

September 2020



MANSION HOUSE NEWS

WESTPORT
HISTORICAL SOCIETY



TIME TO VISIT

During these perfect Indian-summer days with the heat passing, the air becoming fragrant with the scents of fall, and the autumn leaves dancing across the lawn with bright colors of burnt orange, bronze, yellow, and red, it is the perfect time to visit the 1855 Harris-Kearney House, or the Mansion House as it was known in the 19th century.

If you are planning a Saturday afternoon adventure with your family, please include a tour of the Mansion House. There are new exhibits, and new acquisitions to view, and always more stories to hear. Introducing your family to the history of our community is an adventure in discovery. The 1855 Harris-Kearney House is open to the public every Friday and Saturday from 1 pm to 5 pm. The last Mansion House tour begins at 4:15. For group tours, private parties, meetings, and paranormal investigations, please call 816-561-1821 to make reservations.

WESTPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON

November 14, 2020 at the 1855 Harris-Kearney House: Upper gallery

Wine Social at 12:00 noon

Luncheon at 12:30 pm

Society updates, election, and speaker at 1:15 pm

Speaker will be announced in October.

Cost of luncheon is \$14.00. RSVP your luncheon and meeting reservation to [816-561-1821](tel:816-561-1821) or westporthistorical@gmail.com

Reservation deadline is Saturday, November 7, 2020

Please let us know of any dietary restrictions.

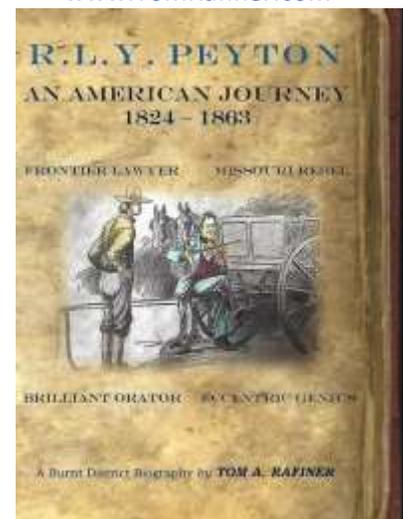
The Luncheon and Meeting may be postponed or canceled due to COVID. Please check our website and Facebook pages for updates.

NEW BOOK HAS ARRIVED

Westport Historical Society member, historian, and author, Tom Rafiner, has recently published a new book entitled **R. L. Y. PEYTON, An American Journey 1824-1863**. This historically accurate biography is of Lud Peyton, a native Virginian who moved to western Missouri in 1844, settling in Harrisonville. A frontier lawyer, Peyton was elected to the Missouri Senate in 1858, becoming a member of Gov. C. F. Jackson's inner circle. Peyton played a key role during the Neosho Legislature, later representing Missouri in the Confederate Senate. Before his death, in 1863, Peyton was recognized as one of Missouri's most electric orators. You will enjoy the original maps, art, photographs, and newspaper clippings spotlighting a colorful period in our nation's history.

To purchase your copies of this fine book go to

www.TomRafiner.com



Aunt Minerva's Kitchen

Sweet Potato Pie

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| 1 ½ cups peeled and cooked sweet potatoes | ½ tsp. nutmeg |
| ¼ cup cane syrup | ¼ tsp. ground cloves |
| ½ tsp. sugar | 3 T. melted butter |
| ½ tsp. salt | 3 eggs, separated |
| 1 tsp. cinnamon | ¾ cup milk |

To cooked, drained sweet potatoes, add cane syrup, sugar, salt, cinnamon, nutmeg, ground cloves, and melted butter; mix well. Beat together egg yolks and add to potato mixture; pour in milk and mix. Beat egg whites until stiff and fold them into the sweet potato mixture. Pour mixture into a pie shell. Bake at 350 degrees for 35 minutes. Serve hot with whipped cream.



UNCLE MARK'S CORNER

Outdoor grilling is fun and easy. Here's some helpful hints for stress-free grilling.

- Get to know your grill and the cooking areas. Use the hottest areas for cooking, cooler areas for slower cooking and keeping food warm
- A moderate amount of flaring and smoking is desired to enhance barbecue flavor and appearance
- Your grill can be used for roasting, braising, frying, baking, and stewing, in foil, heat resistance pans, and Dutch ovens—use ones with flameproof handles
- Grilling outside will keep your kitchen cool
- Preheat your grill

The following factors can affect the heat pattern and speed of cooking on your grill:

- Wind velocity and direction
- Outdoor air temperature
- Temperature of food at start of cooking
- Size and shape of food
- Cover open or closed
- Location of grill
- Distance between fire and food being cooked
- Don't allow your food to come into direct contact with the flames



**Joe's
Pizza**
Buy the Slice

KANSAS CITY ATHENAEUM



EVENT SPACE RENTAL

The upper and lower galleries of the 1855 Harris-Kearney House Museum may be rented for luncheons, parties, celebrations, receptions or meetings. The parlor or dining room may be rented for small weddings, and the Mansion House grounds may be rented for outdoor events.

