

IN THIS ISSUE:

Library News (p. 2)
Museum News (p. 4)
History Scholarship (p. 4)
The Old Stanwick School (p. 5)
Membership News (p. 6)
Ghost Tours! (p. 7)
History Rocks! (p. 7)
Motown in Mo'town (p. 8)

FROM THE FRONT PORCH

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF MOORESTOWN



House Tours and Gift Shop Hours:

2nd & 4th Sunday 1-3 PM
Tuesdays 1-3 PM

Research Library Hours:

Tuesday 1-4 PM
Second Sunday of
each Month 1-3 PM

Address

Historical Society of
Moorestown
Smith-Cadbury Mansion
12 High St.
Moorestown, NJ 08057

Phone

856-235-0353

Web Site

moorestownhistory.org

E-mail

[moorestownhistory@
verizon.net](mailto:moorestownhistory@verizon.net)

Facebook

[facebook.com/historical-
societyofmoorestown](https://www.facebook.com/historical-societyofmoorestown)

*Published by
The Historical Society
of Moorestown*

View From the Porch

I always find this to be a very exciting time of the year at the Historical Society, as we get back into the swing of things after a summer hiatus. This is especially true this year. Even though we have not been open for tours, the trustees have kept busy on a number of fronts over the last few months.

Our fund-raising committee has been hard at work in making sure that our big “Mo’Town Ball” is a huge success. This one-of-a kind party will be held on **Saturday night, September 17, 2016** with the proceeds to go towards our “Pathway to History” project, which will make the Smith-Cadbury Mansion handicapped accessible. This year’s event will be held at the historic home of Karla and James Varrell on East Central Ave. We are very grateful to the Varrells for generously opening their home for this event. More details about this event can be found in this newsletter as well as on our website.

Our annual **fall membership meeting** will be held on **Thursday night, October 13th**, starting at 7:30 at the Community House. To coincide with the opening of our latest exhibit *History Rocks: Interpreting the Archeological Discoveries of Moorestown*, our speaker will be Dr. Greg Lattanzi (see page 2 for his bio).

The long anticipated exhibit will open to the public with a special event on **Sunday, October 16, 2016** so be sure to mark your calendars. The grand opening will include live demonstrations of Native American tool and weapon making techniques by archaeologist Jack Cresson. A committee has been working on getting the exhibit ready over the summer and it is shaping

up to be something really special. The centerpiece of the exhibit will be some of the over 100 prehistoric items retrieved in the Madeira I and II digs which took place near Oldershaw Avenue in 2012. Many of the items are associated with the early Woodland period which dates back thousands of years. The Madeira site items will be supplemented with many of the items discovered by our resident archaeologist Jack Cresson in a variety of areas throughout the town. The items include tools, fire-cracked rock, projectile points, and tubular fragments thought to be from some type of pipe.

The not-to-be-missed exhibit will ask and answer some intriguing questions about the town’s earliest residents.

We have also been assisting the Community House with the 2016/17 community calendar. This year’s theme will be Moorestown Sports and will include pictures from the Historical Society’s *Sports Legends of Moorestown* exhibit. All the while our normal business such as accessions and house research went on as usual, so it was a busy summer.

We will be back to our regular schedule on September 11th. The house and library will be open on Tuesdays from 1-4 and on the second and fourth Sundays from 1-3 for tours. The library will be open on the second Sunday of each month from 1 to 3.

Please check our website frequently as we continue to provide updates on these and other events.

Lenny Wagner, President

HSM General Meeting, October 13th, 7:30 PM

OUR SPEAKER: Gregory D. Lattanzi, Curator for the Bureau of Archeology & Ethnology and New Jersey State Archaeologist at the New Jersey State Museum in Trenton

Dr. Lattanzi obtained his Bachelors degree in Anthropology from the State University of New York at Binghamton. He went on to earn a Masters degree in Anthropology from the City University of New York, Hunter College, and in May 2013 received his Ph.D. from Temple University. Before working at the New Jersey State Museum, Dr. Lattanzi was employed at a number of contract archaeological firms in the northeast participating in excavations in New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania. He has published a number of articles, book reviews, and given public presentations on the archaeology of New Jersey. Dr. Lattanzi is currently involve in a numbered of projects including the role of copper during the Early to Middle Woodland periods, Abbott Farm zoned ceramics and their implications on social organization in the Middle Atlantic region, and the trade and exchange of exotic artifacts into the state.



