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FROM THE FRONT PORCH

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF MOORESTOWN



View From the Porch

I hope this newsletter finds you healthy and well! While the on-going pandemic has forced the Historical Society to keep the Smith-Cadbury mansion closed to the public for tours, our hardworking librarian and our team of Trustees continue to answer reference questions, process new artifacts, manage the Society's business affairs, and maintain the grounds and structures at 12 High Street. I am always very proud of the work that the Historical Society produces—particularly because everyone is a volunteer and free time today is such a precious commodity.

I also am proud to say that the Trustees decided to extend all memberships until April 2021. Therefore, if you renewed your membership any time after April 2019, your membership remains current until April 2021. We are taking this action in light of the uncertain economic times for some of our members as well as our continued efforts to keep our staff safe during the pandemic. However, we continue to accept new members, so if you know of someone who recently moved into town, please encourage them to join the Historical Society. We also appreciate those of you who continue to make the Historical Society part of your regular charitable giving plan. Because of your continued generosity, the Historical Society is able to accomplish its mission year after year. We continue to accept donations by mail and digitally through our website.

I also am happy to announce that we are working to bring back much of our programming that was cancelled as a result of the COVID-19 shutdowns. In October, we plan to relaunch the New Jersey History Speaks lecture series and our Fall Meeting as online Zoom events. More information about the lecture series and Fall Meeting can be found in this newsletter. We also

are bringing our annual Ghost Tours online via Zoom as well. If you turn out the lights, the eerie blue glow of your computer will create a spooky ambiance perfect for listening to tales of Moorestown's haunted graveyards and ghostly alleyways.

Finally, we are six months into our malaise of pandemics, protests, politicking, and economic pressures, and it feels much too long. We want improvements, we want health, we want peace. But, if history teaches us anything, it teaches that it takes time to resolve problems and create change. The major events of the American Revolution stretched from 1765 to 1789: twenty-four years of uncertain times. The Civil War was supposed to start and end in a matter of months, but it slogged on for five long, bloody years. The Great Depression lasted the better part of a decade, and when it ended, the United States found itself in an epic war that resulted in ramifications that changed the remainder of the century. How did the people of these times deal with worlds turned upside down and futures so foggy for such long stretches of time? Letters and diaries illustrate that they were no different in their era than we are in ours. They complain and lament. They hope and they pray. And sometimes for weeks and months they write of only the trivial matters and gossip that occupy their families and friends. Given the length of these eras, six months is certainly a short period of time. Let's continue to persevere, consider the health and wellness of our neighbors, and find safe ways to ease the stress and burdens that all Moorestonians are carrying right now. Locked in our homes or moving freely along Main Street, we remain a community.

Mickey DiCamillo, President

mdicam@hotmail.com



House Tours and Gift Shop Hours:

2nd & 4th Sunday 1-3 PM
Tuesdays 1-3 PM

Research Library Hours:

Tuesday 1-4 PM
Second Sunday of
each Month 1-3 PM

Address

Historical Society of
Moorestown
Smith-Cadbury Mansion
12 High St.
Moorestown, NJ 08057

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*Published by
The Historical Society
of Moorestown*

OCTOBER 2020

Early in our country's history, women had the right to vote, until it was taken away and restricted to tax-paying, white males

As we approach another election day, we should all be thankful for our right to vote. Because it wasn't always that way. Voting in our country has had a long history of exclusion of wide swaths of the population. The barriers preventing universal suffrage have slowly been removed through the 20th century, but probably not fast enough for many.

Women only gained the right to vote with the ratification of the 19th amendment in 1920. But early in our country's history, women did have the right to vote, until it was taken away and restricted to tax-paying, white males later in 1807.

