



Milestones

THE HARRISON TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

LIFE IN THE TIME OF COVID

Perhaps not since World War II have international events so directly impacted daily life here in Harrison Township as has COVID-19. Like the rest of the world, our Society has had to grapple with the reality that business cannot proceed as usual for the foreseeable future.

At the March Board meeting—the last in-person meeting this year—members and our Township Committee representatives struggled to decide whether or not to cancel the opening reception for *Art on the Hill* that was planned to take place in two days on March 13th. Ultimately we determined to proceed with extra precautions given that it would be difficult to advise all invitees otherwise. As it turned out the reception was well-attended and received by artists, members and guests. With catered refreshments and live music by a Rowan University student it was a festive occasion; however, with the pandemic actively spreading in New Jersey, the Board determined that evening that it would not be safe for our visitors and volunteers to open to the public.

Likewise our popular and long-running school program was cancelled as schools themselves closed down.

Although Old Town Hall Museum has remained shuttered since then, the Society has not ceased to function. The Board now meets virtually via Zoom and maintains regular contact electronically. Board elections took place as required at the Annual Meeting in May. Extensive repairs and improvements are taking place at Richwood Academy Cultural Center. Much needed reorganization of the collections storage areas at Old Town Hall are underway as is

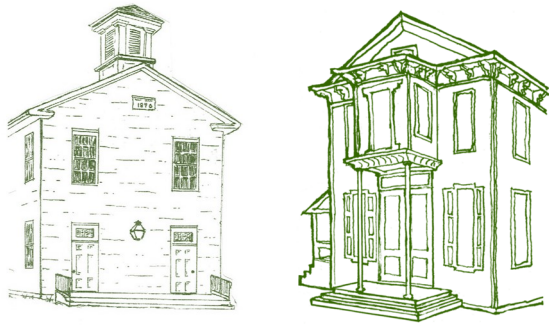
collections cataloging. Donations to the collection have also continued. Township Committee members have been contributing narratives to our archives documenting how local government is responding to this public health crisis and a Clearview student is undertaking a COVID-19 project collecting personal narratives on how the pandemic has impacted life locally. You can read more about these activities elsewhere in this edition.

As we go to press, Old Town Hall will open for Mullica Hill's annual Fall Weekend, Saturday, October 10, 1-3 pm and continue with the same hours on Saturdays and Sundays through October 31. We will be implementing safety protocols to protect staff and guests. Our first livestreamed programming at Richwood Academy Cultural Center will take place November 1st.

We also recognize that the pandemic will affect the Society's two major fundraisers—the Mullica Hill Ghost Walk (now cancelled) and the Groundhog Day Dinner. These two events typically fund almost half of our annual budget. To address this anticipated shortfall the Board approved a Shop Local discount coupon project to help support local businesses and provide a new income stream for the Society.

We will keep you informed as all these programs and projects move forward. Find the latest information at our Facebook page.

We want to assure you that although business is certainly not usual, we remain in business as actively and as safely as possible.. Your membership and support continue to be essential to our success and for that we are well and truly thankful.



**HARRISON TOWNSHIP
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
PO Box 4 ♦ Mullica Hill, NJ
08062**

Phone: 856-478-4949
E-mail: hthsmhnj@gmail.com
harrisonhistorical.com
Follow us on Facebook

Old Town Hall Museum (1871)
62-64 South Main Street, Mullica Hill,
NJ

Richwood Academy Cultural Center
(1870)
836 Lambs Road, Richwood, NJ

HOURS
Please check the Society's Facebook
page for updates.

EXHIBITIONS

*Art on the Hill: Contemporary
Artists of Old Harrison* is featured
in the Memorial Gallery.
Due to public health restrictions
the Second Floor galleries will
remain closed this Fall.

PROGRAMS

Concerts and programs are
presented in partnership with
Rowan University at Richwood
Academy Cultural Center.
Programs are posted at the
Society's Facebook page and
website.

