

Howell Heritage & Historical Society

Meetings 4th Friday, 7 pm, Ardena Baptist Church Gym, Adelphia Rd. Howell

November 2025 Newsletter

Message from HHHS President, Jude Meehan

Greetings Friends,
Another wonderful holiday is on the horizon and the last one, Halloween, has passed. Ardena and MacKenzie are gearing up, as always, to have great displays for Thanksgiving. Hats off to our Members running tours and always keeping our beauties in order.

A special thank you to Ron & Larry for running a very successful yard sale last month. Thanks to all the volunteers that helped with setup, sales and breakdown.

This December we are having our first big event. Please read along in the newsletter for more information. Let's all pitch in and have a great event.

Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family.

Sincerely,
Jude Meehan, President
(732) 433-3359

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Follow us on Social Media for the latest HHHS events!

Facebook

Howell Heritage and Historical Society NJ

Our Website

www.howellheritagehistoricalsociety.org

Upcoming Events – Help is Welcomed

Monthly HHHS Society Meeting – [Virtual Meeting](#) Wednesday, November 19 starting at 6pm

We are trying our first Society meeting **virtually!** If you haven't joined us before, please join us from where ever you are! We have exciting events coming up! Phone: (978) 990-5440, Access code: 2067148

Old Ardena School Open House – [50/50 Drawing!](#) Preventorium & Old Tavern Roads, Howell Sunday, November 30 from 1pm to 4pm [It's not too late to purchase/sell 50/50 tickets!](#)

Old Ardena School Holiday Event – Meet Santa! Preventorium & Old Tavern Roads, Howell Saturday, December 6 from 12pm to 3pm

HHHS & Farmingdale Historical Society Event A Victorian Christmas Concert Farmingdale United Methodist Church 8 Main Street, Farmingdale Friday, December 12 at 7pm

MacKenzie House Museum & Library Open House 427 Lakewood Farmingdale Road, Howell Saturday, December 20 from 1pm to 4pm

You can reach us anytime by email:

HowellHeritageandHistoricalSoc@gmail.com

By snail mail:

Howell Heritage and Historical Society
2 Ardmore Road, Freehold, NJ 07728

HHHS NEWS

Monthly HHHS Society Meeting – **Virtual Meeting**

Wednesday, November 19 starting at 6pm

We are trying our first Society meeting **virtually**! If you haven't joined us before, please join us from where ever you are! We have exciting events coming up!

Phone: (978) 990-5440, Access code: 2067148

50/50 Raffle – It's not too late!

The 50/50 drawing will be held at the Old Ardena School on Sunday, November 30th. If you haven't returned your tickets, please make arrangements with Margaret Winkelman to return them or drop them off during the November 30th open house.

The drawing will be pulled at the end of the open Old Ardena School Open House. Tickets are \$5 each and proceeds are divided at 25%, 15%, and 10% to the three winners. HHHS retains 50% of the amount sold. This is our largest fundraiser of the year.

We still have plenty of tickets for sale – please ask your friends, family, neighbors if they wish to participate. If you need payment options other than cash/check, please contact Margaret Winkelman.

HHHS Monthly Meeting

Thank you so much TJ Fallon for presenting at October's meeting. TJ's presented "Helter Skelter – sites, locations and graves of crimes throughout history."

Please consider following TJ on social media. TJ can be found on YouTube under "Dead History". He gives his time free to the Society and we appreciate his efforts very much.

If you are interested in presenting at a Society Meeting in 2026, please contact HHHS via email at HowellHeritageandHistoricalSoc@gmail.com

HHHS Yard Sale - *What A Success!*

The Yard Sale held at Old Ardena School on Saturday, October 18th was a great success. Thank you to Ron & Larry for organizing the fundraiser and to everyone who donated items, helped with setup and breakdown and much more!

The Yard Sale raised over \$600 plus \$80 in general donations.

We couldn't have done it without your help! Thank you again Ron and Larry for your leadership.

Old Ardena School Update

November is here and excitement is in the air at Ardena School #2. We will be open on Sunday, November 30, 2025, from 1-4pm to greet visitors and prepare for the holidays. At closing time, 4pm, the 50/50 raffle drawing will take place. The funds raised from this drawing will help continue the mission of the Howell Heritage and Historical Society and the upkeep of our two buildings.

