

The Chronicle



The Newsletter of the History & Preservation Section of the NJLA

WINTER 2024

Volume 25, Number 3

2023-2024 H&P Section Executive Board

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To submit articles, news or calendar events to **The Chronicle**, email Kathlyn Kelly at kkelly@sclibnj.org.

If possible, please include images with captions/attribution.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By John Beekman, Section President

Welcome to 2024! It's sure to be a memorable year. We had a very nice turnout for our first general meeting of the year, with 21 people attending for most of the meeting. It was great to welcome Katy White as our new liaison from the NJLA Office. This will be in addition to our liaison from the NJLA Executive Board, John Wallace. This evidence of increasing support from NJLA to our sections is very encouraging.

Plans to have this meeting be part of a visit to Trenton turned out to be too complicated to arrange. We were able to separate the two and through cooperation with our MARAC liaison and State Archives employee Tara Maharjan, we were able to arrange a tour of the State Archives for Friday, February 9. Interest was great enough between our section and MARAC-NJ that two sessions were set up. Gary Saretzky was able to add a guided visit to the State Museum to see the new exhibit on Grant Castner, a photographer from the turn of the last century. Thanks so much to Tara and Gary for their help with this, and for all of the work they both do to support the NJ history community.

Thanks also to Juber Ayala for spearheading another year of solid NJLA conference proposals from our section. I think we should take pride in consistently providing multiple worthwhile suggestions in support of the conference.

I will be submitting a poster proposal to the Friends of NJ Heritage's 2024 conference, to be held in Jersey City (<https://www.njpreservationconference.org/>). This will be on behalf of the New Jersey Room of the Jersey City Free Public Library in conjunction with the History & Preservation Section of NJLA. The poster will highlight the resources of the JCFPL as an example of materials available in public libraries throughout the state. To add to our section's materials for outreach, I've instituted a census of local history collections in public

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libraries, which will be made available as part of the poster session. Please add any suggestions of such collections using this form: <http://tinyurl.com/NJ-local-history>.

Our Spring meeting will be our first in-person meeting since the pandemic. We will meet at Plainfield Public Library on Friday, April 12 at 10:30 AM for a meeting and tour of the local history collections with Sarah Hull. There will be an online option to attend the meeting as well. Thanks to Sarah for offering to host this hybrid meeting.

The final meeting of my term as Section President will be at the NJLA Conference. Details TBD but it will likely be on whichever day has the most section-sponsored programs. Among the business of that meeting will be introducing the slate of officers for the 2024-25 term. But to do that we will need to have our election, for which we need candidates! Please consider reaching out to me or another Board member with nominations, especially including self-nominations. It's a great way to support your colleagues and work with a wonderful group of people.

Also at the Conference we will be announcing the winner of the Swartzburg Award. Please see info and submit nominations here: <https://www.njla.org/susan-swartzburg-award>.

Thanks for letting me serve and I hope to see you all soon!

John Beekman, Jersey City Public Library, H&P President

NJLA HISTORY AND PRESERVATION SECTION

2024 CONFERENCE PROPOSALS RECAP

By Juber Ayala, Section Vice President

Last October, the History and Preservation Section's Programming Committee met for a brainstorming session on H&P sponsored programming for the upcoming 2024 NJLA Conference. Meeting attendees pitched their exciting program ideas and provided helpful feedback to help ensure a successful proposal. The conference will take place May 29-31, 2024 at Harrah's in Atlantic City. This year's conference theme is Breaking Barriers: Inclusive Collaboration.

On behalf of H&P, 7 program sessions, 1 event and 1 poster session were proposed. We will be hearing back by the beginning of February about the status of the proposals. H&P will also be hosting an information table during the conference. If you are planning to attend the conference, stop by and say hello! I would like to thank all of the brainstorming session attendees, proposal writers, and program co-sponsors for all of their hard work in submitting the proposals. I look forward to sharing updates about program approvals and seeing everyone in the upcoming conference.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: SUSAN SWARTZBURG AWARD

Submitted By Beth Zak-Cohen, Past President and Gary Saretzky, Member-at-Large

Do you know a librarian in New Jersey whose work has demonstrated leadership, creativity and commitment in the fields of archives, preservation or book arts? Nominate them for the Susan Swartzburg Award sponsored by the NJLA History & Preservation Section!



The Swartzburg Award is given out every year at the annual NJLA conference in honor of Susan Swartzburg: author, teacher and librarian. Susan worked as a preservation librarian at Rutgers, specializing in art books and rare books. She also taught, consulted, wrote for publications throughout the field of preservation, and founded the Princeton Preservation Group which has been hosting preservation-related lectures for more than 40 years.

From her obituary in *Abbey Newsletter*, “Her genius was in getting people together to make things happen in preservation. Her appetite for accomplishment was infectious, and her style of leadership or influence was democratic and non-interfering.”

From a memorial at Rutgers Book Arts Symposium, “Susan G. Swartzburg touched many lives in an astonishingly brief period of time. Author, teacher, librarian, her disinterested love of knowledge and discovery ignored the conventional boundaries of age, language, wealth and geography, and found a like love in the hearts and minds of kindred spirits everywhere. Once Susan found she could talk to you—even

if only through a translator—you were soon amalgamated into her ongoing, onrushing, international opera. If you had something to say to Susan, why, you then became a featured performer, and, although you may never get to meet—you would never get to meet—many of the other featured performers (they lived in places as diverse as Portugal, Vietnam, Hungary, Russia, The Czech Republic, Cuba, China), you knew who they were, rightly enough. And they knew you, you knew. They were as real to you, and as ingratiating, as the characters in Balzac or Gogol, or Tati, and probably more real than the ladies in the elevator, or the kid with the buzzing Walkman or the man reading over your shoulder on the subway.’

In honor of Susan, the Swartzburg Award honors a librarian who demonstrates leadership, creativity and commitment in the fields of archives, preservation or book art. Past winners have included NJLA H&P stalwarts, Elsallyn Palmisano, Fred Pachman, Gary Saretzky, and Tom Ankner.

Please help us honor this special individual by sending in nominations for the continuing award in her honor.

Details & nomination form at:

<https://www.njla.org/susan-swartzburg-award>

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS:

MARAC NJ CAUCUS INNOVATIVE ARCHIVE AWARD

Submitted By Caryn Radick, Chair, MARAC NJ Caucus Innovative Award Committee

The New Jersey Caucus of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC), is accepting nominations for the *Innovative Archives Award*, which is given to an organization that has made outstanding efforts to preserve and make archival materials accessible within the State of New Jersey.

Nominees may have developed innovative educational or outreach models utilizing archival sources, provided leadership during a time of crisis or emergency, demonstrated new thinking in solving a longstanding problem, exhibited creativity in increasing awareness of local history resources among New Jersey residents and visitors, or otherwise provided service to the archives and history communities.

The organization need not be affiliated with MARAC to be eligible for nomination. To nominate an organization, complete and send the nomination form and supporting documentation **by April 15**. Form and criteria can be found at <http://www.marac.info/new-jersey-caucus-awards>.