HTHS ANNUAL FUND CONTRIBUTORS

Thank you for your financial support and making our
projects possible! Total - \$3,767

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| June & George Armstrong | Constance Latham |
| Leona Ballinger | Elizabeth McCutcheon |
| Claire Bartholomew | Daryl Mecklem & Kathy
Howard |
| Sharon & Brian
Bartholomew | Maxine & Phil Mino |
| JoAnn & Scott Bergman | Alice Montagnoli |
| Laura Boyd | Faith & Evans Neale |
| Claire Campbell | Joanne & Lawrence Owen |
| Dolores Daniels | John Pinzka |
| Roxanne & Paul Davis | Lois Pinzka |
| Marlyne and Roy Duffield | Plain Hope Fund |
| Betty Enzman | Charlotte Preston |
| Dede & Andy Eubanks | Doris Reuter |
| Helen Evans | Barbara & Richard Ridgway |
| Magdeline & Webber Gaunt | Sandra & Michael Ridgway |
| Connie & Edward Gentile | Norman Schleicher |
| Donna Grasso | Ann & Bob Schumann |
| Suzanne & John Grasso | Iowa Smith |
| Marilyn & Bob Greene | Mary & John Snively |
| Franklin Heim, Jr. | Judy Suplee |
| Dr. Jean Heisman | Lydia & David Taylor |
| Natalie Heritage | Liz & Charles Tisa |
| Gloria & Robert Horvay | James F. Turk |
| Diane Jensen | Peggy Warner |
| Mary B. Kirby | Marion White |
| Yvonne & Harry Knorr | Donna Wood |

**HARRISON TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY
EXECUTIVE BOARD**

- President:* Robert Schumann
Vice President: David Tinney
Recording Secretary: Paul Davis
Corresponding Secretary: Claire Bartholomew
Treasurer: Barbara Ridgway
Township Committee Liaisons: John Williams
Adam Wingate

Board Members:

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Leona Ballinger | Richard Ridgway |
| Suzanne Grasso | Scott Rowe |
| Robert Greene | Marge Scerbo |
| Karen Heritage | Mary Snively |
| Chris Knisely | Judy Suplee |
| Cindy Madara | James Turk |
| Maxine Mino | Michele Vallone |
| Alice Montagnoli | Marion White |

DUNKIN' DONUTS SPONSORS SHOP LOCAL DISCOUNT PROJECT



Kenny Patel presents Society President Bob Schumann with \$1,000 check at his Dunkin' Donuts Store in Richwood on September 28th.

The Society's new Shop Local Discount Book is off to a successful start with major support from Kenny Patel, local Dunkin' Donuts franchisee. Mr. Patel's generous sponsorship will greatly contribute to the success of this new endeavor.

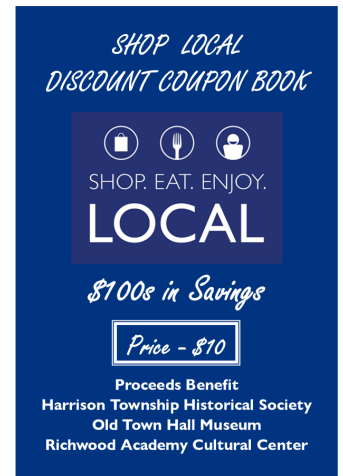
Indeed the support of the local business community has been very gratifying. Over 50 businesses in Harrison, South Harrison and Elk Townships are participating with special discounts and offers from A (auto repairs) to Z (zucchini). The coupons are valid through December 31, 2021, plenty of time to take advantage of all the savings that are available.

Books are only \$10 each and will be available this fall at:

The Old Mill Antiques Mall
1 South Main St.
The Parsonage,
31 S. Main St.

We will announce the book's availability on our Facebook page.

Support our local businesses and the Society and enjoy the savings - the books also make great stocking stuffers!



ART ON THE HILL OPENS OCTOBER 10TH FOR FOUR WEEKS

What is new eventually becomes history, which is why the Society collects and documents the cultural and civic life of our community today. *Art on the Hill* examines the creative work of present-day artists.

Members will recall that six years ago we explored our community's artistic heritage in *Originals: 150 Years of Artistic Expression*. Most of that work had rarely or never been seen by the public and probably had never been shown during the artists' lifetimes.

