

HERITAGE DAY

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 2025

VENDORS | LIVE MUSIC | DISPLAYS DEMONSTRATIONS | FOOD | CAR SHOWS KIDS ZONE | AND MORE!

DOWNTOWN HARRINGTON, DELAWARE

KEEPING LITTLE TEETH HEAL

Dental Exams | Dental Cleanings | Dental Crowns | Dental Sealants | Extractions Sedation Options | White Fillings | X-Rays and More!



Comprehensive dental care of toddlers to teens

Minimally invasive treatments

 Child centered dental care in a friendly environment Sedation options

Walk-ins and emergencies are welcome



CALL US OR VISIT US ONLINE 302-315-2019 WWW.DelPd.com 625 N. DuPont Blvd., Milford





Welcome to the

47th Annual Harrington Heritage Day!





INDEX

- 2 Welcome & Overview
- 4 Event Schedule
- 5 Thank you, Sponsors!
- 6 Event Map
- 7 Judge Arrested
- 10 Different Named City
- 13 Price Center History
- 15 Heritage Day Memories
- 17 New Life for Landmarks

t is summertime and Harrington Heritage Day is here! Forty-seven years ago, the Harrington Historical Society and the City of Harrington Public Library started Harrington Heritage Day to celebrate Harrington's rich heritage. Since then, the event has grown to encompass the entire downtown area. This year the event will include the new library, too. The whole town is coming out for the party!

At 9 a.m., opening ceremonies will kick off the day at the Norman Barlow Pavilion on Fleming Street. Following the opening events, you are invited to eat and shop your way through the city! Craft and merchandise vendors, selling unique handmade items, and local community organizations will fill Fleming Street, Mechanic Street, Dorman Street, and the Harrington Senior Center parking lot.

Event food options have expanded significantly! In response to feedback from past festival attendees, we redesigned our food vendor area. Food vendors will be in the parking lot behind WSFS Bank. This one-stop shop will offer plenty of food options to satisfy

your cravings - from breakfast sand-wiches, to roast beef, lemonade and ice cream - you will find it all in one location! Then, take your tasty treats and grab a seat. This year, picnic tables with umbrellas are available, so visitors have a place to sit and enjoy their favorite food selections. The seating area is in the parking lot on Mechanic Street, across from Harrington Police Department.

Nothing says fun like a petting zoo! Once again, The Little Farm, a mobile petting zoo, is back to entertain kids - offering pony rides, farm animals and a barrel train – for free! Be sure to stop by and visit the animals. Face painting will also be available. This year, the Kids' Zone has a new location behind M&T Bank. The Kids' Zone provides fun and adventure for our younger festival goers, including a dunking booth. Try out your fastball and make some of your favorite locals take the plunge!

Heritage Day was created to celebrate our history which includes, at its very center, the rich agricultural heritage of Harrington. This year's activities include an impressive display of antique tractors and farm products used in the early 1900s. If more horsepower is what you need to rev your engine, several stock cars will also be on display. Catch all the action along Dorman Street.

Last year's car show was a tremendous hit – so, we didn't want to change a thing! Once again, the Southern Delaware Street Rod Car Show will be held on Commerce Street. Hotrods and antique cars, polished and looking their best, will line the main drag, appealing to anyone who has a love affair with cars.

This year, two locations will feature music of all types. Beginning at 10 a.m., live music will be played in the new Harrington Senior Center. Stop in and check them out! On Commerce Street, right in the middle of the car show, there will be a second entertainment location. Be sure to check out the map and schedule to find out all the details.

Dive into local history throughout the day. Harrington can trace some of its history back to the 1600s. Be sure to visit the Greater Harrington Historical Society to learn more. All three of their museums will be open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The annex building features exhibits about home life and businesses that date back to the founding era. No visit to the museum is complete without buying a soda from Burton's Soda Fountain! Which is your favorite - Cherry Coke, Vanilla Coke, or Chocolate Coke? The former St. Stephens Episcopal Church, soon to be 150 years old, tells the story of Harrington's community history, with exhibits and information about local military, police and fire departments, and artifacts from local schools. The third museum offers stories of the time when the railroad was king in Harrington. The Railroad Block Tower and Caboose, located on Hanley Street, will be open to visitors throughout the day. Books about Harrington and the railroad, written by a local author, are available for sale at the museum. Be sure to ask about the plans for the upcoming celebration of America's Semiquincentennial - just say "America 250," that is a bit easier! GHHS has started to plan several events that will coincide with our country's birthday.

