

**THE CRIER  
CENTENNIAL EDITION (1919 - 2019)  
UNION LANDING HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BRIELLE**

**VOLUME 7, ISSUE 1**

**DECEMBER 2019**

**In this issue:**

From the President	1 / 3,4	The Board for 2019	11
Social Media & Brielle Mugs for Sale	2	3/2/19 General Meeting -George Joynson: Researching Your Home	12
2020 Events	5	Shore History Fair	13
2020 Membership	5	Brielle's Centennial Celebration	14 - 28
In Memoriam - Janice Wurfel	5	Brielle Day	29 - 33
John Belding's Retirement	7	10/27/19 General Meeting -Rick Ge- ffken: Monmouth Cty. Hidden History	34
Brielle's Historic Sites	8	9 / 11 Memorial Observation	35 - 38
Essay Contest, The Early Years, and Incidental Intelligence	9	Monmouth County Archive Day	39
2019: The Year in Review	10- 46	Osborn Burial Ground	40 - 43
		Holiday Celebration	44 -46
		Membership / Renewal Form	47

**FROM THE PRESIDENT**

2019, Brielle's Centennial Celebration year, was a year of change for the Union Landing Historical Society. After a couple of years as Secretary, I moved up and assumed the Presidency of the Society. I moved to Brielle in 2015, so I'm relatively new to the town, but I was raised in Fair Haven, so the Jersey Shore runs deep in my family. My assumption of the Presidency had a very sad backdrop to it, as I succeeded Donna Marie Disimile, our former President who passed away unexpectedly in the Fall of 2018. Donna was a dynamo, full of energy and always so well organized...we miss her dearly and her many contributions to the Society. Many thanks to Peter Albertelli for so ably filling in for the remainder of 2018. At the Society's annual General Meeting in February, we introduced Virginia Loftin as our newest Board member. Due to a couple of Board vacancies, we also welcomed Mary Jane (MJ) Barretta and Jackie Morgan-Stackhouse to our Board later in the year. I'm very pleased to welcome our three newest Board members and look forward to their many contributions to ULHS in the future. (Continued on Page 3)

**UNION LANDING  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY OF  
BRIELLE**

**601 Union Lane  
Post Office Box 473  
Brielle, NJ 08730**

Phone: (848) 232-5117  
jgham111@gmail.com

**We're on the web  
WWW.ULHSBrielle.ORG**



**Officers & Directors**

President  
Jim Ham

First Vice President  
Mary Jane (MJ)  
Barretta

Second Vice President  
Jackie Morgan-  
Stackhouse

Secretary  
Virginia Loftin

Treasurer  
Curtis J. Porcello Sr.

Directors  
– Ann Scott  
– Fred Rimmele  
– Bridgette Markuson

Editor of "The Crier"  
Jim Ham.

**HEAR YE...HEAR YE...ULHS HAS GONE SOCIAL....!!**

I have been working to keep all happenings of the ULHS updated and posted on our Facebook page and on our website (www.ULHSBrielle.org), along with pictures from our gatherings that have been held.

If you need to find out any info please check out our Facebook page (UNION LANDING HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF BRIELLE) or go on our WEBSITE (www.ULHSBrielle.org)...

For those Facebook users...PLEASE click on our Facebook landing page...**LIKE US**...and **SHARE IT** with your Friends and Family!! The MORE the Merrier!!

**We have a new website address!**

**We have transferred all of our website content to our new domain name: [ULHSBrielle.org](http://ULHSBrielle.org)**

**'GREETINGS FROM BRIELLE'**

**MUGS FOR SALE!!!**

During the Centennial Celebration, the ULHS for the first time offered 'Greetings from Brielle' mugs for sale. The price is \$12 for a mug, two for \$20, four for \$35.



To buy a 'Greetings from Brielle' mug, please contact:

**Jim Ham @ 978-317-5252**



**FROM THE PRESIDENT**  
**(Continued from Page 1)**

2019 was also a very busy, hectic one for the group. We kicked off the year with our annual General Meeting in March, where George Joynson was our guest speaker. George, who recently retired as Archival Researcher at the Monmouth County Archives, presented an excellent talk on 'Tracing the History of Your Home'. Brielle has almost 75 homes that date from 1900 and earlier, so it was a most topical presentation. It was very well attended with many questions from the audience.

2019 is Brielle's Centennial Celebration year. The Centennial Organizing Committee asked us to create and host a 'History of Brielle' exhibit at the Curtis House on June 1<sup>st</sup> to highlight the rich history of our town that goes back to the late 1600's. Key highlights of this exhibit included:

Historical exhibits for all the town's key departments, civic organizations and clubs. The exhibits included a listing of all the leaders of the various groups, key historical highlights and many vintage pictures,

A series of historical maps from the 1850's to the present day, including the Jesse Lightfoot 1851 Map of Monmouth County and a series of Brielle's tax maps from 1918 forward showcasing the town's rapid growth during the 20<sup>th</sup> century,

Many vintage pictures of Brielle highlighting the town's rich history as a vacation and fishing destination second to none.

We also published a 28-page Centennial Supplement in the Coast Star with numerous articles that provided an in-depth look at the many important historical events and topics that have shaped the town's development over the years. We also held an essay contest with the subject, 'The History of Public and Private Schools in Brielle. Matthew Laufer's excellent essay was the winner, with Emma Kaden and Katie McCafferty essays coming in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, respectively. Finally, one of the highlights of our Centennial Exhibit, was the showing of the unbelievable "History of Brielle" video, created by the students at Brielle Elementary School under the direction of Peter Petosa. Set to period music, the video covered the early days when Brielle was inhabited by the Lenni Lenape Indians, marching forward through the 1700 & 1800's, then onto the 1900's to the present day. The video was unveiled to a standing room only crowd at the school's auditorium to a thunderous ovation at its conclusion.

After five plus months of working on the Centennial Exhibit, we used the summer to catch our breath!

**FROM THE PRESIDENT**  
**(Continued from Page 3)**

As summer wound down, next up was another very successful Brielle Day on Saturday, September 7th, highlighted by the sales of our world-famous sarsaparilla soda and Ann Scott's equally famous Pumpkin Bread. This is the society's major fund raiser and we had a very solid year in that regard.

The next day we held a very solemn event, our 18<sup>th</sup> annual 9/11 Memorial Observation at Brielle's 9/11 Memorial Park on Riverview Drive. Deacon Gary Pstrak and Reverend Louis LaFazia conducted the Invocation and Benediction, respectively. Tracy Porcello read the Necrology, while the Fire Department, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts all had important roles in the ceremony. Finally, Mayor Tucker Nicol presented the US flag to Deacon Gary Pstrak, for his many contributions to the town of Brielle, and Tucker concluded the ceremony by unveiling the new 9/11 plaque at the park.

The next major event was Archive Day at the Monmouth County Library in Manalapan where all the various historical societies in Monmouth County and related groups get together for a day of historical exhibits and interesting presentations. This is always a well-attended event and is a great opportunity to network with the historical family of Monmouth County.

To wrap up the year, we held our annual holiday party at Ann Scott's home, the old Shem Pearce home on historic Union Lane. This is always a great time for everyone to get together to celebrate all we accomplished during 2019 and to extend best wishes to all for the holiday season and the New Year.

I'd like to conclude by thanking everyone for all their help, contributions and support during 2019. It was a very, very busy year and we accomplished a lot, highlighted by Brielle's Centennial Celebration. It's a great Team that we have and I look forward with confidence to another exciting year in 2020!

Forward, into tomorrow's history,

Jim

**Jim Ham, President , Union Landing Historical Society of Brielle**

## 2020 CALENDAR OF EVENTS (TENTATIVE)

- February 9th - ULHS Annual Meeting, Paul Zigo: D-Day Presentation
- May 24th - Memorial Day Ceremony
- June 2020 - General Meeting (Date & Presentation TBD)
- September 12th - Brielle Day
- September 13th - 9/11 Ceremony
- October 3rd - Monmouth County Archives and History Day
- October 2020 - General Meeting (Date & Presentation TBD)
- December 2020 - Holiday Party (Date TBD)

## 2020 MEMBERSHIP

*Time to Renew!*

**It is that time of year again - time to renew!**

Membership renewals for 2020 were sent out in February. Individual memberships are just \$15, and Family memberships are just \$35 - or you may provide even more support by becoming a sponsor for \$125, a corporate member for \$150, or a Life Member for \$300.

The Historical Society depends on its members and their support to continue providing all of our important and informative programs to the Brielle community, and to continue preserving its history. A membership application / renewal form is included on the last page of this issue of The Crier.

If you have been attending our meetings and programs you know how busy the Historical Society has been, and if you have not, well you have missed a good time! We hope to see many more of you at future events, perhaps with a friend and new member.

*"Few will have the greatness to bend History, but each of us can work to change a small portion of events, and in the total, of all those acts will be written the History of this generation.*

*John F. Kennedy*

## In Memoriam: Janice Wurfel: 1923—2019

It's with a heavy heart that I announce the passing of one of the pioneers of the Union Landing Historical Society (ULHS), Janice Wurfel. Janice died peacefully on December 16th at her home, Driftwood, on the Manasquan River surrounded by her two sons, Richard and David.

Janice was a pioneer in every sense of the word. She was active in many women sports while in high school and college and could be seen many years ago piloting the "fastest boat on the Manasquan River". Her association with Brielle started way back in the 1930's when her father purchased a summer cottage on the Manasquan River. She has many recollections of a childhood and raising a family while having fun on the beaches and the river she so loved.

