SUMMER 2017

JUNE 15
THE LAND OF GOSHEN 1777
FROM TURK'S HEAD TO COUNTY SEAT
SPONSOR: West Chester HARB
Annual Kick-off Celebration: Chester County Historical Society
In the summer of 1777, West Chester was only a small town and a few other buildings and farmhouses at a crossroads on the western edge of Goshen Township. We will share stories of the Revolutionary War happenings around the Turk’s Head Inn and will visit the northeast quadrant of present- day West Chester. Topics will include Liffeyville, Marshall Square Park, Victorian architecture, the Chester County Hospital, private academies, industrialisation, plantations and nurseries.

JUNE 22
TWO DAYS BEFORE BRANDYWINE
SPONSOR: Historic Kennett Square in Kennett Borough
It was an overcast and humid day, September 11, 1777. Two days earlier, a large British force under the command of General Cornwallis had spawned in the tiny crossroads settlement of Kennett Township to garrison the British Royal Provisions Depot near the Delaware River, in Philadelphia or streaming north from a foray along the Red Clay Creek. American soldiers and their officers went afoot to points of interest and re-encounters will recreate the arrival, encampment and departure of the British and Hessian troops in and around Kennett Township. The tour will include a tour of the old Kennett Meeting House and Continental Army assembled five miles away along the Brandywine Creek. Enjoy refreshments and meet Kevin Shwedern, author of “Timetable Chronicles: Battle of Brandywine Creek.”

JUNE 29
THE BRITISH FLANK AT TRAMMLES FORD: AN ACHAEOMETRIC JOURNEY
SPONSOR: Friends of Martins Tavern, West Bradford Historical Commission, Peoploch Historical Committee
The morning of the battle of Brandywine between 5 and 6 a.m., the Royal Army formed two columns in Kennett Square. Led by three local loyalists, General Sir William Howe, General Cornwallis, and a column of 8,500 soldiers marched north to sufficiently General Washington into the battle. Howe, following the main road, they arrived on the Road to the Great Valley that forked the Brandywine Creek. At the last road fork, road and Village of Tramles with guides and archaeological artifacts whose research team discovered the last road and road.

JULY 4TH
SPECIAL OBSERVATION: 225th REDEDICATION DAY CEREMONY AT THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR SOLDIERS’ CEMETERY
SPONSOR: East Vincent Township
Tuesday, 9 AM: Celebrate freedom on our country’s birthday while honoring the price paid by the unknown Revolutionary War soldiers who still rest in this cemetary. The program takes place on the site of the Continental Supply Train traveled toward Valley Forge. A special tour of the Reeding Furnaces after the Battle of the Clouds. The log church that eventually served as a hospital for the Revolutionary soldiers, in East Vincent, was dedicated May 27, 1785. As a last run to the wounded from the Battle of Brandywine and to soldiers from Valley Forge.

JULY 7
REMEMBER THE DAYS OF THE WAR
SPONSOR: Historic Yellow Springs
The same engagement of the Philadelphia Campaign was the Battle of the Clouds on September 15th, so named because it was held almost two miles north of the town, where a heavy rain fell. Two units of the Continental Army began their autumnal trek to Yellow Springs in the afternoon when the light rain stopped. A good standing stone for your attention. You may wonder, “Where are the buddies buried?” The Revolutionary War Hospital at Yellow Springs was then a very busy place, located in a location of the historic log hospital. Visitors are welcome to use the parking lot and bathrooms. Light refreshments.

JULY 7
WELCOME TO BATTLE: TWO ARMIES CLASH ON THE FIELDS OF BIRMINGHAM
SPONSOR: Birmingham & Thornbury Historical Commissions
When General Washington discovered that he had been outflanked by the British, he immediately ordered that the British be drawn into either side of the Birmingham Road. There the two armies clashed in the largest, single-day battle of the Revolutionary War fought in 1777. The 1777 Armies’ Heritage Guide will trace the battle action, contrasting the war with the local Guskey Testimony of Peace.