Downtown is not the only hap-

• See **Welcome** on page **3**

Harrington Heritage Day 2025

Welcome

From page 2

pening place this year! Don't miss the Harrington Public Library – it is a great building with lots of space that will be filled with plenty to see and do. The Mobile Cloud Gaming Truck will be on site. A chicken wing cook-off and a brownie bake-off are just some of the exciting things happening at the library. Be sure to check out the display by Harrington Fire Company, too.

It is quite a stroll from the library to downtown. You may choose to walk off some of the treats you enjoyed from food vendors but we have another option, too. To address parking challenges and to save your soles, a shuttle service will be provided between the library and downtown. The shuttle will begin

at 8 a.m. and will run throughout the duration of the event. Parking will be available at the library and Lake Forest South Elementary. Shuttle stop locations will be clearly marked. The shuttle drop-off is at the corner of Mechanic and Dorman Streets, right in the heart of all the action! You may board the shuttle at the same location to return to the parking area.

Our downtown area is reminiscent of Norman Rockwell painting. Our local businesses and churches are vibrant components of our picturesque community. Local businesses support Heritage Day and our community all year long. As a thank you, please be sure to visit downtown businesses during Heritage Day. Our local churches serve as not only houses of

worship but support the community in other ways, too. Trinity United Methodist Church is hosting an open house, offering scrapple sandwiches in the morning and a chicken salad later in the day. This year, they have a beautiful quilt display, too, including some quilts that are as old as the town.

The fun keeps going, even after the sun goes down! Stay late and enjoy our newest Heritage Day activity – our special take on a Drive-In Movie! Beginning at dusk, we will offer free popcorn for everyone as the kids climb into their own "car" to sit in and enjoy a movie! Cars, a Disney/Pixar movie, will be shown at approximately 8 p.m. A food truck will be onsite for those who wish to purchase something good to eat. Bring your lawn cars and enjoy

the drive-in!

Event parking is available at Harrington Vol. Fire Company, Asbury U.M. Church, Lake Forest South Elementary (shuttle stop), Harrington Public Library (shuttle stop), City Hall, and behind the Greater Harrington Historical Society and the Harrington Senior Center. Limited handicapped parking is available on a first-come, first serve basis, on Dorman Street, at the new parking lot next to the Price Center. As always, the event is free!

We look forward to seeing you at the 47th Annual Harrington Heritage Day, Saturday, August 23, 2025. On behalf of all the vendors, volunteers, local businesses, and our citizens, WELCOME TO HARRINGTON!



SILVER HERITAGE DAY SPONSOR



Family and Sports Chiropractic

Giving you the tools to Get Well, Stay Well, and Live Well!

We Accept Most Major Insurances www.delmarvawellness.com

1000 Midway Dr. • Harrington, DE Call today for a consultation (302) 682-7975



HERITAGE DAY

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 2025

Schedule of Events

9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Ongoing Activities

Craft and Informational Vendors -

Fleming Street, Mechanic Street & Harrington Senior Center parking lot

Food Court – WSFS Parking Lot

Southern Delaware Street Rod Assoc. Car Show – Commerce Street

First State Model Railroad Display - Price Center

Harrington Public Library – Events all day

Delmarva Antique Tractor Display – Dorman Street

Antique Farming Equipment – Dorman Street

Petting Zoo, Pony Rides, and Kids Barrell Train Rides –

Commerce St by Smocktown Barbershop

Dunking Booth, Kids Zone Free Inflatables – M & T Bank Parking Lot

Open House & Tours –

Greater Harrington Historical Society and Museum

Open House, Scrapple Sandwiches and Chicken Salad Sale –

Trinity United Methodist Church

Open House & Tours – Harrington Railroad Tower

9:30 a.m.

Opening Ceremonies – Norman Barlow Pavilion

National Anthem

Opening Remarks – Mayor Frank Tolson

Spirit & Truth Gospel Group – Commerce St Entertainment Tent

Check-In for Wing Cook Off - Harrington Public Library

10 a.m.

