MOUNT BETHEL CEMETERY CO.

P.O. BOX 231 700 LOCUST STREET COLUMBIA, PA 17512

SPRING 2016

Dear Friends,

It appears we've made it through another winter which wasn't too severe except for the January 23rd blizzard which produced close to a thirty inch snow. Spring is preparing to come alive and we look forward

to beginning another interesting year at Mount Bethel.

Our main focus will be on the continuation of the "Bricks for the Brickyard" project which is the repair of the 14 crypts which are the final resting places of Susanna Wright and many of our founding fathers and the erection of our storage facility which will house our motorized equipment, our tools and other necessary items.

In addition, we will be undertaking the one project we have been hoping to do for over 20 years - the painting of 3,015 feet of wrought iron fence that surrounds the perimeter of the entire property. Completion

of this will greatly enhance Mount Bethel's entire appearance.

This is the time of the year when we ask for your financial support to help insure that we will be able to continue to keep this important historical landmark as an appealing and attractive place on our community. We sincerely hope you can assist us in this effort.

Enclosed please find a reply card and pre-addressed envelope to facilitate your response. We welcome any suggestions you may have concerning our projects and thank you for your anticipated support of Mount Bethel.

Yours truly,

John F. Hinkle, Jr.

President

Mount Bethel Cemetery Company

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Mount Bethel Reflections

Spring, 2016

Columbia, Pennsylvania

A Publication of the Mount Bethel Cemeterv Company – a Non-Profit Cemeterv

From The Desk of the President

Welcome to 2016 and about the 286th year that Mount Bethel has been in existence. Because of your generosity and all the volunteers that have shared their time and talent with us, we continue to be more than just a cemetery. All of you have helped turn our 10 acres into a scenic area, a historical resource and a sanctuary for both the living and the deceased.

This year we will continue to restore the landscape of Mount Bethel and increase the scope of our educational and recreational programming. Check the listing for the programs that are already planned. We will also be doing some major repair work to our facilities which

will greatly improve our surroundings.

We welcome school groups, organizations, special parties or just friends and families who are interested in history and in taking a personalized tour of the grounds. For more information on how to schedule a private tour, check our website at www.MtBethelCemetery.com or our email address at MountBethelCemetery@gmail.com.

Our cottage on the premises is also available for small groups (up to 20) to meet. The address is 700 Locust Street in Columbia and kitchen and restroom facilities are available. For more information call Dave Rupp (717-201-0235) or Ron Mable (717-951-4620).

Mount Bethel is open daily with no admission. We welcome joggers, bicyclists, sightseers, students, photographers, picnickers, dog walkers and those who

would just want to rest and reflect.

Yours Truly, John F. Hinkle, Jr., President

"Spotlight on the Artists of the River Towns" exhibit on April 22nd from 5:00 PM

- 9:00 PM will feature works by several local artists. The Susquehanna River has been a drawing card over the years for a variety of artists and today many of them

still reside near the scenic waterway.

Held in conjunction with the Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center's "Fourth Fridays", works by: Phyllis Koster, Robert Oughton, Suzanne Satterfield, Dale Weibley, Christine Ott, Chris Redding, Thomas Hermansader, Diana Thomas, Bill Clark, Cleon Berntheizel, Robert Hammer, and Dave Haneman will be featured.

Hermansader is well known for his paintings of the area's most noted landmarks on canvas and paper. Using pastels, acrylic, colored pencils and watercolor, Satterfield creates paintings illustrating the Susquehanna River and the Lancaster/York County area.

"Inkmen": Robert Oughton, Dave Haneman, Dale Weibley, and Cleon Berntheizel each using pen and ink in their own creative way will share some of their exquisite renderings. Weibley accomplishes his work by using a technique called "Stippling", where images are created by using individual 'dots' of ink. Berntheizel has created an extensive portfolio of local landmarks meticulously rendered in pen and ink.

Koster, a fiber artist, captures art through the craft of weaving. She has recieved awards from the Philadelphia Hand Weavers Guild, the Pennsylvania Guild of Craftsmen and the Central Pennsylvania Festival of the Arts

for some of her creations.

