

THURSDAY, NOV. 15TH
BOX HILL MANSION @ REGENTS' GLEN COUNTRY CLUB

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York, Pa.'s downtown: 'This once bustling hub is becoming bustling once again'

Posted on [October 22, 2010](#) by [Jim McClure](#)

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This shipping crate would have been delivered to York, Pa.'s, Diehl Candy Company by real horsepower. York countian Jean Fix brought this "Romance Chocolates" crate to businessman William Swartz's attention recently after reading news reports of renovations to the 28 N. George St. building occupied by Diehl's, Gregory's and soon Codo 28. (See inside and outside photos of this noted York building below.) Also of interest: [A historic York walking tour of the Sovereign Bank stadium area](#) and [York County's connection to the French Quarter](#) and [The 1950s, '60s: The greatest time to grow up in York, Pa.'](#)

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About York Town Square



Welcome to York Town Square, 7 years of daily posts about journalism and history, topics that can easily become plodding and self important. My goal is to keep this blog fun and accessible. And I try to say something in each post. I welcome your comments and respond to every one you write.

A bit of background: I've been editor of the York (Pa.) Daily Record/Sunday News for 8 years and managing editor of the newspaper for 15 years before that. So, York Town Square explores the rapidly changing world of journalism. And I studied York/Adams' history in graduate school, have written six books about these fascinating southcentral Pennsylvania counties and serve on the York County (Pa.) Heritage Trust board. So, this blog deals with regional history.

Often, journalism and history meet here. They're part of a continuum anyway. My hope is that this site intrigues readers on both accounts in giving a daily dose of journalism/history. Or history/journalism. Please contact me at jem@ydr.com.



[Jean Fix, who knows local history well](#), owns a shipping crate used to deliver chocolates from East Boston to the Diehl Candy Company's 28 N. George St. store.

Her father purchased the box from an antique dealer 40 years ago.

The chocolates are long gone, but the the crate is a treasure, pointing back to a different time in downtown York...



The former Diehl Candy/Gregory's building has been renovated to the tune of \$4.8 million, some financed by historic tax credits. It will house 11 apartments. Storefront space is available for a coffee shop or bistro.

The boxy crate serves as a long bridge between a time when retail was king and the downtown area today – a district that is being restored to offer condos and office space and other services.

The building itself is an artifact worthy of study, as a former provider of retail space for the candy company and Gregory's, the former noted men's clothing store. Now named CODO 28, it will soon house apartments and perhaps a coffee shop in its storefront. It shows the change in climate in downtown York from primarily retail to service.

CODO developer William Swartz, who called the shipping crate to [York Town Square's](#) attention, elaborated on the old and new York, Pa.

Here are excerpts from his e-mail about CODO 28:

"Residents ... will enjoy shopping for lunch or dinner at Central Market just as the workers at the Diehl Candy Company may have a hundred years ago. These same workers may have also caught a show at the Strand just like the new residents of CODO will.

"4 people have already signed leases to move in. Many cite having Cherry Lane, the rail trail, the market, the Strand, restaurants

Your comments

- All About Law Enforcement » Blog Archive » Legal marijuana in Pennsylvania? York County law enforcement foresee issues on Cops about marijuana in York, Pa. in 1933: 'Avoid its use as you would deadly poison'
- Jim McClure on York, Pa.'s Weaver Organ and Piano Co.: 'Guaranteed to give permanent satisfaction'
- Amy on York, Pa.'s Weaver Organ and Piano Co.: 'Guaranteed to give permanent satisfaction'
- Buffy's World | Don't miss: Election 2012 slideshows to support for reporter Steve Navaroli on How to get your photographs before thousands of eyes: Linked in to York County history, Nov. 3, 2012
- Ted on Check out this list of York County's most notorious criminal cases in past 50 years

Most popular topics

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 Preserving York Prospect Hill Cemetery Red
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 Township Springfield Township Spring Grove
 Stewartstown Railroad Susquehanna River
 Tropical Storm Agnes Valley View Park
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 York Township

Recent Posts

- These old York County steps led to Edgecombe, A.B. Farquhar's estate
- York County's Camp Security: A field trip to the field where British POWs lived
- York County Veterans Day memories found everywhere
- These old York County steps, Part IV: Where did they lead? Linked in to history, Nov. 10, 2012
- Add Hubert Michael's cruel act to the list of York County's most notorious criminal cases

Most popular categories

Abe Lincoln was here All politics is local All presidential stops American Revolution
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 York County Harley-Davidson History video
 channel Linked in/neat stuff
Local journalism &

and night life as the reason for choosing CODO 28. Others just like the charm of having an apartment with modern styling in a hundred year old building.

