

# The Carversvillian

THE VOICE OF THE HISTORIC CARVERSVILLE SOCIETY

May 2014



Poster created by Sam Bellucci



Take a look at the spirit showing up for our 2005 Pet Parade!  
#tbedpp: "Throw Back Carversville Day Pet Parade"

Ladies and Gentlemen! Boys and Girls and beloved Pets! Save the date: **Carversville Day is on Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup>**! It is the Saturday after Memorial Day. It's sure to be a great day!

Start your engines... *no, no, no, I mean...* preheat your ovens! **It's 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Carversville Cookie Contest time!** Dr. Howard Barsky, our village dentist, is in charge of the contest and he means business. Don't you love the irony of our dentist advocating baking cookies? That's my kind of dentist... You know the drill (*sorry!*): Prepare 4 dozen of the same cookie (all categories welcome!) for the contest and deliver to the Cookie Contest booth by 9:30 a.m. You don't need to limit yourself to one entry! The Best Cookie by popular vote wins a coveted hand crafted **Cookie Jar by Artist Nan Kirstein**. It's the pride of any baker!

Get those wallets ready too! Consider the **beautiful Crafts and Artists'** creations available for sale in the Square. It's wonderful way to buy gifts for yourself or your relatives and loved ones while supporting our local community. Be sure to visit each and every one of our talented artisans. We have a number of new Crafters excited to meet you and show you their work this year.

In case you were unaware, Bob Kling is closing the doors of his **Carversville Cabinet Shop** that his father, Sylvanus Kling started in 1947.

*(continued on p. 5)*

## New Prize announced for Carversville Day Pet Parade

This year's Pet Parade promises to feature a high level of competition. For the first time, there will be prizes in 3 categories—with each winner receiving a \$25 gift certificate.

All entrants are eligible to win any of the 3 prizes—for Most Original Costume, Best Pet Trick, and a new "Wild Card" winner to be named by the judges. The "Wild Card" prize will be awarded to an entrant who is not the winner of one of the 2 "traditional" prizes, but whom the judges deem "a winner in its own right."

There have been rumors that some of our local dogs, cats, rabbits, ducks, and horses have been meeting with noted fashion consultants. In addition, there have been reported sightings of Hollywood animal trainers in and around the Carversville area. So be sure to have your pet dressed to the nines or practicing hard on his or her special trick (or both).

But remember: everyone's a winner at the Carversville Pet Parade!

Registration for the Pet Parade begins at 10:45 at the Historic Carversville Society booth in the Town Square. The Parade itself will step off at 11:00.

Visit our website at [www.carversville.com](http://www.carversville.com)

# From the President . . .

Dear Carversvillians,

I write as we come into a new month and a new season of budding flowers, trees, birds and blossoms. Sometimes I think I take for granted some of the things we are surrounded by each day.

My mother, who lives in New York City came here for a weekend a couple of weeks ago for the first time in several years. She spent her day gardening and working in our yard, buying lunch at Max Hanson's Grocery, eating in the "Secret Garden," and going for a walk on Fleecydale Road. She had a "blissful" day.

My daughters periodically come out from NYC as well to get recharged by the beauty surrounding our home.

We have fun activities coming up including Carversville Day, with our famous Pet Parade and the Auction among other things. We have our outside summer movies personally selected by Noel Barrett. We can now go to the Carversville Inn and sit outside on the porch. It is very easy to stay put on a weekend and not drive at all, because we are surrounded by all we need.

We dodged a bullet recently with the rainstorm and flooding, and hope to continue to keep this area as pristine, historic, and undeveloped as we move forward,

Let us not take it all for granted, because we all have to volunteer and work to keep Carversville as beautiful as it is.

*Susan Hollander Whitman*



We received inquiries and suggestions during our well-attended and spirited General Meeting in November 2013 ranging from questions regarding Historic Preservation to Legacy donations. One question was: "How do I leave money to HCS?" According to LeaveALegacy.org, this is called a General Bequest. They advise using the following language: "I give, devise, and bequeath to Historic Carversville Society, the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for the benefit of Historic Carversville Society and its general purposes."

Let us know if you have other thoughts for our "Suggestion Box" by emailing us at [events@carversville.com](mailto:events@carversville.com).

## Historic Carversville Society

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## My Old House

### Thomas Carver Store

In 1991 I was very fortunate to acquire the dental practice of Dr. Louis Whitner on Stovers Mill Rd. I knew I would eventually want to move the office but leaving Carversville was out of the question and the only possible location, also the most ideal location, was not available. Eighteen years later and with the help and support of many who are now reading this I was finally able to realize my dream and move my office into this building, the former Thomas Carver Store, next to the Carversville Inn and across the Square from the present general store, Max's Grocery. Last year I was also able to establish my home in the residential part of the building.