In addition to Friday evening the exhibit at the Caretaker's Cottage at Mt. Bethel Cemetery will continue on Sunday afternoon, April 24th from 2:00 -4:00 PM. Refreshments will be available and the event is open to the public.

Columbians Cheered When First Steamboat Chugged Up River

Few days in the history of Columbia can match the excitement in the community on Saturday, June 11, 1825 – the day the first steamboat arrived.

Eighteen years had elapsed since Robert Fulton proved the worthiness of his steamboat on the Hudson

River.

Boatmen felt the time had come to demonstrate what a similar craft could do on the Susquehanna. They intended to do this by going upstream from the mouth of the river at the Chesapeake Bay to its source in New York State.

When the steamboat docked at Columbia, thousands turned out to gape at this wondrous invention. The crew received a grand welcome and was peppered with questions about how the boat worked.

Everyone wanted a ride, and the captain spent the next three days demonstrating the versatility of steam boating by taking small groups to nearby islands.

The boat next stopped at Marietta, where it got another welcome, this time complete with fireworks and cannon fire.

The crew assured one and all that the steamboat could complete its journey; nevertheless, many spectators expressed concern about the rapids upstream.

The Susquehanna became treacherous at Conewago Falls, 14 miles north of Columbia, where the river dropped 19 feet. The boat was to negotiate this one-mile stretch, but it took three days to accomplish the feat.

After that the steamboat continued upstream with little trouble until it reached Wilkes-Barre. Here, the mission ended abruptly when the boiler exploded.

Nevertheless, the demonstration proved that shallow-draft steamboats could go far up the Susquehanna. However, the river was so shallow, especially in summertime, that commercial steamboats on the Susquehanna were impractical.

In time, dams were built along the Susquehanna, blocking the river from commercial shipping for all time.

Source: Historic Columbia - Founded 1788 - Lanc New Era

Research and Grave Location - Mount Bethel

Cemetery's archives provide researchers a unique connection to personal and public history. Interment records are available for scholarly and genealogical research by contacting:

Ronald Mable (<u>rnmable@gmail.com</u>) or David Rupp (<u>drupp519@comcast.net</u>)

Visitors to the cemetery can locate gravesites by using copies of our pre-mapped sites.

Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce

The SVCC is growing in membership as is the traffic at the visitor's center at 445 Linden Street in Columbia. Although the offices are located in Columbia, the chamber represents the boroughs of Marietta and Wrightsville as well and provides information concerning Lancaster and York counties.

Volunteers are needed to answer phones and questions that visitors may have. Even if it's only a few hours a week, SVCC would welcome your help. Interested? Call Jetty Gerfin at (717)684-5249 or fax

(717)684-5142.

Two Slaves Were Among Town's First Settlers

The first settlers in the section of Lancaster County now called Columbia included two black slaves, Peter and Sal.

Little known about them except that they were servants of Samuel Blunston.

Blunston, together with John Wright and Robert Barber, built houses at what Indians called Shawanah Town, now Columbia, to establish the first settlement there.

It was Wright who picked Lancaster as the name of the county and who served as Lancaster's first justice. Barber became the first sheriff, and Blunston, the first prothonotary. Wright and Blunston were members of the Pennsylvania Provincial Assembly.

Susanna Wright, John's daughter, recorded in her journal the names of the first group of people to move to the shore of the Susquehanna River where Columbia

now stands.

"John Wright, Samuel Blunston, H. Scarlet, L. Ryley, John Devel; Prince, and Indian; Negro Peter and Negro Sal."

The arrived at the Indian village of Shawanah on Sept. 12, 1726, three years before the county of Lancas-

ter was formed.

Scarlet, Ryley and Devel are believed to have been artisans hired to construct houses for Wright, Blunston and Barber. Prince maintained friendly contact with the Indians while Sal and Peter ran the household.

Blunston died in 1745. His will granted freedom to

Sal as well as an annuity of five pounds.

Prince was listed by Susannah Wright in her "Account of Persons Laid in the Burying Grounds at Hempfield."

