

# FALL 2026

*Dear Friends,*

After twenty-two extraordinary events this past summer, our America 250 season has finally come to a close—and what a season it has been for the Hagen History Center! The past several months have been among the most exciting in our organization's history.

We welcomed visitors from near and far, garnered national media attention for our exhibit openings, drew an enthusiastic audience for our Perry Symposium, hosted so many of you among the sunflowers, and concluded the season with a spectacular sold-out gala.

Yet, as remarkable as these events have been, what means the most to us is the enthusiasm and support you have shown throughout the year. Every exhibit, program, lecture, dinner, and celebration is made more meaningful because you choose to attend, participate, and share in our mission. The History Center belongs to this community, and we are deeply grateful that you continue to make it a part of your lives. Thank you for being with us—and for helping make this extraordinary year possible.

While the pace will slow somewhat this autumn, there is certainly no shortage of wonderful things ahead.

We are especially excited to introduce what we believe will be our finest dining series yet, offering guests the rare opportunity to dine around the magnificent grand dining table of the Watson-Curtze Mansion.

We will also welcome the holiday season with our annual Victorian Holidays celebration, transforming the mansion into a festive scene of Victorian splendor and filling opening weekend with cheerful holiday entertainment for the entire family.

And if you have not yet had the opportunity to see our significant June expansion of the Frank Lloyd Wright exhibit or our August expansion devoted to Oliver Hazard Perry, I hope you will make a special trip to the History Center this fall. I can personally guarantee that it will be time well spent.

As we look back on all that we have accomplished together, we are filled with gratitude and pride. Thank you for making 2026 such a remarkable—and truly historic—year for the Hagen History Center. We look forward to seeing you throughout the autumn and sharing many more memorable moments together.

HAGEN HISTORY CENTER
AMERICA 250 PA
NONPROFIT AFFILIATE

*Caleb M. Pifer*
*President*



## HAVE YOU SEEN US LATELY?

Our new Visitor Center shares our history in a Welcome Gallery and Orientation Room that are as informative as they are beautiful ... before you ever enter the exhibits.














## MORE THAN A DOZEN EXHIBITS OPEN NOW

## HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

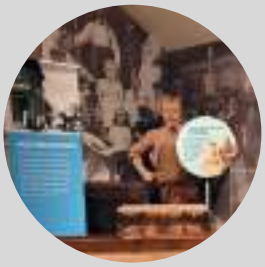
Archives Treasures



Eugene Iverd Collection



The Story of Us



Founding Families



Coppers' Chronicles



## EXHIBITS COMING UP

**November**
***Erie County Townships***
This new rotating exhibit opens on the second floor of the Wood-Morrison House. The first township display will highlight Lawrence Park's 100th Anniversary.



**December**
***All Aboard!***
Erie's train enthusiasts create an exhibit that highlights the Erie landscape of yesteryear on the third floor of the Watson-Curtze Mansion.



### 2027

***Hall of Heroes*** exhibit opens in Wood-Morrison House

***Building the Fleet*** exhibit opens in the Wood-Morrison House

***West Sixth Street Stories*** exhibit opens in the Watson- Curtze Mansion

***School Days*** exhibit opens in the Watson-Curtze Mansion

***Life in the Watson-Curtze Mansion*** exhibit opens in the Watson-Curtze Mansion

## EXPERIENCE OUR 2 NEWEST EXHIBITS

Have you seen our NEW *Frank Lloyd Wright Field Office Museum*? It's a nationally recognized exhibit telling the story of Wright's life and legacy in an immersive experience. It complements Wright's San Francisco field office in our permanent Exhibit Building and offers a deeper look into one of America's most influential architects.



"The goal is that visitors will leave with an understanding of why Wright was revered during and after his life."

– *Architectural Digest*

"The Field Office Museum offers visitors an opportunity to explore yet another original Wright-designed space, making our region one of the best in the country to experience the architect's remarkable legacy."

