor Room, Radnor Memorial Library*

*Video of this program is found at [www.radnorhistory.org](http://www.radnorhistory.org)*

This program began at the Memorial on S. Wayne Avenue across from the Radnor Fire Company. Marty Costello, commander of the Bateman-

Gallagher American Legion Post, provided an overview of the renovation of the Memorial. Gene Hough then discussed the restoration process. Hough has cleaned the Memorial three times and owns Heritage Guild Works, a company that specializes in cemetery and bronze restoration. The program then moved to the Winsor Room at the Radnor Memorial Library, where Marty Costello outlined the rich history of the Memorial, and Gene Hough explained a national program for veterans to help restore war memorials. Julie Pierce then talked about the Gold Star Mothers. This event was cosponsored by RHS and the Bateman-Gallagher Post.



*Video of the extraordinary re-dedication ceremony for the Radnor War Memorial is available to view on our website, [www.radnorhistory.org](http://www.radnorhistory.org).*

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### **Historic Walking Tour of Garrett Hill**

*Sunday, September 23*

Visitors were treated to a walking tour of historic Garrett Hill starting at the 1780s Radnor United Methodist Church at 930 Conestoga Road in Rosemont. The tour followed the former Indian trail, Conestoga Road, and visitors learned about the original residents and their lives, the Continental Army's march from the Battle of Brandywine, General Cornwallis's pillage of the James farm, and Jay Gould's westward scheme for the P&W. Cosponsored by RHS, the Radnor United Methodist Church, the Bryn-Rose Civic Association, and the Garrett Hill Coalition.

### **Book Talk: Sally Bedell Smith**

*Tuesday, October 9, at the Winsor Room, Radnor Memorial Library*

*Video of this program is found at [www.radnorhistory.org](http://www.radnorhistory.org)*

RHS and the Radnor Memorial Library presented bestselling author of six biographies, Sally Bedell Smith. She talked about her book, *Elizabeth the Queen: The Life of a Modern Monarch*. Her other books include biographies on the Kennedy White House, Bill and Hillary Clinton, and Diana, Princess of Wales. A contributing editor at *Vanity Fair* since 1996, the author previously worked at *Time* magazine and *The New York Times*.

### **George Boudreau on Independence Hall**

*Tuesday, October 23, at the Winsor Room, Radnor Memorial Library*

*Video of this program is found at [www.radnorhistory.org](http://www.radnorhistory.org)*

RHS and the Radnor Memorial Library cosponsored this Pennsylvania Humanities Council Event. Our speaker, George Boudreau, is the author of *Independence: A Guide to Historic Philadelphia*, and a professor at Penn

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State. His talk explored Independence Hall and the Square that surrounds it, including why the hall sits where it does, why it looks like it does, and how its creation reflects the culture and society of 18th century Philadelphia. (Rescheduled from October 16)

### **Michael Metrinko on Afghanistan**

*Wednesday, November 28, at the Winsor Room, Radnor Memorial Library*

With more than forty years of experience in the Islamic world, retired foreign service officer Michael Metrinko spoke about Afghanistan. Metrinko was a member of the Tehran Embassy staff taken hostage in 1979, and spent 14 months as a prisoner. After September 11, 2001, he returned to active service with assignments to Yemen, Iraq, and Afghanistan, and has served as a senior advisor for the U.S. Embassy and NATO forces. This event was cosponsored by RHS and the Radnor Memorial Library. (Rescheduled from November 7 due to weather)

### **Excerpts From "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens Read by Bennett Hill**

*Sunday, December 30, at the Finley House*

Bennett Hill read excerpts from "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens in this traditional RHS event. Every other year, Bennett, a member of the RHS Board for over 30 years, an RHS guide, and a guide at Historic Waynesborough, reads an abridged version of this classic Christmas tale by the fire in the front parlor. He taught at Montgomery School for 35 years, served as President of the RHS Board for ten years, and in his capacity as guide has led dozens of children's groups at the Finley House.

