



# MANSION HOUSE NEWS

WESTPORT  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY



As we prepare to ring out the old year and ring in the new, everyone at the Mansion House wishes you, your friends, and family a special new year. Make the most of the moments you spend with your families that bring you the most joy, and remember that *today is the tomorrow you wished for yesterday!* Happy New Year to all!

## Mark Your 2020 Calendar of Events

- March 6, 2020**---- House Opens for the Season
- April: TBA
- May 1 through June 27**--- Music Exhibits and Concerts
- July 3 through August 29**---- Doll Extravaganza
- September 4 through Oct 31**---- Quilt Extravaganza & Exhibits of Tammy Reid's Quilts
- September 12**----Lost Arts Fair
- November 14**----Westport Historical Annual Meeting and Luncheon
- December 5 and 6**----Christmas Open House featuring themed decorated rooms
- December 19**----House Closes for the Season
- March 5, 2021**----House Opens for the Season

Special events and speakers to be announced. Announcing New Concert Series: **UPSTAIRS AT THE MANSION HOUSE** and **Fourth Friday Musical Concerts**. More information coming in the February WESPORTER.

## Highlights from our Christmas Candlelight Tour



Our 2019 Christmas Candlelight Tour has come and gone, but please enjoy several photos from the event. Many Thanks to ALL who participated; we could not do it without you!

## MEMBERSHIP HELPS US THRIVE

It is that time of year when we ask for membership renewals. Membership dues are a primary source of funding for the operation of the museum and our events, exhibits, and educational programs. Each year we are pleased to welcome new members, and support our current members as they continue to share their wealth of knowledge and expertise with the society. In addition to membership dues, we are continually inspired by the tax-deductible gifts to our Endowment Fund which strengthen the society and the future of the museum. We look forward to the continued generosity of our members, business partners, donors, and many friends.

Whether you are renewing or a first-time member, we urge you to join us for 2020. You may mail a check and your membership form to 4000 Baltimore, or you can visit our website [www.wespothistorical.com](http://www.wespothistorical.com) and fill out the membership form and pay your dues online.



## THE YEAR TO COME . . .

January is cold and desolate;  
 February is dripping wet;  
 March wind rages;  
 April changes;  
 Birds sing in tune to flowers of May;  
 And sunny June brings the longest day;  
 In scorched July the storm clouds fly;  
 Lightning-torn August bears corn;  
 September has fruit;  
 In rough October earth must disrobe;  
 Stars fall and shoot in keen November;  
 And night is long, and cold is strong in bleak December.

~Christina Georgina Rossetti, 1830-1984

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*Pryde's*  
KITCHEN & NECESSITIES



**The Corner Restaurant**



# Aunt Minerva's Kitchen

## Snow Ice Cream

Take 1 cup milk, 1 teaspoon favorite flavoring, and ½ cup sugar. Mix and beat well until frothy. Place mixture in a large bowl and add enough fresh, clean snow until liquid is completely absorbed by the snow. Serve immediately. This delicious concoction will have the consistency of sherbet.



## THE PAST ASKS ONLY TO BE REMEMBERED

### SEASONAL TREE

The staff at the Mansion House looks forward to the joy of trimming the Christmas Tree each holiday season, and with a Seasonal Tree the fun can last all year.

The Seasonal Tree is usually a grapevine tree and may contain ivy, or it can be another tree of choice, of tabletop size. As the four seasons change, the decorations on the tree change to match each season. For added fun, the tree can also be used as a "holiday" tree to celebrate, Easter, St. Patrick's Day, Fourth of July, and Halloween, to name a few. Just add decorations to represent each holiday or event. Children think it is great fun to decorate the tree to celebrate birthdays, too. Birthday mornings bring joy as the children find small birthday presents tucked in the "birthday" tree.

Stop by the Mansion House throughout the year and view our festive Seasonal Tree.



## WINTER FLOWERS

Give your landscape a boost of color courtesy of flowers that bloom in winter.

**Winter pansies** are cold weather all-stars. These cheery winter blooming flowers can freeze solid and emerge from that state ready to grow and flower.

**Lenten rose** or Christmas rose (*Helleborus*) is a perennial flower that blooms in winter. Leathery, dark green leaves stand umbrella-like above winter mulch or snow

Dainty and delicate, **snowdrops** (*Galanthus*) are true spring harbingers. No bigger than a dandelion, they bravely push through snow and even ice to grace the garden with their dangling white bell blooms.

**Winter aconite** (*Eranthis hyemalis*) is another winter blooming flower that grows from a bulb. opening bright green leaves topped with cheery yellow blossoms. Other bedding plant flowers that grow in winter include nemesia, snapdragon, sweet alyssum and flowering stock.

~Julie Martens Forney



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### WORDS vs. WORDS

According to the Dictionary of Americanisms published in 1856, there were thousands of words that were unacceptable in their use, and other words should be used in their stead. More WORDS vs. WORDS in the February edition of Mansion House News. Here are some examples:

Use	<b>out of my power</b>	instead of	<b>above my bent</b>
	<b>to steal</b>	instead of	<b>(to) bone</b>
	<b>to publish the banns of marriage</b>	instead of	<b>(to) cry</b>
	<b>perplexed</b>	instead of	<b>difficulted</b>
	<b>lees or leaven</b>	instead of	<b>emptyings</b>
	<b>flood</b>	instead of	<b>freshet</b>
	<b>a large number</b>	instead of	<b>grist</b>
	<b>steal</b>	instead of	<b>hook</b>
	<b>ill</b>	instead of	<b>illy</b>
	<b>from the beginning</b>	instead of	<b>from the jump</b>
	<b>astonish or overwhelm</b>	instead of	<b>knock</b>
	<b>beat</b>	instead of	<b>lather</b>



Westport Historical Society seeks:  
--Board Members (including Treasurer)  
--Executive Director  
-Volunteers FOUR HOURS A WEEK  
(W, 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](mailto:westporthistorical@gmail.com), or call (913) 648-0952



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