Sweetwater Band – Inside Harrington Senior Center

11:30 a.m.

Southbound of DE – Commerce St Entertainment Tent

Ty Sherwood and the Brackish Water Boys –

Inside Harrington Senior Center

1 p.m.

Brownie Bake Off - Harrington Public Library

Clarence "Smitti" Smith – Inside Harrington Senior Center

8 p.m.

Drive In Movie showing Cars – Norman Barlow Pavilion

FREE ADMISSION AND NO CHARGE FOR PARKING

PUBLIC PARKING LOCATIONS:

Asbury United Methodist Church • Lake Forest South Elementary Harrington Library
Lawn Car Angels, Weiner Ave and North St • Shuttle service available from all parking areas to downtown

Heritage Day Sponsors



GOLD

SHORE















SILVER























Greg Reddell Insurance Agy Inc CASL® CLU® ChFC® RICP® LTCP ChSNC®

41 Commerce St Harrington, DE 19952-1501 Bus: 302-566-1064 greg@harringtonsf.com www.harringtonsf.com







Hendricks & Son, INC









- 1. Norman Barlow Pavilion Opening Ceremony
- 2. Fleming/Mechanic Streets Craft & Informational Vendors
- 3. Harrington Senior Center Entertainment Stage and facility tours (See event schedule for names and times of performers)
- 4. Greater Harrington Historical Society & Museum Open for tours
- 5. Police Department Parking Lot Seating Area
- 6. WSFS Bank Parking Lot Food Vendors
- 7. Commerce Street Live Entertainment Stage See Schedule for acts
- 8. Commerce Street Southern Delaware Street Rod Association Car Show
- 9. Commerce Street Petting Zoo, Pony Rides, Kids Barrell Train Rides
- 10. Price Center- First State Model Railroad Display

- 11. Bus Shuttle Stop & Handicapped Parking Limited Spaces
- 12. Dorman Street Antique Tractor Displays
- **13.** Trinity United Methodist Church Open House with "Vintage Quilts" exhibit, Scrapple Sandwiches & Chicken Salad Sale
- 14. M&T Bank Parking Lot Kids Zone
- **15.** Harrington Historic Railroad Tower Open for Tours
- **16.** Harrington Fire Company Parking Lot Free Event Parking, no shuttle stop here
- 17. Asbury United Methodist Church Free Event Parking, no shuttle stop here
- 18. Harrington Library Events, Parking & Shuttle Stop See event schedule
- 19. Lake Forest South Elemntary Free Event Parking, Shuttle Stop

When being a Methodist got a Judge Arrested

As we near the celebration of our country's 250th birthday, we look back to stories from the rich history of Harrington and its surrounding communities. One such story was directly impacted by the American Revolution.

The events happened on a small, rural farm near a crossroads northwest of Harrington. Eventually, that crossroads would bear the name of the man that hid the man many consider to be the father of American Methodism.

Judge Thomas White lived on a farm located in an area that was originally part of Maryland. Much of Judge White's land was acquired before the Mason and Dixon

boundary dispute was settled, so, White was considered a resident of Maryland until just before the Revolutionary War. Born in 1729, Judge White became a member of the colonial Maryland legislature and the Delaware House of Assembly, served as the Chief Justice of the Kent County Court of Common Pleas, and as a delegate to the

Delaware Constitutional Conventions of 1776 and 1792. During his time as Chief Justice, Judge White became a practicing Methodist, a new religious order at that time.

After hearing the teachings of Francis Asbury, credited as the founder of American Methodism. Mary White, Judge White's wife, was the first to convert. The following week, Judge White joined her at a meeting to hear Asbury, and he converted, too.

At the age of 22, Asbury was selected by John Wesley as a traveling lay preacher. In 1771, Asbury volunteered to travel to British North America. Asbury first preached in Philadelphia and New York City. When the American Revolutionary War broke out in 1775, Asbury and James Dempster were the only British Methodist lay ministers to remain in America.

When the American Revolution began, Bishop Asbury, in keeping with his religious tenets and principles, announced that he would

• See **Judge** on page 8



GOLD HERITAGE DAY SPONSOR



Visit us anytime at our office and new Design Center at 1 Dorman St in Harrington.