Library News



“...is willing to give free liberty to all neighbours concerned...”

Although the Historical Society is on summer recess, the library volunteers have been hard at work on several long term projects, including indexing the map collection, archiving the John Bispham Stokes correspondence collection, and working on the upcoming exhibit. A fascinating collection of items was recently brought in by the Bendel Family that adds to the group of ledgers and diaries that they donated last year. Readers might remember that they live in a house that was once owned by the family of William and Martha Warrington Moore. William was the great grandson of Benjamin Moore, who is believed to have been the brother of Thomas Moore, the namesake of our town.

The new items include:

- **A handwritten book** belonging to Henry W. Moore (one of the Moore sons) containing algebraic equations and formulae and “A Treatise on Surveying: Practical Rules for solving all the cases of plane trigonometry.” Pressed between many of the pages of this book are botanical specimens and small newspaper clippings containing various aphorisms.
- **A farm accounting ledger** which records transactions from 1892 to 1923.
- **A farm accounting ledger** for “Lenola Farm” (1910 – 1917).
- **Henry W. Moore’s Farm Diary** (1881 – 1899) including a large number of loose pages containing hand-written inspirational prayers and poems, legal agreements, and a small 16-page personal diary (owner unknown) with entries ranging from June 16, 1818 through September 1824.
- **A hand-written copy of a business agreement** signed on March 12, 1752 by 18 Chester Township landowners (see transcription on page 3).

The Historical Society of Moorestown

Officers

President

Lenny Wagner

1st Vice-President

Michael DiCamillo

2nd Vice-President

Mary Berardi

Treasurer

Cathy Hartley

Recording Secretary

Lynne Brill

Corresponding Secretary

Jill Weiss

Trustees

Mary Berardi

Lynne Brill

Paul Canton

Michael DiCamillo

Lisa Hammell

Cathy Hartley

Stephanie Herz

Lisa Knell

Julie Maravich

Liz Rosenthal

Lenny Wagner

John Watson

Jill Weiss

Trustee Emeritus

Nan Pillsbury

Newsletter Editor

Lisa Knell

Library

Stephanie Herz



“Whereas it is thought by sundrys of the inhabitants living by Pennsauken Creek, above Thomas Lippincott’s Landing, that it would be much to their advantage to have the said Creek stopped about forty rods above said Landing. And it is thought that it would not be much to the disadvantage of the people who have Wood or Plank or any other of their produce to hale [haul] to said Creek, to hale it to Thomas Lippincott’s Landing, for it is certain it will sell for considerable more than it will fetch at Warrington’s Landing. And further, the people interested in stopping said Creek will oblige themselves to make the hills and road to the said Landing as good & passable as shall be thought reasonable or convenient, & the said Lippincott will oblige himself to give as much Landing room as shall be wanted.

And also John Rudderow, on the other side of the said creek is willing to give free liberty to all neighbours concerned, to have a free passage through his Lands to his Landing, and as much Landing room as shall be necessary, or to have a road laid out, which they may think most proper.

Therefore these are to desire those that are willing the said Creek shall be stopped, as aforesaid, to set their hands to these present~

March 12, 1752

John Rudderow	Thomas Lippincott
Richard Lippincott	Thomas Warrington
Isaac Lippincott	Robert Stiles
Henry Warrington	Enoch Roberts
Joseph Stokes	Joshua Roberts
William Hooton	Jeremiah Matlack
John Hustis	Thomas Cowperthwaite
Thomas Middleton	William Matlack
Patrick Jones	Joseph Hancock

Copied from the original”

A copy would have been made for each of the signers, although this copy bears the name of Joshua Lippincott who could have been one of several relatives of Thomas Lippincott who owned, according to Lloyd Griscom in *Tales of Three Towns: Cinnaminson, Palmyra and Delran*, over 1,000 acres of land in the area between the Pompeston and Pennsauken Creeks in what is now Cinnaminson. The Warringtons owned land east and upstream from Lippincott and the Rudderows, according to Griscom, owned 475 acres inside the fork area where the Pennsauken Creek divides. It would appear that the signers are attempting to create a commerce zone closer to the area where the Pennsauken Creek meets the Delaware. It is not known whether they actually “stopped the Creek.” Although the 1849 Otley & Whiteford map of Burlington County was created nearly 100 years later (detail shown below), the family names show the approximate locations near where the landings might have been.

