LOCAL PRESBYTERIAN MINISTER PROCLAIMED THE RIGHTS OF ALL ENGLISHMEN BEFORE 1771
By Jonathan E. Wood

For a tea-burning town like Greenwich with an active Presbyterian congregation, there has always been an unanswered question: did they really hear about the rights of all Englishmen from the pulpit? We have no evidence from the Rev. Andrew Hunter, Greenwich minister, but from Fairfield Presbyterian Church and the Rev. William Ramsay, we find almost a direct quote.

Mr. Ramsay was a friend of Philip Vickers Fithian who mentioned him in his journals. Much more, he was teacher and mentor to Jonathan Elmer. He prepared Elmer for Philadelphia College and its medical course. Ramsay and Elmer eventually married sisters. Over the years, Jonathan Elmer and William Ramsay became close friends.

Rev. Ramsay’s death occurred in 1771 when he was only 39 years old. It was Jonathan Elmer who would give his eulogy and have it printed. He said of his deceased friend, “Few were ever possessed of a more public spirit or genuine amor patriae. He entertained the highest opinion of our excellent constitution, and gloried in the privileges of a Briton, as much as he lamented their prostitution and abuse. As he was an utter enemy to despotism, he was greatly grieved at the arbitrary proceedings of a British Ministry, in attempting to enslave their loyal subjects, by depriving them of their constitutional rights and privileges. How did he lament that Britain, the Mother of Heroes, the School of Patriots and Warriors, the Land of Frugality and Virtue, and the native Soil of Liberty, the source of human bliss—that Britain, which humbled the Oppressors of the Earth, and bad her Navies carry her name in terror round the world, should at length degenerate into the shameful Seat of Venality and Corruption; become the Nurse of Effeminacy, Voluptuousness and Riot; the vile Receptacle of Impurity, Sloth and Dejection; and so ignominiously forget her primitive martial Prowess, as to brook the insults of a People, formerly trembling at her name, and for every indignity feeling the vengeance of her arms!”

Since William Ramsay died before the tea tax was passed, it was to the Stamp Act and then to the Townshend Duties that he was objecting. Most likely he objected most to the Quebec Act which allowed Quebec settlers to retain their French language and worst of all their Roman Catholic religion.

As this Presbyterian minister saw it, the British Parliament was coddling these Canadians while they had insisted simultaneously on taxing their own British colonists against their wills and contrary to the basic charters of the 13 British colonies. This was the message that enflamed the Patriots and led to the tea burning.

THE FINAL YEARS OF THE 20TH CENTURY IN CUMBERLAND COUNTY DISPLAY AT WARREN AND REBA LUMMIS GENEALOGICAL & HISTORICAL LIBRARY
By Jonathan E. Wood

For Agriculture:
• The county government’s successful effort to preserve fields for farming.
• The increasing number of Hispanics working the fields and transforming local farms.

For Historic Preservation:
• Parts of Bridgeton were entered on the National Register of Historic Places.
• The Broad Street Church continued to experience renovation with a new roof partly funded by the Garden State Trust.

For Transportation:
• Rail passenger service came to an end for Vineland and Millville in 1971.
• Route 55 completed to Bellmawr.

For Industry:
• New glass plant built by Leones in Bridgeton.
• Fabric for the flag taken to the moon dyed at Millville Dye Works.
• Owens Illinois Glass production halted in Bridgeton in 1984 with great loss to that city and the county.
SWEDISH GRANARY TREE RING RESEARCH PROJECT UPDATE
By Joseph Mathews

As noted in the previous Cumberland Patriot, in 2015 CCHS received a second project grant for $12,750 from the New Jersey Historical Commission to attempt to date the Swedish Granary using dendrochronology or tree ring research. Project work is ongoing. These photos are from a one-day Atlantic White Cedar sample-collecting tour that took place this past November along Dennis Creek, where—starting in 1790—shipyards turned out seagoing wooden vessels. Our regular "dendro" crew of Edward Cook and Bill Callahan has been joined by other researchers, namely Neil Pederson and Dan Bishop of Harvard Forest, Nicole Davi of James Patterson University, and Jesse Pearl of the University of Arizona. Architectural historians Joan Berkey and Jamie Hand are still generously sharing their expertise. More collecting of samples is planned, both at "wet" sites like Dennis Creek and at historical buildings such as area churches built between 1750 and 1850. Samples will be prepared, their tree rings measured, and the resulting data subjected to statistical analysis. This continues to be an exciting project that touches on the history, environment, and architecture of New Jersey.