Janice had a long association with ULHS, serving in numerous capacities, including President, Vice President, Treasurer and Director. She also made major contributions to several of the books published on Brielle and was the "Cover Girl" on Brielle's Images of America book. A "Celebration of Life" will be held for Janice sometime during the summer of 2020.





## JOHN BELDING RETIRES AS BRIELLE'S TOWN HISTORIAN

In late 2018, after over 20 years as Brielle's Town Historian, John Belding informed Mayor Nicol that he planned to retire at the end of 2018. John took on the role of Town Historian in 1998, replacing the town's initial historian, Carole Clarke. John was honored at Brielle's Centennial Celebration last June, when Mayor Nicol proclaimed June 1<sup>st</sup> "John Belding Day", and also announced that the town's archival collection has been named in John's honor.

John has also been a long-time, key member of the Union Landing Historical Society (ULHS) of Brielle. During John's 40 plus years as a member, he has made countless contributions to the Society's efforts, including serving over ten terms as President and numerous years on the Board in different capacities. Needless to say, John has been a long-standing pillar of the Society!

John has received multiple awards and honors over the years, highlighted when John was awarded the 2017 Jane G. Clayton Award. This prestigious award, which is named for the former county clerk who established the Monmouth County Archives, goes to an individual "who has made a major contribution to the preservation and knowledge of Monmouth County history".

Among John's many accomplishments, he's proudest of the work he spearheaded to restore the Osborn Family Burial Ground on Holly Hill Drive during 2000. The graveyard, which dates back to 1822, contains the remains of an Osborn family member who was a veteran and served during the Revolutionary War. The Osborn Family graveyard was officially rededicated at a ceremony lead by John in 2001. Every year over Memorial Day weekend, the ULHS holds a Memorial Observation at the Osborn cemetery, a very fitting location for this ceremony.

Even though John has retired as the town's historian, he's still very active in the ULHS's activities. He's a man who dislikes inactivity and we continue to rely on John encyclopedic knowledge of Brielle's rich, deep history. We look forward to John's continued contributions to the Society in the years to come.



## **Brielle's Historic Sites**

### **Colonel James Osborn's Home**

One of Brielle's most historic homes is that of Colonel James Osborn, which is still located on Riverview Drive. He was the son of Abraham Osborn, whose home is currently part of the clubhouse of the Manasquan River Golf Club. One of Abraham's sons was James, who was married three times and had children by his first two wives, many of whom are buried at the Osborn Family Burial Grounds on Holly Hill Drive. James was a private in the New Jersey militia during the War of 1812 and saw active duty guarding the New Jersey coast in these parts, particularly the inlet leading to the Manasquan River. After the war he was known for many years as Col. James, and rode into Manasquan on a good-looking horse, waving to all. At the back of his old home on Riverview Drive lies the land that is now known as the Osborn Family Burial Ground. The house is located in the 600 block on Riverview Drive. James lived there for a long time. It is believed the house had at one time an interior fire, plus has been altered over the years. You will notice there is no gravestone for him at the graveyard. When he died, his daughters promptly brought matters to court, as they felt that he failed to remember them sufficiently. They eventually won some additional money, although not the amount they wished; so, it may be that there was ill-feeling and the children never purchased a headstone.

**- John Belding, Borough of Brielle Historian**





### **2019 ESSAY CONTEST**

Once again in May the Union Landing Historical Society of Brielle held an essay contest for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students at Brielle Elementary School, with a \$150 award for first prize, \$100 for second prize, and \$50 for third prize. This year's topic was the "History of Public and Private Schools In Brielle". The three winners were: 1<sup>st</sup> place - Matthew Laufer, 2<sup>nd</sup> - place Emma Kaden, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place Katie McCafferty. We appreciate all the efforts of these young people in writing their essays.

**- Bridgette Markuson, Director**

### **Brielle - The Early Years**

On July 7, 1881, a group of businessmen formed the Brielle Land Association, and purchased 150 acres of farm land between Longstreet's (or Debbie's) Creek and mud pond to be divided into lots for sale as vacations home sites. This land was north of Union Landing. They named this development "Brielle" upon the suggestion by one of their number who had visited Brielle, Holland the year before. He thought this area resembled the country side and the coastal towns that dot Europe's lowlands on the North Sea and the English Channel. It was during this period that the area began to flourish as a resort. The railroad had been extended south along the shore. Incidentally, Mud Pond was quickly renamed Glimmer Glass.

Early in the 19th century, Shrewsbury Township was divided and the southern section, including our area, became Howell Township. Further division in 1851 created Wall Township in the eastern section of Howell. Then in 1919, the Borough of Brielle was created from a portion of Wall. It consists of the original Union Landing area, the Brielle Land Association tract, and all the property up along the river as far as Old Bridge Road.

**- John Belding, Retired Borough of Brielle Historian**

### **"Some Incidental Intelligence". . . . .**

Do you ever wonder what everyday life was like around here back in the 1950s, 1920s or even further back to the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century? If so, the Borough Historian has electronic copies of "The Coast Star" newspaper dating back to 1899 and will be glad to review previous issues that may be of interest to you.

**- John Belding, Retired Borough of Brielle Historian**



# Union Landing Historical Society of Brielle

2019  
The Year in Review

## The Board for 2019



### **From left to right:**

Vice President Jackie Morgan-Stackhouse, Treasurer Curtis J. Porcello, Sr., Vice President Mary Jane (MJ) Berretta, President Jim Ham, Director Ann Scott, Secretary Virginia Loftin, Director Bridgette Markuson, & retired Town Historian John Belding (Missing: Director Fred Rimmele)



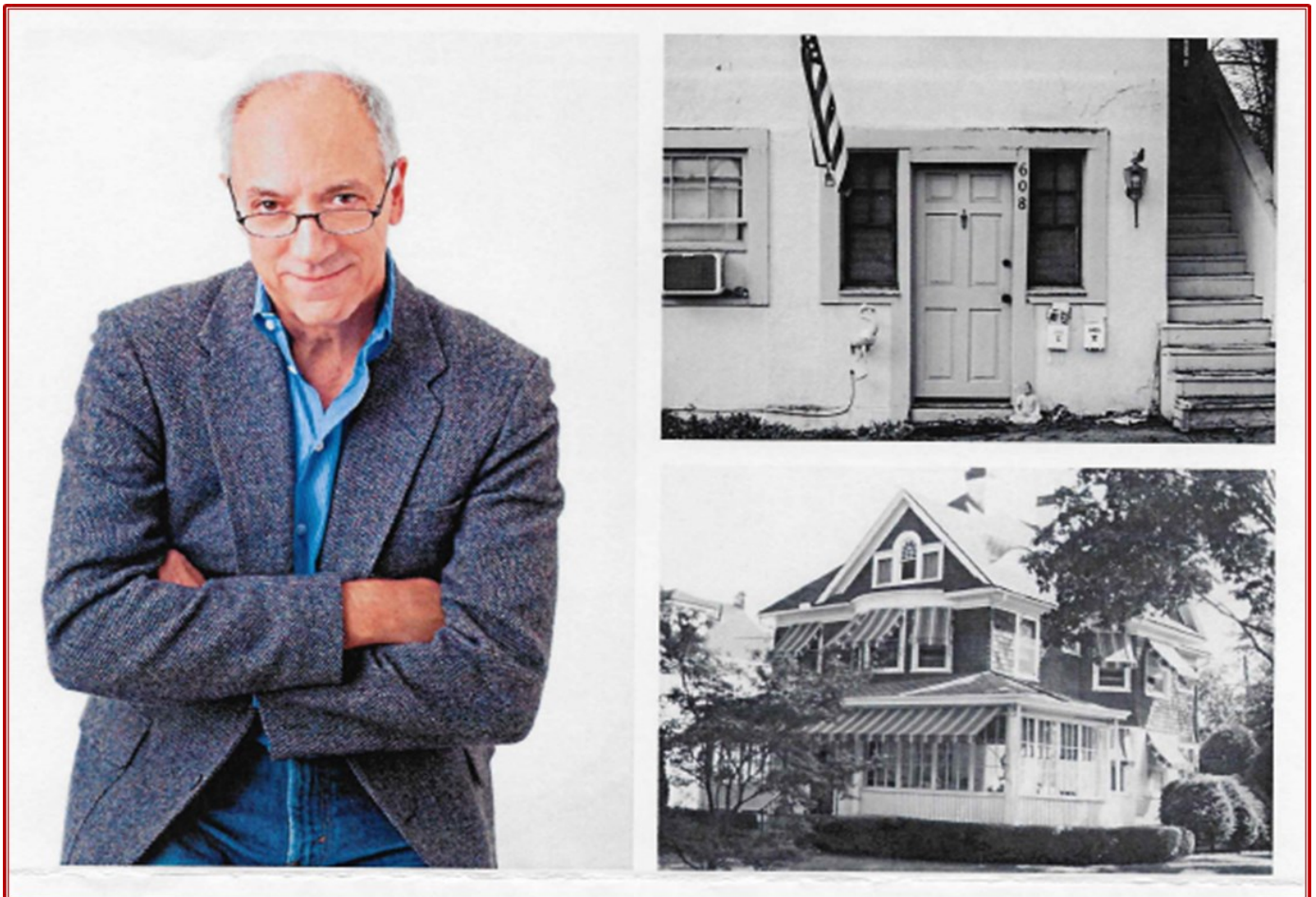
## ULHS General Meeting –March 2nd 2019

### George Joynson—”Tracking the History of Your Home”

The Union Landing Historical Society of Brielle held its first 2019 **General Meeting on Saturday March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 2:00 pm at the Curtis House (644 Union Lane, Brielle)**. All members and their friends and family were invited to attend. The agenda included voting on the 2019 slate of officers and the induction of the new Board members.

