

THE LEGACY

NEWS from THE M.S. HERSHEY FOUNDATION | SPRING/SUMMER 2022 | ISSUE 33

Meet the Domestic Staff Who Worked for Mr. & Mrs. Hershey

The Second Article in a Series

By Valerie Seiber, Senior Manager, Historical Collections and Exhibitions

Milton and Catherine “Kitty” Hershey moved into their home, High Point, in 1908. The home, although modest compared to other wealthy industrialists, contained 22 rooms, 26,000 square feet of living space and elaborate gardens. Due to their social standing and expectations of the time, Mr. and Mrs. Hershey did not perform day-to-day meal preparations, cleaning and maintenance of their home. The Hersheys hired several people to do these tasks for them during the years that High Point was used as a private residence. This is the second article in a series to highlight these key people.

One of the essential positions in Milton and Catherine Hershey’s new home was the butler. They hired Joseph Wells, a young Black man from Prince George’s County, Maryland for the role. It was common practice for wealthy families in the early 20th century to employ people of color as domestic staff.

It’s unknown how the Hersheys met Joseph. Ruth Hershey Beddoe, who was Catherine Hershey’s traveling companion, believed that Miss Young, the cook and housekeeper, brought him to High Point. However, the former houseman, Clayton Lehman, thought that Joseph was hired at the same time as Bertha Candoni. Catherine Hershey hired Mrs. Candoni as a lady’s maid around 1911. After Kitty’s death in 1915, Mrs. Candoni became the housekeeper until her retirement in 1930.

Documentary evidence of Joseph’s life is difficult to find. Generally, Black individuals are not well represented in historical records. Searching birth and death records, census records and newspapers provides fragmented



Dining room at High Point Mansion, ca. 1911-1930



Joseph F. Wells at High Point Gardens, 1915

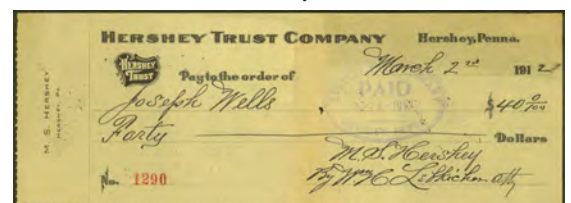
information that must be pieced together.

According to the 1900 U.S. Census, Joseph was born in March 1889 in Maryland. His parents, Baptist and Sophia, had been married for 20 years and had ten children; however, only five survived: Joseph F., John A., Maggie, Thomas H., and Sarah. The Wells family lived in Bowie, Prince George’s County, Maryland. At the time, Bowie was a growing community situated between Baltimore and Washington, D.C. with an active railroad industry. Bowie was also a community with a large, thriving Black population.

Prior to the Civil War, Prince George’s County and its southern neighbor, Charles County, recorded the highest number of enslaved individuals, 12,479 and 9,653, respectively, many of whom were working on tobacco plantations. Emancipation brought freedom for these individuals and many settled in Bowie. It’s likely that Joseph’s father, Baptist, was one such individual. Looking at census records, Baptist’s birth year varies widely between 1852 and 1861. While human error could account for the discrepancies, it’s more likely that he was born into slavery and as such, no evidence of his birth was

recorded. (Imagine for a moment not knowing your own birth year and thus your actual age.) Census records also show that Baptist was working as a farm laborer in 1870 and 1880 in Charles County, Maryland. Once he and Sophia settled in Bowie, Baptist worked for the railroad industry and saved enough money to purchase a house — a dream that remained out of reach for many free Black people after the Civil War.

In 1910, Joseph was living in a boarding house while working at High Point. The boarding house, owned by Charles Hess on Spring Creek Lane, was a short walk to the mansion. Interestingly, another boarder was Ezra F. Hershey, Milton Hershey’s cousin. Ezra would eventually become vice president of Hershey Trust Company and treasurer of Hershey Chocolate Company. The following year, Joseph is listed as living at High Point in the town’s directory.



Paycheck for Joseph Wells, 1912

Joseph’s responsibilities at High Point were varied. As butler, he maintained the crystal glassware, china tableware, silver utensils and

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Meet the Domestic Staff... *continued from page 1*

servingware in the pantry. He also waited on the Hersheys during their meals. He probably also served as Mr. Hershey's valet, maintaining his wardrobe and polishing his shoes. It doesn't appear that Joseph accompanied the Hersheys on their many travels in the United States or abroad. Additionally, Joseph tended to the Hersheys' dog, a bull terrier, and was seen walking it around town as he did his errands. For his services, Joseph was paid \$40 per month. That's quite good considering a man working in the roasting department at the chocolate factory received an average wage of \$36 per month in 1911. In several oral histories in Hershey Community Archives' collection, people often described Joseph as "genial," and referred to him as "Little Joe" due to his short stature.

Florence Hambleton Pursell, Catherine Hershey's niece, recounted a story about Joseph during her visit to High Point as a young girl, "We had been fooling around in the garden with the bird bath. Joseph...came out and told us not to do it, we might tip it

over. We kept on and did tip it over. Joseph said he would tell Mr. Hershey. That night we were scared to death, but Mr. Hershey never said a word about it."

Joseph's life at High Point wasn't all work and no play. It seems that Joseph was also an artist. An article in the *Hershey Press* describes the opening of the new department store in April 1912. It mentions that, "... drawings by Joseph Wells and the scroll work of Aaron Slessor... were arranged in a show case near the annex entrance." The social section of the newspaper also reports that Joseph traveled to Bowie, Maryland to visit his mother on several occasions. These trips correspond to dates that the Hersheys were traveling in New York, London, Germany and Egypt.