HISTORY OF THE HILLCREST
By Warren Q. Adams

Checking in the book Old Inns and Taverns, we find Henry Hann was the proprietor of Hann's Tavern from 1782-90 and returned in 1795-98. After a year with Almarine Brooks, Seth Bowen became proprietor of the Franklin Tavern for a number of years. The Hotel of Levi B. Davis is in the 1820s, he ends his proprietorship around 1826. In the 1830’s, Richard Hann had Hann’s Lafayette Hotel in the building. There is mention of his Hall of Independence where different groups held their meetings. An 1842 advertisement for Minerva Oyster House under the Hall of Independence seems to say there were businesses on the ground level of the building. From 1869 until 1912, there were over eight proprietors of the City Hotel including Carl Gottlieb Cast from 1887 to 1894. A change in name came sometime between 1912 and the 1920’s. From 1929 to 1946, Dr. Seward C. Tremane had the Hillcrest Hotel where he lived and had his veterinary office. In 1949, Mrs. Tremane sold the business and it was the Hillcrest Apartments and Tavern until 1950.

From 1950 to 1955, it was the Bennett House Hotel and Tavern. In 1956, it was back to the Hillcrest Tavern only and in 1979 still using the name Hillcrest and under the proprietorship of Cosmo Terrigno, it became Bridgeton’s landmark Coach Room Restaurant and still retaining the Hillcrest Bar and the name Hillcrest, a very unique combination for a tavern and restaurant business.

The Cumberland County Historical Society extends our sincerest gratitude to all of the firemen who worked so tirelessly to extinguish the fire at the historic Hillcrest Tavern and Coach Room and to protect Potter’s Tavern. Our hearts go out to the Terrigno family and staff. Their loss is incomprehensible. We wish them peace and the strength needed to start anew.

We are especially relieved to hear that no one was injured fighting this tragic blaze. Without these brave and excellent firefighters, our county would have lost Potter’s Tavern, another cherished building dating back to the 18th century. The Bridgeton Fire Company and the other fire companies who helped are truly a blessing to our community.
THE VICTORIAN FASHION OF HAIR MEMORABILIA
By Brittney Ingersoll

Inside of the Gibbon house, there are three wreaths that appear to be made out of flowers that have dried out over the last 200 plus years. In actuality they were made from human hair. The practice of hair preservation that is mostly associated with the Victorians is in reality much older. During a time prior to photography and when photography was limited, hair was used as a token of intimacy between individuals. Women would keep cups on their dressers to save their hair when they brushed it. Mostly it was middle class women who had time on their hands that would take the hair and weave it into these intricate designs creating hair wreaths.

Hair objects did not end in the home with wreaths. There was an entire hair jewelry industry where companies would manufacture jewelry using ones hair and gold or silver. One would bring the hair they wanted made into jewelry, then the hair would be made into the jewelry at the shop or sent out to a different location to be made into the desired object and sent back. The farther the hair traveled, the more weary people were about the finished project. The fear of whether the jewelry that the customer was paying for was actually made from their hair would be a concern for many.
made from the hair that they sent was always in the back of their minds. Sears even put up a warning in their catalogue from 1908, which stated “Requires about 1 1/2 ounces of hair combings to braid a chain. Is made in two pieces, and together with mountings is 12 1/2 inches long. We do not do this braiding ourselves. We send it out; therefore we cannot guarantee same hair being used that is sent us; you must assume all risk. When you send in your hair to be braided be sure to write us when you do so and put your name and address on package.”