We were very pleased to announce that at this meeting **George Joynson, the fulltime Record Analyst at the Monmouth County Archives who has written 4 books on Monmouth County history**, will join us to give his presentation:

### “Tracking the History of Your Home”



**Shore History Fair**  
**Taylor Pavilion, Belmar, NJ**  
**Saturday, April 27th 2019**

The initial Shore History Fair, hosted by the Belmar Historical Society, was held on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at the Taylor Pavilion in Belmar. The Fair was very well represented by many of the Historical Societies on the Jersey Shore. The Taylor Pavilion is located on the Boardwalk in Belmar; it was a sunny Saturday afternoon, and many of the strollers from the crowded Boardwalk stopped by to visit the various exhibitions at the Fair.

The agenda for the Fair started off with a networking segment that gave everyone a chance to renew many old acquaintances and to introduce oneself to new history buffs from the area. Next was a roundtable discussion where everyone had a chance to discuss the common issues that most historical societies face and to find out how other societies address these issues. In the final segment, which was open to the public, each Historical Society brought a display that highlighted some interesting aspect of their local history. Once the doors were opened to the public, the place was swamped with people from the Boardwalk stopping by to visit. Our display was the “Big Fish” exhibit and was one of the most popular exhibits at the Fair!

Due to the success of the Fair, the plan is to make the Shore History Fair an annual event each Spring at the Taylor Pavilion.



**Brielle's Centennial Celebration - June 2019**





**Brielle's Centennial Celebration - June 2019**

IN HONOR OF BRIELLE'S CENTENNIAL  
**UNION LANDING**  
**HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
**PRESENTS:**  
**A VILLAGE BECOMES A TOWN**



**Brielle's Centennial Celebration**  
**Union Landing Historical Society**  
**Brielle Park & the Curtis House**

During May 1919, Brielle left Wall Township and became an independent Borough located on the north banks of the Manasquan River. This year, one hundred years after Brielle's incorporation, the town celebrated its centennial anniversary with an all-day Centennial Celebration on June 1<sup>st</sup>. The highlight of the Celebration was a dinner dance held under a large tent that was erected in Brielle Park. During this dinner celebration, the Mayor announced that June 1<sup>st</sup> was designated 'John Belding Day' in honor of Brielle's retiring Town Historian and long-time Board member of the Union Landing Historical Society (ULHS). It was a well-deserved honor!

Prior to this celebration, Brielle's Town Council also asked the ULHS to create a History of Brielle display at the town's Curtis House to kick-off the Centennial Celebration on the afternoon of June 1<sup>st</sup>. Preparations began late in 2018 and kicked into high gear at the beginning of 2019. Everyone on ULHS's Board along with John Belding, Kit Canning and Marianne Caci made major contributions to the exhibit as the year unfolded.

There were three key elements to ULHS's 'History of Brielle' exhibit:

- 'History of Brielle' exhibit at the Curtis House;
- Centennial Supplement in the Coast Star;
- 'History of Brielle' video by the students at Brielle Elementary School

o The 'History of Brielle' exhibit had several key components:

- Trifolds containing a timeline of Brielle's history with pictures going back to the late 1600's. This section contained many key historical events that have defined the evolution of Brielle from a small village on the banks of the Manasquan River to the thriving suburban, residential community that it is today. This section was also accompanied by multiple historical maps detailing the development of the roads in Brielle from 1851 to the present;

## **Union Landing Historical Society**

### **Brielle's Centennial Celebration**

#### **(Cont'd)**

- Trifolds that celebrated all the departments and civic organizations in the town. This section included a listing of all the leaders of these groups, plus a historical timeline and plenty of historic pictures and artifacts for each group;
- Trifolds that displayed historic pictures of key aspects of Brielle's rich history. This included such diverse displays as Brielle's African American community, Brielle's sport fishing industry, Brielle's old hotels and boarding houses, among many, many other displays.

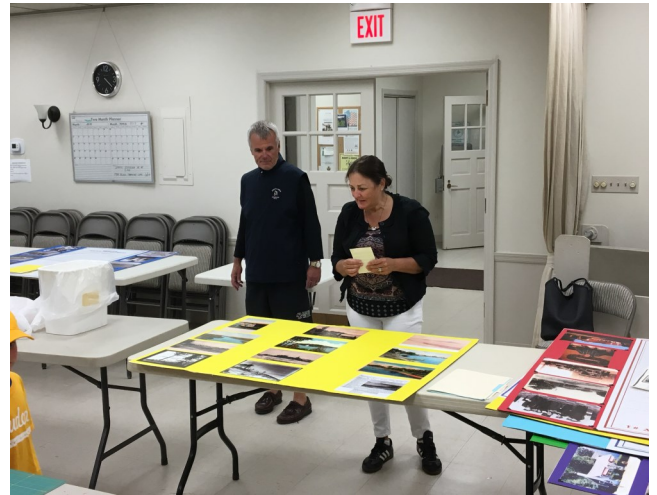
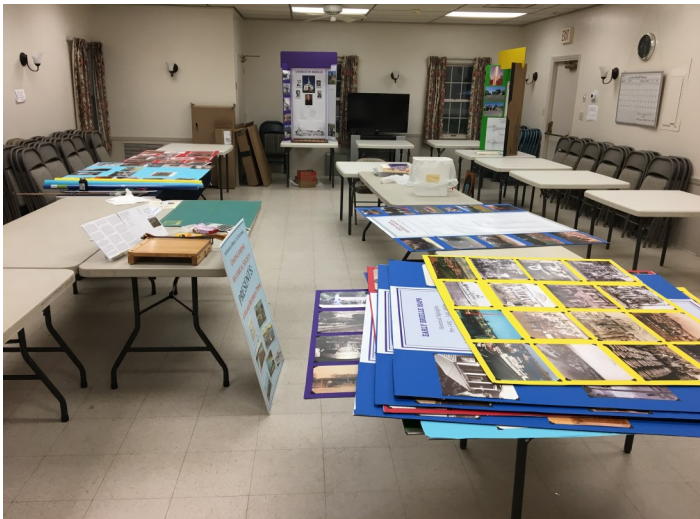
o The Coast Star also published a Centennial Supplement in advance of the Centennial Celebration. Nearly thirty pages long, the Supplement contained 16 articles written by members of the Union Landing Historical Society on various important historical topics on Brielle and many historical pictures as well. Included were articles highlighting two titans of Brielle's historical community, John Belding and Ann Scott, and also contained a personal story by long-time ULHS officer Janice Wurfel on her 80 plus years of living and growing up in Brielle. A thanks must also be extended to Brielle's Chamber of Commerce and its local businesses for so generously supporting the Supplement with their advertising, without which many of the articles would have not been published.

o The final part of the History of Brielle exhibit was the "History of Brielle" video created by Mr. Petosa's class at the Elementary School. This video was a showstopper! The video, which was set to period music, started with the Leni Lenape Indians settlements in Brielle and continued through time covering the 1700's, and the settlement of Brielle by the Europeans, and then onto the 1800's and the 1900's when Brielle became an independent town. It concluded with the late 1900's and the early part of this century with many pictures of the school as it moved from Town Hall to its current location on Union Lane in 1954 and finishing up with many pictures of more recent vintage. There was such a strong interest in this video, that it was shown in the school auditorium to a standing-room-only crowd to a resounding ovation at its conclusion.

The exhibit at the Curtis House was swamped with people walking through it, marveling at our town's rich history and the many vintage pictures scattered throughout on the various displays. The exhibit was only displayed at the Curtis House on June 1<sup>st</sup> due to scheduling. However, due to the many requests for additional time to view the exhibit and requests from people who missed the exhibit, it was moved to the library for the week following the Centennial Celebration and displayed again during July and then again on Brielle Day. We have plans to display the exhibit at the library several times during 2020.

