

# The Chronicle



*The Newsletter of the History & Preservation Section of the NJLA*

Winter 2014

Volume 15 Number 3

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To submit articles, news or calendar events to *The Chronicle*, email Sarah Hull at [sarah.hull@plfdpl.info](mailto:sarah.hull@plfdpl.info). Feel free to send images (JPGs) to accompany the text.

**The next issue deadline is  
April 11, 2014.**

## **PRESIDENT'S THANKS**

By Jessica M. Myers,  
President NJLA History & Preservation Section

Thanks to each and every one of you who have reached out to share at recent MARAC, NJLA, and ALA meetings to offer to help and share history, ideas, and solutions that have worked for you to problems that so many history and preservation librarians and archivists face every day. Your positive spirits and ideas have really been strengthening.

I know you do not need reminding, but I encourage you to take advantage of some of the NJ 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary exhibit programs planned throughout the state and conservation classes being offered in the near future. Several of these are thanks to the sponsorship of the Connecting to Collections State Library grant program.

The African American History month panels to be held at New Brunswick Public Library and the Civil War exhibits and talks to be held at the North Jersey History and Genealogy Center in Morristown are all programs not to miss. These programs have been set up by section members of NJLA H&P.

We will be having a Joint Section Meeting at Plainfield Public Library with the NJLA Reference Section on **Wednesday, March 26 from 9 am to 1 pm** to be followed by a tour of the Library's archive and a genealogy workshop.

Happy New Year and Snow to all. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,  
Jessica

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# THE TOUCHABLE EXHIBIT

By Mary Hussey



About a year ago, the Red Bank Public Library had the privilege of hosting a yearlong display of historic Red Bank pieces from the collections of Glenn Vogel, a local historian. Glenn specializes in bottle collecting, but he also has one of the largest private collections of Red Bank memorabilia in existence, and has been growing his collection for over thirty years. He estimates he owns approximately 3000 items relating to the town's history, all stemming from the first bottles he dug, which were from Red Bank. The collection consists of vintage bottles, photos, receipts, pharmacy cards, tins, postcards, advertisements, signage, and even furniture. Glenn started his antique business in the old Monmouth Antiques building, now gone, and currently has space in the RiverBank Antiques store. He has co-authored a book on Eatontown, part of the Images of America series by Arcadia Publishing. Glenn loves to display his collections, and had three displays this year; besides Red Bank, he had a display at the Monmouth County Clerk's office, and at the Long Branch Public Library. He also gave talks about his collections at Red Bank and Long Branch Public Libraries.

Glenn's display came about through an introduction to Elizabeth McDermott, the local history librarian at Red Bank, by Elsalyn Palmisano, whom he met when he was giving a talk at the West Long Branch Public Library in 1996. The items that were displayed in the RBPL were over 100 years old. Many of the items are quite small and delicate. In response to the positive reaction of the library patrons to the collection, Elizabeth and I, a volunteer at the library currently in the Rutgers MLIS program, decided to create something that would allow us to keep the exhibition with us a little longer, as well as allowing patrons an up-close experience. We decided to create a scrapbook.

Having many years of experience scrapbooking, I had all of the tools available so the investment was minimal – a cover, sleeves and “historic” background paper. In February 2013, I started



scanning the flat items, which I then printed out in color on regular paper. Unlike scrapbooking with actual photographs, this approach allowed us to stray from expensive archival materials.



Some of the images I enlarged to allow appreciation of the details of the items. The pharmacy souvenir cards were particularly lovely – and, particularly small – so it was nice to see them as much as three times their size. There were also some beautiful decorations on the backs of some of the photos, a typical addition to portraits starting in the late 1800s. These could not be seen at all in the regular exhibit, so it was great to have this side of the photos available in the scrapbook. The images were trimmed to look as if the actual items were scrapbooked, meaning I left no white paper around the images. This resulted in a very authentic look, as if the actual items were indeed in the book.

The project has taken many volunteer hours, and is still in the process of completion. Over two hundred images needed to be scanned, resized, retouched, printed and trimmed. They were then arranged in a logical order, when possible, by subject, like pharmacies, photographs, or military subjects. After that, the individual pages were put together. Part of the scrapbooking process is adding accents made of coordinating papers to highlight the images, and textboxes. The textboxes are the most important part of any scrapbook, as this is the

major difference between scrapbooking and a traditional photo album. One of the difficulties with this project was that all the scanning and printing had to be done at the library and getting time on the one scanner and color printer took some negotiating.