Local jewelry stores also made hair jewelry as well. In the 1869-1870 Bridgeton, Millville and Vineland Directory one can find a jewelry store located at 26 Commerce Street called “John M. Laning’s Jewelry Store.” During the time when this store was operating, hair jewelry was a rather large commodity. One could speculate that the Bridgeton jewelry store could have offered some type of hair jewelry service. If “John M. Laning’s Jewelry Store” did manufacture hair jewelry, customers would have been more confident going there than sending the hair out to larger companies.

Though some people today find hair jewelry and wreaths strange or even disgusting, they were an important part of the Victorians culture. They were sentimental keepsakes and intimate objects that only had meaning between the one who the hair belonged to and his or her loved one. Hair wreaths and jewelry were a way to keep a piece of a loved one who had passed on.


OLD STONE SCHOOL: READING, WRITING, ARITHMETIC AND REPAIRS

By Linda S. Hruza-Jones

On the east side of Ye Greate Street stands a tiny stone building constructed in 1810. Used as a schoolhouse in the 19th century, its purpose was to provide a free education for all of the children of Greenwich, a place where students of all ages learned in a single classroom with a single teacher. Such an endeavor was partly possible because of a farmer, Zachariah Barrow. Barrow stated in his 1725 will that his farm be given “for the benefit of a free school for the Township of Greenwich forever.” The Cumberland County Historical Society is presently conducting research to uncover more details about the school’s builder, name, curriculum, students and teachers.

This small wonder conjures up feelings of nostalgia – the kind that Laura Ingalls Wilder brought to life in the “Little House on the Prairie.” Greenwich’s Old Stone School offers us the opportunity to capture a glimpse of our past and imagine a room where students worked arithmetic problems on slate, read McGuffey Readers, participated in spelling bees and warmed their hands in front of a wood-burning stove. Despite the building’s iconic image and charm, one can also easily imagine the hardships students faced getting to and from school, and obtaining supplies and textbooks.

More than a center of learning, the Old Stone School witnessed not only the lessons of reading, writing and arithmetic, but also served the residents of Greenwich in a variety of other capacities. Over the years, the building was used as a cabinetmaker’s shop, the town hall, an undertaker’s establishment, a polling station, a meeting house for worship, and a headquarters for the Society of New Jersey Artists. The building is presently owned by the Township of Greenwich.

Such rural, one-room schools were a common fixture on the American landscape, but many have disappeared. In order to safeguard the Old Stone School, repairs are needed. At the invitation of Mayor Bill Reinhart, the Cumberland County Historical Society is forming a committee to work with the Greenwich Township Municipal Government to stabilize and eventually restore the Old Stone School on Ye Greate Street, just north of the Goodwin School “S” curve. Any volunteer willing to work on this new project is invited to please contact Linda Peck at 856-455-8580.
SECRETS OF THE PARK AND CN & IW

By Jim Bergmann

What you may not know about the Bridgeton City Park will be the topic on March 10, 2016 at the Bridgeton City Library at 7 p.m.

Jim Bergmann will discuss many little known facts about the 1,100 acre park. Audience participation will be encouraged and a quiz on the “sometimes forgotten” will be included.

The dates 1786 and 1903 have significant meaning to the park as we know it today. Where was the first raceway out of Tumbling Dam Pond? Atlantic City was not the only town to have a boardwalk. What is the significance of the Cumberland Country Club? On certain nights, why was a section of the park illuminated by powerful lights? When and where did naked bathing happen in the park? What location did the original city dump occupy and where was the Goldfish Pond? What exactly does CN & IW mean? These and many other facts will be discussed.

There will be maps, photographs, and diagrams to help understand how the park was many years ago. Bring your questions, comments and memorabilia if you have any to share for a fun night discussing the park.
ARE YOU READY FOR “A RACE THROUGH TIME?”