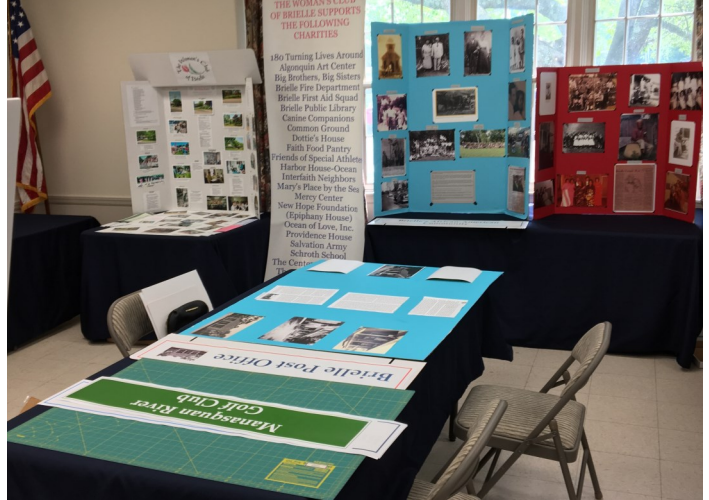
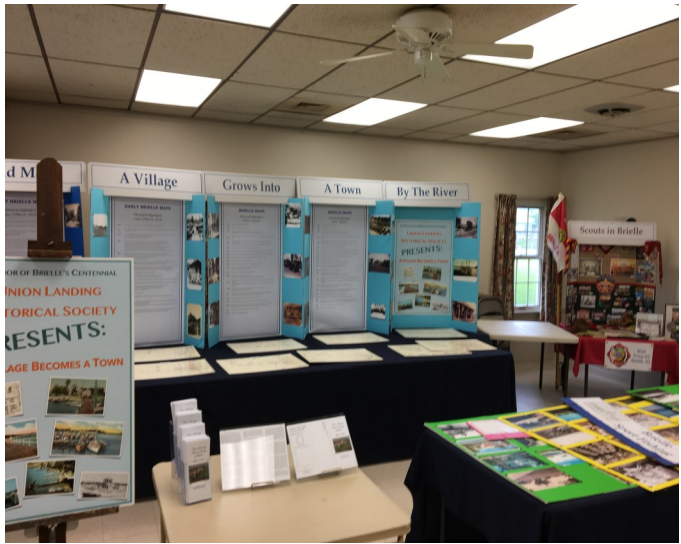
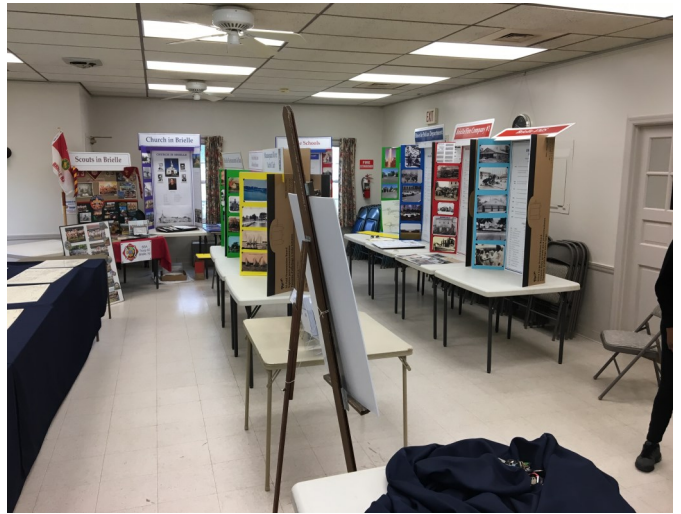


# ULHS's 'History of Brielle' Exhibit Work Gets Underway



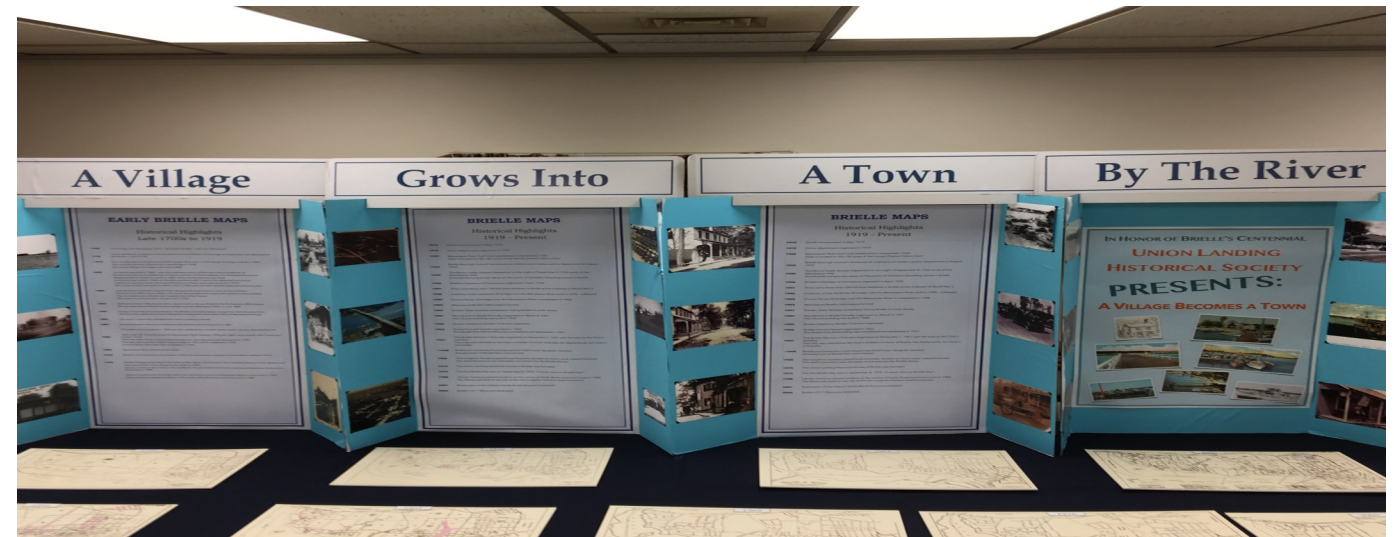
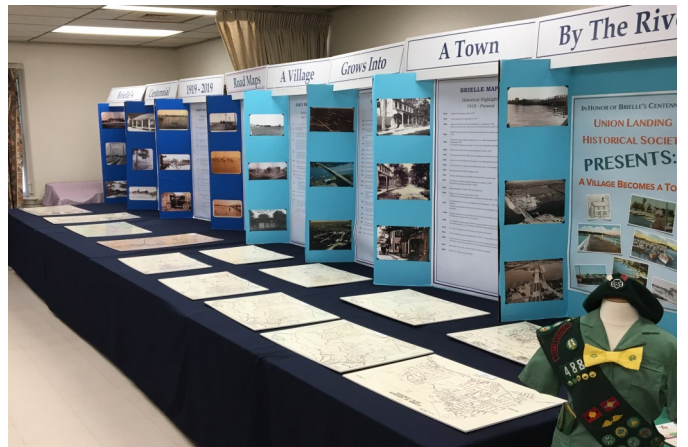
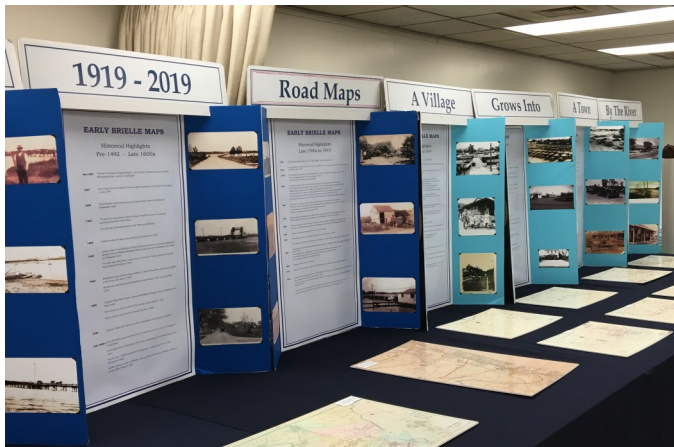


# ULHS's 'History of Brielle' Exhibit Almost There!



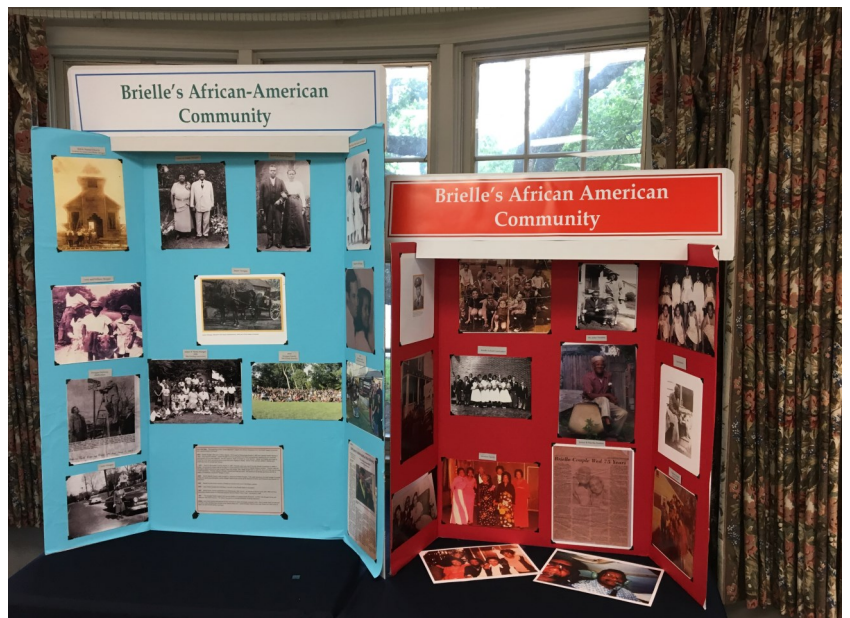
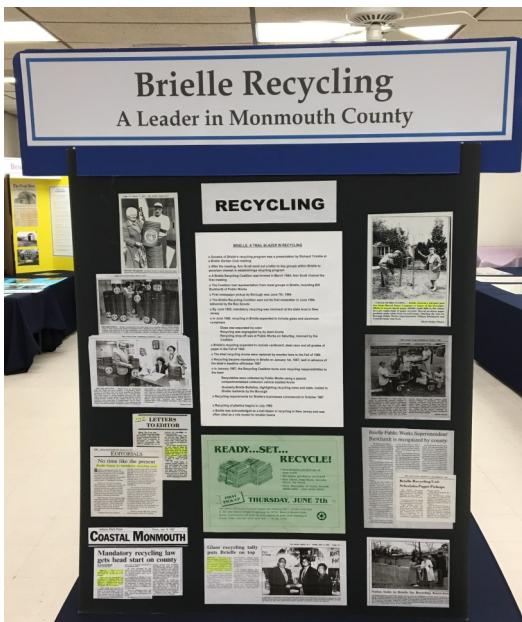


