

Field Day at SMMCP's Little Cubs Preschool



THG/MarySusan Hoffman. To purchase photos in The Gazette, call (609) 704-1940. Little Cubs Preschool at St. Mary of Mt. Carmel Parish held their Field Day on May 19. Kids enjoyed games, a slide, snacks and more.



Ribbon cuttings held downtown



THG/Mohammed Fuad. To purchase photos in The Gazette, call (609) 704-1940. Two ribbon cuttings were held downtown on Third Thursday, May 18. Top: Inspire Me Boutique celebrated their grand opening with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Bottom: Pool House celebrated the grand re-opening of the store with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

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Hammonton Food Truck Fest downtown June 10

After a bustling and fun-filled month of May, MainStreet Hammonton is continuing the festivities with its 8th annual Hammonton Food Truck Fest on Saturday, June 10 from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. More than 30 unique food trucks from Hammonton and the South Jersey-Philadel-

phia region will roll into downtown and line up along N. Egg Harbor Rd., Bellevue Ave, Central Ave, S. Second St. and Horton St.

"Hammonton held the very first Food Truck Fest in Atlantic County back in 2015. Now that our event is in its eighth year, we

have added new components every year, and continue to make the event better and better. We attract some of the best food trucks and our downtown provides the perfect backdrop to stroll and take your tastebuds on an adventure. It's a really fun evening and has become a landmark event for our town," Cheri Caravano, Chair of the Hammonton Food Truck Fest Planning Committee, said.

"This year's Hammonton Food Truck Fest will build on the success of previous years and will feature a diverse lineup of street eats that are sure to sat-

isfy every taste," MainStreet Hammonton Executive Director Mica McCullough said.

Local favorites like Tacos al Carbon will line up along the streets downtown, beside regional specialties such as Philly Fry, The Little Sicilian, Butch's Smack Your Lips BBQ and Pirate Pete's Soda Pop Co.. A full list of participating food trucks and a map with parking options will be made available closer to the event date on the Hammonton Food Truck Festival Facebook page at www.Facebook.com/FTFHammonton, or on Instagram

@downtown.hammonton.

Outdoor entertainment will be provided by Bob Morgan of the BME group; enjoy the tunes as you dine al fresco at the picnic tables with umbrellas on Central Ave. The Beer Garden, located on South Second St. will feature live music and local breweries Chimney Rustic Ales, Vinyl & Three 3's pouring their unique craft beers, as well as Blue Rascal Distillery, crafting their signature cocktails.

For more information, call (609) 567-9014 or go to www.downtownhammonton.com. This event is rain or shine.

March, April Students of the Month



Courtesy Photos

The Warren E. Sooy Jr. Elementary School recognized the March (above) and April (below) Students of the Month.



Yesterday's Hammonton

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Funding has been made possible in part by the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of Cultural Affairs within the Department of State, through funds administered by the Atlantic County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs.

333 Vine Street (School House Lane)
(609) 270-7652 • HistoricalSocietyofHammonton.org



Courtesy Photo

On the morning of September 2, 1945 aboard the battleship U.S.S. Missouri, commanders and representatives of the United States Armed Forces and the Imperial Japanese Forces, designated by President Harry S. Truman and Emperor Hirohito, signed the official Japanese Instrument of Surrender, ushering in the end of WWII. Pictured is Admiral Chester Nimitz, Commander and Chief of the Pacific Ocean Area, signing the document in the presence of a contingency of

officials and servicemen from both the United States and Japan. Although the war officially ended between Japan and the U.S. on V-J Day, conflict continued for months to years from isolated Japanese forces who refused to honor the Japanese surrender. As our nation is about to pay homage to all fallen U.S. Veterans of War this Memorial Day weekend, let us remember to impress upon our younger generations, through photographs, artifacts and personal memories, the horrific consequences of war between nations. The Historical Society of Hammonton is honored to have on display a collection of WWII photos, donated by Leslie LoSasso, depicting the surrender of the Japanese on the U.S.S. Missouri, as well as other intriguing WWII pictures. During and/or after the ceremony on Monday, May 29, please join us at our Open House from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Our regular hours are Tuesdays 10 a.m.-noon and Saturdays 11 a.m.- 2 p.m.

HSH Memorial Day Open House; Mario Avgousti & friends speaking June 1

The Historical Society of Hammonton (HSH) Museum will be open Monday, May 29 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. featuring new Spring '23 displays including "High School Years in Hammonton" and "Our Miss New Jersey" in addition to ever-expanding local Veterans' tributes. HSH will also be offering half-priced 2023 memberships and selling several popular Hammonton history books with all proceeds benefiting the Museum. Note: Out of respect for the fallen, the outside HSH table will temporarily close during the Memorial Ceremony. Stop in and see your town museum. Extra volunteers will be on hand.

The next Spring 2023 (HSH) free-to-the-public Speaker Series will take place Thursday, June 1 at 7 p.m. at the Canoe Club, Hammonton Lake Park. This will be the last presentation before re-convening on September 7.

June's featured speaker will be Mr.

Mario Avgousti, the owner-operator of Mario's Auto Repair, serving the Hammonton community for over 20 years, now in a larger and more convenient location at 196 Weymouth Road.

Avgousti was featured in a recent *Gazette* article and will speak to his family's Greek heritage and life in Hammonton. This month's informal event is expected to include some of his friends whose families also immigrated from Greece. He has asked that those attending come with lots of questions, as he is a bit humble and bashful about public speaking. It promises to be a fun evening, as he has strong long-standing relationships within the town.

The Historical Society of Hammonton Museum preserves the rich multi-cultural social, economic and political heritage of our town and its people. The mission is to increase awareness of Hammonton's history, and to establish

public access to that history by collecting, conserving, interpreting and promoting it to the widest possible audience. The historic 1887 (ex-Town Hall/Library/Kindergarten) museum, a treasure itself, is located behind Hammonton Veterans Memorial Park, open to the public Tuesdays 10 a.m. to noon, and Saturdays 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. New volunteers are always welcome, even if you haven't lived here your whole life.

Join the fun and learn about your great town. Have some historic Hammonton items? Bring them in. Check out the new Spring 2023 displays too!

If you can't attend this, or any Speaker Series event, stop in and play back recordings of this and dozens of past presentations, also available on-line at www.historicalsocietyofhammonton.org dating back to 2008.

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