

THE LANDMARK

Volume XXXV No. VI

November/December, 2015

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

IMAGINING ANNVILLE.

Town centers of small towns across America have had a rough go of it in the past 50 years. The automobile culture has produced an American way of life that is based on quick travel - from home to work, to large shopping malls like Park City, to big box stores like Walmart and Costco, to theater complexes, to medical complexes such as the Norman Drive area in Lebanon. And many of us live in the suburbs, bypassing town centers entirely as we carry out our daily routines. No wonder so many formerly bustling small town centers have become ghosts, run down and vacant.

As we have been losing so many town centers, an unexpected phenomenon has arisen in which new suburbs are incorporating "town centers" into their planning. Something evidently has been missing in the lives of our bedroom-community suburbs, and that something is a central location where the personal interactions that produce community can occur. The suburbs now seek what small towns had long been known for: a shopping and gathering place that is walkable, shaded by trees in the summer, filled with interesting shops, places to eat meals or have a cup of coffee, and places to sit and converse.

Restoring and reinvigorating defunct town centers, however, is not for the faint hearted. It requires commitment, planning, patience, and determination. It requires leadership from someone like our own Dick Charles (we still claim Dick even though he has moved to Cornwall Manor) and like Kelly Withum, our speaker at the FOOA Annual Dinner Meeting on November 14.

Kelly Withum, Executive Director of Venture Lititz, runs a non-profit that works closely with Lititz Borough to continue to strengthen the town center of Lititz, PA (see image below of Bulls Head Tavern in Lititz). Kelly has worked on town center planning, economic development, promoting Lititz, and historic preservation. Lititz has rebuilt its town center into a vibrant regional attraction using its one major resource: its largely intact set of historic buildings. Lititz has taken good care of its historic town center and when buildings are lost they are replaced by new construction that retains the historic ambience. As many of us have discovered, a trip to Lititz is a real treat.



As Annaville looks ahead to build on our already considerable efforts to restore our town center, I think we can learn from Lititz. And in my opinion there are two strategies that stand out: (1) strategic planning and (2)

protection of our historic resources. For Kelly Withum, town planning involves dreaming the dream, imagining what our town could be, and then watching that dream actually take form. I would ask the Annville Township Commissioners to resume the commitment to the ambitious planning (and dreaming) that brought Annville the Streetscape Project in 2003 and the Annville Center Project in 2012. These two projects have wonderfully transformed a great part of our town center. I see the Annville Economic Development Authority, Destination Annville, and Friends of Old Annville as mutually interested groups who could all work together with the Commissioners to develop a 5- to 10-year master plan for downtown Annville.

Secondly, Annville needs to step up our efforts to preserve our valuable historic resources. When businesses and families invest in the Annville Historic District we need to be able to reassure them that their investments will not be undercut. In short, Annville needs to more publically empower our HARB and to enforce its decisions. A historic building lost to demolition by neglect is lost forever. Perhaps the current zoning re-write in Annville will further strengthen historic preservation.

Annville has made great strides in creating an interesting, distinctive, and economically viable town center. We have been noticed and noted in many ways. Now is NOT the time to stop dreaming - we must continue to creatively imagine what Annville is yet to become.

UPDATE ON ALLEN THEATRE

Friends of Old Annville called together an Allen Theatre Digital Project Committee in June of 2015 for the purpose of raising the funds necessary to purchase a new digital projection system for the Allen Theatre. Our fund raising efforts last July on behalf of the Allen Theatre elicited a strong and broad-based community response: 71 donors provided a total of \$70,650, with an additional \$2,500 due in 2016.

In early August, Friends of Old Annville placed an order for the new digital projection system from Cardinal Sound and Motion Picture Systems of Elkridge, Maryland. The projector was delivered and installed (see image), along with employee training, in mid-October. With this new system Skip Hicks can bring in a wide variety of first-run movies that are well-suited to his audience.



The new system is also able to show older movies on a specialized DVD player capable of projecting directly through the new projector and Dolby sound system, giving a full-screen movie experience to a wide range of older classics. Skip plans to use these DVD capabilities to run more multi-movie series and special event programming.

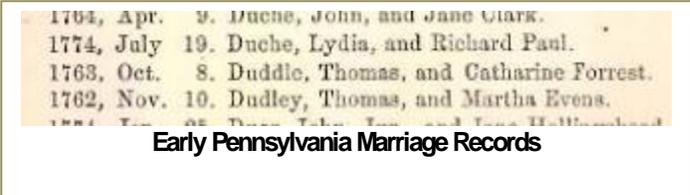
The Hicks have used the theater down time to carry out repairs, maintenance, and repainting. They are also re-working the menu at MJ's coffeehouse. Some unexpected, though manageable, roadblocks have slowed an earlier re-opening of the Allen, but Skip now hopes to be in full operation by early December. The new digital capabilities of the Allen and the many repairs and upgrades do, we believe, put the theater in a strong position to re-open and re-build its audience in central Pennsylvania. Hopefully, by the time you receive this newsletter the marquee at the Allen will be announcing the current movie and a line will have formed extending out the front door and along Main Street

COLONIAL SOUTH WHITE OAK STREET

Wistful Gleanings from Colonial Annville

Paul Fullmer, with imaginings and research by Guiomar Reyes

Not long after Annville was settled in the mid-1720s, the wealthy landowner Abram Raiguel, born in Switzerland, befriended fellow township resident Thomas Adudell, an Irishman. The two came to know each other well in the small town. Abram likely consulted Thomas on the layout of the town streets in 1763, and may have played a role in Thomas' marriage to Catharine Forrest, also a native of Ireland, that same year. Abram himself, however, would never marry.