We now offer KITCHEN and BATH REMODELING along with **NEW HOME construction**



bluehenconstruction.com If 9 @





White's church, FILE PHOTO

Judge
• From page 7

refrain from endorsing either Great Britain or the United States of America. In an effort to keep his Methodist congregations neutral, he urged his followers to do the same. This request placed his followers, especially those living in Maryland, in an untenable position. The State of Maryland had enacted a law requiring all citizens to take an Oath of Allegiance to the newly formed American Congress. Those who refused were jailed for treason. After proclaiming his neutrality, Asbury fled to Delaware.

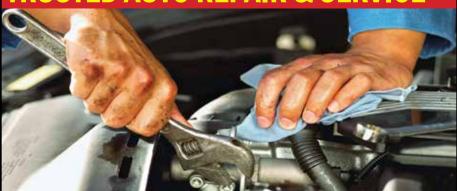
Judge White also refused to sign Oath of Allegiance. On April 2, 1778, the Light Horse Patrol, led by Brigadier General Smallwood, in pursuance of an order of Congress,

arrived at his house and arrested Judge White. Shortly before White's arrest, on March 25, 1778, Francis Asbury had come to Judge White's home seeking refuge from the same militia. Judge White's home made an ideal hideout. Although the house could be seen from the road, one of several long lanes had to be traversed to reach it. Located only a few hundred yards from the Maryland/Delaware line, one could easily escape to the other state, if necessary.

Asbury was hiding in the parlor when White was arrested and charged with being a Tory and a Methodist. After a five-week detention. White was allowed to return home on parole, a restriction which remained in effect until August 3,

See Judge on page 9

TRUSTED AUTO REPAIR & SERVICE



We've built our reputation helping friends & neighbors like you stay safe on the road with honest & reliable automotive service.

ALL MAKES AND MODELS



302.398.8419 7378 S. Dupont Hwy. Harrington

AUTO REPAIR

GOLD HERITAGE DAY SPONSOR



We are passionate about making your dream wedding or successful event a reality. From beautiful tents, banquet or round tables, chairs, dance floor, bar, lighting, we'll take care of everything so you can focus on your big day.

Contact us today to start planning! 302-331-1183 or 302-531-6656 www.bkpartyrentals.com



Judge

• From page 8

1779.

Asbury conducted two special conferences for northern preachers at White's home – the first on April 28, 1779, and the second in April of 1781. The events were the first two conferences of the Methodist Episcopal Church held in America. However, the official conference to recognize the Methodist faith in America took place later, at the Christmas Conference, held in Baltimore on December 25, 1784.

Methodist meetings were held in Judge White's home for three years. The erection of a chapel on Judge White's farm began in 1780. Asbury preached there on Sept. 17, 1780 and recorded in his journal, "White's Chapel, a miserable place

it is, unfinished and one part lying open to the sun." After its completion, Asbury preached at White's Chapel, again. On Oct. 6, 1782, he noted, "it is one of the neatest chapels the Methodists have on the whole continent."

Later, Union M. E. Church was organized and met in White's schoolhouse. On July 20, 1841, William Wix donated 50 perches of land at White's schoolhouse to White's Chapel. The chapel was moved to the new site, 4.5 miles west of Harrington. Union Church merged with White's Chapel and the old schoolhouse was used as a social hall. Both the church and school were destroyed by fire around 1861. A new White's Chapel was constructed shortly after the fire.

Judge White died in 1795, leaving his son ownership of the home and grounds that once served as the center of the Methodist religion in America. By the mid-1800s, Judge White's home had fallen into neglect. The spot where Judge White lies buried was covered by a chicken house. A newspaper article published in 1950 stated, "in back of the house was a graveyard in which Judge White was buried in 1795. This resting place has been tilled over." The structure was demolished in 1978. The only known artifacts from the home are housed at Barratt's Chapel Museum, in Frederica, DE.

White's Chapel closed in 1984 and fell into disrepair. Sadly, the chapel was eventually destroyed. The only known artifacts from the

church are on display at the Greater Harrington Historical Society.