During the time Ardena School # 2 was open, children would have been looking forward Christmas, just as they still do in 2025. One of the traditions the children eagerly participated in would have been caroling. They would often prepare a holiday program for their families. They also decorated evergreen trees with homemade ornaments. Chains of cranberries and popcorn, pine cones, nuts, edible dried fruits, and candy canes were common decorations for their trees. And just like today, in December they would have a break from school, for Christmas, and would return after New Year's Day.

Just as students in the 1890s would be preparing for Christmas, so is the Ardena Schoolhouse committee. We are eagerly awaiting a visit on Saturday, December 6, 2025, from Mr. and Mrs. Claus. They are taking time out of their busy schedule to once again visit us, from noon to 3pm. Like the 1800s, our holiday event is evolving and new this year will be live music. Several musicians have volunteered to provide traditional Christmas music for part of the day. Take some time out of your hectic life, come and celebrate with us the JOY of the season.

For general questions or scheduling of a private tour, the School Committee members are:

Anne Hartmann, Debbie Frost, Margaret Winkelman and Vicky Arose

Vicky Arose, HHHS Board Trustee & School Committee Member

HHHS NEWS

MacKenzie House Museum & Library Update

Fall brought a lot of fun to the MacKenzie Museum this year! The Haunting of Capt. and Mrs. Prickitt was well-received! Once again, we can thank Donna for her delightful ghost stories and spooky music on our well-preserved pump organ! Please check out some of the Halloween pictures in this newsletter.

But, Fall isn't over! The November Open House on November 15th will provide the olden days – featuring the miller's family Thanksgiving preparations. Thanksgiving will be cozy and warm this year, due to the new mini-split heating system. We hope to see you there!

Please also save the date of December 20th when the miller's family will celebrate the Christmas season. There will be gold bells and a live pump organ "Sing-Along" of Christmas Carols in the cozy warmth of the parlor. All voices are invited!

For general questions or scheduling of a private tour, the MacKenzie committee members are:

Larry Lastra, Leigh Shaffer and Ron Alessi

Leigh Shaffer, HHHS Board Vice-President & MacKenzie Committee Member

Did You Know?

The New Jersey State Archives posted on their Facebook page recently that 1952 marriages are now available on microfilm.

These [records] are available for in-person research only. For mailed and certified copies of post-1950 marriages, you still need to go through the Department of Health.

Click visit the website below to schedule an appointment.

<https://bit.ly/njsaappointments>

If you aren't familiar with visiting the archives, the below video may be helpful.

<https://www.facebook.com/NJStateArchives/videos/1654043188489410>

For A Laugh



From CartoonStock.com

SPECIAL EDITION: HOLIDAY MENU

SUBMITTED BY: ANN MALSURY, HHHS MEMBER

As we approach the holidays, our thoughts turn to the delicious meals we look forward to sharing with family and friends. Traditions, favorite foods, and decorations set the tone for memorable holidays. A look back in time will show us how the earlier settlers prepared their meals.

In the earliest homes, there was one room downstairs which served as kitchen, dining room, sitting room and sometimes bedroom. A door facing south led to a porch where household activities such as washing clothes, food preparation, or candle making took place. There was also a bedroom upstairs.

At one end of the kitchen was the fireplace where an iron pot hung over the fire. Whatever food was available was boiled or stewed. Some fireplaces had an oven built beside it for baking bread and biscuits.

A holiday menu was very different from ours today. The man of the house went hunting and he might come home with a wild turkey that would have to be prepared to be boiled. Venison may also be on the menu.

Corn was a staple and had to be shelled and ground into meal to make cornbread. Pumpkins are a fruit native to America. They were diced and stewed and eaten with butter and spices added. Apples were harvested in abundance to eat fresh, stewed, or in pies.

Drinks included apple "syder", tea sweetened with brown sugar, and milk either from a goat or a cow. And if you had milk, then you could make butter and cheese.

Dr. Israel Acrelius in his "History of New Sweden" published in 1759 has left us with this recipe for apple pie.

"Apple pie is used through the whole year and when fresh apples are no longer to be had, dried ones are used. It is the evening meal of children. House-pie, in the country places, is made of apples neither peeled nor freed from their cores, and its crust is not broken if a wagon wheel goes over it."

