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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Mechanicsburg Jewelry Store Celebrates 100 Years in Business

MECHANICSBURG, PA – October 2, 2014 – Generations of families have frequented Mumma’s Jewelry Store for personal treats, treasure repairs, and gifts. This week, the store at 34 West Main Street in downtown Mechanicsburg, is celebrating that relationship and its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

While the exact date of the store opened has been lost in time, the year was recorded on receipts. The celebration inspired a recent Ice Cream Social at the town’s also historic Eckel’s Drugstore, currently Eckel’s Ice Cream Fountain.

In 1914, Fred Dietz Mumma, 24, opened the store after he completed training in watch repair and engraving at the Bowman Technical School in Lancaster. Three years later, he was called to service overseas in World War I, serving mostly at Verdun. Not one to let his technical training go to waste, he repaired the watches of his friends and ordered jewelry for them while his father and two brothers nurtured the store and filled the orders.

Fred’s son and current owner of the store, William “Bill” Mumma, began to work in the store part-time while still in school. He became full-time almost 60 years ago, and then became the proprietor in 1962 when his father retired.

Both father and son have contributed generously to the happiness and life of the community, a service recognized by Mechanicsburg Mayor Jack Ritter, Borough Council, the Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce, State Senator Pat Vance, State and National Representatives Sheryl Delozier and Scott Perry, and a room full of fans.

One logical explanation for the long existence of the store? A caring father and a caring son: knowledgeable, pleasant, honorable craftsmen serving devoted customers one generation after another. Bill Mumma explains, “Imagine the pleasure of going to work every day in a place where almost everybody who comes through the door wants to make somebody happy. I love it.”



*Jeff Palm, left, Executive Director of the Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce, presents a certificate of congratulations to Bill Mumma on the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Mumma’s Jewelry Store.*

About the Chamber:

The Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce supports a variety of community, business and economic development programs throughout the year. It has over 400 business and residential members throughout South Central Pennsylvania; and focuses on the Mechanicsburg Borough, Hampden, Lower Allen, Monroe, Silver Spring and Upper Allen Townships. For more information, contact the Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce, 6 West Strawberry Alley, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055; telephone (717)796-0811; e-mail [info@mechanicsburgchamber.org](mailto:info@mechanicsburgchamber.org).

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