Source – Historic Columbia – Founded 1788 – Charles H. Kessler

"What the caterpillar calls the end of the world, the Master calls a butterfly."Richard Bach Thank You to all Our Faithful Donors

On Behalf of the Board of Directors, we would like to thank all of you who have so faithfully supported us over the years with your time, talents and treasures. The response to our fund drives, the many in-kind donations given, like professional services, discounts on materials and services, the hours donated for work on the grounds and in record keeping, to mention a few. Without your support we would be hard pressed to keep Mount Bethel alive and maintain it like the sacred landmark that it is. To all of you from all of us – *Thank You!*

Mount Bethel - The Blunston Mansion

Mt. Bethel, once the home of Samuel Blunston and his wife, Sarah, was located on a property overlooking the Susquehanna River and reached by dirt path, or road, leading off the intersection in the vicinity of Second and Walnut Sts., Columbia.

Samuel, the son of John and Sarah Blunston, was born at Darby, PA and married Sarah Hilton, a widow, but she died a few years after 1726 when she and John

arrived in Columbia.

Blunston studied land surveying, had a considerable means at his disposal when he married and was appointed by Peter Evans, the Register of Wills; and became Deputy Register of the County on Aug. 9, 1729 when the county was organized and was named one of the Justices of the Peace. Previously he had been a Justice of the Peace in Chester County.

He was not recognized as a strong member of the Society of Friends, but was said to be a generous giver and entertained a great deal of company. Thomas Penn was said to be one of his many well-known friends in political circles and James Logan, a prominent land

owner was also a good friend.

Blunston was elected a member of the General Assembly in 1732, 1743, 1744 and 1752; and in 1732 when troubles erupted between the Marylanders and Pennsylvania in the Conagehela Valley, below Wrightsville, he was untiring in his efforts to bring freeholders to justice.

Blunston was associated with Susanna Wright and when he died in September, 1746, he gave her a life estate to his property, nearly 900 acres of land, and shares of bequests to include aiding the poor of the county and giving slaves their freedom. Courtesy Robert G. Miller

- Columbia Historic Preservation Society

New River Trail Center Opens in Columbia

A staffed \$2 million trail center has opened in Columbia along the riverfront to serve as the hub of the 14-mile Northwest County River Trail.

The 2-mile section of the trail from Columbia to Marietta is now open. You can walk or bike through an old railroad tunnel blasted through rock, pass within feet of the base of Chiques Rock above you and view the long-forgotten remnants of no less than four 19th Century iron furnaces.

For the first time since the recreational trail was envisioned 20 years ago, you can now walk along the Susquehanna from Columbia to Falmouth near the Dauphin County line.

There are still a couple sections not yet paved, but

all should be by 2017.

The Columbia Crossings Trail Center, along Front Street and just across the railroad tracks from the 1877 train center, has a vast elevated deck that looks across the river to Wrightsville and is framed to the north by art deco Veterans Memorial Bridge that opened in 1930.

The Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area has been

hired by Columbia to operate the center.

The center's current hours are Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays from 10 AM to 5 PM and Saturdays from 9 AM to 5 PM. The center will be open on Tuesdays beginning in May.

The Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce

will assist in staffing the center.

City:

Source - LNP - March 16, 2016

James K. Polk: The Eleventh President of the United States, 1845-1849

James K. Polk was born in North Carolina in 1795 to Irish immigrant parents and was educated at the University of North Carolina, where he graduated first in his class in 1818. After college, he became both a lawyer and a politician in Tennessee. As a politician, his short stature and political speaking ability earned him the moniker "Napoleon of the Stump." Elected to the Tennessee House of Representatives in 1823, he went on to serve seven consecutive terms in the US House of Representatives, where he acted as one of President Andrew Jackson's primary supporters during his battles over the United States Bank.

Unlike Andrew Jackson, however, Polk did not possess great charisma as president. Although his secretary of the navy later described him as "one of the...most successful presidents the country ever had,: Polk had a very reserved personality. Polk's reserve, combined with Mrs. Polk's religiosity, made life in the Polk White House austere. (Mrs. Polk did not allow alcohol, card games, or dancing in the White House.) Polk proved to be one of the hardest-working presidents ever to have served, routinely spending twelve hours a day a his desk,

and he left office in poor health due to overwork. He died of cholera only a few months after leaving office in 1849. — Gerald C. Hammon

"Do you love life? Then do not squander time, for that's the stuff life is made of." Benjamin Franklin

Columbia's Memorial Day Parade

This year's Memorial Day celebration will be held Sunday, May 29 and will begin at 1 PM at the Locust Street Park gazebo. The parade will follow at 2:30 PM forming at 10th & Manor Streets. In case of inclement weather and if the parade has to be canceled, the memorial service will be conducted at St. John's Lutheran Church, 6th & Locust Streets.

