

# White Plains Historical Society

Founded in 1983 • Successor to the Battle of White Plains Monument Committee

Jacob Purdy House • 60 Park Avenue • White Plains NY 10603 • [www.whiteplainshistory.org](http://www.whiteplainshistory.org) • Autumn 2018

Please join us or  
renew your  
membership in the  
*White Plains  
Historical Society.*

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mission. Send in your  
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or join on-line today.*

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*Thank you!*

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## SAVE THE DATES!

*Paths Through History  
Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup>*

*Battle of White Plains  
Commemoration*

*Sunday, October 28<sup>th</sup>*

Both at **Jacob Purdy House**  
60 Park Avenue, WP 10603

## Battle of White Plains Commemoration

Each year the White Plains Historical Society puts on a celebration of one of the major highlights of our local history – also an event of critical importance in our nation’s history: the 1776 Battle of White Plains. George Washington and his colonial troops stopped the British advance and survived to turn the tide of the Revolutionary War and open the way to subsequent victories that surprised the enemy and astonished the world!

Please join us on Sunday, October 28<sup>th</sup> where you will see colonial militia re-enactors, craft exhibits, and meet living descendants of the Battle of White Plains; plus a visit by General Washington, himself. The White Plains High School band will perform and light refreshments will be served. Everyone is welcome to join this celebration of our history.



*“In this fast-paced, tech-obsessed world, it’s refreshing to take to the quiet historic trails and back streets of White Plains and reflect on the past. Thanks to the quick thinking, courageous actions and extreme sacrifices of our colonial ancestors, the Battle of White Plains that wasn’t “won” changed the course of the Revolutionary War. We must continue to work hard to preserve the rich history of White Plains.”*

– **Dennis Power, Former White Plains Councilman & Citizen Extraordinaire**

*“The Battle of White Plains Commemorations allow us to reflect on the importance of our local history and how this city is critical to the founding of our country. All residents of White Plains should be proud of our place in American History.”*

– **Ben Boykin, Chairman - Westchester County Board of Legislators**

*“Every October I am able to welcome family and friends into our home again, and to share some victuals. Our Colonial neighbors set up camp in our yard and all are welcome to visit with us. We thank the soldiers who fought for our Liberty and welcome our esteemed General Washington into my home again. It is a beautiful way to share history with everyone who joins us. I look forward to meeting new friends again this year.”*

– **‘Abigail Smith Purdy’ (Cynthia Abbott Kauffman), Regent – Daughters of the American Revolution and Trustee – White Plains Historical Society)**

This year’s **Battle of White Plains Commemoration** will be held on

**Sunday, October 28<sup>th</sup> 11 a.m -3 p.m.** (Flag ceremony at 1:00)

at Jacob Purdy House, 60 Park Avenue, White Plains NY 10603

For information call 328-1776 or visit <[www.whiteplainshistory.org](http://www.whiteplainshistory.org)>

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK: **MARTIN, MIDTERMS, THE MEDIA, AND OUR SOCIETY**

Last newsletter (Spring 2018), readers were asked if they could identify the 9-year-old White Plains letter-writer Dr. King referenced in his Mountaintop speech. Can you believe it? Just as the U.S. Postal Service was distributing our periodical, *The Wall Street Journal* solved the decades-old mystery. A 39 year old Pleasantville woman was the missive's author. (See: <https://www.wsj.com/articles/found-the-long-lost-link-to-martin-luther-king-jr-s-last-speech-1522423915>). White Plains was a familiar place to MLK, Jr. On December 11, 1962 a *Westchester Salute to Martin Luther King, Jr.* was held at County Center with headliners Sammy Davis, Jr. and Peter Lawford. Dr. King also had



John Vorperian

made visits to local homes and churches that supported him and the Civil Rights cause. One of the first was early in 1959 when Hermine and Robert Popper hosted MLK at their 240 Rosedale Avenue residence. Andy Bass has a wonderful article about MLK's many visits to this city and the county (See: The Westchester County Historical Society's *"The Westchester Historian"* Spring 2018 Vol.94, Number 2).

As Election Day 2018 approaches, there was a time when New York was a swing state. That being so, Presidential candidates made it a point to campaign in the County Seat – White Plains NY. In 1960, U.S. Senator JFK car-caravanned thru our hamlet and garnered 10,166 votes to then Vice-President Richard Nixon's 14,241. In his 1972 re-election bid President Nixon would do the same type of campaign event. Although he won in a national landslide, here the incumbent edged out U.S. Senator George McGovern 12,862 to 10,030.