— Stephanie Herz



Museum News

Accessions

Thank you to our recent donors (Linda Kemple, Virginia Manbeck, Bendel Family, Paul Schumacher & Linda Smegal) for our latest accessions.

The Victorian era, named for the period from 1837 to 1901, was the length of the rule of Great Britain's Queen Victoria. American Victorianism was an offshoot of this period and the lifestyle that occurred in the United States. During this period, giving a lock of one's hair was considered a sign of love and devotion. It was common for bereaved family members to keep locks of hair from deceased children or family members. These locks of hair were seen as mementos and served to comfort the surviving loved ones.

Linda Kemple donated a group of treasures from the Laessle family. Among them are locks of hair from Jim Laessle's siblings: sister Ruth Jane and brother Albert dating from 1893. Also included was a postcard from Carrie Laessle dated in the early 1900s. A wedding announcement published in the *Evening Courier* dated June 17, 1930 features the Hamilton Family wedding party, in which Miss Ruth Laessle was an attendant.

Dorothy Gray was born in 1910 and lived on Church Street as a child and until 1938. Her daughter, Virginia Manbeck, was generous in sharing a variety of family photographs depicting life as it was growing up in Moorestown.

These treasures were found in the Bendel attic and fortunately saved.

- Henry Moore's Diary dated 1850-1909
- A Green Marbled Cover Algebra Book
- A Ledger 1894
- A document dated 1752 . . . (see Library News on page 2)

Linda Smegal added to our yearbook collection and donated a copy of the Moorestown High School Yearbook, *Nutshell*, 1959 edition.

The exchange of calling cards was a social custom that was essential in developing friendships that began in France in the early 1800s. It quickly spread throughout Europe, and then became vastly popular in the United States, especially in the New England area from 1840-1900. Calling cards were carried primarily by the "well-to-do" ladies who made a point to go calling on friends and family on a specified day of the week or month . . . depending on their location and proximity to neighbors.

Paul Schumacher donated a calling card — dated 1906 — that was sent by Margaretta T. Mickle of Moorestown, New Jersey to Margaret Rhoads in Germantown, Pennsylvania.

The Historical Society Of Moorestown is honored that our donors have bestowed their family treasures to us and to Moorestown. We hold them in high regard and will preserve them in our collection for future generations.

— Mary Berardi

SARAH FRANKLIN HOMER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT ANNOUNCED

For the fourth year the Historical Society has awarded a \$500.00 scholarship to a Moorestown High School student, who has excelled in history or related subjects, and who plans to continue those studies in college. For the last two years the award has been named in memory of long time trustee and volunteer *Sarah Franklin Homer*.

This year's recipient is **Julie Baum**. Julie will be majoring in Art History at the University of Pennsylvania in the fall. The award was presented as part of the MHS class of 2016 commencement festivities in June.



BUSINESS CORNER

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIPS

Local businesses play an important role when they support the preservation of Moorestown's history. We welcome and thank our inaugural business members!

BENEFACTOR

Powers Kirn, LLC

Tait Co./Tait Roofing Inc.

EVENT SPONSOR

B.T. Edgar & Son Realtors

Whitesell Construction

LIBRARY SPONSOR

Roger Wilco Wine & Spirits—

Andrea & Elliot Arking

Armstrong Pediatric
Dental, LLC

BUSINESS PARTNER

McChesney Funeral Home

Frank Batastini Orthodontics

Hanamirian, Garibian
& Kranjac, P.C.

Richard DePasquale—
Moorestown Tailors

BAYADA Home Health Care

Parkeon

Leonberg Nursery

Your generous support helps to sustain the Society's commitment to preserving Moorestown's heritage for generations to come.

Again, thank you!

New Business memberships are always welcome; for details, visit us at moorestownhistory.org/sponsor

Stanwick School

“Before & After”

The Stanwick School, Moorestown’s Public School No. 4, was a small elementary school that once stood on a lot at the corner of Zellely Avenue and Linden Street (pictured at right). The school’s front door faced Zellely.

Built in 1890, the Stanwick School and its yard occupied the ground that closely coincides with the present day playground for children now situated in the northwest corner of the Frank Fullerton Memorial Park (photo below). The playground structure shown is near the location of the old school building, though it is a little farther from 3rd Street than the school was.

Originally the 25-foot-wide two-classroom school housed grades one through six, with only two teachers. By 1900 there were 90 students.