Art on the Hill: Contemporary Artists of Old Harrison celebrates the work of living local artists and the range of work on exhibit is extraordinary. Guest curator Lynne Perez, Mullica Hill Art Center, has assembled a wonderfully diverse installation.

This exciting exhibition now finally opens to the public on Saturday, October 10, 1-3 pm, and will continue through October. All recommended protocols will be in place including masking and social distancing so all visitors can enjoy and appreciate these wonderful works in comfort and safety. Don't miss this opportunity to appreciate the creativity of our neighbors and friends.

THE HARRISON TOWNSHIP
HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS:



Art on the Hill

Contemporary Artists of Old Harrison

October 10 - 31, Saturday and Sunday, 1-3







**LOCAL ARTISTS EXHIBITING
PAINTING, SCULPTURE,
PHOTOGRAPHY, GLASS, METAL
AND TEXTILES**

OLD TOWN HALL MUSEUM | 64 SOUTH MAIN STREET, MULLICA HILL, NJ
www.harrisonhistorical.com

ARTISTS AND MEMBERS OPENING RECEPTION ATTRACTS A LARGE AND APPRECIATIVE AUDIENCE



Andrew Covello performs in the gallery.

Photo: Bob Schumann

Art on the Hill opened on Friday evening, March 13, 2020, with a private reception for the participating artists, members and friends of the Society. It was a festive event, complete with live music in the gallery provided by Andrew Covello, a student from Rowan University, and bountiful catered refreshments in the schoolroom.

Nonetheless, two days earlier the Board struggled to decide whether it would be safe and prudent to proceed given the alarming increase reported in COVID19 infections spreading in New Jersey. It would have been difficult to cancel at such short notice and given that it was unlikely there would be a large gathering in the Hall at any particular moment, the Board determined it would be safe to proceed with extra sanitary precautions taken for food service.

Not knowing how many would actually attend under those circumstances it was both surprising and gratifying that over 70 guests attended over the three-hour event. It was a lovely evening, but by that time it was clear that we could not safely nor responsibly open to the public. The exhibition has remained shuttered since then.

All that said, we are pleased to finally invite the public to enjoy the wonderful and diverse showcase of the residents of Old Harrison, albeit for an abbreviated season. *Art on the Hill* will be open Saturdays and Sundays, 1-3 pm, October 10—October 31.

QUILTS AND COVERLETS DOCUMENTED



Friendship Quilt (detail), South Harrison Twp., 1843-48. Gift of Doris Gardiner Broomell 2020. 10.1



Rainbow Star Variation (detail), Melissa Kincaid Madara, Richwood, c1890. Gift of Marion White 2018.28.6



Free at Last, Phyllis Walker, Mullica Hill, 1995. Gift of Judy S. Suplee 2018.14.1

Quilts were among the first donations when the Society was founded in 1971. Since then the museum's collections have grown to include local samplers, coverlets, handwoven blankets and afghans and crocheted tablecloths dating from the 18th through the 20th centuries. The museum's shutdown provided the space to document and photograph the Society's entire quilt collection, a major accomplishment this summer.

RICHWOOD ACADEMY CULTURAL CENTER NEWS

New Programming Begins On-line in November

150 years ago this September the first students entered Richwood Academy. To celebrate this anniversary, the Society has repainted and installed new lighting in the first floor classroom and acquired new, comfortable seating in preparation for a series of celebratory programming.

Our vision for the Center is to restore the Academy as a place for life-long learning. We are working with Rowan University to present enrichment programs and performances there which can be livestreamed via the Society's Facebook page.

Public health restrictions have necessarily curtailed our plans for the Fall; however, we are excited to announce that our inaugural program will celebrate the Centennial of Women's Suffrage with a panel of three professors from Rowan University's Department of History. Broadcasting from the Center will be Dr. Janet Moore Lindman, Professor of History and Chair of the Department of History, Dr. Chanelle Nyree Rose, Associate Professor of History and Director of the Africana Studies Program, Dr. Melissa R. Klapper, Professor of History and Director of the Women's & Gender Studies Program. This timely and lively discussion will be livestreamed from the Academy via our Facebook page, Sunday afternoon, November 1st, 3 pm,

This inaugural program is co-sponsored by the Woman's Club of Mullica Hill and the Mullica Hill Women's Triathlon Club. We welcome these two organizations as partners and thank them for their support.

