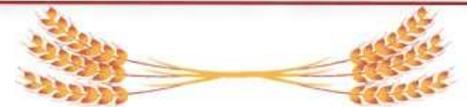


April 2022



MANSION HOUSE NEWS

WESTPORT
HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Civil War Wednesday and Special Presentations

Hours are 11:00 am to 3:30 pm
Special presentations begin at 1:00 pm

- April 13 - **Debunking the Lost Cause** - Jeremiah Thalheimer
- May 18 - **Women in the Civil War** - Alisha Cole
- June 15 - **Civil War in the American West** - Jeremiah Thalheimer
- July 13 - **Blacks in Blue at the Battle of Westport** - Dan Smith
- August 17 - **Order Number 11** - Dick Titterington
- September 14 - **Civil War Medicine** - Alisha Cole/Jennie Thalheimer
- October 19 - **Civilian Life in Jackson County during the Civil War**
- Dick Titterington
- November 9 - **Marines in the Civil War** - Jeremiah Thalheimer
(tie in with The United States Marine Corps
Birthday 11/10)

For questions, or more information, send an email to
westporthistorical@gmail.com

Word of the month:

Nurture: to encourage, to further the development of
someone or something.
Teachers should *nurture* their students' creativity and
intellectual abilities.

Spring, Spring is coming soon.
Grass is green and flowers bloom,
Birds returning from the South,
Bees are buzzing about.

We Are OPEN

The 1855 Harris-Kearney House is open for the
season Fridays and Saturdays from 1-5 pm, with the
last tour beginning at 4:15 pm. Special Exhibit hours
may vary.

Reservations for 2022

We are accepting reservations for group tours,
weddings, receptions, parties, and meetings for
2022. For more questions and more
information, please call 913-231-6749.

April is National Poetry Month

April is a Rainbow month
Of sudden Springtime showers,
Bright with golden daffodils,
And lots of pretty flowers.

Every day is Earth Day.
If it's cold or wet or hot,
Pitch in to save the planet,
It's the only one we've got.

Bake a napkin in my pancake,
Stick a buzzer in your handshake.
Making people giggle and shout,
That's what April Fool's is about.

Aunt Minerva's Kitchen

Egg Pancake

In the 15th century, people made a type of batter bread and called it a pancake. The “pancake” arrived in early America and was made from buckwheat or corn meal, milk, butter, and eggs. After mixing, the batter was fried on a hot surface such as a frying pan or griddle. Through the decades, this batter bread has been referred to as Indian cakes, johnny cakes, journey cakes, griddle cakes, and flapjacks. flat cake prepared from a starch-based batter with milk, butter, and eggs.

1 T. butter	1/3 tsp. baking powder
3 eggs	1/3 C. flour
¼ tsp. salt	½ C. milk
1 T. white sugar	1/3 C. bacon or ham

Put the butter in a frying pan or on a griddle. Beat eggs and salt together until light. Blend in the sugar, baking powder and flour. Beat until smooth. Add milk and beat until batter is smooth. Pour into pan or on griddle. Sprinkle with bacon or ham. Cook until firm. Serves 3 to 4.

PIONEER SUPERSTITIONS

Predicating Weather by Special Days

- Rain on **MONDAY** means several rainy days that week.
- If the sun sets clear on **TUESDAY**, expect rain before Friday.
- Rain on the **FIRST DAY OF THE MONTH**—most of the month will be wet.
- Rain on the **FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH** means rain on the three following Sundays.
- If no rain on **JULY 2**, no hard rain for the next 6 weeks.
- If cold before **NOVEMBER 15**, expect a mild winter to follow.
- If the sun sets behind clouds on **THURSDAY**, there will be rain before Saturday.
- If the last **FRIDAY** and **SATURDAY** of the month have good weather, the month to come will have good weather. If those days experience bad weather, the month to come will have bad weather
- If there is bad weather on **EASTER SUNDAY**, the next 7 Sundays will bring rain.
- A windstorm on **NEW YEAR'S DAY** means floods later in the year.