Another difficulty was the need to limit the costs and excess use of materials, so sometimes I had to choose between the images and additional pages of descriptive text.

Still to be entered in the scrapbooks are photos of the three-dimensional items, such as the bottles



and jars that were also a part of the exhibit, as well as pictures of the display cabinets with the items

inside. The text is still being written, as we need to be concise and keep the print at a legible size, while including as much information as possible.

The book was ready, without the textboxes, for display at the annual *Archives & History Day*, hosted by the Monmouth County Archives in Manalapan, NJ, this past October 12. I was gratified to know it received many compliments. One of the comments people mentioned was how great it was to get a hands-on feel with the exhibit, as if they were actually holding the real items. Knowing how exciting it was for me when I was handling the actual materials, I was delighted to hear this response. It will be great for the library to have such a tangible reminder of Glenn's collections long after his exhibit has ended.

## SUSAN G. SWARTZBURG PRESERVATION AWARD CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Awards Committee of the NJLA History and Preservation Section is seeking nominations for the 2014 Susan G. Swartzburg Preservation Award. This award honors the memory of a librarian whose leadership in New Jersey inspired and influenced many others in our profession, particularly in the areas of preservation of library materials, archives, and the book arts.

### *Criteria for the Award*

**Leadership:** Has demonstrated support for funding of conservation projects, promoting education of conservation issues, and increasing the visibility of archival/history materials.

**Creativity:** Has developed new and interesting methods of interpretation through exhibits, programs, lectures and publications.

**Commitment:** Has built an impressive body of work at one or more institutions in the areas of conservation, archives and/or historical fields, has a strong record of participation in NJLA; and has exhibited knowledge of and concern for the basic principles of preservation over time

The nomination form can be found on the NJLA History and Preservation Section website:

<http://goo.gl/YHwwuT>

Please complete the following nomination form and return it by March 1, 2014 to Paul Martinez, Harry A. Sprague Library, Montclair State University, 1 Normal Ave. Montclair, NJ 07043 or email to: [martinezp@mail.montclair.edu](mailto:martinezp@mail.montclair.edu)

## MAGIC WORDS IN BLOOMFIELD

By Jessica Myers, Volunteer, Special Collections, Bloomfield Public Library

"You like old things," a gentleman said nodding down to a disintegrating newspaper I was scanning.

"Yes, I really do," I replied.

"Would you like to see some more? **We have some old letters. . . .**" Those were the magic words that transformed our day. You never know, it might be a clue to the town's history or a three-year-old envelope. It's always fun to find out. After some discussion, we learned that when Mr. and Mrs. LaVacca had moved into their house in the Watsessing area of Bloomfield they found a dilapidated old box full of letters behind an attic wall.

We set a date that worked for Mr. & Mrs. LaVacca to meet with the Special Collections Librarian, Lisa Cohn. They came with the letters and told us their story, the things they knew about the house, and how they had found the letters.

They were at ease and pleased that someone was finally interested in what they knew were important for some time - keeping them safe from hands of children and grandchildren for over 50 years.

Before I dared look through the box, I got basic details of provenance:

"It was the first week we moved into the house, maybe before we moved in, because I was working in the attic. It was the week Kennedy was shot."

Then we began to open them up one-by-one. Every letter was in its original envelope. There were thirty

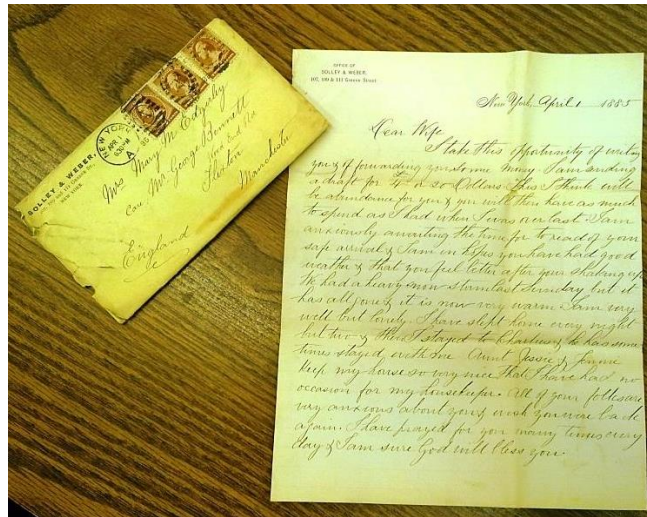
letters, written in careful script over several years between Mary M. Thompson and Alfred H. Edgerley, beginning on March 31, 1881. A few were love letters as the two kept in touch while planning his permanent move from England to Bloomfield. The collection gives a real picture of life in New Jersey as well as the challenges of travelling at the turn of the century.

