

MIDDLETOWN
TOWNSHIP
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY
Monmouth County, New Jersey

*Monthly
Messages*

Middletown Township Historical Society: June, 2021 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.



**MAD HATTERS,
THE RADIIUM GIRLS
& THE ASBESTOS HOTEL**
Stories of New Jersey Industrial Toxins

Presented by
Dr. Sandra Moss

Monday, June 21 at 7:00 PM
Free Virtual Event - Registration Required

Hosted by
Middletown Township Historical Society
MiddletownNJHistory.org

This program is made possible in part by the Montmouth
Country Historical Commission through funding from the
New Jersey Historical Commission



NEW JERSEY
Historical
COMMISSION

Online Presentation - Monday, June 21 at 7:00 pm:

Mad Hatters, the Radium Girls, and the Asbestos Hotel: Stories of New Jersey Industrial Toxins

Presented by Dr. Sandra Moss

Dr. Sandra Moss, a retired internist and medical historian, will divulge harrowing tales about the ill effects that industrial toxins have wrought upon New Jersey.

Sandra Moss M.D., M.A. is a retired internist with a degree in the history of medicine. Her speaking engagements have included medical history groups, historical societies, libraries, community centers, veterans' groups, and more. Her research is focused on the history of medicine in New Jersey and is aimed at both physician and general audiences. Dr. Moss has authored books and contributed close to forty articles, chapters, and reviews to a wide variety of medical and historical journals. She is also a past president of the Medical History Society of New Jersey and of the American Osler Society.

This will be an online-only event. Please [register for the event](#) and you will be emailed with the link to join via Zoom.

Register for the FREE Event!

MTHS 2021 Speaker Series - We'd Like Your Opinion!

Our Speaker Series runs through November on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 pm. For now, all events will be held through Zoom, and registration is always free. The following speakers have been confirmed:

- **June 21:** "[Mad Hatters, the Radium Girls, and the Asbestos Hotel: Stories of New Jersey Industrial Toxins](#)" by Dr. Sandra Moss
- **July 19:** "Beyond Penelope: Twenty Sandy Hook Headline-Makers" by Mark Stewart

As guidelines and capacity restrictions have recently been relaxed, we'd like to know your feelings about a possible return to in-person events. If you attend or plan on attending any of our Speaker Series presentations in the future, please take a few seconds to [complete this three-question survey](#). Please, only one submission per person. Thank you!

Take the Survey

Your Membership Matters . . .
Support Us in 2021!
Join or Renew Today!



Become a Member in 2021!

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, and are also essential for paying our administrative costs.

You may [join or renew online](#) or via our [print form](#).

If you have already joined or renewed for 2021, thank you!

Join or Renew Online

Event Recap: North American Phalanx: Monmouth County's Most Famous Commune

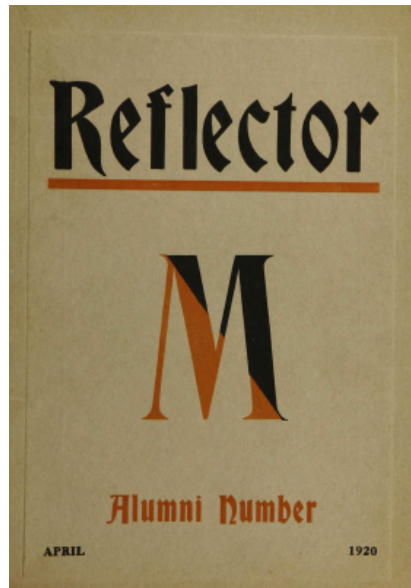
The Middletown Township Historical Society hosted Jayme Sokolow, Ph.D. last month. Mr. Sokolow is the author of the definitive study on this interesting commune that was located near the Colts Neck/Lincroft border. His presentation covered its entire history and examined its place in historical context. We thank him very much for his work and for sharing it with us.

If you would like to watch a recording of the presentation, please visit our [YouTube channel](#).

In the News

We are always happy to answer questions and help out those who contact us. Here a few projects/organizations we've recently contributed information to:

- [Middletown Township Public Library Centennial](#)
- [The Hammerstein Mansion](#) by John Barrows of This Day in Monmouth County History
- [1958 Nike Missile Explosion](#) by Jerry Carino of the Asbury Park Press



Yearbook Digitization is Underway!

As promised, we have begun scanning the yearbooks and student publications of Middletown Township High School (also known as Leonardo High School). We will begin to make them freely available in the coming months via our website. The books go back to 1920 and are an interesting read, even if you do not have ancestors appearing in them.


We thank the Investors Bank Foundation for financial support, and also all who have donated yearbooks to us throughout the years.

Middletown Township Public Library Centennial Celebration

Our library, always a great partner to us, is celebrating 100 years of service to


our community! Check out the [events they will be holding throughout the year](#).

You're invited to the celebration of
Middletown Township Public
Library's 100 YEARS!

