



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Staff Member Celebrating Half-Century of Service at Bucks County Historical Society

DOYLESTOWN, Pa. – The saying goes that if you love what you do, you’ll never work a day in your life, and no one knows this to be true more than Terry McNealy, who is celebrating a half-century of service as a staff member at the Bucks County Historical Society.

In 1970, Terry McNealy, a Doylestown native, began his career with the Society working with the then Librarian Cora Decker. While working in the library, McNealy completed his library degree at Drexel University, which allowed him to succeed Decker as the Society’s Librarian shortly thereafter.

Although McNealy retired in 1993 to pursue writing projects, he continued to work part-time at the Society until 2007. Even then, McNealy never fully left the Society’s employment as he was called upon time and time again for special projects. Until recently, McNealy even served as one of the Society’s Library Assistants where he helped researchers navigate the library collections.

Over the course of his fifty years with the Bucks County Historical Society, McNealy has contributed significantly to the Society’s success, while at the same time demonstrating his commitment to the preservation and chronicling of local history. His many accomplishments and activities have included writing the Library’s first collections policy, implementing improved collections management and conservation practices, launching the original Bucks County Genealogical Society, negotiating long-term

deposits of County records and materials from the Early American Industries Association, serving as editor of the Historical Society's publications, and authoring the major work, *Bucks County: An Illustrated History*, published in 2001.

"The Society is grateful for all that Terry has accomplished and contributed over his long career," notes the Bucks County Historical Society's Vice President of Collections & Interpretation Cory Amsler. "As the pre-eminent expert on Bucks County history, Terry will continue to be sought out for projects that require his considerable knowledge, perspective, and wisdom."

The Borough of Doylestown and Mayor Ron Strouse issued a proclamation on May 10, 2020, honoring Terry McNealy's accomplished half-century-long career.

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About the Mercer Museum & Fonthill Castle

Located in Doylestown, Bucks County, PA, the Mercer Museum and Fonthill Castle are historic castles celebrating the legacy of Henry Chapman Mercer (1856-1930), American archaeologist, anthropologist, ceramicist and scholar. Both sites are operated by the Bucks County Historical Society.

The Mercer Museum, one of Bucks County's premier cultural attractions and a Smithsonian affiliate, features both local and national seasonal exhibits as well as a core museum collection of over 50,000 pre-Industrial tools. This permanent collection offers visitors a unique window into pre-Industrial America through sixty different crafts and trades and is one of the world's most comprehensive portraits of American material culture. The museum also features a research library that is a center for local history related to Bucks County and the surrounding region, with its roots dating back to the founding of the Bucks County Historical Society in 1880.

The Mercer Museum is located at 84 South Pine Street in Doylestown, PA and is open year-round. For up-to-date schedule and admission information, please visit mercermuseum.org or call 215-345-0210.

Fonthill Castle was built between 1908-1912 and was the home to Henry Chapman Mercer. Mercer built Fonthill Castle as his home and as a showplace for his collection of tiles and prints. The castle serves as an early example of reinforced concrete and features forty-four rooms, over two hundred windows, and eighteen fireplaces. Fonthill Castle's interior features Mercer's renowned, handcrafted ceramic tiles designed at the height of the Arts and Crafts movement.

Fonthill Castle is located at 525 East Court Street, Doylestown, PA and is open for guided one-hour tours. Reservations are not taken in advance, and tours are booked at our Welcome Center each day, on a first-come, first-served basis.

For additional information, please contact:

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