Joseph must have gotten along well with his employer. Ruth Hershey Beddoe mentioned in an oral history that when Catherine Hershey was traveling without her husband, that Milton, William Henry "Lebbie" Lebkicher and Joseph would often gather near the butler's pantry to socialize. Further evidence is a check dated December 21, 1914. Joseph received a Christmas bonus of \$85 — twice his normal monthly pay!

As Catherine Hershey's health declined, she began using a wheelchair. However, when architect C. Emlen Urban designed High Point, there was no elevator. Negotiating the stairs in the mansion became exceedingly difficult for Mrs. Hershey. The task of assisting her with her wheelchair became Joseph's responsibility. One of the places that Catherine sought refuge was in the gardens at High Point. A raised platform in a large oak tree, nicknamed "the bird's nest," was constructed for her. Now you may be thinking, how is a woman who uses a wheelchair going to get into a



Exterior of High Point Mansion, view from Chocolate Avenue, ca. 1910-1915

treehouse? Joseph was the answer! According to Clayton Lehman, there were shallow steps spiraling around the tree trunk. Joseph was able to pull Catherine's wheelchair up the steps so that she could enjoy the peaceful shade provided by the tree's boughs.

After Mrs. Hershey's passing in March 1915, Joseph continued working at the mansion until November. The reason why Joseph left High Point is unknown. Perhaps he sought new opportunities since Mr. Hershey supplied him with the following letter of recommendation.

To whom it may concern:--

Joseph F. Wells has been in my employ as butler and servant in my house for seven years last past. During that period I have found him industrious, attentive to his duties, honest, faithful, and without any bad habits.

*Yours truly,
M.S. Hershey*

Joseph's trail in the historical records ends with the 1920 U.S. Census. He was living with his family in Bowie, Maryland and working as a laborer at "Camp Meade," known as Fort Meade today. He remained unmarried at age 31 but attended school along with his 27-year-old brother, Andrew. Perhaps Joseph was attending college or maybe art school. Research is ongoing to determine what became of him.



Catherine Hershey's nieces, Florence Hambleton (L) and Mabel Smith (R) at High Point, ca. 1915-1920

BOOK A FASCINATING HISTORIC TOUR!



Join us for a rare opportunity to tour High Point Mansion, the home of Milton and Catherine Hershey.

Experience its historic grandeur, from the graceful rounded entry hall to the octagonal breakfast room. Admire many original furnishings and hear stories of how Mr. and Mrs. Hershey lived and entertained in their gracious home.

[Buy High Point Tour Tickets](#)

“Lisa’s Cafe on Chocolate” Comes to The Hershey Story Museum

Long-time Palmyra Restaurant Opens Second Location

Last January, local residents were thrilled at the news that Lisa’s Café, a popular Palmyra restaurant, was opening a second location at The Hershey Story Museum.



Lisa’s Cafe is open daily for breakfast and lunch. Outdoor seating is also available. Photo: Dan Gleiter/PennLive

The new location, called Lisa’s Café on Chocolate, opened last January. It replaced the former Café aMusée, which closed in December.

“We opened with a soft opening in mid-January,” said Lisa Foust, owner. “But a few days later, after word got out, we were buzzing with locals. We’ve had a lot of our regulars come in, but we’ve seen a lot of new faces as well.”

The breakfast and lunch menu is a mix of favorites, including breakfast sandwiches, baked oatmeal and Belgian waffles, as well as Reubens, paninis, subs and salads. Guests can also choose from a large selection of

daily specials, including a quiche, omelet, flatbread, soup, sandwich, wrap, salad and coffee.

La Colombe coffee and an assortment of coffee beverages are also available, including La Colombe’s on-tap draft latte, cold brew and Black & Tan.

Lisa’s Café on Chocolate is open daily from

8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The café also offers takeout; orders can be placed by calling 717.508.1729.

COFFEE BY



Belgian Waffle. Photo: Dan Gleiter/PennLive



La Colombe Cold Brew Coffee. Photo: Dan Gleiter/PennLive

Summer is Sweet in the Chocolate Lab

Bring the whole family to the Chocolate Lab this summer for a fun, hands-on (and delicious) experience! Learn the secrets behind the world’s most popular confection as you create your own unique treat, and discover how cocoa beans are grown, harvested and processed to become chocolate.

This summer’s classes include:

The Art of Chocolate

Whether it’s milk, white or dark, making chocolate is a work of art!



S’mores Galore

Have some summer fun as you make your own sweet variation of S’mores, without the fire, of course!



Planet Chocolate

Learn some delicious geography by finding out more about the many places around the globe where cocoa beans are grown. Then make your own unique bar to take home!

Daily 45-minute classes are available for adults and children ages 5 and older. Tickets are available at The Hershey Story admissions desk on the day of your visit on a first-come, first-served basis. Space is limited. [Click here](#) for more information and daily class schedules.

THE HERSHEY STORY HAPPENINGS

Moms Receive Free Admission on Mother's Day

Sunday, May 8
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.



Moms receive free admission to the Museum Experience and special exhibit on Mother's Day!



Dads Receive Free Admission on Father's Day

Sunday, June 19
9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Dads receive free admission to the Museum Experience and special exhibit on Father's Day!

Preschool Story Time with Miss Susan

Wednesdays, September 7, 14, 21 & 28
9:15 – 10 a.m.

Preschoolers will enjoy exploring themes through captivating stories, pictures and artifacts. Each week will feature a different topic and include a simple craft. Recommended for children ages 3 through 5 accompanied by a caregiver. This program is free and will take place in the lower level classroom. Registration is not required.



