

# Orange Oracle

An Occasional Electronic Update from the Orange County Historical Society

## History-to-Go

### George Washington -



And His Women

Our next episode of History-to-Go is Frank Walker's talk, "Washington and His Women," an in-depth and sometimes humorous look at the four women who influenced our founding father. Just click on this link:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQvPfUSloS7GZW4Pce\\_17XQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQvPfUSloS7GZW4Pce_17XQ)

Next up: Bill Speiden's "Letters to Tyler."

## Newsbits

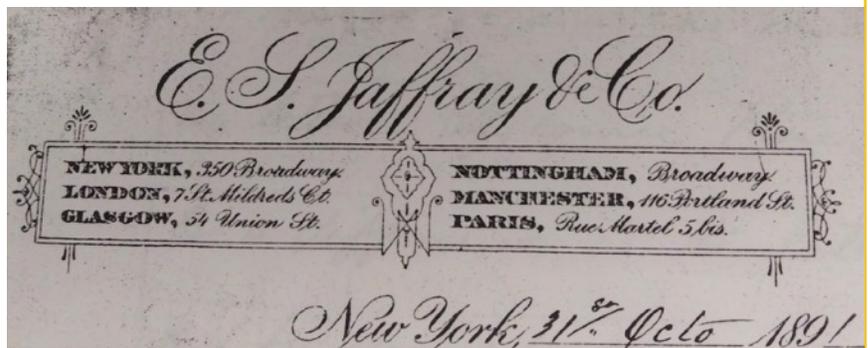
### Research Center Hours Change

With the Covid crisis bringing walk-in traffic to a trickle, the Board decided to adopt

## The Peliso Neighborhood

by Lynne G. Lewis

I have lived on Peliso Avenue for a little more than 30 years now, and had been aware that my neighborhood was carved from the 240-acre Montpeliso plantation. The ca. 1819 house, originally built by Paul Verdier, and land were at the western edge of the town of Orange. Having gone through several different owners and the name shortened to Peliso, the property was acquired by William W. Harper in 1888 and remained in that family until 1944.



Recently Jayne Blair, one of our research assistants at the Historical Society, found a document at the courthouse that sheds light on the breakup of the property. The document, a letter dated October 31, 1891, is from a law firm in New York and is addressed to a Mr. Morton. It discusses the terms and conditions of a proposed subdivision, including things such as lot size and price, street widths, and building restrictions (no shanties).

Of particular interest were three bequests to local area churches:

winter hours at the Orange County Historical Society. From November through February, the new hours will be Tuesday-Friday, 1pm till 5pm. Closed Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays.

**Dogwood Village Turns 50**

On Oct. 14th, Dogwood Village turned 50 years old. This local rehab, nursing, health care and senior living facility has won numerous awards for excellence on both the state and national level. It has several employees who have worked there for 30 and 40 plus years. Local videographer, Phil Audibert has produced a 30-minute documentary for this milestone. Below: Views from



*5/ A lot of one acre to be given (without compensation, except, the Opening of Harper Av through to Main St. by the Methodist people) to the Methodist Church, provided, they build a parsonage upon said lot.*

*6/ A lot given to the Presbyterian Church, provided, they build thereon a parsonage.*

*7/ A lot given to the Baptist Church provided they build thereon a parsonage.*

More research will be done, but one wonders whether any of the churches accepted the donation and indeed built a parsonage. Clearly, the extension of Harper Avenue to Main Street never happened. In the ensuing months I hope to learn more about this area of Orange, so if anyone has any information and is willing share it, that would be greatly appreciated. As they say. . .stay tuned.



This photo is of members of Orange Boy Scout Troop No. 1 (now Troop #14) on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. as they are being presented award medals by Marine Corps Commandant, Gen. John A. Lejeune. Blair Rouse is in front of the General, and Gore Waugh is at the far right in the white hat, Sept. 5, 1925 (from Library of Congress digital online collections). Who can identify the other scouts in this photo, asks Ray Ezell.