



# NORTHERN YORK COUNTY HISTORICAL & PRESERVATION

*40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Society*

## May 2024 Newsletter

**“Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.” ~ Desmond Tutu**

A huge thank you to everyone who made the 2024 Dills Celtic Festival a success. Enough can't be said about the the coordinated effort made by the planning committee, NYCHAPS staff, volunteers, vendors, entertainers, and many others to bring it all together. The festival attracted over 1200 guests in what could be best described as typical Irish weather... blustery and wet. In spite of this, the wonderful musicians, dancers, and demonstrators did a fine job of entertaining and educating visitors.

Events such as this, require a huge volunteer workforce to ensure success. For the Celtic Fest alone, there were 70 volunteers doing everything from set up, monitoring parking, taking in sales, welcoming guests, taking care of garbage/bathrooms, assisting vendors, docenting, security, managing raffles, and cleaning up when the event was finished. NYCHAPS could not function without all the volunteers who lend their time, talents and and good hearted spirit to make a difference in our community. Consider getting involved! It is a great way to meet people, learn about local history, and support community events. We accomplish great things when we work together! [Check out our website here for more information.](#)

### Mini Blanket Chest finds a home!

Maggie Little, of Clan Little, was the winner of the mini blanket chest raffle at Celtic Fest! The beautiful chest was crafted by Dills artisans Clair Zeiders, Jason Metzger, and Karen Phillippi. Congratulations, Maggie!



# May Special Events

## Dills Tavern; Publick Tyme

**Saturday, May 11th from 8:00 am - 3:00 pm**

Publick Tyme at Dills Tavern takes place in conjunction with the **Dillsburg Pickle Fest** right across the street on Greenbriar Lane. During the day, interact with living history reenactors covering Colonial America all the way up to the modern era throughout the Tavern grounds. See a real blacksmith hammer wares hot from the forge or check out our colonial woodworkers in the Wheelwright Shop.



In addition, quilts and quilt making will be on display all day at the **Maple Shade Barn** along with a chance to buy raffle tickets to win your very own handcrafted quilt. (More information below!)

This event is rain or shine, free and open to the public.  
[Check our website using this link for updates.](#)

Hope to see you there!

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## Maple Shade Barn Quilt Highlight

Come out for The Maple Shade Quilters Sale & Show during the **Dillsburg Pickle Fest** on Saturday, May 11th at the Maple Shade Barn! See the connection between mid-19th century quilt and coverlet patterns from the NYCHAPS archives. We will also display some archival doilies and their historical significance.

At least three quilts will be available for sale. One of the quilts received Best of Show for hand quilted quilts at the 2023 Dillsburg Farmers Fair! And of course, there will be the opportunity to purchase raffle tickets for our 2024 hand quilted quilt—Retrofusion which received 2nd place for hand quilted quilts at 2023 Dillsburg Farmers Fair!

The Maple Shade Quilters will also be selling fiber merchandise and displaying quilts for your enjoyment!



Above: Best in Show!



To the right: Retrofusion Quilt

# Dillsburg Farmers Market

**Saturdays; 8:00 am - noon**

**Beginning May 4th**

**Located at historic Dills Tavern**

**227 N. Baltimore St., Dillsburg, PA 17019**



The Dillsburg Farmers Market at Dills Tavern is a seasonal, open-air produce market featuring fresh, homegrown produce, farm-raised products, and homemade goods raised, grown and made by hardworking vendors and supported enthusiastically by loyal, grateful customers in our community! Local = within 50 miles of Dillsburg.

The Market is more than just a place to shop. It is also a place that provides a feeling of community... a place to chat with familiar people and new acquaintances... a place to enjoy a cup of coffee or tea while relaxing on a Saturday morning... a place to introduce others to the wonders of Dills Tavern.



**This year, the Farmers Market has some additional fun lined up:**

May 11th: Ed Stockton (musician) 10:00am

May 18: Kiley & Gabe (musicians) and a 3rd Saturday Artisan booth 10:00am

May 25th: Dillsburg Library Storytime at the Market with Ms. Sue 10:00am

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## **Add excitement to your Saturdays with a tour of the Eichelberger Distillery!**

**Beginning May 4th from 9:00am – 4:00pm**

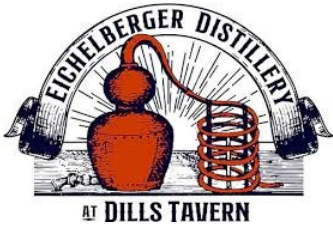


While shopping at the Dillsburg Farmers Market, why not also join Murray Small and his docents for a tour of the Eichelberger Distillery! While there, you will gain an appreciation of the agricultural heritage of South Central Pennsylvania... which includes the making of whiskey in hundreds of small farm distilleries like the one re-created here.

