

History in the making



The Parry Mansion

The Newsletter of the New Hope Historical Society

Newsletter Highlights

- New Hope History Day will feature display of Liberty Bell replica at the Parry Mansion
- Garden Tour sponsors honored
- New effort to pursue grant applications announced
- Garden Party will feature a "Taste of the Caribbean" and Live auction
- Revolutionary War in Solebury and New Hope event to be presented
- More than 200 attend Speaker Series
- A look at new benefits for Historical Society members
- The War of 1812—John Armstrong



Diversity locusts.



Welcoming antique garden gate.



Elegant stone barn.



Full frontal beauty of Pheasant Hill Farm.



Water, water everywhere.



Grass arch entrance.

Tickle Your Senses ^{at the} 20TH ANNIVERSARY NEW HOPE HISTORICAL SOCIETY Garden Tour on June 1st

by Susan Sandor



Mark your calendar for a garden tour that will tickle your senses, provide oodles of inspiration, and simply knock your proverbial socks off.

In celebration of the Historical Society's twentieth year of producing garden tours, seven private gardens will be open to the public throughout Bucks County. This self-guided tour is held one day only, Saturday, June 1st from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. rain or shine.

Just a little preview: There are two gardens in Carversville that could not be more diverse than the two chosen. One is a 1763 stone and stucco farmhouse perched alongside the Paunacussing Creek. The collection of garden ornaments here is extraordinary. The other is a formal garden designed by the owner in the manner used by Colonial landowners with a Lutyens bench as a focal point.

There is also a converted 1845 stone barn surrounded by woods, a stream, and moss paths winding through plantings. And another historic homestead featuring a specimen weeping Japanese maple that was purchased as a seedling at the 1939 World's Fair.

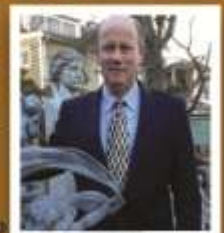
There is a handsome twenty-two acre refuge named Pheasant Hill Farm and a 127 acre property

called Hickory Hill that was once a cow pasture and stream valley that now has water everywhere!

Honorary chair, Mayor Larry Keller of New Hope, is opening his private gardens in town for the event and will also be giving a presentation there on the relationship between garden ornaments and plants at 4:15. It is the first time his gardens will be open for public viewing.

A full color brochure with pictures and description of each garden, map, and easy directions are included with each ticket. Ticket price is \$30 and Garden Rewards Bags stuffed with gifts and offers from national partners and local sponsors are available to the first 500 ticket holders.

Visit www.newhopehs.org or call 215-862-5652 to order your tickets now. Tickets will be available on tour day at the Parry Mansion Museum. Proceeds from the tour benefit the Parry Mansion Museum and the Society's goals for the New Hope community.



Mayor Larry Keller, honorary chair and talk host.



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From the Executive Director



Deborah Lang

Spring is the most fascinating time of the year for the Parry Mansion. The daffodils are up, our geese are again protecting their nest (by the base of the big tree near the creek) and again we open the doors to weekend visitors.

This year our first weekend opening is May 4th and 5th and of course we expect lines at the door every weekend from now until November. Last year we provided tours for hundreds of history buffs and there is every reason to expect even more visitors this year. I wish to invite you and your friends to visit our Mansion any Saturday and Sunday afternoon to get a better feel for our town's history and also meet and greet non-members who also come to our open doors with a smile.

If there is any chance that you know someone, even yourself, who might wish to join our tour guide staff please give me a call. In addition to opening the Mansion for tours, presenting The 20th Anniversary Garden Tour and planning The Garden Party, this time of year also allows us to host "History Day". This year the festivities will be held on Saturday May 25th beginning at noon. If you can stop by you will see younger citizens of our area presenting their history projects for the first time in public. This special day sponsored by the Mancuso Show Management group, will feature a replica of the Liberty Bell. This might be an excellent time to bring your children or grandchildren to the mansion to experience first-hand The Society's benefits.