According to George DeCou in his book *Moorestown and Her Neighbors*, the polling list from an election held October 13-14, 1807 at the School House in Moorestown was owned by Moorestown resident Gilbert Aitken in 1929. The Moorestown Library has a typed transcript of a list of 260 Chester Township voters, 38 of whom are women:

Sarah Sharp, Mary Bispham, Ann Ward, Elizabeth Quick, Elizabeth Meeks, Sarah Matlack, Hannah Coles, Amy Sheperd, Bulah Pettit, Rebecca Githens, Martha Githens, Ann Cowperthwaite, Sarah Humphreys, Elizabeth Humphreys, Elishabeth Hamilton, Elizabeth Ridgway, Mary Barnett, Lydia Griffiee, Meriam Conrow, Moriah Tyson, Mary Borradaile, Elizabeth Dudley, Rebecca Vennible, Sarah Applegate, Hannah Lippincott, Meriam Vennible, Hannah Wood, Elizabeth Daniels, Elizabeth Edwards, Rebecca Coles, Ann Edwards, Mary Stokes, Lydia Hank, Martha Gibson, Hannah Haines, Sibbilla Pearson, Hannah Morris, Unis Thomas

DeCou goes on to question what went wrong for women to lose the right to vote.

"On looking into the matter I find that our first State Constitution adopted in 1776, granted the vote "to all inhabitants of this Colony of full age who are worth fifty pounds proclamation money." Under this liberal Constitution, the women of the State voted until about 1808, when a Republican Legislature, according to Alice Stone Blackwell in an article published in 1892, changed the Constitution to exclude tax paying women and tax paying negroes from voting. According to her account this was done for the reason that it was found that the women of the State were strongly supporting the Federalist candidates. Mr. Aitken, however, has a clipping from an old newspaper which gives an entirely different reason. This clipping gives an account of a speech made by Senator Palmer of Michigan many years ago in which he stated that the vote was taken from the women shortly after a special election held in Essex County in February 1807. This election was held to decide whether the new County Court House should be erected in Newark or Day's Hill. Seven thousand voters registered at this election but it was found that fourteen thousand voted. The authorities claimed that the women did the repeating as it was very easy for them to go home, change their dresses and appear under another name. The Legislature set aside the election and changed the Constitution to permit "free white male citizens only" to vote. I cannot state which was the correct reason for the change."

Most likely the main reason for the rescinding of women's and African American's voting rights, was for political expediency. Not unlike the gerrymandering of districts that we see today.

— Stephanie Herz

The Historical Society of Moorestown

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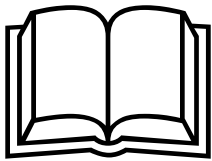
Newsletter Editor

Lisa Knell

Library

Stephanie Herz





LIBRARY NEWS

Even though the library at Smith-Cadbury is not open to the public, many functions of the library staff continue without interruption. We are still maintaining the Facebook and Instagram pages, posting photos and information and responding to messages. We're responding to emails and phone messages and

accepting donations. We've also started the Pandemic File. The Historical Society is collecting and archiving stories, objects and items that illustrate what life was like in 2020 Moorestown during the time of Covid.

We need your help to fill our Pandemic Collection with your impressions, experiences and feelings about how the coronavirus has affected your life here in Moorestown. We welcome everything from written essays to a few sentences on how you are dealing with the illness, emotions, lockdown and/or restrictions. No story is insignificant. Future historians will need stories from medical professionals and those who were infected as well as stories from the many people simply bored inside their homes.

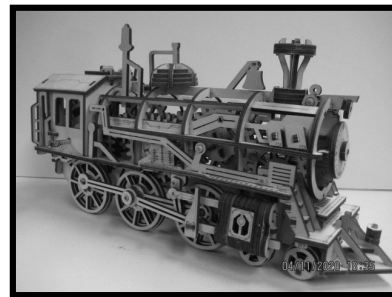
If you're not a writer, you can also document your experiences with photos, artwork, digital scans of interesting media, objects, video or audio recordings. Your contributions can be sent to our email address, moorestownhistory@comcast.net with the phrase Covid-19 in the subject line. They can also be sent via postal mail to HSM, P.O. Box 477, Moorestown, NJ 08057. Please include your name with each submission.

Some of the submissions we've gotten so far are shown here. Please continue to share your experiences of the pandemic. We'd like to capture the perspectives of everyone, young and old, from all walks of life. The Historical Society is collaborating with the Moorestown Library to eventually create a memory book that will document all of these stories, photos, and objects for the future.