Although we can't yet welcome the public "back to school" in the Academy, we are bringing great programming into your home now. Plan to join us on-line on the November 1st.

New Holiday Ornament Commemorates Richwood Academy's 150th Anniversary

This summer the Executive Board accepted Mayor Louis Manzo's invitation for the Society to sponsor the township's holiday ornament project which last year featured Old Town Hall. This year's ornament features Richwood Academy and celebrates its 150th anniversary.

This is a limited edition of 200 and is available for \$20 each at Harrison Township Municipal Building, The Candy Box, 764 Lamb's Rd., Richwood, and The Old Mill Antiques Mall, 1 South Main St., Mullica Hill.

There is a very limited number of the Old Town Hall ornaments also available for \$20 each. Purchase both ornaments together for \$35. The proceeds will benefit the Society's programs.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Joan Boarts	Susan Massiglia
Roxanne Davis	Cindy Madara
Andy Eubanks	Geri & Dan Oldt
Catherine Flaherty	John Snively
Jeffery and Debby Jacques	

IN MEMORIAM

Jane Armstrong 9/3/2020
Mildred O. Baldwin 2/5/2020
Lester D. Shoemaker Sr. 1/16/2020

RICHWOOD ACADEMY CULTURAL CENTER

Perspectives on the Centennial of the Nineteenth Amendment

A Panel Discussion featuring

Dr. Janet Moore Lindman

Professor of History and Chair of the Department of History, Rowan University

Dr. Chanelle Nyree Rose

Associate Professor of History and Director of the Africana Studies Program, Rowan University

Dr. Melissa R. Klapper

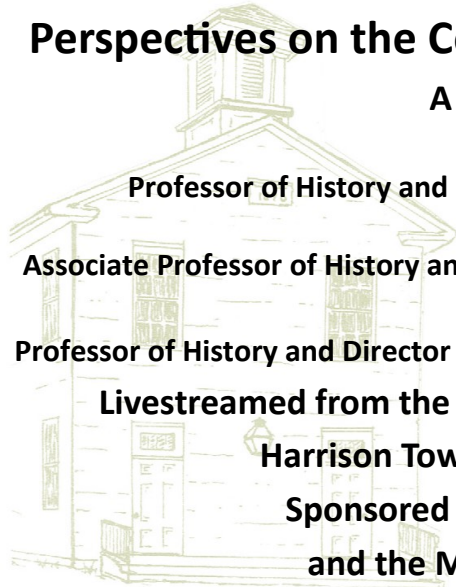
Professor of History and Director of the Women's & Gender Studies Program, Rowan University

Livestreamed from the Academy, Sunday afternoon, November 1, 3 pm

Harrison Township Historical Society on Facebook.

Sponsored by the Woman's Club of Mullica Hill

and the Mullica Hill Women's Triathlon Club



HAIL & FAREWELL: WELCOME ROBERT GREENE AND CINDY MADARA THANK YOU, DEE GRANT

At the Annual Meeting in May the Board bade farewell to Dee Grant. We thank her for her service and know we can continue to call upon her help in the future.

We also welcomed two newly - elected Board members, Robert Greene and Cindy Madara. Robert Greene was raised at a young age in a house on Route 45 across from Oscar Jenkins store in Jefferson, NJ. His mother and father grew up in the Mullica Hill area. They all attended and joined Mt. Calvary Baptist Church on High Street in Mullica Hill.

When he married Marilyn Patterson, he and his wife moved to Washington Township. They are still active members of Mt. Calvary. Robert is a retired Software Engineering Manager. He spends his time repairing rental properties, cutting grass and helping those in need. He loves researching and documenting history. He has helped document the history of the High Street School, Mt. Calvary Baptist Church and the John Green family back to 1850. He is a member of the Harrison Township Historical Society, the Gloucester County Historical Society and has participated in the annual Mullica Hill Christmas Tree lighting event and the December Mullica Hill House tours.

