



THE ARCHWAY

Newsletter of the Friends of Brandywine Springs

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Sandi Ciosek, Editor

Fall 2017

NOW YOU CAN TAKE AN AUDIO TOUR OF THE PARK!

My name is **Leone L. Cahill-Krout**. I am Vice President of Marketing & Development for the Rockwood Park Preservation Society, and I work for the law firm of Fox Rothschild. In 2013 I was appointed to the New Castle County Planning Board, and that same year I joined Friends of Brandywine Springs. I'm currently enrolled in the Northwestern University Museum Studies program. This audio hiking tour of the park and virtual museum of the Visitors Center is my final project for class. Both the tour and virtual museum can be viewed on any desktop or laptop. The objective of the project was to provide visual unification of the artifacts with the archaeological digs from where they were discovered and create an educational and fun family activity using FREE interactive mobile apps.

To access the tours go to izi.travel/en. Choose **EXPLORE**. Type **Brandywine Springs Park** in the search bar. Both tours will appear.

The virtual museum provides up-close photographs of the artifacts, and each contains its own audio description. The virtual museum can function just as a brick and mortar museum. It can be edited and updated as



Leone demonstrates how to use your phone to take an audio tour of the park. **(Ryan Krout Photo)**

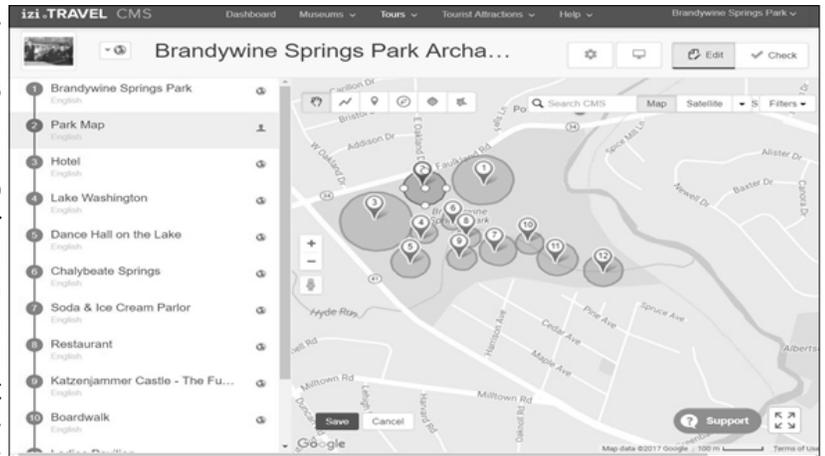


we continue our digs and expand our collection. We

can host special exhibits, perhaps items "on loan" from individuals or groups. Visitors can select smaller objects within exhibit cases and, with a touch, unlock the story behind each arti-

fact. This provides a more cohesive understanding and appreciation of the historic value and preservation efforts.

The hiking tour is designed as an on-site adventure. The free downloadable mobile app interfaces with both Apple and Android smartphones. It then uses the phone's GPS guidance system to guide through the park's archaeological dig sites. Although the sites are numbered, there is no sequence to the tour. The circles you see are trigger zones. The audio will automatically play as you approach each of the dig sites. You can stop and start again by simply touching on the site. This is to encourage exploration and active participation. Since there is no sequence and visitors are encouraged to roam freely, the app will check off the sites visited so you can be sure to visit the whole tour. At each site your phone will automatically bring up a vintage photo, original structure, and narrative audio play. At the end of each audio play there is the option to take a simple quiz as an added learning tool designed to encourage educational discussion as part of a fun family activity. My beta test showed both the kids and the adults enjoyed the afternoon of exploration. They loved the interactive features and educational value. **EXPLORE AND ENJOY!**



(Ed.Note: If anyone has questions, Leone would be happy to answer them. Contact her at brandywinespringspark@gmail.com.)

YORKLYN STATION MAKEOVER NEARING COMPLETION

by **Mary Simons**

The Red Clay Valley Visitors Center & Museum has been getting a makeover. The work to date has centered in the baggage room which once housed the little theater and was used for storage. After many months, the baggage room sports a new oak floor, bead board walls which have been painted to match the other two main rooms, new lights and electrical outlets, and the air handler has been painted black. The built-in cabinet has been given a new coat of paint as well. Recently the east end shutter, that had been nailed shut for many years, was opened again by **John Lindtner** of Building Preservation Services LLC. It is intact and will be used to cover the new window that will be installed in the opening. The old baggage room will once again see the light of day. Plans have changed a bit around displaying artifacts. This newly spruced up room will



(L-R) **Pete Dirga, Mike Ciosek, Barb Nelson, Mark Burton, and Mary Simons** spent many hours working on the Visitors Center. *(Mike Ciosek Photo)*



Ed Lipka stands behind the new display case in the newly refurbished room. The display case was purchased by **Mike Ciosek** and donated to the Visitors Center. *(Mike Ciosek Photo)*

house **Wilmington & Western** artifacts and will have a new flat screen TV to show our video. The FOBS displays will be rearranged within the main portion of the station. The potbelly stove will be moved back to where it once sat many years ago and more W&WRR goodies will be displayed in the main rooms. We would like to bring back the feeling of the old train station as best we can while displaying important artifacts relating to our rich history. The Museum & Visitors Center will be a work in progress ongoing with rotating displays. We are in need of hosts to help us educate our visitors about our history. If you are interested in spending a few hours a weekend, please contact **Mary Simons** at (610) 274-8949 or mhsimons21@comcast.net or **Sarah Dougherty** at (302) 397-4476 or doughertysarah@comcast.net. Many thanks to **Mark Burton, Barbara Nelson, Mike Ciosek, Peter Dirga, Al Meznora, Tex Varney, and Tommy Gears** for their hard work.