— Stephanie Herz

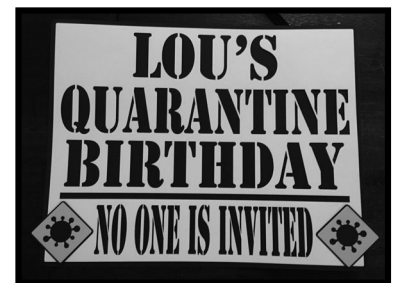
◆ **Moorestown resident Jane Flanagan submitted a photo of this Nipper statue wearing a mask. She added:**

"I look forward to the day when Nipper and the rest of us Moorestownians can see each other's faces and smiles. I miss walking down Main Street and just simply breathing in the air without fear or the obstructive mask and spending time laughing with friends and family in person, not Zoom."



◆ **You may have seen HSM member Bill Rose's amazing model making skills when you visited the Historical Society upstairs, where we display his beautiful scale model of the Smith-Cadbury Mansion. This model 19th century locomotive was constructed by Bill in all his extra spare time during the early quarantine days of the pandemic.**

◆ **Marie Lihotz sent in this hand-made item for the HSM Pandemic File — a sign made for her husband's virtual birthday party. This will be a year of birthdays that many will never forget!**



◆ **In the middle of February, Moorestown residents Karen Dever and her husband were on vacation aboard the Grand Princess cruise ship when they involuntarily became part of the history of the Covid-19 pandemic.**

Karen's submission included a description of her harrowing experience being quarantined aboard the ship which was one of the first Covid-19 hot spots. Karen, an accomplished quilter and quilt appraiser, also sent a photo of this magnificent quilt that she made with a little help from her friends to commemorate her "corona-cation."

While they were quarantined, Karen explained that their friends were asked to make applique hearts:

"so that when we arrived home we would be opening envelopes of hearts to let us know that people were thinking of us! The 44 blocks are from MD, NJ, NY, SC, FL, DE, OK, CT and Iowa friends that were applique and pieced. What a wonderful surprise!

Over the next month, I created a story quilt that highlights some of the events of our experience with the cruise and Covid-19. This gave me a purpose every day in designing our story quilt and to know so many people were rooting for us to return home. I included photos from our trip, newspaper and TV coverage, islands that we visited and of course some Covid-19 blocks. Techniques used are machine piecing, machine and hand applique, paper piecing, beading, and printed photos."

MOORESTOWN DURING THE 1918 INFLUENZA PANDEMIC

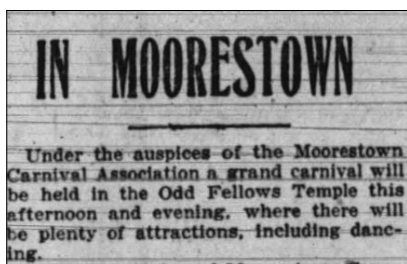
A little over 100 years ago, Moorestown was dealing with a highly contagious viral pandemic just as we are today. The so-called "Spanish Flu" or "La Grippe" is believed to have infected up to one-third of the world's population and taken the lives of 40 to 50 million people worldwide over the two year period from 1918 to 1920. In the US, over 25 million were infected with the virus and according to the CDC, 675,000 of those died as a result.

The virus emerged in two main stages. The first stage, in the spring of 1918 was bad but in September of 1918 there was a second very deadly surge that spread like wildfire through the crowded military camps of WWI and the general populace. This was followed by two lesser waves in 1919 to 1920.

Here in Moorestown, young men were being drafted into the military in preparation for the US entry into World War I. Of the eight Moorestown veterans who died in WWI, six succumbed to the 1918 epidemic, mostly in September and October.

