

Forney holds a Ph.D. in organic chemistry from Syracuse University and a B.S. from Juniata College in Huntingdon, PA. His other talents include choral singing and

“I like to paint more than I like to market my work.” Leroy Forney’s artwork is available to view by appointment. [www.LeroyForney.com](http://www.LeroyForney.com).

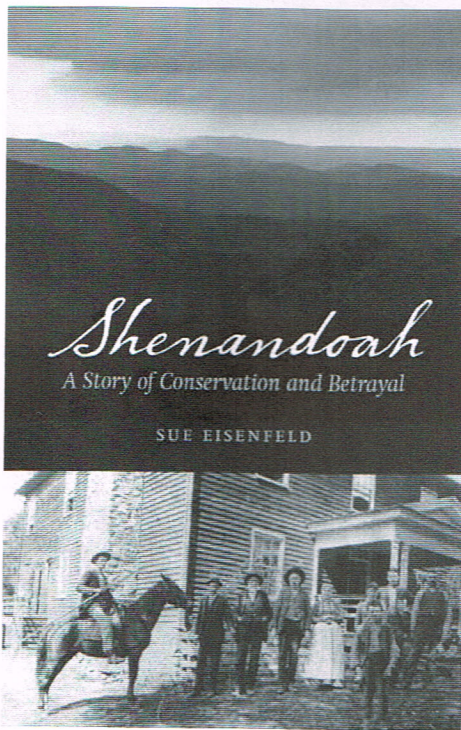
showing all new work, featuring drawings and multiple images.

## Author and Greenfield Alum Sue Eisenfeld to Speak at Athenaeum

By Bonnie Eisenfeld

Sue Eisenfeld, a former Center City resident and graduate of the Albert M. Greenfield School, will speak about her new book, *Shenandoah: A Story of Conservation and Betrayal*, at the Athenaeum on Washington Square, Wednesday, March 25 at 5:30 p.m. (Free for members; \$10 for non-members.)

Eisenfeld traces her off-trail hiking adventures and discoveries of old cemeteries, house foundations, and artifacts in the backwoods, and tells the true story of the American settlers who were forced to leave their homes in Virginia’s Blue Ridge Mountains during the FDR administration’s creation of Shenandoah National Park.



Eisenfeld's book.

Eisenfeld has been hiking the park for more than 20 years, initially for the scenery, but then became fascinated with the history of the dispossessed mountain residents, who she feels were treated unfairly. As a child growing up in Philadelphia, Eisenfeld first became interested in American history when her mother (this writer) took her to visit historic cemeteries such as Old Pine, Christ Church, and Laurel Hill, as well as historic homes such as the Todd House and those on Elfreth’s Alley. Her interests included not just famous historic figures but also the lives of ordinary people.

Eisenfeld attended the Philadelphia High School for Girls and the University of Pennsylvania. She developed an interest in the global environment, which led to an internship at the Clean Air Council. After two years at Penn, she transferred to Cornell University, where she earned a B.S. in Natural Resources in 1992. While at Cornell, she became a hiker and an activist in protests against the use of pesticides on the college lawns.

Upon graduation, Eisenfeld was hired as an environmental policy consultant at ICF International in Virginia, followed by more than 15 years as an environmental communications consultant at Eastern Research Group, working primarily for federal agencies such as the Environmental Protection Agency. She produced nationally distributed educational materials and campaigns about various issues, including a documentary about environmental injustice in a small, poor, minority community in South Carolina and its subsequent transformation and recovery. Fellow Philadelphian Elinor Bacon, daughter of renowned planner Ed Bacon, was also involved in the project.



Author Sue Eisenfeld.

In addition to her consulting career, Eisenfeld has been a freelance writer since the 1990s. Her articles and essays about history, hiking, travel, nature, food, health, the environment, and personal experiences have been published in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and *Washingtonian*, as well as numerous literary journals and regional travel magazines.

In 2009, Eisenfeld earned a Master of Arts in Writing from Johns Hopkins University, where she is now on the faculty in both the M.A. in Writing and M.A. in Science Writing Programs, the only online science-writing program in the nation, for which she created the first online science-writing workshop. Her essays have been listed among the Notable Essays of the Year in *The Best American Essays* (2009, 2010, 2013). She is a four-time Fellow at the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts. [www.sueeisenfeld.com](http://www.sueeisenfeld.com)