

## St. Andrews cemetery gravestone cleaning & talk

This morning I attended a headstone cleaning class sponsored by the county historian from Goshen the class was at the St Andrews cemetery outside of Walden. The class was well attended and we learned so very much about the cleaning of headstones and the proper chemicals and techniques and procedures to use this is The headstone I cleaned was of a Catherine Snyder who died at the age of 29 . The before and after pictures are remarkable. The cemetery is a very interesting cemetery with many many very early headstones. I think the most important thing we learned is that when you clean the headstone no household cleaning agent is ever appropriate.

Saturday August 14th from 11:00 to 1:00 p.m. there is a free headstone cleaning program sponsored by the Orange County historian the program will take place at St Andrews cemetery on the corner of Plains road and St Andrews road you must register to participate there are a few spots left. If you are interested contact Nicole at 845-360-6978

I was walking in the saint Andrew's cemetery today looking at grave stones and noticed these plaques on a number of stones thought I would post them since it has been 245 years since the American revolutionary war.

Marianne Greenfield, proprietor of Gravestone Cleaning Service will instruct up to 16 participants on the proper techniques of caring for gravestones. She will begin with a quick talk about the only recommended method of cleaning and then the hands-on portion of the workshop will begin. Expect to get a bit dirty - the results will be worth it!

Each participant is asked to bring the following:

1. New, clean plastic pail.
2. New nylon or plastic bristle scrub brush (be sure it fits in your hand in the pail). Both pail and brush can be from the dollar store.
3. One pair of new, unused wooden chopsticks.
4. A gallon jug of clean water (used to clean the gravestones)
5. Own drinking water, insect repellent, bag lunch or snack, if needed.

Over the past year, many plans have changed due to the pandemic, but we are extremely grateful to still be able to offer our gravestone cleaning workshops. When you arrive at the cemetery, please remember to follow all current CDC guidelines.

Contact Nicole at [NNazzaro@orangecountygov.com](mailto:NNazzaro@orangecountygov.com) if you have any questions and/or to reserve one of the 16 sponsored spaces.