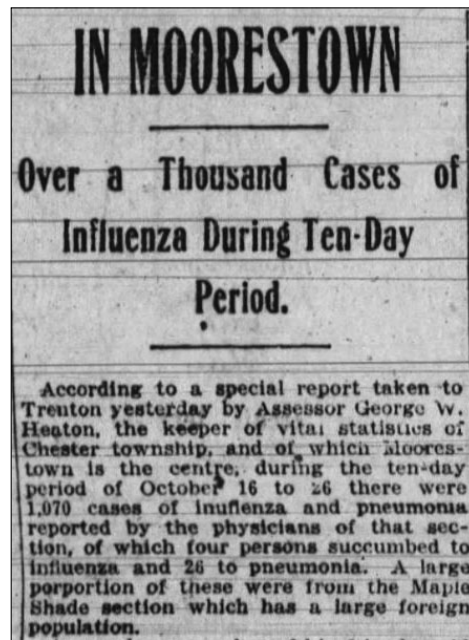
On September 28, the city of Philadelphia organized a parade to promote Liberty Loans which were government bonds sold to the American people to help finance US participation in the war. The parade, held just 10 days after the first new case of the virus was detected in the Philadelphia Navy Yard, was attended by more than 200,000 and led to one of the largest outbreaks of the Spanish Flu in the US. Within one week there were 45,000 people infected and 4,500 dead in the city of Philadelphia alone.

Moorestown may have had its own "super spreader" event at the end of September. The Camden Post Telegram published this article on September 30, 1918:



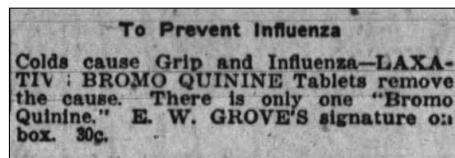
The good citizens of this small township of around 6000 people (Moorestown and Maple Shade were part of Chester Township) were shocked by the many victims of the flu.

A newspaper article in the Camden Post Telegram from October 30, 1918:



A total of 30 people died of the flu and its resultant pneumonia in a 10-day period in mid-October. It's dubious if the fact that Maple Shade had "a large foreign population" actually had anything to do with the mortality rate.

Schools were closed during the worst part of the pandemic in October because so many children were out sick. People were admonished to take precautions in newspapers ads like this one from the Camden Post Telegram of October 12, 1918. Many supposed preventives and cures for the virus were touted, even back then. The ad on the following page suggests hot lemonade courtesy of the California Fruit Growers Exchange.



BUSINESS CORNER

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIPS

Local businesses play an important role when they support the preservation of Moorestown's history. We welcome and thank our inaugural business members!

BENEFACTOR

Powers Kirn, LLC
Counseleors at Law

FRIENDS

Passariello's Pizzeria
& Italian Kitchen
D P Lawn Care
Lewis Funeral Home
The Recycled Designer
Neil K. Johnson, Architect
GCF Organizing



Your generous support helps to sustain the Society's commitment to preserving Moorestown's heritage for generations to come.

Again, thank you!

New Business memberships are always welcome; for details, visit us at <http://moorestownhistory.org/membership/become-a-business-partner/>



(continued from page 4)


There were plenty of panaceas, but nothing kept the "Spanish Flu" from becoming one of the most deadly pandemics in modern history.

But see below for the preventive that probably worked the best, from *Illustrated Current News*, October 18, 1918

— Stephanie Herz

The DIET During and After

The Old Reliable Round Package



INFLUENZA

Horlick's Malted Milk

Very Nutritious, Digestible

The REAL Food-Drink, instantly prepared. Made by the ORIGINAL Horlick process and from carefully selected materials.

Used successfully over 75 years. Endorsed by physicians everywhere.

Specify **Horlick's** The Original

Others! Are Imitations

OCTOBER 12, 1918.

Precautions Against Colds and Grippe

Combating epidemics of colds and la grippe can be effectively aided by a rigid adherence to these suggestions:

At the first indication of a heavy cold or la grippe, go home. Call your family physician. Drink one or two glasses of hot lemonade. Go to bed. Cover up well. Do not cough or sneeze toward others. Isolate yourself, as much as possible, from other members of the family.

The chances of "catching" cold, la grippe or influenza will be minimized by following these precautions:

Avoid crowds. Crowds spread infection. Take adequate exercise. Live and work in pure, fresh air. Get plenty of sleep. If possible, sleep in a room by yourself. Keep your feet dry and warm. If you need a laxative, take one. Don't overeat.

