

HHHS PasTimes

Howell Heritage & Historical Society

Meetings 4th Friday, 7 pm, Ardena Baptist Church Gym, 593 Adelpphia Rd. Howell

March 2026 Newsletter

Message from HHHS President

What do you know? Heave-ho, no more snow! It's time to get to work and have some fun. In a few more weeks it will be landscape cleanup time at Ardena & MacKenzie. Anyone wanting to put in some flowers or shrubs, let's do it. The buildings weathered the winter in good order. Time to dust and sweep and get ready for Spring tours.

We will work on the planter box under the sign at Ardena and start the walkway from the upper parking lot. Anyone with ideas for the Spring sprucing up, please share. Hopefully we can attract some new members to share our History with.

I am personally looking forward to our Nation's 250th Anniversary and our HHHS participating in it.

Thanks to all,

Jude Meehan
President

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Upcoming Events – Join Us

MacKenzie House Museum & Library Open House

427 Lakewood Farmingdale Road, Howell

Sat., **March 21, 2026**, 1pm to 4pm

Program: Abner Thorp, Revolutionary War soldier and farmer in Howell Township

Ardena School House

Sat., **March 21, 2026**, 11am to 3pm

Easter Bunny Visit

Membership Meeting

March 27, 2026, at 7pm

Program: DAR – Revolutionary Connections and You! Presented by Debbie Frost

Refreshments: Debbie Frost

Ardena Baptist Church GYM

Ardena School House Open House

Sun., **March 29, 2026**, 1pm to 4pm

Ways to reach HHHS

Our Website

www.howellheritagehistoricalsociety.org

By email

HowellHeritageandHistoricalSoc@gmail.com

By snail mail:

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

Follow us on Social Media for the latest HHHS events!

Facebook

Howell Heritage & Historical Society of NJ

Facebook Page

Have a piece of Howell history to share?

If you have historic photos, local snapshots, or intriguing Howell-related topics, please email them

to howellheritageandhistoricalsoc@gmail.com

Attn: **Margaret Winkelman**. Along with each photo, **please include a brief write-up** sharing any details, background, or stories connected to it.

We'll post submissions periodically on Facebook to spark conversation and help keep our local history alive.



The above QR code will take you to our Facebook page.





Old Ardena School Update

We are looking forward to our first opening to host Peter Rabbit and begin to celebrate the return of spring with a visit from our special friend, Peter Rabbit on March 21, from 11AM to 3PM, at the historic Ardena # 2 School. Then the following Sunday we will host our monthly OPEN HOUSE on Sunday, March 29, from 1:00PM to 4:00PM. Check out the HHHS Facebook page for additional details concerning these openings and additional details on the programs we will be conducting.

Spring is in the air at the schoolhouse and the bulbs are starting to sprout around the grounds. We are looking forward to celebrating America's 250th Birthday and our summer programs will focus on the early days of our country's history that children in 1855 would have been learning.

For general questions or scheduling of a private tour of Ardena # 2, the School Committee members are: Anne Hartmann, Debbie Frost, Margaret Winkelman and Vicky Arose



MacKenzie House Museum & Library Update

As we celebrate the 250th Anniversary of America, we will be highlighting events that affected people who lived in Howell during the Revolution, and we will highlight some of the stories and artwork that help us remember our history.

At the March Open House on Sat. the 21st, we will be discussing Abner Thorp, who is buried in the Abner Thorp Family Burial Ground near the reservoir on Southard Ave. After serving with George Washington in the Revolution, he retired to the farm in Howell. We're anxious to share more information about him with you!

We hope you will visit us often during 2026 to enjoy the celebrations!

For general questions or scheduling of a private tour, you can contact the MacKenzie Museum committee members at:

howellHeritageandHistoricalSoc@gmail.com

Larry Lastra, Ron Alessi, and Leigh Shaffer



February Show and Tell

Donna Terkildsen shared information about a metronome at the February meeting's Show and Tell. She is our newest Trustee, recently joining the 2026 Board. Donna also arranged the musical program this past December held for the community at the Farmingdale United Methodist Church. You can find Donna playing the MacKenzie organ, during open houses when she's available, and sharing the history of songs we know from as far back as the 1800s.



