



The Challenge

Newsletter for Friends and Supporters of the Springfield Township Historical Society

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Get Involved

If you have an interest in local history, or have skills you can contribute, please consider becoming involved with the Springfield Township Historical Society. We are looking for volunteers on various committees and we have open board positions. Anyone interested should contact archives@springfieldhistory.org.

THE ARCHIVES ARE OPEN!

Wednesdays 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Saturdays 9:00 a.m.-Noon

Should you need access to the Archives outside of the listed hours, please contact the Archivist at 215.233-4600 or archives@springfieldhistory.org to make an appointment.



Shibe Park and Beyond

Free Lecture Presented by Rick Spector

Wednesday, June 28, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church of Springfield

1710 Bethlehem Pike (corner of E. Mill Road), Flourtown

Rick Spector of Moviehouse Productions brings the history of Philadelphia and the surrounding area to life in his popular programs. This presentation will trace the roots of Philadelphia becoming an industrial giant at the turn of the 20th century, as the city grew alongside the famous Shibe Park (later known as Connie Mack Stadium). This program is a must-see for all Philadelphia baseball fans and those who are interested in local history.

Historic Postcard Courtesy of The Library Company of Philadelphia



OPEN HOUSE

Tour the historical society archives at the Black Horse Inn.

Saturday, September 23, 10 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Black Horse Inn

1432 Bethlehem Pike, Flourtown, PA 19031

Do You Know?

Jay Finney recently shared with the Historical Society a photocopy of the Springfield Township Civilian Defense Council certificate awarded to his father, James V. Finney in 1945, for his volunteer service as an air raid warden. Civilian Defense Council volunteers were awarded these certificates at the end of World War II as a token of Township Commissioners' appreciation to those who assisted in the war efforts at home.



The Council operated during World War II to protect local residents from attack and develop fallout shelters that were stocked with furnishings, food and medical supplies. We are eager to learn more about the local Civilian Defense Council. Anyone with information on this organization is encouraged to contact our archivist, Stephanie Walsh at archives@springfieldhistory.org.

NEW TO THE ARCHIVES

Featured Donation



Designed and made by Joe Borie, n.d. 56"L x 10.5"W x 13.5"H

WOODEN BENCH WITH ENFIELD TILE INSET ON SEAT

This wooden bench was brought to the Society by board members Karynn Squadrito and Dot Cutler, who had recently received it from Ann Castle. Over the years, Ms. Castle along with her late sister (Jane Castle Borie) and late brother-in-law (Joe Borie) have been good friends of the Society. In 1998, Ms. Castle donated a series of Enfield tiles and associated memorabilia once belonging to her sister Jane Castle Borie. Years earlier in 1987, after the Society was first established, Joe and Jane Borie donated several tile pieces from the Enfield Tile and Pottery Works they had purchased at an auction for the Society's collection.

We don't know much about this bench, but we are thrilled to include it in the collection. From the inscription on the bottom which reads "~Enfield Tile ~ bench designed and made by Joe Borie."

J.H. Dulles Allen opened the Enfield Tile and Pottery Works in 1906 at the corner of Church and Paper Mill Roads. The company made decorative pottery and tiles that are found in many local homes and businesses, such as the Carson Valley School. The work can be found throughout the country as well in such places like The Pan American Building in Washington, D.C. and the Bok Tower in Lake Wales, Florida.

Springfield Township Historical Society Collection 2023.10

SAVE THE DATE HISTORY IN MOTION



ED ZWICKER III & ED ZWICKER IV PRESENT

A TICKET TO RIDE: CHESTNUT HILL AMUSEMENT PARK

Sunday, November 12 | 7:00 pm
Ambler Theater
Tickets \$30 each

SCAN QR CODE TO
PURCHASE TICKETS



MORE DONATIONS TO THE ARCHIVES

September-December 2022 Gifts

Springfield Township ephemera having belonged to Albert M. Comly, Sr. including the Re-Opening of Bethlehem Pike material September 1961; Springfield Township Businessmen's Association Business Directory, 1961; Springfield Township Annual Reports 1964, 1966, 1981; Southeastern Montgomery County Branch American Red Cross program and certificates, 1974-1979; and Township of Springfield newsletter Fall 2009/Winter 2010. *Donated by Al Comly, Jr.*

Blueprints, plot plans, and other drawings related to Springfield Township properties including Biddle Woods Sub-division; Ashby Residence, Four Gables; Oak Manor; and details surrounding Germantown Pike. *Donated by the Chestnut Hill Conservancy.*

Clipping and ephemera pertaining to the Stotesbury estate and Barron Bohnet drawing of 1938 Franklin Survey. *Donated by Barbara Grellis Houldin.*

Oreland Aerial Photograph, c. 1926. *Donated by Juliane Bickel.*

Sandy Run Country Club insulated cooler. *Donated Leslie Bell.*

Springfield Township School High School memorabilia, miniature plastic megaphone and basketball, circa 2001-2002; and COVID-19 vaccination ephemera. *Donated by Kathy Haight.*

Springfield Township School district memorabilia, photographs of Flourtown Women's Club and other local organization events. *Donated by Carol Johnson.*

January-May 2023 Gifts

Ephemera of the Wyndmoor Fire Company includes Golden Anniversary 1907-1957 program and Wyndmoor Fireman's Fair Souvenir pin. *Donated by Maureen McGettigan.*

Newspaper clippings and material pertaining to the Friends of Historic Bethlehem Pike and the Save the Black Horse Inn campaign. 2005-2009. *Donated by Don Mitchell.*

"Historical and Architectural Significance of Carson's Buildings and Grounds" by Alice Kent Schooler, produced by the Carson Valley School, Flourtown, circa 1984. *Donated by Janet Potter.*

Growing Up A Baby Boomer, and Not Really Knowing It: A Memoir by Gerry Aubrey. *Donated by the author.*

The Enterprise, Springfield Township Issue Vol. 21. No. 11. *Donated by Ed Landau.*

Board game entitled "The Game of Springfield Township Montgomery, Pennsylvania" sponsored by the Arthur V. Savage American Legion. *Donated by Maureen Delaney.*

Hex jewelry and symbols brochure distributed by the Lema Novelty Co., Philadelphia. *Donated by Adrienne Balcom.*

Collector's Edition of the "Irish Edition" Vol. XLI No. 12, December 2022. *Donated by Jane Duffin.*

Springfield Township newspaper clippings and ephemera, includes 1961 Springfield Township High School Commencement Invitation. *Donated by Virigina Bergey.*

Thanks to Our Archives Staff and Volunteers

The historical society is grateful for our numerous volunteers, who under the direction of archivist, Stephanie Walsh, assist researchers and catalog the collection.

Barbara Coleman, Steve Lester, Lisa Marshall, Dan Meyers Debbie Shortall, Ray Smith, Jim Villante

Students:

Laim Malone (Gwynedd Mercy University, interned during the Fall 2022 Semester)

Alex Green (Springfield Township High School, Class of 2023, began volunteering in March)

If you are interested in volunteering, researching a topic, or have items you wish to donate to the Society, please email us at archives@springfieldhistory.org.

And Thanks to Our Sponsors

Please support these local businesses who commit to organizations such as ours to make our programs and events possible:



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