

WESTPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY



April 2019

Aunt Minerva's Kitchen

Mrs. Harris' Chess Pie

- 1 cup white sugar
- 1/4 cup butter, melted
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1/4 milk
- 2 eggs
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1 T. flour
- 1 T. corn meal
- 1 unbaked pie shell

Mix sugars, eggs, flour, corn meal, melted butter, milk and vanilla. Pour mixture into the unbaked pie shell. Bake for 45 minutes at 325 degrees.



A Southern Classic!



April Holidays

April 1 is April Fools' Day

April 19 Good Friday

April 21 Easter Sunday

Special Quilt Exhibit



The Westport Historical Society and the 1855 Harris-Kearney House Museum are pleased to announce that in May and June we will host a special QUILT EXHIBIT with beautiful quilts from the collection of Mrs. Tammy Reid, the wife of Andy Reid, the head coach of the Kansas City Chiefs. We are grateful to Tammy for sharing her love of the art of quilting with our members and friends. Please look for more information concerning the exhibit and the events surrounding it in future publications, emails, on Facebook, and on our website.

FLINT-PRESSED GLASS



Img Source: Wikikmedia Commoms

Flint glass was the name given to the pressed glass that was made from the 1820's through the 1860's. The name of Flint glass was given to better glassware that was perfected in England in the 1670's to which powdered flint had been added to the glass compound. Later, lead was added to the compound, and this was found to give the glass much more clarity (brilliance), resonance (belltone), and weight.

Prior to the 1800's, glassware was made by a labor-intensive, hand-blown method which was very expensive. Soon, new innovations led to pressing glass into molds. This first pressed glass was made in the 1820's and was called 'Lacy' as the patterns were very intricate. Gradually, the pressing method improved and by the 1840's, pressed glass was made in large quantities and was affordable to the average household.

The pressed glass patterns from the mid 1800's evolved from plain, to geometric, ribbed to realistic, and included different shapes which were less in weight. By the beginning of the Civil War, lead was becoming scarce as well as expensive., thus leading to a new lead-free formula called "lime" glass. Factories changed their methods and by 1872, extensive us of lead was phased out. Today, crystal contains 24% to 28% lead.

Taken in part from a [Glass by Design](#) article

Business Partners:



The Corner Restaurant



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Keep It Polished!



DIY SILVER CLEANING

Baking Soda and Aluminum Foil. Add boiling water and baking soda to a bowl layers with aluminum foil. Remove after 1 to 3 minutes. Rinse under cool water and rub dry with a soft cloth. This process causes a chemical reaction that removes tarnish from the silver within minutes.

You will need the following:

- A large bowl
- Aluminum foil
- Boiling water
- 1 Tablespoon baking soda for each cup of water
- Spoon or kitchen tongs
- A dry-cleaning cloth

Directions:

Line the bowl with aluminum foil—shiny side up.

Bring water to boil. There should be enough water to reach to top of the bowl.

Add baking soda to bowl of boiling water. The solution will bubble.

Immediately place the silver jewelry in the bowl. You can place more than one piece as long as it fits in the bowl. Make sure that the jewelry is touching the aluminum foil—this is essential to produce the chemical reaction.

Leave jewelry in solution for 2 to 5 minutes. If tarnish is really bad, leave jewelry in solution for up to 10 minutes.

Remove jewelry with a spoon or kitchen tongs. Rinse under cool water.

Clean and shine with the dry cloth.

APRIL FOOL'S DAY

The first of April, some do say
Is set apart for All Fool's Day.
But why the people call it so,
Nor I, nor they themselves, do know.
But on this day are people sent
On purpose for pure merriment.
~Poor Richard's Almanac, 1760

Sonnet XCVIII

From you have I been absent in the spring,
When proud pied April, dressed in all his
trim,
Hath put a spirit of youth in everything,
That heavy Saturn laughed and leapt with
him.
Yet nor the lays of birds, nor the sweet smell
Of different flowers in odour and in hue,
Could make me any summer's story tell,
Or from their proud lap pluck them where
they grew:
Nor did I wonder at the lily's white,
Nor praise the deep vermilion in the rose;
They were but sweet, but figures of delight,
Drawn after you, you pattern of all those.
Yet seemed it winter still, and you away.
~William Shakespeare

Now Open for the 2019 Season



The Mansion House is now open for the 2019 season. Please plan to visit and view our new exhibits and Hattie's Flower Garden. Open hours for tours will be 1pm-5pm Fridays and Saturdays or Wednesday and Thursday by appointment.

Book your next meeting or party in one of the two galleries in the Mansion House. In the spring, summer, and fall, the grounds and veranda are available, as well. Call 913-648-0952 for information or to make a reservation.

The Mansion House may also be booked for weddings and receptions. Please refer to our website for more information or call 913-648-0952.



Questions or Comments?

Please let us know at westporthistorical@gmail.com

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The Westport Historical Society is looking for:

-Education Director

-Board Members

-Volunteers

If interested or would like more information,
please email Alana Smith
westporthistorical@gmail.com
or call (913) 648-0952