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Friends Launch 25-Year Observance “Friends Connections” Series with Public Conversation on Preserving History

Somerset County, PA — May 11, 2026 — Friends invite the public to attend the first program in its **25-Year Observance Friends Connections** series, a thoughtful and engaging conversation focused on the importance of artifact collection in preserving history through time.

The first event will be held on **Saturday, May 23, 2026**, with two identical sessions offered at **11:00 a.m.** and **1:00 p.m.** in the **classroom at Flight 93 National Memorial**. There is **no cost to attend**, and the program is open to the public. Can't attend in person? Join us virtually! Register now at the link below to be part of the conversation: www.flight93friends.org/25-years/25year-observance-speaker-series-conversation-with-a-curator.

Friends' Executive Director will be joined by **Betsy Keene**, Curator for the five **National Parks of Western Pennsylvania** for a conversation exploring how artifacts are collected, preserved, and interpreted to help tell the stories of significant historical events. Ms. Keene will share photos of the most interesting artifacts collected from the Flight 93 site and from families. Together, they will discuss the vital role these objects play in preserving history for generations to come.

The program is proudly sponsored by the **Somerset County Tourism Board** and **America250PA** as part of an initiative to attract visitors to the region and encourage deeper engagement with Somerset County's rich history. This event supports ongoing efforts to inspire learning and visitation connected to **Flight 93 National Memorial** and its national significance.

Community members, visitors, educators, and history enthusiasts are encouraged to attend and participate in this meaningful discussion.

For additional details about the Friends Connections series and future programs, please contact Friends or visit their website: <https://www.flight93friends.org/25-years/>.

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ABOUT THE FRIENDS OF FLIGHT 93 NATIONAL MEMORIAL Established in 2009, the Friends of Flight 93 National Memorial is the official nonprofit partner of Flight 93 National Memorial. As Friends of Flight 93, we welcome worldwide all who would join us in honoring the sacrifice and courage of the passengers and crew of Flight 93 by supporting the mission of the Flight 93 National Memorial with volunteers, resources, and civic engagement, so as to inspire all who visit with the Flight 93 story. Visit www.flight93friends.org to learn more about Friends of Flight 93 National Memorial.