The Historical Society of Hammonton hosted the Atlantic County Roundtable of Historical Organizations to present “Schools in Early Atlantic County.”

The presentation was held on Oct. 22 at 2 p.m. at the Canoe Club. This was the second presentation of “Schools in Early Atlantic County”; the first was presented the weekend prior in Somers Point, N.J.

There were multiple presenters that gave a little history of the townships in Atlantic County. They would focus on one school in the township and give an in-depth look at those schools.

Multiple presenters could not be in attendance for various reasons, so towns like Margate and Pleasantville were summarized instead of given full presentations.

Dale Lunkart started out the presentations. She told the history of the first schoolhouse in Atlantic County which was in Weekstown. Silas Morse, the third Superintendent of schools from 1877 to 1892, was credited by Lunkart as the source for this information.

“We think that education in Atlantic County basically started in the 1600s with the Quakers who would teach their children in their homes, and then it went to church schools. And then finally public education came into being,” Lunkart said.

Historical Society of Hammonton Trustee Deborah White gave a presentation on early Hammonton schools.

“Our first little school appeared about 1815 and it was about one mile west of the head of the lake along Main Road and it was really our church. It was a Methodist Episcopal Church, but they did hold classes at this church,” White said.

White showed maps and photos of Hammonton schools of the past and she explained what had happened to them. The land that St. Joseph’s Academy once belonged to another school. There were about nine schools shown on a map of schools in Hammonton from 1860 to 1890.

Norman Goos spoke about Port Republic and the history of their schooling. An interesting claim that Goos made was that prior to the Civil Rights movement, neither Galloway nor Port Republic segregated their schools.

“Everybody talks about segregation. Galloway and Port Republic did not segregate their schools, they were inclusive. But when you get to Egg Harbor City, the schools were 100 percent segregated,” Goos said.

Estell Manor, Egg Harbor Township, Linwood, Somers Point, Galloway and Longport were all other townships mentioned throughout the presentation. A majority of these schools started out as schoolhouses with single rooms. Many of these original schools were modified or destroyed because there were rises in the amount of students in the schools.

Each presenter had brought some artifacts for the audience to take a look at once the presentations were over. For Egg Harbor Township, there was a brick on display from one of the original schools. There were multiple historical books that were on display and other neat artifacts.

White spoke about how the historical societies in the Atlantic County meet at the Atlantic County Historical Society in Somers Point about four times a year. They discuss presentations that each historical society is doing and they discuss problems that they may be facing to exchange ideas for potential solutions. They try to do an event like the “Schools in Early Atlantic County” presentation once a year. This was their first year doing the presentation at two locations. They wanted to see how it would turn out, doing an extra location.

The Historical Society of Hammonton Museum building is open to the public on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to noon and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Private tours can also be arranged by appointment.

Hammonton High School held their Homecoming football game on Oct. 20, followed by the Homecoming dance on Oct. 21. This year’s Homecoming King and Queen were Eddie Niedoba and Lailani Paganafandor.
St. Mary of Mount Carmel Parish

226 French St.

Hammonton, NJ 08037

(609) 704-5965

St. Mary of Mount Carmel Parish is home to the Flock of Jesus Christ and St. Anthony of Padua Church. The church is located at 226 French Street. St. Anthony of Padua Church will hold Sunday Mass at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. Confessions are available on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. and Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. The church is open for prayer on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. There is no mass on Thursday or Friday.

Our Pastors are Anthony Parise, Jeffrey Johnson, Steve White and Assistant to the Pastor,Elena Rumsey. For more information, please contact the church at 609-704-5965 or visit stahepa.org.

We also offer streaming services for our 9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass on the website www.stmaryofmountcarmel.org. To watch live, look for the “Live Stream” button. To watch a recording, look for the “Library” button. You can also contact Michelle Bailey, Director of Communications, at michellebailey@stmaryofmountcarmel.org for more information.

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**Civic News**

Civic news is due Thursday at 5 p.m. the week before publication. Any announcements, changes in meeting times and locations can be submitted directly to The Gazette via email to mhoffman@hammontongazette.com.

