

THE STATION DISPATCH

June - July 2026

Mechanicsburg Museum Association

2 West Strawberry Alley
Mechanicsburg, PA
17055-6213

Passenger Station
(717) 697-6088

Email: mechanicsburgmuseum@gmail.com

Website:
www.mechanicsburgmuseum.org
Look for our hours here

Find us on Facebook



THE ROARING 20s -A LOOK BACK

The new exhibit at the Freight Station, **The Roaring 20s-A Look Back**, opens Saturday, June 27. The word ROAR was given to this decade because of its high energy, noise and intensity. These ten years featured everything from the sound of cars and jazz to the ROAR of the stock market. Popular expressions like the bee's knees and the cat's meow summed up this decade of silent films, prohibition, and flappers.

Not many of us can remember living in the '20s, but we certainly have heard about this decade. Names like Al Capone, Babe Ruth, Louis Armstrong and Charlie Chaplin are familiar to everyone.



A special grand opening event has been planned for this new exhibit on Saturday, June 27 from 12-3 in the Freight Station parking lot. Cars from the '20s will be on display, courtesy of the Rolls-Royce Foundation located on Hempt Road. Local owners have also volunteered to show their cars.

Don't miss this new exhibit **The Roaring 20s-A Look Back**. It will be open from June 27 - October 3, Wednesday - Saturday from 12 - 3.

AND COME ON SATURDAY, JUNE 27 FOR THE GRAND OPENING. DON'T MISS THE CARS ON DISPLAY FROM THE 1920s.

Sponsored by:

Malpezzi Funeral Home

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Inside this issue:

Roaring 20s Exhibit	1
President's Message	2
Events & Programs	3
<i>New Members</i>	
250 Years to Celebrate	
<i>Frankenberger Tavern</i>	
<i>Blueberry Orders</i>	
Rug hooking class	4
Kids Corner	5
Stroll down Main St.	6
Local History Day	
Keystone Baseball Club	
Dine out Fundraiser	7
Mechanicsburg Trivia	
Annual Picnic	
Upcoming Events	8

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The Mechanicsburg Museum Association is incorporated under Pennsylvania law as a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization. The official registration and financial information of the Mechanicsburg Museum Association may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1 (800) 732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

President's Message

The new Freight Station exhibit will open on Saturday, June 27. Roaring 20s - A Look Back will highlight a decade filled with history, entertainment, fashion and more.

I have a personal interest in the 1920s because my dad was the proud owner of a 1928 Studebaker, a model known as The President. He purchased the car during the 60s from a Mennonite family in town for \$200. It had 142,000 miles on the odometer. The car was painted black when Dad purchased it, since the Mennonites did not want a flashy car. Later he restored the car to its original colors, burgundy, black and cream.

The Zacharias Motors/Garage, once located at 413-15 South Market Street, cared for the Studebaker for many years. In more recent years, Dad relied on Jim Clay at Clay's Service Center on 138 W. Main Street.

Dad loved driving the car around town and often parked in front of our museum buildings for a photo opportunity. In the one photo, there is a teddy bear which belonged to my grandmother dating back to 1923. So it was appropriate for the bear to take a ride now and then in the 1928 President. The Studebaker has now been donated to the AACA Museum in Hershey.



I hope everyone will enjoy the new exhibit highlighting the 1920s. Don't miss the grand opening on Saturday, June 27, which will showcase cars from the '20s in our Freight Station parking lot.

And a bit of trivia! When folks drove those cars from the '20s, gas was 15 cents a gallon!



Get ready to go back in time and enjoy learning about those amazing Roaring 20s.

Faith Matthews
President



WELCOME....

TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

- David Bucko**
- Tim & Olivia Carpenter**
- Kathleen Furr**
- James Johnson**
- Daniel Lupia**
- Connie Miller**
- Kyle Miller**
- Joanne Neimer**

REMINDER:

The Frankenberger Tavern is now open for the summer season. Stop by 217 E. Main Street Saturdays from 12:00 - 3:00.



Lifetime Enrichment Program

Pierre-Auguste Renoir: Timeless Beauty

**Meg Ream
Artist & Business Owner**

**Wednesday, June 10
Passenger Station - 1:00**

Blueberry Orders Due by June 19

Be sure to order your blueberries by Friday, June 19. See the enclosed flyer for ordering information. Blueberries are known as a superfood because they are such a healthy fruit. Eat them fresh or use them in a favorite recipe, either way, blueberries for the win. This is the museum's best fundraiser. We are grateful for your support.

