Slate Belt Heritage Center Press Release

Spring Opening

25 Years: Then and Now at the Slate Belt Heritage Center, Celebrating its 25th Anniversary.

The Slate Belt Heritage Center celebrates the twenty-fifth anniversary of its founding with exhibits, opening receptions, in-person programs and a gala banquet in April and May, 2024.

SBHC's founding is an amazing story of citizens coming together to preserve an iconic building and diverse community stories. To mark the occasion of the founding, Slate Belt Heritage Center will host a spring exhibit that highlights the energetic volunteers who created the Center, the organization's development to collect, preserve and interpret histories and artifacts from all nine Slate Belt municipalities and many ethnic groups, and the Center's current and future projects to share that history with the public.

Anniversary events kick-off on April 7 with a members' preview.

On April 11 at 7 pm, there will be a public program "Remember When...the Start of the Heritage Center" with a panel of people remembering SBHC's early years.

Beginning April 13, the Center will open to the public every Saturday and Sunday, from 12 to 3 pm through October featuring the show in the Council Chamber, "25 Years: Then and Now at the Slate Belt Heritage Center." Each of the nine rooms will also have a special display.

On April 13 at 1 pm, there will be a ceremony in front of Pen Argyl Town Hall to dedicate three outdoor display units about Pen Argyl History. The panels are funded by the Northampton County Department of Community and Economic Development Hotel Tax Grant and by the Slate Belt Heritage Center. The units follow national park service standards and join three similar units that were placed in Bangor last year.

A gala banquet will take place on May 11, from 6-9 pm at the Elks Home in Bangor, PA. See the Heritage Center Facebook page, Slatebeltheritagecenter_SBHC for details in the near future.

The Slate Belt Heritage Center is a not-for-profit 501 (c) 3 organization located at 30 North First Street, Bangor, PA, 18013, in the former Bangor Town Hall. Starting April 13, the Center will be open on Saturdays and Sundays, from 12-3 pm (except holidays). Private tours, research time, and program speakers are available by contacting the Center at <u>SBHC@frontier.org</u> or (610) 599.4339.