

## 2018 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE YEADON BOROUGH HISTORICAL COMMISSION (YBHC)

Previous annual reports of the Yeadon Borough Historical Commission are posted on the Borough's website ([www.yeadonborough.org](http://www.yeadonborough.org)).

By approval of Ordinance 2015-1362, Yeadon Borough Council established the Yeadon Borough Historical Commission (YBHC) to encourage appreciation for Yeadon Borough's rich history while creating a means to honor and preserve it.

Since its inception in 2015, the Yeadon Borough Historical Commission has worked diligently to promote both community, county and state interest in Yeadon's history. During 2018, major effort was dedicated to supporting Yeadon Borough's Quasiquicentennial Celebration. In 1893, the charter was signed and sealed for Yeadon to become independent from Darby Township. The event was held in Yeadon Borough Hall on Saturday, November 3, 2018. Those at the well-attended event, were welcomed by Mayor Rohan Hepkins and invited to:

**Explore Yeadon's Past** by viewing exhibits, photos and materials, provided by Yeadon Borough Historical Commission (YBHC), related to Yeadon's history, with members of YBHC being available to answer questions. A walking tour of one of Yeadon's historic areas was also offered.

**Learn about Yeadon's Present** by interacting with representatives from the following Yeadon resources that were present to provide information about their organizations: 700 Business Club, Boy Scout Troop #54, Chapel of Good Shepherd, County Office of Services for the Aging, Emergency Management, Evelyn Graves Ministries, Friendship Circle Senior Center (Senior Community Services), Men of Action/Brothers of Faith, NAACP, Nile Swim Club, Office of Senator Anthony H. Williams, St. Michael's Episcopal Church, Yeadon Athletic Association, Yeadon Fire Department, Yeadon Police Department and Yeadon Public Library.

**Think about Yeadon's Future** by exploring, learning, as well as mixing and mingling with community leaders, residents and others in attendance.

A citation in recognition of the occasion was presented by State Senator Anthony H. Williams with State Representative Joanna McClinton also presenting a citation on behalf of herself and State Representative Margo Davidson. In addition, Eastern Delaware County Historic Preservation Partnership presented its 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Good House Keeping Award to the current owner of the historic Palmer House (605 Rockland Avenue).

As reported in 2017, the process of historical preservation and documentation is highly bureaucratic, so while goals are realistic, accomplishment timelines often have to be extended. Hence, all goals set for 2018 are ongoing: case in lobby of Yeadon Public Library still serving as only display area for historical materials; online presence still limited to [yeaddonborough.org](http://yeaddonborough.org); more long term residents identified and interviews being scheduled; inventory of historical properties and sites well underway with support from Delaware County Historical Society; establish process for local recognition of historical buildings and properties. NOTE: research completed and application submitted to Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission to request historical certification and marker for Nile Swim Club.

Along with the ongoing projects above, YBHC has set the additional goals for 2019:

- 1) Identify a "home" for the Yeadon Borough Historical Commission to serve both as a repository for Yeadon's past and an information center for its present and a planning center for its future.
- 2) Digitize Yeadon historical documents/photos and post on YBHC website.
- 3) Conduct events to promote interest and public relations, to include: historic church tours, cemetery tours, genealogy workshop.

YBHC is still maintaining contact initiated by Arcadia Publishing regarding the possibility of including Yeadon Borough in their *Images of America* series. Tentative date for this sometime during 2020.

Respectfully submitted on February 6, 2019 by: Richard E. Ashby, Jr., Dolores Jones Butler, Kelli Cave (Chair), Alvin Holm, William Mellix, Donna Samuel and Rufus Stokes.