Today, a Delaware Historical Marker, located about ½ mile from the site, marks White's home and tells the story of a man who played an important role in the history of Methodism in America. White's Chapel has a few headstones in its graveyard and a simple marker with the dates of the church - odes to an almost forgotten bit of American history.



White's home. FILE PHOTO

SILVER HERITAGE DAY SPONSOR



The umbrella organization for Delaware's active main street communities operating under the Division of Small Business

business.delaware.gov/on-main

SILVER HERITAGE DAY SPONSOR

M&T

Personal, Commercial, and Small Business Banking Solutions

1 Clark St. Harrington, DE 19952 302-735-8440

Our city was once known by a different name



Sammuel Harrington. FILE PHOTO

Harrington has been home to many citizens over its 150+ years as an incorporated community in Delaware, but many may not know it had two other names prior to "Harrington."

The history of the community goes back long before the first European settlers came to America. The area was home to the Kuskarawaoks, later known as the Nanticoke Indian Tribe, and there were also Lenni Lenape indigenous peoples in the area. Prior to the arrival of European settlers, Native Americans farmed the land for centuries. While the first documented contact with local tribes

was by Captain John Smith, in 1608, Native Americans were here long before that.

On October 25, 1682, William Penn, the Governor of Pennsylvania and the Three Lower Counties (now Delaware), directed the region to be divided into townships occupied by 100 families. It is important to remember that Delaware was not a colony but belonged to Pennsylvania. Each family was presumed to have an average of 10 members, including servants. By order of the Pennsylvania Provincial Council, these townships were referred to as "hundreds" after April 9, 1690.

The Mispillion Hundred, one of the original Hundreds of Delaware, was established in 1682. It was initially defined as the area south of Murderkill Creek and north of Mispillion Creek, extending from the Delaware River to the Maryland border. In 1830, it was divided into two parts – the eastern portion, named Milford Hundred, and the remaining western portion, which retained the name Mispillion Hundred. Harrington would later become the "center" of Mispillion Hundred.

However, Harrington didn't start out as the center of the area.

• See **Name** on page **11**

GOLD HERITAGE DAY SPONSOR



Where Quality Pole Buildings Come to Life

Eastern Shore Pole Buildings is a family-owned and operated company that crafts high-quality, custom pole buildings for clients across Delaware and the Eastern Shore of Maryland. We're dedicated to creating spaces that perfectly suit your needs.

302-632-0918

1 Dorman Street, Harrington, DE 19952 info@easternshorepolebuildings.com



GOLD HERITAGE DAY SPONSOR

Harrington Senior Center

We provide Active Adults over the age of 50 with a place to come and interact with their fellow citizens.





102 Fleming Street, Harrington 302-398-4224

Name

• From page 10

Large barrens of oak trees stood in the Mispillion Hundred, with few farmers in the area. Most of the land was still wild and untamed. The first settlements, which eventually became Harrington, were constructed in 1681, through land grants to William Clark.

William Clark was an influential man in Delaware's colonial history. Before William Penn was granted leases of land from the Duke of York in August 1682, William Clark, along with his wife Honour. lived in Lewes. From 1682 through 1685, Clark served as the chief surveyor of Kent and Sussex Counties. Clark went on to represent Sussex County in legislative

meetings with Penn. He continued to be a member of the Council through 1699. In July 1864, Clark was appointed Justice in General and was named President of the Counties of Philadelphia and New Castle. He served as President of the Courts of Pennsylvania and the Lower Counties until 1707. Delaware did not become a state until after the Declaration of Independence was adopted. The counties voted on June 15, 1776, to separate from both Pennsylvania and England.

For his service to Penn and the Three Lower Counties, Clark received three grants in Kent County, in 1861 – one for 1,000 acres, one for 500 hundred acres, and one for 1,200 acres. Harrington was



Clark street in the 1850's. FILE PHOTO

built on the last grant location.

Originally, the property was Clark's farm, known as "Clerk's Folley." The farm and outbuildings were constructed on what is now the corner of Mechanic and Commerce Streets, in the area where the original First National

• See Name on page 12

SILVER HERITAGE DAY SPONSOR



Insurance Agency Inc.