The late Jim Laessle, who in the mid to late 1920s attended the Stanwick School from first grade through fourth grade, then the range of grades being taught there, gives the following description of the school at that time in his August 4, 2008 oral history interview:



“A boxy, brick, two storied building, old then. First and second grade on one room on the first floor; stairway went half way up to the second floor, and halfway up there’s a, what do you call it, a genderless washroom, then you went the rest half



way up and the third and fourth grade were on the second floor and there was a fire escape towards Linden Street which I remember because every once in awhile we had to dust the erasers out on that fire escape. My first grade teacher was Miss Sherwood and she was also my second grade teacher. And the principal was Miss Beebe who was also my third and fourth grade teacher.”

Jim estimated that there were between thirty or forty children in the school at the time and that they all walked to school. There was no school provided transportation. He said he and the group of his classmates who needed to cross the railroad tracks to get to school and back did so at the grade crossing at Zellely Avenue.

“At 1926 there were about, according to the old time table, about 14 trains in the morning and 14 trains in the afternoon, plus a couple of freights.”

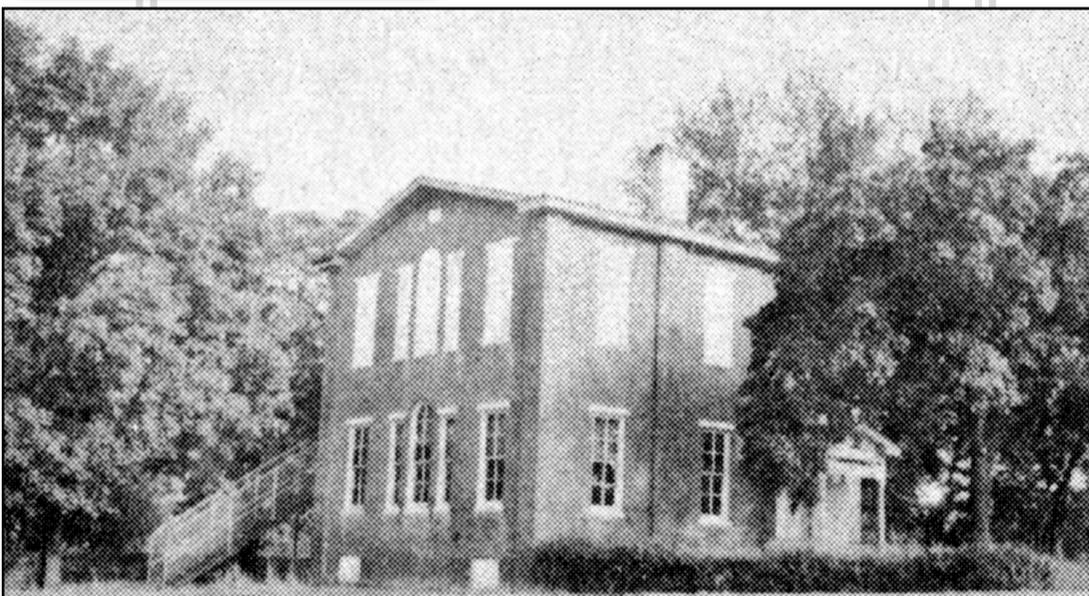
“The board of education hired a handicapped man, a peg-legged man actually, that we called Old Jim, and he had his dog there and he had a little tiny itty bitty shelter for the weather. And his job was solely to make sure we didn’t cross the tracks when the train was coming. And he also chatted with us.”

By 1943 the building had ceased to be used as a school, as seen in the picture at left, from the 1943 book *A Story of the Public Schools of Burlington County New Jersey, A Historical Narrative and Pictorial Review*, compiled by a committee of the Burlington County Supervisors’ Association.

But in 1946 the school was remodeled to be used for four sessions of half-day kindergarten. It was used as a kindergarten until the South Valley Elementary School opened in 1964.

After that the building was used by the Board of Education for storage until it was destroyed by fire in 1976 and subsequently razed.

— John Watson



STANWICK SCHOOL
NOW A COMMUNITY CENTER

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

In the few years that I have been Membership Chairperson here at the Historical Society, what impresses me most is how reliable our membership base is. Each year you make the generous decision to continue to support us in our work preserving Smith-Cadbury Mansion and its contents which include a very busy library and archival collections—believe it or not we get “new” things all the time! Volunteers care for the many historical artifacts and documents that tell the stories of our town and we endeavor to share them with you through our programs and events. It’s also wonderful to see a steady stream of new members who find us in various ways. This Fall we look forward to sharing *An Evening in Mo’Town* with you, and in October we hope to see you at our upcoming new exhibit, *History Rocks*. Thanks again for making all that possible!