Milton Hershey Birthday Celebration at ChocolateTown Square (located at Chocolate and Cocoa Avenues)

Tuesday, September 13
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Join the Hershey community on what would have been Milton Hershey's 165th birthday. Bring your lawn chair or blanket and enjoy a performance of music reminiscent of Mr. Hershey's era by the Tunesters of Central Pennsylvania. The concert concludes with a sweet treat for all attendees. In case of inclement weather, the celebration will be held in the Grand Lobby of The Hershey Story. *ChocolateTown Square is located at the intersection of Cocoa and Chocolate Avenues in downtown Hershey.*



BRING YOUR GROUP FOR A SUMMER CAMP FIELD TRIP!



Program offered June 6 through August 19
For Pre-K through Grade 8
\$11 per camper

Join us for a Special Hands-on Program!

Offered In-Person, Virtual and Outreach - We Come to You!

A factory in a cornfield? Come discover how transportation played a key role in Milton Hershey's decision to build his factory and town in rural Pennsylvania. Using items from the museum's collections, campers will participate in hands-on activities to learn about the unique vehicles used in Hershey, and how they changed over time. Plus, they will make their own edible Hershey's chocolate "vehicle" to take home!

[Learn more and register here.](#)



MUSEUM SEEKS YOUTH VOLUNTEERS

Do you know a student aged 12 to 16 who enjoys Hershey history and working with others? Invite them to apply to The Hershey Story's Past Master program! These youth volunteers provide interactive activities for museum guests, primarily during the summer months.

Interested students should apply at [HersheyStory.org](https://www.hersheystory.org). The application deadline is June 1, 2022. Email Susan Hetrick at smhetrick@hersheystory.org or call 717.520.5587 with questions.



Hershey Gardens Celebrates 85 Years!

A Look Back at Mr. Hershey's Creation of Hershey Rose Garden

Landscaping and horticultural beauty were always a priority for Milton and Catherine Hershey. Mr. Hershey believed in giving his people a beautiful place to live, and was very fond of flowers and plants.

In 1935, Harrisburg publisher J. Horace McFarland, a nationally known leader in the "City Beautiful" movement and active in the American Rose Society, invited Milton Hershey to visit the acclaimed rose garden at his home in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. In July 1935, McFarland wrote to his Hershey contact:

"I have a desire to get Mr. Hershey to see the advantage of a rose garden. He does things in such a magnificent way and so clearly operates for human welfare that I believe he would be impressed with the possibilities afforded only by the rose for advancing human welfare."

"I could see a great rose garden in Hershey which would increase the attractions of that marvelous place, but there is a peculiar opportunity open right now, not yet offered to any man of means, to do something at Washington which would give international renown."

The following April, McFarland wrote again, advocating that Mr. Hershey consider "the establishment of a public rose garden" in Hershey. McFarland also urged Mr. Hershey to support the establishment of a "National Rosarium close to Washington." He suggested that the two men meet to discuss these proposals.

Mr. Hershey immediately replied to McFarland's letter and indicated his interest in the idea of a rose garden. The two men agreed to meet in Hershey during the Pennsylvania State Federation of Garden Clubs' annual meeting in April.

Harry Erdman, responsible for all things horticultural in Hershey, related what happened next in a 1955 oral history interview. According to Erdman, Milton Hershey had been considering expanding a small rose garden at his home, High Point, for some time. Erdman had suggested that a garden could be developed on land just south of the Hotel Hershey. Horace McFarland's enthusiasm for planting a rose garden in Hershey coincided nicely with an idea that was already being considered.

McFarland invited Milton Hershey to be his guest at the April 29th Garden Federation dinner that evening. As the dinner's keynote speaker, McFarland used his speech to publicly ask Mr. Hershey for a financial contribution towards a National Rose Garden in Washington, D.C. According to Erdman, Mr. Hershey's reply was:



During 1937, more than 200,000 people visited the Hershey Rose Garden. There were more than 12,000 rose bushes consisting of 450 varieties on display.



Today, more than 3,000 rose bushes of 175 varieties provide an assortment of colors, heights and flower forms. The layout of the Historic Rose Garden has changed little since the beds were first planted in 1937.

"Well, we have been planning a garden of our own; and, before we give that amount of money for the politicians to play with, we better spend some of it at our own place and see what interest people take in it."



Harry Erdman (pictured), Milton Hershey's horticulturalist, suggested that a plot of land located just south of The Hotel Hershey would be an ideal location for the Hershey Rose Garden. 1937

Building the Rose Garden: 1936-1940

Erdman learned this story the next day when Milton Hershey called him to a meeting at High Point. Having made up his mind about planting a rose garden, Mr. Hershey directed Erdman to stake out the new garden. Several days later, Erdman took Milton Hershey to the site, and Mr. Hershey immediately agreed that the rose garden project should move ahead. In June 1936, plans were drawn, and during the summer, the plot was graded and a small manmade pond was formed out of an erosion gully created during the Hotel Hershey's construction. Gardeners planted the first rose bushes in November 1936.

Most of the roses came from Conard-Pyle Company's Star Rose collection. More than 12,000 rose bushes of 450 varieties were planted. Hershey Rose Garden opened to the public in June 1937, with more than 5,000 visitors the first week. The Rose Garden had more than 200,000 visitors in its first season.

As a result of its popularity, Hershey Rose Garden expanded over the next few years with

additional sections being planted in 1937, 1939 and 1941. Milton Hershey delighted in the garden's popularity and visited often. The peace and beauty of the gardens gave him great pleasure and he enjoyed seeing the many people who visited the gardens.

Expanding the Rose Garden: 1941-1946

In early 1941, Milton Hershey was considering how to develop the land just east of the Rose Garden. He invited Harry Erdman, along with some engineers, real estate developers and farmers, to the site to discuss what to do with the land. After 20 minutes of heated discussion, everyone agreed that the land was unsuitable for farming or a housing development.