Edgerley worked in the hat business for four years and used his stationery from the Hampson, *Ellor & Company*, maker of fine fur hats. He was a travelling salesman and there are letters from hotels throughout the North. Further research showed that he went from hats to *Edgerley and Gilson*, a general supply company. The store sold everything from grain & seed to coal and paint, and was located right in

downtown Bloomfield. The Edgerleys became pillars of the community, involved in the government, the library, and other community organizations.

Later that day, the LaVaccas donated the collection to Bloomfield Public Library's Special Collections, where it will be kept safely in archival housing. It is not every day that you can get handwritten history of your town donated for safe-keeping. It was definitely a good day.

For further information contact Lisa Cohn, Special Collections Librarian, Bloomfield Public Library. [lcohn@bpl.org](mailto:lcohn@bpl.org)



# CALLING ALL ARCHIVISTS INTERESTED IN HISTORY, INNOVATION, COLLABORATION AND THE EXCITING FUTURE OF ARCHIVES

By Jodi Boyle, Supervisory Archivist, M.E. Grenander Department of Special  
Collections & Archives, University at Albany, SUNY

Quick, in what city were baby shoes and bloomers invented? What about items as diverse as the thermometer, Jell-O, and the first “gold tooth?” Where did Susan B. Anthony, Frederick Douglass, George Eastman, Cab Calloway and Buffalo Bill Cody each call home for a time? That’s right! Rochester, New York.

Capturing the spirit of this richly historical city, the Spring 2014 meeting of the **Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC) is being held April 24-26 at the beautiful Rochester Hyatt Hotel** in the heart of city. The theme for the meeting is “*Film, Freedom and Feminism.*”

Drawing on the conference’s theme, the Local Arrangements and Program Committees are planning an exciting meeting filled with sessions to challenge archivists just beginning their careers, as well as those with plenty of experience to offer.

Conference participants will enjoy opportunities to

network and exchange ideas in the scheduled educational sessions, coffee breaks and at the Friday night reception. The reception will be held at the beautiful George Eastman House International Museum of Photography and Film, where the history of photography comes alive! Some of the optional tours include ones at the Susan B. Anthony Museum & House and the Erie Canal/Subway Aqueduct. These offer the opportunity to learn even more about the city, its residents, and intriguing history.

So, this April, drive, hop a flight to the Greater Rochester International Airport or take the train (only five minutes by taxi from the Amtrak station to the hotel). You’ll be glad you came to the MARAC meeting!

For more information, please visit the MARAC website at: <http://www.marac.info/upcoming-conferences>.

## BOOKS ARE THE THING

*This is a column of books about books, or people who love books, or....*

*Joe Da Rold, reviewer*

Jasper Fforde is a delightful find for word-lovers and book-lovers.

The “Nursery Crime” series starts with *The Big Over Easy* (2005). Detective Jack Spratt, fresh off losing his case against the Three Little Pigs for the first-degree murder of Mr. Wolff, is assigned to “crack” the case of Humpty’s death - murder or suicide? Fforde is a reader’s delight – oodles of literary references that are never obscure because they are about nursery rhyme characters. Jolly fun! The third book in this series is promised for 2013, but be forewarned, Fforde has been “promising” for at least five years.

The “Thursday Next” series is set in a futuristic 1980s London. The 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup> installments are the best, so start with #2, *Lost in a Good Book* (2002). Thursday has become a media sensation by dint of her jump into the pages of Jane Eyre. To perfect her unique skill of book-jumping, she becomes apprenticed to Dickens’ Miss Havisham and does some serious time-jumping with her father to prevent the world from ending by pink sludge.

# NJLA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2014

By Danny Klein, H&P Section Program Chair

The History and Preservation Section of the New Jersey Library Association is proud to announce the programs that have been selected by the Conference Committee for the 2014 Conference, ***Creating Our Futures***, to be held at the Revel Resort, Atlantic City, NJ from June 2-4.