I look forward to seeing you at our next event.

Best,

Deborah



HELP US CONNECT!

By Claire Donohue

The New Hope Historical Society has set an exciting and challenging agenda and you continue to play a major role in its success.

Both capital projects to enhance and maintain the magnificent Parry Mansion and educational and community programs demand a large budget. We are constantly looking for new sources of revenue. In addition to our ongoing fundraising activities, which you so generously support, we're asking your help in seeking foundation grants. Personal knowledge of organizations and personal relationships are an important factor when funding decisions are made and we are asking you to let us know of any foundations or grant-making organizations where you are involved. With a program or project that matches their mission, the added benefit of your endorsement could put NHHS in a favorable position to be funded.

Please contact me at grant-ed@comcast.net if you have family, friends or colleagues who can help in this effort or would like additional information.

History in the Making is a publication of the New Hope Historical Society

Roy Ziegler, Editor



An April gathering of garden tour sponsors.

We salute our 20th Anniversary Garden Tour Sponsors who help make this Bucks County community event a success.

by Susan Sandor

"We know spring is really here when the historical society's garden tour banner goes up," a local business owner said. Well, in mid-April a group of our sponsors lined up with the display banner that was planted on the lawn of the Parry Mansion Museum to promote the garden tour. From left is Brian R. Keyes, Attorney at Law; George A. Yarnall, Financial Advisor; Dee Dee Bowman, NHHS President; Linda Rowe, National Penn Bank; Herbert Sandor, lifetime member; Eliane M. Talec, David Rago Auctions; Susan Sandor, Strenk Sandor Advertising; Tom and Alycia Scannapieco, longtime supporters; Mayor Larry Keller, garden host and longtime supporter; Edwin Hild, NHHS V.P., Marianne Romano, The Bank of Princeton, Thomas K. Fischer, Builder Historical Restoration; Fran Affleck, Chris' Auto Body. A complete list of sponsors can be seen on our Web site at www.newhopehs.org, and we are so proud to call them our friends, including the media who have been generously covering the tour year after year. Thank you from our hearts!



Butterfly on buddleia themed note cards.

Some add-ons in celebration of our 20th year include blank note cards of our garden tour theme photo of a butterfly on white buddleia by Susan Sandor. Jazz up your correspondence with these pretty beribboned packets of five cards that are priced to sell at \$10.

New garden tour tiles designed, fired, and glazed locally by Twigcrafts will be sold for \$30 each while they last. The tiles are high relief with beaded hangers and are sure to put a smile on any gardeners face. Boxed for gift giving.



Double-glazed high relief tiles.

Commemorative limited edition bracelets designed and produced by artist Pearl Mintzer have charms representing the floral themes of the past five garden tours. Bracelets come in an organza sachet and sell for \$20.



Commemorative limited edition bracelets.

These items will be available at the garden gates and the Parry Mansion Museum. Note cards are also being sold at Angel's Cards & Gifts in New Hope and The Bank of Princeton in Lambertville.

Buy your tour tickets today online at www.newhopehs.org or call 215-862-5652 and tickle your senses at the gardens. It's a wonderful way to spend the first day of June!

Annual Garden Party to feature a Taste of the Caribbean and live auctions for Dickens Dinner and works of fine art



Chef Joseph Cummins

Chef Joseph Cummins, chair of the 2013 Garden Party, has created a menu that will offer guests at the Annual Garden Party a late-spring taste of the Caribbean, on Monday, June 10, from 5 PM to 8 PM. Jamaican Jerk Chicken and vegetables with Mojo sauce, mini pork sliders smothered in Captain Morgan's barbecue sauce, Island curry lime shrimp, and mangospa-

cho are just a few of the exotic concoctions that Chef Joseph has planned for the festive occasion. The Garden Party is a tribute to the sponsors and hosts of the Annual Garden Tour which celebrates its 20th year. The chef is owner of "Helping Hand Concierge" (www.helpinghandconcierge.com.) His company provides a variety of personal care services including dinner parties and exquisite dinners. Chef Cummins is a graduate of the Restaurant School in Philadelphia, and has worked with top professionals in the food industry such as David Duthie, Jim Coleman and Emeril Lagasse. He is a member of the Historical Society's Board of Directors.



