

Historical and Cultural Affairs

The historic preservation and museums newsletter of the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs.

Nov. 30, 2015 * Volume 8, Issue 11

News

Gov. Markell pardons Underground Railroad conductor Samuel D. Burris

Delaware man was convicted on Nov. 2, 1847 of aiding slaves escaping from their owners.

[Read more ...](#)



Surrounded by Burris-family descendants, Gov. Jack Markell holds the document pardoning Samuel D. Burris. In the foreground at the far left is Ocea Thomas. At far right is the Rev. Ralph D. Smith, Sr.

Winter-holiday-themed events among 11 special programs sponsored by the division in December 2015

Highlights of the month include a screening of the film "Scrooge," "Handmade for the Holidays" and the Zwaanendael Museum decorated by the Sussex Gardeners.

[Read more ...](#)

Holiday party to take place at the John Dickinson Plantation on Dec. 6, 2015

Sponsored by the Friends of the John Dickinson Mansion. Reservations required by Nov. 30, 2015.

[Read more ...](#)

Edward McWilliams earns state of Delaware's Management Development Certificate

Only seven state employees have graduated from this challenging program since 2003.

[Read more ...](#)

[Go here for more news items ...](#)

Help Save Delaware History

Developments in Cultural and Historical Resources Information Systems (CHRIS)

Article from the Oct. 30, 2015 edition of NCSHPO News, an e-news publication of the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers.

[Read more ...](#)

Small grants available from Delaware Preservation Fund

Program supports preservation activities at historic properties and districts. Deadline: Dec. 13, 2015.

[Read more...](#)

Archaeological Society of Delaware logo contest

Submission deadline: Jan. 1, 2016

[Read more ...](#)

“Preserving Our Past for a Better Future: Delaware’s Historic Preservation Plan, 2013–2017”

Document provides a roadmap for focusing on the broad goals and needs of Delaware's preservation community.

[Read more ...](#)

Media Roundup

The following Delaware history-related article have recently appeared in the media:

[Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs to host special programs through December](#)

Dover Post, Dover, Del.—Nov. 21, 2015

Article notes the division’s holiday programming.

[Travels With Charlie: Delmarva’s Hidden Treasures, Newcastle](#)

WBOC TV, Salisbury, Md.—Nov. 18, 2015

Video on historic New Castle.

[From Delft to Delaware, we owe Dutch](#)

News Journal, Wilmington, Del.—Nov. 14, 2015

Article on the Zwaanendael Museum’s Dutch-American Heritage Day program on Nov. 14, 2015

Articles on travel to southern Delaware

Written by Malerie Yolen-Cohen, the articles include info on the Old State House, and the Johnson Victrola and Zwaanendael museums.

[14 Great Things to Do in Southern Delaware](#)

Huffington Post, New York, N.Y.—Nov. 21, 2015

[Lewes DE: Spectacular Restaurant and Lodging Getaway](#)

Getaway Mavens, Albany, N.Y.—Nov. 20, 2015

[Dover and Milford DE: History and Art Abound](#)

Getaway Mavens, Albany, N.Y.—Nov. 20, 2015

Articles on Gov. Markell’s pardoning of Delaware abolitionist Samuel D. Burris

Ceremony took place on Nov. 2, 2015 at The Old State House.

[Delaware Governor Markell pardons a historic hero](#)

Newsworks, WHYY TV, Philadelphia, Pa.—Nov. 13, 2015

[Black History Matters: Governor Pardons Abolitionist--After 168 Years](#)

New America Media, San Francisco, Calif.—Nov. 11, 2015

[Underground Railroad Conductor Pardoned 168 Years After Conviction](#)
History Channel, New York, N.Y.—Nov. 3, 2015

[Delaware governor pardons man who helped slaves escape](#)
WMDT TV, Salisbury, Md.—Nov. 2, 2015

[Delaware governor pardons abolitionist who helped slaves escape](#)
CBS News, New York, N.Y.—Nov. 2, 2015

[Delaware Pardons an Underground Railroad 'Hero'](#)
New York Times, N.Y.—Nov. 2, 2015

[Free black man who helped scores of slaves escape to the North on the Underground Railroad receives official pardon](#)
Daily Mail, London, U.K.—Nov. 2, 2015

[Gov. Jack Markell pardons Delaware abolitionist](#)
The News Journal, Wilmington, Del.—Nov 2, 2015

