



**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!**



**Your Heritage, Our Mission**



# WHISPERINGS

**Your Heritage, Our Mission**

Smithtown Historical Society Newsletter

Vol.III, Issue 1, March 2019

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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!



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239 Middle Country Road  
Smithtown, New York 11787



## Director's Message



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

Nardy Honda

David & Kathy Albrecht

Nino's Deli

American Roadside

Old Street Restaurant & Bar

Ancient Order of Hibernians

Carole Palmer

Branch Funeral Home

Dominick Salerno

Bridgehampton National Bank

St James Funeral Home

Buena Sera

School House Remodeling

Butera's of Smithtown

SCOPE Operations Center

Jim Calderone

Lisa Scott

Carrabba's Italian Grill

ShopRite Hauppauge

Brian Clancy

Signature Premier Properties

Clancycan, Inc

Skinnon & Faber CPA's

Damianos Realty Group

Maureen & George Smilow

Elegant Eating

Smithtown Bagels

NYS Assemblyman Mike Fitzpatrick

Smithtown Chamber of Commerce

GSE Dynamics

Smithtown Chiropractic

Tom Hancock

Stop & Shop of Smithtown

Hirsch Fuel, Inc

Sterling National Bank

Island Federal Credit Union

John Valentine

Ruth & Joe Krowles

Watermill Caterers

Luso Resaurant

Winters Bros

Mannino's Bagel Bakery

Whisper Woods at Smithtown

Helen Matuz

Williams & Williams Insurance

Millenium Diner

John Zollo





A Smithtown Historical Society & Smithtown Library Partnership Program

# Tales for Tots

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



**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.



## HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS



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 Sam-pawam's Creek set the tone of the day. Santa greeted kids, young and old in his workshop, a shadow puppet show brought



"T'was 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 Halufska'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.

## CHILI BOWL CONTEST

On Friday, February 1st, the Smithtown Historical Society hosted its 3rd annual Chili Bowl Contest. The event was a great success!

Food is always a large part of any social gathering, and this event was no different! There were 9 submissions this year and the event attracted almost 60 attendants.



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.



# Spring Farm Festival

239 Middle Country Rd. Smithtown, NY | 631.265.6768 | Smithtownhistorical.org



SMITHTOWN  
Historical Society

Saturday, May 4th | 12 - 4 pm



JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE ALL OUR FARM HAS TO OFFER!

\* Children's Games & Crafts \* Pony Rides & Petting Zoo \*

\* Sheep Shearing \*

Skills Demonstration Area Including:

\* Spinning & Weaving \* Woodworking \*

\* Pottery \* Wool Dyeing \*

\* Food Trucks \*

\* Barn and Carriage House open to view \*

The premier of "Little Fish" at 1PM & 3PM

A play by local artist Susan Buroker

And Special Appearance by Peppa Pig!

Info at 631.265.6768

Adults \$5 | Children \$3

Sponsored

By :



The Smithtown News





come Alive  
OUTSIDE  
With MAZELIS  
LANDSCAPE CONTRACTING CORP.

May 4th  
12-4 p.m.



2019

## Sponsorship Application

Become a Sponsor of the  
Smithtown Historical Society's Spring Farm Festival

NAME/COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

### Grower- \$250

Name/Logo inclusion on our website & in all printed materials (forward of sponsorship) in addition to the activity sign your donation is sponsoring. Please indicate the activity at which you would like your sign posted (*Please choose from the listing under Cultivator*)

### Cultivator- \$100

Name inclusion on our website & on a sign at the activity your donation is sponsoring. Please indicate the activity at which you would like your sign posted:

<input type="checkbox"/> Black Smithing	<input type="checkbox"/> Field Games	<input type="checkbox"/> Live Music
<input type="checkbox"/> Children's Craft	<input type="checkbox"/> Fleece Washing	<input type="checkbox"/> Sheep Shearing
<input type="checkbox"/> Picket Painting	<input type="checkbox"/> Grow to Give Garden	<input type="checkbox"/> Spinners & Weavers

### Interactive Educational Stations

☐ Clamming

### Farmer - \$50

Name inclusion on our website

To secure the sponsorship of your choice, please mail the completed form to:  
**Smithtown Historical Society 239 Middle Country Road Smithtown, NY 11787**  
Please send checks made payable to the Smithtown Historical Society  
**by Monday, April 22nd 2019**

You can also pay by credit card. ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Smithtown Historical Society (631) 265-6768

## SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED



The Smithtown Historical Society is proud to once again offer junior year students in the Township of Smithtown an opportunity to win a \$1,000.00 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 Coun-

try 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.





## Spring Lecture Series

Mondays @ 7:00pm in the Frank Brush Barn  
211 Middle Country Rd., Smithtown

**March 4<sup>th</sup>:** Edward Sierra presenting on Marie Curie - her work and life

Marie Curie, born in November 1867, was a Polish and naturalized-French physicist and chemist, plus a wife, mother, and an extraordinary scientist. She was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize, the first person to win it twice, and still the **only** person to win it in two different sciences!

Our presenter this evening will be Edward A. Sierra. Edward is a former Nuclear Reactor Operator, President Elect of the Long Island section of the American Nuclear Society, an Adjunct Instructor at Suffolk County Community College, and a proud US Navy submarine service veteran.

A science background is not necessary to enjoy this lecture.



In her lab in 1925 at the University of Paris

**March 18<sup>th</sup>:** Brad Harris & Maureen Smilow presenting on Cornelia Smith Butler



Who was the "First Lady of Smithtown"? Why it was none other than Cornelia Stewart Smith Butler, daughter of Judge John Lawrence Smith and a prominent figure herself in both Smithtown and New York society.