John F. Kennedy campaigning in White Plains, 1960

As a proponent of utilizing cultural history to educate the populace, over the summer, I swung by The Buffalo History Museum to take in their extraordinarily popular exhibit **ICONS: The Makers and Moments of Buffalo Sports**. Cultural history focuses on entertainment and sports to dissect and highlight an era's social issues and historical timeline. **Greg D. Tranter**, President of the Museum's Board of Managers, gave me a personal tour. It was not a private one. There were too many youngsters and teens clogging the aisles. Greg and [buffalohistory.org](http://buffalohistory.org) deserve a big salute for charging up Generation Next with an interest in discovering the past.

Finally, as to Presidents and endorsements, also over the summer, the White Plains Historical Society received a **grant award from the Syd and Jan M. Silverman Foundation in Honor of the Marich Family**. **Syd Silverman** was the legendary publisher and owner of the show business bible **Variety**. Our thanks to the Foundation for its help.

Also from the Media and history, Mark Shaw, author of several history books, in particular *THE REPORTER WHO KNEW TOO MUCH*, has informed me the Brothers Dowdle production company ("WACO") is developing a movie or TV series based on Dorothy Kilgallen's life and times and the Pulitzer-Prize nominated investigative journalist's 18-month investigation of the JFK assassination. If you'd like to tell Mark who should play the lead, you can contact him at [mark@markshawbooks.com](mailto:mark@markshawbooks.com). Hollywood whispers are revolving around Cate Blanchett, Reese

(Continued from page 2)

Witherspoon, Catherine Zeta Jones and my personal favorite - Meryl Streep. Keep watch with the local news outlets and [www.whiteplainscommunitymedia.org](http://www.whiteplainscommunitymedia.org) for the Fall release of the Jack Harrington Documentary, "I REMEMBER JACK."

Yours in History,

*John Vorperian*

(914) 328-1776 <[whiteplainshistory.org](http://whiteplainshistory.org)>

## Can You Help Us Solve the Mystery of Lady Justice?

from Ben Boykin, Chairman - Westchester County Board of Legislators

Since 1847, the official seal of the County of Westchester has been the figure of Justice, standing with her right arm holding scales above her head and a sword in her left hand pointing downward and resting on her left foot. This seal has been used since then for all official business. It was recently discovered that a painted image of the seal which hangs in the office of Ben Boykin, Chairman of the Board of Legislators, may have been the work of a well-known artist and prominent local figure who lived in White Plains.



Seal of Westchester County

All the research that has been done points to Edmund F. Ward, who just so happened to be a member of the Westchester County Board of Supervisors during the period between 1953 and 1965. In an article that ran in *The Reporter Dispatch* on September 21, 1959, entitled "Anybody Here Seen Miss Justice? Uplifting County Seal Needs Uplift" Milton Hoffman appeared to make reference to the painting, "One large drawing hangs in the office of the clerk of the Board of Supervisors" he wrote. (The Board of Legislators was then known as the Board of Supervisors). The article talks about a possible redesign of the seal and says that County Executive Edwin G. Michaelian asked Supervisor Edmund Ward of White Plains to come up with some suggestions.

Our best guess is that the painting was created by Ward, who was an accomplished artist, but we would really like to have more definitive proof. If you have any clues, please email Lucy Ortiz at [LucyO@westchesterlegislators.com](mailto:LucyO@westchesterlegislators.com) or call her at 914-995-2818.

### Invitation from ***Revolutionary Westchester 250*** to a FREE presentation:

**October 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at St. Paul's Church National Historic Site, 897 South Columbus Avenue, Mt. Vernon, NY 10550, 914-667-4116** [www.nps.gov/sapa](http://www.nps.gov/sapa)

**"The Revolutionary War in Westchester County"** Dr. Erik Weiselberg explores tales of adventure, espionage and patriotism at the center of the fight for Independence 1776-1783. Dr. Weiselberg is the principal historian for *Revolutionary Westchester 250*. He researched the Revolutionary War era families in Irvington, has served on the board of the Irvington Historical Society and is currently teaching his 19<sup>th</sup> year of high school social studies. He makes history come alive with his colorful and well-organized slide show and lively Q & A discussions. Learn about Westchester's role in our nation's birth.

