

# The Rooster Herald

All the news that's fit to crow about!



*Renfrew Museum and Park*

## Family Ties



*Mr. & Mrs. Paul Scott*

After Paul Scott found the lady of his dreams he devised a fun and unique proposal. In August 2016, Paul brought his girlfriend, Victoria Fortmueller, to Renfrew for a Museum House tour. He wanted to show Victoria the home where his Nana, Mrs. Eleanor Mae Minnich, was born. Paul called Renfrew, scheduled a tour and arranged a code word with the tour guide. During the tour, the tour guide incorporated the code word signaling Paul that the tour would be over soon. He excused himself to go to the bathroom. Victoria and the guide completed the tour and exited the Museum House to find Paul on one knee on the porch waiting to pop the question to Victoria.

Victoria said yes and they began planning the wedding. Renfrew was the obvious choice due to the connection with his Nana, their engagement, and his fond memories of Renfrew growing up in Waynesboro. His father's side of the family also had connections to Renfrew. Limestone from the Scott family farm was

used to rebuild the lime kiln behind the Fahnestock House.

Paul and Victoria planned their wedding for September 17, 2018. They wanted to be married behind the Museum House where they had gotten engaged. Storm Florence had other plans. Heavy rain started in the morning and fell into the afternoon.

Without missing a beat, the groom along with family and friends arrived mid-morning and decorated the Wagon Shed. The ceremony began at 3 pm and was beautiful.

Paul wrote his own vows and read them in an unwavering voice as Victoria held his hand. A sand ceremony was performed and communion was offered to guests.

After the ceremony, pictures were taken in the Wagon Shed. There was a small break in the rain so the wedding party took photos on the Museum House porch. Then they were on their way to the reception at the Waynesboro Fire Hall.

Renfrew is a historic place that means so much to many people. We love to hear stories of families and their connection to this property. We are excited future generations have chosen to begin their memories here for their families.

Renfrew hosted three weddings in one week during the month of September. We thank the couples for choosing Renfrew as their wedding venue and wish them a lifetime of happiness.

**November 2018**

Renfrew Museum and Park  
1010 E. Main Street  
Waynesboro, PA 17268

**Phone: 717-762-4723**

**[www.renfrewmuseum.org](http://www.renfrewmuseum.org)**

"Family—where life begins and love never ends." -Unknown

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## **The Rooster Herald**

### **Third Annual Oktoberfest**

Our 3rd Annual Oktoberfest was held on October 6 at the Main Street Park. Throughout the morning the skies were gray. Ironically, at 4 pm when the Mayor led the horse drawn carriage down Main Street and stopped in front of the park the sun came out and a light breeze followed.

Guests and the Die Shippensburg German Band spilled onto the sidewalk to watch the horse drawn wagon arrive.

Gigantic pretzels were served with various dipping sauces and the beer cheese sauce was a huge hit.

The kegs were tapped and the bartender was in place. The buffet service began with piping hot potato and beer soup and was followed by Bratwurst with sauerkraut, sauerbraten, perfectly seasoned green beans, and creamy mashed potatoes.

Dessert concluded the meal with hot apple strudel and German chocolate cake.

The evening took on a lively feel as music filled the park. Guests lined up to bid on the silent auctions and buy glow necklaces to participate in the heads and tails game.

As the sun began to fade, the lights under the tent set the mood for socializing, jovial conversation and the heads and tails game.

The beer garden was a success and the Eagles Club Inc. provided the blue and white tent, tables, delicious food and courteous service throughout the evening. As the main event sponsor, they made sure that the food was hot and the beer was flowing throughout the evening.

Renfrew raised a total \$9,000 during our 3rd Annual Oktoberfest. Thank you to everyone who volunteered and supported the fundraiser. We'd also like to thank the Franklin County Visitors Bureau and Linda Barkdoll of Ronnie Martin Realty for the mugs, Mainstreet Waynesboro, Grove Bowersox Funeral Home, Rick Buterbaugh, and Greg and Deborah Duffey for their contributions to the event.



### **Renfrew is Beneficiary of Nicodemus Center for Ceramic Studies Loan**

The Nicodemus Center for Ceramic Studies in Mont Alto has permanently loaned Renfrew Museum sixty-two pieces of pottery. Pieces include John Bell, along with pottery from Daniel Baker, Jacob Heart, Peter Bell, Jacob Kimmeler, Upton M. Bell, and a few unmarked pieces. The new acquisition has been arranged and displayed in the Changing Gallery room of the Museum House. All cases in the Changing Gallery are filled with beautiful pottery with ties to Waynesboro or the local area.

