

The Franklin Square Historical Society & Museum **NEWSLETTER**

P.O. Box 45, Franklin Square, NY

November 2024

Volume XLV No. 2

Annual Franklin Square Historical Society Holiday Tree Lighting

and Museum Open House featuring traditional
German Christmas tree and Italian creche
with new holiday train exhibit.

***Held in cooperation with the
Franklin Square Civic Association***

**Saturday-December 7, 2024
2:00-5:00 PM
Rath Park Gazebo**

- Special visits from Santa & Mrs. Claus, Elves, and Frosty the Snowman
- Face Painting, Gifts for Children, Candy Canes, Music and more!
- Merchandise Vendors
- Historical Society Tree Lighting



*Thank you to the Central Nassau Rotary
for their generous donation, and to the
Franklin Square and Munson Fire Department for transporting Santa & Mrs. Claus.*

**Franklin Square Museum Open House
Sunday, December 8—2:00-4:00 PM**

for more Holiday Spirit amid traditional decorations reminiscent of Franklin Square's past

Franklin Square Forward—Report on Our Initial Meeting

We had close to 300 residents attending the revitalization meeting at the Plattduetsche Park Restaurant on October 17. The turnout of so many residents is a positive testament to our community's strength, unity, and love for Franklin Square. After a presentation by Dr. Paul Van Wie and several others from the Historical Society and the Civic Association, those in attendance voted unanimously to present our public officials with a revitalization plan. To do this, they voted to establish a committee called "Franklin Square Forward." The Franklin Square Forward Committee will keep residents updated on the ongoing effort toward revitalization. They will also partner with public officials and local organizations in our effort to revitalize our downtown and obtain the necessary funding for this project.



The next step is to form committees for the following areas:

- How have other communities received revitalization funding?
- NY Forward Grant -- Investigate how to apply for funding
- Franklin Square Theatre – How to reopen as a Community Center
- Landmarking Ordinances – How to improve protections
- How to use Streetscaping to improve our town
- How to best communicate our progress to our Franklin Square neighbors
- How to reach out to our elected officials for their assistance

If you missed the meeting and want to watch the video of the meeting at home, go to our website at <https://fshistoricalsociety.org> and click on the link to the video on the bottom of the page.

To use a familiar phrase, "It Takes a Village" and as an unincorporated village we need everyone's help! If you are interested in helping us move **Franklin Square Forward** – please contact Bill Youngfert at 516-775-7260 or email at BYoungfert@aol.com and let us know what committee you are interested in serving on.

** We want to thank A & S Bagels for donating the six dozen bagels we enjoyed during the meeting, and the Plattduetsche Park Restaurant for allowing us to use their ballroom at no charge for the evening! Thanks also to Felix Procacci for videotaping this event for us. Great support from our local businesses and friends!

Thanks D.J. Home Improvements!

Vita & Jerry Burdi owners of DJ's Home Improvements at 1081 Barnes St. in F.S. and members of our Society for many years, provided the PortaPotti for our recent Fall Festival, saving the walk to the Rath park pool complex for visitors and vendors to visit the bathrooms. Many thanks!

Museum Extension—Education Wing

It took many years to raise the money, get the permits, find the contractors and finish the museum project with the help of many volunteers before we finally were able to open our doors to the public. Through all that time, we were sustained by a dream that the Franklin Square Museum would become a way for all of us to cherish our heritage, learning more about the village in which we are able to live and thrive. A huge part of that dream was nurturing in the youngest among us an interest in the past. We are convinced that knowing more about the past can help them live more fulfilling lives and contribute to a bright future based, in part, on an understanding of our history.

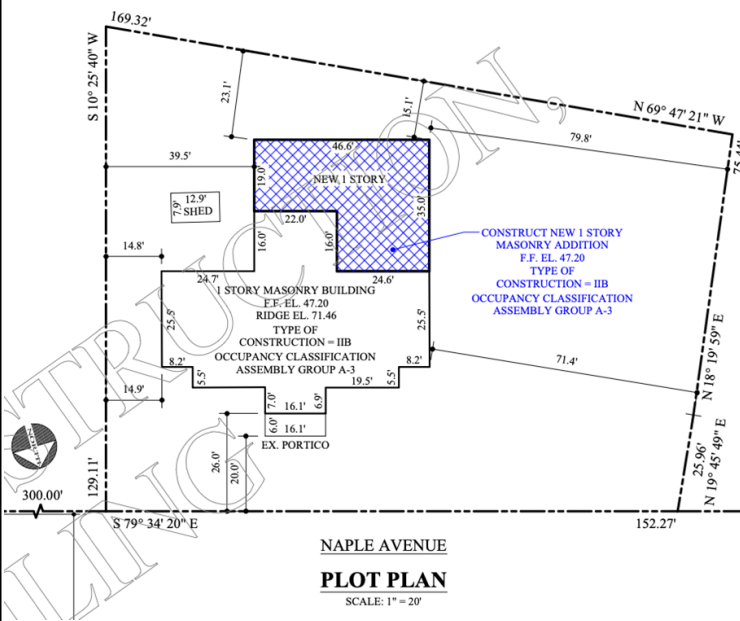
For that reason we were really excited when we were able to begin to host class visits from the first and fourth graders in the Franklin Square elementary schools. More recently we've begun to confer with Carey Social Studies teachers and interested students to find ways to enhance their study of history using original source material from our collections. However, once we started to have full classes visits, we were forced to face the limitations of the space we have available to set up activities for them. We need an area we can use as a hands-on classroom, a space to sit down and handle some of the artifacts that make our history come alive. We need a space where older students can spread out research materials and discover the excitement inherent in working with primary source material.