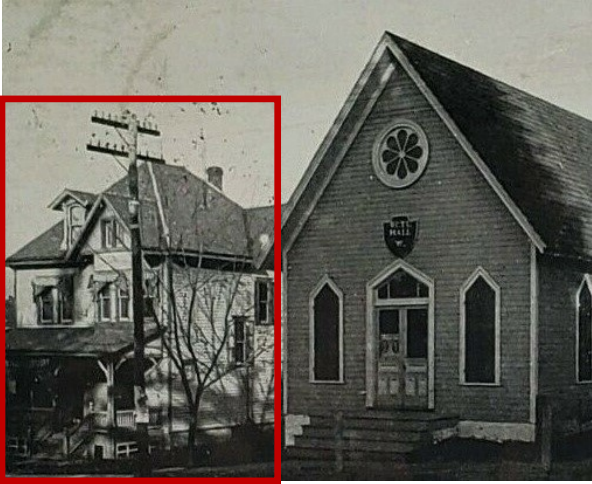
He is thrilled to be a member of the board and has learned a lot from the current members, as they document and preserve the area's history.

Cindy Madara is a lifelong resident of Mullica Hill, NJ. She grew up enjoying the rural landscapes and farms that surrounded the area and spent much time browsing the businesses on Mullica Hill's Antique Row, fascinated by the craftsmanship of artisans from the past and their history.

After marrying her husband, Bill Madara, she moved from the outskirts of Mullica Hill to Richwood, NJ and built a house in close proximity to the Richwood Academy.

Cindy is a graduate of Rowan University in Glassboro and LaSalle University in Philadelphia. She is a former educator, current flower farmer, and author. She can usually be found in her flower fields with a pen in one hand and a bouquet in the other, having been inspired to write by the artifacts found on the farm. She is delighted to be a board member for the Harrison Township Historical Society, joining a group of knowledgeable and dedicated members who continue to amaze her with their passion for preserving the area's history.

SALVAGING HISTORY



Poinsett House. 5 S. Main St., Mullica Hill, c1905. Photo: E. W. Humphreys, Woodstown HTHS Collection

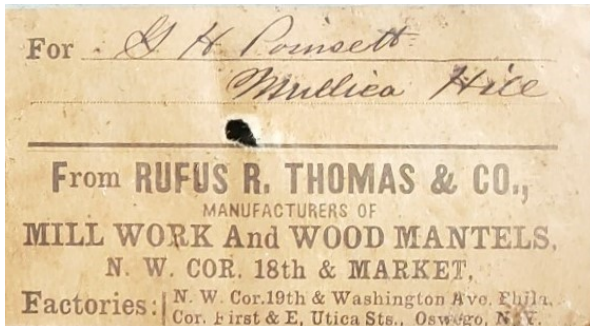
In late August the Township informed the Society that the Victorian house located at the corner of S. Main St. and Mullica Hill Rd. was scheduled to be razed in a few weeks. Although the window of opportunity was limited, the Society was given permission to salvage any architectural elements that it felt worthy of preservation. A small task force determined that the building needed to be measured and recorded photographically and that the staircase railing and paneling, parlor fireplace mantel, and the dining room's stained glass window and several doors, windows and moldings merited preservation.

Vice-President David Tinney led the salvage operation along with Tom Kennedy Jansen and Chris Knisely. Dave also photographed and measured all the rooms so that a complete record of the structure will remain at the Society.

G. H. Poinsett built the house c1895. Poinsett, who was related to Dr. Joel Poinsett for whom the poinsettia is named, was the proprietor of the adjacent feed mill and farmers' supply business. That building, which is now known as the Old Mill Antiques Mall, was built in the 1880s when the railroad line was extended to Mullica Hill. His residence is an example of a late 19th century Queen Anne Stick Style house and is a twin to the William and Revilla Poinsett House located in Swedesboro at 1214 Kings Highway.



