

# May 2019 Newsletter

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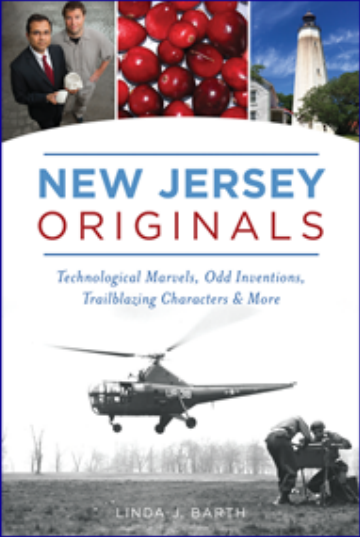
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## Middletown Township Historical Society: May Happenings

This newsletter is meant to keep you updated on the latest events and news of the Middletown Township Historical Society. Also, be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#) for even timelier news and for historical items of interest.



**NEW JERSEY ORIGINALS:**  
*Technological Marvels, Odd Inventions, and  
Trailblazing Characters*  
presented by author **Linda J. Barth**

**Monday, May 20 at 7:00 pm**

Hosted by Middletown Township Historical Society at  
Middletown Township Public Library  
55 New Monmouth Rd, Middletown, NJ 07748

The complex block features a book cover on the left and promotional text on the right. The book cover includes images of two men, red tomatoes, a lighthouse, and a helicopter. The text on the right is in yellow and white on a dark blue background.

**Monday, May 20, 2019, 7:00 pm:**

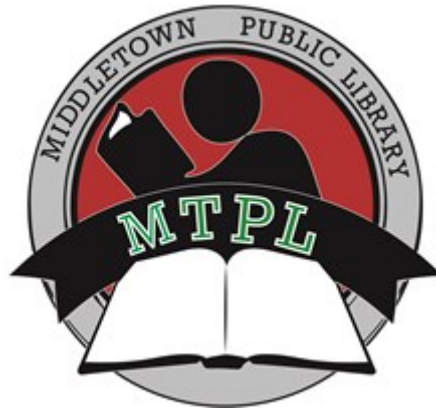
**"New Jersey Originals: Technological Marvels, Odd Inventions, and Trailblazing Characters" presented by author Linda J. Barth**

Linda J. Barth, a lifelong resident of the Garden State, will recount some of the

interesting inventions that she documented in her recent book. Ms. Barth has written other books about New Jersey history, and she works with a number of nonprofit groups.

The event will begin at **7:00 pm** at the **Middletown Township Public Library** on **Monday, May 20, 2019**.

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## **REMEMBER: Our New Event Location**

After years of meeting in the Poricy Park Nature Center we will now hold our events in the Community Room at the Middletown Township Public Library on New Monmouth Road. All of our events are slated to be held on our usual third Monday of the month at this new location (excepting the months for which we schedule no events or have another organization host us offsite).

The library has been a friend to us and our town's history throughout the years, and they are looking forward to hosting us. It is our hope that its central location, good facilities, and ability to promote our events to more people will bring even more attendees to our events.

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## Last Month's Event Recap

Author and sports historian Mark Stewart did a great job at running through his list of the Top Seven Athletes who grew up in or played in Middletown during their youth. His list:

1. Ed Jones (pro football)
2. John "The Count" Montefusco (pro baseball)
3. Knowshon Moreno (pro football)
4. Thomas "Swede" Hanson (pro football)
5. James Van Riemsdyk (pro hockey)
6. Alyssa Beckerman (gymnastics)
7. Tom Wilkens (swimming)

Mr. Stewart also listed a number of honorable mentions, and the audience offered many more of their own submissions, as well as stories about the athletes. Thanks also goes to Trustee Ray Veth who brought a part of his collection of Middletown sports memorabilia (pictured above).

For more details on local athletes, visit Mr. Stewart's [NJSports.com](http://NJSports.com) website. In 2020, he plans to release a book titled The Biographical History of New Jersey Sports.

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## Artifact Donations

### Welcomed

MTHS would like to know about any items relating to Middletown's past that you would like to donate. Before you throw or pack it away, please let us know about it, as we might like to add it to our collection! Gratefully accepted recent donations have included school yearbooks, maps, and photographs. [Contact us here.](#)



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# *Your Membership Matters*

## Support Us in 2019!



### **IT'S NOT TOO LATE: Please Renew or Begin your Membership Today!**

In order to keep our Society going, we need your support. Our funds go towards securing speakers for our events and for administrative fees. We'd also like to undertake new initiatives that could expand our reach, but without proper funding, this will be difficult to achieve.

#### **We now offer a couple of ways you can renew or start your membership:**

- [Contribute online](#) and pay via credit or debit card. This is the quickest and easiest way!
- [Print out the membership form](#) and mail to us or bring it to an upcoming MTHS event

Thank you for your interest in Middletown's history, and for your ongoing support.

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### **Upcoming MTHS Events**

All events are free and are held on the third Monday of the month, February through November. Here is what has been confirmed so far so you can reserve the dates:

**May 20:** "New Jersey Originals: Technical Marvels, Odd Inventions, Trailblazing Characters, and More" presented by Linda J. Barth

**June 17:** "Medal of Honor: Thomas T. Fallon" presented by Glenn Cashion

**July 15:** "Joshua Huddy" presented by John Fabiano

Unless otherwise noted, all events will begin at 7:00 pm at the Middletown Township Public Library.

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## Would You Like to Help?

Your local historical society could use your ideas and talents! If you have an interest in fundraising, communications, or in growing our membership, [please let us know](#) your ideas or your willingness to become involved. Our volunteer trustees would like to work with you to strengthen and expand our organization!

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### Trivia Time

#### *This Month's Question:*

What is the name of the first filly to win the Kentucky Derby, and where was she raised?

Answer will be supplied in next month's newsletter!

#### *Answer to Last Month's Question:*

Thomas "Swede" Hanson, 1907-1970, graduated from Leonardo High School in 1929. After starring at Temple University, he went on to play with a number of pro football teams, including five years with the Philadelphia Eagles (scoring the first touchdown in their history).

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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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