

MIDDLETOWN
TOWNSHIP
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY
Monmouth County, New Jersey

*Monthly
Messages*

Middletown Township Historical Society: January 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.

Your Membership Matters . . .
Support Us in 2020!
Join or Renew Today!

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Join or Renew for 2020

It's that time of year again when we ask for your support! 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, if you were a member in 2019, you can wait to receive a renewal form at your home address so you can mail us a check. Renewal forms will be mailed in a couple of weeks.

Join or Renew Online

President's Message

Members and Friends,

2019 was the first full year to see the effects of the reorganization that was begun in 2018. While most of 2018 was spent on updating our Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws and starting our social media presence and this newsletter, last year we were able to better focus on other initiatives. These included:

- Moving our speaker series to upgraded accommodations at the Middletown Township Public Library
- Originating an Essay Contest for middle school students in conjunction with the Middletown Township Historic Preservation Commission
- Launching our [website](#), which included digitization of our newsletters
- Accepting a number of donations of historic items for our archive
- Applying for grants
- Holding fundraisers at local restaurants
- Representing at Middletown Day

We accomplished a lot in 2019, and it seems that the public took notice- membership increased by nearly 20% and member financial contributions more than doubled! We are very appreciative and hope this is the beginning of a new trend for us.

Your [financial support](#) is necessary for our group to survive, but we also need active participation if we are going to continue to prosper. Initiatives being considered for this year and beyond include improving our archive (finding more spacious accommodations that could allow us to better catalog it and display items), video recording interviews with longtime residents, writing and printing an annual newsletter, nominating places for the Register of Historic Places, and more. If you could offer assistance with any of the above, or have ideas for other new projects, [please let us know](#). Of course, we could always use assistance when it comes to fundraising and generating interest for our group.

In addition to our members, gratitude also goes to our volunteer Board of Trustees and Programming Chairman. Without them, our group as we know it would cease to exist. And we also must thank other people and organizations that helped us in 2019, namely the staff of the Middletown Township Public Library, various departments of Middletown Township, the Middletown Township Board of Education and school staffs, the Investors Bank Foundation, and local media and other historic groups who helped to get our word about our events and goals.

Let's look forward to a great 2020!