Poinsett's Feed Store. 1 S. Main St., Mullica Hill, c1920 Photo: HTHS Collection



Gift of Harrison Township. HTHS Collections

In salvage operations like this sometimes there are unexpected discoveries. When the chestnut paneling was removed from the staircase, three shipping tags surfaced indicating that at least some of the millwork in the house was manufactured by Rufus R. Thomas & Co. in Philadelphia. The Thomas Company was established in 1851 and in the 1890s claimed to be the oldest manufacturer of and dealer in builders' millwork in the United States.*

We are grateful to the Mayor and the Township Committee for these significant architectural artifacts. The stained glass window (see p 9) will undergo stabilization and restoration and all these materials will be stored for future installation and as plans develop. We thank Dave Tinney, Tom Kennedy Jansen and Chris Knisely for their expert and efficient salvage and documentation work.

* *Engelhardt, George Washington, Philadelphia Pennsylvania, The Book of Its Bourse & Co-operating Bodies, Philadelphia, Lippincott Press, 1898-99., p. 149*

BEHIND THE SCENES: CARING FOR OLD HARRISON'S HISTORY



Post Office Storage Room

Next year marks the Society's 50th anniversary. Over these past 5 decades we have acquired through bequests, donations and purchases a remarkably comprehensive collection of artifacts and archives that document Old Harrison Township's history from prehistoric times to the present day. What is not always recognized, however, is that the Society is responsible for the proper care for all these objects so they will be available to future generations. Needless to say storage area at the museum is limited and so we must make the most efficient use of space as possible.

Because of Old Town Hall's closure it was possible to move objects from the storage areas on the second floor out into the galleries and turn the entire floor into a work space. The school room on the first floor was converted into a workroom where large textiles—quilts, coverlets, and afghans—could be photographed, measured, assessed, cataloged and refolded into archival boxes. Boxed collections were reconfigured for compact storage inside the Post Office area. Shelf lists were compiled and the handwritten contents inventories are being transcribed into a searchable format.

The large collections storage area on the west side of the gallery was outfitted with large shelving units which were created by repurposing pipe-leg tables from Richwood Academy. A by-product of this work has been identifying and transferring a few objects that do not meet the Society's collecting focus. In August, for example, the Board approved transferring a 19th century homespun blanket made at Park Plain in Woodbury and a lace cap said to have belonged to Ann Cooper Whitall of Red Bank to the Gloucester County Historical Society, who expressed great interest in these acquisitions.

As we go to press re-housing is nearing completion. Karen Heritage, Chris Knisely, Barbara and Richard Ridgway, Marge Scerbo, Bob Schumann and Jim Turk have taken on this "behind-the-scenes" project.



West Storage Units

ORIGINAL TOWN HALL BENCHES RESTORED

When HTHS was founded in 1971, only two of Old Town Hall's original benches remained. The rest had been consigned and sold at Wilson's Auction in Pitman by the Township. Maj. Louis Reuter, one of the Society's founders purchased two of them and when the museum opened, placed one here



first on loan and later donated. Maj. Reuter's other bench ultimately came to the Society through the Reuter-Bilewicz Bequest. In 2018, another identical bench surfaced at Brooks Auction, Franklinville, with a local provenance and the Board approved its purchase. All but one of the five pieces we now owned required repairs and restoration, which were completed last year. The original brown paint was also restored so that we now have five pieces of original furniture back home at Old Town Hall. The funding for this project was provided through the Society's fundraising activities and members' donations.

PRE-PANDEMIC RE-CAP

Because newsletter production was disrupted by COVID-19 reporting about our signature annual events was delayed. As we reviewed the content scheduled for release in the Spring, these programs now seemed out of another time, as indeed they are. We trust that we will be able to resume these popular events in the future, but for now remember their success in 2019 and 2020 with gratitude and a little nostalgia.



MULLICA HILL GHOST WALK

The 2019 Ghost Walk was another success with over 700 attendees. We can't thank Lisa Rysinger enough for her tireless work in organizing this popular event every year. We greatly appreciate all that Lisa does. Also special thanks to: Jersey Unique

Minds Paranormal Society (JUMPS), blueplate, Naples Pizza, and Harrison Township Police Department. Also many thanks to all of our guides for leading the groups through town and sharing our haunting stories.

We hope that we will be able to return to our old haunts in 2021.