Mr. Hershey then turned to Erdman and said, "All right, Erdman. Go ahead, make a garden out of it. We'll make an awful lot of other people happy."

When Erdman asked Mr. Hershey if he wanted to see a plan or cost estimates Mr. Hershey replied, "No, go ahead. If it gets too big, I'll stop you. Make it look as good as the Rose Garden does, and everything will be all right."

During the next few years, Erdman supervised the planting of thousands of trees, shrubs, evergreens, perennials and annuals. In 1942, Erdman introduced beds of spring bulbs, including 30 varieties of daffodils and 45 varieties of tulips.

This final expansion increased the garden to 23 acres. What's now known as Hershey Gardens was born.



The 'America' climbing rose grows beside a brick path that leads visitors into the center of the Historic Rose Garden. The path follows the perimeter of Swan Lake, a beautiful focal point of the Gardens.

The Butterfly Atrium's Newest Creatures Are "UnFROGettable"

Two Frog Varieties Create a Fun and Interesting Display for Guests

A "ribbeting" new display of red-eyed tree frogs and "bird poop" frogs are on exhibit in the Butterfly Atrium. "A very kind donor generously gave us four iconic tree frogs in early April," said Jody Davey, Conservatory Manager. "The donor also contributed a vivarium habitat for the frogs."

Red-eyed tree frogs (*Agalychnis callidryas*) are native to the tropical lowland forests of southern Mexico and Central America. "They are nocturnal and spend their days clinging to the underside of leaves or trunks and branches of trees, red eyes closed, blending in with their surroundings," said Davey. "They eat insects and will even sometimes take a small frog as prey."

"They are excellent climbers, with suction cup-like toes that allow them to cling to vertical surfaces," added Davey. "Red-eyed tree frogs thrive in warm, moist environments and feel right at home in the tropical moist heat of the Butterfly Atrium."



Marbled tree frog

Also new to the Atrium are three **marbled tree frogs** (*Dendropsophus marmoratus*), also known as "bird poop" frogs.

"These frogs have evolved to closely resemble bird droppings on a leaf, not only in their brown, tan and white coloration, but in the mounded posture they assume when sleeping," said Davey. "They are nocturnal, so they rest during daylight hours, relying on their uncanny resemblance to bird droppings to protect them from predation."

"Native to South America, these small frogs are less than 2 inches long, with females being slightly larger than males," said Davey. "They eat a variety of small insects in the wild; we feed them small crickets."

"We are thrilled to have both these frogs at Hershey Gardens," smiled Davey. "Guests absolutely love them."



Red-eyed tree frog

Other Atrium Newcomers

"We have also welcomed a group of five juvenile **tailless whip scorpions** (*Phrynos whitei*)," said Davey. "These arachnids are members of the Order Amblypigi, which means 'blunt rump,' referring to their lack of a tail. They combine an interesting mix of animal characteristics, with a general spider-like appearance, sideways crab-like movement, and scorpion-like pedipalps or pincers."

"In the wild, tailless whip scorpions can be found throughout the rainforests of the world, with this species specifically found in Nicaragua," said Davey. "Their flat profile allows them to hide in cracks and crevices, as well as under rocks."

"These creatures are nocturnal and will hunt insects, reptiles and other small animals appropriate to their size," added Davey. "The leg span of most types of adult tailless whip scorpions can range from 4 to 10 inches."

"Our scorpions are being successfully housed together with no observed aggression, as long as they are given plenty of prey," said Davey. "We feed them a diet of small crickets, with an occasional baby cockroach or mealworm."



Leopard gecko

The next newbie in the Butterfly Atrium is a young **leopard gecko** (*Eublepharis macularius*).

"The gecko is a nocturnal desert lizard that is native to rocky, arid regions in the Middle East," said Davey. "As the name suggests, leopard geckos have dark spotting patterns on their dorsal sides."

"They are very common as pets, and they come in many beautiful color morphs," said

Davey. "Our gecko is a 'tangerine jungle', with bright orange patches and a lavender tail. It is quite endearing as well, as it has a perpetually smiling mouthline."

"Its thick, bulky tail is used to store fat, but it can drop its tail as a defense response against predators," said Davey. "The tail

will grow back, but it won't be as long or have the same shape as the original tail."

"Geckos eat a variety of insects in the wild," said Davey. "We feed it crickets and mealworms."

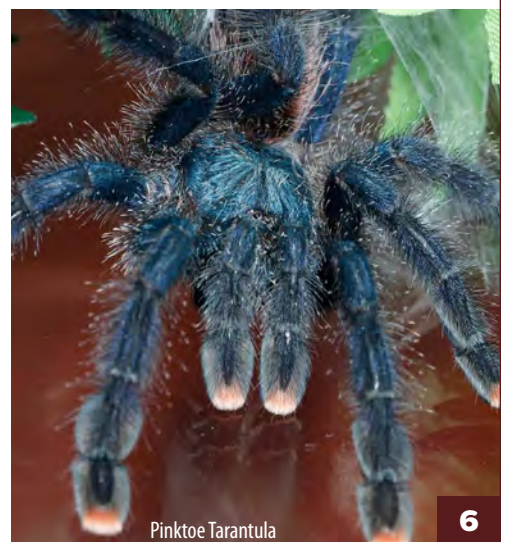
"Although our gecko is small, it should grow to 7 to 10 inches; with males being larger than females," said Davey. "Ours is too young for us to know its gender quite yet, but we should know in about six months."

And last, but not least, is the Atrium's latest arachnid acquisition, "Pinky," which is a juvenile metallic **pinktoe tarantula** (*Avicularia avicularia*).

