THE LIZETTE GAZETTE

WINTER 2021

Vol: 3 Issue: 3

HAPPENING NOW

Thank you for picking up a copy of the NEW Lizette Gazette created by members of the Riverside Historical Society.

MEMORIES OF THE PAST PRESERVED FOR THE FUTURE

Ed Siegfried was a great Riverside photographer and film maker. Over his career, Ed photographed many Riverside buildings, people, and events that we are privileged to have in our collection at the Riverside Historical Society. The collection consists of many pictures and people that participated in the 1951 Riverside Centennial, a week in September that defined an era that the whole town celebrated – 100 years of Progress.

Behind the scenes: RHS' own Rich Pattanite Jr: has been reviewing and cataloging our collection's VHS collection.

The whole week in one VHS tape is priceless – the people, parade, mustache contest and fireworks. Crowning the beautiful Miss Maratea, the Queen, was the most defining moment of this week of celebration. Fast forward to 2001 – the 150th celebrations by Robert Kenney and Historical Society members consisted of a three-day celebration that included tapes of Riverside Follies, vaudeville sketches on Thursday night at Riverside High School, and a combined choir of Riverside churches. The Friday night Firehouse Dance was recreated and the members that participated in the 100th also danced the night away at the 150th. What a time it was!

The Saturday parade (at the 150th) is featured on tape which concluded with the Rock-Around-the-Clock celebration at the Riverside Watch Case Building. The fundraising effort by Dave Speegle and crew came to fulfillment when the 4-sided clock on the building was restored to its former glory. Instead of a hand-cranked manual clock, an electronic and computerized clock was used to insure accurate time. The town glowed under the light of the clock and the people danced in the street. The tape ends with a tour of the Watch Case Building. Priceless recordings soon to be digitized and preserved for all to view the past. *-Written and contributed by Richard Pattanite Jr.*

HONOR RIVERSIDE MILITARY HEROES!

We've heard your request for more military banners and have found a solution in thanks to the Township Committee and the RPD! Sponsorship order forms for the ***2022 SUPER WALL BANNER*** can be found on our website at www.riversidehistoricalsocietynj.com/military-banners

Sponsorships are ***$55 each*** and include one 13" x 13" space on the super banner which will be affixed to the police station. (example at left).

Space is limited; only 45 spaces available. First come, first served basis; no holds without payment.

TOWNSHIP PROCLAMATION FOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY!

On November 17th, Riverside Township recognized the Riverside Historical Society and author Herm Maurer for our award-winning book, "Progress to Riverside: A Story of Our Town's Past" with a proclamation at the Township Meeting. Thank you to the Township Committee and all those who helped make this book a success!

MEETING PROGRAMMING FOR 2021-2022

•December 4th – Current members only holiday gathering.
•January 19th – "Morris A. Robbins, M.D. at ZMH" - Presented by Dorothy Robbins Talavera
•February 16th – "Timbuctoo, West of Mount Holly" - Presented by Paul W. Schopp
•March 16th - "Spotlight on the Arndt Journals" - Presented by Joanne Mongon.
•April 15th - "Dr. Emma Weeks Metzer: New Jersey's First Doctor and a Riverside Gal!" Presented by Brittany Rae.
•May 20th - "Riverside's Military Walk of Honor in Review!" Interactive/no presenter.
•June 15th - "Hall of Fame Highlights" Presented by Pete Chiaccio.

Celebrate the RPD's 100th Anniversary!

On sale at our meetings and our museum!
$10/ea. All proceeds support the Riverside Historical Society!

THIS PUBLICATION IS BROUGHT TO YOU THANKS TO THE ARCHIVES AND MEMBERS OF THE RIVERSIDE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.
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Flip over to see who Lizette is and what our area was like decades ago.