California Fruit Growers Exchange
A Non-profit, Co-operative Organization of 7,500 Growers
Los Angeles, California (652)

Published 3 times a week. Subscription 40c per week. Illustrated Current News, Inc., 200 Grand Street, New York, N.Y.

ILLUSTRATED CURRENT NEWS

Vol. 1 No. 78
October 18, 1918



To Prevent Influenza!

Do not take any person's breath. Keep the mouth and teeth clean. Avoid those that cough and sneeze. Don't visit poorly ventilated places. Keep warm, get fresh air and sunshine.

Don't use common drinking cups, towels, etc.

Cover your mouth when you cough and sneeze.

Avoid Worry, Fear and Fatigue. Stay at home if you have a cold. Walk to your work or office. In sick rooms wear a gauze mask like in illustration.

HOW TO USE VICK'S VAPORUB IN TREATING SPANISH INFLUENZA

The Influenza Germs Attack the Lining of the Air Passages. When VapoRub is Applied Over Throat and Chest the Medicated Vapors Loosen the Phlegm, Open the Air Passages and Stimulate Mucous Membrane to Throw Off the Germs.

INFLUENZA GERMS

Smoked Out

Smoko

TORACCOLESS CIGARETTES

A sensible way of relieving Grippe, Influenza, Colds, Catarrh, Hay Fever, Sore Throat and all other ailments that require direct and immediate application in order to get instant relief. The medicated smoke disinfects the air passages that cannot be reached any other way. It eliminates the annoyance of dosing the system with drugs that upset the stomach.

At all druggists, 20c the box.

IN MOORESTOWN

The funeral of J. Perrine Beatty, son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Beatty, of Moorestown, who died at Camp Meade, Maryland, last week, took place from their home yesterday, interment being made at Mount Holly.

As most of you know, the Historical Society presented an exhibit on the 100th anniversary of the US participation in World War I. The exhibit told of the many ways Moorestonians were affected by the involvement of their country in this terrible war on foreign soil.

We honored the Moorestown veterans, eight of whom lost their lives in service to their country (6 from influenza).

In our research about the 1918 influenza pandemic, we discovered another veteran native son who perished during the second surge of the pandemic in October 1918. The *Camden Courier-Telegraph* of October 17, 1918 published the news item shown above.

Jonathan Perrine Beatty (aka John P. Beatty) was born in Moorestown on February 1, 1888 and baptised at the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1897. His father Peter Beatty was a long-time constable for the township and lived with his wife Ada and children on W. 2nd St. and then Mill St. until he died in 1926.

Jonathan was listed on the 1900 census on W. 2nd St. with his family at age 12. He most likely started at Moorestown High School but we don't know if he finished. The 1905 NJ State Census shows that he had moved to Trenton and then moved to Philadelphia by the 1910 US census. He registered for the draft in Philadelphia in June 1917 and indicated that his birthplace was Moorestown.

He was a corporal in Motor Transport Co. Q at Camp Meade in MD. He died of influenza on October 8, 1918 - one of 430 that had died at the Camp during the pandemic up to that point. He is buried at Brotherhood Cemetery in Hainesport, NJ.

OCTOBER 14, 1918.

During the Epidemic

Take CHASCO-VIN the Tasteless Cod Liver and Iron Tonic.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Although our membership drive has been postponed til next spring, some of our members went ahead and renewed. Your renewal will be applied to next year's membership!

We extend a warm welcome to our newest members:

- Mr & Mrs Christopher Bojarski •

Looking forward to sharing history with you soon,

Jill Weiss, Membership Chair
moorestownhistory@comcast.net



"... It is purchased over the counter like a cake of soap, after which the owner repairs to the street to dispose of it at leisure. Hence the sale of ice cream in this form does not come under the ban. One Front street store yesterday disposed of 500 cones and no doubt many others are having similar sales.

The ice cream cone is serving its purpose well and at the same time is keeping with both the letter and spirit of the quarantine place by the State and local boards of health."