## World War I in White Plains: Part 2 – End of the War

by Barbara Carlson – Trustee & Recording Secretary, White Plains Historical Society

Just after America's entry into World War I in 1917, a popular song, "Over There," was introduced. It reflected public enthusiasm for the war and the sense that the war would be over quickly. In George M. Cohan's words:

*Over there, over there  
Send the word, send the word over there.  
That the Yanks are coming, the Yanks are coming.  
The drums rum-tumming everywhere.  
So prepare, say a prayer,  
Send the word, send the word to beware  
We'll be over, we're coming over  
And we won't come back till it's over, over there.*



And 100 years ago, on November 11, 1918 it was over. More than two million American soldiers under the command of General John J. Pershing fought on battlefields in France, and made possible the victory of the Allies, Britain, France and the Ottoman Empire (Russia had left the war earlier). Thirty-four soldiers from White Plains were killed in the war, seven were killed in action, and the remainder died from wounds or Spanish influenza. What was going on in White Plains at and after the war's end?

White Plains mothers whose sons had been in the military quickly responded to the call to organize so that they might participate in relief work; this was done with enthusiasm and dedication. Money for aid to families of servicemen was raised through contributions, food sales, bazaars, card parties and concerts, and was generously distributed. Soldiers who were recovering from injuries were treated to weekly entertainment at the Burke Foundation as well as at Base Hospital No. 38, Eastview (now Westchester Medical Center).

Following the war, Mrs. Louisa Lockwood, who had organized the War Mothers' Group and was also Regent of the White Plains chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, supervised a house-to-house canvas which resulted in the collection of over 700 names of those who had served. A questionnaire then was distributed to



White Plains War Mother's Club banner, 1918

obtain information about the serviceman or woman, such as date of birth, name of spouse or parents, date of enlistment, branch of service, rank and engagements. This information was transferred to large index cards and arranged in categories: Army, Navy and Marines (146 blue cards); White Plains servicemen killed (34); women who enlisted from White Plains (30); others not considered "officially" White Plains residents when they enlisted (this group was large and accounted for the fact that the plaque in City Hall contains 53 names of White Plains men killed). These index cards

are now preserved in the White Plains City Archives. Mrs. Lockwood also later published a book entitled "The World War History of the City of White Plains".

Most of the White Plains men who had served in the war returned during the months after the war's end, and the City of White Plains celebrated with a "Welcome Home Day" in April 1919. A parade with marching soldiers

(Cont'd. on page 5)



## World War I in White Plains: Part 2 – End of the War (Cont'd. from page 4)

and sailors was greeted by cheering crowds; the parade route was “lavishly decorated” and passed in front of a reviewing stand at the courthouse on Main Street. A dance was held at the Armory and a minstrel show was held in White Plains High School auditorium. Announcing that “the servicemen now home will be entertained free of charge,” the *White Plains Daily Reporter* also noted that “plans will be started soon for holding a monster affair which will be held when all the men have returned home.”

This “monster affair” took place on Armistice Day (now Veterans Day) November 11, 1921. On that day, all stores in White Plains were closed, as well as banks and the post office. Merchants were asked to decorate their stores with flags, bunting and pennants. A parade of civic, fraternal and veterans’ organizations joined with veterans of the Civil War, the Spanish-American War and “the World War.” The parade wound its way through the downtown streets and ended up at the “Parkway Reservation” along Central Avenue, near today’s County Center. The Armistice Day Memorial Committee had arranged to plant 46 oak trees there, and a former White Plains resident was instrumental in getting soil from the Belleau Wood battleground in France to mix with American soil in planting the trees. The Paris edition of the *New York Herald*, printed on November 21, 1921, carried an account of this commemoration. Secretary of the Treasury William McAdoo and other dignitaries came to White Plains for the dedication. Bronze plaques, each bearing the name of a White Plains serviceman killed in the war, were installed at the base of each tree. Many of those trees and plaques remain today.



*White Plains ‘Welcome Home Day’ Parade, April 1919*



*Reunion of 51<sup>st</sup> Pioneers at White Plains Armory, 1926*

*Photos from City of White Plains Archives*

A World War I stone monument was erected at the confluence of Maple Avenue and West Post Road. This monument has been partially restored and shrubbery has been removed. In 1926, the White Plains Municipal Building (City Hall) was erected at 255 Main Street. It had been planned since 1919, with a resolution by the Common Council to consider this building a memorial. In the words of a 1933 White Plains newspaper article:

“The hero dead of White Plains in the World War will live in history for all time.... In the foyer of the City Hall, on tablets of bronze, appear the names of the White Plains men of all our wars, from the Revolution down through 1917-1918. These tablets will endure. They will tell the story, day by day, of the men who did so much for our city and for our nation....Take a little time tomorrow, or any day, to look through that bright roll of honor.”