– *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*

FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT FIELD OFFICE MUSEUM
HAGEN HISTORY CENTER










***From top left*: Wright in his office; Wright as a child; interactive Froebel blocks display; photo of Wright model in the office; and still from a Wright interview.**

## *Command & Courage: Oliver Hazard Perry*

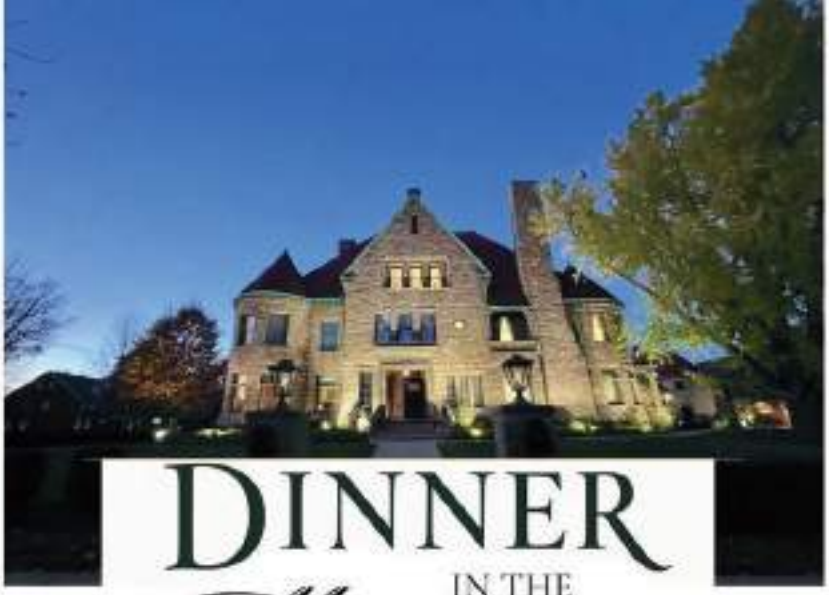
This is the largest and most comprehensive exhibit dedicated to Perry in the United States. It explores Perry as a naval commander, leader, and Erie icon — revealing the man behind the uniform.

Through letters, personal artifacts, and displays, visitors will discover Perry's character, values, and lasting legacy beyond the battlefield.

Born in Newport, Rhode Island, Perry was the eldest of eight children in a family whose roots trace back to the Mayflower.



*We have met the enemy, and they are ours.*



# DINNER IN THE *Mansion*

SOLD OUT

A Night in Vienna
October 21

SOLD OUT

Victorian Holiday Dinner
December 8

Take your seat at our table for intimate dining with exquisite cuisine in a one-of-a-kind experience.

From the flavors of Vienna and Peru to a Victorian holiday feast and an evening inspired by the Titanic, each dinner offers a thoughtfully curated menu served by the Erie Club.

For more detailed menus and to register, visit hagenhistory.org/events.

## PERUVIAN NIGHTS

February 16

First Course: Conchas a la Parmesana Scallops baked with butter, lime, white wine, and Parmesan cheese
Second Course: Classic Peruvian Ceviche
Main Course (Choice): Aji de Gallina OR Arroz con Mariscos
Dessert: Picarones



## *An Evening Aboard the* TITANIC

April 14

**First class seating: 20 seats around the dining room table in the Watson-Curtze Mansion $175 per person.**

**Second class seating: 40 seats in the library of the Watson-Curtze Mansion $150 per person.**



First Course: Oysters
Second Course:
Poached Salmon with Mousseline Sauce
Third Course: Punch Romaine
Main Course (Choice)
Chicken Lyonnaise OR Sirloin of Beef OR Roast Duck
Dessert: Waldorf Pudding

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## NOVEMBER

**Nov. 16** Decorating for Victorian Holidays begins

## DECEMBER

**Dec. 4 to 6** Victorian Holidays *(see page 8 for details)*

**Dec. 10** Wassail cooking class at the Yellow House in Girard with Full Circle Winery

## JANUARY 2027

**Jan. 10** Last day for holiday decorations

## FEBRUARY 2027

**Feb. 16** Peruvian Dinner in the Mansion

**Feb. 23** Mary Stockwell discusses General: "Mad" Anthony Wayne and the Founding of America at our Doris Becker Lecture series at the Jefferson Educational Society

## APRIL 2027

**April 5** Great Key Hunt begins

**April 14** Titanic Dinner in the Mansion

**April 30** World War II reenactment at the Yellow House

## MAY 2027

**May 25** Linda Jane Holden speaks about her book Garden Secrets of Bunny Mellon as part of our Doris Becker Lecture series at the Jefferson Educational Society

## JUNE 2027

Multiple events will be announced soon, including Men at the Museum, Women Creating a Legacy and the West 6th Street Walking Tour

## AUGUST 2027

- Dan Rice Days, Girard
- Sunflower Festival takes place in Girard at the Battles White House and Yellow House
- Annual Meeting at the Battles White House, Girard

## SEPTEMBER 2027

**Sept. 1** Tweed Roosevelt, great grandson of President Teddy Roosevelt, will speak at our Doris Becker Lecture series at the Jefferson Educational Society.

