

The  
Scituate  
Historical  
Society

# The Newsletter

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March, 2025



## We are full sail into 2025!

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The Schoolhouse has re-opened and the new year is well underway.

Mid-January, the GAR Special Events Series hosted a compelling evening with Scott Shane and *Flee North* – the true story of the underground railroad and the domestic slave trade in the 1840's with Scituate and Boston angles.

We continued to kick off this year with a fantastic Annual Dinner, bringing together history lovers for a night of great conversation, delicious food, and fascinating stories.

But that was just the beginning... 2025 is packed with some pretty unique events (and some pretty crazy-named Full Moons) you won't want to miss.

*Let's fill you in on the Spring  
line-up!*

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NEWS UPDATE

 Thank you Scituate Historical Society & Gar Hall for letting us host a pre-game Breakfast

The Scituate Historical Society

SCITUATE HIGH BOYS VARSITY HOCKEY DEFEATS TAUNTON 6-3 IN MIAA D3 SWEET 16 STATE TOURNAMENT PLAYOFFS 2025.

Onto the Elite Eight on March 6 in Woburn to battle Triton Regional.

**Congratulations, Guys! Go Scituate!!**



**February 23, 2025**

**No Irish Need Apply:**

**The History of the Irish in Boston**

*Update:*

*Sorry if you missed this one!*

*It was a fabulous afternoon with a tremendous, spirited full house.*

Historian Christopher Daley guided us along the incredible journey of the Irish in Boston, tracing Irish migration from the arrival of the Scots-Irish in 1718 to the rise of Irish political power in the city.

Kicking off the afternoon, Declan Houton, Irish native and founder of Devri, preformed Irish songs on guitar and mandolin. Singing along was encouraged!

**GRAND ARMY HALL**  
*Special Events*  
SCITUATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**No Irish Need Apply**  
The History of the Irish In Boston

*Presented by Christopher Daley*

For RESERVATIONS and to learn more about this program, see [scituatehistoricalsociety.org/upcoming-events](http://scituatehistoricalsociety.org/upcoming-events)

**FEBRUARY 23<sup>RD</sup>**  
**at 2 PM**

**\$10 Members \$15 Non-Members**

Reservations are suggested.  
Payment will also be accepted at the door.

Presentation opens with  
*Music by Declan Houton of Devri*

The Scituate Historical Society

**G.A.R. Hall, 353 Country Way, Scituate, MA**  
For more information: [garhallevents@scituatehistoricalsociety.org](mailto:garhallevents@scituatehistoricalsociety.org)

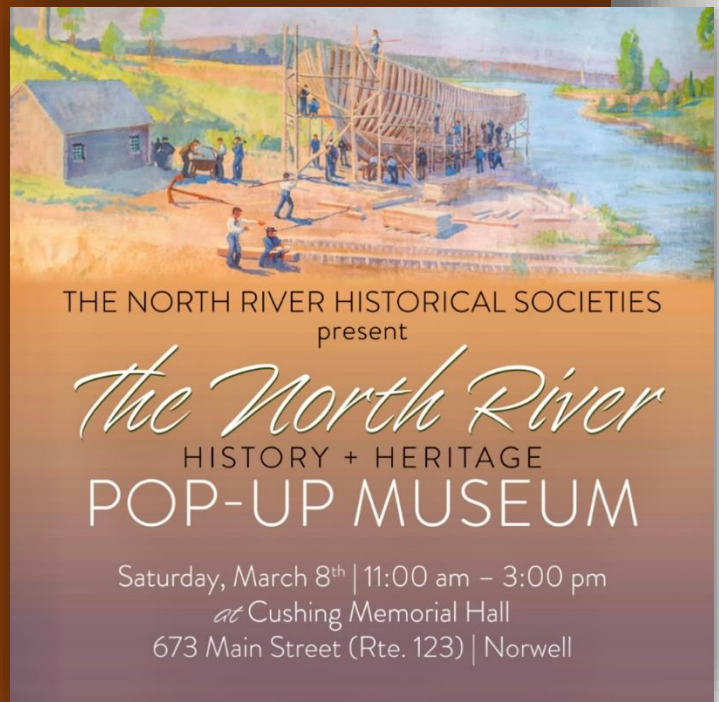
**March 8, 2025**

## **The North River History & Heritage Pop-Up Museum**

The Historical Societies of Scituate, Norwell, Pembroke, Marshfield, and Hanover are organizing the second collaborative pop-up museum of the North River, its history, its heritage, and its continuing importance today. Stories that will be told are those of ships and shipyards, the people who lived and worked on the river, and its natural history.

The Museum will feature original artifacts, artwork, photographs, maps, and other materials from public and private collections, media presentations, and interactive displays for the hours of the event.

This event is free, donations accepted.



