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Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission Awards Certified Local Grant to Chadds Ford Township

The Chadds Ford Township Board of Supervisors are pleased to announce that Chadds Ford Township has been awarded the Certified Local Government grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) in the amount of \$20,000. This grant will allow the Township to conduct a feasibility study of the property known as Mother Archie's Corner.

Mother Archie's Corner, located at Ring and Bullock Road, was formerly the Bullock Octagonal School. Lydia A. Archie purchased the building in 1891 turning it into a church where she became the first ordained female Preacher in the African Union M.P. Church. Referred to as Mother Archie by residents and neighbors, Lydia served the community until her death in 1932. Mother Archie's final resting place is the cemetery adjacent to her church.

Since acquiring the property in 1954 the Township has maintained the property through landscaping and clean up efforts. Chair Samantha Reiner, Vice Chair Frank Murphy, and Supervisor Noelle Barbone are proud to move forward with this grant and create a feasibility study to determine the best method of preservation for this special and historic property. Supervisor Barbone expressed the following, "Mother Archie's Church is an integral part of our Chadds Ford history and respect for the black community. Remembering Mother Archie and respecting what she built is important for many who live in and around Chadds Ford. Chair Reiner, Vice Chair Murphy, and I feel it is time to showcase the property so people can see it for its beauty and remember its history."

As part of the feasibility study process, a consultant will be selected to conduct the study. Additionally, there will be an opportunity for the public to share their comments on Mother Archie's Corner with the Board of Supervisors.

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