"She is a very colorful spider, with metallic blue and green highlights overlaid on velvet black, and of course, her trademark pink 'toes'," said Davey. "Pinktoe tarantulas are endemic to the rainforests of northern South America, and are arboreal, meaning that they live in trees, where they spin web hammock homes among the branches."

"In the wild, pinktoe tarantulas prey on insects and small reptiles; Pinky's diet consists of dubia roaches, superworms and the occasional cricket," Davey added.

"She is fairly easy to spot in her enclosure – most days Pinky can be found clinging to the glass of her tank or reclining on a branch or piece of bark, in full view of guests," said Davey. "She joins Rosie, a Chilean rose hair tarantula and Scarlet, a Mexican red rump tarantula."



Pinktoe Tarantula



Two Popular Landscape Plants Now Classified as Noxious Weeds

by Lois Miklas, Retired Educator, The M.S. Hershey Foundation
and Penn State Extension Area Master Gardener Coordinator

In fall 2021, two popular landscape plants were added to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's list of noxious weeds: Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*) and Callery, or 'Bradford', pear (*Pyrus calleryana*). According to Pennsylvania law, a noxious weed is "a plant that is determined to be injurious to public health, crops, livestock, agricultural land or other property." Most plants on the noxious weed list are recognized nuisances (for example, Canada thistle, poison hemlock and stiltgrass). However, Japanese barberry and Callery pear trees have long been promoted for residential and commercial landscaping. Their placement of the noxious weed list includes a phased plan for making their propagation and sale in Pennsylvania illegal.

Why is Japanese barberry a problem?

Known for its dark red foliage and deer resistance (due to thorns), this seemingly well-behaved shrub forms dense thickets in natural areas, crowding out diverse ecosystems of native plants. Japanese barberry has berries that many people do not even notice. Birds eat these berries and then disperse them in meadows, pastures and woods. Japanese barberry also spreads when its branches touch the ground and root. Some research indicates that Japanese barberry



Japanese barberry (*Berberis thunbergii*)

harbors the black-legged tick, a major source of Lyme disease.

Why are Callery pear trees a problem?

The Callery pear was developed as a street tree in the mid-20th century; landscapers and residents embraced the trees' flush of white blossoms in spring, rounded canopy, and attractive fall color. Despite their pleasant appearance, they have proved to be very susceptible to wind damage. Like Japanese barberry, Callery pear trees originated in Asia and have escaped cultivation in North America, aggressively taking over natural areas. Birds and small mammals consume the small, hard pears—incredible to humans—and distribute the seeds. The trees also spread through a shallow root system.

What can residents do?

By fall of 2022, it will become increasingly difficult to purchase Japanese barberry or Callery pear trees in Pennsylvania. At this time residents are encouraged, but not required, to remove existing plants. Though sterile cultivars of Japanese barberry may be available soon, Master Gardeners recommend that residents choose native plants as replacements or additions to the landscape.



Callery pear (*Pyrus calleryana*)

Native plants to replace Japanese barberry

Ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius*) has burgundy foliage and peeling bark that adds winter interest.

Smooth hydrangea (*Hydrangea arborescens*) is a native version of the popular shrub.

Virginia sweetspire (*Itea virginica*) sports cylindrical, aromatic spring blossoms and lovely fall color.

Inkberry (*Ilex glabra*) is a broadleaved evergreen in the holly family that has a hedge-like quality similar to Japanese barberry.

Native, spring-blooming, replacements for Callery pear

Serviceberry (*Amelanchier canadensis*) has lovely, white spring blossoms and berries attractive to birds.

Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) is known for its purple spring flowers; white cultivars are also available.

Crabapple (*Malus, spp.*) Though both native and exotic varieties of crabapples are available, according to Doug Tallamy in "Bringing Nature Home", natural hybridization has helped make most crabapples friendly to native wildlife.

For more native plant suggestions and advice on removing invasives, please reach out to your county Garden Hotline. See the [Penn State Master Gardener Program webpage](#) for a directory.

Have a Home Gardening Question? Penn State Extension Master Gardeners Are Here To Help!

Coleus got you confused? Philodendron got you perplexed? Call the Penn State Extension Garden Hotline! This free service is for Dauphin County residents who have gardening questions and concerns. (If you do not live in Dauphin County, we can refer you to your county's hotline.) Queries can also be emailed. Please include images if possible.



PennState Extension

Hours:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
March through October

Contact Information:

Phone: 717-921-8803
Email: dauphinmg@psu.edu

Location:

Dauphin County Agriculture & Natural Resources Center
1451 Peters Mountain Road
Dauphin, PA 17018-9504

[Click here for more information to report
or manage Spotted Lanternfly](#)



MILTON HERSHEY SCHOOL Project Market



All are welcome to shop inside the student-run MHS Project Market! Our regular hours are listed below and our once a month Saturday events are posted on our Facebook page. Like us on Facebook for updates!

Plant Sale at the Project Market
Saturday, May 7, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Market Hours till June 2
Wednesday & Thursday, 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Market Hours Starting June 28
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Thursday, 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.



Like us on Facebook @MHSProjectMarket
MHSPROJECTMARKET.SQUARE.SITE
260 Ivanhoe Lane, Hershey, PA

Have you Considered a Rain Barrel?

By Joan Brandt, Dauphin County Penn State Extension Master Gardeners



If you are like most homeowners, 30 percent of your water bill goes to pay for water use outdoors. Do you see an increase in your water and sewer bills each summer? Put in a rain barrel, minimize those costly spikes and receive a credit toward your “stormwater assessments.”

The Penn State Extension Master Gardeners have installed a rain barrel at the Schaffner Park Demonstration Garden. A rain barrel collects rain from your roof

via your home’s system of gutters and downspouts. The water can then be used to water your lawn and garden. Rainwater contains nutrients and minerals your garden will love. It is free of the chemicals and salts often added to drinking water. Rain barrels can help control moisture around your house foundation, preventing damage to your crawl space or basement. Rain barrels also reduce stress on our overloaded municipal stormwater systems and protect our ponds and streams by reducing runoff pollution. I purchased a rain barrel for my home; I found a large selection online to pick from. Some of them are quite aesthetic and have features such as planting areas for flowers. You can also repurpose a food-grade barrel by purchasing a rain barrel conversion kit. These food-grade barrels can be painted to match your house or decorated by your family to create a unique piece of yard art. Many local municipalities sponsor rain barrel workshops, where attendees receive training and a free barrel.

As an avid gardener, my rain barrel seldom

remains full for long. The day after a good rain, I use the water it collects to water containers and recent transplants.

If you are not a gardener but would like to install a rain barrel to help the environment or to receive the stormwater credit, there are other good uses for the water you collect. You can wash your car, outside furniture or sports equipment. The water is also great for washing muddy pet paws. You can simply connect a hose to the threaded spigot of the rain barrel and run the water onto the center of your lawn, where the earth will filter the water, returning cleaner water to our creeks and streams.

For information about upcoming rain barrel workshops, please contact Matt Willard at the Dauphin County Conservation District at 717.921.8100 or visit their website [here](#).

See Hershey Gardens' Rain Barrel!

Special thanks to the Derry Township Municipal Authority, who recently provided a rain barrel to Hershey Gardens. It was installed inside the Hoop House in the Children’s Garden. All water collected will be used to water plants in the Hoop House and Many Hands Learning Garden.

CONSERVATORY SPECIMEN PLANT SPOTLIGHT

Several Donated Plants Continue to Thrive

Over the past year, Hershey Gardens has been fortunate to receive several beautiful specimen plants. “Although Longwood Gardens donated dozens of plants last year, we’ve also had several donations from private individuals,” said Jody Davey, Conservatory Manager. “Many of these have been placed in public display areas, while others are in quarantine or being nurtured before being placed on exhibit.”

Here’s a look at a few of these newcomers:



Clivia (*Clivia miniata*)

Enticing a clivia plant to bloom is notoriously tricky, involving a dry and cold period in the fall, and then sudden watering, feeding and optimal lighting conditions in January, with blooms soon following,” said Davey. “Some of our donated clivia plants are displayed in pots in the Conservatory, and these were easily given a cool, dry period last fall. We then moved them to a space that remained a consistent 50 to 60 degrees Fahrenheit and discontinued watering. When we brought them back to the Conservatory, we watered and fed them, then placed the plants in bright light – and we were rewarded with clusters of beautiful orange blooms!”

Some clivia plants have also been added to the Butterfly Atrium. “The conditions in the Atrium are not optimal for blooming, since it is impossible to give them the proper cold period. So, we simply didn’t water them from October through December, and resumed watering and feeding the plants in January,” said Davey. “Fortunately, this was enough to stimulate these plants to bloom.”



Split Leaf Philodendron (*Thaumatococcus bipinnatifidum*)

This split leaf philodendron began its life as a small potted houseplant 20 years ago. “It recently outgrew its enormous pot and was even too big to move inside after a summer of rapid growth on the donor’s patio,” said Davey. “This beautiful specimen now greets guests as they enter the Butterfly Atrium.”

Banana plants can get quite large and must do so to fruit. “This specimen will flower after six months, then produce fruit in months nine through twelve,” said Davey. “Each plant will only fruit once, and then should be cut back in order for new plants (called pups or suckers) to grow from the parent corm (rhizome) and produce new fruit.”

“Interestingly, clusters of bananas are called ‘hands’ and each banana is called a ‘finger,’” said Davey.



Banana (*Musa spp.*)

Healthy Steps
Walking Program
AT HERSHEY GARDENS



Get out, get healthy – and enjoy the beautiful views! Join Hershey Gardens’ Healthy Steps Program, which is designed for all levels of walkers.

Simply ask for your Walking Program punch card at your first visit. Bring it back every time you visit the Gardens to walk, and we’ll punch your card. **For every 10 walks, you’ll get a free pass to bring a friend to walk with you!**

Walkers can choose to pay per visit, or become a member. Memberships start at just \$50 for an individual.

Plus, as a **member**, you’ll enjoy other benefits such as newsletters, discounts and an annual member reception.

Each lap around the Garden is approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ mile. Walkers can choose how far to walk each visit.

Happy walking!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

AMERICAN PUBLIC GARDENS ASSOCIATION

GO PUBLIC GARDENS

Join Us for Go Public Gardens Days!

Half-off Admission with Voucher

Friday, May 6 from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. only.

Celebrate public gardens by visiting Hershey Gardens – and save half off your admission with [this voucher](#). “Go Public Gardens” is an ongoing, evergreen association initiative to drive the public to visit, value, and volunteer at public gardens in their area and when they travel.

“Get Caught Reading” Book Club Picnic Week

Monday, May 9 through Friday, May 13

Are you a member of a book club? We want your club to “get caught reading” at Hershey Gardens! Book club members may bring a picnic lunch, and lawn chairs or a blanket to discuss your monthly book or “The Songs of Trees: Stories from Nature’s Great Connectors” by David George Haskell, the 2022 Longwood Gardens Community Read selection. Book club representatives are invited to call 717-508-5970 for more information and a special group rate.

Book Discussion: “The Songs of Trees”

Tuesday, May 10 at Noon and Friday May 13 at 10 a.m.

