



Autumn 2019

## Friends,

Here we are hoping to keep you posted with a few happenings in the Quarter so that you may be inspired and enriched by the work and interests of Friends in our community. If you have news to include, please send an email to [aqnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:aqnewsletter@gmail.com) or contact me by phone at the number below. Thank you!

Margaret Anderson

## AQ Announcements

### Gwynedd Friends Meeting - Gwynedd Friends Coffeehouse

Gwynedd Friends Coffeehouse opens another season of great music. Please join us on the following Saturday nights.

Saturday, November 9, 2019

COYOTES

We welcome them back. They play an eclectic mix of old time fiddle tunes, old jazz, old blues, and much more. The members are: Rik and Wendi Bourne and Bill Dooley (Wendi has also appeared at the Coffeehouse with Girls from Mars).

**Richland Friends Meeting** - A Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission Historical Marker has been awarded to Friend and Quaker **Richard Moore** (1793-1874) of Quakertown, PA for his involvement in Underground Railroad activities. The dedication celebration, hosted by the Quakertown Historical Society, was held **on September 14, 2019**, with the unveiling of the Marker. Friend and Clerk of Richland Meeting, Jack Schick who also serves as VP of the Quakertown Historical Society, was an active participant in the planning of the event, and shares his research in the following article.

**And Now You Know... JACK SCHICK**

## **Richard Moore House Underground Railroad 'Station' Historical Marker to be Placed**



The increased ease with which research can be conducted these days, with uncountable reference sources at our finger tips on the Internet, has contributed to Quakertown being awarded its second Historical Marker by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. In the near future a marker will be installed at the Richard Moore House Underground Railroad

and the concept of human property ownership by slave masters were sanctioned in the United States Constitution. (Article 4, Section 2, Clause 3; U.S. Constitution: "No person held to service or labor in one State, under the laws there of, escaping into another, shall, in consequence of any Law or Regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labor, but shall be delivered up on Claim of Property to whom such service or labor may be due.) By Pennsylvania State law, local authorities were required to assist in the apprehensions of

Read the entire article here: <https://www.quakertownhistoricalsociety.org/articlesbyjackschick>

## **Upper Dublin Friends Meeting: Happy 300th Birthday!**

They have a nifty new website that you must check out AND a very wonderful newsletter! Go to [UpperDublinQuakers.org](http://UpperDublinQuakers.org)

Here's some of what you will find:

Unplug and Recharge with UDMM! Quakers have long believed in balancing silent worship with friendly fellowship, especially over good food. Upper Dublin Monthly Meeting continues this tradition with our Unplug & Recharge evenings. On the second Wednesday of every month, members and friends gather at 6:30 p.m. for a 45-minute candlelight service of silent worship and meditation. Afterwards, we catch up over a pot luck

dinner that can range from salads with bread and cheese in the warmer months, to hearty soups and stews in the fall and winter. Everyone is welcome at "U&R." While culinary contributions are always welcome, all you need to bring is yourself and a hearty appetite. It's an excellent way to learn about the Quaker experience -- first by unplugging with quiet prayer and then by recharging with convivial communion! The remaining 2019 U&R dates are: Oct 9 Nov 13 Dec 11

[AbingtonQuarter.org](http://AbingtonQuarter.org) is where you will find....

**Minutes of the 10/6/19 AQ Meeting at Upper Dublin are posted on the REPORTS tab,  
together with financial & committee reports**

**August 2018 Picnic Meeting at Horsham  
click on "Photos" tab for pictures**

**Winter 2018-19 AQ Newsletter on the "Newsletters" tab**

**Minutes of prior meetings are available on the REPORTS page of this website.  
(click Tab at top of page)**

## **Of Thee and Thine**

**Passings - Larry Gold** at Gwynedd Estates (on 9/17, husband of Nancy Gold, Upper Dublin)

**Cophine Crosman** at Foulkeways (on 10/5 dedicated member of Abington MM)

**June Hallowell** at Foulkeways (on 10/6 dedicated member of AQ Home & Care cmtee)

**Paul Green** (on 10/12, son of Kelly and Mary Green, Norristown MM)

## **Births -**

**Raina Jean Heim Anderson** born 10/12/19 to Keaton Anderson (Richland MM) and Shianna Heim, Montpelier, VT.

Please send announcements of births and passages to [aqnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:aqnewsletter@gmail.com) for inclusion in the upcoming Newsletter.

## Beyond the Quarter:

### ***Looking Ahead to the Holidays***



As we enjoy the fall colors, cool weather, and children hunting for Halloween costumes, here at Feast of Justice, we are already planning our Thanksgiving and Christmas activities.