IMPORTANT: Invitations to our upcoming Fall fund-raiser, *An Evening in Mo’Town*, will be sent out via Paperless Post email. If you did not include an email address on your membership renewal form and would like an invitation to this fabulous event please email us at moorestownhistory@verizon.net or call us at 856-235-0353 to let us know. You’ve GOT TO BE THERE! *

We extend a warm welcome to our newest members and special thanks to our renewing members who gave at our new donor levels:

NEW MEMBERS: Nancy A Chumney • Robert T Healey, Jr. • Katherine & Dean Kinsey • Helen N McChesney •

NEW DONOR LEVELS: • Julie & Peter Bender • Lyn & John Cech • Linda Vizi • Mr & Mrs Robert Langerhans • Ruth & Reid Hagan • Gina Zegel • Julie & Nick Maravich • Cathy & Dave Hartley • Margaret Ingersoll • Joan Meader • John & Susan Coleman • Sally & Robert Hartman • Katherine & Dean Kinsey • Stacey & Andrew Jordan • Barbara & Frank Keith • Stephanie & Steve Herz • Maureen & Brian Deam • Elizabeth Volkening •

Special thanks to Albert Salmon for his additional donation!

And a big thank you to our renewing business sponsor, **Leonberg Nursery**, and brand new sponsor, **Powers Kirn, LLC**. We truly appreciate your generous support!

Please visit us at moorestownhistory.org to renew online, or use the form below.

Till next time,

Jill Weiss, Membership Chair; jill@thewio.com

* **GOT TO BE THERE** is the debut studio album by Michael Jackson, released by Motown on January 24, 1972. It includes the song of the same name, which was released on October 7, 1971, as Jackson's debut solo single. It sold nearly 900,000 copies in the United States and over 3.2 million copies worldwide. The album was later remastered and reissued in 2009 as part of the 3-disc compilation *Hello World: The Motown Solo Collection*. [Wikipedia]

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

BASIC MEMBERSHIP:

- Student (\$10) Individual/Family (\$35)

DONOR LEVELS:

- Stories From the Past Sponsor (\$50)
 History Partner (\$100)
 Library Sponsor (\$250)
 Patron (\$500) Benefactor (\$1000)

RENEWAL
NEW

.....
: Visit our website, :
: moorestownhistory.org :
: for member benefits! :
:.....

NAME(S):

ADDRESS:

DATE:

PHONE #:

EMAIL:

Make check payable to: Historical Society of Moorestown

Mail to: P.O. Box 477 Moorestown, NJ 08057

Or renew online at: moorestownhistory.org/membership

Are you good at fundraising? If so, we need your help!

We are seeking individuals with energy and ideas to help us in our fundraising efforts.

Interested?

Contact Jill Weiss via email: jill@thewio.com

Jobs — big and small — that we need help with:

Activities/Events: Helps plan, organize and hold Society events.

Docents: Museum and special exhibit guides.

Exhibits: Helps create interesting displays.

Fund Raising: Helps plan and hold income-generating events.

Museum: Helps with maintaining collection.

Oral History: Collects oral histories and oversees written work.

Photography: Attends events and take digital photos for our archives and publicity.

Programs: Helps select programs and speakers, coordinates meetings.

Publicity/News/Web: Helps get Society information to the members and public.

If you can help out, call the Society at 856-235-0353 or email Jill Weiss jill@thewio.com



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 2016

- 11 *Smith-Cadbury reopens after summer break.* Tours & research library, 1-3
- 13 *Smith-Cadbury library & tours*, 1-4
- 17 **Historical Society fundraiser – *An Evening in Mo'town***, 6:30 PM
- 20 *Smith-Cadbury library & tours*, 1-4
- 25 *Smith-Cadbury tours*, 1-3
- 27 *Smith-Cadbury library & tours*, 1-4

GHOST TOURS

Friday & Saturday October **14th, 15th, 21st, & 22nd** at 7 PM and 9 PM.

Please arrive 15 minutes early.

**TICKETS AT THE DOOR,
12 High Street, Moorestown.**

Adults: \$15; HSM members/
Students/Senior Citizens: \$12;
Children age 6 & under: \$6.

