



# NEWS

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS**  
**COURT HOUSE, NORRISTOWN, PA., BOX 311, 19404-0311**

**Frank X. Custer, Communications Director**

**Jessica Willingham, Communications Assistant**

**PHONE (610) 278-3061 FAX (610) 278-5943**

**COMMISSIONERS: JOSH SHAPIRO, *Chair***

**VALERIE A. ARKOOSH, MD, MPH, *Vice Chair***

**BRUCE L. CASTOR, JR., *Commissioner***



**RELEASE: June 15, 2015**

**Vintage Base Ball at Pennypacker Mills**  
**Saturday, June 20, 2015 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm**

**Schwenksville, PA (June 15, 2015)** – In the mid 1800’s, base ball was considered by gentlemen of the time to be a healthful, recreational, and social endeavor. At that time, no one ever imagined that a sport which evolved from a children’s game would become a national pastime in less than half a century and captivate millions of fans.

Come to Pennypacker Mills on Saturday, June 20, 2015 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm for a game of vintage base ball and relive what those early days were like. The Athletic Base Ball Club of Philadelphia will be playing against the Bog Iron Boys of Allaire Village (NJ) at this free event. The players wear authentic-style team uniforms, abide by 1860’s rules and field layout, and use handmade balls and bats. Kids will have the chance to play “Town Ball,” an early version of base ball with the Athletics team. Bring a blanket or chair to sit on.

The Athletic Base Ball Club of Philadelphia was founded in 1859, “with the express purpose of playing what was often referred to as ‘the New York game’.” The team competed against other local clubs, which were organized by trade and neighborhood. As the team grew to be a force on the national stage, many of these competing teams became the farm teams for the Athletics, helping to build the team ranks with the best players. As the sport became more professional after the Civil War, the Athletics moved on to become the first champions of the new National Association of Professional Base Ball Players.

The Pennypacker Mills mansion will be open for tours during this event. There will be a food vendor on-site selling hot dogs, drinks, and other refreshments, and an information table where visitors can learn more about the game and upcoming events.

Pennypacker Mills is operated by the Montgomery County Division of Parks, Trails, and Historic Sites. The site is located at 5 Haldeman Road in Schwenksville, PA. The site is open year round for guided tours, seasonal events, educational programs, and changing exhibits. The site offers handicapped parking and restroom facilities. Please 610-287-9349 for more information. Visit Pennypacker Mills online at [www.montcopa.org/pennypackermills](http://www.montcopa.org/pennypackermills).