Our HHHS 2026 Officers

President: Jude Meehan
Vice President: Margaret Winkelman
Secretary: Debbie Frost
Treasurer: Leigh Shaffer
Trustee: Catherine Schwier
Trustee: Donna Terkildsen
Trustee: Vicky Arose

**Old Monmouth Weekend is coming,
May 2-3
Celebrating America's 250th**

A Weekend in Old Monmouth is an annual two-day event, which will take place on Saturday, May 2 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, May 3 from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. where over 50 Monmouth County history sites open their doors to visitors and waive their admission fees.

We will be participating in this event and welcome assistance from all our Howell Heritage and Historical Society members, to greet visitors and share their unique knowledge about our buildings and town. An hour or more is welcome, since both sites will be open both days. You may also want to set aside some time to visit the other sites throughout Monmouth County. The tour books will be available at both the Ardena and MacKenzie for you to use to complete your own tour of Monmouth County History.



February Meeting Minutes: February 27, 2026

SUBMITTED BY: Margaret Winkelman

For HHHS Recording Secretary: Deborah Frost

Call to Order: 7pm start by Margaret Winkelman
Flag Salute and Moment of Silence

Program: "Show & Tell"

Business Meeting: Began after the program concluded

• Consent Agenda

- o Prior meeting minutes (included in last newsletter) - First: Donna T., Second: Frank P.
- o Treasurer's Report (included in last newsletter) – First: Donna T., Second: Frank P.

• Committee Reports

o Finance – The Utility bill was lower at MacKenzie this month - Donna's family came and made some adjustments to help with the weathering of the building.

o Fundraising – Margaret W. reminded us that the Old Monmouth Candy Sale would not happen this year and the Society should consider identifying a replacement fundraiser as we generally net about \$700 in revenue from this event.

Margaret W. mentioned that the Monmouth County Grant Ceremony was postponed due to the snow. The first grant check should be arriving any day.

Bob N. mentioned Wall Historical's jewelry sale coming up. We discussed former fundraising events, like the yard sale and antique sale. We spoke about Bill Ditto's support noting his background as a specialist in antiques.

o MacKenzie Museum – Donna T. mentioned that new ductwork is needed at MacKenzie. Margaret mentioned MacKenzie’s scheduled open house on 3/21.

o Old Ardena School – Margaret W. mentioned the Easter Event on 3/21 and the Open House on 3/29. Margaret W. also mentioned the November event with free holiday supplies, toys and more. This event will be by special invitation only and we will use the Food Pantry to communicate the event.

o Library – No Update

o Building and Grounds – We discussed the amount of snow on both properties with the expectation it would be melted before the next Open Houses.

• Old Business – Margaret W. gave an update on the new Facebook page. We currently have 72 followers. Margaret W. mentioned a Genealogy Brick Wall that was submitted through our Facebook page. Society members shared their opinion and Margaret W. will proceed accordingly.

250th Planning – Margaret W. mentioned our calendar of events that has been drafted. It will be updated throughout the year. Margaret W. created a quarterly calendar of events that will be posted to social media, our website and in our newsletter. Margaret W. mentioned HHS’ participation in the Monmouth County Scavenger Hunt. More details to follow.

New Business – Bob N. asked when fire inspections are due? Both the Township and Security company will need inspections.

Bob N. also reminder us about the Insurance renewal coming soon.

Bob N. mentioned that a Freehold store called “Restore” is closing. Furniture and clothing.

• Future Events

- o MacKenzie Museum Open House March 21
- o Old Ardena School Easter Event March 21 – Peter Rabbit Visit
- o Old Ardena School Open House March 29

• Next Society Meeting

- o 7:00 p.m. March 27

• Adjourn Meeting

- o Motion Bob N.
- o Second Frank P. Vote



Old Ardena School #2, Howell NJ

Hop on Over for an Easter Celebration!

A fun, family-friendly Easter event for the whole community!

Enjoy festive activities, photo opportunities, and plenty of fun!

- Photos with the Easter Bunny
- Easter egg fun
- Activities for All Ages

Event Details

Date: Saturday, March 21

Time: 11am to 3pm

Location: Old Ardena School #2, Preventorium & Old Tavern Roads, Howell

Cost: Free Admission

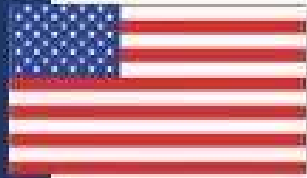
Bring the whole family including your furry children too!