Cash or checks only.

OCTOBER 2016

- 4 *Smith-Cadbury library & tours*, 1-4
- 8 *Smith-Cadbury house & gift shop open for **Autumn in Moorestown***, 10 AM to 3 PM
- 9 *Smith-Cadbury tours & research library*, 1-3
- 11 *Smith-Cadbury library & tours*, 1-4
- 13 **Historical Society General Meeting** at the Community House, 7:30 PM
- 14 **Ghost Tours**, 7 PM and 9 PM
- 15 **Ghost Tours**, 7 PM and 9 PM
- 16 **Exhibit opens: *History Rocks: Interpreting the Archaeological Discoveries of Moorestown*** with special demonstrations of tool and weapon making techniques by archaeologist Jack Cresson, 1-3
- 18 *Smith-Cadbury library & tours*, 1-4
- 21 **Ghost Tours**, 7 PM and 9 PM
- 22 **Ghost Tours**, 7 PM and 9 PM
- 23 *Smith-Cadbury tours*, 1-3
- 25 *Smith-Cadbury library & tours*, 1-4

NOVEMBER 2016

- 1 *Smith-Cadbury library & tours*, 1-4
- 4 *Smith-Cadbury house & gift shop open for **Candlelight Night***, 6-9 PM
- 8 *Smith-Cadbury library & tours*, 1-4
- 13 *Smith-Cadbury tours & research library*, 1-3
- 15 *Smith-Cadbury library & tours*, 1-4
- 22 *Smith-Cadbury library & tours*, 1-4
- 27 *Smith-Cadbury tours*, 1-3
- 29 *Smith-Cadbury library & tours*, 1-4

When is
the General
Meeting?

Thursday,
October 13th
7:30 PM

HISTORY ROCKS: Interpreting the Archaeological Discoveries of Moorestown

OPENING Sunday October 16th!

that before the Lenni Lenape, other people travelled throughout New Jersey and made camps here in Moorestown?

We do not know exactly who these people were but an exciting discovery here in Moorestown suggests that the earliest people who travelled here had contact with the Adena people of Ohio. The Adena promoted a culture that was very particular about burial presentation. They constructed large mounds of earth to mark the placement of their dead and buried personal objects within these mounds.

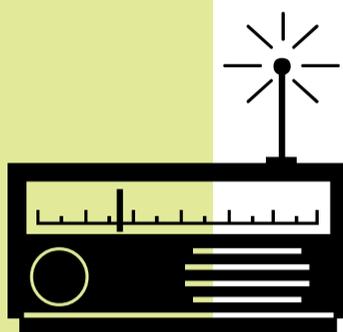
How do we know that the Adena people had a connection with Moorestown? The exciting discovery made here in Moorestown involves an archaeological dig which took place four years ago. The archaeologists found siltstone pipe fragments very similar to those found at known Adena sites. Why are these fragments here in Moorestown, New Jersey? What significance did these pipes have to the people who owned them? Possibly, the Adena may have traded the siltstone pipes with other people or perhaps the Adena themselves may have briefly camped here. In any case, the discovery is an exciting one! In addition to the pipe fragments, this exhibition features artifacts from the prehistoric past discovered throughout Moorestown. We hope this exhibition will help you to imagine the people who lived here through what they left behind.

— Lisa Hammell

**Historical Society of
Moorestown**

Smith-Cadbury Mansion
12 High Street, Box 477
Moorestown, NJ 08057

**Non-Profit
Organization**
U.S. Postage Paid
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077
Permit NO. 183



SEPTEMBER 2016

**It's the
MO'TOWN
BALL**



**JOIN
US!**

**Saturday NIGHT,
September 17, 2016:**

Karla and James Varrell will be throwing open their historic, East Central Avenue home and hosting Moorestown's most exciting gala of 2016 – **the MO'TOWN Ball** – a fundraiser for the highly anticipated "Pathway to History" at the Smith-Cadbury Mansion!

With the help of an excellent live band, the musical theme will be based on the other "Motown," the storied Detroit record label that provided our soundtrack to the 60s and 70s. Dance to the music we grew up with, enjoy a delicious dinner and open bar, and raise money to help get us that much closer to completing handicapped access to the History of Moorestown! And all of this for just \$100 dollars a ticket!



**Visit our website for details:
moorestownhistory.org**