



THE LANDMARK

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Newsletter of the Friends of Old Annville
P.O. Box 99, Annville, PA 17003

SPRINGTIME IN ANNVILLE

President's Message by Michael Schroeder

As memories of the pounding snowstorms and biting cold of this past winter fade in the summer sunshine, we pause to catch up on the many spring & early summertime happenings in our little neck of the woods. There's good news in abundance, and some less than happy developments. Among the highlights:

An awesomely successful 26th annual Historic Old Annville Day on Saturday, June 14 - with absolutely perfect weather, a record 125 vendors, more visitors than ever before (with most estimates ranging between 3,000 and 4,000 people), a more varied and ear-catching musical lineup, and - brand new this year - what proved to be the exceptionally popular bus tours of Pennsy Supply's Millard Quarry, organized and run by Pennsy. We're hoping that Pennsy will agree to make the tours an integral part of future HOADs. This year's Property Pride Award went to Jerry Hoffsmith of Colonial Craft Kitchens, 344-346 West Main St., for his company's superb work on the building's exterior. The Friends extend a hearty Thank-You to all the people and businesses who contributed to the day's success. As always, kudos also go to Annville Township Public Works for its excellent work in setting up the stages and

porta-potties, taking care of the electrical needs of the vendors and musicians, resolving last-minute snafus, and efficiently cleaning up after the event. At the Annville Township Commissioners meeting of July 7, Commissioner Jim Scott publicly acknowledged the fine work of the HOAD Organizing Committee - especially its vendor coordinator Jill Palanzo - and noted that Historic Old Annville Day has put Annville on the map among vendors and visitors from up and down the East Coast. "This is the best event I go to all year—and I travel up and down the eastern seaboard," as vendor Tom Joerg put it. "The people here are just so nice!" We look forward to making next year's 27th Annual HOAD even more exciting and memorable.



Historic District Troubles. On the troubling side of the ledger, several of the historic buildings in the Historic District have become dilapidated and in a state of disrepair. In a sobering email to the FOOA Board



and the Township Commissioners, former FOOA president Tanya Richter summarized her sense of things: “It is quite shocking to stroll down West Main Street and see historic structures that would fit in with Allison Hill slums in Harrisburg. Most discouraging is to see a magnificent 1790s home at 146 West Main St., ironically on the first historic Annville House Tour, now a boarding house with Met-Ed threats of electric shut-off posted on the front door. This home was fully restored by Ken Fegan in the 1970s and is currently a dump. Further down, 226 West Main is up for sheriff’s sale in August, and another on the north side of the street is termite infested, falling apart, and condemned, with weeds in the yard standing two feet tall.” Tanya’s concerns were echoed at the Township Commissioner’s meeting of July 7. As Township Manager Nick Yingst explained, the property at 333 W.

Main was sold to Citi Mortgage, Inc. at a sheriff’s sale several months ago, but the bank took its sweet time in recording the deed. The property also has several outstanding maintenance (IPMC) violations. Meantime the grass and weeds at 144/146 and 333 West Main grew waist-high, compelling Public Works to cut the grass in both places. The Township Solicitor has been authorized to file liens against the properties’ owners to recoup the expense, but the bigger issue remains. The FOOA Board looks forward to working with the Township and local residents to develop an action plan to ensure that these and other local treasures do not succumb to the ravages of neglect and dilapidation.

Quittie Creek Nature Park. On the sunnier side of the ledger, the Quittie Creek Nature Park Committee’s formally awarded a Certificate of Appreciation to Paul “Stumpy” Graham of 104 East High St., designating him a “Friend of Quittie Creek Nature Park by virtue of his extraordinary efforts, sustained over a period of many years, to maintain, beautify, and make publicly accessible the pathways on his property along the north bank of Quittapahilla Creek in Annville.” Thanks to Stumpy’s efforts, this stretch has become, in practical terms, an extension of the Nature Park, and has to rank among the loveliest short walking paths in all of South-Central PA. Another happy development occurred in late June, when the Nature Park Committee installed a new “Welcome” sign on the kiosk at the Park’s main entrance off Bachman Road. The sign features a brief history of the park, a list of annual events, park rules, and a QR code that takes smartphones to the Nature Park section of the FOOA website. Finally, the Streambank Restoration Project spearheaded by the Quittapahilla Watershed Association is slated to commence in August and be completed by October. This long-awaited project promises to dramatically improve the creek’s in-stream habitat and make the Nature Park even more of a local treasure than it already is.