LIFETIME MEMBERS

- BEER KC Restaurants:
Char Bar, Beer Kitchen,
Mickey's Hideway,
Port Fonda
- Mayor & Mrs. Richard Berkley
- Collins, Westphal & Kelp, Inc.
- Ann Creveling
- Ann Duer
- Jim & Caren Hall
- Harpo's
- Cynthia Higgins
- Marty Wiedenmann Jarvis
- Kelly's Westport Inn
- Crosby Kemper, III (Honorary)
- Olga Marr (Honorary)
- Patricia Cleary Miller
- Jude Montassir
- Steve and Marianne Noll
- Allin & Donna Phister
- L. Thorton & Erin Phister
- Stephen Platt
- Thomas Platt
- Roger and Ann Robertson
- Beverly Shaw
- Torosian Fndn. / Jean Kiene
- Cooper Weeks
- Doris Yonker

Sponsor Members

Westport Land & Management, LLC

Patron Members

Pat Wiedenmann
Karen Bulk
Charlotte Wornall Kirk
Midwest Genealogy Center

Business Members

See logos on the next page!

UNCLE MARKS CORNER

National Arbor (which means TREE in Latin) Day is April 29, 2022. This year marks the 150th anniversary of the tree planter's holiday on which groups and individuals are encouraged to plant and care for trees. This last Friday in April holiday was the inspiration of Julius Sterling Morton, a journalist from Nebraska City, Nebraska who served as the U.S. Agriculture Secretary under President Grover Cleveland. Secretary Morton was an enthusiastic promotor of tree planning and had long championed the idea of a day dedicated to planting trees.

On the first Arbor Day, April 10, 1872, an estimated one million trees were planted. By the 1920s, each state in the United States passed public laws that stipulated a certain day in their state would be known as Arbor Day. Today, Missouri celebrates Arbor Day on the first Friday in April and Kansas celebrates on the last Friday in April. On each of these days, families, friends, merchants, and arborists gather to plant trees, play games, enjoy picnics, and observe a holiday that celebrates the past and looks toward the future.

Suggestions on what you might do to celebrate Arbor Day:

- Plant a tree on your property or volunteer with your local government agency to plant or care for trees on public land in your area.
- Volunteer with a local tree-planting organization.
- Learn to identify trees in your yard, neighborhood, and park by reading a book about trees.
- Attend a class on tree planting and tree care.
- Visit local parks and take nature walks with your family to see and identify the tree varieties in your community.



THE KANSAS CITY
PUBLIC LIBRARY



APRIL HOLIDAYS

Friday, April 1

April Fool's Day

Sunday, April 3

Ramadan

Sunday, April 10

Palm Sunday

Wednesday, April 13

Thomas Jefferson's Birthday

Friday, April 15

Good Friday & Tax Day

Saturday, April 16-23

Passover

Sunday, April 17

Easter

Friday, April 22

Earth Day

Friday, April 29

Arbor Day

2022 CALENDAR OF EVENTS AT THE 1855 HARRIS-KEARNEY HOUSE

March 2 through December 14: Civil War Wednesday
(every Wednesday)

March 5 through December 17: House open for tours. Check website and Facebook for days and hours of operation.