The Cumberland County Historical Society (CCHS) has partnered with the Vineland Historical and Antiquarian Society (VHAS) to announce an exciting new summer event designed to enhance interest in our rich local history. Working with many of the historic organizations within Cumberland County, the two societies have created “A Race Through Time,” which will be held from July 1 to August 28, 2016. Visitors who register at any of the participating sites will receive passports that must be stamped by at least six different organizations. At the end of August, participants will be able to submit those passports into a drawing for prizes that will include gift certificates to local restaurants and events. Extra points will be given for evidence that visitors stopped at any of the West Jersey Time Traveler Podcast Sites that were established in Cumberland County last year. Along the way, individual sites will offer participants small souvenirs of their visits.

Visitors will have the opportunity to stop everywhere from the Bayshore Center at Bivalve to the Millville Army Airfield Museum. Information about each site’s hours of operation and a map will be provided to visitors who apply for passports. Participants will be encouraged to take photographs and post them online. If the event proves successful, the societies hope to make it an annual event. For further information, contact either the VHAS (VinelandHistory@gmail.com) or the CCHS (cchistsoc@verizon.net). Visit the “A Race Through Time” Facebook page, which will be updated beginning in the spring of 2016. The event is sponsored in-part by a grant from the Cumberland County Cultural and Heritage Commission.

So, are you ready? On your mark, get set....

1. Bayshore Center at Bivalve
2. Cumberland County Historical Society (Gibbon House)
3. Maurice River Historical Society (East Point Lighthouse)
4. Mauricetown Historical Society (Edward Compton House)
5. Millville Army Air Field Museum, Inc.
6. Millville Historical Society (Mansion House)
7. Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape Tribal Museum
8. Palace of Depression
9. Port Norris Historical Society
10. Seabrook Educational and Cultural Center
11. Vineland Historical and Antiquarian Society
12. Wheaton Arts and Cultural Alliance
13. George Woodruff Museum of Indian Artifacts

The Bayshore Center at Bivalve, the Port Norris Historical Society and The McBride Enterprises invite Bayshore community members, families, friends and artists, who recognize the importance of memorializing many who have been lost in the Delaware Bay, to help envision, support and bring into being a Watermen’s Memorial.

The memorial will be located at the Bayshore Center at Bivalve’s Shipping Sheds overlooking the Maurice River. It will be fully accessible to the public and viewed by land or along the river. An integral part of the memorial will be an opportunity for families to remember loved-ones, past, present and future.

The memorial will be a place of quiet contemplation, reflection, remembering and connecting with the Bay’s past, present and future. The memorial will be constructed of local materials and will be impervious to the outdoor elements.

After three years of planning and soliciting proposals from artists, the committee decided that the Watermen’s Memorial will consist of three pieces: a working ship’s bell with names mounted to the base; a sculpture of a man, women and child; and a sculpture of a crescent moon/wave and schooner covered in tiny glass.

To view the original presentation and to read copies of committee meeting minutes go to: watermensmemorial.org

Names for the Memorial

We are looking for names and stories of “Watermen who drowned or died in the line of duty while working in their industry on the Delaware Bay.” Delaware Bay Watermen’s Memorial Nomination Form download at watermensmemorial.org/names.htm
Meet the Artists

Deborah Waddington Smith

Artist’s Statement:
To me, the memorial is the highest calling an artist can receive. I feel honored to be part of this important tribute to the watermen. They have given their lives to feed us and their families. These are the people that have shaped our country; people who have built the foundation of our beautiful South Jersey maritime heritage. With my greatest ability I want to portray these values in my sculpture.

Molly Sanger Carpenter

Artist’s Statement:
With this sculpture I intend to portray the spirit of the bay that each Waterman knew so well. The sculpture itself serves as a frame for its surroundings, and as a window through which the story of the lives of those who made their living and, ultimately, lost their lives, can be shared.