Pipeline Controversy. The fracking revolution in the Marcellus Shale region of northern PA has resulted in a local controversy about a proposed 42-inch diameter, high-pressure, underground natural gas pipeline that the Oklahoma-based Williams Partners, LP, wants to build, bisecting Lebanon County north-south and just skirting the western edge of Annville Township. This “Central Penn Line South,” part of Williams’ proposed “Atlantic Sunrise” project, has stirred up quite a hornet’s nest of opposition, at least among some – yours truly among them. My own view is that responsible stewardship of the lands and waters of Lebanon County demands responsible and sustainable regional development, and that this project would undermine those larger goals, and bring many risks but no benefits to our township or county. But whatever one’s stance on these issues, the proposed pipeline is a big deal and a big change worth paying attention to. Annville isn’t an island, and what affects the county and region ultimately affects us all.



Friends of Old Annville, Inc.

Façade Grant Assistance Program

Following from the President's Message, it seems particularly timely to announce this year's application period for this important and highly-successful program.

The Façade Grant Assistance Program of *Friends of Old Annville, Inc.* is designed to assist owners of private residences and independent businesses within the Annville Historic District and National Register of Historical Places designated areas of Annville Township, Pennsylvania, who want to maintain, rehabilitate, and preserve the exterior appearance of their historic buildings. The program will focus on the façades of historic properties, which means the exterior structures that are visible from the street and the public view.

Each year, the Board of Directors of Friends of Old Annville will decide the amount of funding that the organization can allocate to the Façade Grant Assistance Program. The Board will announce the availability of the grants and then receive grant applications during a specified period. After the application deadline, the Façade Grant Committee of the Friends of Old Annville will decide which application or applications to grant. The amount of the grant or grants will also be determined by the Committee. The Façade Grant Committee could decide to make one grant per year or several smaller grants.

For the calendar year 2014, Friends of Old Annville will make available \$3,000.00 for the Façade Grant Assistance Program, which will focus on Main Street in the Annville Historic District (Saylor Street to the Quittapahilla Creek at the west end of town). Applications will be due by October 30, 2014. The size of any single award could range from \$500.00 to \$3,000.00. All awards by the Friends of Old Annville will be matching grants. In no case will the grant funding exceed 50% of the project. Repayment of the funds is not required. The grant funds will be paid directly to the owner as reimbursements for documented expenditures once the improvements are completed and inspected. Applicants are required to obtain quotes or cost estimates from two different contractors prior to the grant application. The grant assistance program will also accept applications for self-improvements by the property owner (The application must itemize the cost of materials and an estimate of the value of labor carried out by the home owner). If the applicant sells the property prior to the completion of the improvement, the grant will be revoked.

Prior to submitting the grant application, the property owner must obtain a Certificate of Appropriateness from the Annville Historical Architectural Review Board (HARB) and Board of Commissioners of Annville Township. These certifications are required in general for façade projects on historic buildings in Annville.

Once the grant is awarded and the proposed improvements are completed, a member of the Façade Grant Committee of Friends of Old Annville will inspect the work for completion. Following a satisfactory inspection, Friends of Old Annville will issue a check for the amount of documented expenditures. If the proposed work on a grant application is not completed within six months of notification of receiving the grant, the grant becomes null and void. A written request for a three month extension can be made to the Façade Grant Committee of Friends of Old Annville if unforeseen delays are encountered.

Criteria for Selection: The Friends of Old Annville Façade Grant Committee will evaluate each application on the following criteria. Each criteria will be assigned a rating number on a 1 to 5 scale with 1 being the lowest score and 5 being the highest score. A cumulative number will then be assigned.

✓ **Most Bang for Buck:**

The factors include the scope of the project. To what extent are the improvements a significant undertaking? What is the proportion or ratio of grant funds relative to total dollars being spent? What is the degree of permanent improvement and/or visual impact?

✓ **Architectural Significance of Property:**

To what extent does the property warrant greater consideration by virtue of historical and/or architectural significance? Preference will be given for improvements that protect and enhance the historical character of the property.

✓ **Visibility:**

Will enhancement of the property have any significant impact upon its surrounding neighborhood and historic Annville? Is the property in a particular position of prominence in its locale? Preference will be given to a historically accurate color scheme.

✓ **Need for Enhancement/ Properties/Features at Risk:**

Is the property in greater or lesser need of renovation to preserve original features or to eliminate blight? Will funds aid in saving a property or its notable architectural elements?

✓ **Structural vs. Cosmetic:**

Will the improvements to be undertaken be of greater lasting value to secure the integrity of the property or will they be temporary cosmetic touches? Preference for natural or natural like materials and the preservation of historical type materials unique to the property will be given.