And when you do, you’ll be amazed that, although those heroes may be gone, you can still feel their patriotism and determination to defend and protect the world and to make the future better than the past.

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*With thanks to Elaine Massena, White Plains City Archivist, for her time, provision of photos and invaluable help.*

## The Ambassador Came to White Plains



*John Kabore meeting with President John F. Kennedy circa 1963*

John Boureima Kabore was Ambassador to the United States from the African nation of Upper Volta in 1963. He also doubled as Upper Volta's Ambassador to the United Nations. His law clerk at that time was a young attorney named Kofi Annan who later became Secretary General of the U.N. On one memorable day John Kabore came to White Plains with an official motorcade traveling up Main Street, flags flying, and a motorcycle police escort, and was greeted by Mayor Richard Hendey on the steps of City Hall. How did this all come to be? The answer is a unique piece of White Plains history.

The White Plains Junior Chamber of Commerce (WPJC) initiated a project to reach out in friendship to a third-world country. The idea, conceived by WPJC founder

and president Brian Wallach, was to send as a gift from the City of White Plains an ample supply of sports equipment – soccer balls, nets, athletic shoes and apparel, etc. – to a country somewhere in the world that needed these supplies and training to establish and/or enhance a program of physical fitness. The concept received immediate support, but the question arose – “Which country to select?” The answer appeared through what may have been divine intervention. As the WPJC staff pondered the question, they were watching a televised session of the United Nations General Assembly. The camera naturally was focused most often on Ambassador Adlai Stevenson with the “United States” nameplate clearly in front of him. Since delegates were seated alphabetically, the person seated immediately next to Ambassador Stevenson, in full view, was John Kabore, with his “Upper Volta” nameplate. The WPJC knew immediately that they had their answer – Upper Volta seemed to fit the bill in every way!

The project involved asking all White Plains citizens to donate new or used soccer equipment and bring it to any White Plains firehouse. With the firemen's help a massive amount of goods was collected and made ready to send to Upper Volta. Arrangements were made to have Ambassador Kabore come to White Plains and officially receive the gift of athletic equipment to be sent to his home country. The ambassador - wearing his colorful dashiki - and his entourage were met on the City Hall steps by Mayor Hendey and members of the WPJC. It was a splendid event and the beginning of a long friendship between John Kabore, the people of Upper Volta (now renamed Burkina Faso) and White Plains.

After 1966 John Kabore became attached to U.N.E.S.C.O. and was headquartered in Paris until he retired in 2004. In 1992 Brian Wallach and his wife, Beth, visited Paris. They made a call to John Kabore and were received enthusiastically with open arms by John and his wife, Bea. They were treated to a fine dinner and a personal tour of Paris. It all stemmed from the mention of White Plains in a phone call to Ambassador Kabore, calling up his fond memories and long-lasting gratitude for all the people of White Plains, New York.

■ PVS

*Footnote: John and Bea Kabore telephoned the Wallachs recently from Paris earlier in 2018. We are happy to report they are now fully retired and both doing well.*

**Path Through History Weekend** is a statewide annual two-part event sponsored by New York State Division of Tourism and I♥NY. On **Sunday, October 7, 2018** White Plains will participate along with hundreds of other communities throughout the State in presenting its local history to the public. Jacob Purdy House will be open for visiting, with authentic displays of what life was like in White Plains in the mid and late 18<sup>th</sup> century. Guides will tell of the critical Battle of White Plains in 1776 and also how local families lived then. Light refreshments will be served - all with no charge.



**Jacob Purdy House, built in 1721.**  
Visit at 60 Park Avenue, White Plains on  
**Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup> noon-4 p.m.**  
**Admission is free.**

For further information see:  
<[whiteplainshistory.org](http://whiteplainshistory.org)> (914) 328-1776



Purdy House was open to the public for the prior "Path Through History" weekend on June 16<sup>th</sup> with more than 120 visitors attending and enjoying the richness of our local history, standing where General George Washington stood back in 1776.