# ULHS's 'History of Brielle' Exhibit Done!



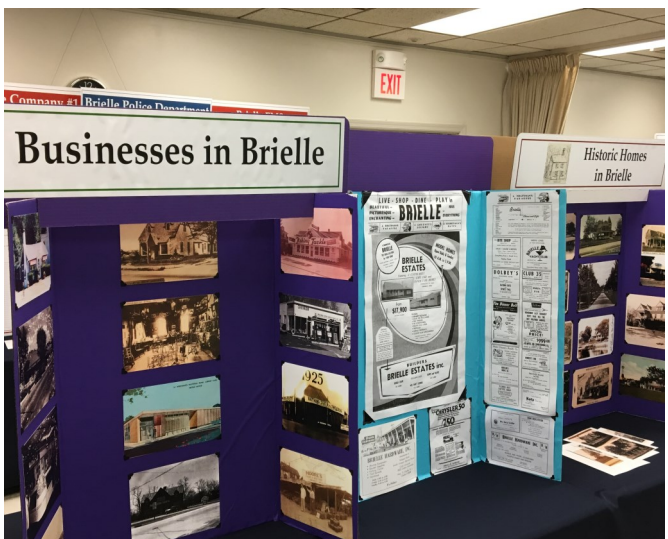
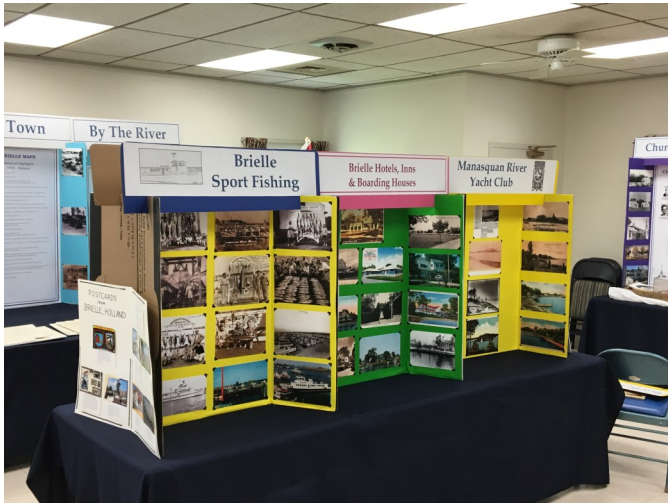


# ULHS's 'History of Brielle' Exhibit Done!





# ULHS's 'History of Brielle' Exhibit Done!





# Brielle's Centennial Celebration - June 2019





# Brielle's Centennial Celebration - June 2019



## BRIELLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

### Historical Highlights 1919 - 2019

- Pre-1919** Police protection came from the Sheriff of Monmouth County stationed in Freehold
- 1919** Upon Brielle's incorporation, J. Wellington Pearce was appointed Borough Marshal
- 1924** Stern O. Pearce was appointed Chief of Police without pay in 1924 and George W. Legg likewise in 1926.
- 1929** Chief Legg was authorized to purchase a revolver and handcuffs and \$400 for a police car in 1929
- 1933** Chief Legg became the first paid chief in 1933; the force consisted of Chief Legg and one patrolman
- 1934** Chief Legg was made a full-time chief
- 1941** A fire occurred at police headquarters destroying records and equipment and caused \$4,000 in damages
- 1955** A second police car was placed into service
- 1964** Chief Legg retires; the force had grown to include seven police officers
- 1964** Patrolman Kenney later to become Chief of Police in 1965, joins the Brielle police force as its first black member
- 1964**

### CHIEFS 1919-2019

Years	Name	Rank
1919-1920 (Est)	J. Wellington Pearce	(AI)
1920-1922 (Est)	Frank Petter	(A)
1922-1923	John Rankin	N/A
1923	Stern Bartley Pearce	1
1924-1926	George W. Legg	(B)
1926-1964	John P. Van Kirk	(B1)
1964-1974	Thomas R. Flanagan	(C)
1974-1984	Thomas G. Brandau	(C1)

## Brielle EMS

### BRIELLE EMS

#### Historical Highlights 1962 - 2019

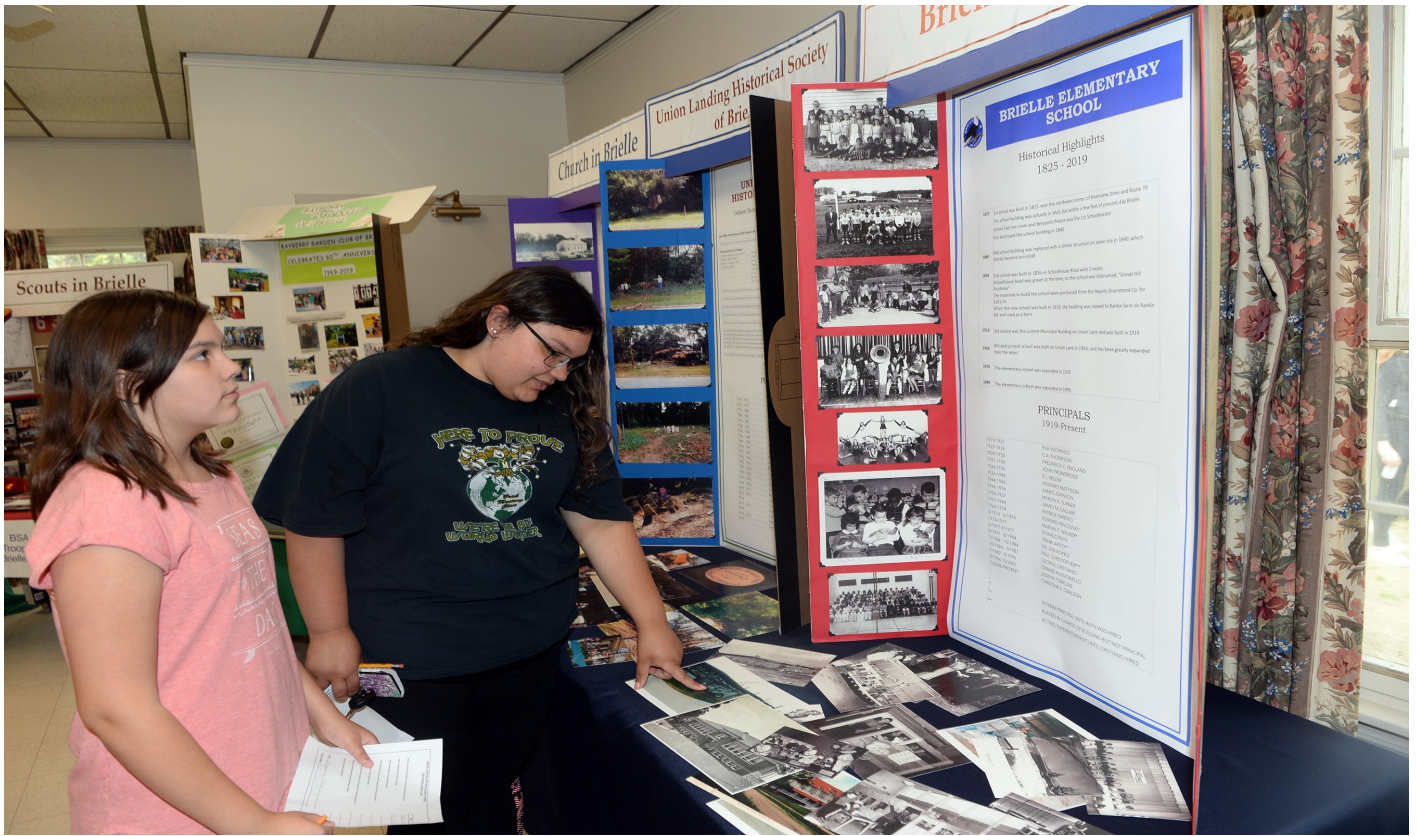
- The Brielle EMS was established on May 29, 1962 with 12 members
- The first ambulance was purchased on May 29, 1962 with the following equipment:
- 1962 - 1963 - 1964 - 1965 - 1966 - 1967 - 1968 - 1969 - 1970 - 1971 - 1972 - 1973 - 1974 - 1975 - 1976 - 1977 - 1978 - 1979 - 1980 - 1981 - 1982 - 1983 - 1984 - 1985 - 1986 - 1987 - 1988 - 1989 - 1990 - 1991 - 1992 - 1993 - 1994 - 1995 - 1996 - 1997 - 1998 - 1999 - 2000 - 2001 - 2002 - 2003 - 2004 - 2005 - 2006 - 2007 - 2008 - 2009 - 2010 - 2011 - 2012 - 2013 - 2014 - 2015 - 2016 - 2017 - 2018 - 2019

#### PRESIDENTS 1962-2019

Year	Name
1962-1963	John Rankin
1963-1964	John Rankin
1964-1965	John Rankin
1965-1966	John Rankin
1966-1967	John Rankin
1967-1968	John Rankin
1968-1969	John Rankin
1969-1970	John Rankin
1970-1971	John Rankin
1971-1972	John Rankin
1972-1973	John Rankin
1973-1974	John Rankin
1974-1975	John Rankin
1975-1976	John Rankin
1976-1977	John Rankin
1977-1978	John Rankin
1978-1979	John Rankin
1979-1980	John Rankin
1980-1981	John Rankin
1981-1982	John Rankin
1982-1983	John Rankin
1983-1984	John Rankin
1984-1985	John Rankin
1985-1986	John Rankin
1986-1987	John Rankin
1987-1988	John Rankin
1988-1989	John Rankin
1989-1990	John Rankin
1990-1991	John Rankin
1991-1992	John Rankin
1992-1993	John Rankin
1993-1994	John Rankin
1994-1995	John Rankin
1995-1996	John Rankin
1996-1997	John Rankin
1997-1998	John Rankin
1998-1999	John Rankin
1999-2000	John Rankin
2000-2001	John Rankin
2001-2002	John Rankin
2002-2003	John Rankin
2003-2004	John Rankin
2004-2005	John Rankin
2005-2006	John Rankin
2006-2007	John Rankin
2007-2008	John Rankin
2008-2009	John Rankin
2009-2010	John Rankin
2010-2011	John Rankin
2011-2012	John Rankin
2012-2013	John Rankin
2013-2014	John Rankin
2014-2015	John Rankin
2015-2016	John Rankin
2016-2017	John Rankin
2017-2018	John Rankin
2018-2019	John Rankin