ELECTION OF 2018 OFFICERS

We'll be electing officers for 2018 at our **December 3** meeting. Candidates are: President - **Mike Ciosek**, Vice President - **Ed Lipka**, Secretary - **Sandi Ciosek**, Treasurer - **Diane Franklin**, Board of Directors - **Mel Schoenbeck** and **Sarah Dougherty**. If you would like to run for any of these offices, contact our Nominations Chairperson **Irene Lipka** at (302) 998-3548 or ldal3@verizon.net.

JON HUSBAND'S

REPLACEMENT NAMED

New Castle County Special Services Department has chosen **Kendall Sommers** to take over the parks responsibilities previously handled by **Jon Husband**. Jon retired this summer after over 32 years with the County. We look forward to working with Kendall and getting to know her.



Mary Alice Colman recently celebrated her 98th birthday. She's living in Australia now. *(Pam Richards Photo)*

Christmas Party December 3

Our Christmas party will be at our December 3 meeting. Bring goodies to share and join us in celebrating the season.

**WELCOME
NEW MEMBERS!
Linda Duricek
Jack Gilson
Amanda Holohan**

AMAZON SMILE FOR HRCV

Did you know you can help **Historic Red Clay Valley Inc.** (parent organization of **Wilmington & Western Railroad**) every time you shop with Amazon? Just go to smile.amazon.com and you will be prompted to choose an organization to support. Simply choose **Historic Red Clay Valley Inc.** and Amazon will make a donation to HRCV each time you make a purchase. There are no extra fees and it does not impact your free shipping with Amazon Prime orders. Please take a moment to sign up and support HRCV projects. *(Ed.Note: Thanks to **Tommy Gears** for this information.)*



ANNUAL PICNIC

Here's the crew at our annual picnic on September 30. It was overcast, windy and about 64 degrees. Thirty-five people attended and brought a good assortment of salads and desserts. **Bob McGhee** did hot dogs, hamburgers, and his tasty fried chicken. **Mary Lou Cannatelli** won the count the candy contest and promptly turned over the booty to grandson **Dante Richardson** (left). Thanks to **Joyce & Paul Harris** for donating the candy contest, and thanks to all who attended and brought good food and good times! *(Mike Ciosek Photos)*



Elijah Hadley and his crew finished painting the long bridge across Hyde Run. They did a very nice job and earned Elijah his Eagle Scout badge. *(Mike Ciosek Photos)*



*To thrive in life
you need three
bones — a wish-
bone, a backbone,
and a funny bone.
~ Anonymous*

JON HUSBAND RECEIVES LIFETIME FOBS MEMBERSHIP

Friends of Brandywine Springs has bestowed **Jon Husband** with an honorary lifetime membership in FOBS. Jon retired from **New Castle County Special Services Department** this summer as Engineering & Environmental Services Manager. His career with the County spanned over 32 years. Jon provided assistance and guidance to FOBS since our group was formed and has been instrumental in our success. **Mike Ciosek** presented Jon with his honorary membership at Jon's retirement party.

In Memoriam
DENNIS J. SLOMAN
October 3, 2017

*Our sincere condolences to
Denny's family*

If you haven't paid your 2017 membership dues, time is running out! Please return the enclosed renewal form ASAP. We don't want to lose you as a member!!



Eileen Boyle taught us about rain gardens at the September meeting. *(Mike Ciosek Photo)*

This & That... Big thanks to **Leone Cahill-Krout** for creating the audio tour of the park and Visitors Center. Be sure to try it. It's awesome! Thanks, Leone!... Please help us at the Visitors Center. We need hosts badly! The year is almost over, so make it a New Year's resolution to volunteer at the Visitors Center. It's not a hard job, and you meet a lot of nice people — sometimes friends you haven't seen in a long time. Our thanks to **Ed Lipka, Richard Gillis, and Mike Ciosek** for filling most of the spots this year. If there is no host, the Visitors Center cannot be open!... A young lady named **Sarah Hulihan** took part in one of our archaeological digs. She wrote a very nice article about it for the National Park Trust Blog "Adventures in Archaeology". You can read it at www.parktrust.org/blog/. Scroll down to August 7, 2017.... **Ed Lipka** conducted a park tour as part of the

O'Rourke Family reunion. About 40 people attended representing four generations. **Mary O'Rourke** was the post mistress at the Faulkland Station, and she and her family lived in the station in the late 1800s.... **Tommy Gears** is the new editor of the **WWRR** newsletter *The Lantern*. **Tommy** took over after long-time editor **Bob Spencer** retired....Our thanks to **Bob Wilhelm** for a very informative talk about the **Marshall Family** vulcanized fibre process at our October 8 meeting.... **Eileen Boyle** educated us about rain gardens with an interesting talk on September 10.... Don't forget to check **Scott Palmer's** blog www.mchhistory.blogspot.com occasionally. He always has lots of interesting stories about Mill Creek Hundred.... Dates for 2018 meetings and archaeological digs will be announced in the Winter 2018 Archway.... *Questions, comments, or suggestions, contact Sandi at (302) 994-0536 or MikeCiosek@comcast.net.*

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