

September 2021



# MANSION HOUSE NEWS

WESTPORT  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY



## 2021 Quilt Extravaganza! A WHS Fundraising Event Harris-Kearney House September 4 - October 30, 2021

Exhibit and tour hours are Friday and Saturday, 1-5 pm.

The Westport Historical Society and the 1855 Harris-Kearney House Museum are pleased to announce a special QUILT EXHIBIT in September and October with beautiful Harris-Kearney House quilts from the 19<sup>th</sup> century. **Our featured exhibitor is Mrs. Tammy Reid**, whose husband is Andy Reid, the head coach of the Kansas City Chiefs.



Quilting is an art form and one we are pleased to share. Tammy has graciously allowed the museum to display quilts from her private collection. She has been collecting quilts from across the country for many years and will share 65 of over 150 collected quilts which contain vibrant colors, historic patterns, and one-of-a-kind designs. We are grateful to Tammy for sharing her love of unique and dazzling quilts with our members and friends.

**Our goal is to educate and stir-up excitement about quilts from 1830 to today.** The quilts show the evolution of quilt construction, what materials were used, meaning of the symbols in the patterns, stories they tell, and the purposes for which they were made. The exhibit will also show how the art of quilt making has evolved—many of the same patterns, just a modern way of putting it all together. The cost is \$10 per person. Private and group tours may also be booked on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday from 1-5 pm. For more information or to book a tour, please call 913-231-6749, or send an email to [westporthistorical@gmail.com](mailto:westporthistorical@gmail.com)

### Word of the Month

**Optimism:** a mental attitude characterized by hopefulness and confidence in success and a positive future.

## *Aunt Minerva's Kitchen*

### Baked Lima Beans

One of our favorite recipes from Old Westport. Try it with your September, harvested Lima Beans. The grandchildren ask for seconds and thirds!

½ lb. lima beans	3-4 slices of raw bacon, chopped
2 T. chopped onion	2-3 T. brown sugar
2 T. chopped green pepper	Salt
Water—enough to boil beans	Bacon drippings

Cook beans in water until they are almost done. Pour beans and remaining liquid into casserole. Add onion, green pepper, brown sugar, salt, and bacon drippings for seasoning. Put chopped raw bacon pieces over the top. Bake for about 2 hours or until tender.



### ANTIQUe SPOTLIGHT: Our Camel Back Trunk

Trunks date back to at least medieval times, but truly gained popularity during the Victorian Era. In the beginning, trunks were little more than a lockable, wooden box with a simple, or decorative paper-lined interior. Over time, trunks were covered in leather, canvas, tasteful paper, embossed tin, and metal hardware. Most of the new trunks had different compartments, drawers, and trays to hold a variety of shapes and sizes of personal items.

One special trunk was known by several names: camel back, round top, barrel, dome top and humpback. This design was first made in the early 1800's in Europe with an important idea in mind: the tops of the trunks were curved in both directions making it impossible for other luggage to be stacked on top of them while the owners were traveling. The design meant these trunks were the last ones on a boat or train, and the first ones to be removed! Stop by the Mansion House to view our camel back trunk which dates to the 1860's.

### FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN: Wednesday, September 22

Autumn, also known as fall, is one of the four temperate seasons. This season marks the transition from summer to winter when the duration of daylight becomes noticeably shorter and the temperature cools considerably

### SEPTEMBER HOLIDAYS

#### Labor Day: Monday, September 6

Labor Day pays tribute to the contributions and achievements of American workers and is observed on the first Monday in September.

It was created by the labor movement in the late 19th century and became a federal holiday in 1894.

#### Native American Day: Friday, September 24

Native American Day is observed on the second Monday in October and celebrates the cultures and contributions of Native American tribes. While it is not celebrated in all 50 states, it is recognized in both California and South Dakota and is gaining popularity in the rest of the nation.



## UNCLE MARKS CORNER Crops to Harvest in September



It is September and time to harvest autumn strawberries, raspberries, blackberries, grapes, apples, plums, pears, figs, and peaches. Remember that vegetable crops will begin to take longer to ripen in September, so give melons, lima beans, and tomatoes more time to ripen naturally. Eggplants are ready to harvest when they are shiny and gather the onions after the leaves turn yellow and the stems bend over.

Beans, cucumbers, melons, zucchini, and summer squash will not ripen once they are picked, but they will last in the refrigerator for a week or two.

Dig white and sweet potatoes just before the first frost of the season. Also, before the first frost, pick all tomatoes, peppers, beans, vine crops, winter squashes and other tender vegetables. Other crops to harvest in September are beets, radishes, lettuce, spinach, endive, and kale. Most of these fruits and vegetables can be canned for use during the winter months.