The tour focuses on the entrepreneurial spirit of the Dill and Eichelberger families, the history of distilling, and the distillery itself. **Tours begin every 30 minutes and are \$5 per adult. Tours with tastings included are \$10 per adult. Expect to show id as proof of age.**

# Looking ahead to June...

## Saturdays at Dills Tavern



Distillery Tours Every Saturday  
9:00 am - 4 pm  
Every half hour  
\$5 tour / \$10 tasting tour



June 1st - Tavern Tour  
10:00 am & 11:00 am  
\$5 adult / \$10 immediate family

June 8th - Cooking Demo

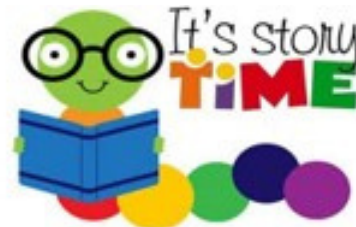
June 15th - Garden Talk at 10:00 am



Farmers Market - Every Saturday  
8:00 am - noon



June 1st - Stonehouse Breakdown at 10:00 am  
June 8th - Nate Merovich at 10:00 am  
June 15th - Matthew Dodd at 9:00 am  
June 29th - Ann Spangle at 10:00 am



June 22nd - Dillsburg Library  
Storytime at the Market with Ms. Sue  
10:00 am

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## Sundays at Dills Tavern



Distillery Tours Every Sunday  
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
Every half hour  
\$5 tour / \$10 tasting tour



Spinning Demonstration  
June 9th during Tavern tours



Tavern Tours - Every Sunday  
2:00 pm & 3:00 pm  
\$5 adult / \$10 immediate family

# NYCHAPS: A Focus on Collections

## Part Two - Objects

In the last issue we detailed the photo collection in the NYCHAPS Archives. This month we will concentrate on the other objects in the collection. We have over 15,500 more cataloged items in a wide variety of categories collected over the last 40 years, representing life in the greater Dillsburg area.



There are large collections of advertising and local business concerns, school related objects and records. The Farmers Fair and various civic groups are represented too. We have local newspapers, all types of documents, both family related and legal papers, letters, ledgers, deeds, and books of all kinds. The works of local artists are also represented. We have textiles and clothing, military uniforms and related accessories.

We have some rare items like a **Civil War Surgeons Case** (pictured above), a circa 1810 Franklin Guards Militia Hat, currency issued by the Dillsburg National Bank to name a few. There is also a large collection of postcards (**CVRR station example below, right**) and much more. This year we will be sharing some of these objects on weekly Facebook posts, so be on the look-out for those.

The vast majority of our collections have been donated by individuals or civic groups although we have purchased some objects outright or at auctions. Some folks donate one item, some have donated hundreds.

We are always interested in acquiring unique items which help tell our local history. So before you throw something out, give us a call. Some of the items are on display in our museum room and available to view by the public during Maple Shade Barn business hours. Access to the actual archives is by appointment only but we are happy to show anyone firsthand our local treasures.



Maple Shade Barn  
35 Greenbriar Lane  
Dillsburg PA 17019  
Open Tuesday - Friday  
11:00am - 3:00pm  
717-502-1440

[admin@northernnyorkhistorical.org](mailto:admin@northernnyorkhistorical.org)



# Dillsburg Adds Two Historic Markers to York County's Civil War Trails Program



Recently, Dills Tavern and the Maple Shade Barn were added to the multi-state Civil War Trails program. This positions Dillsburg as a perfect place for travelers from New York and the New England region to begin exploring Civil War Trails. Additionally, the increased visitation will be heightened since the two new stories are related to the Battle of Gettysburg which is popular internationally.

With the addition of these new sites in Dillsburg, the Civil War Trails program now offers over 1,500 sites across six states. Each site is actively marketed by a coalition of state, regional, and municipal tourism partners which means that while the signs might relay an educational story the program's goals are focused on sustainable economic development. According to Civil War Trails research, visitors to historic sites are interested in hiking, cycling, and paddling, live music, arts, craft beverages and historic downtowns. This 'pairing' works well for the team at the Northern York County Historical and Preservation Society (NYCHAPS) who operates both sites.



Dara Kane; CWT sign installation at Maple Shade Barn.



