

Answers to

Local History Scavenger Hunt October 14 to 21

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VETERAN'S PARK

Site Question: **Jacob Swan Taylor** is listed as Captain under the Spanish American War - 1898. Little is known about (Capt.) Dr. Taylor who lived from 1858 to 1937. He served with Co. H, 5th PVI. He is buried in Grandview Cemetery, Johnstown.

Guess Question: **Soldiers & Sailors Park** was built from 1913-1915 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Civil War.

MOON TREE

Site Question: The tree was planted in 1976 which was the bicentennial (200 years) since the founding of the United States in 1776.

Guess Question: *Platanus occidentalis*, is latin for American Sycamore

REVLOC CHURCH

Site Question: The name of this church is **The Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary (BVM)**.

Guess Question: There are several explanations of what these **onion domes** mean. One says that these domes are meant to gather or collect the goodness from Heaven, while another explanation is that they are meant to show the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the Church.

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH

Site Question: Not on the headstone but found in the upper corner is a small marker with a flag indicating Rev. E Rowland's military service.

Guess Question: Similar to those pioneers in Ebensburg and Beulah, the founders of the Bethel Baptist Church were **Welsh**. Seen here, a Welsh descendent, Thomas Evans (1824-1866) is honored with this marker as having received the Medal of Honor for his service in the Civil War.

BEULA MARKER

Site Question: According to the plaque, about 300 people lived at Beula. There are many theories as to why Beula failed. Rev. Rhys blamed it on "the stinking god whiskey" but it was more than likely the land was just too rocky. Even today there has not been much housing built on Beula Road.

Guess Question: the center of town in Beula was on the corner of Sun and Joy Streets. There was also Quince, Nut and Hope Streets. So, all the streets were **one syllable** names.

PORTAGE MASS GRAVESITE

Site Question: The Spanish Influenza occurred from **1918 to 1919**.

Guess Question: According to newspaper accounts there are approximately 108 victims of the flu who were buried in 1919. There is no record of the names of the victims, most are believed to have been homeless. It was decided to dig a mass grave due to the lack of resources and labor during WWI.

CASSANDRA OVERLOOK

Site Question: Welcome Railfans

Guess Question: The overlook bridge was originally a **single lane road**. It was abandoned in 1937 and "rediscovered" and became popular with rail enthusiasts in 1988.

MOUNTAIN HOUSE GAZEBO

Site Question: A fake owl

Guess Question: The hotel was owned by one of the largest industries in the country - **The Pennsylvania Railroad**. It also had an excursion line that went into the "quaint little Welsh town of Ebensburg."

VALEWOOD DAIRY

Site Question: The "teenie weenie" ice cream cone, as seen on the board above the store entrance is **\$0.75**

Guess Question: "Baby Ben" was born September 20th 2014 at Vale Wood Farms with that lucky number 7 on his forehead. Roethlisberger wears #7 for the Pittsburgh Steelers.

CRESSON LAKE PLAYHOUSE

Site Question: J P Alexander Theater

Guess Question: **Our Town** is the classic 1938 Thornton Wilder play about life in Grover's Corners. So, it wasn't locally produced. We suspect Prince Among Priests was about Prince Gallitzin, Tycoon was probably about Charles Schwab and Mountain Myths dealt with local folklore.

LOST GRAVES OF THE ALLEGHENIES

Site Question: Anderson was 71. 1834 minus 1762 is 72 but he hadn't had his birthday yet in 1834.

Guess Question: Now mostly gone, the **American Chestnut tree** once blanketed the Eastern United States.