Past recipients have included the New Jersey Digital Newspaper Project, Ukrainian History and Education Center, Puerto Rican Community Archives, New Brunswick Music Scene Archive, Morristown National Historical Park Library & Archives, the League of Historical Societies of New Jersey, and the Township of Ocean Historical Museum.

MARAC, organized in 1972, is a regional consortium of nearly 900 individuals who live and work in the mid-Atlantic region. The organization, which holds two meetings per year, draws its membership from the states of New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia. Currently, over 100 archivists constitute the New Jersey Caucus, and represent government agencies, historical societies and local history rooms, college and university libraries, corporations, and religious institutions. For more information, see the MARAC website: www.marac.info.

PRESERVING THE HISTORY OF NEW BRUNSWICK WITH COMMUNITY WEBS - DIGITIZED CITY DIRECTORY PROJECT

Submitted By Jacquelyn Oshman, Head of Circulation/Local History Librarian,
New Brunswick Free Public Library



When the Community Webs program of the Internet Archive announced digitization opportunities with the [National Historical Publications and Records Commission Archives Collaboratives grant](#), we expressed interest and shared our city's unique and pressing need for digitization of our four oldest city directories dating from 1855-1871. Not only did we want these volumes to be digitized for easier research and access, we wanted to capture a more complete history of New Brunswick online alongside our [web archive collections](#) and prevent more damage to the physical volumes.

After the digitization was completed in autumn 2023 at an Internet Archive office in Princeton, we created a new page on our [website](#) that linked to the four directories on [archive.org](#). We publicized the digitization with announcements on multiple online genealogy and history resources so interested patrons would be aware. Moreover, I will be presenting with other Community Webs digitization partners on a panel at the [New England Archivists Spring Conference](#), in Providence, Rhode Island, in March. I look forward to sharing information about this project with grant partners Brooklyn Public Library and Forbes Public Library, and I look forward to continued and enhanced use of these directories by our patrons.

The Internet Archive and Community Webs are thankful for the support from the [National Historical Publications & Records Commission](#) for *Collaborative Access to Diverse Public Library Local History Collections*, which will digitize and provide access to a diverse range of local history archives that represent the experiences of immigrant, indigenous, and African American communities throughout the United States.

For more information about joining Community Webs, visit <https://communitywebs.archive-it.org/>.

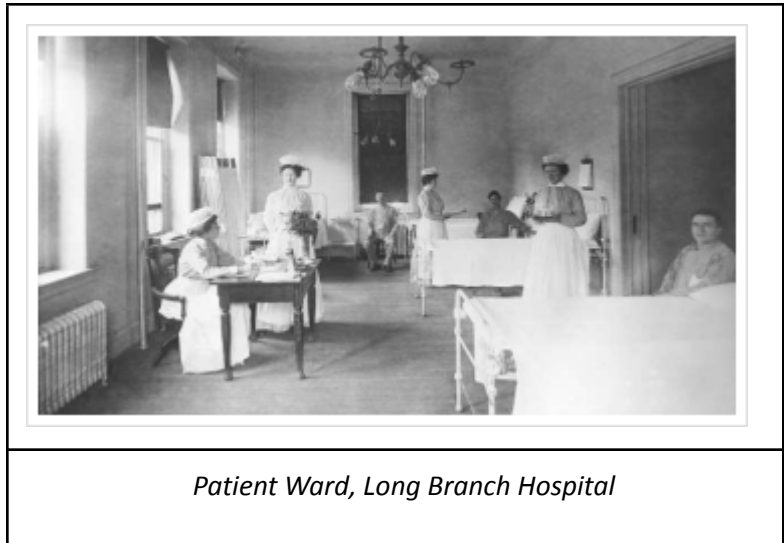
FIRST HOSPITAL AT THE JERSEY SHORE

Submitted By Frederic C. Pachman, AHIP,

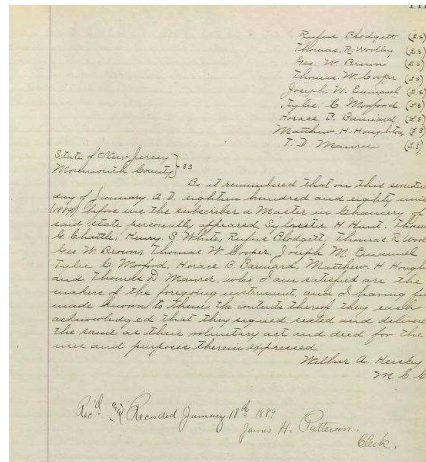
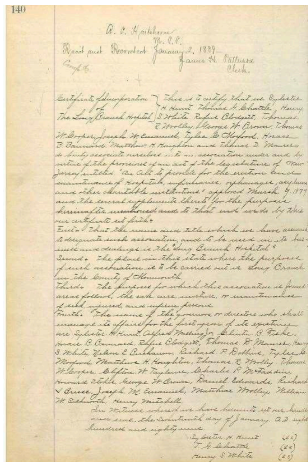
Director, Altschul Medical Library, Monmouth Medical Center

Celebrating 135 Years of Caring, Curing and Nurturing

On January 17th, Monmouth Medical Center marked 135 years of providing clinical excellence and treating patients with the safest, most compassionate care.

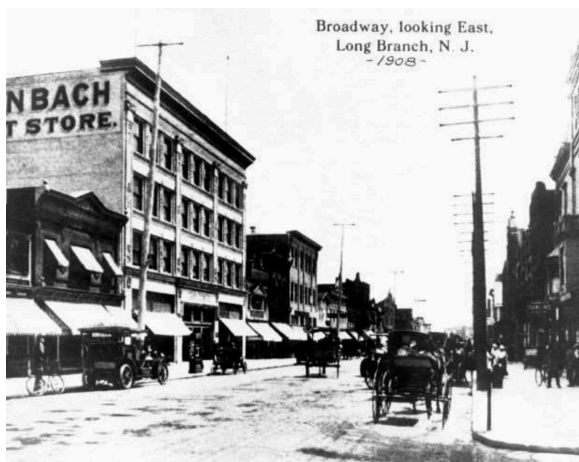


Patient Ward, Long Branch Hospital



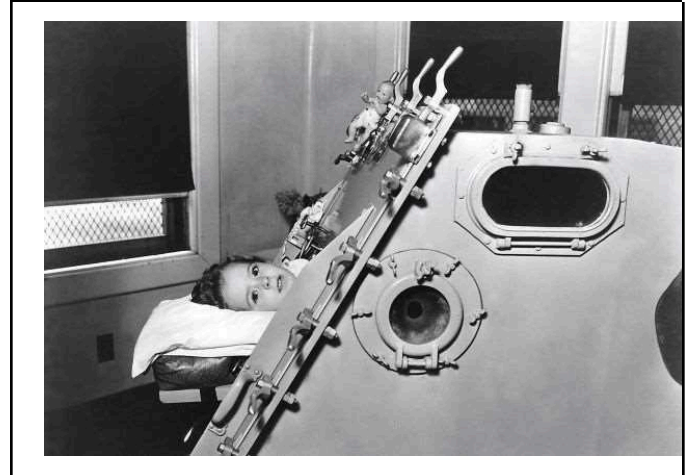
The official establishment of the hospital dates to 1889, when on January 17th, 12 men put their signatures to a certificate of incorporation for Long Branch Hospital, and the first hospital in Monmouth and Ocean counties was born. According to the certificate for the hospital, which later was named Monmouth Memorial Hospital and subsequently Monmouth Medical Center, "The purposes for which this association is formed are as follows: the care, cure, nurture or maintenance of sick, injured and infirm persons."

