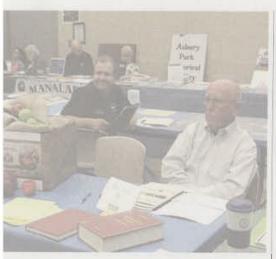
TOWN JOURNAL

It Never Gets Old: Monmouth County Archives & History Day

and photos by Rick Geffken



Card, center, of the Historical Society of Highlands, Burden of the Shrewsbury Historical Society dististoric pictures and books at their respective tables archives & History Day.

ALAPAN – Resembling an alumni homecoming weekend lore than a conference of academics, several hundred ath County historians and authors recently gathered at the rters branch of the Monmouth County Library for & History Day. Old friends and colleagues from historigenealogical societies, museum groups, libraries, and tion committees mingled and greeted each other while lore than 60 exhibition tables.

ear's event, held Oct. 14, was the 22nd annual and celenventors and Innovators in Monmouth County." County ristine Giordano Hanlon opened the morning's Plenary velcoming the approximately 300 people. "This is our best er for our special day honoring Monmouth County historiaid. "There is a lot of energy with new programs like the ey RockNRoll Chorus and our photography contest for pol students, both of which brought new enthusiasm."

B. Swartz of the Monmouth County Library ion followed Hanlon, acknowledging the debt all local so owe to former County Clerk Jane Clayton who was alle for the creation of the Monmouth County Archives. of the serving Chosen Freeholders attended the gathering, Director Lillian G. Burry, Deputy Director John P. Curley, Arnone, Serena DiMaso Esq., and Gary J. Rich Sr.

gh school students from New Jersey RockNRoll Chorus fresh spirit to the gathering, performing their a capella f "Monmouth County." The anthem was recently redisty George Joynson, a resident of Holmdel and the referialist at the Monmouth County Archives. Written over 75 by Cyril A. Smack of Sea Bright and his sister, Gertrude aman, it was adopted as the official song of Monmouth the Board of Chosen Freeholders on July 5, 1939.

Scharfenberger received the M. Claire French Award ership in Historic Preservation. Scharfenberger, the Middletown, was recognized for "Outstanding achieve) an elected official in supporting historic preservation outh County through education, development, planabilitation, advocacy, and community leadership." perger said he was pleasantly surprised by his award



Lynn Humphrey, left, and Lorraine Stone represented Red Bank's T. Thomas Fortune Foundation.

and by the turnout at the event, noting the mix of very young and older people from all over the county. He drew laughs when he noted: "As a professional archaeologist, usually most of my clients are dead."

Archives & History Day host Gary Saretzky, who is the Monmouth County archivist, presented the Jane Clayton Award to John Belding, the Union Landing (Brielle) historian. "To me, obviously, it's a very exciting day. I am vitally interested in history, always have been since my days as a history major," said Belding during his acceptance speech. He also reiterated what many in the audience consider gospel: "It's most important that we have an appreciation for what we've been and who's been there before us and what they did."

The Two River area was well represented by organizations such as the Friends of the Monmouth County Library, the Historical Society of Highlands, the Keansburg Historical Society, the Parker Homestead, the Red Bank Public Library, the Shrewsbury Historical Society, the T. Thomas Fortune Foundation and the Tinton Falls Historic Preservation Commission.

Other recognitions went to Colts Neck's Emily McNeill, a sophomore at Communications High School in Wall. She won the first place in the Monmouth County photography contest with her dramatic sunset image of the Sandy Hook Lighthouse. The Monmouth County Genealogy Society's Barbara Carver Smith Award was presented to Beverly Yackel, Middletown, for her years teaching genealogy classes and editing the society's newsletter, The Monmouth Connection. The Innovative Archives Award was given to the Morristown National Flutoric Park Library and Museum.

Attendees at Archives & History Day received a 120-page book, "New Jersey in Focus: Inventors and Innovators in Monmouth County." The full-color publication showcases biographies and contributions of dozens of Monmouth County inventors. It is produced every year by the Monmouth County Archives, a division of the County Clerk's office.

During the lunch break, Monmouth County Historian Randall Gabrielan led a forum entitled "A Discussion of Inventors and Innovators in New Jersey."



County Clerk Christine Giordano Hanlon presents the 1st Place Award for Monmouth County Photography to Colta Neck's Emily McNeill. McNeill, a sophomore at Communications High School in Wall, won for her "Sandy Hook Lighthouse" picture.

The afternoon session concluded Archives & History Day with a presentation by featured speaker, Paul Israel, a Rutgers University professor and editor of the Thomas Edison Papers. Israel spoke about "New Jersey: A State of Innovation." His remarks and slide presentation noted that New Jersey was long considered "the Research State" primarily due to its leadership in three industries: electrical/electronics, chemical, and pharmaceutical

The exhibit is now installed on the lower level of the Monmouth County Library Headquarters in Manalapan, outside the archives office. It will be open to the public until the summer of 2018.

Camper Grants Available

The Jewish Federation in the Heart of New Jersey (the Federation) is accepting applications for "One Happy Camper" incentive grants up to \$1,000 for children to attend nonprofit Jewish overnight camp for the first time. Applications are evaluated and grants awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. The Federation is looking to extend up to 60 need-blind incentive grants for summer 2018.

One Happy Camper grant recipients, like all campers, immerse themselves in the fun and traditions of camp while learning high-level social and life skills, such as teamwork, problem-solving, leadership, and initiative.

According to the federation, research shows that Jewish camp is one of the most effective ways to engage children and teens in the Jewish community and strengthen their Jewish identity. In addition to One Happy Camper grants, the Jewish Federation in the Heart of New Jersey offers need-based grants and grants for special needs camp options.

More information about grants for Jewish summer camp being offered through the Jewish Federation in the Heart of New Jersey can be found at jewishheartnj.org/camp.