The Dickens Dinner—December, 2012

For the fifth consecutive year the Garden Party will feature a live auction of several valuable items. The Dickens Dinner is a sumptuous feast that includes an eight-course dinner with a half dozen of fine wines to complement the courses. A cocktail party precedes the dinner. Guests complete the dining extravaganza with an exotic dessert served on the heated back porch of the Parry Mansion.



Parry Mansion by Al Lachman

The opening bid for the Dickens Dinner is \$3,500. You need not be present to bid.

The art auction will also feature an exceptional framed oil and acrylic on permanent translucent surface, 24 x 24, titled "Parry Mansion", graciously donated by renowned Bucks County Master Colorist, Al Lachman. He studied at Syracuse University, the School of Visual Arts and the Arts Students League in New York City. He became known for his pastel and oil paintings. He has been honored and received "Best of Show", in the Joseph Giffuni Memorial Award presented at the 20th Annual Exhibition by the Pastel Society of America at the National Arts Club in New York City, the highest honor bestowed on any U.S. pastelist annually. Al is known as a colorist for his luminous landscapes and painterly style his paintings both expressionistic and realistic at the same time. He has been honored for his lifetime achievements and contributions in American Art by "Who's Who in American Art" (2005-2006). His work is represented in numerous public and private collections including Ford Motor Company, Walt Disney Corporate Collection, Doylestown Hospital and the Hershey Corporation. Visit www.lachmanstudios.com.

Also on the auction block is a beautiful painting titled "A Touch of Spring, New Hope", a 20 x 20 inch oil on canvas, generously donated to the New Hope Historical Society by local artist Christopher Willett, a direct descendant of the renowned 19th century Newtown painter Edward Hicks. Chris attended Hartnell University in California, and Philadelphia Academy of Fine Art. Chris prefers to use a color pallet of rich warm earth tones; consistent with the traditional Bucks County Impressionist style. Chris' work has been exhibited at the Phillips Mill Art Show 2008 and the East wing Rotunda of the Pennsylvania State Capitol building in Harrisburg early in 2010. Willett is the owner of the Village Artworks in Lahaska. Visit www.christopherwillett.com. Opening bids are \$1,500. You need not be present to bid at the fine art auction.

A Message from the President



Dee Dee Bowman

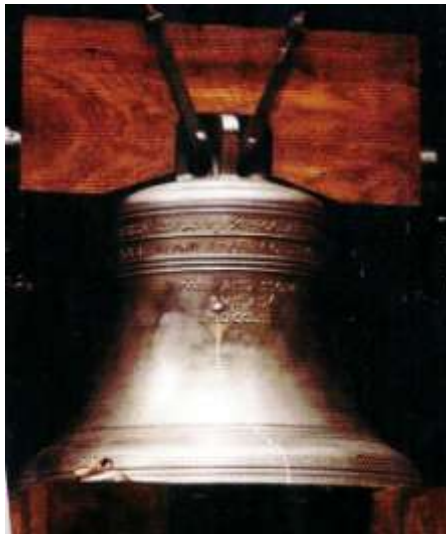
When I look at the New Hope Historical Society calendar, I am struck by how many events we host. We just completed a very successful Speaker Series, a program that seems to grow in stature and audience appreciation each year. In a few weeks, we will host New Hope History Day, an event that continues to attract large crowds, while providing an important scholastic outlet for our community's high school history students. And June is filled with wonderful Historical Society activities: the Garden Tour is our largest fund-raiser, and 2013 marks the 20th year we have invited guests to tour some of the most beautiful gardens in our area. We celebrate the success of the Garden Tour and thank the garden owners at our Garden Party, which has become an important fund raiser for us as well, with the auctioning of two exceptional paintings and the now-renowned Dickens Dinner. And rounding out the spring offerings is a lecture and tour program focusing on the American Revolution in Bucks County, done in cooperation with other community organizations. All these events require an enormous amount of effort by our Board, Members and Volunteers, as well as the generous gifts of our Sponsors and Donors. We are very grateful for your dedication, enthusiasm and support.