Our "Bricks For The Brickyard" Project Continues

In 1730, the first burial was performed on a plot of land, within the Borough of Columbia, donated by Susanna Wright. This area became known as the "brick-yard" and marked the beginning of Mount Bethel.

Time has taken its toll on most of these well-weathered crypts of our founding fathers and we are continuing our project to repair and preserve these historic markers. Leaving your mark at Mount Bethel Cemetery, while ensuring the memory of your loved ones lives on,

this will be a part of our lasting history.

A restored brick pathway in the northeast corner will lead visitors to the most historic section of the cemetery. Any person or business may sponsor one or more bricks for the walking path at a cost of \$50.00 per 4"x8" brick. Sponsors receive the right to personalize their brick(s) with the name(s) of their loved ones, friends or pets. Bricks can also be customized to include quotes or messages that contain no more than three lines of text, with a limit of sixteen characters per line (including spaces and symbols). For additional information, please call (717)-684-6196.

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Phone: Email: TERMS: Please note that all inscriptions are subject to approval. Mount Bethel Cemetery reserves the right to deny any text not in accordance with our primary mission of maintaining Mount Bethel Cemetery as, first and foremost a dignified place of rest.

Zip:

From the Minutes of Mount Bethel Cemetery - April

"A motion was made and approved to address the chicken problem on Locust Street. Superintendent was authorized to kill the chickens that are found in the cemetery."

"One loss is good for the soul. Too many losses is not good for the coach." Knute Rockne

The Lamade Family and Little League

Little League, a true American institution, was founded by Carl E. Stotz and is based in Williamsport, PA. In 1959, the Lamade family, founders of Grit magazine, donated land in south Williamsport so that a stadium could be built to house the organization's showcase event, the Little League World Series. The new structure opened in 1959 and was named "Howard J. Lamade Stadium" in memory of Dietrick Lamade's son, who had served as vice-president for the newspaper. In addition to his work in the family business, the younger Lamade was heavily involved in the youth baseball program and, as a top executive, is credited with helping make it the national tradition it became.

In 2006, the Lamade family made an additional gift to the little League, allowing the organization to make major improvements to the facility. The fences were moved back 20 feet, the roof was extended, and new seating with chair backs replaced much of the bleacher area. Today the 40,000 seat stadium hosts the Little

League World Series every August.

The Northern Light - May 2014

The Last Ride

On May 21st, from 11AM to 3PM, the friends of Mount Bethel Cemetery will present our annual specialty car show, "The Last Ride," For the third year, Mount Bethel will be host to scores of paranormally unique vehicles from the world of the living. Throughout the afternoon, vintage and specialty hearses, flower cars, limousines, ambulances, and other service vehicles will be on display throughout the grounds. Mount Bethel will host visitors in its museum of vintage cemetery and funeral relics. Food and beverages, as well as raffles, a scavenger hunt and guided tours will be available. All proceeds from this event will benefit the upkeep of Mount Bethel's historic grounds. For more information, contact Jane Moore at jmoore1115@gmail.com or (717)575-9760.

"Guard it well, for it is far more precious than money ... once destroyed, nature's beauty cannot be repurchased." Ansel Adams

Our 2016 List of Projects

1. Building the equipment structure - all volunteer help

2. Fence painting - brush, vines, trees to be removed; painting to be done by contract

3. Spring clean-up of cemetery - all volunteer help

4. Lawn crypt restoration - volunteers plus masonry

5. Monument resetting - on-going project from Spring to Fall

6. Street tree replacement program - contracted; project ongoing; one oak down - 3 to go

7. New sign - sign is finished; to be erected in early Spring; map on back coordinates a self-guided tour with brochure

Anyone wishing to volunteer time and talent for any of these projects, please call Superintendent Ron Mable at 717-285-2332.

