

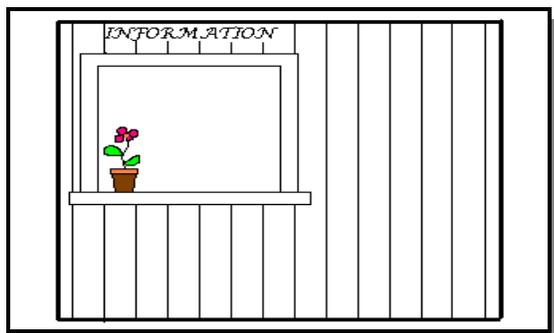
The INFORMATION WINDOW of the WANTAGH PRESERVATION SOCIETY

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September, 2006

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SEPTEMBER 26 MEETING

Our September 26 meeting will be held in the General Purpose Room of the Wantagh Public Library at 8:00 o'clock. Terry Hunt speak about the Dodge House in Port Washington. The house dates from 1721, and is the oldest house in Port Washington. Not only is it an interesting house, it came with the full contents from seven generations of Dodges, a fine collection of family life on Long Island

After a short business meeting we'll adjourn for the program. Then enjoy comments and discussion, coffee and desserts.

If you'd like to help with refreshments, please call Ellen Cook at (516) 785-0739.

YOUR PERSONAL YARD SALE

There's always a problem with putting on your own yard sale, because it messes up your home routines. ... and how do you get people to come to look over all your wonderful stuff? Where can they park without making all your neighbors mad at you?

The easy solution is to take a space at our Preservation Society Autumn Yard Sale! There's an up front charge of \$20, but you have an assurance that lots of people will come by, a lot of them with money. There will be free coffee for vendors ... and lunch available in the Museum kitchen. And when you're through, your home is still as neat as ever.

AUTUMN YARD SALE

Our Autumn Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, September 30, at the Wantagh Museum on Wantagh Avenue. We predict beautiful weather, and our many vendors will have all sorts of good things for you to look at – and buy. Come early to have the best choices, stay for lunch at the Railroad Station kitchen, and stay all afternoon just for the excitement of it.



Preservation Society Calendar

Tuesday, September 19: Trustees Meeting in the waiting room of the Wantagh Museum, 8:00 P.M.

Saturday, September 23: Museum cleanup & preparation for the September 30 Autumn Yard Sale, 10:00 A.M.

Tuesday, September 26: Membership Meeting at the Wantagh Library, 8:00 P.M.

Saturday, September 30: Autumn Yard Sale at the Wantagh Museum, 10: A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

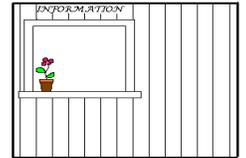
Tuesday, October 17: Trustees Meeting in the waiting room of the Wantagh Museum, 8:00 P.M.

THE INFORMATION WINDOW

OF THE WANTAGH PRESERVATION SOCIETY

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September 2006



TO JOIN, OR RENEW MEMBERSHIP

Name _____

Addr. _____

_____ ZIP+4 _____

Phone _____ New Renewal

Circle one: Indiv. \$6 Family \$12
 Friend \$25 Patron \$50 Fellow \$100

Send to: Wantagh Preservation Society
P O Box 132, Wantagh, New York 11793

MEMBERSHIP AVAILABLE

Check the subscription date on the mailing label on the front side of your Information Window. If you see numbers on the top line ending in "06Jan." or earlier, this means your membership expired in 2006, in January. No problem, though – it is still possible to join or to renew your membership in the Wantagh Preservation Society for the 2007 year. Just select a membership level, fill out the form on this page and mail it with your check. 

MUSEUM OPEN FOR SEASON

The Wantagh Museum is now open for the summer, and groups may have tours of the museum by special reservation.. The Museum and the Railroad Car, Jamaica, are open from 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. every Sunday afternoon. We do need more volunteers to host the museum. If you would like to volunteer as a host, call Claire Reisert at (516) 785-1309, and she will be glad to pencil you into the schedule. 

THE INFORMATION WINDOW

The *Information Window* is a publication of the Wantagh Preservation Society, and is published preceding its monthly Membership Meetings. You are invited to submit short articles on items of local historical interest. The Editor is Dick MacMillan, (516) 785-3951. 

INDIANS IN THE OLDEN DAYS

From the Wantagh Junior High School textbook of 1966, here's the description of the Indian population of Long Island back before we colonists took over and made it what it is today.

Recent carbon tests have shown that Indians were present on Long Island as early as 5,000 B. C. However, the first indentified residents of Long Island were members of two branches of the Algonquin Tribes known as the Delawares (Lenni-Lenope) and the Mohegans. Thirteen of these Indian "families" or tribes settled in well-defined areas on Long Island from Brooklyn to Montauk Point. Each tribe had its own name and its own chief or sachem. The Merricks (Meroke – an Indian word for "the barren place") and the Massapeguas (Marsepeque, which means "great water land") lived in this area. Indian "shell banks," arrowheads, and other artifacts found in Wantagh are undoubtedly from these two tribes.

A friendly, peace-loving people, these Indians lived in dome shaped homes made of reed and bark. They hunted in nearby woods and fished in the lakes and streams. The small villages were usually located on the banks of these streams that drifted lazily down toward the ocean.

Since the Indians of Wantagh lived so close to the ocean, we find many of their activities connected with the sea. Large canoes were built for exploratory trips that took them as far as the shores of Connecticut, where the war-like Pequot Indians made their homes.

Fish and shellfish were plentiful and used for food and fertilizer. Ducks and geese supplied food.

They were also farmers. Beans and maize (corn) were their best crop, and the corn, particularly, was a part of their everyday diet.

The most important product, however, was the wampum made from sea shells. So adept did these Indians become at wampum making that other Indians gave Long Island the name Sewanhachy or "Land of Shells."

The Pequot, the Narraganset, and the Mohawk Indian Tribes often came to Long Island and demanded wampum under threat of destroying the villages. These Indians called the Island "Paumanok" or "Land of Tribute." 