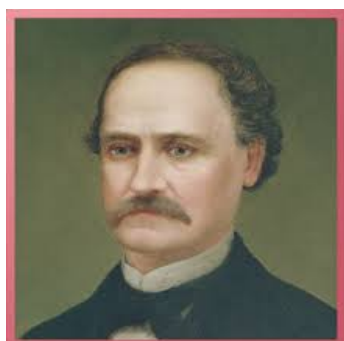
Above Photos by Frances Jones

## John Miles, White Plains Realty Developer in 1910 Era

by Elaine Massena – Archivist, City of White Plains (originally published in *The White Plains Watch*, March 2005)

John Miles, a real estate developer in White Plains in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, planned and constructed numerous properties in the heart of downtown. In 1910 he erected two buildings and named them after his children, Tod and Marion. The Tod Building still stands today on the corner of Martine and Mamaroneck Avenues; and currently houses Pizza Famiglia on the corner, plus Tighe's Tavern, a U.S. Post Office branch, other retail shops and a variety of offices on its upper floor. The two-story building occupies the entire block on Martine Avenue from Mamaroneck Avenue to Court Street.

Its twin, the Marion Building, stood on the next block on Martine, between Court and Grand Streets, until it was torn down in 1931 to make way for a new, much larger Westchester County Office Building.



John Miles, circa 1910



The Tod Building, corner of Martine & Mamaroneck Avenues



## The Tragic History of the U.S.S. Westchester County

by Debra Palazzo – 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, White Plains Historical Society

The U.S.S. Westchester County (LST-1167) was a tank and troop landing ship built around the end of the Korean War and launched in 1953. In amphibious assault operations she could run right up onto a beach and offload tanks and armored and infantry personnel ready for combat. Beginning in 1964 she served in the Gulf of Tonkin off the coast of Vietnam and made many successful amphibious landings at Chu Lai, Tam Ky, Da Nang and elsewhere near the DMZ.



U.S.S. Westchester County (LST-1167)

October 31, 2018 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the mining of the *Westchester County*. On November 1, 1968 (Vietnam time) while the *Westchester County* (known as WESCO) was acting as the ammunition resupply ship for the Mobile Riverine Force, and as she lay anchored in the vicinity of the My Tho River in Vietnam, two giant underwater explosions ripped through the ship killing 25 men and injuring most of the others on board. Viet Cong divers (known as sappers) had attached two 250-lb. limpet mines<sup>1</sup> to the hull about amidships on the starboard side, causing ruptured berthing compartments and fuel and storage tanks.

In the crowded sleeping areas, the blasts rolled an entire deck upward and back, like the tongue of a shoe, leaving only a cramped crawl space jammed with twisted metal and mangled bodies between the deck and bulkhead. Below, in the Army berthing spaces, men, bedding, weapons, ammunition and personal gear were hurled across the compartment as two gaping holes opened the interior of the ship to the muddy waters of the My Tho River. In an instant, visibility within the ship was reduced to zero and the air filled with clouds of choking steam and vaporized diesel fuel.

The explosion killed 17 of the WESCO crew members as well as 5 Army personnel and 3 Navy personnel who were stationed aboard. One of the dead, Keith W. Duffy, was from Westchester County. Another, Floyd W. Houghtaling, was from Canajoharie, in upstate New York. Twenty-two of WESCO's crew would later be awarded the Purple Heart for wounds suffered in the sapper attack. It was the U.S. Navy's greatest loss of life in a single incident as the result of enemy action during the entire Vietnam War. The ship was repaired and resumed service in Vietnam until 1973, when she was decommissioned. She was sold to the Turkish navy in 1974.

Approximately 100 WESCO crew, family members and guests will gather for a remembrance ceremony at the Westchester County Veterans Museum at Lasdon Park in Somers, NY, on Wednesday, October 31, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. Artifacts and a model of the ship are housed in the small military museum. The tribute will include unveiling of the names engraved in the walkway, reading of the names, a wreath laying ceremony and bagpipers. The public is welcomed and encouraged to attend the ceremonies and show support for these surviving Vietnam veterans, and to honor those killed in action.