Personally, I will be baking a fresh apple pie with a soft crust.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Submitted by Ann Malsbury
Member of Howell Heritage and Historical Society

TREASURER'S REPORT THROUGH OCTOBER 31, 2025

SUBMITTED BY: HHHS TREASURER, MARGARET WINKELMAN

HOWELL HERITAGE AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 Monthly Treasurer's Report
 For month ending: October 2025

Prepared by: Winkelman, Margaret
 Peer Reviewed by:

Balance as of:	September 30, 2025	Operating		Improvements	Total		
		\$780.70		\$4,531.23	\$5,311.93		
INCOME	DESCRIPTION	INCOME TYPE	AMOUNT	DEPOSIT DATE	CLEARED BANK	Earmarked for Payable	NOTE
Date Received							
9/23/2025	Cornhole Event Donation (delayed deposit)	Donations	\$50.00	10/9/2025	10/9/2025	\$0.00	Anne Hartman
9/23/2025	Ardena School Gift Shop	Sales	\$5.00	10/9/2025	10/9/2025	\$0.00	\$5 Map
9/23/2025	Ardena School Open House Donations	Donations	\$33.00	10/9/2025	10/9/2025	\$0.00	
9/23/2025	Howell Day Donations	Donations	\$13.00	10/9/2025	10/9/2025	\$0.00	
10/9/2025	Humidifer/MacKenzie Donations	Other	\$140.00	10/9/2025	10/9/2025	\$0.00	Leigh - Humidifier / MacK donations
10/18/2025	Yard Sale	Fundraisers	\$619.00	10/24/2025	10/24/2025	\$0.00	Cash
10/18/2025	Ardena School Donations - Yard Sale	Donations	\$30.00	10/24/2025	10/24/2025	\$0.00	Cash
10/18/2025	Anonymous Donation	Donations	\$1,000.00	10/24/2025	10/24/2025	\$0.00	Check
10/20/2025	Girl Scouts Donation	Donations	\$50.00	10/24/2025	10/24/2025	\$0.00	Check
		INCOME TOTAL	Operating		Improvements	Total	
			\$1,940.00		\$0.00	\$1,940.00	
		COMBINED TOTAL	\$2,720.70		\$4,531.23	\$7,251.93	
EXPENSES	DESCRIPTION	EXPENSE TYPE	AMOUNT	PROCESSED DATE	CLEARED BANK	BUILDING DESCRIPTION	NOTE
Date Received							
10/1/2025	JCP&L	Power	\$114.42	10/9/2025	10/10/25	Mackenzie Museum	XWWPM-RGPPL
10/9/2025	Atlantic Security	Other	\$255.00	10/9/2025	10/17/25	Ardena Schoolhouse	XWWPS-F791B
10/19/2025	JCP&L	Power	\$48.51	10/20/25	10/21/25	Ardena Schoolhouse	XYOLP-KXNH0
		EXPENSES TOTAL	Operating		Improvements	Total	
			\$417.93		\$0.00	\$417.93	
		COMBINED TOTAL	Operating		Improvements	Total	
Balance as of:	October 31, 2025		\$2,302.77		\$4,531.23	\$6,834.00	

Payable but invoices not reflected here:

97.64 XZMJZ-ZSRG

HHHS MEETING MINUTES – OCTOBER 24, 2025

SUBMITTED BY: HHHS SECRETARY, DEBORAH FROST

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Jude Meehan
Flag salute and moment of silence by Deb

Program Presented: Helter Skelter, Sites, Locations, and Graves of Famous Crimes Throughout History, presented by T.J. Fallon. T.J. also welcomed us to schedule another program and sounded most interested in his "Women of the American Revolution" research.

Refreshments were provided by Lynn, who also introduced us to her hand painted cat.

Business Meeting:

Prior Meeting Minutes & Treasurer's Report: Motion by Ron, 2nd Catherine to approve August Meeting and Treasurer's Reports

Committee Reports:

Nominating Committee: Proposed slate of nominees presented: President, Jude, Vice President, Margaret, Treasurer, Leigh, Secretary, Debbie, Trustees, Catherine, Vicky, and Donna. Motion to accept, Vicky, 2nd, Larry.

Finance: No Updates

Fundraising: Yard Sale: According to Jude, we "turned straw into Gold." Ron reported sales of \$619 plus donations. Larry read a thank you note:

Ron and I would like to thank Jude, Margaret, Eric, Bill Ditto, Vickie, Debbie, Frank, Lily & Kyle for helping us to make our yard sale a success.