Events at Mount Bethel

Spotlight on the Artists of the April 22 & 24 -

Rivertowns 5-9PM Friday; 2-4PM Sunday - Caretakers cottage at Mount Bethel, 700 Locust Street, Columbia; Enjoy the artful creations of Columbia's budding artists

- Free

Professional Car Show 11AM -May 21 -3PM; hearses, flower cars, limousines, police cars, and a display of

funeral artifacts. Fee

Haunted Lantern Tour: cemetery October 21 & 22 classic, get in the spirit of the sea-

son with this costumed historic tour. Learn the back stories of some of those interred in the historic Mount Bethel Cemetery; tour size is limited and reservations are Call Charlene required.

(717)684-6196.

2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For additional information call SVCC (717)684-5249

Fourth Friday in Columbia, Marietta, and Wrightsville call SVCC for schedule

	Fourth Friday in Columbia, Marietta, and Wrightsville call SVCC for schedule
Apr. 22 nd & 24 th	Spotlight on the artists of the Rivertowns 5-9PM Friday; 2-4PM Sunday – Caretaker's cottage at Mount Bethel,
STATE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE P	700 Locust St., Columbia
May 14 th	Marietta Days – 9 AM – 3 PM, Market Street, Marietta
May 14 th	Red, White & Blueberry Jamboree 10AM-2PM - St. John's Herr Estate, 200 Luther Ln., Columbia
May 21 th	Professional Car Show, 11AM - 3PM - Mount Bethel Cemetery, 700 Locust St., Columbia
May 22 nd	2 nd Annual Hero's Walk, 7:30 AM - Riverfront Park, Columbia
May 28 th	Heritage Day Celebration, 9AM – 3PM – Constitution Square, 4th & Hellam Streets, Wrightsville
May 28 th	Caring for Heritage, 8AM – 3PM – Columbia River Park, Front & Walnut Streets, Columbia
May 28th	16th Annual River Run 7:30 AM – Rt. 462 Bridge – Begins in Wrightsville
May 29 th	Memorial Day Parade, Columbia – 1:00PM Locust Street Park
June 5 th	Strawberry Festival, Noon-4PM – Haldeman Mansion, 230 Locust Grove Rd., Bainbridge
June 5 th	Marietta Garden Tour 11AM – 4PM – Columbia – Marietta Community House, 264 W. Market St., Marietta
June 10 th	Friday Nite Unwind, 6-9PM - Shank's Mare, 2092 Long Level Road, Wrightsville
June 10 th	River Experience – John Wright Restaurant, 234 N. Front St., Wrightsville, 717-252-0229, ext 6
June 11 th	Garden Tour, 10AM-5PM - Columbia; for information or tickets call 717-684-5249
June 18th	Thunder on the River Car Show, 10 AM – 3 PM – downtown Columbia; For information call 717-684-5249
June 24 th	Art Exhibit, 5-9PM - St. John's Herr Estate, 200 Luther Lane, Columbia
June 25 th	35th Annual Antique, Art and Craft Show, 9 AM – 3 PM – downtown Columbia (Rain Date July 9)
June 25 th	Annual Book Sale, 9AM-3PM – Columbia Public Library 24 S. 6th St., Columbia – 717-684-2255
June 26th	Riverfest - Music and Art along the Susquehanna 3-9PM - John Wright Restaurant, 234 N. Front St., Wrightsville
July 8th	Hops' N Clocks, 6-9PM – National Watch & Clock Museum, 514 Poplar St., Columbia. Info. 717-684-8261
July 9th	Historic Marietta Criterium Bike Race for information visit: www.bikereg.com
July 16 th	Victorian Tea, 4-6PM – Haldeman Mansion, Bainbridge 717-283-7740
July 16 th	Susquehanna Heritage Flatwater Challenge Canoe & Kayak Race, 8AM-1PM. Call 717-252-0229 ext 6