1764, Apr.	9.	Duche, John, and Jane Clark.
1774, July	19.	Duche, Lydia, and Richard Paul.
1763, Oct.	8.	Duddle, Thomas, and Catharine Forrest.
1762, Nov.	10.	Dudley, Thomas, and Martha Evena.

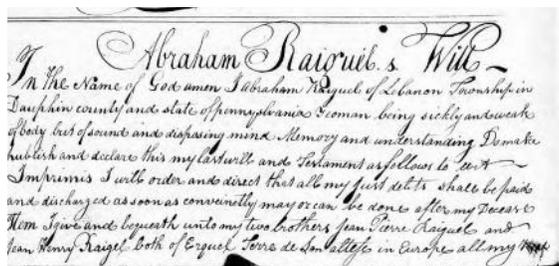
Early Pennsylvania Marriage Records

The year 1770 brought new life to the friendship, for baby Elizabeth was born to Thomas and Catharine. To assist with family finances, good friend Abram hired Catharine to work as house keeper at his own relatively simple starter home on the east side of South White Oak Street, south of the Quitophehelia Creek. The work was occasional—accommodating care for little Elizabeth—and the pay was surely generous. The people were sturdy, the ground was fertile, and living was good.

Living was good, that is, until death made its untimely intervention. Elizabeth was just around five years old when her father, Thomas Adudell, died in 1775. Catharine was a widow with at least one child to look after. And, despite the death of his dear friend, bachelor Abram's friendship deepened as he assumed the role of guardian and advocate for Thomas' wife and child. Catharine and Elizabeth became part of Abram's household, bringing not only assistance in the area of cleaning, but also livelihood, activity, joy.



The setting was nice, Abram persuaded his nephew and namesake, Abram Raiguel (II) who arrived in Annville in 1778 to join the happy household. Over the next decade, Abram (II) would get to know the widow Catharine well, and he came to know and love Elizabeth, who was not so little any more. By August 1789, the two were wed.



A photograph of a handwritten document titled 'Abraham Raiguel's Will'. The text is written in cursive and begins with 'In the Name of God amen I Abraham Raiguel of Lebanon Township in Litchfield county and state of Pennsylvania being sickly and weak of body but of sound and disposing mind Memory and understanding Demerit hable and declare this my last will and Testament as follows to wit Imprimis I with order and direct that all my just debts shall be paid and discharged as soon as conveniently may be done after my decease to them I have and bequeath unto my two brothers Jean Pierre Raiguel and Jean Henry Raiguel both of thequel Terre de son village in Europe all my

Uncle Abram Raiguel's Will

Meanwhile, Uncle Abram was growing old. On August 27, 1789, he drafted his last Will and Testament, making more than ample provisions for his friend's widow, "Catharina Adudell ... his housekeeper upwards of sixteen years," now also mother-in-law of nephew Abram. So the land and plantation on South White Oak Street would go to Abram (II). Both nephew Abram and Catherine were executors of the Will.

If she remains unmarried, Catherine can continue to live in the house and will get 15 pounds a year from the possessor of the house and plantation (which is left to Abram the nephew); if she marries, she has to move out of the house and won't get the 15 pounds, but will still have access to the third part of the estate being left to her as long as she lives, and when she dies that third part also goes to Abram the nephew or his heirs:

I give and bequeath unto Catharina Adudell, who has been my Housekeeper upwards of sixteen Years. the one full third part of all my personal estate and—in consideration of her Care, attention and faithfull services—I

also Will order and direct that she shall have her Seat in my present dwelling House in the Room therein lying to the west and also the Room directly above the same for her own use.
 And she shall also have the use of the Kitchen and Celler in and under the Said dwelling house so much as She may have occasion for.
 And she shall have the one third Part of the Garden adjacent to said House. And
 And she shall have sufficient quantities of firewood cut and brought to her doore from time to time as she shall have need thereof.
 And she shall have the one fourth part of all the apples produced in the Orchard on my plantation.
 And she shall have good Fodder and Stable Room for a Cow and pasture for such cow.
 And she, the said Catharina, shall receive the sum of fifteen pounds Gold or silver money Yearly from the Possessor or Possessors of my house and Plantation so long as she lives if she continues unmarried.
 But if she inclines to marry and is actually married, then she shall immediatley leave my House and plantation and all the Rights Liberties and Privildges which I have herein given to her shall cease and determin and also the payment of the aforesaid fifteen pounds shall no longer be made to her.
 Nevertheless she shall have the use only of the afforesaid third part of my personal Estate during her life and after her decease the principal amount of such third part shall come to my Nephew Abraham Raiguel or his heirs....