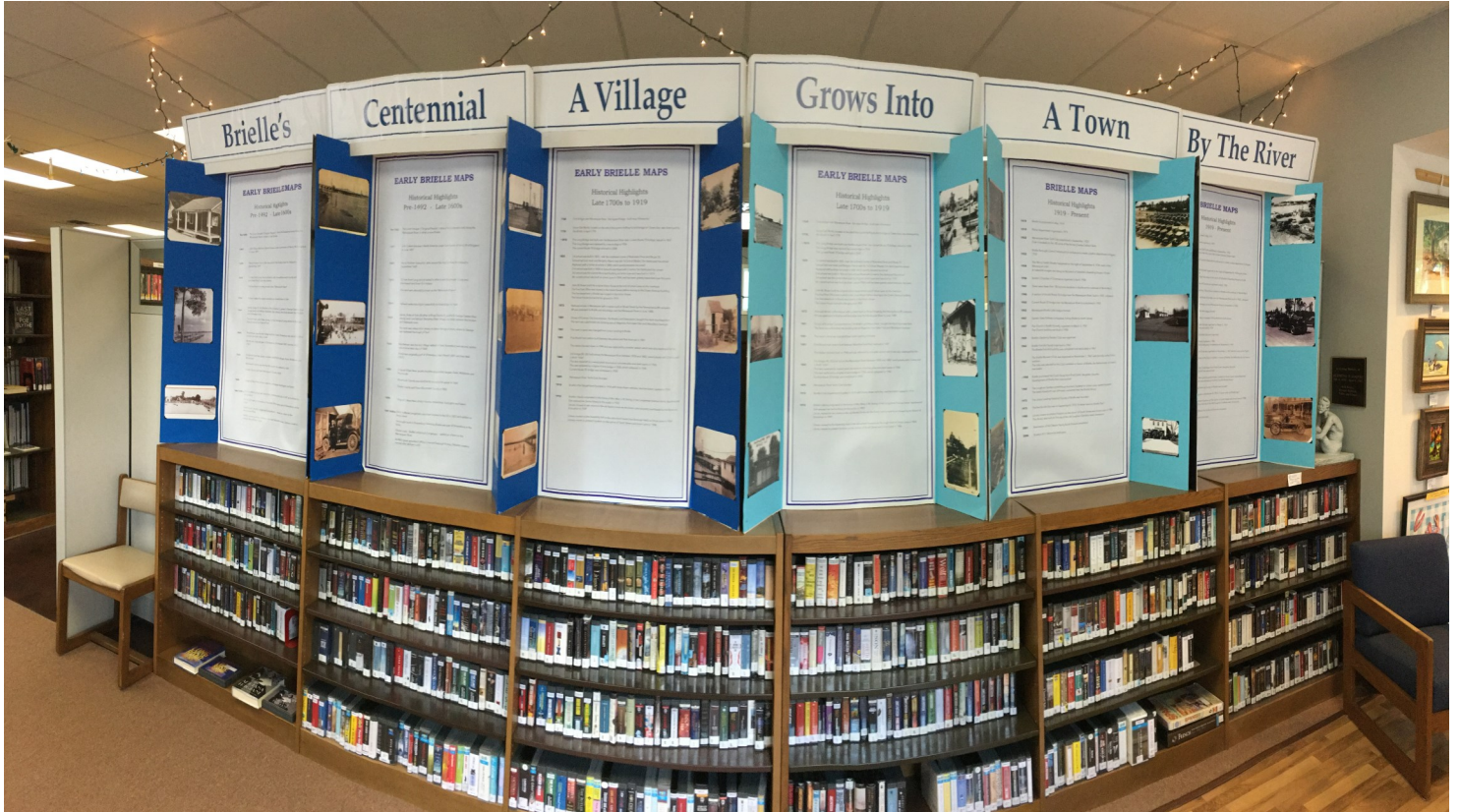


# Brielle's Centennial Celebration - June 2019



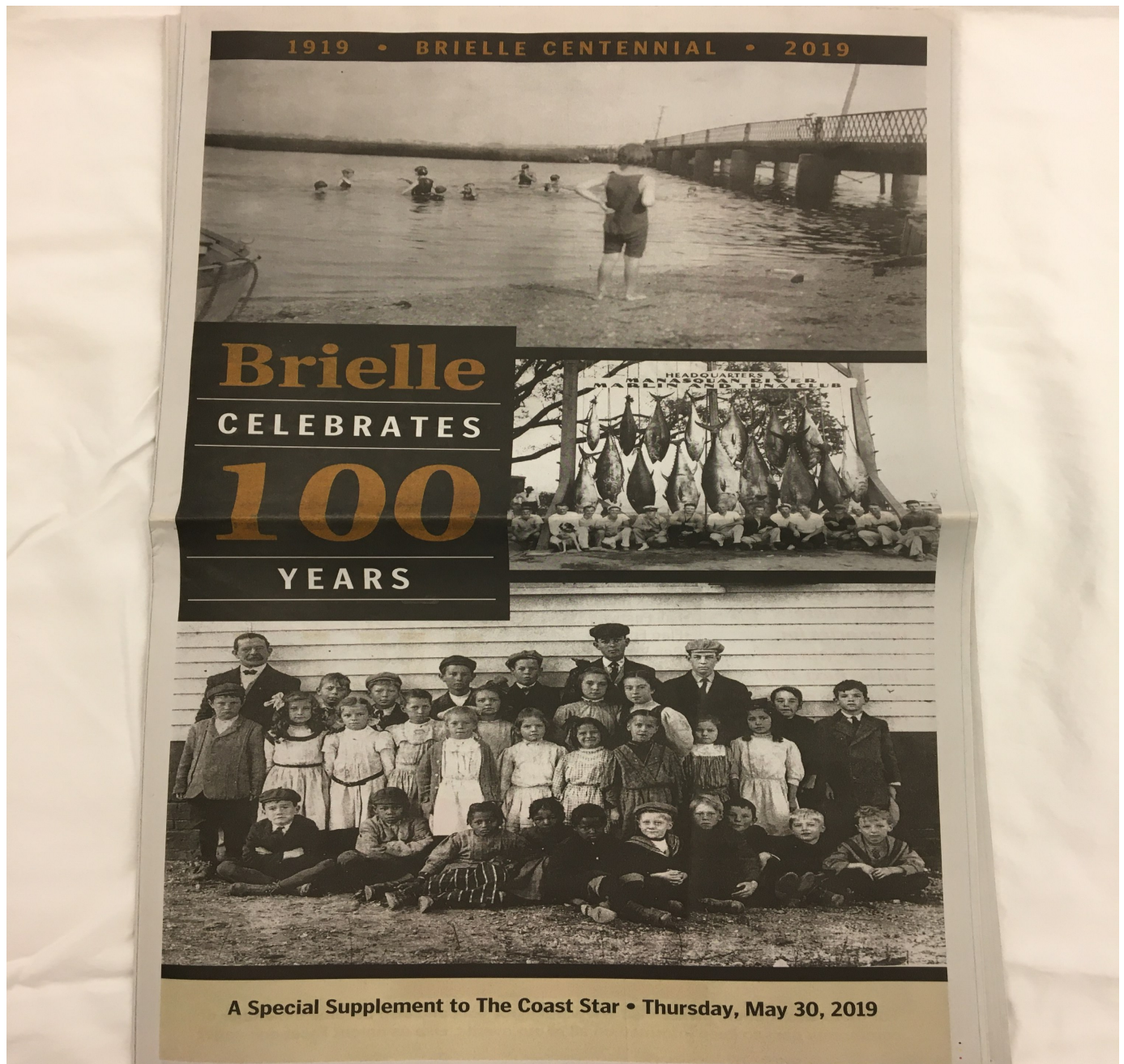


# ULHS's 'History of Brielle' Exhibit At the Library





# Union Landing Historical Society's Brielle Centennial Supplement in the Coast Star



**Special Thanks to the Brielle Chamber of Commerce and the  
Coast Star for Their Support!  
Enough Advertising to Support a Huge 28 Page Supplement!**

## ULHS 2019 Essay Contest

1st: Matthew Laufer, 2nd: Emma Kaden, 3rd: Katie McCafferty

### Union Landing Historic Society Essay

The beginning of schools in Brielle began in the late 1820s when Howell Township added a small one-room school in the "river" area of the town. It was constructed where Harpoon Willy's restaurant currently stands. The school burned down in 1840.

The next school was made by Wall Township in 1856. It was a two-room school on a gravel road at the top of a hill with a view of the water. The road today is called Schoolhouse Road. At one point, the school was referred to locally as the "Gravel Hill Academy." After 1918 it was moved to the Rankin farm to be used as a barn.

The next school was "Gerlach Academy". It was a private school that cost 500 dollars per year. The school's brochure states that the school had its own electricity plant and no instructor had more than six pupils in his class. The building was burned down sometime after 1908 and was never rebuilt.