There are many endearingly quirky aspects to my house but one you may notice from the Square is the presence of three large doors and a dormer with a pulley under it. These were used to bring provisions into the store and storage areas. Inside, behind the upper most door is a large mounted wooden wheel, about five feet in diameter, part of the same mechanism. The original Victorian store window is still present (more obvious to those inside on a cold day in winter). The many owners of the house have each contributed changes, and several small additions, which accounts for the odd external appearance. There was once a shed porch along the entire Square facing side, and there was also a second floor porch above the Carversville Rd. end which is now enclosed as part of an upstairs apartment. My house is surprisingly big. There are three bedrooms and a spiral staircase going up to a huge attic with two windows. My favorite part of the house is the back deck which faces the creek, with its many birds, trees, and incredible peacefulness.

The exact date of construction is not clear. As early as 1817 a store is mentioned in the deed to the property, although it is not certain where the store was located. By 1833 when the post office was established with Thomas Carver as the first postmaster he was most likely living where I now live (in the back section) and running the post office out of a small front section, around the middle of the present building. There was also a stable on the rear part of the lot, which served the Inn. In 1852 the Inn property was sold off and the present 69 square perch parcel came to exist on its own. The stable however was on the store lot, and there was a right of way clause giving the Inn access to the creek alongside the stable.

It is interesting to note the extent of the inventory of a general store in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. Kathy Auerbach in her report notes that the store of course carried grocery staples as well as "drugs, medicines, and cotton balls. "Household items such as sponges and brushes, candle sticks, window paper, wrapping paper, brooms and buckets, crockery and baskets were listed. The store also had decorating items like carpets and lamps." There were fabrics and sewing notions as well as pre-made items such as "hats, shawls, dress robes, and stockings". "Calf skins and upper and sole leather were



in stock" for producing shoes. "Building materials included iron and steel, glass and hardware. Exotics such as buffalo robes, goat skins and parasols give a picture of things then in vogue."

John Mathias (no known relation to Will and Denie) owned the store from 1854 to 1875 and the front section was added during this time. This is probably the part forward of the dormers. There was much building in Carversville during this period, and much of it was of vertical plank construction using hemlock that had been floated down

the river to Lumberville. The west side of my office is of vertical plank construction. Some of these timbers that were removed to make way for windows have been used more visibly recently in the front desk of my office.

Sammy Jones owned the store from 1875 to 1909. All evidence is that it was a center of village life. There was even a library in the back.

More recently, the Bartlemans continued the store's operation into the 1950s after which Betty Miller ran an antique store here. Denie Mathias ran the Carversville Fiber Studio and there was an internet guru as well as the graphic artist Steve Williams, among others. In remaking the office section I have tried to keep the feel and history of the old store building while constructing a state of the art dental office, and I feel I have been successful. Anyone is welcome to see the office whenever we are in. In keeping with past history there is a room presently used to house the HCS archives. While we are in the process of organizing much of it, our information is available to interested persons (with supervision).

I am extremely lucky and proud to live in "downtown" Carversville. The Square is a bustling place, with activity and conversation going on all day and it is wonderful to be a part of it.

Many thanks to Kathy Auerbach who researched my house for the HCS in 1998 and allowed me to use her research in writing this article and to Claire Harrington for Ned's research.

*Howard Barsky*

## HCS 2014 Dates to remember

Carversville Day	5/31/14
Films in the Field	6/30/14
Films in the Field	7/28/14
Films in the Field	8/25/14
Pumpkin Carving	10/26/14
General Membership Meeting	11/17/14
Caroling in the Square	12/21/14

## I Helped at Carversville Clean-Up Day!

On Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup> I helped out to clean up Carversville at Clean-Up day. I got to put on a bright orange vest and some work gloves. I walked up Aquetong Road with my Daddy and picked up all the trash that we found. My friend Ryan and his dog Siena joined up with us and helped out also. We found some empty water bottles, an old salad in a plastic container and lots of cigarette butts. One of the nice neighbors along the road came out of her house to give me a lollipop for helping out.

After we cleaned up the road I came back and sat in front of Max's store and ate my lollipop while my Daddy and some of the other adults cleaned up around the square and in the Secret Garden. There were a lot of people helping out. When everyone was done Carversville looked great. Then Dr. Barsky got out the grill and made me a hot dog. It was delicious!

I had a really fun time helping to clean up Carversville and I can't wait to help out again next year!