May 6 through July 2: FINDING A HIGHER GROUND: *Forgotten Treasures of Kansas City* with R. Greg Summers as the artist

July: TBA

June and July: Music Concert on the Lawn
Each Saturday afternoon in June and July

June 10 through August 6: "A Tale As Old As Time"
Celebrating World Doll Day & National Doll Day

August: TBA

September: Visit the Westport Historical Society booth at the Westport Art Fair

October: Paranormal Investigations—Fridays and Saturdays in OCT

November 5 through December 17: Mansion House
Decorated for Christmas

December 4: CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE: *Deck the Halls* (Special Exhibit)

December 17: Mansion House Closes for the Winter Season

March 1, 2023: Mansion House reopens for 2023



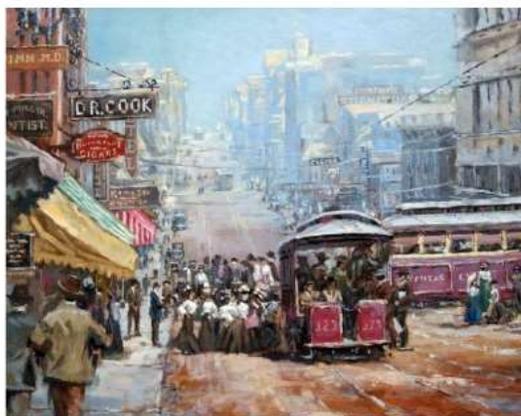


THE WESTPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY & THE 1855 HARRIS-KEARNEY HOUSE

Are pleased to announce a special Art Exhibit
“FINDING A HIGHER GROUND: Forgotten Treasures of Kansas City”

By

World Renowned and Award-Winning Kansas City Artist R. Gregory Summers



May 6 – July 2

1855 Harris-
Kearney House

4000 Baltimore

Kansas City, MO
64111

For more info

816-561-1821



westporthistorical@gmail.com

From the early settlers at the start of the California, Oregon and Santa Fe Trails to the Rip Roaring 20's Kansas City was the place to be and captured in these paintings are select moments in time as reimagined from old black and white photos by nationally renowned artist R. Gregory Summers.

Enjoy as the past comes alive in these paintings capturing the early beginning of Kansas City as it went from the jumping off point of the Santa Fe Trail, to a major player in the economic growth of the nation.

*An exclusive showing brought to you by the Westport Historical Society,
and the 1855 Harris-Kearney House.*



The 1855 Harris-Kearney House story is much more than just a house tour; it is many lessons in history.

It would not be possible to tell the history of Westport, the Trails, and the 1855 Harris-Kearney House without the antique furniture, artifacts, and family treasures throughout the Mansion House. From the 1790's family bible to the 1824 Chickering Piano to the Kearney Bridal Veil, worn by thirteen members of the family, to the Spencer rifle, each piece tells a story from our 190-year-old existence.

The antiques evoke a sense of family wealth and gracious living. Every room of the Mansion House holds a rare piece with its charming story.

For example, in the dining room visitors find priceless and rare Haviland China. The plates and dishes were used during lavish dinner parties when the hierarchy of West Port Society dined by candlelight and discussed local gossip and matters of the day. In the parlor sits a burlled walnut, 1824 Chickering piano that entertained many with its beautiful tones. In contrast the Civil War guns, ammunition, and items belonging to soldiers from both sides of the conflict speak of a sadness so deep it still echoes from room to room. The artwork in the Mansion House depicts life in the 19th century, from the portraits to the landscapes, each one demonstrates how much has changed in our daily lives, fashion, and surroundings. Photos, antique tools, and kitchen items, give a clear picture of the labor intensity of each job and chore during the 19th century. None of our stories are complete without these artifacts and antiques from a bygone era.

Once you have visited, the 1855 Harris-Kearney House, you will have a better understanding of the culture and history along the Santa Fe, California, and Oregon Trails, the Battle of West Port, and the people who called West Port home.





Help Wanted at the Westport Historical Society:

- Treasurer -- Board member --Executive Director
- Docents and other volunteers **FOUR HOURS A WEEK**
we practice safe social distancing
(Th, F, or Sat, 1-5 p.m.)

**If you are interested, or you would like more information, e-mail Alana Smith
westporthistorical@gmail.com, or call (913) 648-0952**



**Westport Historical Society
Harris-Kearney House
4000 Baltimore
Kansas City, MO 64111
(816) 561-1821
westporthistorical.com**