

PRESS RELEASE

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Public meeting to be held on the development of Festival Park

JOHNSTOWN, Pa. – A public meeting will be held to discuss the development of Johnstown’s Festival Park, the permanent home of the AmeriServ Johnstown FolkFest. The meeting will be held at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 18 on the third floor of the Johnstown Flood Museum.

At the public meeting, preliminary master plans for the park will be reviewed. The long-range plan, which is by L. Robert Kimball & Associates, includes an adaptive reuse of the main structure on the site, known as the “oilhouse,” and a permanent amphitheater.

The park is located at the confluence of the Stoneycreek and Little Conemaugh Rivers on a lot formerly known as the “Gate 8 Lot.” It was purchased by the Johnstown Area Heritage Association (JAHA) and has been the site of the FolkFest since 2004. JAHA’s goal is to develop the park into a community asset that can be used for a wide variety of events during the temperate months.

The master plan has been funded in part by grants from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania’s Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and Westsylvania Heritage Corp.

For more information about Festival Park, JAHA or AmeriServ Johnstown FolkFest 2006, visit www.jaha.org.

The Johnstown Area Heritage Association is a non-profit, membership-based organization dedicated to preserving and showcasing Johnstown’s unique history to the nation through high-quality educational, cultural and recreational experiences. JAHA owns and operates the Johnstown Flood Museum and the Frank & Sylvia Pasquerilla Heritage Discovery Center. JAHA also produces the AmeriServ FolkFest, a 3-day outdoor music festival with free admission, held annually over Labor Day weekend; events commemorating the 1889 Johnstown flood; and a wide variety of additional cultural programming. The Wagner-Ritter House & Garden will soon open, and a Children’s Discovery Museum is being planned. For more information on JAHA programs, museums and events, visit www.jaha.org.