## ***Future History: Planning Programs for New Jersey's 350th Anniversary***

Moderator: Frederic Pachman, Monmouth Medical Center

Panel: Chad Leinaweaver, Assistant Director, Morristown and Morris Township Public Library; Sara Cureton, Executive Director, New Jersey Historical Commission; Joseph Klett, Chief of Archives, New Jersey State Archives

Date and Time: Tuesday, June 3, 11:30 am to 12:20 pm

Co-sponsored with Reference and Reader's Advisory

## ***Looking Forward by Looking to the Past: N.J. Historians Speak***

Moderator: Chad Leinaweaver

Panel: Walter Greason, author and educator, Monmouth University; Cheryl Turkington, author, Morristown & Morris Township Library; John Zinn, author and chair, New Jersey Historical Society

Date and Time: Tuesday, June 3, 2:00 to 2:50 pm

Co-sponsored with Reader's Advisory

## ***The Public Library as Community Disaster Recovery Center: How to Prepare Your Library & Your Community for an Emergency***

Panel: Marie Downes, Director, and Cheryl Rheiner, Librarian, West Deptford Library; Michele Stricker, Associate Director, Library Support Services, NJ State Library; Barb Hauck-Mah, Director, Caldwell Public Library; Allison Moonitz, Supervising Librarian, Mahwah Public Library

Date and Time: Tuesday, June 3, 9:00 - 9:50 am

Co-sponsored with Administration and Management

## ***Preserving your Photographic Treasures***

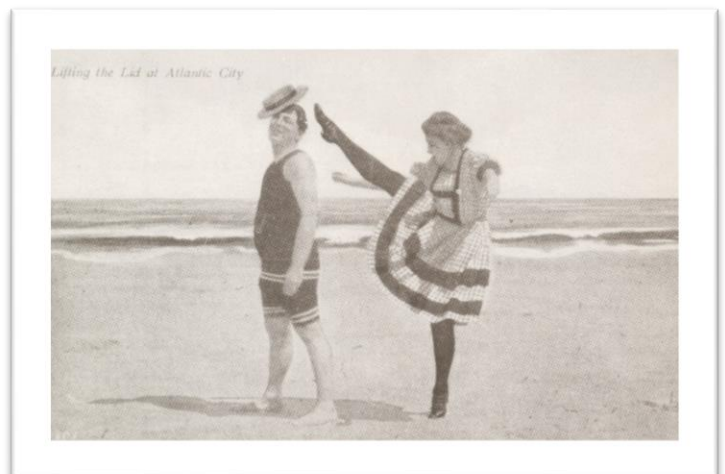
Speaker: Gary D. Saretzky, Monmouth County Archivist

Date and Time: Tuesday, June 3, 4:10 - 5:00 pm

Co-sponsored with Technical Services.

*Lifting the Lid on Atlantic City*

Courtesy of Plainfield Public Library's Historical Postcard Collection.



## NJSAA WELCOMES AUTHOR JOANNE RAJOPPI

Submitted by Laura M. Poll, Monmouth County Historical Association

The New Jersey Studies Academic Alliance welcomes author Joanne Hamilton Rajoppi, who will discuss New Brunswick in the Civil War, more specifically the service of John P. Hamilton and 18 of his friends. The lecture will be held on Wednesday, **February 11, 2014** at 4:15 p.m. in the Pane Room at the Alexander Library, Rutgers University, 169 College Avenue, New Brunswick.

At the beginning of the Civil War, New Brunswick was positioned at the transportation and manufacturing hub of New Jersey. Many of the city's young men exchanged manufacturing equipment for rifles, and those whom they left behind witnessed the war through letters from their sons, brothers, and husbands. Patriotism, a longing to earn more money, and adventure lured these "Brunswick Boys" – close friends and co-workers – to enlist. Their recollections offer insight into everyday life in New Jersey during the war, and also reveal their struggles to survive amid battles and close encounters with death.

Joanne Rajoppi is a trustee of the Union County Historical Society and Chairwoman of the Union County Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee. She served as an adjunct lecturer in Public Administration

and Public Policy-Making at Rutgers for 18 years, and was a staff writer for the *Newark Evening News*. She presently serves as County Clerk of Union County. Her book, "New Brunswick and the Civil War: The Brunswick Boys in the Great Rebellion" was published by the History Press in September 2013. She will have copies available.

The lecture will be preceded at 3 p.m. by NJSAA's business meeting, which is open to the public. The Alliance's mission is to bring together individuals involved in the study of New Jersey to further the knowledge and act as a clearinghouse for information about teaching and research on the state. For more information about NJSAA, see the website [www.njsaa.org](http://www.njsaa.org) and check us out on Facebook.

