The SHS Newsletter will be going paperless! In an effort to make the most of our generous donations, as well as being good stewards of the environment, we have phased out the print version of Whisperings since 2018.

If you wish to still receive a paper copy, please let us know so we can add you to the updated mailing list. If we do not have your email address, please let us know so we can add you to the email list, so you don’t miss out on any of our newsletters.

Thank you for your continued support!

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2019 ANNUAL MEETING

On Friday, January 25th, the Smithtown Historical Society hosted its annual Member’s meeting. We kicked off the evening around 6:30 pm with a potluck dinner in the Brush Barn. At 7:30, a short business meeting was held to bring everyone up to date on all the new projects that the Society has been working on. We had a brief review of the past year and asked for any member input for future plans/events within the Society. The reelections of our board members Ken Donato, Maureen Smilow, and Carolyn Borella were motioned, seconded, and accepted so they may each continue their terms of service.

The Society also announced and introduced this year’s Heritage Ball Honorees at this meeting. The Partnership in History Award for this year will be presented to Supervisor Ed Wehrheim, for his support to the Historical Society; the Cornelia Stewart Smith Butler Community Service Award will be presented to Diane Motherway, Executive Director of the King’s Park Chamber of Commerce; and the Rockwell Award will be presented to Lee Corbani, for his work in maintaining and preserving our properties.

Every year the Society recognizes its volunteers by selecting a volunteer for their dedication and selfless service to the Society. This year’s Hancock-Harms Award (named after two longtime volunteers, Tom Hancock and Ethel Harms) honored local couple Gary and Carrie Tierno. We thank them for always being the first to volunteer their time and hard work!
Dear Friends:

We have kick started 2019, and before we know it, the Spring will be upon us. The birth of Spring here at the Smithtown Historical Society means that it’s time for growth and change.

We hope that you were able to join us for our Annual Meeting in January, as we announced our 2019 Heritage Ball Honorees. The Partnership in History Award for this year will be presented to Supervisor Ed Wehrheim, for his support to the Historical Society; the Cornelia Stewart Smith Butler Community Service Award will be presented to Diane Motherway, Executive Director of the King’s Park Chamber of Commerce; and the Rockwell Award will be presented to Lee Corbani, for his work in maintaining and preserving our properties.

2018 was an exiting year for us at the Society. This was my first year as the Executive Director and I am both grateful and astonished by the progress we made in just one year. Our success this past year would not have been possible without the support of our local government and our dedicated board members. I urge everyone to visit our grounds to see and feel the progress we have made.

We try to come up with new and innovative events for our members each year, and 2019 is no different. This April, we are hosting a Royal Tea experience like no other. Set at the beautiful Brush Barn, and catered by Elegant Eating and The Mad Harlot Tea Society, this elegant spring Tea Party is a Royal experience fit for a Queen. We are also looking to host the water festival again this year, with bigger and better sprinklers, water games, as well as fire trucks for better water experience.

We are currently in the process of restoring the Obadiah Smith House, ca. 1700, which is the oldest of our properties. We have received a grant from the Preservation League of New York State for the initial assessment and we hope to take this project further this year.

There is so much to look forward to each spring, and I hope to see everyone take time out of their busy schedules to join us. Thank you again for all of your support, and I hope to see you soon at one of our programs.

Executive Director,
Priya Kapoor

**In Gratitude**

The Smithtown Historical Society is fortunate to have contributions from many sources and greatly appreciates each donation. We thank the following individuals & businesses for their contributions:

- Academy Fence Inc
- David & Kathy Albrecht
- American Roadside
- Ancient Order of Hibernians
- Branch Funeral Home
- Bridgehampton National Bank
- Buena Sera
- Butera’s of Smithtown
- Jim Calderone
- Carrabba’s Italian Grill
- Brian Clancy
- Clancycan, Inc
- Damianos Realty Group
- Elegant Eating
- NYS Assemblyman Mike Fitzpatrick
- GSE Dynamics
- Tom Hancock
- Hirsch Fuel, Inc
- Island Federal Credit Union
- Ruth & Joe Krowles
- Luso Restaurant
- Mannino’s Bagel Bakery
- Helen Matuz
- Millenium Diner
- Nardy Honda
- Nino’s Deli
- Old Street Restaurant & Bar
- Carole Palmer
- Dominick Salerno
- St James Funeral Home
- School House Remodeling
- SCOPE Operations Center
- Lisa Scott
- ShopRite Hauppauge
- Signature Premier Properties
- Skinner & Faber CPA’s
- Maureen & George Smilow
- Smithtown Bagels
- Smithtown Chamber of Commerce
- Smithtown Chiropractic
- Smithtown Chamber of Commerce
- John Valentine
- Stop & Shop of Smithtown
- Sterling National Bank
- John Valentine
- Watermill Caterers
- Winters Bros
- Whisper Woods at Smithtown
- Williams & Williams Insurance
- John Zollo
Tales for Tots