Also, I would like to make a special note of appreciation to our youngest members Lily and Kyle who not only helped us set up in the morning and pack up at night. But they also opened MacKenzie & gave tours to our visitors while Donna played spooky music on our pump organ. So please put your hands together for these two young people who we want to honor & pay special thanks for all they do for our society!

Jude is a yard sale guy and wondered what was hot or not in reference to the items we had at the sale. Lamps: not great, and they were taken to Habitat. At a price of \$1, many collector's plates did sell. Helmets sold, but baby items didn't sell. Jewelry sold well. Ron wondered if a mirror with an eagle could be used at MacKenzie.

50/50 fund raiser: Margaret said to contact her if we didn't receive tickets and encouraged us to talk to friends and neighbors. This is the largest fundraiser we have.

HHHS MEETING MINUTES – OCTOBER 24, 2025

SUBMITTED BY: HHHS SECRETARY, DEBORAH FROST

MacKenzie House: Donna spoke about the decorations at MacKenzie, especially the skeleton with the big eyeballs looking at her! Jude said the permit application was received from American Water. The basement will be cleaned up.

Old Ardena School: Margaret reported the extra \$80 in donations received during the yard sale. On the day we had the Brownies visit the school, we also received a \$50 donation. There were 8 adults and 13 kids visiting. Vicky reported that we rang the bells. The kids were bouncing around the schoolhouse when they arrived. She had them enter the building calmly. It was a good day!

Jude is impressed by both groups involved with the buildings.

Other: Donna has a friend who is willing to donate a piano to the schoolhouse but was not sure if there would be enough room for it. Vicky confirmed that there would not be enough room. Donna said she would play the keyboard at the school on December 6th. Deb said she would bring in a portable keyboard and her pastor's wife would also play, and her daughter would play violin. Donna complimented the schoolhouse decor.

Lynn acknowledged a list of items that did not come with elected office responsibilities, such as the Newsletter, work on grants, publicity, fundraising, and programs. Jude mentioned the work that Billy had been doing at Mackenzie for years.

Next year at the schoolhouse: Vicky mentioned that it will be the 50th year anniversary of the on-site opening of the school and wants to do something to highlight that.

Jude mentioned the time he saw the Freedom Train in Neptune, and he will never forget it. People will be touched by what we do.

Note: Lynn mentioned that T.J. has never charged us for his talks. Catherine thought we should ask him what he would like from us to support him in other ways.

Lynn texted a message she received from T.J. which included, in part, these words from him:

The only thing that sometimes helps is ask members to go onto my Facebook Page and leave a comment underneath the Post I made about presenting for you guys.

Those kinds of comments and positive reviews help spread the word to other groups.

All I ever ask is that you guys give me a good review if any other groups ever ask you guys for it.
Motion to adjourn by Vicky, 2nd Larry



HHHS PROGRAM CALENDAR FOR 2025

ARDENA BAPTIST CHURCH GYM ~ 593 ADELPHIA RD, HOWELL
4TH FRIDAY ~ PROGRAM 7 P.M. ~ BUSINESS MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING

If you are interested in presenting at a Society Meeting in 2026, please contact HHHS via email at
HowellHeritageandHistoricalSoc@gmail.com

January 24th Program: HHHS Installation of Officers – Cancelled due to low attendance
Refreshments: Catherine Schwier – Thank you!

February 28th Program: HHHS Installation of Officers – Postponed due to Board absences
Refreshments: Margaret Winkelman – Thank you!

March 28th Program: HHHS Installation of Officers - rescheduled
Refreshments: Debbie Frost – Thank you!

April 25th Program: William A.B. Ditto on “Evolution of Transferware from China to England and Beyond.”
Refreshments: Vicky Arose – Thank you!
Special Activity: Western Monmouth School Tour – Ardena School

May 23rd Program: Celebrate 6th Anniversary Of HHHS Inc.
Refreshments: Lynn Barrall – Thank you!
Special Activity: Weekend in Old Monmouth & Farmingdale-Howell Memorial Day Parade

June 27th Program: Leigh Shaffer – Research Requests for HHHS
Refreshments: Frank Pinkus – Thank you!

July 25th Program: “Show & Tell”
Refreshments: Margaret Winkelman – Thank you!
Special Activity: Monmouth County Fair at East Freehold Showgrounds

August 22nd Program: No Formal Program
Refreshments:

September 26th Program: TJ Fallon!
Slate of Officers Presented by Nominating Committee
Refreshments: Lynn Barrall – Thank you!
Special Activity: Howell Day & Green Fair – Thanks to Margaret, Vicky & Debbie for representing HHHS!