July 22 nd	Columbia Education Foundation Golf Outing, 7:30AM Cool Creek Golf Club, 300 Cool Creek Rd., Wrightsville
Aug. 2 nd	National Night Out Columbia – 5-8PM Glatfelter's Field
Aug. 2 nd	National Night Out Wrightsville – 5-8PM Riverfront Park
Aug. 6th	7th Annual Art & Outdoor Fest, 10AM – 5PM - Shank's Mare, 2092 Long Level Rd., Wrightsville
Aug. 13 th	6th Annual Chiques Challenge – 8:30 AM – Running & Kayaking Stages from Columbia River Park 717-684-5249 – No Pets
Aug. 20th	Ice Cream Social, 6-8PM – St. John's Episcopal Church, 239 E. Market St., Marietta
Sept. 10 th	Tayern Dinner at Haldeman Mansion, 4:30-6:30 PM – 230 Locust Grove Road, Bainbridge 717-426-3794
Sept. 17 th	Fall Fest Yard/Bake Sale, 8AM-2PM – St. John's Herr Estate, 200 Luther Lane, Columbia
Sept. 23rd	Feet in the Street Art Show, 5-7:30PM - 500 Block of Locust St., Columbia 717-684-5249
Sept. 24 th	Museum Day, 9AM-3PM – Historical Museum, 309 Locust St., Wrightsville
Sept. 24 th	Clocktoberfest, 9AM-3PM - National Watch & Clock Museum, 514 Poplar St., Columbia; visit www.museumoftime.org
Sept. 25 th	Musselman Vesta Iran Furnace – "Pig Iron Fest" email: rivertownes@comcast.net
October	Trick or Treat at Turkey Hill Experience – For date, time & more info. visit www.TurkeyHill Experience.com
Oct. 1st	Annual Bridge Bust 8AM—4PM Rt. 462 Bridge — Rain Date 10/16/16. For more information call 717-684-5249
Oct. 8 th	Albatwitch Festival – 9AM-4PM, 200 Block of Locust St., Columbia, call 717-572-7149
Oct. 9 th	Apple Festival – noon – 4 PM – Haldeman Mansion – Bainbridge. For information call 717-426-3794
	Annual Home School Day, 10AM-3PM – National Watch & Clock Museum, 514 Poplar St., Columbia
Oct. 18 th	717-684-8261 ext 237
Oct. 21st	25th Haunted Lantern Tour – Mount Bethel Cemetery; For information call Charlene at (717) 684-6196
Oct. 22 nd	"Pig Iron Pedal" - Mussleman Vesta Iron Furnace. Email rivertownes@comcast.net
Nov. 5th	Time Traveler's Dance: 80's 7–10PM - National Watch & Clock Museum, 514 Poplar St., Columbia; visit
	www.museumoftime.org 5K MAG Fall Flash, 7:30 AM Registration – Rt. 462 Bridge Starts in Wrightsville; call 717-684-5249
Nov. 5 th	Kristkindle Mart, 9:30AM-3:30PM – Bainbridge Fire Hall, 34 S. 2 nd St., Bainbridge; 717-426-3794
Nov. 12 th	Annual Banquet & Business Meeting 6 PM – Wrightsville Hope United Methodist Church, 314 Locust St.,
Nov. 18 th	Wrightsville Community Christmas Celebration 6 PM – Constitution Square, 4 th & Hellam Sts., Wrightsville
Nov. 27 th	Open House 1-4PM – Wrightsville Historical Museum, 309 Locust St., Wrightsville
Dec. 4th	51st Annual Marietta Candlelight Tour – 11AM – 7PM; call 717-426-4048
Dec. 4th	Christmas Sweet Shoppe 11AM-5PM – St. John's Episcopal Church, 239 E. Market St., Marietta
Dec. 4 th	Tea time with Mrs. Claus & Santa Visit 10 AM - National Watch & Clock Museum, 514 Poplar St., Columbia
Dec. 10 th	717-684-8261 ext. 237
Dec. 10 th	Breakfast with Santa 7:30–10:30AM – St. John's Episcopal Church, 239 E. Market St., Marietta
Dec.10,11,17,18	Train Open House 1-5PM; Columbia Historic Preservation Society, 19 S. 2 nd St., Columbia
Dec. 11 th	Old Fashioned Christmas 11AM-7PM; For information call 717-684-5249
Dec 21st	New Year's Eve at Noon; National Watch & Clock Museum, 514 Poplar St., Columbia - visit
Dec. 31st	www.museumoftime.org