Uncle Abram died in 1795 and is buried at Hill Lutheran Church Cemetery very near his good friend Thomas Adudell's grave. He had not yet passed, however, when young Abram and his wife, Elizabeth, began in 1793 to build the impressive mansion that stands to this day on his uncle's land at 450 South White Oak Street.



Uncle Abram Raiguel's gravestone features the décor and impressions characteristic of a wealthy man of the period.



450 South White Oak as it appeared in the 1930s.

Catharine never re-married. She continued to live with her daughter and son-in-law until her death in 1817, and is buried at their family plot, next to Abram II and Elizabeth, in the cemetery of the Jerusalem Reformed Church (now Christ Church United Church of Christ). Though no longer with us in person, the caring spirit of this colonial family surely inspired the care, compassion and generosity we continue to experience in our fair township to this day.

For further images, source documents, and notes regarding the Raiguel and other Annville families, connect to FOOA's Electronic Archives. For access, contact bpfullmer@gmail.com.

As you stuff those stockings & prepare your holiday cards, please don't forget that a membership in Friends of Old Annville is a great, yet inexpensive way to welcome a new neighbor to Annville or to show you remember an old friend from the community.
See "Membership Renewal" for details.
 All gift subscriptions are acknowledged by FOOA to the recipient.

FOOA ANNOUNCES TWO FAÇADE RESTORATION GRANTS

At its 2015 Annual Dinner on November 14, Friends of Old Annville announced the awarding of two Façade Restoration Grants.

The first grant, awarded to Scott Eggert and Daniel Massad of 112 North College Avenue, provided \$1,200 in support of the installation of an iron fence around the front and sides of the property. The fence is shown in the image to the right. The Eggert/Massad home, built in 1888 by Edmund Lorenz, President of Lebanon Valley College, was open for touring during the fall 2014 program of FOOA.



This residence was also awarded the 2013 Historic Building Award of Friends of Old Annville.



The second grant of \$600 was awarded to Michael and Bonnie Bowman for the repair and painting of the highly ornate porch of their historic home at 225 West Main Street. A photo of the porch is shown to the left.

LEARNING TO SKI (A seasonal & largely blood & injury free tale by Red Sudbury)

Sometime ago I bought a pair of wooden skis and poles at Ebersole's Auction in North Annville. I had them in my basement for a long time before I got to use them. Finally we had a good snow. I had a big Arctic Cat snowmobile, so I thought I'd use that to try the skis out. I called my daughter Kathy, who lived next door to me, and told her what I planned. I had a long rope and I didn't know anything about strapping the skis on. So I made them so tight that they wouldn't come off. I hooked the rope to the snowmobile and told Kathy to tighten the rope. She did, but the first time we tried it, I was jerked off my feet immediately and drug about 20 feet. I was turning but the skis weren't. The only thing that kept my legs from twisting off was the fact that the rope tore.

But I said I was alright. She suggested that I should zip my jacket shut. I said I was alright and told her to go. She pulled me through the empty cornfield (empty except for the stumps of broken stalks still lying in rows beneath the snow), which quickly made me lose my balance, ending with her dragging me down the rows on my chest. I got up and zipped my jacket, bent my knees and said "Now I'm ready. Go open it up". We took off and headed out through the field at about 60 miles an hour. I waved for her to turn and go back home. She turned, but I still didn't know how, so I shot straight down the field and wound up in a fence.

I hooked up again. Now I was really, really ready. We started back and I told her to open it up again. This was great! When we got close to the house, she saw that her lawn was drifted over about 14 inches higher and she hit the brakes. I didn't. I jumped over her and then I was headed for my house. My wife was sitting on the patio watching all of this happen. I was heading for the glass doors but didn't know how to turn, so I just fell down and stopped just short of them. That was my first and last time on skis.



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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.

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

RENEWALS

The Beazley Family ★
M/M Bernard Bell
Nancy J. Bender
Sylvia Bender
Mr. Donald R. Brown
Mrs. Verling Darkes
James W. Davis
Anne Wallace Effland
Mrs. Robert Fasnacht
Trygve Struble Freed

Mrs. Irene Henise •
Tony & Dawn Kearney
Larry & Millie Kish
M/M Frederick Melhorn
Ms. Becky H. Morgenthal ★
Jean Noll
M/M Douglas Nyce ★
David & Jill Palanzo §
Elton & Judith Kindt Palm
Michael Schroeder ★

Mrs. Gladys Seiverling
Mr. Raymond Swingholm
M/M Edgar Teahl, Jr.
Mrs. Carol E Werni
Bob & Barb Wilson

NEW MEMBERS

Mary Doerries King ★
Robert & Rose Linzell

A membership in Friends of Old Anville is a great, yet inexpensive way to welcome a new neighbor to Annville or to show you remember an old friend from the community. All gift subscriptions are acknowledged by FOOA to the recipient.