From its earliest unofficial beginning two years earlier in four rented rooms above a Broadway storefront, to its current state - a regional academic medical center - Monmouth Medical Center has a longstanding history of adapting and expanding to offer the latest advancements.



In the 1940s, Monmouth gained internal renown for a polio treatment that combined the use of the relaxant drug curare and intensive physical therapy, which effectively prevented or diminished the paralysis and deformity that could result from the disease. Surgery, when required, was performed by physicians of the Orthopaedic Department, which pioneered in another way when in 1945, they became the hospital's first accredited residency program and the first Orthopaedic Residency Program in New Jersey.

In 1967, the hospital took the first step in establishing its prominent Institute for Advanced Radiation Oncology, known for providing state-of-the-art technology, by offering a high-energy, 6-million-volt linear accelerator for cancer treatment. This innovative machine was the first of its kind in New Jersey and only the 30th in the world. In 1994, the Jacqueline M. Wilentz Comprehensive Breast Center was opened as the first facility in Monmouth and Ocean counties focused on breast care under one roof.



The Regional Newborn Center opened its doors in 1968, making Monmouth the first hospital in New Jersey and the first community hospital in the country to establish a neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). And in January 2006, Monmouth Medical Center was recognized for its long-demonstrated strength in pediatrics when it was licensed by New Jersey as an official children's hospital for Monmouth and Ocean counties.

Today, as Monmouth celebrates this 135th anniversary, it is doing so amid yet another phase of impressive achievement and dramatic expansion that includes the development of the Vogel Medical Campus in Tinton Falls.

The hospital has long been a leader in surgical services, and throughout its history, its highly skilled team of surgeons has quickly adopted the latest surgical innovations and this pioneering spirit has set the stage for bringing the most advanced minimally invasive procedures to the region. Most recently, Monmouth Medical Center thoracic surgeons introduced two new advanced highly precise technologies used to both diagnose and treat - in real time in some cases - lung cancer. Monmouth is the second in New Jersey and the first in the region to introduce Ion, a robot-assisted platform designed to enable minimally invasive lung biopsies, and is the first in the state to offer new, minimally invasive technology to ablate lung lesions called the Aliya **PEF** System.

"We are continuously looking forward to better serve our community by making medical advancements through cutting-edge technology and expanding and evolving to meet the changing needs of our community," said President and CEO Eric Carney. "As we proudly celebrate this milestone of our 135th anniversary, we look forward to the future and the continuing development of the Vogel Medical Campus, where we broke ground at the historic Fort Monmouth complex in 2023.

Our hard work and commitment to excellence will enable us to deliver an unparalleled patient experience to more people, while remaining true to our original mission to care, cure and nurture."

For the press release, visit:

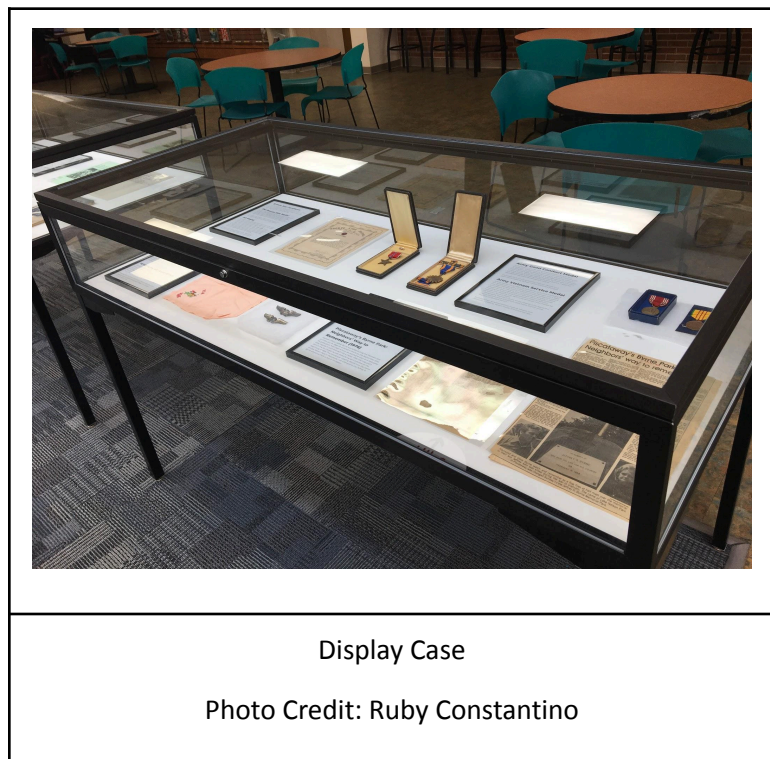
<https://www.rwjbh.org/blog/2024/january/monmouth-medical-center-celebrates-135-years-of->

For the Archives & Special Collections, visit:

<https://www.rwjbh.org/for-health-care-professionals/medical-education/monmouth-medical-center/medical-library/archives-and-special-collections/>

HONORING WAR HEROES: A SALUTE TO VETERAN SERVICE WITH LOCAL HISTORY COLLECTION MATERIALS (1791-1976)

Submitted By Ruby Constantino, Piscataway Public Library



This past November the Piscataway Public Library displayed historical materials from the Local History Collection in honor of Veterans Day. The exhibition featured books, war records, correspondence, military medals, aviation badges, newspaper clippings, and other documents.

A certificate and handkerchief were also on view. Materials pertaining to the American Revolutionary War, World War I, World War II, and the Vietnam War were all represented. The exhibit was shown in two flat display cases at Kennedy Library (see photo on left).

One highlight of the exhibit was a document titled *Militia Men from Piscataway*. This list outlines several men from Piscataway who participated in the American Revolutionary War, among them members of several prominent Piscataway families. According to the *Compiled Records of the Middlesex County, New Jersey Militia 1791-1795* (1996) by Russell K. Duther III, which was also on display, the men of the county were very patriotic and politically aware. They immediately set about organizing militia companies which comprised both infantry and cavalry.

Another highlight was a postcard from Kathleen addressed to Mrs. Charles S. Day, the wife of a prominent Piscataway townsman who owned a newspaper store in the New Market area at the time (photo on next page). It reads: "Dear friend and all, Tho a distance a-way, my thots wander both to Dunellen & New Market at times. All my friends here have enlisted to serve. Best wishes to all." This was written on May 22, 1917, a month after the United States entered World War I in April 1917.