JULY 13
BUS TOUR: ADVANCE WITH THE HESSIANS!
SPONSOR: Pennsylvania Historical Commission, Chadds Ford Historical Society, Brandywine Battlefield Park, Brandywine Battlefield Task Force, & Old Kennet Meeting
* On the morning of September 11, 1777, the Royal Army advanced in a second column north along the Great Nottingtham Road, straight at Washington’s defenses. Led by General Von Knyphausen in the vanguard, they were engaged by the Continental forces along the Brandywine until they burned Gates and Maxwell. Despite the American delaying tactics, the enemy continued to move. The route by bus and hoop the description of the battlefield as well as the history of the armies along the route. Brandywine Battlefield interpreters will be on each bus. Open House at Brandywine Battlefield Park beginning at 4:30 pm.

August 3
POWDER MILLS AND MORE
SPONSOR: East Pikeland Historical Commission & Pikeland Historical Society
One of the first actions of the newly independent Continental Congress was the authorization to build a gunpowder mill and gun factory to supply General Washington’s forces on the American cause. The site was on the banks of French Creek in East Pikeland Township. The mill was destroyed in 1836, and the French Creek Mill, and recent archaeological projects have exposed foundations of the original buildings that stood just over a year after being destroyed by Hessians in 1777. We will explore how and why the powder and arms were produced, and how the powder and guns were transported to the battlefront.

August 9
SEPTERMBEUR 20, 1777: REMEMBER PAOLI
SPONSOR: Paoli Battlefield Preservation Fund, Paoli Memorial Association & Malvern Historical Commissions
Come to the site of one of the bloodiest battles of the Revolutionary War, the Paoli Massacre, where the British troops staged a midnight raid on General “Mad” Anthony Wayne’s Pennsylvania Line on September 20, 2021. Tales of the brutality of the British, who fought with bayonets and swords, gave rise to the nickname “the Paoli Pox.” You will meet re-enactors who portray Continental soldiers and their British counterparts and explain what life was like in the 18th century. Visit the grounds where the Colonial Continental soldiers from this battle, and other monuments on this hallowed ground. Learn from the Paoli Battlefield Preservation Fund about their status on making this sacred ground a National Historical Landmark.

August 13
SELF-GUIDED DRIVING TOUR: THE FURNACE REGION DURING THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR
SPONSOR: East Monticello Historical Commission & Warwick County Park
On September 17, 1777, following the stormy retreat from the Battle of the Clouds to Yellow Springs, the main Continental Army, desperately low on ammunition and practically defenseless against the enemy, only a couple hours away, began the march from Yellow Springs to Warwick and Reading Furnace. With hundreds of soldiers along for the trip, the group of troops traveled on today’s Route 23. The troopers eventually reached Chester County’s vital iron furnace region, where General Washington was able to resupply and refuel the troops. A self-guided map will allow visitors to explore this fascinating iron region.

August 24
WALKING WITH WASHINGTON, UTLTRYL
SPONSOR: Valley Forge Park Alliance, Schuylkill Valley Historical Commission, and Valley Forge National Park
On December 19, 1777, following a devastating Philadelphia Campaign, George Washington was forced to retreat to the Continental Army into Valley Forge. For the next six months, the hills along the banks of the Schuylkill River were used as the Army’s home. Washington’s Headquarters, also known as the East Park House, has the distinction of being the structure General George Washington used as his headquarters during the 1777-1778 Valley Forge Encampment. The building could be considered the birthplace of Washington’s military career. It was the place where Washington and his highest-ranking officers worked and lived during the encampment. Start your tour of the entire Headquarters complex at the East Park House. Enjoy an opportunity to visit the park after hours and learn about the Valley Forge encampment from George Washington himself!

For more information, please visit www.valleyforge.org

DON’T MISS THE BATTLE OF BRANDYWINE REENACTMENT ON SEPTEMBER 16-17.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT CHERRY HILL PLANNING/TOWN TOURS
All sites have handicapped access limitations. Call Karen Marshall at 610-344-6923 for specifics.