Join us for a book discussion of David George Haskell’s “The Songs of Trees: Stories from Nature’s Great Connectors,” the 2022 Longwood Gardens Community Read selection. Discussion will be held on the Garden Cottage patio. Light refreshments provided. Included with admission; members are free. Please RSVP to Vera Kolstrom at 717-508-5970.

Community Read is organized by Longwood Gardens and many community partners, including public libraries, museums, gardens and conservation organizations.

Moms are Free on Mother’s Day Weekend!

Saturday, May 7 and Sunday, May 8 from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Celebrate Mom at Hershey Gardens! On Sunday only, stop by the Education Center in The Children’s Garden for a rhododendron and azalea display, “The Joy of Eastern Rhododendrons,” provided by the Mason-Dixon Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society.

Annual Iris Show by the Susquehanna Iris Society

Saturday, May 28 from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

The Susquehanna Iris Society is proud to showcase its annual show in the Garden Cottage at Hershey Gardens. A rainbow of irises will be on exhibit for judging and awards; see a selection of tall, intermediate and miniature-tall bearded varieties.

Representatives will be available to provide additional information and answer questions. Included in admission; free for members.



Dads are Free on Father’s Day!

Sunday, June 19 from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Gretna Theatre Performs “Go, Dog, Go!”

Sunday, August 7 at 1 and 3 p.m.

P.D. Eastman’s classic children’s book comes to life on stage in an exploration of movement, color and space. The dogs delve into life with gusto, creating a visual spectacle for the audience to feast upon. They snorkel. They howl at the moon. They ride a ferris wheel. They sing and dance and climb trees. This is a rollicking free-for-all of chicanine-ery. A big and little musical world of doggy fun. Like a pop-up book that comes to life – and never stops. Included in admission; free for members. Performance will be in The Children’s Garden Amphitheater. Rain location: Conservatory Tent Pad



Hershey Area Art Association Show & Sale

Friday, September 2 through Sunday, September 4 from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

See fabulous works of art by members of the Hershey Area Art Association in the Milton & Catherine Hershey Conservatory. Included in admission; free for members.



Music in the Gardens

Friday, June 3 and Friday, July 1 from 6 – 8 p.m.

Back by popular demand - join us for two evenings of beautiful music in the Gardens! Guests are invited to bring their own beverages and snacks, as well as chairs or a blanket. Please note: The Butterfly Atrium will be closed. Included in admission, free for members.



Penn State Health



PNC



Hershey Trust Company

HERSHEY
THE HERSHEY COMPANY

HIGHMARK.



Robert & Linda Pugliese



Bug-O-Rama

Sunday, September 11 from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Explore the world of bugs in this family-friendly hands-on day! Come for amazing displays of unique live insects from around the world and participate in a variety of fun bug activities. Included in admission; free for members.

“Discover Your World” Education Program

Hosted by Manada Conservancy

Thursday, September 15 from 7 - 8 p.m.

Diane Husic, professor of biology at Moravian College and climate change researcher, will discuss how citizen science, phenology (the study of cyclic and seasonal natural phenomena), and place-based learning impact our understanding of the world around us. [Free; learn more here.](#)



The Annual Penn-Jersey District

Rose Show: “Roses and Chocolate”

Saturday, September 17 from 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.

and Sunday, September 18 from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

See dozens of gorgeous rose varieties grown by members of the Penn-Jersey District of the American Rose Society. The display and judging will take place in the Milton & Catherine Hershey Conservatory. Rosarians will be in the Historic Rose Garden to answer questions about rose varieties and care. On Sunday, family activities, such as a “rose bud” tour for young guests, will be hosted by Hershey Gardens staff and volunteers. [Please click here for a full schedule of events.](#) Included in admission; free for members.

Member Reception

Thursday, September 29

from 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

Members, look for your invitation in the mail.

HERSHEY THEATRE

23 BROADWAY SERIES

Subscriptions Now Available! | Starting at \$155!

My Fair Lady

January 17-22, 2023

From Lincoln Center Theater and director

Bartlett Sher

comes Lerner & Loewe's

My Fair Lady,

"a sumptuous

new produc-

tion of the

most perfect

musical of

all time"

(*Entertain-*

ment Weekly).

Boasting

such classic

songs as "I

Could Have

Danced All Night,"

"The Rain in Spain,"

and "Wouldn't It Be Lovely,"

My Fair Lady

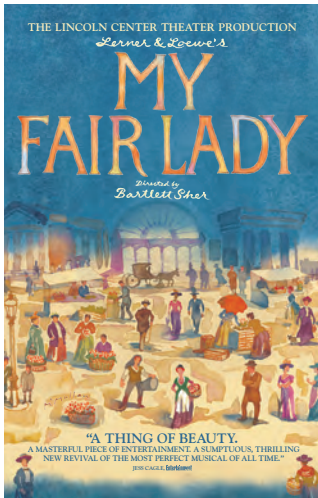
tells the story of Eliza Doolittle, a young

Cockney flower seller, and Henry Higgins,

a linguistics professor who is determined to

transform her into his idea of a "proper lady."

But who is really being transformed?



Album, this acclaimed new show from celebrated singer-songwriter Anais Mitchell and innovative director Rachel Chavkin is a love story for today... and always.

Intertwining two mythic tales — that of young dreamers Orpheus and Eurydice, and that of King Hades and his wife Persephone — *Hadestown* is a haunting and hopeful theatrical experience that grabs you and never lets go.

Six

June 13-18, 2023

From Tudor Queens to Pop Princesses, the six wives of Henry VIII take the mic to remix 500 years of historical heartbreak into an exuberant celebration of 21st-century girl power! This new original



musical is the global sensation that everyone is losing their head over. *The New York Times* says *Six* "Totally Rules" (Critic's Pick) and *The Washington Post* hails *SLX* as "Exactly the kind of energizing, inspirational illumination this town aches for! The Broadway season got supercharged!"