The next school was made in 1918 on the corner of Union Avenue and Union Lane which is where the Town Hall currently stands. It was the third public school in Brielle.

Throughout the 1940s and '50s Brielle's population surged and required a new school building in 1954. The library was enlarged and moved in 1953 to the basement of the old school currently the Town Hall and the police department and borough offices followed in 1959.

In the late 1950s school overcrowding was high so temporary classroom trailers were set up on the south side of the school.

In 1969 the school expanded and added eleven classrooms, a gymnasium, a library, and an art room.

Finally, the 1990s acquired another period of population growth and the school had another addition bringing the school to its current content and size.

By,

*Matthew Laufer*

732-232-4409



## Brielle Day—September 7, 2019

We had another very successful Brielle Day last September! It was a fantastic day once again for selling our Sarsaparilla and other vintage sodas, as well as our books and Crane House pumpkin bread, special edition 'Greetings from Brielle' mugs, and Brielle Centennial glasses!

We had a very good turnout and strong volunteer support at our booth. The Manasquan High School Key Club sent a dozen student volunteers throughout the day who were a tremendous help. We had ice cream floats again this year, which were enjoyed by all, and sold water in small, 8-ounce bottles, which sold out before the end of the day. Ann Scott's famous Crane House pumpkin bread, as always, was a tremendous success, selling out by the afternoon, thanks in large part to Jim Ham - our new chief pumpkin bread salesman! Ann is quite the baker - and Jim was quite the salesman!

I would like to extend a special thank you to my wife Theresa Porcello for all of her extensive efforts in coordinating everything for Brielle Day, including the soda, ice cream, and supplies purchase and sales, arranging for the student volunteers and ice delivery, and setting up and manning the booth all day. I would also like to thank President Jim Ham and the rest of our Board for their assistance in receiving the soda, setting up, and in helping Theresa throughout the day, and to Bob Kehoe who also helped at the booth all day.

The Historical Society would like to thank retired Brielle Police Sergeant Jim Seidel for once again getting the ice for us, to the gentlemen from the Brielle Public Works for loaning us the large recycling buckets to hold the ice and soda, and for removing all of the cardboard, recycling, and other waste throughout the day, and to the other Board and Society members that also came out to help. It was a fun day for all of the many people involved.

Brielle Day is the Historical Society's largest fund raiser, and we need everyone's support to make it a success, so please come join us and volunteer this year!

- Curtis J. Porcello Sr., Treasurer

*We are not makers of History. Rather, we are  
made by History.*

*Martin Luther King*

# Brielle Day 2019





# Brielle Day 2019





# Brielle Day 2019





# Mayor "Tucker" Nicol and Chief Gary Olsen Join In!





## ULHS General Meeting—October 27, 2019

### Rick Geffken—”Hidden History of Monmouth County



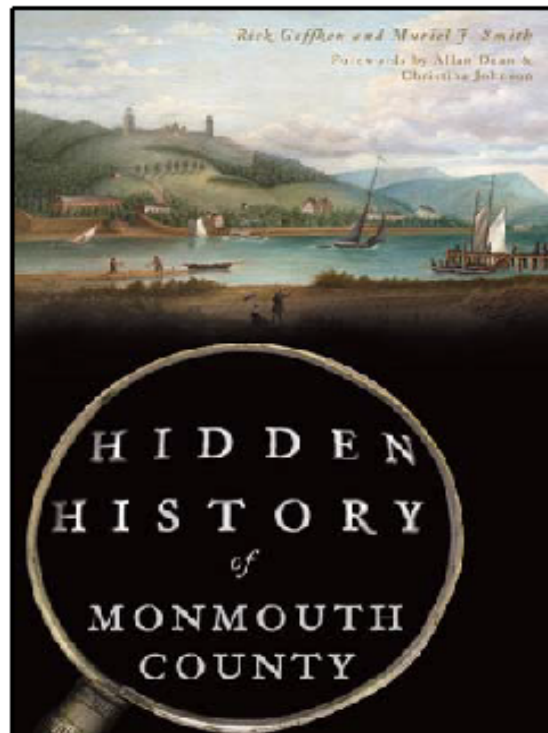
#### Union Landing Historical Society of Brielle General Meeting

Sunday October 27<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm at the Curtis House  
644 Union Lane, Brielle New Jersey

At the next general meeting of the Union Landing Historical Society of Brielle author Rick Geffken will discuss *Hidden History of Monmouth County*, the book he co-authored with Muriel J. Smith. The book is an eclectic combination of stories about Monmouth County people and places.

Mr. Geffken has written several other history books about Monmouth County, and is also a regular contributor to the *Two River Times* and other newspapers. Among his books are *Lost Amusement Parks of the North Jersey Shore*, which he wrote with George Severini, and *The Story of Shrewsbury Revisited, 1965-2015*, which he wrote with former Shrewsbury Mayor Don Burden.

Born in Jersey City, Mr. Geffken entered the ROTC program at St. Peter's College, Jersey City, where he majored in mathematics and economics. He was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the United States Army at graduation. Mr. Geffken is a retired computer industry sales executive and former secondary school mathematics teacher.



Mr. Geffken is a past president and trustee of the Jersey Coast Heritage Museum at Sandlass House, Trustee of the Shrewsbury Historical Society, and member of the Monmouth County Historical Association. Mr. Geffken has appeared at dozens of historical societies and libraries throughout New Jersey.

**All members and their friends and family are invited to attend -**

**We hope to see you there!**

**\*\*\*\* Light refreshments will be served \*\*\*\***

## 9/11 Memorial Observation—September 8, 2019

### 9/11 Memorial Park in Brielle

This year, once again much work has been done at Brielle's 9/11 Memorial Park on Riverview Drive in Brielle. Throughout the year, flowers graced the 9/11 Memorial. Daffodils in the Spring, Begonias in the Summer, and Mums in the Fall. Once again this year, the Brielle Fire Company decorated the Arborvitae with white lights for the holiday season.

Unfortunately, at the start of 2019, it was brought to our attention that the necrology sign was missing from its stand at the 9-11 Memorial Park. The sign was never found. Through the excellent research and work done by Fred Rimmele, a Director of the Union Landing Historical Society (ULHS), a new bronze necrology sign was obtained and unveiled at the 9/11 Memorial Ceremony on September 8th. Brielle's Town Council graciously voted to reimburse the ULHS 9/11 Memorial Fund for the cost of the sign.

Our annual 9/11 Memorial Celebration was, once again, very well attended. ULHS's President, Jim Ham, served as Master of Ceremony. Brielle Fire Company #1 opened the ceremony with a 'Call to Order', followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Boy Scout Troop #63. Next, retired Brielle Town Historian John Belding opened the ceremony with some brief remarks followed by the lowering of the U.S. flag, half-staff, by the fire company. The ceremony continued with an invocation by Deacon Gary Pstrak and a reading of the necrology (names of all the local 9/11 victims) by Theresa Porcello of the ULHS. Next, the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts presented a rose as each 9/11 victim's name was read during the necrology. The Boy Scouts conducted the Ceremonial Folding of the U.S. flag which was then presented to Brielle resident Gary Pstrak for both his long-standing service to the 9/11 Memorial Park and the town of Brielle. The ceremony concluded with a Benediction by Reverend Louis LaFazia and Taps, and finally the unveiling of the new 9/11 necrology plaque by Brielle's Mayor Thomas "Tucker" Nicol.

**About the 9/11 Memorial Site Committee:** The Union Landing Historical Society of Brielle's 9/11 Memorial Site Committee is responsible for the oversight of the maintenance of the Memorial Site, located at the corner of Riverview Drive and Birch Drive, in coordination with the Borough of Brielle, and for recommending any enhancements deemed appropriate. This committee has a Project Manager as its head (Gary Pstrak), and four Trustees, representing the Memorial Site's major stake-holders: Victims' Families, Fire Department, Boy Scouts, and ULHS. Volunteers are always welcome to assist the 9/11 Committee in their work to honor our 9/11 heroes and to remember those who lost their lives in the terrible tragedy.



## Brielle's 9/11 Memorial Site





# 9/11 Memorial Site Decorated for the Holidays - December 2018



## GOD BLESS AMERICA

Remembering Area Victims of the Sept. 11, 2001 Attacks

*Note: Jersey is full of residents reported among the missing or confirmed dead as a result of the 9/11 terrorist attacks has been set at approximately 150, of which 143 were residents of Monmouth County. There are more residents of our local area.*

### World Trade Towers

Edward A. Brennan, Sea Girt  
John E. Conroy, Jr., Wall  
Brian T. Cummins, Manasquan  
Paul Furlong  
Son of Joseph & Margaret Furlong  
Brother of Mark Furlong, Bradley  
Thomas F. Hughes, Jr., Spring Lake Heights  
Paul H. Keating, Spring Lake Heights  
Christopher E. Lyndon, Wall  
William Madson  
Son-in-Law of John W. & Elizabeth Madson, Bradley  
Charles W. Mathen, Sea Girt  
James J. Mulargy, Spring Lake Heights  
James T. Muzina, Spring Lake Heights  
Alphonse J. Neuberger, S. Wall  
Robert R. O'Shea, Wall

### United Air Lines Flight 93

Donald R. Peterson, Spring Lake  
Jean Hoadley Peterson, Spring Lake

### United Air Lines Flight 175

Dr. Frederick C. Romani, S. Wall  
Son of Frederick & Marilyn Romani, Jr., Bradley

*O my God, in Thee I trust, let me not be put to shame, let not my enemies boast over me.  
Psalm 124:8*

## Brielle's 9/11 Memorial Site

### Remembering the Victims

# GOD BLESS AMERICA

## Remembering Area Victims of the Sept. 11, 2001 Attacks

New Jersey's toll of residents reported among the missing or confirmed dead as a result of the 9/11 terrorist attacks has been set as approximately 700, of which 143 were residents of Monmouth County. Thirteen were residents of our local area.