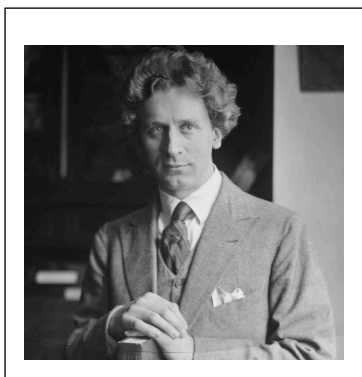
Assisting with the details of the ceremony at Lasdon park are Debra Palazzo and Cynthia Kauffman, co-founders of the patriotic non-profit organization, Daughters of Liberty's Legacy, Inc. (D.O.L.L.) and fellow Trustees of the White Plains Historical Society.

A County ceremony is planned for the same day at the Westchester County Center at 2:00 p.m. For more information contact 914-495-3631 or [facebook.com/daughtersoflibertyslegacy](https://facebook.com/daughtersoflibertyslegacy).

<sup>1</sup> Limpet mines are a special form of contact mine that are manually attached to the target by magnets and left, and are so named because of the superficial similarity to the limpet, a mollusk.



## Annual Dinner Features Musical Genius of White Plains' Percy Grainger



Percy Grainger 1882-1961

The Historical Society's annual business meeting and dinner was held on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at the White Plains Woman's Club. The White Plains Middle School band, under director Tim Veeder, played music of early 20<sup>th</sup> century composer Percy Grainger, and the national anthem to start the festivities. Colonial and WWI re-enactors were on hand for the anthem and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Miss Isabel Hoch. The featured speaker, Barry Peter Ould, came all the way from Scotland and is the co-founder and current president of the International Percy Grainger Society. Utilizing photos, video and sound recordings of Grainger and his music, Mr. Ould spoke extensively about Grainger's compositions and his performances as a world-famous concert pianist.

Percy Grainger was born in 1882 in Australia, studied in Germany, lived in London, and finally moved to America in 1921, settling in White Plains where he made his home until his death in 1961. He had a stellar career as a brilliant pianist and composer, traveling all over the world to play for adoring audiences. He kept company with other famous musicians such as Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg. Grainger's most well-known composition is "Country Gardens" based on an old English folk song.

At the business portion of the event the membership voted in officers for the coming year, including President – John Vorperian, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Peter Stone, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Debra Palazzo, Treasurer – Lou DeGenaro, Recording Secretary – Barbara Carlson and Corresponding Secretary – Ben Himmelfarb.

■ PVS



Photo by Rod Carlson

*The White Plains Middle School band started off a full evening of fun and entertainment with a medley of music by White Plains based composer Percy Grainger. The band also played a rousing rendition of our national anthem.*



## Film Tribute to Jack Harrington Previewed

"I Remember Jack", a documentary film tribute to John W. (Jack) Harrington will be released for cablecast this Fall via Altice 76 & Fios 45. The film is being produced at the White Plains Public Community Media Studio. Attendees at the Society's May 3<sup>rd</sup> annual dinner and business meeting were treated to an exclusive showing of a two-minute trailer. John Vorperian, the Society's president and the film's executive producer, gave credit to the movie's editor, Rita Santos, for her creative handiwork. The film features commentary by local people who knew Jack during his long tenure as the Society President, and as an activist in preserving historical sites – including establishment of the Greenway. The popular nature trail was converted from an old, abandoned railroad line. Appearing in the film are Milagros Lecuona, Bill Brady, Dennis Power, Tom Roach, Barbara Carlson and many others.



The photo below shows a young couple enjoying their "recreational vehicle" (RV) in 1918. The first RV models rolled off the assembly line in 1910 and were unveiled at Madison Square Garden that same year. One major difference in the 1918 RV's versus modern ones was the absence of a bathroom. One assumes that those earlier passengers made discreet use of yonder tree.



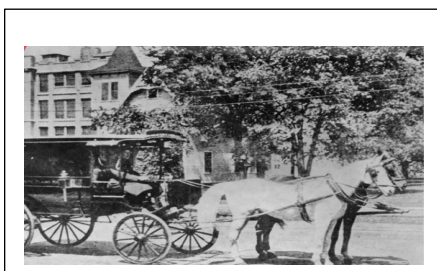
RV family campsite in 1918

## White Plains Hospital Marks 125 Years of Healing & Care

White Plains Hospital this year is celebrating 125 years of providing the highest quality health care to our community and region. In 1893, the year it began, the hospital employed a staff of just 25 and treated 31 patients. In 2018 the number of patients treated at White Plains Hospital will be close to 200,000. In 1897 it moved to a larger building, and a training school for nurses opened in 1901. A new wing was added to the hospital in 1904, increasing the number of beds to 100. And in 1939 a new, larger hospital was constructed on the current site. A South Tower was added in 1976, including an Intensive Care Unit and Cardiac Care Unit. In 1996 the 5-story Flanzer Pavilion was opened, and the free-standing Dickstein Cancer Center began operating in 1999. The hospital acquired a robotic surgical system in 2005, offering patients advanced minimally-invasive surgery options.