"Clarke Avenue (the alley that serves, among other things, as a pedestrian path for courthouse workers to head to market for lunch) is really transforming. It will be paved in the next few days from George St. to Pershing (the head of the rail trail). The new waterfall on the side of "[the old Gregory's building](#)", new lighting, balconies and other building improvements have changed the whole look of this alley. It's pretty exciting that a new microbrew pub will be moving into the alley as well (on the back of [Central Market](#)). You may have seen the huge copper kettles in the corner of market waiting for installation.

"A group of software developers recently moved their snazzy offices into the alley (into the back of the old Rosenmiller Building). The company is called "Idea Tree" and they do programming for heating and air conditioning control systems. These four young guys could have located anywhere but they chose York and this alley because they loved the market.

"Clarke Avenue is extra cool since it is bisected by Cherry Lane. Picture a bustling market, music in Cherry Lane, people sitting in the outside seating area outside the brew pub etc. A resident of the 'York Candy Co.' building has everything at their doorstep.

"Soon, as you know, the [Eagles Arts Building](#) renovation will be underway and a school will be occupying a large portion of the first floor.

"It's almost like everything is coming full circle and this once bustling hub is becoming bustling once again."

Also:

- [All York Town Square posts from the start](#). (Key word search by using "find" on browser.)

- Of course, you can always search for York Town Square post on [Google](#).



Web Local landmarks

Made in York Mail bag

Music and musicians Nostalgia &

memories Notable images Pain & trauma People

Pets & animals Quizzes & (fun) tests School days Small-town life

The Pennsylvania Dutch Uncategorized Unsung/obscure sites War Wheels of York

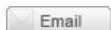
Women's history World War II

York celebrities YorkEats: Hogmaw & such York Revs/pros York Safe & Lock York sports

Archives: All posts from the start

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Ten of Codo 28's apartments rent for \$1,295. They are all 3 stories. The front two-story apartment rents for \$1595. "That's a lot of crates of chocolate," Bill Swartz wrote in an e-mail.



About Jim McClure

Editor of the York Daily Record/Sunday News, ydr.com and its many digital products. Journalism/history blogger: yorktownsquare.com. Author of six York County, Pa., history books.

View all posts by Jim McClure ->

This entry was posted in Archives, all posts, For photo fans, Local landmarks, Mail bag, Nostalgia & memories, People, YorkEats: Hogmaw & such. Bookmark the permalink.

← A school named Airy Hill: Linked in with neat York County, Pa., history stuff – Oct. 21, 2010 Can you locate this York County town? Linked in with neat York County, Pa., history stuff: Oct. 23, 2010 →

2 Responses to York, Pa.'s downtown: 'This once bustling hub is becoming bustling once again'



Jo says:

October 22, 2010 at 10:59 pm

As much as I'd love to live in one of those apartments downtown, since I can barely run at all any more and I'd never be able to outrun all those bad guys down there, I'll stay put in my home in the sticks, safe and sound.

Reply



caroline morris says:

November 23, 2010 at 6:27 am

Thanks for the tour. I cannot believe the beauty of these apartments. It was worth putting up for the months of inconvenience in the alley to have such a great asset emerge. Congratulations!

Reply

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Website

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Historic York Inc.
Only in York County
Papergreat
Preserving York
Remember series
Universal York
YDR Insider
York at Heart
York County Heritage Trust
York: Year by Year
yorkcountyheritagetrust

Twitter

Twitter widget showing profile of James McClure and recent tweets from Buffyandrews and JamesMcClure.





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October 2010

Calendar table for October 2010 with columns M, T, W, T, F, S, S and rows of dates from 1 to 31.

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