

Peter Wentz Farmstead

2030 Shearer Rd., Lansdale, PA 19446 — (610) 584-5104

<https://www.montcopa.org/PeterWentzFarmstead>



@peterwentzfarmstead



County of Montgomery

Division of Parks, Trails, and Historic Sites
Montgomery County Board of Commissioners
Valerie A. Arkoosh, MD, MPH; Chair
Kenneth E. Lawrence, Jr.; Vice Chair
Joseph C. Gale; Commissioner

July—December 2022 Program Calendar

Saturday, July 30 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Kinder Klass: Furniture Painting

The Pennsylvania Germans are known all over the world for the colorful and intricate patterns that they paint on furniture. Come learn about the history of Pennsylvania German furniture painting, then paint your own hope chest to bring home!

Ages 4 and up. \$5 materials fee. Limited space, pre-registration required.

Saturday, August 6

Homesteading 101: An Introduction to Home Canning

Come learn how to preserve summer's bounty of fruits and vegetables! We will give a brief history of food preservation and then dive into the basics of home canning. Participants will learn about equipment and food safety based on the Ball Blue Book of Canning. Participants will help to pack and process a batch of Dilly Beans.

Adults only. \$10 materials fee, pre-registration required.

Friday, September 16 to Sunday, September 18

All for the Union: How Society Wove Itself into the Fabric of the Civil War

The Civil War comes to the Peter Wentz Farmstead on September 17-18. Come and experience how the War affected society from a both a military and civilian standpoint. Witness artillery demonstrations and learn how soldiers camped in the field. Interact with the U.S. Sanitary Commission to understand how civilians aided the war effort. The Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center will be presenting an exhibit highlighting the contributions of Montgomery County's own General John Hartranft, who was of Schwenkfelder descent. Discover fascinating stories about the exodus of Enslaved people on their journeys to freedom during the war.

All ages, free. No registration required.

Saturday, September 24 at 10:00 am

Scarecrow Contest

Come show off your artistic skills at our Scarecrow Contest! We will provide the hay and the frame, you bring your own clothes and other accessories. Photos of each scarecrow will be posted on our Facebook page, where users can vote for their favorite.

All ages, suggested donation \$5 per group. Must pre-register to receive materials.

Saturday, October 1 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Exhibit Opening - From Home to Headquarters: Washington in Worcester

We know that Washington slept here, but what else did he do? Join us for the grand opening of our new exhibit - From Home to Headquarters: Washington in Worcester - to find out! View the recreation of Washington's Aide-de-Camp office and learn about the Peter Wentz Farmstead's connection to the Battle of Germantown. Hear stories about the other visitors Washington brought with him - from his 50-man Life Guard, to his household staff of both hired and enslaved workers, and his aides-de-camp: including Alexander Hamilton, John Laurens, and Tench Tilghman.

All ages; free.

Saturday, October 8 at 7:30 pm

They Passed This Way Campfire Program

Did you know that George Washington and the Continental army traveled along the same routes in Montgomery County that we often drive on today? Come to this campfire program to hear about the places that Washington and his men visited including the Peter Wentz house and Methacton Hill. Join Ranger Marc and gather around the campfire to hear first-person accounts from soldiers and civilians who lived and witnessed this fascinating time in our shared past.

Follow the lanterns from the parking lot to the campfire. In case of bad weather, the program will be cancelled.

All ages; free.

Saturday, October 15 at 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, or 3:00 pm

For the Trouble of the House

How do we know George Washington stayed at the Peter Wentz house? As it turns out Washington kept a detailed expense account that lists both room and board that he paid to those who provided it for him and his staff. For example, for the dates that Washington stayed with the Wentz's, there are receipts that show that the general paid Peter's son Mathias Wentz for milk, butter, cabbages and other food items. Records also show that the general paid Mathias for rent, in entries recorded as "for the trouble of the house." Come and learn about Washington's stay with the Wentz's as we delve into these accounts that make history spring to life.

All ages; free. Limited space; registration required. Meet at the visitor center at the scheduled times.

Saturday, November 5 from 10:00 am to 3:30 pm

Homesteading 101: Cider Pressing

Join Farmer Jim as he discusses one way that Pennsylvania Germans preserved apples. He will be demonstrating on a restored 19th Century apple press. Learn about the many heirloom apple varieties and how the juice from this wonderful fruit was preserved before the age of pasteurization and refrigeration.

Adults only, free. No registration required.

Saturday, November 12

Homesteading 101: Fermenting Sauerkraut at Home

Join us as we discuss the tradition of making sauerkraut within Pennsylvania German society. Participants will learn about modern and traditional methods for turning cabbage into the wonderful product we call sour cabbage. The process will be demonstrated from start to finish.

Adults only, \$5 materials fee. Limited space, pre-registration required.

Saturday, December 3 Time TBD

Candlelight Event

Come spend a lovely winter's eve with us here at the Farmstead! The soft glow of candles will light your way as you explore this historic property. Celebrate the beginning of the holiday season with this picturesque look at a quiet winter's night in colonial Pennsylvania.

All ages; Free.

All on site programming will fully comply with the current guidance on COVID-19 mitigation efforts, including, but not limited to social distancing, appropriate wearing of face masks, and limitation of group size dependent upon venue.

All guided tours must be scheduled in advance. Call 610-584-5104.

All programs are a suggested \$2.00 donation per person unless noted.

Any program can be cancelled at anytime. If registration cost was paid, a full refund will be given.