1776-2026

250 Years to Celebrate

Fireworks! If you don't see them, you hear them. Most of us look forward to a display of fireworks over the 4th of July holiday.

The history of fireworks is very interesting. It is said that someone living in China around the first century B.C. threw a piece of bamboo on a fire and it exploded with a bang. Bamboo stalks contain air pockets that can expand and blow up in extreme heat. Later gunpowder and paper tubes were used.

Fireworks made their way to Europe in the 14th century and then later to America. Some say Captain John Smith set off fireworks in Jamestown in 1608.

On July 3, 1776, the day after the Continental Congress voted for independence, John Adams decided illuminations or fireworks should be used to observe this kind of occasion.

In 1777 the first organized July Fourth Celebration was held in Philadelphia and included a fireworks display and the ringing of bells.

Happy July 4th to all our museum friends. Be sure to find a way to celebrate this special 250th anniversary.

And maybe.....the celebration will include fireworks.



Keeping History Alive Through Crafting

Rug hooking in the United States began in the early 1800s. This craft is still popular today. The museum is offering a class this summer for anyone interested in learning this special skill.

The instructor for this rug hooking class is Suzanne White. She has been hooking for over 25 years and is a McGown Certified Instructor as well as a member of the Association of Traditional Rug Hooking Artists, the International Guild of Hand Hooking, the National Guild of Pearl McGown and several local guilds. She is also a Master Dyer, Her work was displayed at our last exhibit at the Freight Station, Artists Around Town.

The class will include some history, instruction and patterns. She will demonstrate how to use a cutter, the different types of hooks and different style frames. Each person will make 2 coasters, 1 in class and 1 on your own.

Information about the rug hooking class:

Date: Saturday, July 11

Time: 9:00 - 2:00

Place: Passenger Station

Cost: \$25.00

Participants should bring:

- Bagged lunch
- 10-12 inch embroidery hoop
- Small sharp scissors

To sign up, call the museum office at 717-697-6088 by
Tuesday, June 30.

Payment is due when you register. Check may be made payable to the
Mechanicsburg Museum Association.

KIDS CORNER

Hey Kiddos!

The Roaring 20s Exhibit

M-I-C-K-E-Y M-O-U-S-E 1928



Some of us remember the Mickey Mouse Club song, and the spelling of Mickey Mouse throughout. While the Mickey Mouse Club was not in the '20s (it was the '50s), it does remind us how popular this little mouse became.

Walt Disney created Mortimer Mouse in 1928. Walt's wife thought Mickey would be a better name choice so the change was made.

Minerva Mouse, known as Minnie, was also created in 1928.

We hope our young guests will enjoy Mickey Mouse and toys from the 1920s while visiting the museum.

New Train Layout for the Passenger Station

The museum was given a new N Scale train layout for the Passenger Station. Thank you to Craig Kepner for this generous donation. Also thanks to our dedicated train crew who will be working on the setup. Once completed, guests will be able to push buttons to activate the train.

This new platform will be enjoyed by children of all ages. Meaning adults too!

Watch our newsletter for when this new train display will be completed.



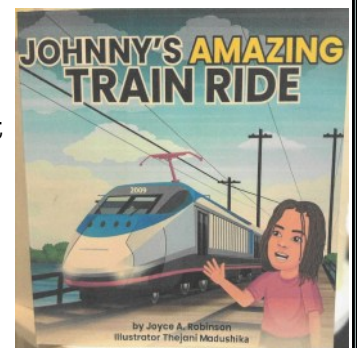
Summer Storytime at the Passenger Station

Fridays July 10, 17 and 24 at 10:15

We are thrilled to once again be in partnership with Simpson Library for Summer Storytime. For three Fridays in July, parents and grandparents are invited to bring their children to hear stories read by folks from the library. This event is held at the Passenger Station beginning at 10:15.

On Friday, July 24, a special guest will be at Storytime, engineer Joyce Robinson. Joyce will share her train experiences and also read some of the children's books she has written,

This will be a special morning that children won't want to miss.



Let's Stroll Down Main Street

If you are interested in history and enjoy walking, you will want to take advantage of our self-guided Main Street Walking Tour packets. These packets are available at the Passenger Station, Freight Station and Frankenberger Tavern and include historic information about homes and businesses on Main Street. The packets are designed to walk at your own pace, following the



addresses on each page. There are separate packets for East and West Main. Ask a friend to join you and enjoy a stroll down Main Street. Take time to stop and enjoy lunch at one of the nearby restaurants. (A list of restaurants is available at each building.)