Quarantine News from the October 17, 1918

Plainfield Courier-News
 (Plainfield, New Jersey)

ICE CREAM CONE HIGHLY POPULAR

**Offers Only Way to Enjoy
Frozen Sweets While on
Street or Shopping**

The ice cream cone has come into its own in this city and borough as a result of the ban placed on soda fountains and the selling of this delicacy in dishes. Everybody from the small boy and girl to their elders can nowadays be seen nibbling at an ice cream cone. The fact that this is the only way ice cream can be had unless it is purchased in pints and quarts and carried home. In the cone the purchaser does not eat it in the store or with a spoon and the danger of passing the influenza germ on somebody else is eliminated. It is purchased over the counter like a cake of soap, after which the owner repairs to the street to dispose of it at leisure. Hence the sale of ice cream in this form does not come under the ban. One Front street store yesterday disposed of 500 cones and no doubt many others are having similar sales.

The ice cream cone is serving its purpose well and at the same time is keeping with both the letter and spirit of the quarantine place by the State and local boards of health.

Are you good at fundraising? If so, we need your help!

We are seeking individuals with energy and ideas to help us in our fundraising efforts.



Jobs — big and small — that we need help with:

Activities/Events: Helps plan, organize and hold Society events.

Docents: Museum and special exhibit guides.

Exhibits: Helps create interesting displays.

Fund Raising: Helps plan and hold income-generating events.

Museum: Helps with maintaining collection.

Oral History: Collects oral histories and oversees written work.

Photography: Attends events and take digital photos for our archives and publicity.

Programs: Helps select programs and speakers, coordinates meetings.

Publicity/News/Web: Helps get Society information to the members and public.

If you can help out, call the Society at 856-235-0353



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

BASIC MEMBERSHIP:

- Student (\$10) Individual/Family (\$35)

DONOR LEVELS:

- Stories From the Past Sponsor (\$50)
 History Partner (\$100)
 Library Sponsor (\$250)
 Patron (\$500) Benefactor (\$1000)

RENEWAL

NEW

Visit our website,
moorestownhistory.org
 for member benefits!

NAME(S):

ADDRESS:

DATE:

PHONE #:

EMAIL:

Make check payable to: Historical Society of Moorestown
 Mail to: P.O. Box 477 Moorestown, NJ 08057

Or renew online at: moorestownhistory.org/membership

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 2020

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Smith-Cadbury & the library are closed until further notice



GENERAL MEETING & GHOST TOURS
Via ZOOM!

14 General Meeting

7:00 via [Zoom](#)
(To sign-up and receive login information for this event, contact the Moorestown Library at 856-234-0333); Our Speaker is HSM President Mickey DiCamillo who will entertain us with *Jersey Tales: Quirky Stories About New Jersey's History*

17 GHOST TOUR #1

7 PM, Via [Zoom](#):
"Ghosts and Mysteries of East Main Street"
Stories about Stokes Hill, the Greenlawn Cemetery, and several Haunted Houses that stand along one of Moorestown's most historic streets. Register at: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_R-jkR1MMSPG9Rxsee2mvlw

24 GHOST TOUR #2

7 PM, Via [Zoom](#):
"Ghosts and Mysteries of Chester Avenue"
A dead Moorestown constable, an old tavern, and a visit to the old Moorestown jail. Mysteries abound on this haunted jaunt down Chester Avenue. Register at: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_4BcAiKutQ12uXy0XYK4Vsg

Ghost Tours are \$10 per device (computer, tablet, smartphone, etc.) and proceeds support the Historical Society of Moorestown

NOVEMBER 2020

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Smith-Cadbury & the library are closed until further notice

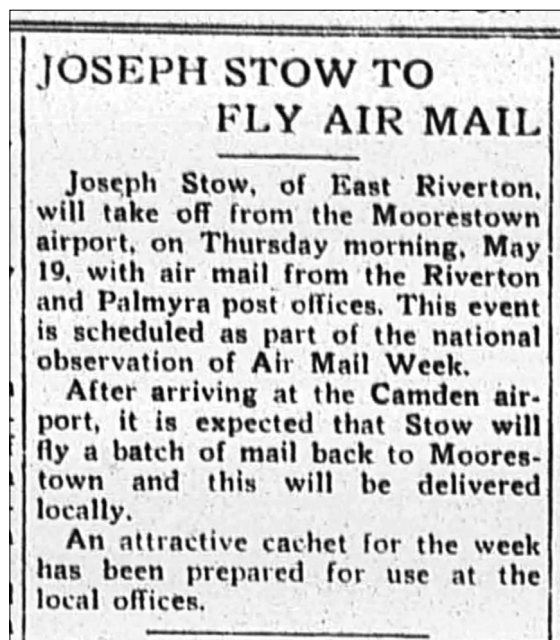
DECEMBER 2020

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Smith-Cadbury & the library are closed until further notice



In 2020 we are talking about mail-in ballots for this year's election.