[Governor pardons abolitionist Samuel Burris](#)
Delaware State News, Dover, Del.—Nov. 2, 2015

[Kent County Underground Railroad Conductor Pardoned](#)
WBOC TV, Salisbury, Md.—Nov. 2, 2015

[Man who helped slaves escape pardoned 168 years after conviction](#)
Fox News, New York, N.Y.—Nov. 2, 2015

[Markell pardons Delaware Underground Railroad abolitionist](#)
WDEL Radio, Wilmington, Del.—Nov. 2, 2015

[Pardoned for his "crime" 168 year later](#)
WPVI TV, Philadelphia, Pa.—Nov. 2, 2015

[Posthumous pardon for Delaware man who helped slaves escape in 1847](#)
Reuters, London, U.K.—Nov. 2, 2015

[Righting a wrong: Delaware pardons man who guided slaves to freedom](#)
CNN, Atlanta, Ga.—Nov. 2, 2015

[Samuel D. Burris pardon is 10 a.m.](#)
Dover Post, Del.—Nov. 1, 2015

Articles on fire in Legislative Hall

Reports provide updates on damage to division-maintained historical portraits, artifacts and furnishings throughout Delaware's capitol building.

[Legislative Hall fire: \\$1.5M in damage](#)
The News Journal, Wilmington, Del.—Oct 28, 2015

[Legislative Hall is close to being open to everyone](#)
WXDE Radio, Milford, Del.—Oct. 27, 2015

Events

Saturday, Nov. 28

Handmade for the Holidays – John Dickinson Plantation

Wednesday, Dec. 2

Hale-Byrnes Open House – Hale-Byrnes House

Scrooge – New Castle Court House Museum

New Castle History – New Castle Arsenal

Thursday, Dec. 3

Hospitality Night – Zwaanendael Museum

Saturday, Dec. 5

Judge an Album by Its Cover – Johnson Victrola Museum

Quill Pen Writing and 18th Century Transcription – The Old State House

Delaware Day Awards Ceremony – First State Heritage Park Welcome Center and Galleries

Tour Zwaanendael Museum – Zwaanendael Museum

Handmade for the Holidays – John Dickinson Plantation

Hale-Byrnes Holiday Open House – Hale-Byrnes House

Alexander Hamilton – Hale-Byrnes House

Sunday, Dec. 6

Holiday Party at the Plantation – John Dickinson Plantation

Wednesday, Dec. 9

New Castle History – New Castle Arsenal

Saturday, Dec. 12

Spirit of Christmas in New Castle – Downtown New Castle

Wreaths Across America – Pencader Heritage Museum

Woodland Christmas and Jingle Bells – Buena Vista Conference Center

Demonstrations by the Thistledown Fiber Arts Guild – John Dickinson Plantation

Christmas at Belmont Hall – Belmont Hall

Sunday, Dec. 13

Open House – Belmont Hall

Saturday, Dec. 19

Handmade for the Holidays – John Dickinson Plantation

For a comprehensive, long-term calendar of division-sponsored events, [go here](#).

Exhibits and Displays

Ongoing

[Delaware and the War of 1812](#) – Zwaanendael Museum

Delaware Mourns Lincoln: A Demonstration of Love and Sorrow – The Old State House

Discovering Delaware's Maritime Past – Zwaanendael Museum

[Emeline Hawkins: Her Journey from Slavery to Freedom on the Underground Railroad](#) – New Castle Court House Museum

[Middletown Goes To War](#) – Middletown Historical Society

[Sculpture by Charles Parks](#) – New Castle Court House Museum

[A Seaborne Citizenry: The DeBraak and Its Atlantic World](#) – Zwaanendael Museum

[Simple Machines](#) – John Dickinson Plantation

World War II Through the Lens of William D. Willis – Legislative Hall



Historical and Cultural Affairs

The historic-preservation and museums newsletter of the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs.

Historical and Cultural Affairs is designed to stimulate public interest in the division's museums, programs and services, and to increase awareness of the value that history and historic preservation bring to the lives of Delaware's citizens and visitors. The newsletter is distributed during the last week of each month, via e-mail, to division staff members, Delaware's historical- and preservation-related communities and friends. Please submit relevant articles, news items and suggestions to Jim Yurasek, newsletter editor, at jim.yurasek@delaware.gov.

[Non-Discrimination Statement and Acknowledgement of Support](#)

If you would like to be added to, or removed from, the e-newsletter mailing list, please e-mail the editor.

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