History Day will feature Liberty Bell replica at the Parry Mansion

The New Hope Historical Society will present its 9th annual New Hope History Day on Saturday, May 25, from 1 PM to 5 PM at the Parry Mansion in New Hope. The event is presented in cooperation with the New Hope-Solebury High School, and for the third consecutive year, History Day will be sponsored by Mancuso Show Management.

This year's theme is the Liberty Bell. In cooperation with the Providence Forum, the Historical Society will display the "Spirit of Liberty Bell" on the front lawn of the Parry Mansion. The bell is a living reminder of the thirst for freedom which inspired religious and civil liberties Americans enjoy today.

Wherever it travels, the bell is a tangible lesson on the history and heritage of American Liberty. It is a full-sized replica of the original Liberty Bell. It was cast in 2001 to commemorate a triple anniversary: 300 years of religious liberty; 250 years of the ordering of the first Liberty Bell; and 225 years of the first reading of the Declaration of Independence. The bell



Liberty Bell replica, "Spirit of Philadelphia"

Photo courtesy of the Providence Forum

weighs 3,200 pounds, was cast in the same London foundry as the original bell. It also has an etched crack, allowing it to ring in the same tone as the original.

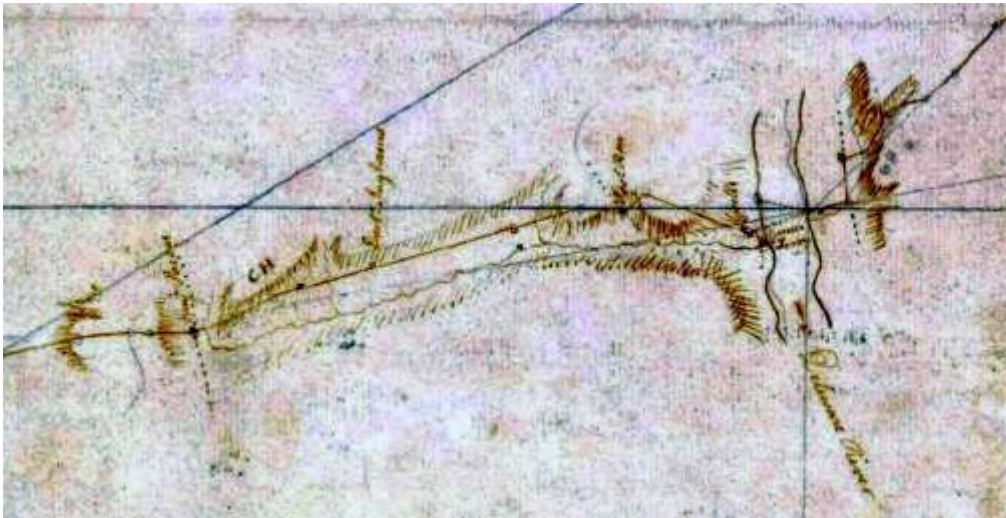
Students in the high school's Advanced Placement class, under the direction of Jon Gonsiewski, will present exhibits and papers regarding the original Liberty Bell's trek from Philadelphia through Bucks County in September, 1777, to be hidden in a church basement in Allentown.

It was feared that the British, who were about to occupy Philadelphia, would melt down the bell and ten other church bells in the city for use in manufacturing ammunition. By the end of June, 1778, the British had evacuated Philadelphia and the Liberty Bell and the church bells were restored to their rightful places.