Special thanks to Gary Turnbaugh and his hard working crew for painting the exhibit room walls at the Freight Station.
Looks Great!

Save the Date: Saturday, June 13, 2026

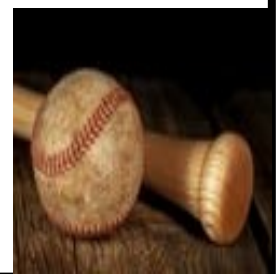
Local History Day v250

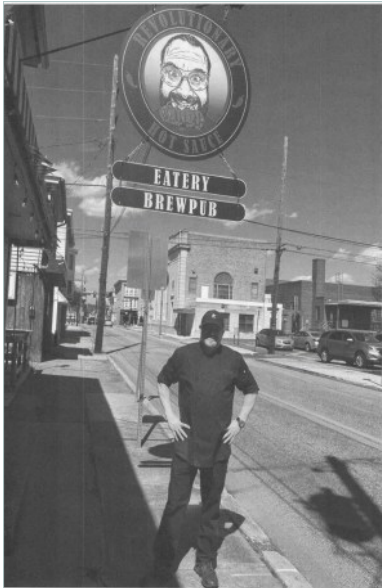
Historical societies, civic groups, historic baseball clubs, musicians, craftsmen, and lots of exceptional regular people will come together to celebrate America250 at Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Park in Mechanicsburg from 10:00 - 2:00.

Free parking, free admission, free wagon rides into history, and a no-losers lottery.

The Keystone Baseball Club of Harrisburg re-creates a 19th century baseball club, and is looking for another local club, re-creating the Mechanicsburg Zouvae Club, which is known to have played at least one match in 1870.

Interested ballists (ages 18 to 80) should contact Info@keystonebbc.com or rheinick@gmail.com for additional information.





Dine Out Fundraiser

Every Wednesday in July

1, 8, 15, 22 and 29

Revolutionary Hot Sauce Eatery and Brewpub

30 South Market Street - Hours: 11:00 - 7:00

***Must bring flyer for the museum to receive a % of the purchase**

(Additional flyers are at all our buildings)

Mechanicsburg Trivia-Those Roaring 20s

- Trolley cars were a common sight on some of the streets.
- Between 1914-1923, the Paramount Movie Theater was built at 5 East Main Street.
- The first Farmers and Merchants Jubilee Day was held on May 10, 1924.
- Franklin Hall was demolished in 1926 and the First Bank and Trust Company was built in its place.
- Irving College women formed baseball teams in 1927.
- In 1929, Maybelle Eckels Derr took over the pharmacy business as the first female pharmacist.

Let's Connect at the Annual Picnic

Date: Tuesday, June 9

Time: 6:00

Place: St. Paul's United Church of Christ (pavilion) @ 626 Williams Grove Rd.

Food: Burgers, drinks and tableware provided

RSVP: Call the museum office @ 717-697-6088, by Friday, June 5

**** Singer Band Concert at 7:00**

Hope to see you there!





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UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| June 9 | Museum Picnic at Saint Paul's United Church of Christ - 6:00 |
| June 10 | Lecture Series Pierre-Auguste Renoir Passenger Station - 1:00 |
| June 13 | Local History Day at Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Park - 10:00 - 2:00 |
| June 19 | Blueberry orders due |
| June 26 | Blueberry pick up at Freight Station parking lot - 12:30 - 6:00 |
| June 27 | Roaring 20s Exhibit opens at Freight Station |
| June 30 | Rug hooking class registration deadline |
| July 10 | Children's Storytime 10:15 - Passenger Station |
| July 11 | Rug hooking class - Passenger Station - 9:00 - 2:00 |
| July 17 | Children's Storytime 10:15 - Passenger Station |
| July 24 | Children's Storytime 10:15 - Passenger Station |
| August 1 | Community Day at Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Park - 10:00 - 3:00 |
| September 5 | Grandparents Day - Passenger Station - 12:00 - 3:00 |
| September 9 | Lecture Series West Shore Patriots: Robert Whitehill and James Wilson
Passenger Station 1:00 |
| September 26 | Fall Festival - Frankenberger Tavern & Passenger Station - 10:00 - 2:00 |