A Smithtown Historical Society & Smithtown Library Partnership Program

The Smithtown Historical Society is proud to partner with the Smithtown Library to continue our reading program for the new year! Tales for Tots is a free monthly themed story-time program for children ages 3-5 years old accompanied by an adult. The collaboration utilizes the two groups’ treasured resources, offering a reading adventure in the unique setting of the Bradley L. Harris Learning Room and Gallery in Smithtown Historical Society’s Roseneath Cottage. At 11 a.m. on the 2nd Friday of each month, toddlers and their caregivers gather to hear Smithtown librarians read stories, sing songs, and play games related to that month’s theme.

Although Tales for Tots is a free program, space is limited and reservations are suggested. To reserve a spot please call the Smithtown Library at 631-360-2480!

April 12, 2019 Spring
May 10, 2019 Celebrating Mom
June 14, 2019 Celebrating Dad
July 12, 2019 Beach

August 9, 2019 Summer
September 13 Back to School
October 11, 2019 Fall
November 8, 2019 Thankful
December 13, 2019 Winter

Save the Date

Spring Break

Daily Programs for Ages 6-12
April 22nd –26th
$30 per day($25 members)
Registration required,
Please call (631) 265-6768 for details

A Note from the Curator:

First, I would like to start with a huge thank you for such a warm welcome as I take on the position of Curator at the historical society. Your encouraging words and support are very much appreciated. I greatly look forward to being a part of such a wonderful institution and am excited to inform you all what I have been working on.

I am very happy to announce that big things are happening over at the Caleb Smith House. We have launched a complete re-haul of all the collection storage spaces. Each room will be reconfigured and organized with best museum practices to optimize space and protect the health of our collection. As we rehouse each object, we will make sure they are tagged and properly inventoried; eventually, all archival materials will be refreshed. While this is happening, object data will also be uploaded to our digital database, making the collection available for browsing online with the aim to reach a broader audience through more accessibility. Making the collection more accessible will create a greater interest in the historical society and its holdings.

During this transition period, our current exhibition Woven Wonders: Highlights from the Textile Collection will be on view for another year. But, you can look forward to a new exhibition opening in 2020!

Best,
Andrea Abrahamsen
Curator

Planned Giving

Your commitment to the Smithtown Historical Society is vitally important and we invite you to strengthen that commitment by considering a planned giving opportunity. Planned gifts ensure that SHS continues to preserve our history for future generations.

Call our office for more information.
The Smithtown Historical Society helped kick off the 2018 holiday season for the community with two festive family favorite events. First on Friday, November 30th, the Smithtown Historical Society hosted its annual Holiday Luncheon in the Frank Brush Barn. This year marked the 57th year of this treasured holiday tradition. As always, it was a delightful afternoon with great food catered by Elegant Eating, gracious community relations, and generous support for the restoration of our historic buildings. After dining, guests bought raffle tickets to win one of the beautiful Community Wreath Contest entries or one of the many festive holiday prizes donated by local merchants and Smithtown Historical Society supporters. There was also a boutique for gourmet treats, decorations and gift items. The spirit of the season carried over into Saturday, December 1st, celebrating the annual Heritage Country Christmas. Live music performed by the Smithtown Community Band, Long Island Blue Grass Group, Paul Antonios and the Dirty Stay Outs as well as Sampawam’s Creek set the tone of the day. Santa greeted kids, young and old in his workshop, a shadow puppet show brought “‘Twas The Night Before Christmas” to life and Lionel trains mesmerized guests as they looped on their track. At the center of the festivities was the popular Community Wreath Contest. Guests had the opportunity to view and vote on a selection of 17 unique entries. At the end of the evening each wreath was auctioned off in a drawing to raise funds for the Smithtown Historical Society. The Best in Show was awarded to Marianna Haluf'ska's wreath and Community Choice was awarded to Sandy Bond's wreath in the contest. Thank you to all the participants and contributing community members and Judge Myra Naseem. The Smithtown Historical Society wishes to extend a happy holiday to the Smithtown Community and thank them for their continued support.

On Friday, February 1st, the Smithtown Historical Society hosted its 3rd annual Chili Bowl Contest. The event was a great success! Chili was judged by the guests who attended this event. First prize winner was Mayte Giraski; Runner-up was Joan Harris and 3rd place went to Kathy Tusa. We congratulate all the winners and thank all participants for their contributions.

Chili Bowl Contest

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Every year, the Smithtown Historical Society offers junior year students in the Township of Smithtown an opportunity to win a $1,000 scholarship. The Mildred Smith Historical Essay Scholarship Contest is open to all 11th graders in attendance at Commack, Hauppauge, Kings Park, Smithtown East & West High Schools, as well as at The Knox School and Smithtown Christian School.