Mary Ashe-Mahr, Director of the Nicodemus Center for Ceramic Studios, approached Dade Royer, Renfrew's Executive Director, and offered the permanent loan. Renfrew jumped at the opportunity to expand our

current collection. "The collection on loan from the Nicodemus Center for Ceramic Studies is an incredible addition to our Bell Family and Cumberland/Shenandoah Valley pottery exhibit. We are excited about this partnership with another great Waynesboro non-profit," said Dade Royer.

The pottery collection contains unique pieces including earthenware, stoneware, crocks, bowls, jugs, a funnel, a hanging flower pot, bed pan, pitchers, a pie plate, and two bowls from the Snow Hill Cloister. One of the most unique pieces in the donation is a small faux stoneware crock; slip decorated with cobalt hatching on everted rim and cobalt floral pattern on the exterior of the crock.

Beneath the rim in cobalt is printed April 22, 1858, Waynesboro, PA. The crock is stamped John Bell/Waynesboro on the exterior below the rim. The piece is signed JWB in cobalt.



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## Volunteer Spotlight: Judy Welterlen



Judy Welterlen has been a volunteer at Renfrew for over twelve years. She was born in Southern California and has lived on both the East and West coasts. Judy has also lived in Italy and Germany.

After living in Fairfax Station, VA and growing tired of the hectic pace of life, Judy and her husband Craig began looking for a new community to call home. Friends recommended Waynesboro and

they drove to take a look. They immediately fell in love with the pace, size and people they met in Waynesboro. The town had everything they were looking for and they moved to Waynesboro.

Judy has been working with old letters, bills, taxes and Christmas cards found among Emma Nicodemus' belongings or donated to the Museum and Park. It is quite a task sorting all the papers by date and the person writing the letters. Some of the letters date back to Pre-Civil War.

She enjoys reading the letters from members of different families. The letters contain a glimpse into everyday life, new clothes, travels, the civil war, and different foods.

Judy categorizes and files the items so they are accessible to museum staff.

Her favorite room in the Museum House is the Children's Bedroom.

It represents the simplistic life with the amount of toys and possessions in the room.

Judy was drawn to Renfrew because there are so many different activities provided for the community: free summer concerts, civil war encampment, Pumpkin Fest, Christmas on the Farm, and many more activities that are held on the grounds.

Pumpkin Festival is her favorite event. She loves to see the joy on children's faces as well as the adults as they enjoy time with their friends and families. Everyone has a wonderful time.

Judy and Craig have two children. Elise lives in Ventura, CA with her son Mawson. Their son Aaron and his wife Treena who live in Fairbanks, Alaska with their three children Siwah, Nila, and Lyam.

## Our Hometown Holiday

Do you remember sleighing on State Hill road? How about trains at Beck and Benedict Hardware? Do you remember when Ed Rudy dressed as Santa Claus?

Our Hometown Holiday is the theme for this year's Christmas on the Farm at Renfrew Museum and Park on December 7 from 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm, December 8 from 2:00 pm – 8:00 pm and December 9 from 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm. Christmas on the Farm is a yearly event at Renfrew Museum and Park. Our Hometown Holiday was chosen to celebrate this year's bicentennial, celebrating 200 years since the borough of Waynesboro was formed.

The Museum House will be decorated with Waynesboro holiday memorabilia and collectibles provided by local community members. A model train layout from the Quincy Village Model Railroad Club will be in the Visitors Center. A variety of musical groups will perform throughout the three days. A full schedule of musical performances will be on Renfrew's website by December 1.

An artist proof by Landis Whitsel, **Christmas Past**, was donated by Jeff Mace for this year's raffle to support Renfrew. An artist proof is one of the first ten prints from an

original, signed by the artist. Artist proofs are printed prior to a larger run of the print.

Admission includes self-guided tours, refreshments and entertainment.



## Memory washes up at Renfrew

As a teenager in the early 1990's, Terry "Tye" Sites and his friends would come to Renfrew and walk the trails and jump their bikes over the creek on hot summer days. During one of the many trips to Renfrew, Terry's Waynesboro Area Senior High School class ring slipped off his finger and was lost. He told his parents about the misfortune and they bought him a new class ring.

Terry continued to come to Renfrew and walk the trails and in recent years brought his niece and nephew to enjoy the park.

On August 19, 2018, Cat Weaver and her Mom were walking their two dogs in the park along the Mill Race Trail. Cat bent down to pick up a stick for the dogs to fetch and she caught a glimmer of something out of the corner of her eye. She walked over to the creek bed and picked up a class ring.

The class ring had mud caked to it and was incredibly dirty. Cat and her Mom took the ring home, gave it a thorough cleaning and returned it to Renfrew. Cleaned, the ring was in surprisingly good shape. Waynesboro Area Senior High School on one side and 1992 were clearly visible along with the name Terry L. Sites clearly engraved.

Renfrew staff contacted the high school to see if they might have any contact information still on file for a Terry Sites. The school called back with the last known number on file for Sites.