Mark your calendars for our next meeting on Thursday, April 3 when we welcome the winners of our Stellhorn Award for Undergraduate Papers, Rebecca Lynn Russo (Infanticide in Colonial New Jersey) and Rachel Mark (Integration in Teaneck, 1949-1968), and Jarrett Drake, our Graduate Student Paper winner (Illegal Transportation of Slaves out of New Jersey).



## WHAT ELSE IS NEW?

### Member Updates from Across New Jersey

**Caldwell Public Library** – submitted by Lynn Hotz, Librarian

We are pleased to report that Caldwell Public Library is the recipient of a *Makerspaces Award* for a Sharing our Stories proposal. Funding for this Makerspace Initiative is provided by the New Jersey State Library and by LibraryLinkNJ, The New Jersey Library Cooperative, whose services are funded by the New Jersey State Library, which is responsible for the coordination, promotion, and funding of the New Jersey Library network.

We are also presenting our first online photography exhibit, *The Caldwell Green*, from the Library's Gene Collerd Local History Collection: <http://cpllocalhistorycollection.wordpress.com/>.

**Chester Library** – submitted by Debra Schiff, Local History Librarian

On February 20, 2014, Tom McCabe, author of *Miracle on High Street*, will speak on the history of St. Benedict's Preparatory School, an over 140-year-old Catholic prep school in Newark, and its relationship with Delbarton School, another Catholic prep school located in Morristown. McCabe was a featured New Jersey history author at the June NJLA conference.

Also, on March 5, 2014, Jon Gertner, author of *The Idea Factory*, who will speak on Bell Labs' history of innovation, with emphasis on the Chester Bell Labs facility.

Finally, on April 29, 2014, Maxine Lurie, co-editor with Peter Wacker and Michael Siegel of *Mapping New Jersey*, among many other works, will speak be our featured speaker on the 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of New Jersey. Her talk will focus on our 1860 New Jersey topographical map, as well as NJ in the 1860s. I will be mounting an exhibit coordinated with the talk and that highlights special features of our noteworthy map.

In the second half of the year, we will celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Chester Library's renovation and addition with an exhibit showing photographs and architectural drawings, as well as narratives related to this long-term project.

**Long Branch Free Public Library** – submitted by Janet Birckhead

In January 2014, an exhibit entitled "*Photographs from the Long Branch Newspaper Clipping Collection*" was on display. One of the Long Branch Free Public Library's special collections, the Long Branch Newspaper Clipping Collection consists of clippings relating to Long Branch from the *Asbury Park Press*, the *Atlanticville*, the *Link News*, and, occasionally, the *Tri-City News*. It was begun in the year 2000, but has been maintained by Library Assistant Christine Crowder for the past eight years.

#### Upcoming local history exhibits

February: African Americans in New Jersey

March: Women in New Jersey

April: New Jersey Poets

### Upcoming Programs at the Long Branch Free Public Library

On January 11, The Genealogy Society of Monmouth County will present, *Genealogy for Beginners: Getting Started*.

On February 7, Fred C. Pachman, Director of Altschul Medical Library at Monmouth Medical Society, will present *Health Information on the Internet: The Good, the Bad, & the 'Don't Go There'*.

The Long Branch Historical Association will hold its March 26 meeting at the Long Branch Free Public Library. The guest speaker will be Peter Primavera, who will give a talk on efforts to preserve the Thomas T. Fortune House, home of the influential black publisher, writer, and civil rights organizer. The house is located in Red Bank, New Jersey, and is a threatened National Historic Landmark.

### **Monmouth County Archives – submitted by Gary Saretzky**



*Red Bank Register Collection* - The *Red Bank Register* was a Monmouth County newspaper that was published from 1878 to 1991. In December 1970, the newspaper had a fire that destroyed its archives, although copies of all the newspapers were fortunately on file in the local library. In 1987, the Register's former librarian learned that the paper was going to destroy its negatives. She rescued a large quantity and distributed the film envelopes to the Middletown Historical Society and the Shrewsbury Historical Society. These batches of material are now almost all at the Monmouth County Archives, after transfers beginning in 2004 and

continuing sporadically until 2013. The photographic files, which also include color positive film, comprise approximately 25,000 photographic assignments by Register photographers, 1971-1987, of which nearly 10,000 have been cataloged in a PastPerfect database. Processing is continuing with the help of several part time volunteers. [Photo of Bob Hope, July 13, 1981, #1981-07-085kRBR]

### **Monmouth County Connection – submitted by Gary Saretzky**

On Wednesday, February 19 at Monmouth County Connection Gary Saretzky discusses *12 Million Black Voices: A Folk History of the Negro in the United States and the Golden Age of Documentary Photography Books*.