Our architect has prepared the plans for a classroom addition to our Franklin Square Museum and we now must raise the funds necessary to make this dream possible. So far, we have received \$151,000



in county grants and individual contributions. The estimated cost to build this addition to our museum is \$439,500. We have and will continue to seek funding from grants and large businesses. Still, if we are to meet our goal, we will need help from individuals as well. Contributions of any amount will help us reach our goal and make it possible for us to serve our community more fully.

If you feel you can contribute to the education addition to the Franklin Square Historical (cont'd on page 4)



Museum Extension—Education Wing *(cont'd from page 3)*

Museum, please send your check made payable to “Franklin Square Historical Society” to Franklin Square Historical Society, PO Box 45, Franklin Square, NY 11010. We will send you a confirmation and receipt for your tax records. Contributors of \$200 or more will have their name placed on a leaf on our Donor Tree in the museum lobby. **Let's make this dream a reality!**



Hints for Giving Wisely

As we approach the end of the year, we may be considering taking action to reduce what we will owe for our 2024 income taxes. Some of us find that making charitable contributions for causes we care about can qualify as a deduction when filing our returns. The



Franklin Square Historical Society is a recognized (501-c-3) tax exempt charitable institution so gifts to the Society, including those to support our campaign for the museum's education extension, can be included among itemized deductions on Schedule A. The Society provides written confirmation of such gifts for donor's tax records.

Do You Have an IRA?

Many of us who are over 73 years of age and are fortunate enough to have IRA accounts may be thinking about the Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) that the government requires they withdraw each year. The funds taken from a traditional IRA as part of the RMD add to your gross income and are subject to federal income tax. In addition, a higher gross income may move you into an income bracket that subjects you to income related adjustments in Medicare premiums or increases in the amount of your Social Security that is taxed.

It is possible to exempt a portion of your RMD from taxes by directing the administrators of your IRA to write a check for the amount you designate to go directly to the Franklin Square Historical Society. This donation must go directly from the traditional IRA account to the Society in order to be exempt from taxes. (If you decide to do this, you will need to give your IRA fund administrator this information: The Franklin Square Historical Society, P.O. Box 45, Franklin Square, NY 11010. Federal Tax ID # - 11-2474280, New York State Attorney General's Office Charitable Institution Registration # - 20-11-78). Sending a portion of your RMD directly to the Society will reduce the amount of the RMD that counts as taxable income for you. Charitable gifts given directly from an IRA are limited to \$100,000 per person per year. Obviously, few could give \$100,000 but the concept is the same whatever the donation you feel motivated to give and the Society would be immensely grateful for your support. Please note that it is important to seek advice from an accountant or tax specialist regarding the potential advantages of donating from an RMD in your individual situation.



Recalling Sports and Gym Classes at H. Frank Carey

This month we received a donation of H Frank Carey High School gym uniforms from Rhona Matros Lindner, a Carey graduate of Class of 1966. She held on to these uniforms for many years and through many moves out of state until she moved back to Long Island. She answered a query from the Society President, Nancy Youngfert on a Facebook Carey page. We are delighted to now have



the box mailed to us from Joanie Dahlem Friend in Wake Forest, NC. It contained a Carey letter jacket and two gym uniforms from her brother Al Dahlem.

Al was the high scorer, leading rebounder and M.V.P. for the Carey High School varsity basketball team for the 1969-70 season. Al, despite his six foot five inches in height was not very aggressive but more than made up for this with his great determination to succeed!



Holiday—50 / 50 Raffle

The more who participate in our 50/50 Raffle, the larger the prize will be. So it's a good time to join the fun or get more tickets. You could win a some cash for the holidays while making a contribution to the Society. The drawing will be held on Dec. 7. Simply fill out the tickets below (make as many copies as you need) and send your completed tickets with your check made out to the Franklin Square Historical Society to PO Box 45, Franklin Square, NY 11010.

50/50 RAFFLE – \$2 each / or 3 for \$5

Name _____

Phone # _____

50/50 RAFFLE – \$2 each / or 3 for \$5

Name _____

Phone # _____

50/50 RAFFLE – \$2 each / or 3 for \$5

Name _____

Phone # _____

50/50 RAFFLE – \$2 each / or 3 for \$5

Name _____

Phone # _____

50/50 RAFFLE – \$2 each / or 3 for \$5

Name _____

Phone # _____

50/50 RAFFLE – \$2 each / or 3 for \$5

Name _____

Phone # _____





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