HAPPENING THEN

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LIZETTE'S CORNER

In 1918, when much of the world was suffering from the influenza outbreak, so too was Burlington County. Lizette Zurbrugg's former residence in Riverside, then the town's three-year-old hospital, nor the community of Riverside would escape the pandemic eerily foreshadowing the COVID pandemic the town would see just over 100 years later. The following account, found by Jim Snow, from the Mt. Holly Herald from November 16, 1918 gives a heart-wrenching look into Riverside before winter of that year:

"The report from the Board of Health for the month of October shows that Riverside has at least fifty deaths due to the influenza epidemic. The normal death rate being from five to seven a month. A comparison shows that this town suffered more than lot of others…"

Fifty deaths in one month seems almost unimaginable for our one-mile town. How did our small hospital handle the pandemic? The conglomerate hospitals of today even had difficulty handling the enormous numbers of COVID patients. Having lived through our most recent pandemic, we can't imagine how a 12-bed hospital kept up with the needs of the community.

However, in addition to helping the flu-afflicted community, several of the 1918 medical staff also felt compelled to honor their country during WWI. Jim Snow's presentation at our November meeting told the story of Dr. Chauncey Lambert and Nurse Rosa Siegfried, whose names appear on Riverside's WWI monument. According to the 1910 and the 1915 censuses, Chauncey B. Lambert is living and practicing medicine at 111 Pavilion Avenue. Dr. Lambert married Mary Enright (c. 1913). At the age of 36, he registered for the draft on September 12, 1918 and died less than a month later of the influenza on October 8, 1918. Lizette Zurbrugg hired Rosa Siegfried on May 15, 1916 for $50.00 a month. Rosa left the hospital in the middle of October at the height of the pandemic to join the army on October 15, 1918. She was stationed at General Hospital #12 in Biltmore, North Carolina. She returned to Riverside after her discharge on November 21, 1919 and served as head nurse at the hospital in the 1920s.

100 years ago seems like a long time but you could also argue that the more things change, the more they stay the same. The Riverside community then struggled through loss, grief, and an ever-changing political climate in much of the same ways we have in the past two years. History is there for us to learn from and if there is anything to be said about learning from the most recent past or from that of 100 year ago, it may just be to hold tight to your community and, of course, to thank all of the frontline workers then and now who so bravely help to mend the sick. Thank you for your dedication and sacrifices and thank you for your service.

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT RIVERSIDE'S PAST?

Pick up your copy of *Progress to Riverside: A Story of Our Town's Past* this holiday season!
In addition to its fans throughout the region (not to mention those we've mailed across country!) *Progress to Riverside* was also named the **2020 Burlington County History Recognition Committee winner!**

Order online for pickup or mail delivery from our website

www.riversidehistoricalsocietynj.com

What would 19th Century social media look like? Wonder no more! Taken from Riverside newspapers:

December 21st 1893: The cold wave which has struck Riverside seems to have a tendency to help along the grippe. Doctor Lippincott reports, during the last week, 39 cases of grippe during his calls.
February 18th 1895: Riverside has been suggested as a suitable name for the new Township.
March 20th 1896: This is the time of the year when a good stone road is most appreciated as the mud on some roads is something less than five feet deep.

EVENTS IN & AROUND 08075

THURSDAY, December 2nd 9am-12pm and SATURDAY, December 11th and 18th 10am-1pm
OPEN MUSEUM SHOPPING HOURS @ Riverside Historical Society
Stop by, say hi, and shop local for all your gifts this season!

SATURDAY, December 4th 6-9pm
CHRISTMAS IN RIVERSIDE @ Riverside
Annual holiday celebration on Scott Street and Pavilion Avenue. See township website for more information.

MONDAY, January 24th 1pm
The Life & Times of a One-Armed Surgeon @ Lyceum of History & Natural Sciences, Mt. Holly
Morris Robbins planned to be a surgeon, but at 18, he suffered a devastating injury that took his left arm. While most would have given up, he became a renowned orthopedic surgeon who specialized in saving limbs. Join his daughter, Dorothy Talavera, as she discusses her father's memoir, "The Life and Times of a One-Armed Surgeon."

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