✓ **Cooperative Projects:**

Targeting double or contiguous properties. Will funding allow for unification, or complementary appearance? This might involve two property owners sharing in an application, or one seeking to harmonize with an adjacent building.

To access a copy of the very simple application for this year's Façade Assistance Grant, please visit FOOA at www.FOOA.org.

A Follow-Up Visit to 533 West Queen Street

Moving from discussion of restoration on Main Street to a property that the Landmark visited in 2011, we have the pleasure of sharing a brief update from Jeff & Marie Kreamer on the 1795 Abraham Herr home. Below are views of the massive kitchen fireplace as it was in 2011, and that same fireplace in 2014.



At the time of our last article, the Kremers were, in essence, 'camping' in their new home ~ escaping for a day or two each week to more comfortable and civilized living at their soon-to-be former Mt. Union address. At that time the magnificence of the Queen Street home was easily visible to hard-core old house lovers, but many



Floor sanding in progress, with now invisible window trim repair - custom-milled to match a missing corner.

would've missed its elegance ~ dimmed and covered over by many decades of neglect and haphazard patch work. Along with the enormous number of structural improvements made by the Kreamers, the second photo on the prior page shows just a bit of their cosmetic accomplishments ~ the heavy beams ~ exposed and now sandblasted to pristine condition. What the photo does not show is that the hearth, along with the kitchen floor is now warmed by hot water heat, while in 2011 only one half of the home had the benefit of any heat. In a future issue of the Landmark we'll tell you about the vintage gas stove rescued by the Kreamers in one county and then fully restored by craftsmen in another. This remains a labor of love that is NOT undertaken in any half measures!

Membership Renewal Please remember that your MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DATE can be found on the mailing label of this issue of The Landmark. Please send your dues and address change to: Rachel Noll, 1673 Louser Road, Annville, PA, 17003-8856. Have questions? Call Rachel at: (717) 867-2137 or e-mail rrnoll@comcast.net.

Individual & Student \$ 5.00 Family (2+ persons) \$ 10.00 Business \$ 25.00
 Friend of FOOA \$ 50.00 * Benefactor \$100.00 **SS**

RENEWALS

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| <p>Mrs. John E. Albright
 Iris Berliner Alster
 Stan & Joanne Anspach
 M/M Howard Bixler
 Frances S. Bova
 Mrs. Lillian Bowman
 Virginia T. Bowman
 Marty & Patti Brandt *
 Mr. Donald R. Brown
 M/M Dwayne Brown & Family
 Constance Bryant
 Andy & Mary Cantrell
 Mrs. John B. Carey *
 Atherton & Sarah Carty & Sons
 Barbara A.B. Carty, M.Ed.
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 M/M Philip Feather
 Ms. Karen M. Feather §
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 Dr/M Dana Felty & Family
 Jay A. Felty, DDS</p> | <p>John & Carolyn Fetter
 Gene & Janice Fortna
 Trygve Struble Freed
 Paul W.K. Freeland
 Robert & Sue Ann (Kreamer)
 Freeman
 Mr. Carl S. Fry
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 Maryann Hanley
 Martin & Barbara Haubrich
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 William & Holly Kreamer Shirley
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 Victoria Siegrist
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 John A. Smith
 M/M Robert M. Swope
 Jay & Kim Kreider Umble
 M/M William K. Watson
 John & Corinne Weaber
 M/M David Wentling
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Marie Meza



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SUSTAINING & RENEWING “OLD ANNVILLE”

Increasingly each year, FOOA gives back to the Annville Community. ★Its educational programs, social events, publications and tours bring Annville’s history to life.

★Facade Restoration Grants help with restoration of Main Street home and business properties – adding interest and appeal to the entryways of our town. ★The Electronic Archives capture extensive narratives and images of Annville history to bring them to your home computer. ★And via FOOA’s Facebook page, former residents and friends from around the world may now reconnect and share their thoughts, their memories, and their images.

To keep this important work growing, won’t you please remember FOOA when you prepare or update your Will. Your legacy perpetuates your values, while it allows the Friends of Old Annville to remain as a strong influence for preservation in years ahead. In the same way, very thoughtful gifts given to FOOA in memory of a friend or loved one, or to honor a special occasion, permit FOOA to accomplish work that might otherwise be impossible. Your kindness will be greatly appreciated and serve to maintain your Annville heritage for decades to come.



Remember to like FOOA on Facebook & join the conversation with old & new friends.

373 have already given their thumbs up.

And to see the Landmark in color & much, much more, visit www.FOOA.org