*By Benjamin Stiefel, Age 6*



*Here's Ben Stiefel ready to take on Clean-Up Day. We thank all the volunteers who came out to clean up our community. It's truly a team effort.*

## Only 79 years 'til we open the time capsule!

If you are wondering where it is...take a peek in front of the entrance to the home of the Carversville Cabinet Shop to the right of the entrance to Max Hansen's Grocery.



## We remember.....

Two beloved Carversvillians passed away this year, **Sally Leasure** and **Tony Gojeski**. Part of HCS' mission is to savor the history of our Village. Our community members are at the pulse of this treasured history.

Sally Galbreath Leasure of Carversville passed away on Friday, February 21, 2014 at Doylestown Hospital. Born on April 22, 1939 in New Castle, Pa., she graduated from the College of Wooster in Ohio in 1961, where she majored in Art. She moved to New Hope in 1966 and to Carversville in 1970, where she resided for 44 years. Sally was actively involved in the life of Carversville over the years including serving on the Historic Society and the Historic Architecture Review Board. Owner of New Hope Quick Printing for many years, she also was an active member of the New Hope community. Sally's greatest passion was her art. She was a member of the Ivyland Art group. Carversville scenes and landscapes were common in her art, but her favorite subject was her grandchildren.

Tony Charles Gojeski passed away on Saturday, April 12, 2014 at his home in Carversville. He was 101 and only 48 days shy of his 102nd birthday. Tony lived a full and colorful life. He passed away next door to the former family farm. He was a resident of Carversville since the age of 12. During his lifetime, he was a dairy farmer and mailman, and an employee of a Doylestown hosiery mill. In Tony's younger days, he was a self-taught musician, playing the fiddle, saxophone, and later guitar, and forming the 'Tony Trio' which performed in many local establishments.

Please take a moment to celebrate your memories of these wonderful Carversvillians. They will be missed.

## Films in the Field



Mark your calendars for the last Mondays of June, July and August for the ever-popular Films in the Field! Bring your chair and head on down to the parking lot beside Max Hansen Carversville Grocery to watch classic cinema chosen by our resident Film Master, Noel Barrett. Digital films are now being used, but they are still shown the old fashioned way: outdoors, projected on the side of the store. The names of the films will be posted outside and inside the store a week before each film.

The dates are as follows: June 30, July 28, and August 25. The films are free, and you are welcome to bring your own food and drink. However, members of HCS will be grilling burgers and dogs and selling other gourmet goodies for your enjoyment.

Hope to see you there, and don't forget the bug spray!

## Carversville Day *(continued from front page)*

Our community is rich with many Kling anecdotes. Did you know that Bob's shop used to be a dance hall? We look forward to finding out what Bob's next adventure will be; in the meantime, **stop by his Antiques Shop on Carversville Day to see what bargains and treasures await you.** Don't miss this wonderful opportunity!

We are honored to have **two live music** groups performing this year — The awarding winning **New Hope Solebury High School Jazz Ensemble** from 10 to 11 a.m. and **Michelle Wiley Quartet** with special guest **George Hazelrigg** on Piano with our own **David Stier** on drums from 12 to 3 p.m.

**Take note** the **Prestigious Pet Parade commences at 11 a.m.** between our live music events. We want you to enjoy *all* the events and not miss a thing. Dress up your pet and practice your tricks because you could win a prize! All the details in the Pet Parade article in this newsletter. Then it's on to cheer neighborhood children to victory during some good old-fashioned **Children's Games** that are sure to be entertaining right after the Pet Parade. The Children's games begin at the Pet Parade stand at **12 p.m.** with **Mr. Magic and his a Magic show for all** and then he will grace our Village by walking the fair dazzling us with his trickery.... so keep your eyes peeled! Don't forget the Face Painting, Hair Wrapping and other game activities to be found in the Secret Garden.

We are adding a **Dunk Tank** to Carversville Day in the Secret Garden this year! So get ready!! There are some notable Carversvillians willing to be dunked such as: our loveable, dedicated Carversville Post Master Bob Grady, the "Man about town" Bryce Long, HARB's Marnie Leasure, and our "Garden Girl" Jackie Tracy! If you are interested in joining the ranks see Bob Grady and sign up! He's been recruiting our willing victims. Times will be posted so you can get in line to buy your tickets to send them down. Recruits are welcome and much appreciated!