**March 20, 2025**

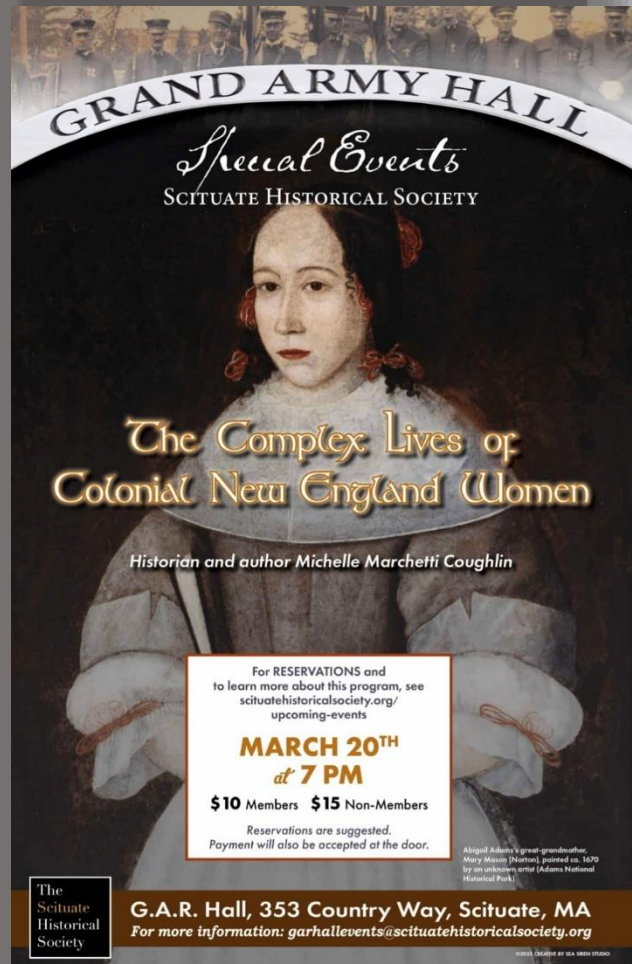
A Women's History Month Event

## The Complex Lives of Colonial New England Women

*The Real Housewives of Early Scituate.*  
What was life *really* like for women in early New England? The answers may surprise you!

Historian and author Michelle Marchetti Coughlin (*One Colonial Woman's World: The Life and Writings of Mehetabel Chandler Coit; Penelope Winslow, Plymouth Colony First Lady: Re-imagining a Life*) will explore not only the many challenges women faced, but the opportunities they embraced and the crucial roles they played in their communities. Ms. Coughlin will also address the unique experiences of Native and African-American women.

Don't miss this dynamic speaker!



GRAND ARMY HALL  
Special Events  
SCITUATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*The Complex Lives of  
Colonial New England Women*

Historian and author Michelle Marchetti Coughlin

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**MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup>**  
**at 7 PM**

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Abigail Adams's great-grandmother,  
Mary Mason (Norton), painted ca. 1670  
by an unknown artist (Adams National  
Historical Park).

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**March 27, 2025**

**Secrets on the Road to  
Concord: What the Redcoats  
Were Looking For on April 19**

J.L. Bell is a writer who specializes in history, analysis, and unabashed gossip about the start of the American Revolution.

Early in the spring of 1775, British army spies located four brass cannons belonging to Boston's colonial militia. The cannons had gone missing months before. British general Thomas Gage devised plans to regain the cannons, while Massachusetts patriots prepared to thwart the general's hopes.

Each side wanted control of these weapons, but each also had reasons to keep their existence a secret. That conflict would end with blood on the road to Concord.

**GRAND ARMY HALL**  
*Special Events*  
SCITUATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**SECRETS ON THE  
ROAD TO CONCORD**

WHAT THE REDCOATS WERE  
LOOKING FOR ON APRIL 19

PRESENTED BY J. L. BELL, AUTHOR

For RESERVATIONS and  
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April 10, 2025

## The Hatch Mill

Presented by Bert O'Donnell of the Hatch Mill Group, this event will feature the history of the Two Mile area of Marshfield (and Scituate until 1788) related to the Hatch family, including the Hatch Mill.

On land first settled by Walter Hatch (1625 – 1699), the sawmill was built in 1812 by Deacon Joel Hatch at the site of a former grist mill. This original sawmill was “modernized” in 1872. With few further changes, the mill was operated continuously by the Hatches until it closed in 1965.

The Mill is now in the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Hatch Homestead and Mill Historic District.