In 1941, Richard Wright collaborated with photo-director Edwin Rosskam to produce *12 Million Black Voices: A Folk History of the Negro in the United States*. The combination of Wright's prose with photos from the Farm Security Administration files narrates a history of African-American life that feels very much like a documentary film.

Location: 3544 Hwy 66, Neptune

For further information: [gary@saretzky.com](mailto:gary@saretzky.com)

### **Morristown and Morris Township Library** – submitted by Carolyn Dorsey, Librarian

The Morristown & Morris Township library presents an exhibition commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Civil War: *Their Memory Shall Never Fade: Morris County and the Civil War*. The exhibit, which opens on March 13, 2014, will be on the second floor of the library in the F. M. Kirby gallery from March 10 - May 11. It showcases items from our History Center's collection of papers, photographs and other primary sources tied into the American conflict as well as items borrowed from collectors and enthusiasts.

In conjunction, the History Center is hosting two lectures on Civil War history on Thursday, January 30 and **Thursday, February 13**. Refreshments will be served. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Morristown & Morris Township Library.

### **New Brunswick Free Public Library** – submitted by Kim Adams, Archival Librarian

#### *New Brunswick Free Public Library NJ350 Events*

In 1664, King Charles II of England gave land on North America's east coast to his brother James, Duke of York. James gave some of that land to two noblemen, Sir George Carteret and John Lord Berkeley to reward their loyalty to him. The document recording this is now housed at the New Jersey State Archives and proclaims "said Tract of Land is hereafter to be called by the name or names of New Cesarea or New Jersey." However, the land he gave was already inhabited by Dutch, Swedish, and other European settlers as well as the Native Americans who had made their home there for many centuries.

In cooperation with New Jersey 350, <http://officialnj350.com>, the New Brunswick Free Public Library will have a year-long celebration of New Jersey's sesquicentennial. The first two displays will begin **February 1**.

New Jersey's and New Brunswick's uniqueness owe much to the cultural infusions of the populations who have settled and merged here. In addition to a joint observance of Black History Month with the New Brunswick African American Heritage Committee, Ms. Kym Kirkley will guest curate an exhibit of *African American History in New Jersey*. The exhibit will be in the main lobby from **February 1 to March 22**. At the same time, in the Carl T. Valenti Community Room, *The Indian Diaspora and New Jersey*, will detail the immigration to America of a diverse East Indian population and their growing involvement as part of New Jersey's culture and history. The history of additional immigrant populations will be highlighted in displays now in development as the year progresses.

In April, there will be a historical timeline depicting some of the significant people and events in the New Brunswick area, ranging from the Hall-Mills murder, through New Brunswick Sister Cities, to involvement in wars, and local industries. The timeline will be mounted in the Carl T. Valenti Community Room with extended displays in the main lobby.

For more information, contact the Reference Department at 732 745 5108 ext. 20 or [nbfpl@lmxac.org](mailto:nbfpl@lmxac.org). The Library is located at 60 Livingston Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901. Visit us at [www.nbfpl.org](http://www.nbfpl.org).

**New Jersey State Library** – submitted by Michele Stricker, Associate Director

The New Jersey State Library is leading a two-year initiative to address urgent collections care needs in New Jersey through educational programs and training. Intended to reach collections care professionals and volunteers, these programs will encourage the use of best practices, support targeted fundraising and marketing, increase the use of existing resources, and accelerate the development of collaborative strategies.

We are now in year 2 of the grant, and registration is open for the 2014 workshops which include fundraising & promoting special collections; financial planning tools for collecting organizations; ArchivesSpace, open source archives management software; disaster prevention, planning & response; and a statewide emergency response conference.

Workshop space is limited. To register:

<http://lss.njstatelib.org/preservation/ccnj>

Contact Michele Stricker at [mstricker@njstatelib.org](mailto:mstricker@njstatelib.org) with further questions.

**North Plainfield Public Library** – submitted by Ken Kaufman

*Timeline New Jersey*

On Saturday February 22, 2014 from 2:00 to 3:00 PM in the Program Room

Celebrate the 350th anniversary of New Jersey with Walter Choroszewski, who will present a visual history of our fine state, starting with the primeval dawn of the Highlands. Meet the state's first people and explorers and celebrate the numerous events and firsts that make New Jersey special.