	
<p style="text-align: center;">Post Card</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Photo Credit: Ruby Constantino</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Handkerchief</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Photo Credit: Ruby Constantino</p>

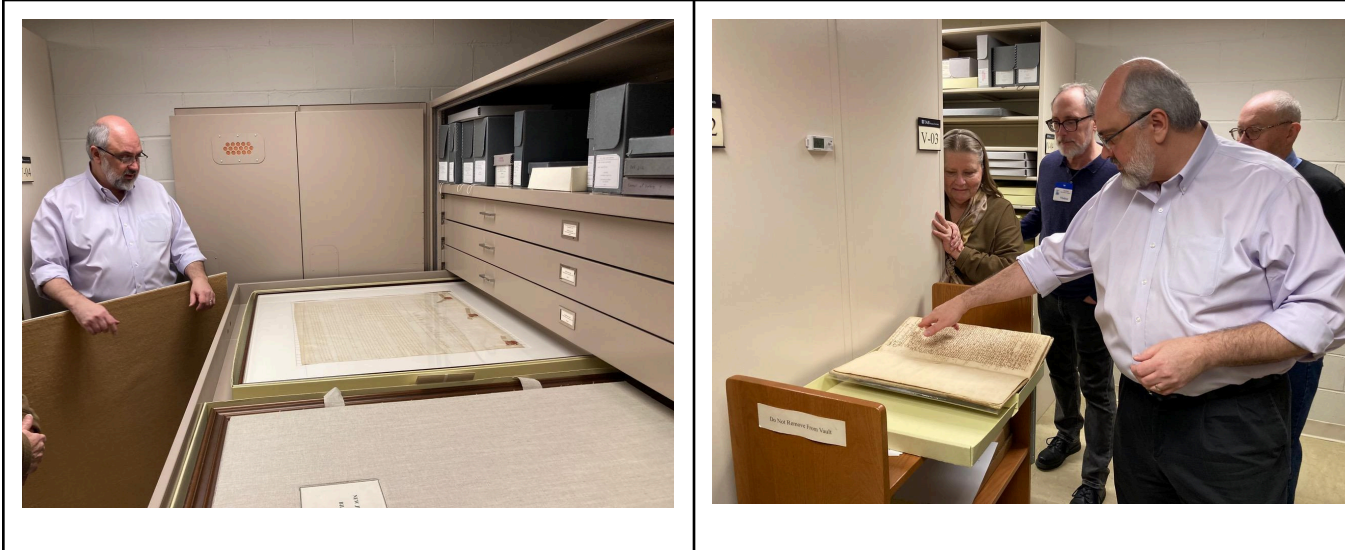
One of the materials from World War II was a handkerchief from the 1940s (see photo above right). This handkerchief features the bee logo of the United States Naval Construction Battalions, otherwise known as the Navy Seabees. The Seabees did important work for the Navy during the Second World War by building advanced bases, constructing underwater slips for naval vessels, and offloading cargo. This item was donated to the Library by a Piscataway community member.

A newspaper clipping of the article “Piscataway’s Byrne Park: Neighbors’ Way to Remember” (1976) by Michael Shapiro was displayed. The article details how the name of the Jeffrey R. Byrne Memorial Park in Piscataway was changed from Lake Nelson Park to honor the local Vietnam War veteran. Warrant Officer Byrne was killed in Vietnam on February 18, 1968. The article discusses Byrne’s September enlistment and his desire to train as a helicopter pilot.

The display was promoted through social media posts on Facebook and Instagram. Overall, the mission of the Piscataway Public Library’s Local History Department is to be a primary resource for information on historical events, people, and locations related to the greater Piscataway area. This exhibit supported this mission by bringing the community closer to its history, educating and engaging residents, and emphasizing the collection’s role as a vital resource for preserving and sharing local historical information while paying tribute to Piscataway’s veterans.

H&P TOUR PHOTOS FROM STATE ARCHIVES VISIT

Submitted By Gary Saretzky



NJ State Archives Executive Director Joe Klett showing rare documents in the Archives' vault on Feb 9th
Photo Credit: Gary Saretzky



EVENTS

ATLANTIC CITY FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Submitted by Jacqueline Silver-Morillo, Atlantic City Free Public Library

AC Research Club

A club for history buffs in Atlantic City and beyond!

Meeting: Twice a month

Location: Atlantic City Free Public Library - AC Heritage Research Room

Dates:

- Friday, March 15, 2024 at 2pm
- Friday, March 22, 2024 at 2pm
- Friday, April 5, 2024 at 2pm
- Friday, April 19, 2024 at 2pm

Topics:

- Learning what an archive does; exploring the archive
- Genealogy research - Creating a family tree
- How to search for historical information for free
- Learning how to scan family photographs and documents
- How to create a digital repository
- How to create a social media page dedicated to your family history
- How to create an oral history project
- Learn how to utilize Ancestry.com
- Learn how to utilize Heritage Quest
- And much much more....

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

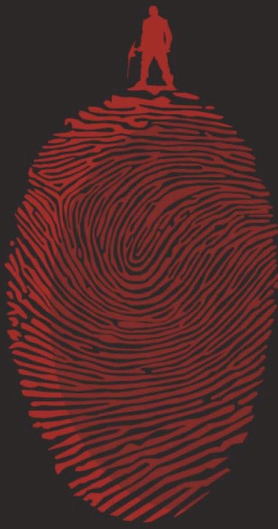
Register Online: <https://forms.gle/8GzL7FRBxncusfAG9>

Email: jmorillo@acfpl.org - Jacqueline Silver-Morillo (Senior Librarian/Archivist)

Call: (609) 345-2269 ext. 3066

CRANBURY PUBLIC LIBRARY

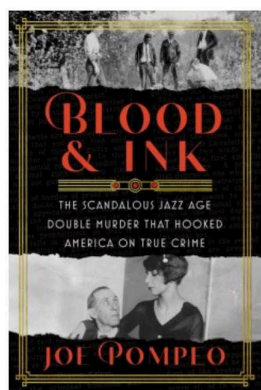
Submitted by E. Kim Adams, New Brunswick Free Public Library



The Hall-Mills Murder

THE INFAMOUS AND SENSATIONAL 1922 MURDERS IN NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ THAT LAUNCHED AMERICA'S OBSESSION WITH TRUE CRIME.

Thursday, March 14
6pm



Author, Joe Pompeo, of *Blood & Ink: The Scandalous Jazz Age Double Murder That Hooked America on True Crime*, will discuss his investigation of the infamous and sensational 1922 murder in New Brunswick, NJ.



REGISTER HERE
OR BY CALLING THE
LIBRARY AT
609-722-6992

Pompeo's investigation into the murder and subsequent highly acclaimed book detail the twisted connections of religion, betrayal, and greed in this murderous love story



Cranbury Public Library

30 Park Place West
Cranbury, New Jersey 08512 | 609-722-6992
www.cranburypubliclibrary.org/

ARTS INSTITUTE OF MIDDLESEX COUNTY

Box Making Workshop

March 16, 2024 12:30-4:30 pm, East Jersey Olde Towne in Piscataway

Tim Corlis will be doing a box making workshop. Each participant will make a clamshell box and take home the box and some useful tools. Because of the nature of the project the group is limited to 15 participants. If there is enough interest expressed, it is possible that an additional day may be scheduled in the Fall. Please email Flora Boros (flora.boros@co.middlesex.nj) with your contact information if you are interested.

NEWARK PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

Submitted by Beth Zak-Cohen, Newark Public Library

Homeownership and the Racial Wealth Gap in Newark

A Newark History Society program co-sponsored by the Newark Public Library and NJPAC

Presenter: Myles Zhang, Urban historian and PhD candidate, University of Michigan

Tuesday, March 5, 2024, 6:00 PM

Main Library, James Brown African American Room (2nd Floor)

Free and open to the public. Light refreshments served. Free off-site parking available at the Essex County parking deck, 20 Bridge Street

Please RSVP for in-person to NewarkHistorySoc@gmail.com

Live-streamed via Zoom webinar. To register:

tinyurl.com/3kkwe3z8

For more information:

<https://www.npl.org/newark-history-society-homeownership-and-the-racial-wealth-gap/>

Homeownership and the Racial Wealth Gap in Newark

A program sponsored by the Newark History Society, NJPAC, and the Newark Public Library

Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 6:00 pm

Presenter: Myles Zhang, Urban historian and PhD candidate, University of Michigan

Newark Public Library | IBAAR (2nd floor rear)

5 Washington Street, Newark | Open to the public at no charge
Light refreshments | Free off-site parking at Essex County parking deck at 20-25 Bridge Street.

Please RSVP for in-person at NewarkHistorySoc@gmail.com
Also live-streamed via Zoom webinar:

<https://www.njpac.org/event/homeownership-and-the-racial-wealth-gap-in-newark/>

Map created by the Home Owners' Loan Corporation in 1935, categorizing almost all of Newark as "hazardous" for investment. Courtesy Myles Zhang

NEWARK HISTORY SOCIETY

THE NEWARK PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

njpac

Queer Newark: Stories of Resistance, Love, and Community

A Book Discussion Sponsored by the Newark Public Library and the Rutgers-Newark Departments of History and Africana Studies

Tuesday, March 19, 2024 6:00 PM

Main Library, James Brown African American Room
5 Washington Street, Newark, NJ 07102

Queer Newark charts a history in which working-class people of color are the central actors and in which violence, poverty, and homophobia could never suppress joy, resistance, love, and desire.

Editor Whitney Strub will be joined by contributors Aaron Frazier, Dominique Rocker, and Peter Savastano to discuss their book.

Light refreshments will be served.

For more information:

<https://www.npl.org/queer-newark-book-talk/>

Queer Newark: Stories of Resistance, Love, and Community
A Book Discussion Sponsored by
Newark Public Library and the Rutgers-Newark
Departments of History and Africana Studies

Queer Newark charts a history in which working-class people of color are the central actors and in which violence, poverty, and homophobia could never suppress joy, resistance, love, and desire.

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QUEER NEWARK
ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

THE NEWARK PUBLIC LIBRARY

NJ LGBTQ+ RESOURCE CENTER

RUTGERS
UNIVERSITY | NEWARK
Department of Africana Studies

Tuesday, March 19, 2024
6:00 PM
Newark Public Library
James Brown African American Room
5 Washington Street
Newark, NJ 07102

New Beginnings: Grand Reopening of the Charles F. Cummings New Jersey Information Center

Wednesday, April 10, 2024 6:00 PM

Newark Public Library
5 Washington Street
Third Floor

After a two-month renovation, the NJ Room is once again open to researchers!

Light refreshments will be served. Free offsite parking at the Essex County parking deck, located at 20 Bridge Street.

For more information:

<https://www.npl.org/grand-re-opening-of-the-nj-room-april-10/>

Rescheduled

NEW BEGINNINGS

6PM | WEDNESDAY
April 10, 2024

Newark Public Library
5 Washington St. Newark, NJ 07102

Please join the Newark Public Library for the grand re-opening of the Charles F. Cummings New Jersey Information Center. After a two-month renovation, the reading room is open to researchers once again!

We want to extend a special thank you to Warren Grever, whose generous gift made this renovation possible.

Charles F. Cummings

Free offsite parking available at the Essex County parking deck, located at 20 Bridge Street

NEW BRUNSWICK FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Submitted by E. Kim Adams, New Brunswick Free Public Library

Ebenezer, Standing on a 150-year Foundation

February 24, 2024 1-2 pm

The Friends of the New Brunswick Free Public Library will present the Reverend Lauren Carrington, President of the New Brunswick African American Heritage Committee (of which I am a very proud honorary member) who will speak as part of a panel about the 150 year history of the Ebenezer Baptist Church. Ebenezer was an offshoot of the New Brunswick First Baptist Church established when the 'colored brethren' desired their own church. The NBFPL Archive has the collection of the NB First Baptist Church which includes the records of the meetings that led up to the creation of Ebenezer. For more information email nbfplibrary@gmail.com. The program is free and open to all.

OCEAN COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

Submitted by Colleen Goode, Ocean County Library System

New Jersey Shipwrecks

March 9, 2024, 3 pm, Barnegat Branch

Join us as we welcome New Jersey shipwreck and maritime historian Dan Lieb, who will present an overview on the shipwrecks off the Jersey Shore.

<https://theoceancountylibrary.org/events?trumbaEmbed=view%3Devent%26eventid%3D172108138>

Notable Women of Ocean County: Stories You Should Know

March 19, 2024, 3 pm, Point Pleasant Boro Branch

Librarian Elizabeth Cronin will share her research about women who have changed Ocean County through community activism, art, politics, business, and military service. Please register.

<https://theoceancountylibrary.org/events?trumbaEmbed=view%3Devent%26eventid%3D171892704>

American Women and Titled Marriages: New Jersey's Dollar Princesses

March 21, 2024, 3:30 pm, Lacey Branch

Are you obsessed with the Gilded Age and the so-called American "Dollar Princesses" who married into titled European families? Learn how these marriages secured social status for "new money" American families often slighted by the established elites in their own country; while the infusion of American dollars allowed the impoverished nobility across the Atlantic to continue to maintain the lifestyles to which their families had been accustomed for generations. Join Monmouth University Professor Melissa Ziobro as she discusses the lives of these American "Dollar Princesses" of the Gilded Age, including a few with roots in New Jersey. Sponsored by the Friends of the Lacey Library. Registration is required and begins on February 29th.

<https://theoceancountylibrary.org/events?trumbaEmbed=view%3Devent%26eventid%3D171903689>

The Titanic: A Special Anniversary Presentation

April 3, 2024, 2 – 3pm, Brick Branch – register [here](#)

April 15, 2024, 6 pm, Toms River Branch – register [here](#)

Join historian Greg Caggiano for an overview of the voyage and sinking of the Titanic on its 112th anniversary. Included will be an examination of the ship's construction, daily life for passengers, and what went wrong that led to its sinking. As an avid food blogger, Greg will also be focusing on the culinary aspects of the journey, such as the last meals served to the first, second, and third classes. Do not miss this exciting lecture that shows why the Titanic and all its human drama is still relevant more than a century later.

Greg Caggiano is a historian from Monmouth County who has served on the boards of two museums: the Proprietary House in Perth Amboy, and most recently, the Atlantic Highlands Historical Society housed at the Strauss Mansion. He has previously presented at the Toms River Branch of the Ocean County Library on the Lincoln Assassination and New Jersey's "Haunted History."

Friends Adventure: Alice Roosevelt presented by Kim Hanley

April 11, 2024, 10 – 11am, Stafford Branch

The American Historical Theater presents an exciting program on the oldest daughter of President Theodore Roosevelt. The journey features the famous and the infamous, including “Princess Alice” herself. Sponsored by the Friends of the Stafford Library. Please register.

<https://theoceancountylibrary.org/events?trumbaEmbed=view%3Devent%26eventid%3D172108292>

Booth, Lincoln, and the Shot that Changed America

April 16, 2024, 6:30 pm, Point Pleasant Boro Branch

This April marks the 159th anniversary of the Lincoln Assassination. Join historian Greg Caggiano for a look at Lincoln’s life and political career and how he became one of the most beloved (and controversial) presidents in American history. The program will also delve into the life and career of his assassin, John Wilkes Booth, and cover the chain of events and politics that led to Lincoln's untimely demise at Ford's Theater. Please register.

<https://theoceancountylibrary.org/events?trumbaEmbed=view%3Devent%26eventid%3D172030192>

Stories from Brick Township

May 2, 2024, 6:30 pm, Brick Branch

Come listen as Gene Donatiello, a historian and founding member of the Brick Township Historical Society, shares stories about various individuals and events related to the history of Brick. His presentation will include stories about Joseph W. Brick, Ulysses S. Grant, John Chamberlain, the Godfrey Brothers, public safety, town legends, such as “The Legend of Slipper Pointe,” and more.

<https://theoceancountylibrary.org/events?trumbaEmbed=view%3Devent%26eventid%3D171440983>

The Hindenburg Experience

May 6, 2024, 2 pm, Manchester Branch

Come experience the last flight of the *Hindenburg* from Frankfurt, Germany to Lakehurst, N.J. in 1937. At 803.8 feet in length and 135.1 feet in diameter, the German passenger airship *Hindenburg* (LZ-129) was the largest aircraft ever to fly. The commercial flights of the *Hindenburg*, along with *Graf Zeppelin*, pioneered the first transatlantic air service. The airship carried hundreds of passengers and traveled thousands of miles before bursting into flames while landing at N.A.S. Lakehurst (Manchester Township) on May 6, 1937.

<https://theoceancountylibrary.org/events?trumbaEmbed=view%3Devent%26eventid%3D171872758>

Saul & Ruby's Holocaust Survivor Band

May 6, 2024, 7 pm, Manchester Branch

Like many survivors of the Holocaust, after World War II, Saul and Ruby moved to America, started families and careers, grew old, and retired to South Florida. For them, retirement could have been the last chapter in their story. But then they decided to start a klezmer band, named the Holocaust Survivor Band to celebrate life! This documentary is being shown in recognition of Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom HaShoah).

<https://eventactions.com/eareg.aspx?ea=Rsvp&invite=g9jtse7f45m33y219nux3ygb7pau2v6hzbcp2j19010cpp4a44bs>

Soldiers of the Young Republic: The U.S. Army in the War of 1812

May 13, 2024, 7 pm, Manchester Branch

Using a variety of original and reproduction items, speaker and social studies teacher Jeff Brown will recreate the life of a soldier in the significant but almost forgotten War of 1812.

<https://eventactions.com/eareg.aspx?ea=Rsvp&invite=g2ztkwd8ydysx85ce7ky5gptfmp6myumfs3r62fwn19f4xvn8dgc>

What America Sounds Like: 250 Years of American Music

May 21, 2024, 6:30 pm, Toms River Branch

This interactive, multi-media talk provides a look at the iconic music that helps us understand our shared history as we approach the 250th anniversary of American independence. Special emphasis is given to Thomas Edison, Paul Robeson, Frank Sinatra, Whitney Houston, Bruce Springsteen, and others from New Jersey who have contributed so much to the American music landscape. This program is generously sponsored by the Friends of the Ocean County Library—Toms River.

Melissa Ziobro is a special professor of public history in the Monmouth University Department of History and Anthropology. She serves as editor for *New Jersey Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*, a joint venture of the New Jersey Historical Commission, Rutgers University Libraries, and Monmouth University.

<https://theoceancountylibrary.org/events?trumbaEmbed=view%3Devent%26eventid%3D170937760>

PLAINFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Submitted by Sarah Hull, Plainfield Public Library

Upcoming Spring Programs:

Celebrating the Black Family: Past, Present & Future

Saturday, March 2, 2024, from Noon to 2pm in the ALD room

In the Spirit of Sankofa, join Plainfield author and educator, Bill Davis for this panel discussion exploring the past issues and current challenges facing the Black family. Presenters include Rutgers professor, Dr. Tawanda Hubbard from NJ Black Social Workers and Dr. Monique Swift from the NJ Association of Black Psychologists. Mr. Davis will also be signing copies of his book, "Baba and The Crew: The True Story of a Single Black Father's Journey to Redemption".

This program was originally scheduled on February 3rd

Civil War Spies

Saturday, March 16, 2024 @ 10:30AM via Zoom

REGISTER: <http://tinyurl.com/PPLHist2403>

Alisa Dupuy of The Ladies of History Historical Productions is back with a live portrayal of Civil War spy, Elizabeth Van Lew. Elizabeth Van Lew was an American abolitionist and philanthropist, who built and operated an extensive spy ring for the Union Army during the American Civil War. *Co-hosted with the Historical Society of Plainfield / Drake House Museum.*

The Real Housewives of New Jersey: Early American Women and Their Kitchen Gardens

Saturday, April 13, 2024 @ 10:30AM via Zoom

REGISTER: <http://tinyurl.com/PPLHist2404>

Kitchen gardens in the 1700's fed, healed, and clothed Early American families. The 18th century "huswife" skill set included "physicke, cookery, distillation, perfumery, the making of wool, hemp, flax, dayries, brewing, baking," and, of course - gardening. Growing plants both Native American and from their homelands, these women turned their soup pots into the "melting pot" that is America and exemplified all the best qualities of plantswomen and patriots. *Co-hosted with the Historical Society of Plainfield / Drake House Museum.*

Preservation Day - Photograph Scanning Extravaganza! 100 Years of Plainfield's Annual July 4th Parade

Saturday, April 20, 2024, from 11:30am to 2pm in the ALD room

Help us capture images of the Queen City's 4th of July Parade. We are hoping to collect community photographs of past parades. We will make scans of the photographs for use in a physical photography retrospective and virtual exhibition this summer. *Co-hosted with the Plainfield Division of Parks & Recreation.*

Tri-County History Fair

Saturday, May 4, 2024, from 11:30am to 2:30pm on the lower level

Plainfield Public Library is happy to announce the **2024 Tri-County History Fair** for Middlesex, Somerset, and Union counties. Join colleagues, friends, and neighbors for a fun day of historical discovery, resource sharing, raffles, and more. We will once again have speakers, programs, and exhibit tables. The fair is scheduled for **Saturday, May 4, 2024, from 11 am to 2:30 pm**, and will be located on the lower level of Plainfield Public Library. Although there is a focus on the tri-county area of Middlesex, Somerset, and Union, organizations from across New Jersey are welcome. This is a great opportunity to reach a wide audience and promote your historic site, archival collections, the history of your community, and your upcoming activities.

Registration will cost \$15 per table (one table per organization) and registration will open soon. This year, lunch boxes are NOT included in the registration fee, but will be available for an extra cost – to be announced. Please contact Sarah Hull at sarah.hull@plfdpl.info or (908) 757-1111 ext. 136, for more information.

Queen City Film Festival

Saturday, May 11, 2024, @ noon in the ALD room

The Queen City Film Festival screenings return for another series of historical documentaries and director interviews at the library. Titles and directors to be announced!

800 Park Avenue
Plainfield NJ 07060
908 / 757-2305
Fax 908/754-0063



www.plfdpl.info

PRINCETON PRESERVATION GROUP

Submitted by Gary Saretzky, Princeton Preservation Group



Julia Commander, Penn Museum conservator

Princeton Preservation Group Presents:

Preparing a Palace: Installing Monumental Egyptian Architecture at the Penn Museum

April 16, 2024, 7pm, via Zoom

Speaker: Julia Commander

Registration: <https://monmouth.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYpc-GhrjopGtNiDsvkg51AwXqX7Yjym2tT>

Abstract:

The Penn Museum is currently undergoing a major building transformation project, which includes the reinstallation of its Ancient Egypt and Nubia galleries. Components of massive structures, like the Palace of 19th Dynasty Pharaoh Merenptah, are being stabilized and treated as part of this ongoing effort. Beginning in 2019, a team of Penn Museum conservators established an off-site lab where treatment and reconstruction for many of these large elements could be addressed for the first time in over a hundred years. Collaboration with engineers, mount makers, and riggers has helped the team establish non-invasive and reversible strategies for the reassembly of monumental structures. This talk will take a look at the new methods and materials that have been developed for this unique project and reflect on lessons learned throughout the process.

Speaker:

Julia Commander (she/her) is the Alice and Herbert Sachs Conservator of Egyptian Collections at the Penn Museum, currently focusing on treatment and reinstallation of monumental stone architecture. Julia earned her MS from the Winterthur/University of Delaware Program in Art Conservation in 2017, specializing in objects conservation and preventive collections care. Experience at the American Museum of Natural History and the Gordion Excavations in Turkey supported a specific interest in archaeological materials, which was further developed through post-graduate training at the J. Paul Getty Museum Antiquities Department and a research fellowship at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

SOMERSET COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

Submitted by Ken Kaufman, Somerset County Library System

Digital Lab 101

Thursday, March 14th, 5:00pm - 6:00pm

Montgomery branch, Digital Preservation Lab

<https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/9822137>

Explore the library's digital lab and learn how you can digitize your keepsakes and preserve your family history. This training will provide a general overview of the lab resources and equipment.

Barbie: The History of America's Most Famous Doll: Presented by Leslie Goddard

Wednesday, March 27th, 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Virtual Program - Please visit this link to register:

<https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/8655940>

She might be the most famous doll in the world. For more than sixty years, Barbie has been played with, analyzed, collected, criticized and loved. Learn what inspired the creation of Barbie in 1959, how Barbie helped make Mattel one of the world's most successful toy companies, and what Barbie's impact has been on American culture.

Sacajawea: The Story and Modern Representations. Presented by The Sacajawea Interpretive, Cultural, and Educational Center

Thursday, March 28th, 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Virtual Program - Please visit this link to register:

<https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/8745265>

Sacajawea was a Lemhi Shoshone woman who helped the Lewis and Clark Expedition on their mission of exploring the Louisiana Territory. In the early 20th century women's suffrage movement adopted her as a symbol of women's worth and independence, erecting several statues and plaques in her memory, and doing much to recount her accomplishments.

"Along the Appalachian Trail": "New Jersey, New York, and Connecticut"

Wednesday, April 24th, 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Virtual Program - Please visit this link to register:

<https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/9384524>

Leonard M. Adkins author of "Along the Appalachian Trail: New Jersey, New York, and Connecticut" presents a historical perspective on what it took to create the trail, including those who lived along it before and during its creation, the thousands of volunteers and arduous tasks they performed, the many more who have enjoyed the trail through the years, and original routes no longer on the present-day Appalachian Trail.

New Jersey Nature Presented by Phil and Becky Witt

Thursday, April 25th, 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Virtual Program - Please visit this link to register:

<https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/9374469>

Join photography enthusiasts and NJ Audubon Associate Naturalists, Becky and Phil Witt, for a virtual tour of New Jersey nature. They will cover some of New Jersey's best nature preserves, complete with photos of the plants, birds, insects, and mammals that inhabit those sites.

Famous (and Some not so Famous) Movies With a New Jersey Connection

Monday, May 20th, 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Virtual Program - Please visit this link to register:

<https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/9519649>

This program will look at movies that are filmed in, set in, or about the Garden State, from "On the Waterfront" to "The Wedding Singer" and many more.

Digital Lab 101

Wednesday, May 22nd, 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Montgomery branch, Digital Preservation Lab

<https://sclsnj.libnet.info/event/9822674>

Explore the library's digital lab and learn how you can digitize your keepsakes and preserve your family history. This training will provide a general overview of the lab resources and equipment.

NEW JERSEY STATE MUSEUM

Submitted by Gary Saretzky

Discovering **GRANT CASTNER**

The Lost Archive
of a New Jersey Photographer




February 3 - September 15, 2024

Experience New Jersey history through a recently-discovered archive of photographic negatives that belonged to Grant Castner, a prolific but long-forgotten local photographer.

Curated from Castner's original negatives, the exhibition covers the 1890s through the 1910s. The 200 images featured reflect Castner's artistic talent and illustrate numerous aspects of New Jersey history, from the bucolic Delaware River and Trenton to the bustling Jersey Shore.

Supported in part by the New Jersey State Museum Foundation through the Lucille M. Paris Fund.

statemuseum.nj.gov
205 W. State St.
Trenton, NJ 08608

NEW JERSEY
STATE MUSEUM 
Inspiration. On display.



Hours: Tuesday - Sunday, 9:00 AM - 4:45 PM
Free admission; Free parking weekends in the
lots behind & adjacent to the Museum. Metered
street parking.



STOCKTON UNIVERSITY

Submitted by Jacqueline Silver-Morillo, Atlantic City Free Public Library

Building Your Family Tree: A Genealogy Lunch-and-Learn

Sunday, March 24 · 11am - 2pm EDT

Location: Stockton University, John F. Scarpa Academic Center, Fannie Lou Hamer Event Room
3711 Atlantic Avenue Atlantic City, NJ 08401

The program will begin with a brief history of Atlantic City and then detail the ways researchers have utilized the collections to find their families. We will then explore genealogy, and how to use the archive in search of family history using example material from the collections. The second half of the program will include an interactive activity using a Genealogy Tool Kit where participants can begin their own genealogy journey.

Event link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/building-your-family-tree-a-genealogy-lunch-and-learn-tickets-827128873727?aff=oddtcreator>.

Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who sent in articles, photos and event announcements for this issue.
To submit articles, news or calendar events to **The Chronicle**, email Kathlyn Kelly at kkelly@sclibnj.org.

To view past issues of **The Chronicle** visit: <http://njlamembers.org/hpchronicle>

2024 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY

Ongoing Exhibit February 3 - September 15, 2024: Discovering Grant Castner: The Lost Archive of a New Jersey Photographer (New Jersey State Museum)

24: Reverend Lauren Carrington: Ebenezer, Standing on a 150-year Foundation, 1 pm (NBFPL)

MARCH

2: Celebrating the Black Family: Past, Present & Future, 12 pm (Plainfield Public Library - ALD room)

5: Homeownership and the Racial Wealth Gap in Newark, 6 pm (Newark Public Library, Main Library, James Brown African American Room (2nd Floor))

9: New Jersey Shipwrecks, 3 pm (OCL - Barnegat Branch)

14: Digital Lab 101, 5 pm (SCLSNJ - Montgomery Branch, Digital Preservation Lab)

14: The Hall-Mills Murders: A True Crime Investigation by Acclaimed Author Joe Pompeo, 6 pm (Cranbury Public Library)

15: AC Research Club, 2 pm (ACFPL - AC Heritage Research Room)

16: Civil War Spies, 10:30 am (Plainfield Public Library - Virtual via Zoom)

16: Box-Making Workshop, 12:30 pm (East Jersey Olde Towne)

19: Queer Newark: Stories of Resistance, Love, and Community, 6 pm (Newark Public Library, Main Library, James Brown African American Room (2nd Floor))

19: Notable Women of Ocean County: Stories You Should Know, 3 pm (OCL - Point Pleasant Boro Branch)

21: American Women and Titled Marriages: New Jersey's Dollar Princesses, 3:30 pm (OCL - Lacey Branch)

22: AC Research Club, 2 pm (ACFPL - AC Heritage Research Room)

24: Building Your Family Tree: A Genealogy Lunch-and-Learn, 11 am (Stockton University - John F. Scarpa Academic Center, Fannie Lou Hamer Event Room)

27: Barbie: The History of America's Most Famous Doll: Presented by Leslie Goddard, 7 pm (SCLSNJ - Virtual)

28: Sacajawea: The Story and Modern Representations, 7 pm (SCLSNJ - Virtual)

APRIL

3: The Titanic: A Special Anniversary Presentation, 2 pm (OCL - Brick Branch)

5: AC Research Club, 2 pm (ACFPL - AC Heritage Research Room)

10: New Beginnings: Grand Reopening of the Charles F. Cummings New Jersey Information Center, 6 pm (Newark Public Library, Third Floor)

11: Friends Adventure: Alice Roosevelt presented by Kim Hanley, 10 am (OCL - Stafford Branch)

13: The Real Housewives of New Jersey: Early American Women and Their Kitchen Gardens, 10:30 am (Plainfield Public Library - Virtual via Zoom)

15: The Titanic: A Special Anniversary Presentation, 6 pm (OCL - Toms River Branch)

16: Booth, Lincoln, and the Shot that Changed America, 6:30 pm (OCL - Point Pleasant Boro Branch)

16: Princeton Preservation Group Presents: Preparing a Palace: Installing Monumental Egyptian Architecture at the Penn Museum, 7pm (Princeton Preservation Group, Virtual via Zoom)

19: AC Research Club, 2 pm (ACFPL - AC Heritage Research Room)

20: Preservation Day - Photograph Scanning Extravaganza! 100 Years of Plainfield's Annual July 4th Parade, 11:30 am (Plainfield Public Library - ALD room)

24: "Along the Appalachian Trail": New Jersey, New York, and Connecticut", 7 pm (SCLSNJ - Virtual)

25: New Jersey Nature Presented by Phil and Becky Witt, 7 pm (SCLSNJ - Virtual)

MAY

- 2: Stories from Brick Township, 6:30 pm (OCL - Brick Branch)
- 4: Tri-County History Fair, 11:30 am (Plainfield Public Library - Lower Level)
- 6: The Hindenburg Experience, 2 pm (OCL - Manchester Branch)
- 6: Saul & Ruby's Holocaust Survivor Band, 7 pm (OCL - Manchester Branch)
- 11: Queen City Film Festival, 12 pm (Plainfield Public Library - ALD room)
- 13: Soldiers of the Young Republic: The U.S. Army in the War of 1812, 7 pm (OCL - Manchester Branch)
- 20: Famous (and Some not so Famous) Movies With a New Jersey Connection, 7 pm (SCLSNJ - Virtual)
- 21: What America Sounds Like: 250 Years of American Music, 6:30 pm (OCL - Toms River Branch)
- 22: Digital Lab 101, 6:30 pm (SCLSNJ - Montgomery branch, Digital Preservation Lab)

APPENDIX

SUSAN G. SWARTZBURG PRESERVATION AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Please complete or prepare facsimile with same information to

Beth Zak-Cohen, Chair NJLA History & Preservation Section Awards Committee at
bzakcohen@npl.org

Or by mail: Beth Zak-Cohen, Newark Public Library, 5 Washington St, Newark, NJ 07102

DEADLINE Friday, March 31, 2024

The Susan G. Swartzburg Award, created in 2003, recognizes a New Jersey Library Association member who, over a substantial number of years, has made exceptional contributions to the awareness, understanding, and/or preservation of archival and library materials in New Jersey. The Award honors the memory of the Rutgers Preservation Librarian whose leadership in New Jersey inspired and influenced many others in our profession, particularly in the areas of preservation and book arts. The awardee is selected by the NJLA History & Preservation Section of NJLA. The award will be presented at the annual NJLA Annual Conference.

Criteria for the Award:

Leadership. Has demonstrated support for funding of conservation projects; promoting education of conservation issues; and increasing the visibility of archival/history materials.

Creativity. Has developed new and interesting methods of interpretation through exhibits, programs, lectures and publications.

Commitment. Has built an impressive body of work at one or more institutions in the areas of conservation, archives and/or historical fields; has a strong record of participation in NJLA; and has exhibited knowledge of and concern for the basic principles of preservation over time.

More details and the official application form can be found at this link:
<http://njlamembers.org/content/susan-swartzburg-award>