

# diner day

## brings back memories

### Berks County history never tasted so good

The Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles is pleased to announce the next Diner Day event, which is to be held on Saturday, April 11th, from 10am to 1pm. Diner Day is one of the Museum's most popular events. With the price of regular admission, guests will be able to sit inside the beautifully preserved Fegely's Reading Diner and enjoy coffee and homemade pie. Coffee and pie are available for purchase at 1938 prices - that means a nickel for a cup of coffee and a quarter for a slice of pie. Hot chocolate, tea, and milk are available for younger patrons.

Fegely's Reading Diner is a well-known and fondly remembered icon in Berks County. Built in 1938 by the Jerry O'Mahony Company of Elizabeth, New Jersey, the Reading Diner was a freestanding eating establishment along Route 422 in Exeter Township until 1950, when owner Howard Fegely moved it across the road and built his Fegely's Family Restaurant around it. Essentially cocooned for the next fifty-three years, the Reading Diner weathered the years beautifully, despite being literally in the middle of a busy restaurant. Upon Fegely's Family Restaurant closing in 2003, the Reading Diner was rescued by the Archbury Foundation. In 2008, the Archbury Foundation donated it to the Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles, where it serves as arguably the most popular exhibit in the gallery.

This will be the fourth Diner Day hosted by the Boyertown Museum, and it is expected to be even more popular than the last event. Featured will be a

variety of delicious pie flavors, including original Fegely's recipes. Visitors will also have the opportunity to spend



time in the Museum gallery. Docents will be on hand to answer questions about the collection and give visitors further insight into the collection.

Visitors will also have a chance to view the museum's newest acquisitions - a 1913 SGV and a 1940 Bantam Roadster. Both of these beautiful vehicles were manufactured right here in Pennsylvania. The Bantam is the museum's first vehicle built in Western Pennsylvania. The museum has expanded its collection to cover all Pennsylvania-built vehicles, not just Southeastern Pennsylvania. Also on display is a unique and beautifully restored example of roadside architecture, a 1921 cottage style Sunoco Gas Station.

The Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles is open Tuesday through Sunday from 9:30am-4:00pm and is closed on Mondays. Admission

rates are \$6.00 for adults, \$5.00 for seniors and AAA members, \$4.00 for students, and children under 5 years are free. For more

information call 610-367-2090 or visit [www.boyertownmuseum.org](http://www.boyertownmuseum.org).

Located at 85 South Walnut Street in Boyertown, PA, the Boyertown Museum preserves the transportation history of Pennsylvania and displays over eighty locally manufactured cars, trucks, carriages, motorcycles, sleighs, and other types of vehicles.

**“...Coffee and pie...at 1938 prices...”**

## Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles

The Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles houses dozens of automobiles, trucks, and motorcycles that were manufactured right here in Pennsylvania while the industry was still in its infancy. Prior to that time, the region produced multitudes of horse-drawn vehicles, of which many examples can be found at the Museum.

The Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles was established in 1965 by Paul and Erminie Hafer. Paul Hafer had a 57-year career of designing and building truck bodies at the Boyertown Auto Body Works, which was co-founded by his father, B. Frank Hafer. He served for 21 years as Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles. Erminie Hafer's book, *A Century of Vehicle Craftsmanship*, is a thorough history on the transportation industry in Southeastern Pennsylvania and is for sale in the Museum gift shop.