Adults and children 12 years and older.

Registration required.

**Plainfield Public Library** – submitted by Sarah Hull

Plainfield Public Library is the proud recipient of a *Makerspace Award* for our project, *The Enterprise Zone*. This makerspace will invite artists, designers, craftsmen, hobbyists and students to explore the potential of digital technology and learn how to apply it to their artistic vision. Specialized equipment such as a WACOM drawing tablet and a large format scanner/printer will allow users to scan and/or generate prints up to 36 inches wide for portfolios, art projects and advertising. Community groups and local artists have already expressed strong support for the creation of this makerspace.

In addition, the Local History Department has received a Project Grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State. The grant will help fund the preservation microfilming of the Library's historical blueprint collection. Additional funding received from The Plainfield Foundation will support a part-time paid student intern to assist with the processing of that same collection. In December 2013, we received funding from the Plainfield Cultural & Heritage Commission for archival-quality display materials.

## Plainfield Public Library Continued

Our Winter-Spring Genealogy Class Series is underway. Jane Thoner, Genealogy Librarian, will present four courses: *Climbing Your Family Tree: Genealogy for Beginners* on January 23<sup>rd</sup>, *Investigating Newspapers Online for Your Family History* on February 20<sup>th</sup>, *Finding and Using Books Online for Your Family History* on March 20<sup>th</sup>, and *Keeping Up with FamilySearch.org Changes* on April 17<sup>th</sup>. All classes are from 2:30 to 4:00 PM and are free. For more information: [http://www.plainfieldlibrary.info/Departments/LH/LH\\_classes.html](http://www.plainfieldlibrary.info/Departments/LH/LH_classes.html)

On Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM in the Anne Louise Davis Gallery, Teresa Vega, a member of both the New York and New Jersey Chapters of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogy Society will be speaking about the current trends and options for DNA testing and genealogy research. Ms. Vega has a background in cultural anthropology and authors a blog at: [www.radiantrootsboricuabranches.com](http://www.radiantrootsboricuabranches.com)

## Somerville Public Library – submitted by Ken Kaufman

*February is Black History Month.* We are going to mark the celebration by delving into slavery in New Jersey, which began in the early seventeenth century. New Jersey was the last of the Northern states to abolish slavery.

On Saturday, **February 15, 2014** from 2:30 to 3:30 PM in the Public Meeting Room, Dr. Carl Lindskoog will be coming to the library to talk to us about *Slavery and Freedom in the History of New Jersey*. He teaches courses in American, African American, and World history at Raritan Valley Community College. His research focuses on refugees, human rights, and the African diaspora in the Americas. He holds a Ph.D. from the City University of New York Graduate Center.

Meet the Author on Saturday, **March 1, 2014** from 2:30 to 4:00 PM in the Public Meeting Room.

*The Untold Story of Princess Doe* Thirty-one years ago, the bludgeoned body of a teenage girl was found in a cemetery in the rural farm town of Blairstown, New Jersey. Her untimely death captured the hearts of the townspeople, who dubbed her 'Princess Doe', and kept the rest of the nation on the edge of their seats waiting for a resolution that never came. To date, the case is still open, and Princess Doe remains as nameless and faceless as the day she was found. Who was she? And how did she end up here? Based on one of the saddest true unsolved crime stories in New Jersey's history, 'The Untold Story of Princess Doe' begins two years before the young girl's untimely demise and discovery, creating a harrowing fictional account that gives a name and a story to a girl who has been anonymous for far too long.

Each year, hundreds of young girls go missing and are unaccounted for. This heartbreaking story is just one of many. Three decades later, the question remains: Who is Princess Doe, and why has no one come forward to identify her?

Come meet the author who has attempted to unravel this very sad mystery. Books will be available to purchase.

**Warren Township Library** – submitted by Ken Kaufman

*When Artwork Speaks: Eyewitness Images from the American Revolution*

On Thursday, **February 27, 2014** from 7:00 to 8:15 PM in Meeting Room 1

Despite the absence of photography and combat illustrators, the American Revolution was accurately recorded by a number of artists. Historian Arthur Lefkowitz, author of five award winning books about the American Revolution, will present a color slide of studio executed history paintings, portraits, illustrations and rapidly executed drawings done in the field.