Our staff called the number and spoke to Terry's Mom who gave us his number. We called Terry and identified ourselves and said an item had been returned to the Visitors Center that might be his. Without hesitation he said, "the only thing I lost out there was my class

ring and I haven't seen it since I was 16 or 17 years old." He described the ring and couldn't believe it had been found.

Tye and Cat met on October 15. Cat took us to the spot where she found the ring and Tye thanked Cat for solving the a 28- year-old mystery.



*Terry Sites & Cat Weaver*

## Meet Kylah Bonebrake



Kylah Bonebrake is a senior at Waynesboro Area Senior High School.

She is the oldest daughter of Brooke and Adrian Bonebrake. Kylah is one of four children and her siblings are triplets. She has two brothers and one sister.

Kylah will be interning in our office through the end of the year. She is participating in an internship work-study program through the high school.

For an hour a day Kylah helps out with various office duties and scans older meeting minutes so our board members and community will have digital record of meeting proceedings.

Kylah participated in the Waynesboro Area Girls Softball program when she was younger as well as being a cheerleader.

She cheered throughout high school but decided to forego cheering her senior year to work. You may recognize her as a hostess from the Parlor House.

Her plans after graduation include attending either Penn State Mont Alto or Gettysburg College to pursue a career as a Physical Therapy assistant.

## 25th Annual Pumpkin Festival



Our 25th annual Pumpkin Festival was held on October 20. The weather was perfect for a day of family fun.

The 25th annual celebration was packed full of activities and a couple surprises. Slackwater 4 performed over the course of the day and entertained guests as they had lunch, took hay rides, and participated in games and activities.

Pony rides were offered courtesy

of the Rouzerville Business Association which was an added treat for those in attendance. Guests were invited to make scarecrows, get their faces painted and enjoy a delicious lunch.

Cake was served beginning at 12 noon and Pumpkin Festival t-shirts were available for sale.

Soup, hot cider and breads were included in the admission price and an extensive bake sale offered sweets for those guests wanting a treat after their meal.

Hayrides were offered up and down the Fahnestock Lane and guests were invited to chuck a pumpkin using the popular trebuchet. An air horn would sound as pumpkins flew through the air and crashed to the ground.

Over 1,400 guests made memories at Renfrew while celebrating a milestone 25 years of fun. Maxine Beck did a wonderful job as Chairperson and we thank M&T Bank for being the event sponsor.

## Johnston Correction

Due to an error in the August newsletter, we would like to clarify information on John H. Johnston (1811-1889).

From 1832, he was listed on tax rolls for his occupation as a gunsmith. Records show that two years later he rented and later purchased a house from Henry Smith near Grant and North streets. Johnston worked there until 1882. His three sons were also recorded as gunsmiths.

Johnston signed most of his rifles, some with his name in script and other with a die marker. Some of his rifles have German silver mounting and silver inlays described as "very tasteful and arranged well," according to William S. Bowers book titled *Gunsmiths of Pen-Mar-Va, 1790-1824*.

Of the three sons, James Hampton Johnston (died 1915), began working with his father in 1888 and took over the firm in 1896. Moving to Pittsburgh, he founded the Great Wester Gun Works which sold rifles, as well as handguns and small cannons.

## Museum Needs

- Community Partnership Opportunities: Renfrew is excited to offer three new community partnership levels to sponsor park events and programs. Please contact Kim Eichelberger or Dade Royer for additional information.
- We are in search of creamers and sugar bowls made of china in good condition to add to our tea collection. Thank you to everyone who has donated tea pots, cups, and saucers.
- Newsletter Sponsors: The total cost per printing is \$450. The newsletter features your business card or simply a "sponsored by" section with your name if you do not have a business to represent. Please contact Kim Eichelberger.
- We are in the process of archiving and storing textiles and in search of 100% Cotton Sheets. The sheets will be used in the packing and storing process. If you would like to help, please contact Melanie Desmond.

If you are interested in sponsoring any of these endeavors, you do not have to give the full amount. Any amount is welcome and appreciated.



Renfrew Museum and Park  
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Waynesboro, PA 17268

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***Our Mission***— Our mission is to preserve, enhance, promote, and interpret the Royer family Pennsylvania German farmstead, the Nicodemus and Bell collections, and the surrounding Park.

***Our Vision***— Our vision is to be a welcoming and memorable destination where everyone can walk back in time.

***Our Values***—

***Integrity***—With honesty and truth, we will adhere to the highest moral and ethical standards in all our endeavors.

***Authenticity***—We will interpret with historical accuracy all of our exhibits, collections, programs, and events.

***Excellence***—We will be exceptional in everything we do.

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***To renew your membership or to become a member, please contact Judy Elden or visit our website and go to the “Join” tab for more information.***

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