October 24th Program: Nominating Committee - Slate of Officers for 2026 & TJ Fallon returns!
Refreshments: Lynn Barrall – Thank you!
Special Activity: Monmouth County Archives & History Day – 10/11/2025

November – Virtual Meeting – Please plan to join, December — No Meetings

HHHS MEMBERSHIP/DONATION FORM

An important way to grow our membership is through word of mouth.
Please consider sharing this form with friends and family who may be interested in joining.

2026 Membership / Donation Form

I would like to enroll as a member in the category below:

\$20 individual \$30 family \$50 sponsor \$100 patron

I would like to make a general donation:

Amount: \$ donation

I would like to be added to your email distribution list only:

Name

Street

City State Zip

Phone Email

Please send this form & your check, payable to:

Howell Heritage & Historical Society, 2 Ardmore Road, Freehold NJ 07728
Email: howellheritageandhistoricalsoc@gmail.com

HHHS is a recognized 501c organization under EIN: 83-4488067



Funding has been made possible in part by an operating support grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a Division of the Department of State, through grant funds administered by the Monmouth County Historical Commission.

Thank You

HHHS EVENTS – OLD ARDENNA SCHOOL YARD SALE – OCTOBER 18



HHHS EVENTS – OLD ARDENAS SCHOOL YARD SALE – OCTOBER 18

2025 HHHS YARD SALE – GREAT SUCCESS!

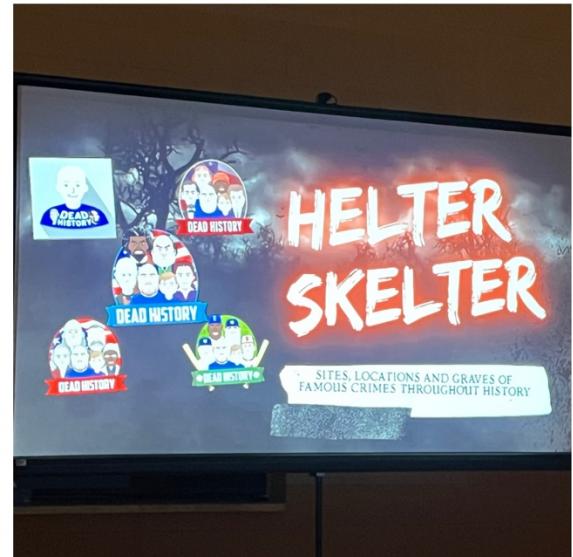
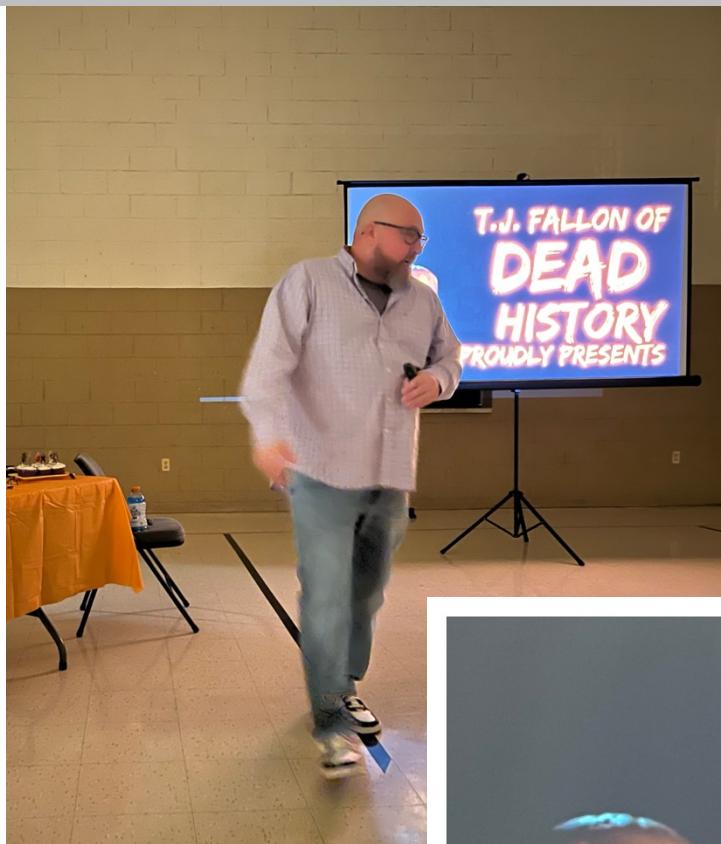