This year’s winner Bridget Flynn is a senior at Commack High School. She is the captain of her alter serving team at St. Anthony of Padua. She has been a member of the Girls Spring Track team since her freshman year and Cross Country and Winter track teams since her sophomore year. She is the Vice President of the Interact club, the junior version of Rotary, and is a member of the National Honor Society and the Science Honor Society.

Bridget recently joined the Commack Volunteer Ambulance Corps. She also volunteers yearly at the Maria Z Hope Foundation fundraiser, Relay for Life and at Bob Sweeney’s Camp Hope for grieving children. She participated in Built by Girls, a program to encourage girls to pursue computer science. Bridget is interested in the field of STEM and is considering a Math major when she heads to college next year. She hopes to attend Binghamton in upstate New York.

The Annual Mildred Smith Historical Essay Scholarship Contest is now in its twelfth year. 2018’s question was: How do you plan to become a hero for the Smithtown Community? Bridget wrote an intense essay. The essay was reviewed by a panel of Judges. On Thursday, October 18th, at the Smithtown Historical Society’s 2018 Heritage Ball, Bridget was awarded the $1,000 Scholarship, which she will be using for her college education.

12th Annual Mildred Smith Historical Essay Contest Announced for 2019

Every year, the Smithtown Historical Society offers junior year students in the Township of Smithtown an opportunity to win a $1,000 scholarship. The Mildred Smith Historical Essay Contest, a scholarship award, is open to all 11th graders in attendance at Commack, Hauppauge, Kings Park, Smithtown East & West High Schools, as well as at The Knox School and Smithtown Christian School.

Mildred Smith was an original founder of the Smithtown Historical Society and its first President. She possessed an intense passion for the history of Smithtown and was a great friend and supporter of the Society. The Smithtown Historical Society is proud to honor her through this annual essay contest and hopes that the spirit of Ms. Smith will live on in the devotion and hard work of students submitting essays for consideration.

The Annual Mildred Smith Historical Essay Scholarship Contest is in its twelfth year. This year we ask the contestants to interview someone who has lived in the area for at least 50 years. (4-6 pages). Submissions for the contest will be accepted from now until April 29th, 2019 up until 5 pm in the Smithtown Historical Society’s headquarters at the Roseneath Cottage, 239 Middle Country Road, Smithtown, New York 11787.

For more detailed information regarding the rules and regulations pertaining to the contest, please visit the Society’s website or call our office (631) 265-6768.
Thank you to our Business Patron Members

**Apple Bank**
**Bethpage Federal Credit Union**
**Boy Scouts Pack 340**
**Hirsch Fuels**
**Maltese Law Office**
**Smithtown Community Band**
**The Miller Group – Merrill Lynch**

**Easter Egg Hunt**
258 Middle Country Rd, Smithtown, NY | (631) 265-4768 | SmithtownHistorical.org

Join us for a morning filled with fun as children hunt eggs on the Smithtown Historical Property. Please bring your own basket. We will open the hunt at 10:15 for kids ages 3-6, and 10:45 for kids ages 7-12. In between we will offer refreshments, activities, and photo opportunities with the Easter Bunny!

**Smithtown Historical Society**

**Spring Lecture Series**
March 10: Edward Sierra presenting on Mario Cuomo - his mark and his life
March 15: Reel Harris & Minnie Siiler presenting on Caroline Smith Butler

**Irish Night**
258 Middle Country Rd, Smithtown, NY | (631) 265-4768 | SmithtownHistorical.org

Monday, March 11th | 7pm

Frank Brush Barn
211 E Main Street
Smithtown, NY

**Supermarket Bingo**
258 Middle Country Rd, Smithtown, NY | (631) 265-4768 | SmithtownHistorical.org

Saturday, March 16th
11AM–4PM

SMITHTOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY
FRANK BRUSH BARN
E. Main St. (Rte. 25) Smithtown, NY 11787

Admission: $5.00 – Children Under 12 (Under $5.00)

Operating Layouts on Display:
- Long Island Railroad – 40 Knap
- Frank Kopp Tramway
- Singapore
- Railroad Hobby Depot – N Scale

**Royal Victorian Tea**
Sunday April 14th, 2019 | 1:00PM

258 Middle Country Rd, Smithtown, NY | (631) 265-4768 | SmithtownHistorical.org

Join historia Ms. Priscilla Proper, Trustee of Long Island and the Smithtown Historical Society for a special experience this spring. All of the historic facades Frank Brush Barn, owned by East End Dining and the Mad Hatter Teas B, are for the tour. You will be tea for the tour with us.

With a variety menu just for the Historical Society, guests, families, and picture opportunities to your heart's content.

**Atlantic Base Ball Club 2019 Game Schedule**