Come From Away

August 1-6, 2023

Broadway's *Come From Away* is a Best Musical winner all across North America!

This *New York Times* Critic's Pick takes you into the heart of the remarkable true story of 7,000 stranded passengers and the small town in Newfoundland that welcomed them. Cultures clashed and nerves ran high, but uneasiness turned into trust, music soared into

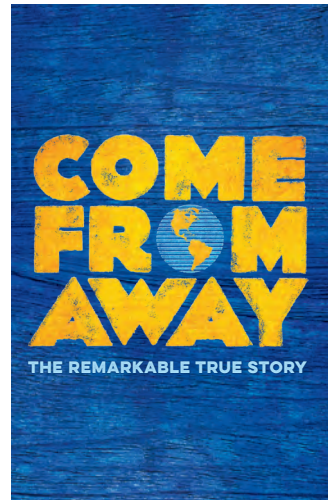
the night, and gratitude grew into enduring friendships.

Don't miss this breathtaking musical written by Tony® nominees Irene Sankoff and David Hein, and helmed by Tony-winning Best Director, Christopher Ashley.

Newsweek cheers, "It takes you to a place you never want to leave!"

On 9/11, the world stopped.

On 9/12, their stories moved us all.



Hadestown

April 4-9, 2023



Welcome to *Hadestown*, where a song can change your fate. Winner of eight 2019 Tony Awards® including Best Musical and the 2020 Grammy® Award for Best Musical Theater

OPTIONAL ATTRACTION

WINNER 9 TONY AWARDS INCLUDING BEST MUSICAL



The Book of Mormon

September 27 - October 2, 2022

This outrageous musical comedy follows the adventures of a mismatched pair of missionaries, sent halfway across the world to spread the Good Word.

With standing-room-only productions in London, on Broadway, and across North America, *THE BOOK OF MORMON* has truly become an international sensation. Contains explicit language.

For more information please visit HersheyTheatre.com



HERSHEY THEATRE

Apollo AWARDS



Sunday, May 22, 2022 at 7 p.m.

Celebrate the achievement of high school students in musical and play productions at the 14th annual Hershey Theatre Apollo Awards!

For tickets, visit HersheyTheatre.com



63 West Chocolate Avenue
Hershey, PA 17033 | 717.298.2200
MSHersheyFoundation.org

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2022 OPERATING HOURS



Now through June 17: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
June 18 through September 1: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
September 2 through December 31: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.*
(*December 24: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.)
*Closed on Thanksgiving and Christmas Day.



Now through May 27: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
May 28 through September 5: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
September 6 through December 31: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.*
(*December 24: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.)
*Closed on Thanksgiving and Christmas Day.

HERSHEY COMMUNITY ARCHIVES DIGITIZES VITAL HERSHEY HISTORY

“Hotel Hershey Highlights” Newsletters Now Available Online

Hotel Hershey High-Lights



The color masthead from the first issue of *Hotel Hershey Highlights*, May 5, 1934

Hershey Community Archives is excited to announce that a valuable resource in the collection is now available online.

“As its name implies, *Hotel Hershey Highlights* was a newsletter published for Hotel Hershey. It was in circulation from May 5, 1934 through April 28, 1951,” said Jennifer Henderson, senior archivist. “It was created by Alexander Stoddart, an interesting figure in Hershey history. While serving as Public Relations Director for Hershey Estates (now Hershey Entertainment & Resorts Company), Stoddart’s duties included public relations for his own company as well as all of the Hershey interests and the community as a whole.”

Because of this, *Highlights* served not only as announcements for guests of the Hotel, but also as the town’s newspaper.

“This is a critical period in Hershey history, covering major events such as the Great Building Campaign during the Depression, World War II, and Milton Hershey’s death,” said Henderson. “It also documents the rapid growth of the town, Hershey Chocolate Corporation and Hershey Park during these two decades.”

The Archives received grant funding to digitize the publication and add it to their website. The project was supported by a grant from the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission’s Historical Archives and Records Care Grant, a program funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

“We are grateful for the PHMC grant that made this important project possible,” said Henderson. As part of the grant project, *Highlights* has also been uploaded to Pennsylvania’s POWER Library PA Photos and Documents repository, where it will reach a wider audience.

“Because we are missing some newsletter issues, we were able to work with Milton Hershey School Department of School History and the Hershey Public Library to compile a complete run,” said Henderson. “Now users who wish to access *Highlights* can do so at a single, virtual location.”

Digital access also makes *Highlights* available to researchers, students and Hershey

history buffs from around the world, as well as those within our local community,” said Henderson.

Another aspect of digitization that makes this grant project so important is that the text is now fully searchable. “We always knew there was valuable information in *Hotel Hershey Highlights*, but it was very time consuming to manually search through each issue to find specific information,” said Henderson. “Now we can simply enter a keyword into the search field and see all the issues where the keyword appears.”

For example, a researcher wanting to know about the history of the M.S. Hershey Rose could search for “American Rose Society.” When the PDF of the *Hotel Hershey Highlights* issue opens, they could use Ctrl+F to search for “American Rose Society” and the phrase would be highlighted in the PDF (see below).



An example search result that normally would have taken hours to find, was located within minutes.

Hotel Hershey Highlights is now one of three digitized publications that document historic local happenings. *Hershey Press* ran from 1909 to 1926 and *Hershey News* from 1953 to 1964. All three are available for searching at www.hersheyarchives.org/newspaper.

“To complete the historic record of Hershey newspapers, we hope to receive funding in the future to digitize *Hershey Chronicle*, which covers 1984 to 2009,” said Henderson.