Learn how this generous and civic-minded woman contributed to the well-being of her neighbors through a presentation about her life, followed by a tour of the Judge J. Lawrence Smith Homestead where she spent part of her youth.

This lecture will be presented by Town Historian and former SHS President Bradley Harris and longtime Smithtown resident, SHS Trustee and History Teacher Maureen Smilow.

**Admission is Free & Open to the Public**

Light Refreshments will be served. For more information please call (631) 265-6768

## Irish Night

239 Middle Country Rd. Smithtown, NY | 631.265.6768 | Smithtownhistorical.org



SMITHTOWN  
Historical Society

Monday, March 11th | 7pm



Faraday's of Smithtown's will be serving their famous Corned beef & Cabbage, with potatoes and carrots.

Mulvihill-Lynch Studio will present their Irish Dancers

Live Traditional Irish Music played by John Corr

Plus 50/50 Raffle, Limerick Contest, and fun for all ages

Frank Brush Barn  
211 E Main Street,  
Smithtown, NY

Sponsored by :



Info at 631.265.6768

Members \$25 | Non Members \$30

Registration is required

## Supermarket Bingo

239 Middle Country Rd. Smithtown, NY | 631.265.6768 | Smithtownhistorical.org



SMITHTOWN  
Historical Society

Friday, March 22nd | 7pm



Not your grandmothers BINGO! Come for the fun leave with a bag or 2 of groceries!

Entry includes 2 sets of game cards. Additional cards \$1/each

Snacks, refreshments, and daubers provided.

Frank Brush Barn  
211 E Main Street  
Smithtown, NY 11787

Members \$10 | Non Members \$15

\$5/12 and under

Reservation is suggested.

Call 631.265.6768

## Easter Egg Hunt

239 Middle Country Rd. Smithtown, NY | 631.265.6768 | Smithtownhistorical.org



SMITHTOWN  
Historical Society

Saturday, April 13th | 10 am



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 up the hunt at 10:15 for kids ages 1-5, and 10:45 for kids ages 6-10.

In between we will offer refreshments, activities, and photo opportunity with the Easter Bunny!

\$5/Family

239 Middle Country Rd  
Smithtown

Call for more info:

(631) 265-6768

Rain cancels

## Royal Victorian Tea

239 Middle Country Rd. Smithtown, NY | 631.265.6768 | Smithtownhistorical.org



SMITHTOWN  
Historical Society

Sunday April 14th, 2019 | 1:30PM



Join Hostess Ms. Penelope Proper, Teatrix of Long Island and the Smithtown Historical Society for a royal tea experience like no other. Set at the beautiful historic Brush Barn, catered by Elegant Eating and the Mad Harlot Tea Society, this elegant spring Tea Party is fit for the royal lady within us all.

With a custom menu just for the Historical Society, games, raffles, and picture opportunities on the historic grounds.

Hats, gloves, and costumes are all encouraged, though not required; prizes will be awarded for Fanciest Hat and most Historic Costume!

Frank Brush Barn  
211 Middle Country Rd  
Smithtown, NY 11787

\$50 per person  
Registration Required  
631-265-6768



Thank you to our Business Patron Members

2018

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



## Atlantic Base Ball Club 2019 Game Schedule



Date	Opponent	Location	Rules
Sat. 4/13	NY/NJ Cup New York Mutuals Monmouth Furnace	Old Bethpage Village Restoration, Old Bethpage, NY	1864
Sat. 4/20	New Brunswick Liberty	East Jersey Old Town Village, Piscataway, NJ	1864
Sat. 4/27 Sun. 4/28	Atlantic 1864 Festival TBA	Atlantic Park, Smithtown Historical Society, Smithtown, NY	1864
Sat. 5/4	Monmouth Furnace	Holmdel, NJ	1864
Sat. 5/11	Red Onion	Cove Park, Weathersfield, CT	1864
Sat. 5/18	Prospect Park Spring Fling Monmouth Furnace	Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY	1864
Fri. 5/24 7:00 PM	New York Mutuals	John Maccarone Stadium Glen Cove, NY	1864
Sat. 6/1 Sun. 6/2	Brewery Ommegang Base Ball Festival TBA	Ommegang Brewery, Cooperstown, NY	1864
Sat. 6/8 11:00 AM	Old Dutch Day Providence Grays	Atlantic Park, Smithtown Historical Society, Smithtown, NY	1864 1884
Sat. 6/15	Providence Grays	Bristol Commons, Bristol, RI	1884 1864
Sat. 6/29 1:00 PM	New York Mutuals	Herrick Park, East Hampton, NY	1864
Sat. 7/6 11:00 AM	Bovina Dairymen	Atlantic Park, Smithtown Historical Society, Smithtown, NY	1864
Sat. 7/13	Elizabeth Resolutes	Railway River Park, Railway, NJ	1864 1870
Sat. 7/20 Sun. 7/21	Gettysburg Festival TBA	Schroeder Farm, Gettysburg, PA	1863
Sat. 8/3 Sun. 8/4	Doc Adams Festival TBA	Old Bethpage Village Restoration, Old Bethpage, NY	TBA 1870
Sat. 8/10 11:00 AM	Philadelphia Athletics	Atlantic Park, Smithtown Historical Society, Smithtown, NY	1864
Sat. 8/17 Sun. 8/18	Allegheny Ironsides Homesteaders BBC Butler Barons	Olympia Park, Pittsburgh, PA	TBA 1870
Sat. 8/24	Mountain Athletic Club	Little World's Fair, Grahamsville, NY	1864
Sat. 9/7	Philadelphia Athletics	Philadelphia, PA	1864
Sat. 9/14 11:00 AM	West Chester Brandywine	Atlantic Park, Smithtown Historical Society, Smithtown, NY	1864
Sat. 10/19	Providence Grays	Salem Common, Salem, MA	1864