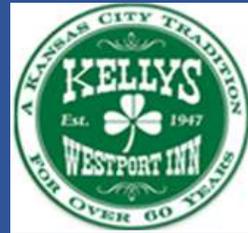
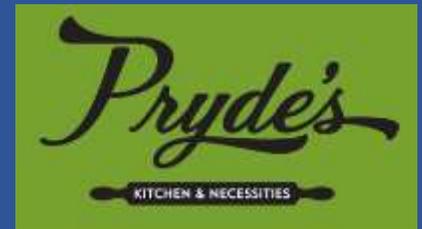
### STAY CONNECTED WITH THE MANSION HOUSE

Want to know more about what is happening at Harris House? Follow us every day on Facebook (1855 Harris-Kearney House, and Westport Historical Society) and at our Website [www.westporthistorical.com](http://www.westporthistorical.com)

### HOURS, MEMBERSHIP, ETC!

The 1855 Harris-Kearney House Museum (the Mansion House) is open Friday and Saturday from 1 to 5pm. Admission: Adults--\$8; Seniors--\$6; Students--\$6; Active Military—Free; Retired Military—half price. There will be an extra fee charged for special events and programs.

If you are not a member of the Westport Historical Society, we invite you to become a part of our society family. You will find membership information on our website. **Reservations are being accepted for school field trips, group tours, meetings, and special events.** Call 816-561-1821 or email [westporthistorical@gmail.com](mailto:westporthistorical@gmail.com) for pricing and available dates.



## SUMMER IS ALMOST OVER

But before the leaves begin to fall, there is still time to make some summer memories:

10. Enjoy a County or State fair. There is something for everything at these events. You and your family can enjoy live entertainment, carnival rides, exhibits, rodeos, and local culture.
9. Visit an orchard. Go to a farm and pick strawberries, blue berries, black berries, and raspberries. Take them home and make jams and jellies to enjoy through the winter.
8. Find a stable and go horseback riding. Whether you are a beginner or have been riding for years, saddle up and enjoy the trails.
7. Attend a concert or a play. Grab the kids, gather the lawn chairs, pack a picnic, and find some musical entertainment or a community theatre production under the stars.
6. Make homemade ice cream. Churning ice cream in the backyard is one of the best events of summer. Add some berries, make some homemade cones, get the syrup and whipped cream, and invite the neighbors over for an end of the summer celebration.
5. Real Lemonade! So good when served ice cold. Peel three fat lemons and cut into small pieces. Combine the pieces into a blender with 1-1/2 cups of sugar and 1-1/2 cups of water. Chop until coarse, then strain into a pitcher. Adjust as needed, add some ice, and enjoy.
4. Take a family hike. While the weather is nice, gather the family for a nature hike and explore the parks and trails in your area.
3. Shop at your local farmer's market. Pick up some sweet corn, melons, ripened tomatoes, peppers, green beans, and sweet watermelons. Savor the fruits of summer before they are gone!
2. Go camping in your backyard. Summer means sleeping under the stars and enjoying the fresh air. This makes a fun back-to-school party for the kids.

### And the number 1 way to make a summer memory is to

1. **Visit an ART FAIR.** September 10, 11, and 12 is the **WESTPORT ART FAIR**. Visit the Westport Art fair booths and see new and modern art, jewelry, pottery, ceramics, woodworking, and much.



## WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!

## VOLUNTEER!!!

WE ARE BACK!!!! The incredible WESTPORT ART FAIR is  
**September 10, 11 and 12, 2021**

This year's event promises to be bigger and better than ever with some new exhibitors and new activities. The Westport Historical Society is honored to host the **Westport Art Fair Information Booth** again this year.

Located in front of HARRY'S BAR AND TABLES, this booth is not only the information booth, but the welcoming center for the Fair, and the Westport Community.

We are asking everyone who is a member or friend of the Westport Historical Society, and a resident or friend of the Westport area to volunteer to help at the information booth to make the fair a success.

The shifts are two hours in length, and you may sign up for one or more shifts. No experience is necessary, just a desire to have fun and welcome visitors. Please pick your slot(s) and email the Westport Historical Society at [westporthistorical@gmail.com](mailto:westporthistorical@gmail.com).

Thank you!

### September 10

11:00am to 1:00pm  
1:00pm to 3:00pm  
3:00pm to 5:00pm  
5:00pm to 7:00pm  
7:00pm to 9:00pm

### September 11

9:00am to 11:00am  
11:00am to 1:00pm  
1:00am to 3:00pm  
3:00pm to 5:00pm  
5:00pm to 7:00pm  
7:00pm to 9:00pm

### September 12

9:00am to 11:00am  
11:00am to 1:00pm  
1:00am to 3:00pm  
3:00pm to 5:00pm  
5:00pm pack up





## 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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