CASL® CLU® ChFC® RICP® LTCP ChSNC®

Bus: 302-566-1064

greg@harringtonsf.com www.harringtonsf.com

41 Commerce St., Harrington, DE

Providing Insurance and Financial Services

Civil Engineering SITEWORKS ENGINEERING 19 Commerce Street | Harrington 302-841-7901

Name

• From page **11**

Bank building was located. In the late 1700s, the first business, an

inn and tavern, was constructed by Benjamin Clark, William Clark's grandson. The establishment was a stopover for those traveling on the steamship, as it was the halfway



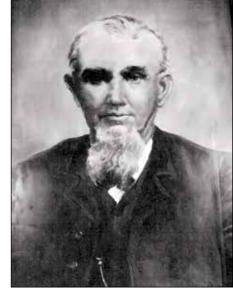
Clark home. FILE PHOTO

point between landings in Denton and those in Milford and Frederica, then known as Johnny Cake Landing. Benjamin Clark renamed the crossroads Clark's Corner.

The next change came in the

1850s, with the arrival of the rail-road. At that time, the Clark property was owned by Matthew Clark, who laid out the first six streets and began to sell off property that would eventually become the town of Harrington.

In 1858, the railroad gave the town its second name, Milford Junction, in acknowledgment of the rail line extension to Milford. Finally, in 1862, the citizens of Clark's Corner changed the name to Harrington, in honor of Samuel Maxwell Harrington, Chancellor of the Court in Delaware, who



Matthew Clark. FILE PHOTO

championed the southward growth of the railroad. In 1869, the City of Harrington – an important railroad hub – was incorporated by the State of Delaware.

GOLD HERITAGE DAY SPONSOR

Why Waste Time & Money on Laundry?

Let Us Take the Load Off!

Our expert team provides seamless, reliable, and professional wash-and-fold services delivered straight to your door.

With a quick 24-hour turnaround and a commitment to quality, we take the load off your shoulders so you can focus on what truly matters.

Let us make laundry day effortless for you! Schedule your first load today.



GOLD HERITAGE DAY SPONSOR



KCI offers a broad range of engineering, environmental, planning, design, survey and construction services.

Innovative Technologies Community Service Environmental Stewardship

614 N DuPont Hwy., Dover, DE 19901 302-747-5999 | kci.com



From the New Century Club to the Price Center

The New Century Club was founded on April 9, 1909, by a group of local women who endeavored to raise money to beautify the City of Harrington. They were part of a national group of women's clubs, founded in 1879. Their purpose was to provide a meeting place for members and, ultimately, to promote science, literature and

The group installed two water fountains, planted trees and installed flower gardens to enhance the City of Harrington's appeal. In 1921, The New Century Club purchased land to construct a building to serve as the new home for the club. For decades this dedicated

group of women worked to improve the aesthetics of the City of Harrington. In 1959, they gathered to celebrate their Golden Anniversary. During the Bicentennial Celebration of America, the club partnered with the city to plant trees throughout the community.

Today, the group is a part of the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC). GFWC is an international women's organization dedicated to community improvement through volunteer service. The group is one of the world's largest and oldest nonpartisan, nondenominational, women's volunteer service organizations. GFWC has nearly 60,000 mem-



Price Center when it was the Century Club. FILE PHOTO

bers, internationally, including those in United States.

Key aspects of GFWC include community improvement, inter-

national organization, volunteerism, community service programs, arts & culture, environment, civic

See Price Center on page 14

SILVER HERITAGE DAY SPONSOR





McDonald's of Harrington 16758 S Dupont Hwy., Harrington, DE 19952



311 Walt Messick Road • Harrington, DE 19952 (302) 398-3215

Price Center

From page 13

engagement & outreach, education & libraries, and health & wellness. Special Programs focus on domestic violence awareness and prevention, child advocacy, and partnerships with organizations like UNICEF and the March of Dimes. Although the local chapter is no longer active, there are chapters throughout the region.

After being vacant for years, The New Century Club building was purchased by the City of Harrington and made available for community rentals. In 2023, the building, now known as the Robert E. Price Community Center, named in honor of former Mayor Robert Price, was extensively remodeled. The beautifully renovated space has an upgraded catering kitchen, and all new flooring, windows and doors. The exterior of the building was also improved and includes beautiful new landscaping.