For Additional Information Contact
Email: delawarebaywatermensmemorial.@gmail.com
The Bayshore Center at Bivalve
BayshoreCenter.org
Meghan Wren, Founder and Executive Director mwren@bayshorecenter.org
The McBride Enterprises
Dr. Jacqueline McBride, CEM jacqueline.mcbride@gmail.com
Dr. Linda McBride pearl1564@gmail.com
Port Norris Historical Society
historicportnorris.org
Rachel Cobb, President or Alvina Baum, Secretary
pnhs@historicportnorris.org

EXHIBIT AT WARREN AND REBA LUMMIS GENEALOGICAL & HISTORICAL LIBRARY
100th Anniversary – Cumberland National Bank
By Warren Q. Adams

The exhibit at the Warren and Reba Lummis Genealogical & Historical Library includes First Ledger Book 1816 and an ornate sign from the Laurel Street building and framed pictures of all the bank presidents.

STRAIGHT FROM THE HEARTH
By Nancy Applegate

Did you know…?

- Martha Washington’s recipe for her famous “Great Cake” called for 40 eggs?
- The colonial cook beats eggs with bunches of peach twigs?
- The hand egg beater was not invented until 1870?

On the opening of the Gibbon House on Sunday, April 3rd come see a basket of Mother Nature’s pastel colored eggs!
ACQUISITIONS – WARREN AND REBA LUMMIS GENEALOGICAL & HISTORICAL LIBRARY

By Warren Q. Adams

DONOR: Ken Barron (Tyler, TX) W.J. Davis (Beef Boulder) Collection, Photographs of Bill Davis a farrier from Shiloh, N.J., early life, Navy, Farrier tent and tools, family including brother Morris Davis, Shiloh Postmaster (in photo of President Taft in Bridgeton, Morris driving the car); aerial view of Cumberland County Fair, 1950, 51, 52; Criterion Fire, 8 pictures, 1949; Greenwich Bull’s Eye House; Indian Monument; Surrey Parade, Surrey Horse Show, 1948; Booklet Cumberland County, 200th Anniversary, 1948.

DONOR: Vineland Historical Society (Vineland, NJ) Indenture, Maurice River Township, 1810 Riggins to Henderson; “History of the Presbyterian Church of Greenwich, NJ” 1871 by Enoch Fithian, MD; 200th Anniversary Program, Greenwich Presbyterian Church, 1907; History of Presbyterian Church of Deerfield, NJ, 1873 by R. H. Davis; Deed, Downe Township 1924 Schlitt to Hadad; Deed, Ocean City, N.J. 1902 Franklyn J. Smith; Vineland Historical Society publication 2015: Charles K. Landis, “A Trip to Mars.”

DONOR: Jim Bergmann (Bridgeton, NJ) 49 folders containing information on Bridgeton and Cumberland County history.

DONOR: Kevin Chambers (Ocean Grove, NJ) Bridgeton: Eight order forms from the Cumberland Mfg. Co. 1902-1905; Order form from Maire & Barnes, Contractors & Builders 1899; Flyer for Elmer’s Digest of the Laws of NJ 1855; Mortgage for Benjamin F. Maul 1869; Order form D. Bacon & Son. 1899; Order form Wm. C. Whitekar & Co. 1899; Mortgage Holmes to Benjamin Maul 1856; Deed Township of Maurice River Lowry to Nathaniel Berg; Baby Certificate from Vineland; The Chair, Its Origins, Design and Social History; 250 paper archive of the Souder and Action Families of Stow Creek; (47 letters written between 1882-1892); (16 Sauder letters from 1907); (25 Sauder letters between 1901-1914); (53 Sauder letters for the year 1900); (59 misc. papers of Cumberland County); (6 deeds from Stow Creek); Photograph of Mrs. Horatio Mulford, mother of William C. Mulford; Agreement between William Nichols and Alexander Parker 1783, Cumberland County; Five Photographs, Bridgeton.

DONOR: Jennifer Smedley (Bridgeton, NJ) Howard & Edna Hewitt Photograph Album.

DONOR: Janis Barry (Woodstown, NJ) Six copies of Coulter Family Footsteps; Family Genealogical Files: Campbell, Taylor, Westcott, Davis, Sheppard, Swain, Paulin, Brooks, and Tomlin; Genealogy of the Pepper Family in America; Robbins/Robinson Family; Walker Family; Dividing Creek School Marionette Club program; Down Township Eighth Grade Commencement Exercises, 1928, 36, 38; Hickman Family Genealogy.