*Selected programs were filmed by our videographer, Tom Ellis.*

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## Radnor Historical Society 2012 Report

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### Accessions & Acquisitions - 2012

#### *Acquisitions*

- “The Radnorite” – senior number, June 1918

#### *Donations*

##### **George Aman**

- 1908 Mueller atlas (incomplete)
- 1920 Mueller atlas
- J.L. Smith atlas with loose pages
- 1887 J. William Baist atlas title page
- St. Davids blueprint, 1927
- Wayne Center blueprint, 1927
- ca. 1870 Whannis Raw Bone Super Phosphate Broadside

##### **Judy Barber**

- 2 pamphlets: An Historical Account of the Old Carr School House; An Historical Account of the Old Eagle School Property

##### **Bobby Braxton**

- Photo of head-on collision of the P&W at Brooke Rd.

##### **Lynn Ellis**

- 1 pt. glass milk bottle: Supplee, Wills, Jones
- World War II-era Army sewing kit
- Byralin Dubarry scissors (small)
- 1901-2001 Radnor Twp. Centennial glass paperweight
- Glass pint milk bottle, glass cream bottle
- Various kitchen items: Armin Trosser coffee grinder, floral apron, homemade tea towel, potato ricer, noodle cutter, tea ball, double edged SS slicer, 3 metal graters, wood & metal slicer, 3 potato slicers, 3 small sieves, wooden rolling pin, metal cheese slicer, egg beater, metal fluted slicer, glass storage box

##### **James Garrison**

- *Excellence That Endures – Episcopal Academy*

##### **Mrs. Richard Greeley**

- Aerial views of Ravenscliff
- Photos: Rosemont Rollicks, 1952; Rosemont 5th & 6th graders, 1953

##### **Robert Grumbacher**

- 2012 Devon Horse Show program

##### **Eugene Hough**

- US Army hooded parka (Eddie Bauer)

##### **Mrs. David Jacquiri**

- ½ pint Supplee cream bottle
- Quart milk bottle – Warner Dairies, Berwyn

##### **William Kromer, Jr.**

- Class of 1947 Radnor High School 65th reunion program & poem
- Carved “RHS ‘47” – 7 inch red & white wooden reunion sign in stand

##### **Gregory Landrey**

- 1972 Radnor HS term paper: “The Question of an Interchange with US Route 30 and the Mid-County Expressway”

##### **Lauren Lapin**

- “The Book of the Agnews”
- Bible – William Allen, Jr. (1863)

##### **Lower Merion Historical Society**

- 2 sets of negatives from Swartz collection: Radnor police cars, station, football

##### **Sara Pilling**

- 2 photos: Bettie K. Pilling, Red Cross uniform, 1942; Anna T. F. Pilling, Red Cross uniform, 1943

##### **Ted Pollard**

- 2 envelopes addressed to George M. Wells (grocer), c. 1892

##### **Mrs. Lee Standish**

- Map of Chester County – 1938 – drawn by Charles B. Muth

##### **Wayne Public Safety Association & Sam Etris**

- Wayne Public Safety Association seal – 10”x7”
- Minutes, photos of WPSA, 1985-1996

##### **Tanya Whitford**

- Collection of Saving Open Space/Earth Day Papers, lists – 1971-2

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## Radnor Historical Society 2012 Report

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### Volunteers & Guides

#### House Guides

The following members of the Society have given their time and provided their knowledge of the Society's collections to the public during the open periods of the Finley House on Tuesday and Saturday afternoons during the year:

Jennifer Beacom  
Charles Crawford  
John Dale  
Lynn Ellis  
Sam Etris  
Evie Giegerich  
Bennett Hill  
Steve Pendergast  
Cathy Siple  
Sally Spargo

#### Other Volunteers

Jennifer Beacom: Transcription  
Charles Crawford: Archives  
Tom Ellis: Videotaping our programs  
Jane Meldrum: Library  
Steve Pendergast: Archives & Research  
Greg Prichard: Archives, Research & Internet



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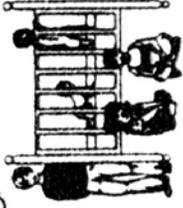
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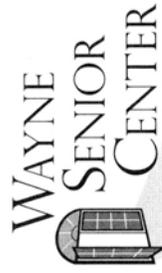


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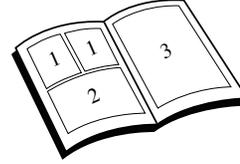
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*This drawing of the mansion called Harford is by Carol Creutzburg. Carol's father, Harry C. Creutzburg, established Main Line School Night, which called the mansion the Creutzburg Center for Adult Education in his honor. Carol, longtime friend of the Society and past Vice President, passed away in 2012.*