Today, the Community Center



The Price Center today. FILE PHOTO

serves as a welcoming and versatile rental hall, located in the heart of



Inside the Price Center. (Inset) Kitchen. FILE PHOTOS

Harrington, Delaware. Whether planning a birthday party, baby shower, retirement celebration, family reunion, or corporate event, the facility is equipped to host a memorable occasion.

The renovated facility now serves as a modern and spacious event venue, preserving its roots as a cherished part of our local community. The hall can comfortably accommodate 80 to 150 guests, depending on the setup. Fifteen tables and 120 chairs are included. Organizers are welcome to decorate the space to suit their event theme.

Rentals are available for \$100 per hour, with a 4-hour minimum on weekends. The required \$200 security deposit is refundable. Guests are welcome to bring their own food or hire a caterer (insurance required), allowing guests flexibility in planning events.

Conveniently located next to City Hall, the Robert E. Price Community Center offers plenty of parking and easy access for guests. To check availability, schedule a tour, or reserve a date, please contact the City of Harrington at 302-398-3530 or EWerner@cityofharrington.com.

Memories of past Heritage Days!





SILVER HERITAGE DAY SPONSOR

Thank You Harrington for allowing our family to serve you for over the past 30 years.

We look forward to continuing to serve you in the years to come.



SILVER SPONSOR OF HERITAGE DAY

Kent County Tourism

Visit Central Delaware

Explore the Unexpected

Explore the Unexpected 302-734-4888 www.visitcentraldelaware.com

Memories of past Heritage Days!



New life for two landmark buildings in Harrington

When the railroad arrived in Harrington in the 1850s, they came for the fields of produce and sprawling fruit tree orchards. Today, most people do not realize that in the mid to late 1800s, peaches left Delmarva by the millions. Over 300 million peaches were shipped out, annually, by rail. Following the peach blight, which nearly destroyed the industry, produce including tomatoes, potatoes, watermelons, and strawberries were grown, picked, processed and shipped by rail. Some of the items required refrigeration, while others could be canned, increasing shelf-life without refriger-

Two different shipping methods were used to move goods from the area to the larger cities of the Northeast. First, there were insulated box-

cars. Train cars were heavily insulated with materials like felt, hair, or sawdust to minimize heat transfer from the outside. With large ice bunkers at each end, often supplemented by fans which circulated the cold air, the insulated box car could haul thousands of boxes of fresh goods at a time. Design included features, like raised floors for drainage, to prevent spoilage. Transporters relied on careful scheduling to allow for re-icing at specific locations along the route, to ensure cargo remained chilled. Ice houses quickly sprung up in communities along the railroad, to meet demand.

Meanwhile, some fruits, vegetables, and even meats, could be canned. The canning process dates to the early 1800s. Nicolas Appert, a Frenchman with a background in brewing,



Vane Cannery in the 1860s, now home to Lawn Care Angels. FILE PHOTO

distilling, and confectionary, began a series of food preservation experiments in the late 1790s. He packed an assortment of foods—vegetables, fruits, meats—into glass bottles that

• See Landmarks on page 18

SILVER HERITAGE DAY SPONSOR



DELMARVA CENTRAL RAILROAD

Providing freight rail service to Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia since 2016

SILVER HERITAGE DAY SPONSOR



Collins Mechanical, Inc. 15294 S. DuPont Hwy, Harrington, DE

PLUMBING, HEATING, AND AIR CONDITIONING 302-398-8877

Email: Collinsmechanical@comcast.net www.collinsmech.com

Landmarks

• From page 17

he sealed with corks, held in place by wire. Appert then heated the bottles in boiling water, varying the amount of time in the water according to the specific type of food, and carefully let them cool. His methods worked and

quickly expanded in manufacturing setting.

By the 1850s, commercial canneries operated in Maine, New York, Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania and New Jersey. In 1860, a new procedure for heating containers to a higher temperature was created, reducing the

sterilization period from five or six hours to under an hour. The discovery led to higher production levels and lower prices, as factory output increased exponentially from 2,000-3,000 cans a day to 20,000 cans per day.