While some of the artwork presented may look familiar, Mr. Lefkowitz gives detailed information about each image and insights concerning the artists who created them. The pictures in the presentation have been gathered from a variety of museum collections and, by using high quality reproductions, interesting historical details come to life that are frequently lost when the pictures are shown in books.

This presentation is a must for anyone interested in American history and art history.

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

### FEBRUARY

#### **Chester Library**

February 20<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm / Tom McCabe, author of *Miracle on High Street*. Refreshments will be served.

#### **Monmouth County Connection**

February 19<sup>th</sup> – 5:00 to 6:00 pm / Gary Saretzky discusses *12 Million Black Voices: A Folk History of the Negro in the United States and the Golden Age of Documentary Photography Books*

#### **New Brunswick Free Public Library**

February 1<sup>st</sup> – Two exhibit openings celebrate the 350th anniversary of New Jersey: *African American history in New Jersey* and *The Indian Diaspora and New Jersey*

#### **New Jersey Studies Academic Alliance at Rutgers' Alexander Library**

February 11<sup>th</sup> – 4:15 pm / Author Joanne Hamilton Rajoppi will discuss New Brunswick in the Civil War

#### **North Plainfield Public Library**

February 22<sup>nd</sup> – 2:00 to 3:00 pm / *Timeline New Jersey* : celebrate the 350th anniversary of New Jersey with Walter Choroszewski

#### **Nutley Public Library**

February 8<sup>th</sup> – 2:00 pm / Town Historian John Demmer offers a multimedia presentation of life in Nutley and the nation in 1914

#### **Plainfield Public Library**

February 15<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 am to noon / Teresa Vega : *Finding Out More About Your Genealogy Through DNA Testing*

February 20<sup>th</sup> – 2:30 to 4:00 pm / Workshop – *Investigating Newspapers Online for Your Family History*

#### **Somerville Public Library**

February 15<sup>th</sup> – 2:30 to 3:30 pm / Dr. Carl Lindscoog : *Slavery and Freedom in the History of New Jersey*

#### **Warren Township Library**

February 27<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 to 8:15 pm / *When Artwork Speaks: Eyewitness Images from the American Revolution*

### MARCH – Joint Meeting of NJLA H&P and Reference Sections on March 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am

#### **Chester Library**

March 5<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm / Jon Gertner, author of *The Idea Factory*. Refreshments will be served.

#### **Long Branch Free Public Library**

March 26<sup>th</sup> – The Long Branch Historical Association presents Peter Primavera : *Thomas T. Fortune House*

#### **Morristown & Morris Township Library**

March 13<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm / Exhibit opening, *Their Memory Shall Never Fade: Morris County and the Civil War*

#### **Plainfield Public Library**

March 20<sup>th</sup> – 2:30 to 4:00 pm / Genealogy Workshop – *Finding and Using Books Online for Your Family History*

March 26<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 am to 1:00 pm / Host NJLA H&P Section Meeting

For directions: <http://www.plainfieldlibrary.info/directions.html>

**MARCH continued****Nutley Public Library**

March 18<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm / *Nutley: Honoring a Proud Past, Building a Healthy Future*. Dr. Richard Jackson, discusses healthy communities, co-sponsored by the Nutley Community Preservation Partnership.

March 22<sup>nd</sup> – 2:00 pm / *The Jane Stuart Jazz Quartet 100 Years of American Music*. Celebrate Women's History and Jazz Appreciation Months with a concert of jazz favorites by Nutley's own Jane Stuart.

March 27<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm / *Women's History Panel Discussion*. Notable Nutley Women will discuss topics relevant to women in the 21st century.

**Somerville Public Library**

March 1<sup>st</sup> – 2:30 to 4:00 pm / *The Untold Story of Princess Doe*

**APRIL – PRESERVATION WEEK / MARAC April 24-26 in Rochester, NY****Chester Library**

April 29<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm / Maxine Lurie, co-editor with Peter Wacker and Michael Siegel of *Mapping New Jersey*  
Refreshments will be served.

**Plainfield Public Library**

April 17<sup>th</sup> – 2:30 to 4:00 pm / Genealogy Workshop – *Keeping Up with FamilySearch.org Changes*

**Nutley Public Library**

April 12<sup>th</sup> – 2:00 pm / *Celebrate National Library Week with The Whitford Five*. Enjoy a concert with this talented folk/indie band from Nutley. Winners of the Library Art Contests for Nutley students will be awarded.