Of course, we want you to enjoy **Good Eats** during all this fun so chomp down on one of **Chef Will's Crab Cake**, devour **Max Hansen's delicious Tacos el Pastor** and fill your belly with our **beef & garden burgers and hot dogs sizzling on the grill.** Quench your thirst with fresh Lemon-

ade at **Julia's Lemonade** stand for charity too. Save room for the **Watermelon Eating Contest at 2:30!**

What about those **Raffle Jars**? Each year we ask willing and generous patrons to donate funds and items so that we can provide the best raffle jars around. No kidding. Each jar has at least \$700 worth of goods in various forms that go to a winning ticket holder. Start buying those winning raffle tickets when you see the HCS table in front of Max's Carversville Grocery. We will be there for a couple of weeks leading up to Carversville Day to give you plenty of opportunity to buy the winning ticket. This may be your lucky year! We witnessed a Carversvillian diligently purchased tickets for 20 years win last year. It was very exciting and gratifying. "May the odds be ever in your favor!" So plan your strategy of multiple purchases to increase your chances of winning any of the following jars: Cash, iPad, Restaurant Gift Certificates, Home & Garden items and Get Pampered. The winning tickets will be drawn at 3 p.m. when the Cookie Contest Winners are announced in the Village Square. Just write your name and phone number so we can read it and we will call you! Even though your presence is not required to win the Raffle it is essential for our **Annual Live Auction at 1 p.m.** We have a great list of items for you to choose from.

The Historic Carversville Society is always eager to share the long history of our village...so stop by the Historic Society Booth and see what's new and share stories and buy some Village merchandise to show your civic pride.

Plan to spend the entire day with us enjoying your friends and neighbors as we celebrate and support our lovely community. All proceeds support the HCS vision of preservation, scholarship and community events.

**You can volunteer too!** Offer to work a couple of hours in the booth of your choice. The day is not complete without the whole village getting involved. If you are interested in a particular activity or booth then email us at [events@carversville.com](mailto:events@carversville.com) and tell us about it. We will take it from there. The more the merrier....See you in the Square!

**Carversville Day, May 31<sup>st</sup>  
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**



All our Live Auction items are generously donated to support HCS' mission of History, Preservation, Scholarship and Community Spirit.

### Paintings:

Joseph Crilley Oil Painting  
Gale Scotch Painting  
John Reilly Oil Painting

### Jewelry:

Sherry Tinsman  
Amy Ragsdale

### Events:

Catered dinner for 6 by Celebrated Chef Max Hansen.

2 Tickets to the sought-after, farm-to-table event, *Outstanding in the Field* at Blooming Glen Farms. Founder/Artist: *Jim Denevan*. Chef: *Lee Chizmar, Bolete*.

Night Out in New Hope: 2 Theater tickets to Bucks County Playhouse and Dinner for 2!

A Tour of our Town: Historian and resident, *Paul Savage*, enlightens you with stories and facts of *Carversville*, as you and 7 friends stroll through the streets. Complete your tour with lunch at the *Carversville Inn*.

Yoga Your Way: Private Yoga session for 6 with *Dig Yoga's Jessica DiLorenzo* at the location of your choice.

### Specialty Items:

Wine Connoisseurs Basket. At least 5 bottles of wine by our local Connoisseurs

One of a kind Carversville Birdhouse created by Sam Bellucci. It's stunning...wait til you see it!

Ian McNeill's handsome handmade wood cutting board.

Framed Original 2012 winning Carversville Day poster by Sam Bellucci.

# The Carversvillian

The Historic Carversville Society  
P. O. Box 41  
Carversville, PA 18913

## Carversville Day 2014 Schedule

10:00 a.m. Artisan and Crafter Booths Open, Incredible Raffle Jars, Cookie Contest Opens; Plant Sale Begins; **Register for Pet Parade** at HCS Booth til 10:45 a.m.  
**New Hope Solebury Jazz Ensemble** performing until 11am



11:00 a.m. **The Prestigious Pet Parade** — Prizes for Best Costume and Best Trick & more!  
(meet in front of HCS Booth and march to Creek Side Meadow to the Judges Stand)

12:00 p.m. **Michelle Wiley Quartet with special guest George Hazelrigg on Piano** and our own **David Stier drums** til 3!



12:15 p.m. **Magician's** performance to kick off **Children's games**

1:00 p.m. **Live Auction!**



2:30 p.m. Watermelon Eating Contest

3:00 p.m. Announcement of **Cookie Contest Winners & Raffle Drawing Winners!**

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Jewelry, Pottery, Paintings, Sculpture, Hand-made skin creams (*just to name a few*) for sale!  
Plants! Carversville Historic Booth! Live Music! Magician! Children's Game!  
Dunk Tank, Fun Foto Booth! Antiques too!!  
The Carversville Cabinet Shop is closing – bargains await!  
Lots of Great Food! Crab Cakes, Tacos, Fresh Lemonade! Grilled Fare!

All proceeds benefit the Historic Carversville Society.

\* Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup> \*