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Historian's Report for activity in February 2025

Dear Supervisor Holdridge and Board Members of the Town of Chester:

Ms. Chiusano and I continued our collaborative project, a research internship with a Chester Academy junior, which this month included an expedition to research deeds at the Orange County Clerk's office.

I had the pleasure of meeting Angela O'Neal, Chester Village Clerk; Aaron Lefkowitz, Chester Village Historian; Betty Ann Reilly, Chester Village Deputy Mayor; and Chris Battiato, Chester Mayor, to collaborate on the development of an official Village of Chester Flag.

I attended the following:

Sustainable Warwick seminar "On heat pump pros and cons." February 4th at the Albert Wisner Library, Warwick, NY.

"Fish: the First Vertebrates through Local Fish Diversity," an online presentation by Dr. Walter Jahn of SUNY Orange. February 24th.

I took part in February's American Association for State and Local History "AASLH History Hour," a monthly online networking and community building discussion regarding perspectives on common topics in history. Our breakout group discussion centered on how to deal with people whose perception of past events conflict with documented evidence. February 25th

Texas Historical Commission webinar "From Clear to Compelling: Writing Label Copy that Moves Visitors," Presented by: Verónica E. Betancourt, Ph.D. February 26th.

I have provided responses to several interesting inquiries in February.

Diana Stevers of Michigan sought an image of Col Hathorn's 4th Regimental Orange County Militia Flag. I was unsuccessful in locating any flag or insignia for this Revolutionary War unit.

I was able to provide Richard Murphy an image of his grandfather, Harry Lawrence Murray (arrow), in a harness race, circa 1920.



Leslie Smith has provided references and images for her articles on the history of the Erie Railroad stations in Chester, which will be included in the upcoming journal celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Chester Historical Society.

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature of Clifton Patrick.