Tours of the Parry Mansion will be presented all afternoon, and a walking tour of historic New Hope will be presented at 2 PM. The event is free and open to the public.

New Hope and Solebury in the Revolutionary War

Lecture on June 20 followed by Trolley Tour on June 23



Robert Erskine's map, "Crossing Correll's Ferry," a military topographic map covers the townships of Solebury in Bucks County, running through Deer Park and New Hope in Pennsylvania; Lambertville, Mt. Airy and Ringoes in New Jersey.

On June 20 Terry McNealy will discuss the sites along the way.

The June 23 Trolley Tour will trace the Continental Army's march through this area from Bogart's Tavern to the Delaware River in New Hope.

Perhaps those fortunate enough to live in Bucks County Pennsylvania take all its rich history for granted. Or, maybe, some of us just do not really know what happened here during the Revolutionary War. A program has been announced that will help reacquaint us with the important role that Solebury and New Hope played in that war. Charlie Huchet, member of the Phillips Mill Community Association, Robert McEwan, member of the Solebury Township Historical Society and Roy Ziegler, member of the New Hope Historical Society have produced an exciting, in-depth look at the activities that took place **in Solebury and New Hope as about 2,400 troops of Washington's army marched through the area** to the famous crossing on Christmas night, 1776, and later when the entire Continental Army crossed at **Coryell's Ferry, now New Hope, in June, 1778 on their march from Valley Forge to the important Battle of Monmouth in New Jersey.** The event will take place on the 235th anniversary of that crossing.

On June 20 at 7 PM at the Phillips Mill Community Association, Terry McNealy, historian, author and Secretary to the Board of Directors of the New Hope Historical Society will present a discussion of the events and places in Solebury and New Hope that were so prominent in the conduct of the Revolutionary War. **On Sunday, June 23 at 1PM a Trolley Tour will visit 13 places that Mr. McNealy's presentation will discuss.** The tour will leave from Phillips Mill and travel to Buckingham, where the first stop will be **Bogart's Tavern, the headquarters of General Nathaniel Green, where he had given the order to gather the Durham boats for General Washington's crossing.** The tour will travel along the Old York Road through Holicong, Lahaska, Solebury, stopping at Rolling Green Farm, Paxson-Rhoads estate, **Ferry Landing and the redoubts that had been constructed by Washington's army at what is now the site of the current New Hope Borough Hall.** Then it will be on to the Thompson-Neely House for the final stop before the Trolley returns to Phillips Mill for a wine and cheese reception from 4 PM to 5 PM.

Tickets for the lecture on June 20 are \$10. Admission to the Trolley Tour on June 23 is \$35 and includes the reception. Reserve tickets at phillipsmill.org/revolutionary with credit card or PayPal.

More than 200 members and guests attended the Speaker Series



Mel Blady, Carole Martin, Rowland Barker & Dee Dee Bowman

It was another successful year for the Historical Society's Annual Speaker Series. Carole Martin, chair of the committee, attributed the popularity of the event to the wide variety of topics and interesting speakers. It started on April 8, with Rowland Barker telling tales of the New Hope in the 1970's, egged on by Society president, Dee Dee Bowman. Attendees heard stories about Mother Cavalucci, the old cooperative store, now the location of Farley's Book Shop, and the Barney Fife-type policeman whose own patrol car was rammed by the New Hope train, were just a few of the tidbits that kept the audience entertained.



Richard Gacek channeled Robert Spencer

In the following week guests were transported back to the 1920's and 1930's as Board Member, Richard Gacek, portrayed Robert Spencer at the "Willow Brook Farm" which had been the famed artist's home, and is now owned by Richard Gacek, and home to Gacek Designs. Everyone was treated to stuffed mushrooms and local beer—a throwback to the Prohibition era when Robert Spencer and his

wife brewed their own beer in the cellar of Willow Brook Farms where they also grew their own wild mushrooms.