ANNUAL GROUNDHOG DAY DINNER

The 2020 Groundhog Day Dinner sold out and was a fun-filled evening for the entire family. In addition to the home-cooked menu, our program included emcee Paul Showers decked out in tails and top hat, a popular silent auction and perhaps the only opportunity in South Jersey to sing Groundhog Day songs led by Nancy Schroeck & Mary i. Throughout the dinner, guests were invited to check out the many items on the Silent Auction tables - items included gift baskets, gift certificates, jewelry and several homemade cakes, pies and sweets.

Trustee Michele Vallone shared that Punxsutawney Phil predicted an early spring as he could not find his shadow. This is only the 19th time out of 123 in his recorded history (there are 10 years where no record remains) that Phil hasn't been able to find his shadow. Given the extremely mild winter it appears that the 'hog was right!



*Stained Glass Window
Poinsett House
See page 7*

GROUNDHOG DAY DINNER SPONSORS & CONTRIBUTORS

THANK-YOU!

We are very grateful to the following businesses for their generous support for the 2020 Groundhog Day Dinner. We encourage you to personally acknowledge their contributions – let them know how much the Society's members and friends appreciate their assistance with this important fundraiser. A little gratitude goes a long way!

PLATINUM SPONSOR

Aspire Wealth Group, Mullica Hill

GOLD SPONSORS

Greenlane Contractors, Mullica Hill

SILVER SPONSORS

Bellia Print & Design, Woodbury & Glassboro

Brida Stone, Inc., Glassboro

Brooks Auction, Malaga

Law Offices of Brian J. Duffield, Mullica Hill

George Groppenbacher, George's Plumbing,
Mullica Hill

Joan W. Halter, CPA, Mullica Hill

Nancy Kowalik Real Estate Group, Mullica Hill

Matlack & Company, Glendora

Mullica Hill Art Center, Mullica Hill

New Town Dental, Mullica Hill

Anna K. Park, DMD, Mullica Hill

Rachel Rowe—Weichert Realtors, Mullica Hill

Regulator Roy, Mullica Hill

The Dressing Room on Main, Mullica Hill

Tori's Cleaners & Tailor, Mullica Hill

Village Bagels, Inc., Mullica Hill

BRONZE SPONSORS

Analytiq LLC, Scott McGeoch, Mullica Hill

Grasso Girls Farm Market, Mullica Hill

& West Deptford

Jean Heisman, O.D., Mullica Hill

The Old Mill, Mullica Hill

U.S. Construction, Mullica Hill

CONTRIBUTORS

blueplate Restaurant, Mullica Hill

Crescent Moon Coffee & Tea, Mullica Hill

Wawa Food Market, Richwood

Yellow Garage Antiques, Mullica Hill

DOCUMENTING THE PANDEMIC

Topic Suggestions

1. When do you remember first hearing about the corona virus or COVID-19?
 - a. What were your original thoughts about the coronavirus crisis? When did you realize it was serious news that you could not ignore?
 - b. When did you realize that daily life was going to change significantly?
2. What sources (e-newspaper, public radio, social media, spouse/family member) are you relying on for updates related to COVID-19?
 - a. How do you choose your source of information?
 - b. Why these sources?
 - c. How closely do you follow these sources to stay informed? Or, how frequently are you checking “the news” for updates?
 - d. Has this changed how you feel or think about certain sources?
3. Where are you sheltering? Are you staying home? Are you at a family member’s house? Why did you decide to shelter where you did?
 - a. Who are you with on a day-to-day basis? Has it brought you closer together?
 - b. What preparations did you or your family members make?
 - c. How has your daily routine changed as a result of the quarantine (e.g. with pets, with kids, with elderly parents, with work)?
 - d. Have you established a new routine while self-isolating? Please describe.
 - e. How are you feeling about your current situation? Do you feel isolated? Are you enjoying time away from school/work?
 - f. Are you comfortable finding alternative ways to stay connected to others?
4. Is COVID-19 changing your view of certain occupations (e.g. emergency responders, police, doctors, sanitation workers/janitorial services, grocery store workers, FedEx/USPS)?
5. How is the coronavirus affecting you?
 - a. How are you coping with social distancing? Is it a challenge?
 - b. What passion project/hobbies are you starting/completing or what new/old skill are you learning/relearning during the quarantine?
 - c. What’s a daily pleasure that you miss right now?
 - d. Have your social habits changed in any significant way? Are you socializing more virtually than you would have pre-pandemic?
 - e. Have you participated in any virtual experiences like virtual hangouts, netflix parties, etc.? What programs are you using? Do you enjoy socializing this way? Has it become a new routine or tradition?
 - f. Personal hygiene routines? Cleansing or disinfecting groceries, deliveries, showering when you return home from going out, washing clothes worn outside right away?
6. Are you or someone in your community (school, business, retail chain) performing a “selfless act” during the pandemic? Please describe.
7. What celebrations have you had to cancel or postpone? Birthdays, weddings, engagements, showers? How did you celebrate?
8. What has brought you relief during your days in relative isolation? Why?
10. How do you think the pandemic will impact the future? What will be different? What will stay the same?