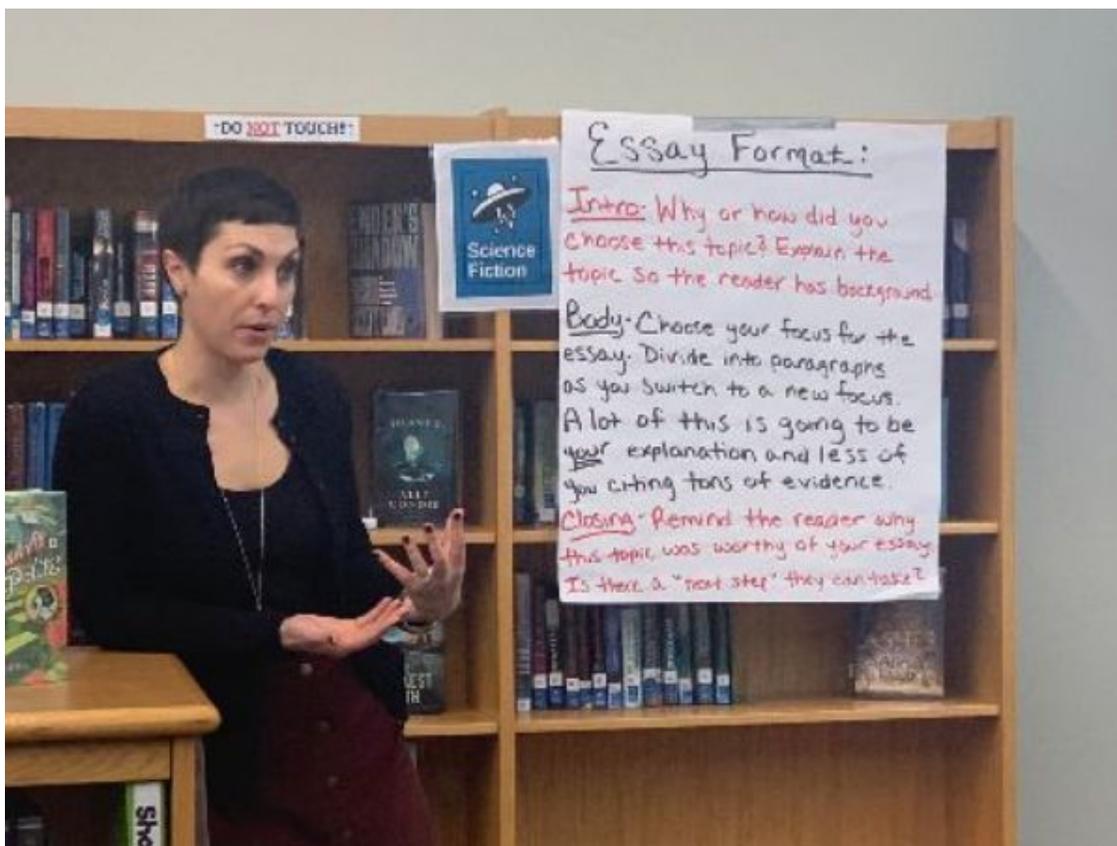
Thomas Valenti
President

Nearly 200 Enter Essay Contest!

Our inaugural essay contest held in conjunction with the Middletown Township Historic Preservation Commission has been a great success. We received 191 entries from Middletown Middle School students!

The deadline was December 20, and the Commission is now reviewing the entries. Winners will be announced in early February, and they will be invited to a meeting to accept a certificate and their \$50 award courtesy of the Middletown Township Historical Society. It is hoped that this contest will be held annually.

We are grateful to the Middletown Township Board of Education, teachers, library staff, students, and media for embracing this project.



Donna Berg, Language Arts teacher at Bayshore Middle School, instructs students how to craft their essays. Photo Courtesy of Wendy Gray Morales.

We are Now on Instagram

We're expanding our social media presence with the addition of [Instagram!](#) Now you can follow us there [@MiddletownHistory](#) in addition to [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



Follow us on
Instagram

@MiddletownHistory

A Call to Help Preserve The Courier Newspaper

The Courier newspaper ran weekly from 1955 through 2009, and is the most notable Middletown-based periodical. While the Middletown Township Public Library has a bound collection of the newspapers, they are deteriorating and are in dire need of being scanned and digitally preserved so that researchers and future generations can access this trove of knowledge. If you'd like to help with the project, the library would love you to volunteer your time to scan the newspapers! No technical knowledge is necessary. Please contact (MTHS member) Pam Curchin at pcurchin@mtpi.org.

THE NEWS
COURIER
Two-Week Edition
In Partnership With **RUTGERS** UNIVERSITY
Friday, April 9, 2010 BayshoreNews.com Complimentary

Times may have changed but we haven't.
Jacqueline M. Ryan
Home for Funerals
The Tradition of Service Continues
213 Carr Ave. • Keansburg, NJ 07734
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“That's all Folks!”
(FOR NOW)

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732-495-3010

TUESDAY NIGHT DART LEAGUE! SIGN UP NOW!

Stacy's Pizza & Grill
PIZZA OR STEAK
LARGE PIZZA \$14.95

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.



Trustee Ray Veth Honored

The Middletown Township Board of Education recently honored MTHS Trustee Ray Veth and teacher Jon Scala for their work on the "100 Years of Football in Middletown" event. The event brought together graduates from the 1940s to present to reminisce and view memorabilia. A video of the event can be seen [here](#).



Photo courtesy of Middletown Township Board of Education

Have You Visited Our Website?

It's live 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 [check it out](#) and spread the word!

**MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

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Preserving & Promoting the History of
Middletown, NJ Since 1968

Upcoming MTHS Events

February 17: Show & Tell

March 16: Annual Meeting of Members and TBD Speaker

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



Trivia Time

This Month's Question:

Who was the first overseas industrialist, who represented an arms company, to buy a Middletown country estate? What happened to the estate after his death?

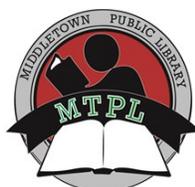
Answer will be supplied in next month's newsletter!

Answer to Last Month's Question:

Roger Penske owned "Red Gables" at 600 Navesink River Road, a house designed by Delano & Aldrich and built in 1913 for Thatcher M. Brown.

In Addition to Our Members, Thank You to the Following for their Assistance and Support:

 investorsFoundation



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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