



PENNSYLVANIA
HERITAGE
FOUNDATION®

NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2020

PAHERITAGE.ORG

Former State Senator Kury Named Director Emeritus of PHF Board

Longtime Pennsylvania Heritage Foundation board member Franklin L. Kury retired this past summer as an active PHF director after eight years of service. His insights and wisdom strengthened PHF and its mandate to be the philanthropic arm of the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission. Kury will continue his association with PHF in an emeritus capacity.

From 1967 to 1972 Kury represented the 108th District in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. He then served in the Pennsylvania State Senate from 1973 to 1980. Kury is an important figure in Pennsylvania history because of his work as an early supporter of the environmental movement. He is called the father of the 1971 amendment to the Constitution of Pennsylvania, Article 1, Section 27, Natural Resources and the Public Estate. This landmark amendment requires protection of the commonwealth's environment to be held in trust for its citizens:

The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania's public natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come. As trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people.

Kury will be writing a book on the forthcoming 50th anniversary of the amendment and how it has improved the environment of Pennsylvania. "We have

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Kury campaigns for "clean streams and clean politics" during his 1966 run for the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.

PHOTO BY ELIZABETH H. KURY

The Pennsylvania Heritage Foundation is the nonprofit partner of the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission. Governed by a volunteer board, PHF helps preserve the commonwealth's rich heritage through charitable funding, membership, grant management, and community engagement.

Trails of History Sites and Museums

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brandywinebattlefield.org

BUSHY RUN BATTLEFIELD
Jeannette, 724-527-5584
bushyrunbattlefield.com

**CONRAD WEISER
HOMESTEAD**
Womelsdorf, 610-589-2934
conradweiserhomestead.org

CORNWALL IRON FURNACE
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cornwallironfurnace.org

**DANIEL BOONE
HOMESTEAD**
Birdsboro, 610-582-4900
danielboonehomestead.org

DRAKE WELL MUSEUM
Titusville, 814-827-2797
drakewell.org

ECKLEY MINERS' VILLAGE
Weatherly, 570-636-2070
eckleyminersvillage.com

EPHRATA CLOISTER
Ephrata, 717-733-6600
ephratacloister.org

**ERIE MARITIME MUSEUM
AND FLAGSHIP NIAGARA**
Erie, 814-452-2744
flagshipniagara.org

FORT PITT MUSEUM
Pittsburgh, 412-281-9285
heinzhistorycenter.org/fort-pitt

GRAEME PARK
Horsham, 215-343-0965
graemepark.org

HOPE LODGE
Fort Washington, 215-646-1595
historichopelodge.org

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come a long way in the two generations since this law went on the books. This is not to say we don't have significant remaining challenges," Kury said. "Yes, considerable waste has been removed from rivers, smoke from belching factories, and abuse of our land reduced, but climate change is now an overwhelming issue. I want to show how the 1971 amendment can help deal with that. This new book helps me take stock of what has been accomplished and the work still remaining."

This will be Kury's fourth book after an autobiography and two works on state government. He and his wife, Elizabeth H. Kury, celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary this year. PHF congratulates them both and thanks Franklin Kury for his service to our commonwealth.

*Glenn N. Holliman, President
Pennsylvania Heritage Foundation*



Franklin Kury, wife Elizabeth and grandson Hunter stand at Kury Point in Shikellamy State Park at the confluence of the North and West branches of the Susquehanna River.

COURTESY FRANKLIN L. KURY

PHF Partners with Pennsylvania Commission for the United States Semiquincentennial

In September 2019 PHF signed an agreement with the Pennsylvania Commission for the United States Semiquincentennial (America250PA) to serve as its nonprofit partner in planning, encouraging, developing and coordinating celebrations for the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States. PHF will be responsible for administration duties related to collecting donations, follow-up and reporting.

Pennsylvania was one of the first states to appoint a commission charged with planning and executing statewide 250th anniversary celebrations. Established as a bipartisan project



The goals of America250PA are expressed as EPIC, to Educate, Preserve, Innovate and Celebrate.

AMERICA250PA

by the state legislature and signed into existence by Gov. Tom Wolf in June 2018, the Pennsylvania Commission for the United States Semiquincentennial is made up of 20 private citizens and four legislators as voting members. The governor has appointed Pat Burns as the chairman and Cassandra Coleman as executive director. Serving on the commission are PHMC chair Nancy Moses, PHMC commissioner Andrew E. Masich, and PHF Board of Directors member Alison T. Young. The commissioners were sworn in on September 19, 2019, at the Pennsylvania Governor's Residence.

The commission has chosen America250PA as its public outreach name and #America250PA as a hashtag for its social media campaign. The website is america250pa.org.



America250PA commissioners join Gov. Tom Wolf at the Pennsylvania Governor's Residence. Seated to the left of the governor is Cassandra Coleman, executive director of America250PA, and on the opposite side is Pat Burns, America250PA chairman. In the second row from the left, PHF board member Alison T. Young is second and PHMC chair Nancy Moses is third; between them in the third row is PHMC commissioner Andrew E. Masich.

AMERICA250PA

You Can Help Preserve Pennsylvania's History

You can make a difference in the preservation of Pennsylvania history by making a gift to the Pennsylvania Heritage Foundation through estate planning via your will or a charitable trust. Establishing a charitable trust is an appropriate way to control estate taxes, address family concerns, and direct legacy gifts to nonprofits, such as the Pennsylvania Heritage Foundation.

For more information on how to leave a legacy through estate or financial planning, contact PHF toll-free at (866) 823-6539 or RA-paheritage@pa.gov. An experienced volunteer consultant is available at no cost or obligation to respond to your questions. In all cases, however, you should seek counsel from your own professional advisors.



JOSEPH PRIESTLEY HOUSE
Northumberland, 570-473-9474
josephpriestleyhouse.org

LANDIS VALLEY VILLAGE & FARM MUSEUM
Lancaster, 717-569-0401
landisvalleymuseum.org

OLD ECONOMY VILLAGE
Ambridge, 724-266-4500
oldeconomyvillage.org

PENNSBURY MANOR
Morrisville, 215-946-0400
pennsburymanor.org

PENNSYLVANIA ANTHRACITE HERITAGE MUSEUM
Scranton, 570-963-4804
anthracitemuseum.org

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Galeton, 814-435-2652
lumbermuseum.org

PENNSYLVANIA MILITARY MUSEUM
Boalsburg, 814-466-6263
pamilmuseum.org

PENNSYLVANIA STATE ARCHIVES
Harrisburg, 717-783-3281
pastatearchives.com

RAILROAD MUSEUM OF PENNSYLVANIA
Strasburg, 717-687-8628
rrmuseumpa.org

SOMERSET HISTORICAL CENTER
Somerset, 814-445-6077
somersethistoricalcenter.org

THE STATE MUSEUM OF PENNSYLVANIA
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**Some special events and tours at PHMC sites require an additional fee*

HOW TO JOIN

Online: paheritage.org Toll free: 866-823-6539

Mail:
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