One of the heralds of Feast of Justice is our holiday food program, where we provide an estimated 1000 baskets of food to neighbors in the community. However, we have an important announcement: as our mission to empower transformation in the community evolves, we have decided to focus on basic needs and enrichment programs.

Recognizing that toys and school supplies are not a basic need, and are often provided through other resources in the community, we are discontinuing our toy distribution program. In its place, we are asking for turkeys or hams, and winter warmth items (hats, gloves, scarves) that we can provide to our families in the program.

We thank you, all of our partners, for your continued support.

Feast of Justice  
3101 Tyson Ave, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19149  
215-268-3510  
[fb.com/FeastOfJusticePhiladelphia](http://fb.com/FeastOfJusticePhiladelphia)  
[feastofjustice.org](http://feastofjustice.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact:**

**Michelle Angela Ortiz, 215-908-2832**

[art@michelleangela.com](mailto:art@michelleangela.com)



## **Documentary Reveals Testimonials of Mothers and Their Children Detained in a Family Prison in Pennsylvania**

**Artist Michelle Angela Ortiz premieres her short documentary, "Las Madres de Berks" that shares testimonials of mothers detained for 2 years at the Berks family prison in Pennsylvania.**

**STATEWIDE- PA** - Award-winning visual artist, Michelle Angela Ortiz is premiering her 30 minute documentary, "[Las Madres de Berks](#)", as part of her "["Familias Separadas" public art project](#)" which amplifies the stories of families affected by detention and deportation in Pennsylvania.

"[Las Madres de Berks](#)" documentary shares the testimonials of four mothers that were detained for 2 years with their children at The Berks County Residential Center, a family prison in Pennsylvania. The mothers featured are some of the several women with young children who were held for [nearly two years at Berks](#), which is one of only three permanent family prisons for immigrant families in the country. Despite being held up as a "model" by proponents of immigrant detention, the center has amassed a record of human rights violations. The federal government, under intense legal and public pressure to stop forcibly removing immigrant children from their families, recently announced its intention to keep children with their parents in [detention indefinitely](#), expanding and replicating facilities like Berks. Ortiz's main community partner, the [Shut Down Berks Coalition](#) has been fighting to close down the Berks family prison for three years.

**\*\*View the trailer of the documentary: <https://youtu.be/GS-dFtqHSuc>\*\***

*"The immigration narrative is focused on the border, but the issue spreads throughout our nation. This documentary reveals the voices of the mothers sharing their lives before, during and after detention. My goal is to use this film as a platform for the mothers to*

*speak up, advocate for themselves, and amplify their stories so that people can take action and see the mothers as full, powerful, loving, resilient human beings that are trying to heal from the trauma of being detained with their children." shares Ortiz.*

The documentary also features the artworks that Ortiz created based on the Berks mother's stories that were unveiled in Harrisburg, PA in November 2018 during a statewide action against family detention. The public art installations, including a [\*\*88 foot installation on the Capitol steps\*\*](#), were unveiled during the election season to call voters' and political leaders' attention to the trauma that immigrant detention inflicts on families. Ortiz has been working with the formerly detained mothers and children for two years to capture their stories through the artwork and documentary.

Ortiz is organizing a series of free screenings open to the public throughout the state of Pennsylvania that include Reading, Philadelphia, Lancaster, and Harrisburg. The screenings will be followed by a talkback to learn ways to take action to end family detention in Pennsylvania. The screenings are co-presented with the Shut Down Berks Coalition and made possible with support by The Fleischner Family Fund of the Philadelphia Foundation, The Free Migration Project, the Leeway Foundation, and the Robert Rauschenberg Foundation.

[Michelle Angela Ortiz](#) is a visual artist/ skilled muralist/ community arts educator who uses her art as a vehicle to represent people and communities whose histories are often lost or co-opted. Through community arts practices, painting, and public art installations, she creates a safe space for dialogue around some of the most profound issues communities and individuals may face. Her work tells stories using richly crafted and emotive imagery to claim and transform spaces into a visual affirmation that reveals the strength and spirit of the community.

For 20 years, Ortiz has designed and created over 50 large-scale public works nationally and internationally. Since 2008, Ortiz has led art for social change public art projects in Costa Rica & Ecuador and through the US Embassy in Fiji, Mexico, Argentina, Spain, Venezuela, Honduras, and Cuba.

Ortiz is a 2018 Pew Fellow, a Rauschenberg Foundation Artist as Activist Fellow, a Kennedy Center Citizen Artist National Fellow, and a Santa Fe Art Institute Equal Justice Resident Artist. In 2016, she received the Americans for the Arts' Public Art Year in Review Award which honors outstanding public art projects in the nation.

<http://www.michelleangela.com/>

[The Shut Down Berks Coalition](#) is a group of organizations and individuals fighting to close the Berks family prison in Pennsylvania and end the practice of imprisoning immigrant families in the U.S.