Advances in canning technology

led to canneries opening in every small farming community along the East Coast, including hundreds of canneries on Delmarva. In Harrington, alone, there were as many as thirteen canning operations at its peak. Some were open year round, canning produce in the spring, summer, and fall, and foods such as fish and seafood during the winter months. Other canneries were based on individual farms, operating only during the harvest season.

The canneries and ice houses were both located along the railroad, allowing for the rapid movement of products and ample opportunities for ice replenishment to chill box cars, as needed.

Vane's Cannery, in Harrington, is a standing reminder of that time. Located on the northern edge of town, on Weiner Avenue, the cannery produced

See Landmarks on page 19





(Left) Harrington Ice Co. (Above) Harrington Ice Co. Wagon. FILE PHOTOS

GOLD HERITAGE DAY SPONSOR



SILVER HERITAGE DAY SPONSOR



Delaware's Premier Grocery Outlet

At Byler's, we're working hard to find the best deals to help you feed your family for less.

2 Great Locations to Choose From

BYLER'S IN WEST DOVER

(302) 674-1689 Monday-Friday 8AM-7PM Saturday 8AM-6PM Closed Sunday

BYLER'S IN HARRINGTON

(302) 398-0398 Monday-Friday 8AM-7PM Saturday 8AM-6PM Closed Sunday

Visit our Stove & Outdoor Store

BYLER'S STOVE SHOPPE IN WEST DOVER

(302) 674-1631

Monday-Friday 9AM-6PM | Saturday 9AM-4PM | Closed Sunday

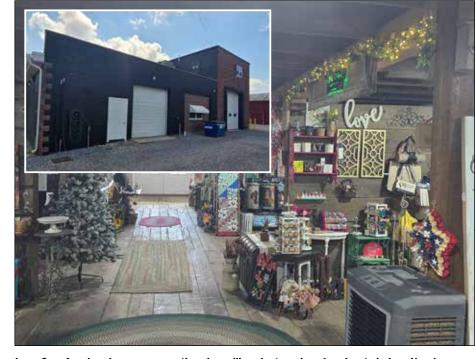
Landmarks

• From page 18

tomatoes, potatoes and other goods. Located just a few yards away is the Harrington Ice House. The icehouse provided the railroad with the continuous supply of 200-pound blocks of ice needed to keep the box cars cold, while also providing local families with the ice needed for a new invention for homes, the ice box. The Harrington Ice House also served as the electric substation for the town, as electricity, carried by transmission lines from an electric-generating plant at McColley's Pond, supplied Harrington with its first electric lighting.

Recently, Vane's Cannery and Harrington Ice House have both been given new life. Blue Hen Homes, owned by Laura and Darren Simpson, renovated the buildings which function as commercial spaces, once again. Vane's Cannery is now home to Lawn Care Angels, a lawn care operation that also sells plants and produce. An antique shop is located inside, filled with antique and vintage collectibles. Another portion of the building is the home of Ethan Simpson Contracting. The company provides residential site work, including excavation, demolition, grading, silt control and more. The Harrington Ice House has been converted into mini storage, a small shop for golf cart repair, and apartments, which are located on the upper floors.

An important part of Harrington's history has been preserved and, once again, these structures provide a location for local businesses to thrive. Be sure to visit both of these beautifully restored and repurposed historic locations, and support our local business community.



Lawn Care Angels; a lawn care operation also selling plants and produce located where Vane's Cannery used to be. Inside is an antique shop, filled with antique and vintage collectables. Another portion of the building is the home of Ethan Simpson Contracting. (Inset) Outside view of the Lawn Care Angels building. FILE PHOTO

GOLD HERITAGE DAY SPONSOR

When we give back, our community leaps forward.

WSFS Bank sees every chance to support a local nonprofit as an opportunity to grow and enrich our Community. We're honored to support the positive impact made by the **City of Harrington**47th Annual Harrington Heritage Day Festival.











THERE'S NO JACKPOT WHEN YOU HAVE A GAMBLING PROBLEM.



Problem gambling can affect anyone. Male or female. Young or old. All races and creeds. If you or a loved one has a gambling problem, call us for help and support. Services available statewide.



DEProblemGambling.org

888.850.8888

24/7 - Free & Confidential