**GRAND ARMY HALL**  
*Special Events*  
SCITUATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**The Hatch Mill**  
Bert O'Donnell, Hatch Mill Group

National Register of Historic Places as part of  
the Hatch Homestead and Mill Historic District

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**April 21, 2025**

**Patriots Day**

**Old Scituate Reacts:**

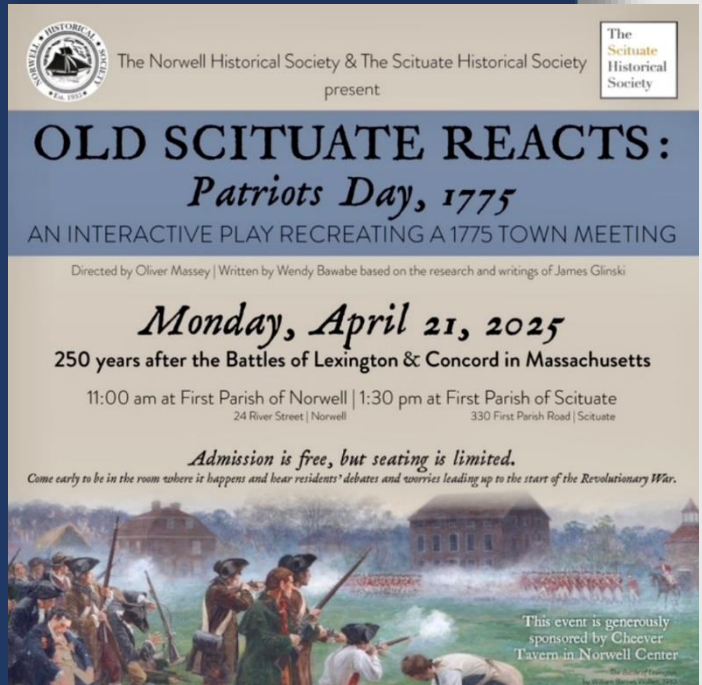
**Patriots Day, 1775**

This joint program with the Norwell Historical Society is most unique!

Based on the tumultuous events of Patriots Day, 1775, local and professional actors will recreate the 1775 town meeting leading up to the Revolutionary War – complete with all the divisions, arguments, and worries of Scituate’s townsfolk.

The reenactment will take place in two different performances – one at the First Parish of Norwell, the second at the First Parish of Scituate.

Come EARLY to be seated in the rooms before the action begins. Admission is free; but seating is limited!





## Step back in time at our Open Houses...

The dates have been set for 2025, so mark your calendars.

Visit our historic sites, chat with our knowledgeable volunteers, and experience history up close.

Don't forget to check back to our website before each Open House to see which properties will be open on each date.

Looking forward to seeing you!

The Scituate Historical Society



\* Open Houses 2025

Hours are 1 to 4.  
Admission: \$3 pp/ per site.  
\$5 pp/ Museum.

Free to children and our military.

www.scituatehistoricalsociety.org  
781-545-1083

MAY 18  
JULY 13  
AUG 2 & 3  
SEPT 14

\*Always free to our Patron members!

# Explore!

## History buffs: Don't miss this rare opportunity!

Now on display at the Schoolhouse

AN ORIGINAL COPY OF *ROYAL AMERICANS*  
*MAGAZINE, 1775*

Stop by the Genealogy Room at the Schoolhouse  
to see an original copy of Paul Revere's February, 1775  
*Royal Americans Magazine* – a true window into the past.

## The Maritime & Irish Mossing Museum

Don't forget that the Museum is open every Sunday afternoon, so be sure to visit!

A new artifact has been added to the collection – an 1880's 'whistling buoy' recovered near Minot's Light in 2023.

Stay tuned for more detailed info on this find, its function and history, and the dive team that recovered it.



### Full Moon Tours Lawson Tower, 2025

Mar 13	Worm Moon
Apr 12	Pink Moon
May 12	Flower Moon
Jun 10	Strawberry Moon
July 10	Buck Moon
Aug 8	Sturgeon Moon
Sep 7	Corn Moon
Oct 7	Harvest Moon
Nov 6	Beaver Moon – Super Moon
Dec 5	Cold Moon – Super Moon



**Bell Concerts**  
Lawson Tower, 2025

- |        |                   |
|--------|-------------------|
| Mar 16 | St. Patrick's Day |
| May 11 | Mother's Day      |
| May 27 | Memorial Day      |
| July 6 | Fourth of July    |
| Aug 3  | Heritage Days     |
| Oct 26 | Halloween         |
| Dec 21 | Christmas         |



Opening this Summer  
Cudworth House  
Museum of the Decorative Arts



### Gratitude to Our Pillars of Support: Funding Acknowledgments

We extend our deepest gratitude to the Massachusetts Cultural Council, the Scituate Cultural Council, N.E.L.L., the South Shore Playhouse Association, and the wonderful citizens of Scituate for their unwavering support through Community Preservation Act funds.



*See you soon at the Schoolhouse!*