DONOR: Kevin Chambers (Ocean Grove, NJ) Map of Jonathan Sayre, Land at Cohansey Bridge c 1741-1761 showing the present day Broad Street and the angle descent down the hill, north toward present day Commerce Street where the first bridge was located; The Call to the Reverend Mr. William Hollingshead to the Fairfield Presbyterian Church, 21 April 1773, for the second church on the Cohansey River.


DONOR: Allen Fisher (West Palm Beach, FL) Postal items from various Bridgeton businesses and events; stamped envelopes from Newport, Heislerville and Dorchester. Cover envelopes from the tanker SS AL REKKAH, Re-named BRIDGETON.


DONOR: Ethel L. Hess (New Bern, NC) Quaker Bonnet (Unmarried girls bonnet) from Buttonwood Farm originally Cravens Choyce, from the Goodwin or Harmer Families. In Honor of My Granddaughter Amber Elizabeth Long Adkinson; Goodwin Family Ancestry as written & compiled by Sarah F. Ware.

DONOR: John Danzenbaker (Blue Hill, ME) J. L. Danzenbaker’s Sons Archive, Photographs of the J. L. Danzenbaker’s Sons building in Cedarville, NJ; Implements fabricated in Cedarville; The cultivation of vegetable crops with workers planting and harvesting; Specialized equipment that was developed; Howard Danzenbaker plowing with a one bottom plow power horse; Cedarville Farm with a wagon load of boxed lettuce; J. L. Danzenbaker’s Sons at the Cumberland County Fair; J. L. Danzenbaker’s & Sons tractor sales 1930-1972.


DONOR: Steven Hawk (Vineland, NJ) Under Sail, the Dredgeboats of Delaware Bay, A Pictorical and Maritime History.

DONOR: Belva Prycel (Alna, ME) 6”x 9” painting of the Gibbon House by Belva Prycel.

DONOR: Joe & Joan Hancock (Greenwich, NJ) Notes that Sara Sheppard Hancock did on the Houses the Gibbons Built; Stories of Greenwich; Ship John Chronicle; Memories of Greenwich; Story of Greenwich; St. Stevens Episcopal Church, Pirates/Neighbors; Tales of Greenwich; 1908 Monument Celebration; Photographs of the Ship John Figurehead; Lighthouse; Ferry Tavern and Jail; Dennis House. Invoice from E. C. Frederick, Phila. for tableware for the Tea Burning Monument Fund, 1907.

DONOR: Penelope Watson (Greenwich, NJ) BHS Yearbooks 1938-1945.


DONOR: Jean D. Owen (Chapel Hill, NC) Paper Weight, 2nd Presbyterian Church, Souvenir of the 50th Anniversary of the Pastorate of Rev. H.H. Beadle 1866-1916; Paper Weight, round with Josh P. Owen 1881

DONOR: Bill Hamilton (Elmer, NJ) Photo album from Shiloh, New Jersey Old Union Academy, Ogden, DuBois, Fithian, Hires Families


DONOR: Nancy L. Heath (West Deptford, NJ) In Memory of Dr. William Schabacker Returns of Township Officers 1791-1850; Set of Diaries and account books labeled Jonathan Cawley’s Book, 1824-1870; Diaries of Joseph Bowen 1830-1863; Indenture 1744, Jeremiah hand to William Dalles, Maurice River; Regulations for Hogs, 1824; Recognizance for tavern license, John Hann, Jr., 1805; Deed John Hann to Jonathan Elmer, 1801; Court document, trial Greenwich Twp. Man accused of stealing a mare, 1833; Will of Josiah Harris of Hopewell, 1776; Will of David Sheppard, Greenwich, 1770; Deed from Charles Henry Fisher to John G. Burk, 1853; Duke of Cumberland two Mezzotint portraits, 1749-58, 1766-67; Set of enlarged photographs of Cumberland County including Millville; Large West Jersey Railroad Timetable; Bridgeton 1986 Tricentennial Calendar; Various Salem County and Vineland materials.