

A CELEBRATION
250 YEARS IN THE MAKING.



**July 8 - July 11
Heritage Week**

**Commemorate the 250th anniversary
of America's founding in historic
Easton.**

- July 8 Raise a Glass to Freedom: 250 Years Later**
a Declaration of Independence video screening
& champagne toast at Sigal Museum.
- July 8 Easton Declaration Dinner**
an anniversary celebration in collaboration with Greater
Easton Development Partnership at Thyme Rooftop Grille.
- July 9 Panel Discussion with Jonathan Hill**
staff & artist discussion about the creation of the new
NCHGS graphic novel at Sigal Museum.
- July 9 Members' Opening & Book Launch**
exhibition opening and graphic novel launch at the 1753
Bachmann Publick House.
- July 10 Bachmann Block Party**
beer garden-style outdoor celebration with live music on
Second & Northampton Streets.
- July 11 Heritage Day**
citywide festival in downtown, historic Easton.
- July 11 Searching for the Declaration Bus Tour**
visit Easton, Trenton, & Philadelphia.

**Northampton County Historical
& Genealogical Society**

Events will fill quickly. Please reserve
your tickets today. www.sigalmuseum.org/events



Events

From July 8–11, 2026, downtown Easton becomes the center of America's 250th anniversary celebration. Join the Northampton County Historical & Genealogical Society (NCHGS) for four unforgettable days of programs, performances, exhibitions, dining, and community celebration honoring Easton's extraordinary place in American history. This is more than a series of events—it is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to experience where history happened, in the very places it unfolded. Go to <https://sigalmuseum.org/>.

Northampton County Parks & Recreation
2024 CONSERVATION SUCCESS STORY

Purple Martin Nesting Colony Project

SUMMARY

In 2020 & with technical assistance from Lehigh Valley Audubon Society volunteers, we installed two purple martin nesting towers at Minsi Lake in hopes of establishing a purple martin colony there. Since then, our partnership has installed five towers at the lake. Each tower supports 18 plastic nest gourds, which are referred to as condos. We now have 90 lakeside condos at Minsi that have been home to hundreds of pairs of breeding martins, which have produced 451 chicks over the past five years. As in each of the previous four years, licensed bird banders with the Lehigh Valley Audubon Society documented & banded this year's hatch of martin chicks. We now have the largest purple martin nesting colony in the region.



PURPOSE

The primary purpose of this project is to provide nesting habitat for purple martins. Martins are the largest members of the swallow family & are listed as a Species of Greatest Conservation Need by the PA Game Commission & the PA Audubon Society. Martin populations have plummeted since the 1960s, due in large part to a loss of nesting habitat. Martins breed in colonies near lakes & ponds with plenty of insects to feed on & nearby cliffs or stands of trees with lots of cavities in them for nesting sites. However, martins are unable to compete with aggressive, invasive cavity nesting birds like, European starlings & English house sparrows, which have put martins out of house & home across much of the country. Today, purple martins east of the Rockies are almost entirely dependent on human made birdhouses for nesting habitat. Martins will readily nest in artificial structures specifically designed & built for them & placed near waterbodies that provide lots of flying insects for food. Our project serves to provide nesting structures for purple martins along the shoreline of Minsi Lake, with its abundant supply of the martin's favorite prey—dragonflies.

A secondary purpose of this project is to monitor & document purple martin nesting activity in the five condo towers at Minsi Lake. This process involves weighing, measuring & placing harmless leg bands on martin nestlings when they're between 12 & 21 days of age. This information is then entered into databases that track the status & trends of purple martin populations across North America.



PARTNERSHIP IS KEY

We thank Lehigh Valley Audubon Society volunteers for assisting us with the installation of all five martin nesting towers for this project, monitoring them with us & banding martin nestlings during the nesting season & maintaining the towers with us throughout the year. We also thank Friends of Minsi Lake for funding three of the five purple martin towers & educational signs about the project at Minsi Lake Park.



**Friends of Minsi Lake
MEMORIAL BENCHES**

Bench includes a 3"H x 9"W plaque with engraving to fit 2"H x 8"W plate with 3 to 5 lines

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Sponsor: _____

Address: _____

Phone & e-mail: _____

Prior to engraving, you will be sent a proof by e-mail to review and approve
Minsi Lake Park Bench Sponsorship - \$500 Per Bench
Bench Donation Checks Should Be Made Out To: NCJCS-FOML And Mailed
To NCJCS-FOML, PO Box 261, Bath, PA 18014.

For More Info Contact Jim Wilson at JWilson@norcopa.gov, 610-829-6404

**WE BUY \$CRAP METAL!
JUNK CARS TOO!!!**

JFR

610-863-6071

- Copper
- Brass
- Aluminum
- Stainless
- Lead
- Cast Iron
- Motor Blocks
- Light Iron
- Prepared Steel
- Export Steel
- Container Service



www.jfrsalvage.com
M-F 7-4:30 • Sat 7-Noon
6500 Sullivan Trail
Wind Gap, PA 18091