In 1938, the talk was of an exciting air mail delivery, starting at the Moorestown airport and ending at the Camden airport.



SOURCE: "Bygone Moorestown Airport once promoted flight on former Lippincott farmland; A BRIEF HISTORY OF MOORESTOWN AIRPORT" by Harlan Radford, Jr. [New Era, May 5, 1938, page 1] <https://rivertonhistory.com/2020/07/bygone-moorestown-airport-once-promoted-flight-on-former-lippincott-farmland/>

2020 VIRTUAL THIRD GRADE TOUR

One of the Historical Society's biggest pandemic disappointments was the cancellation of the annual Third Grade tours of the Smith-Cadbury Mansion. We really missed the hundreds of interested, bright, curious, and attentive public school students from Roberts, Baker and South Valley who descend on the mansion every spring.

Apparently, Roberts school missed us too. Principal Brian Carter and three third grade teachers joined forces to produce a virtual school tour similar to the ones given by HSM docents in less threatening times. While Mr. Carter filmed, teachers Melanie Aksamit, Marianne Baker and Susan Powell virtually led their students through and around Smith-Cadbury while explaining the salient points about the mansion's history and many of the objects within. The video was then offered as part of the NJ History curriculum for the students to watch on their computers during their remote studies. The teachers also designed a quiz about the History of Moorestown for the students to complete after they watched the tour.

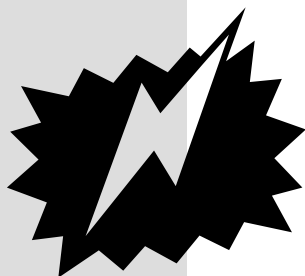
Thanks to the Roberts School educators for stepping up and keeping history fundamental during these trying times!



**Historical Society of
Moorestown**

Smith-Cadbury Mansion
12 High Street, Box 477
Moorestown, NJ 08057

**Non-Profit
Organization**
U.S. Postage Paid
Cinnaminson, NJ 08077
Permit NO. 183



OCTOBER 2020

Have you heard the one about the submarine buried in the Rancocas Creek? Or, the one about Jewish mobsters brawling with Nazis in Newark? Did someone ever tell you that a Frank Lloyd Wright designed home stands in Cherry Hill, or a railroad for bicycles once

enabled South Jersey commuters to peddle their way to work? Hear a collection of tales about New Jersey's past and the people keeping these memories alive.

Historical society officers will offer their semi-annual reports. Then, Historical Society president Mickey DiCamillo kicks off the return of the New Jersey History

Speaks Lecture Series with his talk titled *Jersey Tales: Quirky Stories About New Jersey's History*.

**October 14th @
7PM via Zoom**

To sign-up and receive login information for this event, contact the **Moorestown Library** at 856-234-0333

**The Moorestown Historical Society
General Meeting & the return of the New
Jersey History Speaks Lecture Series**

Zoom
2020[^] GHOST TOURS
Two Nights!
Two Different Tours!
Tales that haven't been heard in over a decade!

Ghosts and Mysteries of East Main Street
Stories about Stokes Hill, the Greenlawn Cemetery, and several Haunted Houses that stand along one of Moorestown's most historic streets. **October 17th @ 7 PM**

Ghosts and Mysteries of Chester Avenue
A dead Moorestown constable, an old tavern, and a visit to the old Moorestown jail. Mysteries abound on this haunted jaunt down Chester Avenue. **October 24th @ 7 PM**

FOR DETAILS ON SIGNING UP, SEE PAGE 7
Ghost Tours are \$10 donation per device