### World Trade Towers

Edward A. Brennan, Sea Girt

John E. Connolly, Jr., Wall

Brian T. Cummins, Manasquan

Paul Furmato

(Son of Joseph & Margaret Furmato  
Brother of Mark Furmato, Brielle)

Thomas F. Hughes Jr., Spring Lake Heights

Paul H. Keating, Spring Lake Heights

Christopher E. Lunder, Wall

Richard Madden

(Son-in-Law of John P. & Elizabeth McIntyre, Brielle)

Charles W. Mathers, Sea Girt

James J. McAlary, Spring Lake Heights

James T. Murphy, Spring Lake Heights

Alphonse J. Niedermeyer, III, Wall

Robert W. O'Shea, Wall

### United Air Lines Flight 93

Donald A. Peterson, Spring Lake

Jean Hoadley Peterson, Spring Lake

### United Air Lines Flight 175

Dr. Frederick C. Rimmele, III

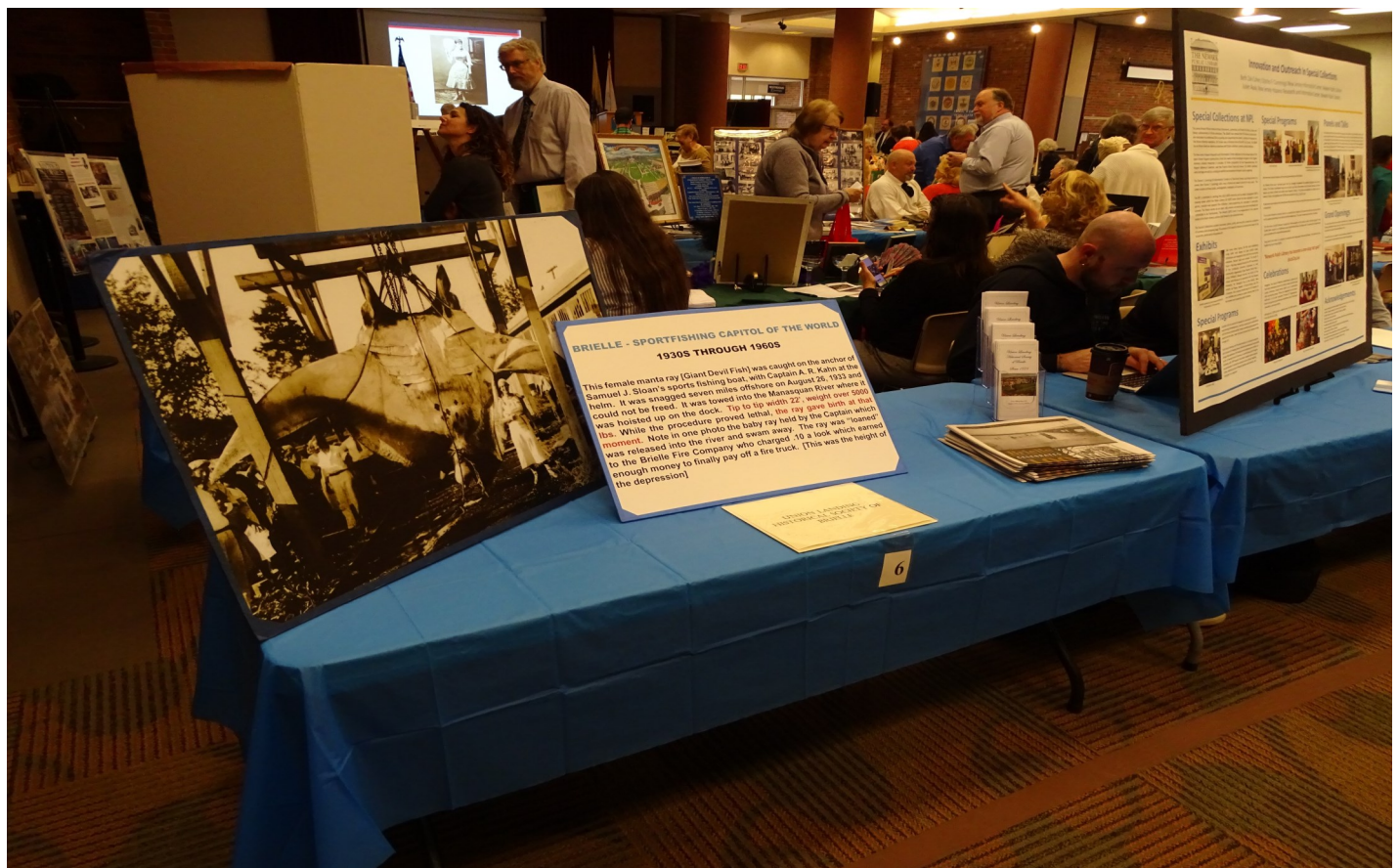
(son of Frederick & Marilyn Rimmele, Jr., Brielle)

O my God, in Thee I trust, let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me.  
Psalm 25:2



# Annual Archive and History Day Monmouth County Library, Manalapan, NJ October 12th 2019

The annual Archive and History Day was held on Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at the Monmouth County Library in Manalapan. The annual event, which is open to the public, is designed for the public to connect with archivists, historians and other preservationists. This well attended event brings together many Historical Societies and related groups and organizations for a day of networking, browsing through many interesting exhibits and historical books/artifacts, and for announcing the winners of several prestigious awards honoring those who have made significant contributions to the promotion, preservation and knowledge of local history. John Belding is a former recipient of the most prestigious award at the event, the Jane G. Clayton Award. ULHS's display consisted of key sections of the our Centennial Exhibit along with the "Big Fish" exhibit. Our President and Brielle's Town Historian, Jim Ham and John Belding, respectively, represented the ULHS at the event.





### **Historic Osborn Burial Ground (Graveyard)**

Activities are ongoing at the Osborn Burial Ground and the mild weather during 2019 helped immensely. The previously broken gravestone of the young Osborn child has been found, inserted in the ground, and when the stone is sufficiently warmed, it will be "glued" back together. Also, a new holly tree has been planted down near the back fence, to provide additional shade for the new myrtle that has been planted during this unusually mild season. We also have a bit of a hole under the back fence and I have material to close that off. As you know, we have a stone and wood bench near the front gate, so please come to visit, sit on the bench, and contemplate what volunteer work you can do for the Society at the burial grounds and to honor those who final resting place resides in these hollowed grounds.

Anyone interested in assisting with the necessary year round restoration and maintenance activities of the Graveyard are asked to please contact John Belding. Additionally, donations to support the Graveyard Committee are always greatly appreciated and necessary for its continued maintenance and repair.

**The Osborn Burial Ground Committee** is required by the provisions of the Osborn Family Burial Ground Maintenance Trust Agreement to convene an annual meeting to review work done during the previous year. A written report is then placed on file in the Brielle Town Historian's office.



**The Graveyard Before its Restoration in 2000**



## The Graveyard During its Restoration in 2001





The Graveyard After its Restoration in 2001





**John Belding - Leader of the Osborn Graveyard Restoration**

**About to Lead a Tour of the Cemetery**





## **2019 ULHS HOLIDAY CELEBRATION**

The Historical Society ended the year by celebrating the holiday season with a celebration on Sunday December 9<sup>th</sup> at Director Ann Scott's home - the historic Captain Shem Pearce house. All members and their friends and family were invited to attend, and in total more than 40 persons joined in the fun!

The celebration gave the guests the chance to meet the Board and other ULHS members while enjoying wonderful food, drink, and holiday cheer. The guests were also invited to tour the home, which dates back to 1850, and is very interesting to see. What a wonderful way to end the year and start off the holiday season!

**Best wishes to you and your families for the holidays and the New Year!**





# UNION LANDING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## 2019 HOLIDAY CELEBRATION





*Happy  
Holidays*

The image features the words "Happy Holidays" written in a highly decorative, cursive calligraphic font. The text is rendered in a dark red color with a subtle white shadow effect behind it, giving it a three-dimensional appearance. The word "Happy" is positioned above "Holidays". The letter "H" in "Happy" is particularly large and ornate, with a holly leaf and three red berries tucked into its upper loop. Similarly, the word "Holidays" ends with a holly leaf and three red berries. The entire composition is set against a plain white background, which is itself enclosed within a light green rectangular border with a thin red inner line.





# Union Landing Historical Society of Brielle

## 2020 Membership Dues

**Please Print Clearly**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone # (C):** \_\_\_\_\_ **(H):** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Membership Category**

Individual	\$15	___	Life Member	\$300 (one-time payment)	___
Family	\$35	___	Corporate	\$150	___
Sponsor	\$125	___	<b>Donation</b>	<b>\$</b>	_____

\*\*\*\*\*

- I would like to:**
- ( ) Volunteer
  - ( ) Give a Presentation at a Meeting
  - ( ) Learn More about Being a Board Member
  - ( ) Be Contacted to Learn More about the Society / How I May Help

\*\*\*\*\*

**Mail form to:**      **Union Landing Historical Society of Brielle**  
                                 **Attention - Membership**  
                                 **Post Office Box 473**  
                                 **Brielle, New Jersey 08730**