DOCUMENTING THIS MOMENT IN HISTORY

It is unusual for worldwide events to impact local history so directly, yet all of us find ourselves and our community affected by COVID19. Cognizant of the significance of this historical moment, the Society invited the members of Harrison Township Committee to document their experiences and perspectives as township leaders and citizens and submit them to the Society for preservation in our archives. The resulting collection constitutes a resource that will prove valuable to future researchers and we thank Mayor Manzo and the Committee for their enthusiastic response

Coincidentally, we received an email from Samantha Mallet this Spring, then a rising Clearview senior, who was interested in volunteering. Because the museum was closed, we suggested a COVID documentation project which could be undertaken remotely. Samantha responded enthusiastically.

“I have a deep passion for history and was very thankful when I got the opportunity to conduct a project for COVID-19,” she wrote. “I’m very excited because it is not every day that a worldwide major event happens and I get to listen to people’s experiences hands-on. The COVID-19 pandemic has greatly affected the world and it’s so important that future generations get a full understanding of what people experienced. “

In addition to writing her own narrative, Samantha is interviewing her classmates and teachers so that the resulting collection incorporates the perspectives of young people that are so often missing in historical records. As Samantha has told us, “These are stories that will be read over for decades to come and it feels like such an honor to be contributing to something so important. I’m very grateful to be a part of the project and I love hearing about what people have gone through during such a hard time.”

We are very grateful to Samantha for her important contributions to the Society’s resources.

We’d like to encourage you to add your narrative to our collection as well and have included a list of topics that can help you frame your thoughts. Mail your story to us at PO Box 4, Mullica Hill, NJ 08062 or e-mail to hthsmhnj@gmail.com along with the authorization form allowing us to accession your submission. We are all a part of local history.

DOCUMENTING THE PANDEMIC

Donation Authorization

Name							
Address							
email							
Age	Under 20		20-40		41-60		61+
Date							

In submitting this document I acknowledge that this submission will be collected and preserved by the Harrison Township Historical Society. I furthermore grant permission for this material to be used by researchers and the public for educational purposes including publications, exhibitions, World Wide Web, and presentations.

By checking this box I agree to the uses of these materials as described above.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| October 10 & 11 | <i>Art on the Hill</i> opens at Old Town Hall Museum, 1-3 pm
Mullica Hill Fall Festival Weekend |
| October 17 | Festival of Antiques, Gloucester County 4-H Fairgrounds
275 Bridgeton Pike, Mullica Hill, NJ 08062, 9 am -4 pm
<i>Art on the Hill</i> , Old Town Hall Museum, 1-3 pm |
| October 18 | <i>Art on the Hill</i> , Old Town Hall Museum, 1-3 pm |
| October 24 & 25 | <i>Art on the Hill</i> , Old Town Hall Museum, 1-3 pm |
| October 31 | <i>Art on the Hill</i> closes at Old Town Hall Museum, 1-3 |
| November 1 | <i>Perspectives on the Centennial of the Nineteenth Amendment</i> , a panel discussion on-line from Richwood Academy Cultural Center at HTHS on Facebook, 3 pm |

For more information on Harrison Township Historical Society please visit our website: www.harrisonhistorical.com

Follow us on

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HARRISON TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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