**Sept. 11** A Night at the Museum Gala at the Watson-Curtze Mansion

## WE ARE PUBLISHED




As a benefit of membership, you'll receive our latest *The Triangle* magazine.
The 56-page magazine is now in its third year of publication, and this special America250 edition explores the lives and accomplishments of remarkable trailblazers whose Erie connections helped shape our nation and the world.




Our own Caleb Pifer wrote the article "Saving a City by Saving Its Buildings: How Thomas B. Hagen Built a Preservation Model for Erie" for the Fall 2026 *Pennsylvania Heritage* Magazine.
To purchase a copy of the magazine for $10, visit our gift shop – we have limited copies, or visit the Pennsylvania Heritage website.

**Limited quantities of these magazines are available in our gift shop for $10 each.**

# THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING ALL OF OUR EVENTS

*More than 20 events have sold out this year, thanks to your generous support. We have multiple photo links for you to enjoy a look back at our eventful summer.*

*Thank you!*

**To see photos of all of our events this summer, visit: hagenhistory.org/about/in-the-news**














## WHO LIVED IN YOUR HOME?

**Curious about the history of your home — or that of a loved one?**

Discover the stories hidden in the walls and land beneath your feet!
You can dive into the research yourself by booking a research appointment with our team, or take advantage of our ***Historic Property and Land Research Program*** through our Library and Archives.

Let us do the digging for you — projects start at just $250. From cozy homes to city blocks, we've uncovered histories for properties of all shapes and sizes, including residences, businesses, and historic landmarks.

**Ready to uncover your property's past?**

**Contact us at info@hagenhistory.org**

# A Memorable Day at the White House





*Jeff Bobin, Volunteer of the Year, with Adam Macrino*



*Toby Shaffer, winner of the Media award*



*Robert and Amanda Kubiak, owners of Enlisted Coffee Company*



*Fort LeBoeuf Historical Society volunteers have worked to preserve the historic Eagle Hotel in Waterford.*

**What a night to remember!**
Over 200 amazing members joined us for our Annual Meeting & Picnic at the beautiful White House in Girard amid the sunflowers! We're proud to announce this year's history award winners:

**Volunteer of the Year Award:**
**Jeff Bobin**
We are so grateful to Jeff Bobin, left, our Volunteer of the Year award winner. He is pictured with Adam Macrino. Jeff has been an incredible guide and selfless volunteer, not only for us but for numerous local nonprofits. He also leads our Canalside Readers Book Club.

**Media Award:**
**Toby Shaffer,** the man behind the magic at ERIE COUNTY PA HISTORY on Facebook, shares his incredible knowledge of history with more than 34,000 members.

**Historic Preservation Award:**
**Amanda and Robert Kubiak,** owners of Enlisted Coffee Company in Waterford, were recognized for their restoration of the historic 1823 building that served as a Civil War recruitment office for the 83rd Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry.

**Public History Award:**
The **Fort LeBoeuf Historical Society** was the big winner for its outstanding efforts to preserve the historic Eagle Hotel in Waterford. Built in 1826, the Eagle Hotel is an important part of Waterford's history and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1977.

***Did you know you can rent the White House for events? Three weddings are scheduled for 2027! Visit erieweddings.net for more information.***

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**YOU'RE INVITED TO VICTORIAN HOLIDAYS!**

You'll see dozens of decorated trees and incredible holiday decor on our beautifully decorated West 6th Street campus from mid-November through January 10.

Thanks to our sponsor, **Erie Federal Credit Union**, we can offer free admission for History Center and Erie Federal Credit Union members and reduced admission for nonmembers.

**Hours**
Friday & Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday: Noon to 5 p.m.

**Entertainment**
Saturday: Misery Bay Dulcimers, Noon to 1 p.m.
Sunday: Erie Day School Chorus, Noon to 1 p.m.

***Don't miss the train exhibit on the 3rd floor of the Mansion!***

**Admission**
FREE for History Center & Erie Federal Credit Union members
Nonmembers: $10 per person
Children 6 & under: Free