The series returned to the Parry Mansion on April 22, where Andrew Webster, President of the Welcome Society of Pennsylvania, traced the arrival of William Penn and famous Bucks County residents back to the late 17th century. Mr. Webster has provided brochures containing information about The Welcome Society. They are available at the Parry Mansion while supplies last!



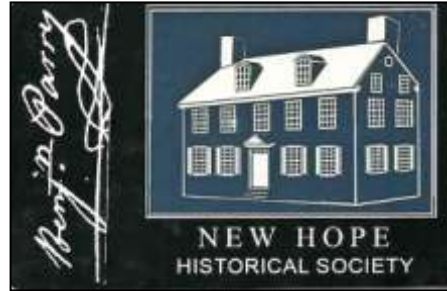
Andrew Webster told the story of William Penn and the Quakers

On April 29, Andy deGruchy, whose company deGruchy Masonry Restoration, completed the splendid restoration and re-grouting of the Parry Mansion in 2012 described the work involved in bringing back the splendor of the elegant fieldstone home.



If you would like to become a sponsor of the Annual Speaker Series, or if you have ideas for topics for next year's series, contact the Historical Society at 215-862-5652 or newhopehs@verizon.net.

So What Do I Get For My \$ 35.00 (or \$ 60.00) Dues?



Thank you for being a member of the New Hope Historical Society. You belong for all the right reasons. You may have joined recently. You may have belonged for years. Are you aware of the benefits you can enjoy as a Society member?

Here's a brief overview. To learn more, visit www.newhopehs.org and click on the membership tab:

Free Benefits Included With Membership:

- Society Newsletter – You're holding it in your hand. Back issues available on the website;
- Parry Mansion Tours (May – November) – Have you ever seen it? Do you have friends visiting over the weekend?
- Benjamin Parry Day (March) – The town celebrates it's founding father.
- Speaker Series (April) – Local celebrities and scholars explain what makes New Hope special.
- New Hope History Day (May) – Local high school students showcase their school projects about life in colonial New Hope;
- Spirited Tea (December) – New Hope's most anticipated party. Seeing is believing.
- Victorian Christmas (December) – The Parry Mansion is decorated for the holidays.

Events by Invitation (\$):

- Garden Tour (June) – Professionally organized tour of private gardens not open to the public.
- Garden Party (June) – Sip and savor on the lawn on a beautiful summer evening. Tented, just in case.
- Remembering January's (September) – The Society's Biannual Gala, a 1970's disco event.
- Annual Meeting and Dinner (November) – Recap of the year's activities.
- Guided Walking Tours of New Hope – Announced during season

Special Benefits Added in 2012:

- Reciprocal Club Dining Privileges – The Montauk Club, a private club housed in a historic building in equally historic Park Slope Brooklyn welcomes Society members for drinks and dinner;
- Stouts Hill, Gloucestershire, UK – Society members enjoy reduced off season weekly rental rates at historic country house in the Cotswolds.
- Visiting Other Societies – Reciprocal visiting privileges at several societies in New York, New Jersey and San Francisco.
- Restaurant Discounts – Midweek 10% discounts on food at selected local establishments.
- Fireworks from the Lawn – Picnic and view the Friday night fireworks on selected dates during the summer.

Where can I learn more? – Visit our website! www.newhopehs.org.

***Bryce Sanders
Membership Chair***

The War of 1812—John Armstrong

By Connor Hayden

John Armstrong was born in Carlisle, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, to an immigrant father and mother. His father, John Armstrong Sr., served as a brigadier general in the Continental Army, and then later a major general of the Pennsylvania militia during the Revolutionary War. John Armstrong Jr. studied at the College of New Jersey, until he followed in his father's footsteps and became a major general in the War of Independence. In 1783, John Armstrong Jr. would draft the infamous *Newburgh Address*, which gained the hatred of Washington, as it documented the grievances of the Continental Army that John Armstrong Jr. was part of. This launched John Armstrong Jr. into prominence.

