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Long Island Archives

*Newsletter of the Documentary Heritage Program
Long Island Library Resources Council*

LILRC Documentary Heritage Program workshops to be presented in 2007:

Basic Elements of a Historical Records Program-TBA (Spring/Summer)

Basics of Archives-TBA (Fall)

Stone Strategies: Documentation, Stewardship and Conservation of Historic Cemeteries – July 2007, additional information TBA

12h Annual Archives Week Leadership Conference: HOLD THE DATE October 26, 2007.

Celebrate the Cultural Diversity of the Town of Huntington:

Sunday, May 6, 2007 12:30 - 7:00 PM

Town of Huntington Senior Citizens Center, John J. Flanagan Center, 423 Park Ave., Huntington, New York 11743.

The forum will feature speakers, exhibits, entertainment and food sampling from different cultures such as: African, German, Greek, India, Italian, Irish, Jewish, Native-American, Scandinavian, and Scottish. For more information check the Town's web-site: <http://town.huntington.ny.us> under Online Library or call the Archives (631) 351-3035.

The program is the final event in the Documentary Heritage Program grant sponsored program to document the cultural diversity in the Town of Huntington. The grant provided the funding to locate and document the many and diverse ethnic groups that reside in the Town of Huntington.

We hope that other Long Island towns will take the initiative and follow in Huntington's footsteps to document the ethnic make up of their community. Documenting under-documented ethnic groups is a priority of the New York State Documentary Heritage Program. Grant funding is available for such projects.

New York State Newspaper Project

The New York State Newspaper Project, located at the NYS Library, ceased operation on January 31, 2007, after almost twenty years of locating, cataloging, and preserving New York State newspapers. The Project was responsible for filming over 4.37 million pages of New York State newspapers.

As part of the United States Newspaper Program (USNP), and funded in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities, Project staff inventoried 1,759 newspaper repositories, cataloged 22,785 distinct newspaper titles, with 10,537 of those published in New York State, and created 66,065 local holdings records with issue-specific data. Microfilmed newspapers were added to the State Library's collection, and are available on-site to patrons or through interlibrary loan. A copy of the film was also provided, at no cost, to the institution lending the newspapers.

Information about the State Library's collection is available at: <http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/nysnp> or by contacting Jeff Sohn at the State Library by phone (518) 474-7491 or e-mail jsohn@mail.nysed.gov.

LILRC's Newspaper Project

LILRC's Regional Digitization Program "Long Island Memories" is actively working to save Long Island newspapers that were not a part of the original United States Newspaper Program. LILRC's newspaper pilot project will be completed in the near future, and issues of various Freeport newspapers from the late 19th and early 20th century will be available online.

HELP SAVE AMERICA'S HISTORY

To read about troubling issues concerning the preservation of our nation's history, please visit the Society of American Archivist's home page at: <http://www.archivists.org>.

NHPRC Zeroed Out — Again!

As has been the case for the past two years, NHPRC has been zeroed out in President Bush's FY 2008 proposed budget. This means no funds for grants and no funds for administration of the agency. Take action now.

Presidential Records Act Amendments of 2007" Passes House!

HR 1255 passed in the House of Representatives on March 14, on a vote of 333 in favor and 93 opposed. Among other things, the bill would rescind President Bush's Executive Order 13233. Should similar legislation be passed in the Senate, the White House has threatened to veto.

A Call to Action on May Day, May 1, 2007 – this is a grassroots effort with a goal to save our archives.

Protecting our collections is one of our fundamental responsibilities as archivists. The Heritage Health Index, released in 2005 soon after hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma struck the Gulf Coast, reported that few institutions have disaster plans and for those that do, often the plan is out of date. It's easy to put off emergency response planning as we devote our attentions to tasks with more immediate "payback."

Research at Hofstra University- Slavery and Freedom in Early New York

An Archaeological Research and Field School offered through Hofstra University July 2-August 3, 2007. Please contact AnthLab@hofstra.edu or (516) 463-7625 for additional information.

At the invitation of the Society for the Preservation of Long Island Antiquities, Hofstra's Professor Christopher Matthews will be directing excavations at the Joseph Lloyd Manor site in Lloyd Harbor, NY. This research includes one of the first archaeological studies of a slave quarter in New York. The Joseph Lloyd Manor site is already well-known for African-American history and culture because one of its residents, Jupiter Hammon, a Lloyd family slave, is one of the first published African American writers and poets. Although Hammon was privileged, being educated and living in the manor house, his writings drew on Christian theology to challenge the injustices of slavery in the eighteenth century. In comparison with Hammon's writings, the archaeological study of the slave quarter, which housed other Lloyd family slaves, offers a unique opportunity to understand the diverse strategies employed by African-Americans on Long Island to resist slavery and cultivate practical freedoms in early American history.

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