



Drake Well Museum and Park

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NEWS RELEASE
FOR RELEASE UPON RECEIPT

“Drake Well Museum and Park to Host Petroleum Program Series”

On Thursday, April 6, Drake Well Museum and Park and Friends of Drake Well, Inc. will host the final installment of the museum’s 2017 Petroleum Program Series. The presentation will begin at 6:30 p.m. with light refreshments served at 6:00 p.m. Admission to the presentation is \$5.00 for adults (12-64 years), \$4.00 for seniors (65+ years) and Free for youth, veterans and Friends of Drake Well, Inc. members.

The final installment of Drake Well Museum’s 2017 Petroleum Program Series will feature a presentation by Dr. William R. Brice, Emeritus of the University of Pittsburgh, Johnstown, entitled “Abraham Gesner – A Pioneer of the Modern Oil Industry.” Dr. Brice, who in 2009 authored the biography of Edwin Drake, will be portraying Dr. Gesner in a living history depiction augmented with modern PowerPoint projections.

Born in the Maritime Provinces of Canada, Abraham Gesner (1797-1864) was a trained physician and self-taught geologist. He is best known for being the first to distill kerosene from crude oil in 1846. The use of this clean-burning petroleum derivative to light the night led to our modern oil and gas industry. Dr. Brice will illuminate the story of that early development and the man behind it.

The 2017 Petroleum Program Series is sponsored by Friends of Drake Well, Inc., American Legion Cleo J. Ross Post #368, VFW Bruce Shorts Post #5958 & the Petroleum History Institute.

Located off Route 8 south of Titusville, Drake Well Museum and Park is open year round. Spring hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5:00 p.m. Drake Well Museum and Park is administered by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission in partnership with Friends of Drake Well, Inc. and is part of the Pennsylvania Trails of History® (www.PATrailsofHistory.com).

Additional information about the 2017 Petroleum Program Series and other museum programs is available at www.drakewell.org, by calling (814) 827-2797, or find us on Facebook at Drake Well Museum and Park.

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Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission