

Middletown Township Historical Society: April Happenings

This newsletter keeps you updated on the latest events and news of the Middletown Township Historical Society. Also, be sure to follow us on social media for even timelier news and for historical items of interest.

April Speaker Event Postponed

To keep all of our members and friends safe during these unique times, our April speaker event has been postponed. We hope to be able to restart our speaker series in May. Our Annual Meeting will also occur the next time we are able to meet.

Participate in Our Video History Project!

We are all familiar with Oral Histories- interviews with people captured on audio. MTHS is starting a new project similar to that, but we're going to use video instead of audio. This will allow us to reach a larger base and include interesting visuals such as old photographs and contemporary locations. This project will help broaden our reach and will be an excellent collection of firstperson memories for generations to come.

For this to be a success, we need your help! If you'd like to impart your experiences of Middletown, <u>please complete this brief questionnaire</u>. Whether you've been here for many decades, lived through a unique experience in more recent times, or have a collection of local memorabilia you'd like to show us, we'd like to hear from you. Do you know someone who has lots to share, such as a parent, friend, or neighbor? Please feel free to let them know about this opportunity!

The process will probably consist of a brief pre-interview over the phone or via email, followed by the on-camera interview at a location we mutually select. <u>Complete the questionnaire</u> and we'll get back to you if we need more information.

Take the Questionnaire!



Documenting the Pandemic

A couple of years ago the Middletown Township Historical Society hosted Brian Armstrong who presented on the Influenza Pandemic of 1918-1920. I was particularly struck by images and accounts of how "typical life" had changed for so many.

The Monmouth County Historical Association has been asking residents to <u>share their stories</u> during our current pandemic. This is a great way to document history in real time, and we encourage you to share your experiences with them. If you have any photos or stories that are Middletown-specific, we'd love to have them, as well. <u>Please contact us</u> with anything you'd like to share!

Latest Addition to Our Archive



This collection of black and white photographs of historic Middletown properties was donated to us by Trustee Ray Veth. The photos were the work of students at Middletown High School North years ago. Thanks for the new addition!

If you have any items of local interest that you might like to donate, <u>please</u> <u>contact us</u>. Don't let them become lost or thrown away!



Join or Renew for 2020

The Middletown Township Historical Society gets the bulk of its revenue from member contributions, so your support is vitally important. Your contributions make our initiatives possible, including our speaker series and essay contest for students, and are also essential for paying our administrative costs.

You may join or renew online or, you may also print out the form here.

Join or Renew Online

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Wold You like to Read Our Older Newsletters?

They're freely available at MiddletownNJHistory.org!

The site features our events, provides an easy way to become a member, and affords free access to our library of official newsletters dating back to 1985. Please <u>check it out</u> and spread the word!





Trivia Time *This Month's Question:*

Name two sites, one for each year, near a Middletown border that treated patients in epidemics of 1918 and 1893. For extra credit, what important Revolutionary figure fled his Philadelphia home for his country place in Rumson during the 1793 yellow fever outbreak?

Answer will be supplied in next month's newsletter!

Answer to Last Month's Question:

The Shrewsbury River Country Club was located in River Plaza, south of Highway 35, near the Navesink River. Part of the clubhouse remains as a residence. The Jackpot Golf Driving Range was on the south side of Highway 35, adjacent to Fair View Cemetery on the present site of the Union Square stores.

Assistance and Support:



Thanks for reading! The Middletown Township Historical Society will be in touch again soon! If you know others who would be interested in receiving communications from us, please forward this email and ask them to join this list!



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