###

[\*\*https://youtu.be/GS-dFtqHSuc\\*\\*\*\*](https://youtu.be/GS-dFtqHSuc)

*"The immigration narrative is focused on the border, but the issue spreads throughout our nation. This documentary reveals the voices of the mothers sharing their lives before, during and after detention. My goal is to use this film as a platform for the mothers to speak up, advocate for themselves, and amplify their stories so that people can take action and see the mothers as full, powerful, loving, resilient human beings that are trying to heal from the trauma of being detained with their children." shares Ortiz.*

The documentary also features the artworks that Ortiz created based on the Berks mother's stories that were unveiled in Harrisburg, PA in November 2018 during a statewide action against family detention. The public art installations, including a **88 foot installation on the Capitol steps**, were unveiled during the election season to call voters' and political leaders' attention to the trauma that immigrant detention inflicts on families. Ortiz has been working with the formerly detained mothers and children for two years to capture their stories through the artwork and documentary.

Ortiz is organizing a series of free screenings open to the public throughout the state of Pennsylvania that include Reading, Philadelphia, Lancaster, and Harrisburg. The screenings will be followed by a talkback to learn ways to take action to end family detention in Pennsylvania. The screenings are co-presented with the Shut Down Berks Coalition and made possible with support by The Fleischner Family Fund of the Philadelphia Foundation, The Free Migration Project, the Leeway Foundation, and the Robert Rauschenberg Foundation.

[Michelle Angela Ortiz](#) is a visual artist/ skilled muralist/ community arts educator who uses her art as a vehicle to represent people and communities whose histories are often lost or co-opted. Through community arts practices, painting, and public art installations, she creates a safe space for dialogue around some of the most

profound issues communities and individuals may face. Her work tells stories using richly crafted and emotive imagery to claim and transform spaces into a visual affirmation that reveals the strength and spirit of the community.

For 20 years, Ortiz has designed and created over 50 large-scale public works nationally and internationally. Since 2008, Ortiz has led art for social change public art projects in Costa Rica & Ecuador and through the US Embassy in Fiji, Mexico, Argentina, Spain, Venezuela, Honduras, and Cuba.

Ortiz is a 2018 Pew Fellow, a Rauschenberg Foundation Artist as Activist Fellow, a Kennedy Center Citizen Artist National Fellow, and a Santa Fe Art Institute Equal Justice Resident Artist. In 2016, she received the Americans for the Arts' Public Art Year in Review Award which honors outstanding public art projects in the nation.

<http://www.michelleangela.com/>

**The Shut Down Berks Coalition** is a group of organizations and individuals fighting to close the Berks family prison in Pennsylvania and end the practice of imprisoning immigrant families in the U.S.

## AQ Business Calendar 2019-20

### AQ Events *Weekly Happenings*

When	Where	What
Mondays		
Tuesdays	Gwynedd MM	Meditation Group 7:30-8:30 p.m. Sharing 8:30-9 p.m. Guidance for interested beginners offered. Contact: Beth Roberts luobaifeng3@yahoo.com for questions.

Wednesdays	Plymouth MM	Mid-week worship 7:00 p.m. Contact: Dave Miller d.j.miller@verizon.net
	Richland MM	"Light Group" 7:00 p.m. Explore a type of meditation used by early Quakers to "find the Truth in the Light", centering. Contact: Susan Abbott, naisma@aol.com, 610-346-1937 OR Jack Schick, sjckschc@aol.com.
	Upper Dublin	Unplug and Recharge, 2nd Wednesday. 6:30 p.m.
Thursdays	Gwynedd MM	Yoga 6pm
Saturdays	Gwynedd MM	First Saturdays 9:00 a.m.– 1:00 p.m. AFSC Sale. Community room

## Other Events

### Philadelphia Yearly Meeting: Continuing Sessions 2019



*November 2nd, 2019*  
 Arch Street Meeting House  
 320 Arch St  
 Philadelphia, PA 19106

## **Monthly Meetings for Business Days and Times**

Abington: Second First Day 11:30am

## Upper Dublin:

## Unami: 2nd First Day, 9 a.m.

## Richland: 2nd First day, 12 noon

## Plymouth: 3rd First Day, 9 a.m.

Gwynedd: 3rd First day, 10:45 a.m.

Byberry: Last First day, 10 a.m. unless otherwise arranged  
Horsham: Last First day, 11 a.m. unless otherwise arranged; Soup Sunday follows

To all the contributors to this newsletter, please know that your time and interest is very much appreciated. If anyone would like to submit photos, articles, essays or the like to this Newsletter, please send to [agnewletter@gmail.com](mailto:agnewletter@gmail.com) and if possible, we will include your submission as received. Thank you!

*Margaret Anderson, Editor*