HHHS EVENTS – OLD ARDENAS SCHOOL GIRL SCOUT VISIT – OCTOBER 20



*Photos by Debbie Frost

HHHS EVENTS – TJ FALLON PRESENTATION



HHHS EVENTS – MACKENZIE MUSEUM & LIBRARY OCTOBER OPEN HOUSE



Spooky Music and Ghost Stories presented by Donna Terkildsen. Head on over for the FUN!

HHHS EVENTS – MACKENZIE MUSEUM & LIBRARY OCTOBER OPEN HOUSE - CONTINUED



HHHS EVENTS – OLD ARDENNA HOLIDAY EVENT

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2025

Old Ardena School Holiday Event
Howell Heritage & Historical Society

Gift Shop **Giveaways** **Music** **Free Admission**

Saturday, December 6
12pm to 3pm

Corner of Old Tavern & Preventorium Roads, Howell

Bring your camera for Photos with Santa
Bring the whole family, including your pets!

HHHS EVENTS – VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Friday, December 12, 2025

A Victorian Christmas Concert

Friday, December 12, 7 pm



At the 1894 Historic Victorian Gothic Farmingdale United Methodist Church, 8 Main Street, Farmingdale, NJ



A Good Will Offering will Benefit Both
Farmingdale & Howell Historical Societies

CLASSIC CAROLS AND THEIR HISTORY PERFORMED
BY LOCAL MUSICIANS UNDER THE DIRECTION OF
DONNA TERKILDSEN

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED AFTER THE CONCERT

HHHS EVENTS – TOYS FOR TOTS – BORO OF FARMINGDALE FROM OUR FRIENDS AT FARMINGDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



**FARMINGDALE Main St Crossing IS ON THE
2025 Operation Toy Train Route!**

Farmingdale has shined since the start!

Let's fill that train so Santa comes back again next year!

The Santa Train will be making it's stop in Farmingdale,

Sunday November 30th at 10:45am

Bring Your New, Unwrapped Toys & meet Santa!

If you cant make it Sunday, please visit the Shop n Bag to drop off gifts, we will make sure Santa gets them during his stop. Or email Council President Pat Linszky or Jim Daly for a local pick up at;
plinszky@farmingdaleborough.org
mayor@farmingdaleborough.org

MARINE CORPS RESERVE



HHHS EVENTS – WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA FROM OUR FRIENDS AT FARMINGDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Join us on National Wreaths Across America Day
December 13, 2025 at noon

Each December Wreaths Across America's mission is to Remember the Fallen... Honor those who Serve... Teach the Value of Freedom...by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, and more than 5,200 participating locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea and abroad.

Farmingdale Historical Society will host the Wreaths Across America ceremony at Evergreen Cemetery. We will read the names of all the veterans interred at Evergreen, Jerseyville, Brewer, Lower Squankum, and Abner Thorp.

Then volunteers will lay wreaths on the veterans' graves.

All current veterans & military are appreciated, honored and invited to join us!

**PLEASE READ THIS PART CAREFULLY BEFORE PLACING YOUR ORDER!
THERE ARE SOME CHANGES THIS YEAR!**

**WE ARE PARTICIPATING IN A NEW SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM
“\$5 FORWARD PLAN”**

**FOR EACH WREATH THAT YOU SPONSOR FOR \$17, \$5 WILL BE CREDITED TOWARD PAYMENT FOR ANOTHER WREATH. THIS WILL HELP US MEET OUR GOAL MORE EASILY BECAUSE THE COST OF SOME WREATHS WILL BE SHARED; The “\$5 FORWARD PLAN” will show up in your receipt!
PLEASE DO NOT PLACE YOU YOUR ORDER ON NJFECF – GO TO:**

WREATHSACROSSAMERICA.ORG/NJ0235

NJFECF WILL SHOW THE TOTAL NUMBER OF WREATHS SPONSORED AS THE WREATH IMAGE TURNS GREEN!

If you'd like to help or need more information:

Email: farmingdalehistoricalsocietynj@gmail.com