Hosted by: Howell Heritage & Historical Society

Email: howellheritageandhistoricalsoc@gmail.com

JANUARY



MacKenzie Museum & Library Open House

January 17th - 1pm to 4pm

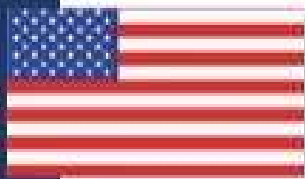
427 Lakewood Farmingdale Rd, Howell NJ

Monthly Society Meeting

January 23rd - 7pm

Ardena Baptist Church Gym, Howell NJ

FEBRUARY



MacKenzie Museum & Library Open House

February 21st - 1pm to 4pm

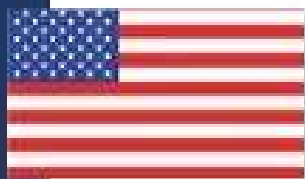
427 Lakewood Farmingdale Rd, Howell NJ

Monthly Society Meeting

February 27th - 7pm

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MARCH



MacKenzie Museum & Library Open House

March 21st - 1pm to 4pm

427 Lakewood Farmingdale Rd, Howell NJ

Old Ardena School #2 Easter Bunny Visit

March 21st - 11am to 3pm

Preventorium & Old Tavern Roads, Howell NJ

Monthly Society Meeting

March 27th - 7pm

Ardena Baptist Church Gym, Howell NJ

Old Ardena School #2 Open House

March 29th - 1pm to 4pm

Preventorium & Old Tavern Roads, Howell NJ

**Your help is needed to fill in our calendar for the year!!!
Openings in RED!!!!**

March 27th Program: DAR – Revolutionary Connections and You! presented by Debbie Frost
Refreshments: Lynn Barrall
Open Houses: MacKenzie, March 21, 1-4PM, and Ardena School, March 29, 1-4PM

April 24th Program: Enchanted Gardens Folklore presented by Virginia Kryzanowski
Refreshments: Virginia Kryzanowski
Open Houses: MacKenzie, April 18, 1-4PM, and Ardena School, April 26, 1-4 PM

May 22nd Program: Colts Neck HS ROTC Color Guard Presentation
Celebrate 7th Anniversary of HHHS Inc.

Refreshments:

Special Activities: Weekend in Old Monmouth, May 2 and 3 & Farmingdale-Howell Memorial Day Parade, May 25

Open Houses: MacKenzie, May 16, 1-4PM, and Ardena School, May 31, 1-4 PM

June 26th Program:

Refreshments:

Open Houses: MacKenzie, June 20, 1-4PM, and Ardena School, June 28, 1-4 PM

July 24th Program: Corwin Knapp Linson's Various Art Genres presented by Leigh Shaffer

Refreshments:

Special Activity: Monmouth County Fair at East Freehold Showgrounds

Open Houses: MacKenzie, July 18, 1-4PM, and Ardena School, July 26, 1-4 PM

August 28nd Program:

Refreshments:

Open Houses: MacKenzie, August 15, 1-4PM, and Ardena School, August 30, 1-4 PM

September 25th Program: Women of the Revolution presented by TJ Fallon

Slate of Officers Presented by Nominating Committee

Refreshments: Lynn Barrall

Special Activity: Howell Day & Green Fair

Open Houses: MacKenzie, September 19, 1-4PM, and Ardena School, September 27, 1-4 PM

October 24th Program:

Nominating/Election Committee - Election of Officers for 2027

Refreshments:

Special Activity: Monmouth County Archives & History Day

Open Houses: MacKenzie, October 17, 1-4PM, and Ardena School, October 25, 1-4 PM

November, December — No Meetings Scheduled

Special events: Wreaths Across America: December 19, 2026

Open Houses for MacKenzie House, November 21 and December 19

Holiday events at both sites: Dates to be determined



**IF INTERESTED IN MAKING A
PRESENTATION OR HELPING OUT IN
ANY WAY PLEASE CONTACT US VIA
EMAIL AT:**



Township of Howell
 4567 Highway 9 North, 2nd Fl
 732-938-4500 ext. 2106 • www.twp.howell.nj.us



★ HOWELL TOWNSHIP SPRING FLING & AMERICA'S 250th ANNIVERSARY ★

SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2026

★ SOLDIER MEMORIAL PARK ★

12:00PM - 4:00PM

THE AMERICAN FLAG CREATED BY CLASSIC CARS



★ FREE EVENT! ★



FOOD TRUCKS

BEER & WINE

RIDES & ACTIVITIES



JOIN US FOR A DAY OF FUN & CELEBRATION!

PARKING AVAILABLE AT SOLDIER MEMORIAL PARK

2026 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.

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



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Thank you