Christopher D. Brown (left), Assistant Director of Civil War Trails, Inc. and Doug Riley; CWT sign installation at Dills Tavern.

Doug Riley, President of the NYCHAPS Board of Directors, was thrilled. "We are excited to join the Civil War Trails program. We look forward to attracting new visitors and introducing them to the Historic Dills Tavern site, the new Eichelberger Distillery and the historic significance of the Maple Shade Barn." The project resulted from a partnership between the Historical Society, Civil War Trails, Inc. and Explore York. Explore York's tourism grant program provided the funding needed to create and install the signs and Explore York's continued membership with the Civil War Trails program will enable the partners to market the site to visitors.

For more information, request a visitor guide at [www.Yorkpa.org](http://www.Yorkpa.org) or call 717-852-9675. To find out more about Civil War Trails visit [www.civilwartrails.org](http://www.civilwartrails.org). Be sure to snap a #signselfie and post it with #civilwartrails @exploreYorkpa.



# NYCHAPS 40th Anniversary Giving Challenge

The list below represents **specific “asks”** that will be important in the coming year. Designating where you would like your contribution to go allows you to support NYCHAPS in a way that resonates with you and we want you to be able to tangibly connect to our mission. Donations that are “unspecified” are just as important to our work as the funds support operational expenses. Either way, **we appreciate financial support of any amount... it all adds up!** The list below has progress notes and will be updated each month. Donations may be made using our [website here](#) or mailed to: NYCHAPS, P.O. Box 340, Dillsburg, PA 17019

**Below are the opportunities to invest your donation directly to the program you would like to support!**

<b>Education / Living History</b>		
1. Student Scholarship(s) for the Children’s History Camp	<b>DONE</b>	\$130/260
2. Supplies to support the Children’s History Camp		\$500
3. Guest speaker(s) fees		\$500
4. Tavern candles		\$200
5. Colonial Garden Supplies		\$250
<b>Preservation</b>		
1. Archives room map cabinet	<b>7% funded</b>	\$1500
2. Archives room oversize scanner	<b>60% funded</b>	\$1000
3. Preservation of antique fiber arts objects in archives		\$5000
<b>Maintenance</b>		
1. Replacing Maple Shade Barn gutters		\$5000
2. Replace Maple Shade Barn printer	<b>DONE!</b>	\$500
3. Painting the exterior of the Dills Tavern west side		\$5500
4. Painting the Dills Tavern soffits and third floor windows		\$6500
5. Painting the Tavern modern kitchen exterior		\$5000
6. Repairing/replacing sections of Baltimore Street sidewalk		\$15000
7. Repainting, replacing, and repairing Dills Tavern Fencing		\$3000
8. Adding new electrical to the Dills Tavern property		\$3500
<b>Education / Distillery</b>		
1. Distillery pumps/buckets		\$200
2. Distillery totes	<b>DONE!</b>	\$300
3. Distillery Potable Water hose	<b>DONE!</b>	\$100
4. Fermenting Barrels (3 @ \$350 each)		\$1050
5. Distillery Storage racks		\$500
6. Distillery Lab Equipment for Proofing/gauging	<b>DONE!</b>	\$1000
7. Bottle Filler		\$375
8. Distillery scale		\$1500
9. Distillery hydrometer	<b>DONE!</b>	\$500
10. Brix Reader (mash)	<b>DONE!</b>	\$400
11. Stainless taps	<b>DONE!</b>	\$200
12. Distillery Laptop		\$500
13. Mini Digital Projector/Bluetooth speakers for distillery		\$700
14. Distillery Handheld Alcohol Gas Detector		\$500

# Community Interests

## Summer Camp Registration is Still Open!

This year, NYCHAPS is sponsoring 2 summer camps!



NYCHAPS History Camp is for children entering 4th - 6th grade and will be held at the Dills Tavern property.

[Click here for more information.](#)



The Archaeology Camp is for children entering 6th - 8th grades and will be held at another location.

[Click here for more information.](#)

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## Tavern Tours



1st Saturday of each month;  
beginning May 4th

Each Sunday; 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

\$5 for individuals

\$10 per family (immediate family only)

Children under 12 are free.



We are so happy to launch a Saturday Tavern tour during Farmers Market! Our knowledgeable docents enjoy sharing the history of Dill's Tavern and can't wait to get started with our tour season! [Use this link for more information about visiting.](#)



NORTHERN YORK COUNTY  
**HISTORICAL &  
PRESERVATION**  
*Society*

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