

Council arrives in county with information from the state on arts

Karl Blischke, executive director, and Jamie Dunlap, chief of Creative Catalysts and Lifelong Learning, of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts (PCA) visited and spoke with officials in Perry County on Feb. 6. The visit was coordinated by the Perry County Council of the Arts (PCCA).

The group began the day at Greenwood Middle-High School where artist Karen Beall and art teacher Jill Deimler are working with students on bird and animal clay figures for a mosaic mural that will be installed in Millerstown in May. The project is jointly funded through the Arts in Education grant from the PCA through the PCCA and from grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Perry County Economic Development Authority. The Millerstown mural is one of nine public art projects



CLAY-MATION — Seventh-grade students cut shapes out of clay for an art project.

to be installed in the nine boroughs in the county.

In the class of seventh-graders, Beall spoke about her process as an artist, showed the students photos of some of her work, and explained what the students would

create and how that would fit into the final project.

The students already had cut out shapes/stencils during a previous class. At the visit, students used the stencils to cut the shapes in the clay.

Leftover pieces of clay were cut into leaf shapes.

The next portion of the visit was a stop at the PCCA Gallery in Newport. The gallery provides professional development and retail space for local member artists.

Finally, the group moved to the Landis House in Newport for lunch. Guests included Perry County Commissioners Frank Campbell, Bill Lyons and Brenda Watson; Sarah Keller of Sen. Greg Rothman's office; Allyson Shaffer of Rep. Perry Stambaugh's office; Michelle Jones of the Perry County Economic Development Authority; and Kyleigh Spidle, PCCA's Main Street coordinator.

PCCA board members and staff also attended, including Allison Juliana, board president; Iris Peters, board member; Jasmine Colbert, executive director; Rebecca Myers, project director;

Ariana Koch, community programs coordinator; and Erin Sparler, gallery manager. Marti Roberts, president of the Perry County Economic Development Authority,

During lunch, Blischke spoke about the work of the PCA, which has a new mission statement to "strengthen the cultural, educational and economic development of Pennsylvania's communities through the arts." The council primarily distributes money through grants. It supports ways that arts make communities livable and attractive, in a variety of disciplines, and artists in developing viable businesses.

15th Annual
"On the Trail of Perry County History Bus Tour"
Perry County Soldier Boys at Gettysburg-July 1863
Saturday, March 23, 2024

Join The Perry Historians trip to Gettysburg to visit the sites where several Companies of Civil War soldiers from Perry County were stationed. Stops will include visits to the monuments of the 17th PA Cavalry, the 150th PA Regiment, the Eternal Peace Light, and a talk on The Battle of Gettysburg.