100  100

JUNE 2, 2021 @ 4PM-5PM

- ◆ Outdoor Time Capsule Opening Ceremony
- ◆ Crafts and Activities for all ages
- ◆ Ice Cream for the first 100 people
- ◆ Displays of the library's history
- ◆ Explore life 100 years ago

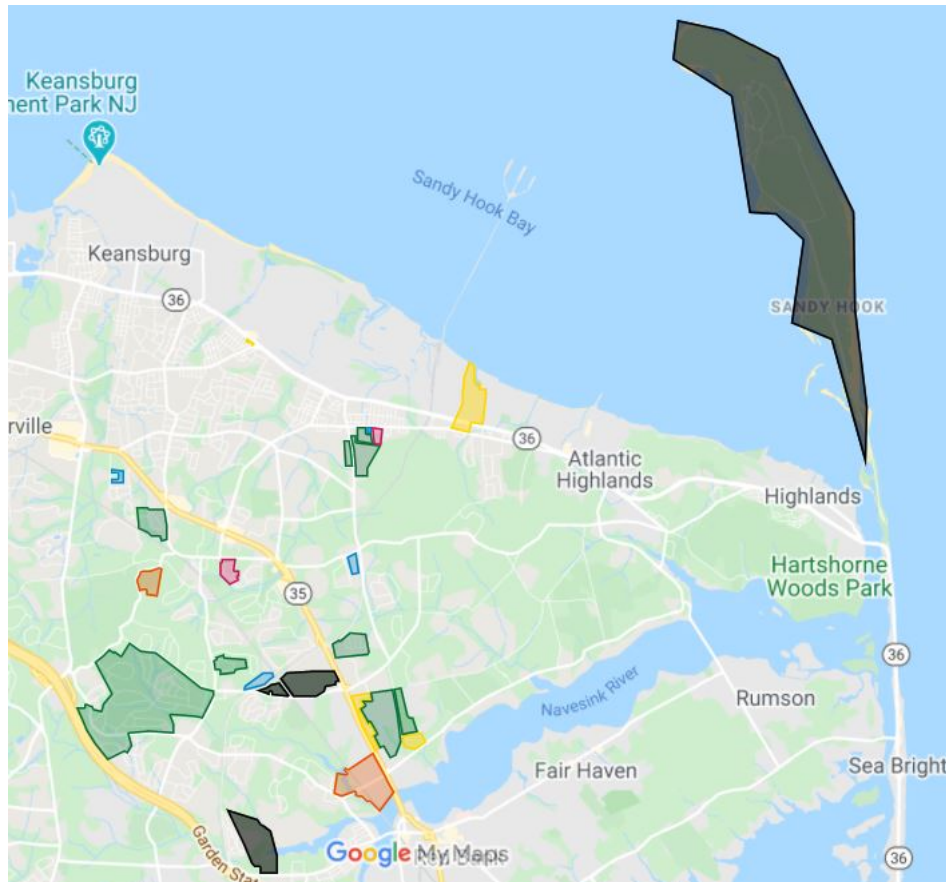
 

55 New Monmouth Rd. ◆ Middletown, NJ
07748 ◆ mtpl.org ◆ 732-671-3700

A Call for Graphic & Video Artists!

We could use some assistance with creating graphics and also with video creation or editing. If you have the interest and skills, [please let us know!](#)

MTHS is run by volunteers, and if you'd like to become more involved as a trustee, chairperson of a committee, or as a lending hand on anything else, please let us know. We are working on a few different projects and could always use help from those willing to dedicate some time and talent. [Contact us here.](#)



Middletown Land Development Map

If you are curious about when/why/how your housing development or local park was constructed, take a look at our [interactive map](#)! Just click on a shaded area to read the history and see the images. The entries are color-coded so you can see when the various pieces of land were developed. Please note that the map is best viewed on computer or tablet.

Given Middletown's size, this map is a work in progress, so check back in the future if you don't yet see an entry for the land you are interested in. Our goal is to fill the entire map. If you'd like to contribute any entries, [please let us know](#).

[Land Development Map](#)

Contribute to Our Archive!

Our Society has a collection of items and documents related the history of Middletown and the surrounding area. Do you have anything that you'd like to add? Please don't let a treasure be forgotten or thrown away! [Contact us](#) and let us know what you would like to donate.

Support Us When You Shop at Amazon!

Now, when you purchase most items from Amazon, they will donate a portion of the sale to us! It costs you nothing! Here's what you need to do:

First, you must [connect our organization to your Amazon account using this link](#). Then, if you shop using a computer, you must go to smile.amazon.com for us to receive credit. If you use the Amazon mobile app, be sure it is updated to the latest version and then go into settings to see that Amazon Smile is turned on and that our name is listed.



Trivia Time

This Month's Question:



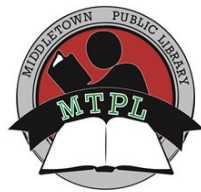
Who, in a proverbial “second act” as an active member in the Middletown historical community in the latter half of Twentieth Century, had earlier been a performer of note?

Answer will be supplied in next month's newsletter!

Answer to Last Month's Question:

Charles W. Lyon who bought “Overlook Farm,” previously owned by Samuel Riker (now, much altered and expanded as the Navesink County Club), was married to a daughter of John J. Raskob who built the Empire State Building.

In Addition to Our Members, Thank You to the Following for their 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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