After the revolution, John moved back to Pennsylvania, where he was named general of the Pennsylvania militia. He would later serve as the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In 1789, he would marry the daughter of Chancellor Robert R. Livingston of New York. Armstrong would move there, and due to connections, he would rise into political power. He became a prominent U.S. senator from New York from 1801 to 1802, and then again from 1803-1804. Then, from 1804 to 1810, Armstrong served as an Ambassador to France, working on issues like the status of Florida and the boundaries of Louisiana.

Then the War of 1812 broke out in the infant nation. Armstrong was immediately called to military service. His post was the defense of the New York port. Brilliantly heading the defenses of the port, James Madison made Armstrong his secretary of war in 1813. Armstrong went into this post under great prejudice as historian Henry Adams notes "he suffered from the reputation of indolence and intrigue...he obtained only eighteen votes against fifteen in the Senate on his confirmation...nothing but military success of the first order could secure a fair field for Monroe's rival" (Adams).

Congress was suspicious of Armstrong, as he showed contempt for authority, as shown in previous political and military instances. As secretary of war, Armstrong was tasked with the duty of fortifying locations that were vulnerable to British attack. Armstrong was dead set on the expectation that Baltimore was the place that was going to be subject to a major British attack. On the other hand, there were those that believed that Washington was to be attacked. Among these people was the brigadier that was appointed to head the defenses of Washington, General William Winder. It has been said that Armstrong's unwillingness to fortify Washington sufficiently was due to his dislike of General Winder. Apparently,

Armstrong resented the appointment of Winder, and did not plan on helping him out. The poor communication between Armstrong and Winder resulted in Washington only being fortified with militia, and no prepared gun positions were present. Thus, on August 19th, 1814, British major general Robert Ross led 4,000 men on the attack of poorly defended Washington D.C.. With Winder only in control of 1700 militiamen, the Brits easily advanced to Bladensburg, a town east of Washington.



John Armstrong

Unsure if the Brits would attack easterly at Washington or northeasterly at Baltimore, like Armstrong believed, Winder split his troops up. This resulted in mass confusion and deserters, and on August 24th, they burned down the Capitol. Public morale about the war plummeted, and James Madison forced Armstrong to resign his position due to his failure to properly fortify Washington. James Monroe was then appointed Secretary of War, and Armstrong moved back to his farm in New York, where he would die in 1843.

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Editor's Note:

Connor Hayden is a student at New Hope-Solebury High School. He wrote this paper as part of his participation in New Hope History Day in 2012.

SAVE THE DATE:

SEPTEMBER 21, 2013

JANUARY'S REVISITED

The New Hope Historical Society's MOTH Ball
Goes back to the 1970's at January's Nightclub on
Aquetong Road

Send any photos of January's to newhopehs@verizon.net

**New Hope Historical
Society
P O Box 41
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MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS:

May 25 from 1PM to 4 PM New Hope History Day

June 1 from 10 AM to 4 PM Annual Garden Tour

June 10 at 5:30 PM Annual Garden Party

June 20 & 23 Revolutionary War in Solebury and New Hope

NOT A MEMBER?

JOIN NOW AT

newhopehs.org



Tickle Your Senses at Six Bucks County Gardens on the 20th Annual New Hope Historical Society Garden Tour

Save the date, Saturday, June 1, 2013 from 10 am to 4 pm, rain or shine.

Purchase your tickets before May 1 and save \$5 on each ticket. Or purchase afterward for the general admission price of \$30.

Order garden tour tickets online at www.newhopehs.org or call 215-862-5652.

You will be tickled to these gardens, promised!

"No worth longer is found." —Ralph Waldo Emerson

Indian Spring Farm & ...

Trustworthy Foundation