**Wednesday, November 1**

The Hammonton Planning Board will meet at 7 p.m. at Hammonton Town Hall, located at 100 Central Ave.

The Hammonton Democratic Club will meet at Reece’s Town House at 7 p.m.

The Disabled American Veterans (DAV) - Chapter 66 will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the DAV Hall, located at 446 S. Egg Harbor Rd.

**Thursday, November 2**

The Hammonton School Board will meet at 7 p.m. in the Hammonton High School Library.

Masons M.B. Taylor Lodge 141 F. & A.M. will hold its dinner meeting at 6:30 p.m. with regular communication at 7:30 p.m., at the Lodge, located on 205 Central Ave.

**Friday, November 3**

The Hammonton Woman’s Civic Club meets at 7 p.m. at the clubhouse on Broadway at Liberty Street. New members always welcome.

The Parks and Recreation Committee will meet at 7 p.m. at Hammonton Town Hall, 100 Central Ave.

**Tuesday, November 7**

The Hammonton Woman’s Civic Club will meet at 7 p.m. at Rocco’s Town Hall at 100 Central Ave.

**Wednesday, November 8**

The Hammonton Water Quality Committee will meet at 7 p.m. at Hammonton Canoe Club.

**Wednesday, November 15**

The Hammonton Planning Board will meet at 7 p.m. at Hammonton Town Hall, located at 100 Central Ave.

**Thursday, November 16**

The Hammonton Community Garden & Green Committee will meet at 6:30 p.m. at Town Hall, third floor meeting room or online (as COVID-19 precaution when needed). Email hammontongreencommittee@gmail.com with any questions.

**Wednesday, November 15**

The Hammonton Canoe Club is open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Canoe Club will be closed on Tuesday, November 7 for Election Day, Thursday, November 9 for Thanksgiving and Thursday, November 23 and 24 for Christmas. On Friday, November 24, the Club will host a Book Club at 1 p.m. with the author of The Summer of the Swallow. For more information call Darlene, site manager, at (609) 567-3200, ext. 6537.

**Saturday, November 25**

The Hammonton Good Samaritan Center will hold dinners on Wednesdays. Dinners are free of charge with curbside pickup only from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. at 310 Bellevue Avenue parking lot. Weekly meals will be posted on Hammonton Family Success Center Facebook page via Eventbrite or calling the center by Tuesday at 3 p.m. at (609) 567-2000. An addiction support group will meet every Wednesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 310 Bellevue Avenue. The meetings are open to anyone affected by addiction. For more information email hope.hammondton@gmail.com or call text Gary at (609) 727-2763.

**Other Events**

**Wednesday, November 29**

The Annual 115th Anniversary will be commemorating their 115th anniversary with a cookbook showcasing all things blueberry. There are seeking beloved blueberry recipes from residents, community leaders, home cooks, home bakers and professionals in the following categories: desserts, appetizers, salads, breakfast items, beverages, mains, jams, jellies, sauces, can- darcs, pastries, cookies, cakes, pies, muffins, scones, salsa, compote, pet treats, skin care and candles. Deadline for submissions is Friday, Dec. 1. Entries should include your name, complete ingredient list and complete instructions. All entries may be emailed to: wcchammon- toncookbook@gmail.com.

The Hammonton Senior Citizen Nutrition Center at 310 Bellevue Ave. is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Senior meals will be posted on Hammonton Family Success Center Face- book page please register first at the center. For further questions call Darlene, site manager, at (609) 567-3200, ext. 6537. The annual 115th anniversary will be commemorating their 115th anniversary with a cookbook showcasing all things blueberry. There are seeking beloved blueberry recipes from residents, community leaders, home cooks, home bakers and professionals in the following categories: desserts, appetizers, salads, breakfast items, beverages, mains, jams, jellies, sauces, cand- days, pastries, cookies, cakes, pies, muffins, scones, salsa, compote, pet treats, skin care and candles. Deadline for submissions is Friday, Dec. 1. Entries should include your name, complete ingredient list and complete instructions. All entries may be emailed to: wcchammon- toncookbook@gmail.com.

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