2<sup>nd</sup> home of WP Hospital, 1897



First ambulance was a horse-drawn carriage, 1906



Nurses Training School opened in 1901 with six students

The hospital today remains a not-for-profit establishment, has 292 beds and is the leading provider of advanced healthcare in the Hudson Valley. Its Flanzer Emergency Department serves 60,000 patients per year. It continues to win numerous awards for excellence, including re-designation as a Magnet hospital in 2016. In 2014, 2016 and again in 2018 White Plains Hospital received the Outstanding Patient Experience Award from Healthgrades®, given to only the top 15% of hospitals nationwide. White Plains Hospital will be holding a 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala at Sleepy Hollow Country Club on September 29<sup>th</sup> to celebrate its accomplishments and future outlook. For further information go to [www.wphospital.org](http://www.wphospital.org). ■ PVS

## 2018 Hoffman Scholarship Winners: Harriet Rose-Barwick & Ahmed Kane

Each year the White Plains Historical Society awards a scholarship to a graduating high school student who demonstrates a knowledge and understanding of local history. The scholarship is named for the late Renoda Hoffman, long-time City Historian and author of several books on White Plains' history. This year we have two winners from White Plains High School: 1<sup>st</sup> Prize goes to Harriet Rose-Barwick; and 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize to Ahmed Kane.

Harriet will be attending Vassar College this fall and will major in American Studies. At White Plains High School she was Editor-in-Chief of school newspaper, *The Orange*, and also on the staff of literary magazine, *The Roar*, which won first prize from the American Scholastic Press Association in 2016.

Ahmed begins studies at Stony Brook University (SUNY) this month. Before coming to White Plains he attended high school in New Jersey and was Class President.

The Hoffman Scholarship Awards were presented by Historical Society president, John Vorperian in a ceremony at the high school auditorium on June 4<sup>th</sup>.



Ahmed Kane, John Vorperian & Harriet Rose-Barwick

An enlightened person ... "does not presume to think every man who differs from him either fool or knave. He is sensible there are men of parts & virtue whose notions are entirely contrary to his. To imagine there are not wise and good men on both sides must be the effect of a weak head or a corrupt heart."



~ Alexander Hamilton, February 1775 (age 18)

## Historical Trivia Quiz

### History Behind State Capital Names

~~~~~

Identify 4 State Capitals that are named after U.S. presidents.

~~~

Identify 5 State Capitals that are named after explorers.

~~~

Identify 6 State Capitals with French names.

~~~

Identify 8 State Capitals with Names Having Origins in England.

~~~

Identify 4 State Capitals with Native American Names.

~~~

Identify 6 State Capitals with Names Having Religious Implications.

~~~

Identify 4 State Capitals named for U.S. military heroes.

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### BONUS QUESTION:

How many State Capitals can you identify that are named for women?

~~~

Answers posted on our website:  
<whiteplainshistory.org>

Join us at historic **Jacob Purdy House**  
60 Park Avenue, White Plains  
on **Sunday October 7<sup>th</sup>, 12 noon - 4 p.m.**  
**"Path Through History" Open House.**

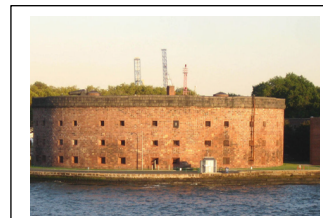
Learn about family life in colonial White Plains and the Battle of White Plains in 1776.

Light refreshments will be served.

Guided tours. All free of charge.

Bring the whole family.

**Governors Island** lies in New York Harbor between Manhattan and Brooklyn. It was a U.S. Army facility from 1794 to 1966. Tourists nowadays visit and learn of its military history, including Fort Jay and Castle Williams – built as a fort during the War of 1812, and also housing Confederate prisoners during the Civil War. The island is operated by the National Parks Service and is owned by the people of New York. Today the island is home to visual and performance art presentations. It is open to the public through October 31, 2018 for tours.



See: <<https://govisland.com>>

Castle Williams on Governors Island

Published by

*White Plains Historical Society*

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