

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Cumberland County Historical Society Celebrates America250 with Special Exhibition**

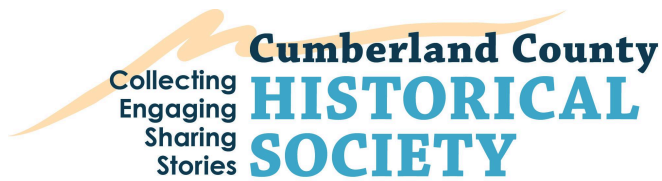
**CARLISLE, PA**—While the United States commemorates the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the Cumberland County Historical Society (CCHS) is bringing this milestone home by connecting the spirit of 1776 with local stories and figures.

This year, the Museum of Cumberland County History at CCHS will host multiple [America250](#) special exhibits that highlight local history in the context of the last two and a half centuries and the American Revolution. Three of these exhibits will open on Friday, April 10th during an evening reception and remain on display through the end of the year.

The exhibits opening in April are titled *Well Actually... Myths, Histories & Stories of Cumberland County Figures*; *Protest & Resistance in Cumberland County*; and *Material Curiosity: Interpreting America at 250*.

*Well Actually... Myths, Histories & Stories of Cumberland County Figures* will dispel some of the myths surrounding significant people from Cumberland County's history. Over time, stories are often polished, embellished, or entirely rewritten. Since the American Revolution (and before), Cumberland County's historic residents have been given the same treatment. From the very well known Molly Pitcher to the sometimes forgotten Butcher Family, Cumberland County abounds with interesting pieces of the past. This exhibit will be on display in the front half of the 1st-Floor Miller Gallery.

*Protest & Resistance in Cumberland County* will explore how the people of Cumberland County have stood up and voiced their opinions on local, state, and national issues. This exhibit connects the revolutionary feeling of 1776 to Cumberland County's 275-year tradition of shaping the American story by exploring the complex local history of protest and resistance and demonstrating how national movements and local activism influence each other. Visitors will learn about different protests and movements connected to the local area while taking in



protest-related photographs, art, and ephemera. This exhibit will be on display in the back half of the 1st-Floor Miller Gallery.

For two and a half centuries, Americans have created, used, saved, and passed down the material evidence of their lives. Together, they help us understand how the United States has grown and struggled over time. The third exhibit, *Material Curiosity: Interpreting America at 250* will create a “cabinet of curiosities” bringing together objects that will encourage visitors to ask: What can objects tell us about a nation at 250 years? Why was this made? Who used it? Who chose to preserve it? Whose stories were left out? This exhibit will be on display in the museum’s 2nd-Floor Kramer Gallery.

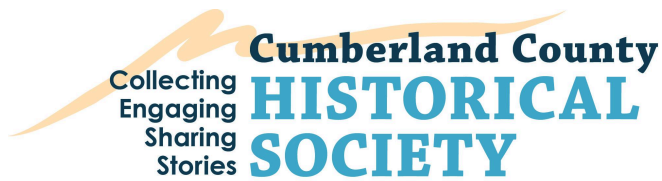
In addition to the celebration of America250, Carlisle is also celebrating an important anniversary. Carlisle is turning 275—and you’re invited to take a walk through time as you explore a special photo exhibit. *Sidewalks Through the Centuries* showcases side-by-side historic and modern images taken from the same vantage points, highlighting the evolution of our town over nearly three centuries. This exhibit will also be on display during the exhibit opening.

CCHS members and the public are invited to celebrate the opening of these exhibits on Friday, April 10, 2026. Carlisle Area Chamber of Commerce will hold a ribbon cutting ceremony at 4:30 p.m. followed by the Opening Reception, from 5–7 p.m., in CCHS’s Todd Hall. The event will include exclusive early access to America250 exhibits, interactions with staff, food, drink, and a welcoming community atmosphere. Thanks to the generous support of Julie and Justin Germany, the reception is free for everyone to attend. RSVPs are encouraged and can be made on the CCHS website registration page: [CCHS 250 Exhibit Opening Reception - Cumberland County Historical Society](#).

### **Contact Information**

Questions regarding the exhibits or the reception can be directed to CCHS Museum Director, Sydney Ernst, at [sernst@historicalsociety.com](mailto:sernst@historicalsociety.com) or (717) 249-7610 x115.

The Museum of Cumberland County History is located at the Cumberland County Historical Society at 21 N. Pitt Street, Carlisle, PA 17013. The museum is open Tuesdays-Fridays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Admission is based on a Pay What You Can



model. More information can be found at [www.historicalsociety.com](http://www.historicalsociety.com). For general inquiries, please contact [info@historicalsociety.com](mailto:info@historicalsociety.com) or (717) 249-7610.

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### **About Cumberland County Historical Society**

For 150 years, Cumberland County Historical Society (CCHS) has collected and shared the history of Cumberland County. Through education outreach, exhibitions, and public programming, CCHS engages the public by sharing the U.S.'s diverse history through the County's history. To learn more about CCHS and upcoming programming, visit [www.historicalsociety.com](http://www.historicalsociety.com).