For more information pricing, and availability, please send an email of inquiry to:
westporthistorical@gmail.com

SEPTEMBER

September is a month of contrasts: summer days are getting shorter, woolen sweaters are being taken out of the closet on chilly mornings, and the leaves are beginning to turn colors and crackle under your feet on cool evening walks. Once again, it is time to return to school and work. Autumn pleasures call us as well. We can enjoy maple-leaf luncheons, nutting parties, making scarecrows, picking apples, and attending autumn arts and craft festivals. Savor the season!

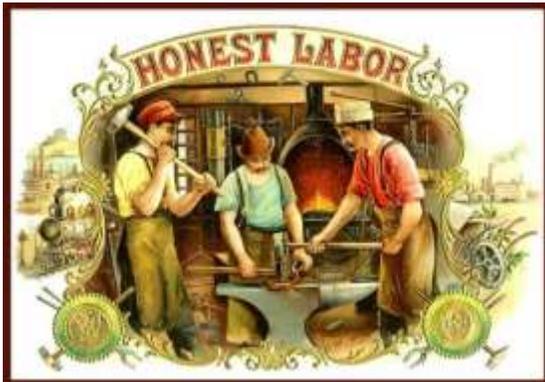
School,
 Effort and
 Play.
 Trying your best,
 Each hour of the day.
Making new friends,
Being as good as you can
 Exciting discoveries,
 Reading books with a friend.
 ~Boni Fulgham

SEPTEMBER HOLIDAYS

September 7	Labor Day
September 12	Grandparents Day
September 18-20	Rosh Hashana
September 22	Fall Begins (Autumnal Equinox)
September 27	Yom Kippur begins

LABOR DAY

On the first Monday of September, the season officially changes from summer to autumn with "Labor's Holiday," as the day was known during the Victorian Era. The holiday developed in the 1880's when organized groups of working men and women marched to protest the intolerable working conditions of the time. The workers were protesting against brutally long working conditions, low pay, child labor in sweatshops, and unsanitary working conditions. In America, in 1894, Labor Day became an official holiday, and from that time until WWI, it was celebrated with grand parades, speeches and community picnics. Everyone took the day off work and enjoyed the friends and the recreation. Today, we still celebrate Labor Day with a day off work and the last BBQ of the season with family and friends.



GIFTS IDEAS FOR GRANDPARENTS

- Basket of assorted tea bags
- Bird feeder and bird seed
- Scented candles
- Fresh fruit basket
- Garden hat and gloves
- Grandkids framed art
- Personalized key chain
- Dinner gift certificates
- Wine basket
- Framed photos of grandchildren
- Puzzle box
- BBQ utensils
- Personalized coffee mugs
- Fresh flowers or potted plant
- Basket of homemade cookies and candies
- Basket of bath soaps, oils, and lotions
- Movie tickets
- Grandchildren crafted shopping bags

FALL

“Smoke hangs like haze over harvested fields,
 The gold of stubble, the brown of turned earth
 And you walk under the red light of fall
 The scent of fallen apples, the dust of threshed grain
 The sharp, gentle chill of fall.
 Here as we move into the shadows of autumn
 The night that brings the morning of spring
 Come to us, Lord of Harvest
 Teach us to be thankful for the gifts you bring us . . . “
 ~Autumn Equinox Ritual

SPECIAL EXHIBIT at the MANSION HOUSE

Rightfully Hers

The 1855 HARRIS-KEARNEY HOUSE MUSEUM and the WESTPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY are hosting a new popup exhibition from the National Archives, **Rightfully Hers**, commemorating the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment. **Rightfully Hers** contains simple messages exploring the history of the ratification of the 19th amendment, women’s voting rights before and after the 19th, and its impact today. Despite decades of marches, petitions, and public debate to enshrine a woman’s right to vote in the constitution, the 19th Amendment – while an enormous milestone – did not grant voting rights for all. The challenges of its passage reverberate to the ongoing fight for gender equity today. This exhibit runs through the end of the year and will be incorporated into the DOLL EXHIBIT, PROGRAMS AND PRESENTATIONS at the museum in 2021.

Rightfully Hers co-curator Jennifer N. Johnson states: "The ratification of the 19th Amendment was a landmark moment in American history that dramatically changed the electorate, and although it enshrined in the U.S. Constitution fuller citizenship for women many remained unable to vote."

Rightfully Hers is organized by the National Archives and Records Administration. In celebration of the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, the National Archives has launched a nationwide initiative and major exhibition that explores the generations-long fight for universal woman suffrage. The exhibition is presented in part by the Women’s Suffrage Centennial Commission and the National Archives Foundation through the generous support of Unilever, Pivotal Ventures, Carl M. Freeman Foundation in honor of Virginia Allen Freeman, AARP, and Denise Gwyn Ferguson.

For more information, please call 913-231-6749 or send an email to westporthistorical.com Please check our website for hours of operation which may vary according to Covid-19 regulations.





Westport Historical Society seeks volunteers:

- 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



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