

LIZETTE

THE

GAZETTE

FALL RECAP 2024

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

HAPPENING NOW



NINE DECADES AND COUNTING: STORIES OF WISDOM AND WONDER!

Large crowds have attended our third Wednesday of the month meetings at the American Legion Hall. Joanne Kessler Smith presented October's program – The Dirty Dozen: Nonagenarians Edition. Listening to hours of their stories of growing up in Riverside, Joanne captured the memories of twelve 90+ year old people and their recollections of watching Jersey Joes' Drum & Bugle Corps parade down Scott Street, riding the train, shopping in our business district, going to the Fox Theater, days in Spring Garden Park, nights at the Ox Roast, skating rink, carnivals and dances at the Fire House and more! These twelve interviewees are Gloria Marrazzo Combs, Janet Kessler Cutitta, Frank DiVece, Ruth Maute Duffy, Shirley Shull Haran, Emerson "Bub" Lucas, Anna Dattilio Lucas, Joan King McHugh, Bettyann Bishop Melvin, Eleanor DiVece Ruehmling, Ed Shinn and Jean Veron Wenner. Unfortunately, at the time of this publication we have lost two dear souls: Joan McHugh and Jean Wenner. May their memory be a blessing to all and a reminder that everyday we are living history; record, remind, and rejoice in stories and times spent with all.

Watch our Facebook page for postings for another oral history program called Nonagenarians 2.0 and reach out to us with someone 90+ you think might like to be interviewed for the next round of preserving our stories about Riverside!



Nonagenarians and friends at our October meeting.



Thank you, Alice, for taking us on the hunt with you!

ALLIGATOR ALICE ON THE HUNT!

November's meeting was presented by another Smith – Alice Carl Smith, entitled "The Hunt for the Prototype to the USS Alligator." This program will also be updated as the search continues in January or February with ground penetrating radar (GPR) conducted by Art Trembanis from the University of Delaware. On December 7th, the Board of Directors of The Explorers Club awarded the search team consisting of Vince Capone, Steve Nagiewicz, Chuck Veit, James Delgado, Art Trembanis, and Alice Smith the honor of flying their flag on the expedition. The flag represents an impressive history of courage and accomplishment; it has been carried by our members to the Moon, to the depths of the ocean, and around the globe. It is both an honor and a privilege to receive this special recognition. Let's fly the flag and find her!

Interested in joining us for our next program? Mark your calendars for January:

January's program – January 15th at 7pm – our featured guest speaker Eric Orange will present a program highlighting ideas for the preparation of the upcoming 2026 Semiquincentennial celebration of our country.

A JAM-PACKED MUSEUM THANKS TO YOU!

The year 2024 has proven to be another productive, successful year for the Riverside Historical Society receiving 149 donations with each donation having anywhere from 1-40 items recorded in the numbered category. The top contributors for this year are the Becker/Dadino, Cancellieri, Donahue/Karn, Dmochowski/VanEtten, France, Hindsley, Hinkle, Kemble, Kirk, Lucas, Marino/Peluso/Solomon, Nitchkey, Olgiati, the Riverside Fire Company, Riverside Schools and Wrice families.

One in particular special item is a piece of tin ceiling/wall from William F. Taubel's office at his mill. The office once overlooked Scott Street and the railroad tracks on the land currently being redeveloped today (closest to the Pancoast/Candy/Canducci building).

Donated by Bill Baxter in memory of his and our friend Dennis Rogers, the framed piece now hangs on the wall of our museum. Dennis passed away on June 16, 2024, and the piece was purchased by Baxter from Rogers' estate and donated to the museum. Dennis was an active member of our organization and a dear friend to many of the local history groups in the community and served as President of the Riverfront Historical Society for almost 25 years. He is greatly missed.

Thank you to everyone who has given a piece of their history to our museum in order to help us preserve our history for future generations!



Above: Bill and the tin panel donated in memory of Dennis Rogers.



MATCHING DONATION CAMPAIGN Take the challenge now-January 31, 2025

Through his 60-year friendship with Trustee Vince Malecki and appreciation for our organization, Bill Stanley is offering a challenge: he will match any donation you make on a dollar-for-dollar basis up to \$10,000.00 for a total goal of \$20,000.00.

This effort will help the Riverside Historical Society meet its obligations and costs.

Bill Stanley lives in Paoli, Pa and grew up in Riverside. Bill was an accomplished athlete at Riverside High School, a graduate of the Class of 1973, and a member of the Riverside Hall of Fame.

Please accept Bill's challenge and make a tax-deductible donation to the Riverside Historical Society before January 31st!

Checks can be made payable to:
Riverside Historical Society
3 Franklin Street
Riverside, NJ 08075

**No amount is too small and is greatly appreciated!
Thank you in advance for your support!**

SHOP LOCAL HISTORY ANYTIME AT:



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

LIZETTE'S CORNER



Heading into the holiday season for Lizette in her time didn't look too far off from some holiday traditions celebrated today! Here are some similar - and perhaps some different ways- she and Theophilus may have celebrated the holiday season:

Christmas trees

A popular tradition, Christmas trees were decorated with homemade ornaments, candles, nuts, fruits, and sweets. The first electric Christmas tree was in the White House in 1894!

Homemade gifts

Family members would make gifts like dolls, clothes, toys, pillows, and knitted accessories for their loved ones.

Samichlaus

Samichlaus, the Swiss German name for St. Nicholas, would visit children on St. Nicholas Day; those on his "not so nice list" were given treats like tangerines, nuts, and gingerbread if they recited a poem and promised to reform.

Christmas pickle

A green ornament shaped like a pickle was hidden on the tree, and the first child to find it received a gift or opened the first present. The tradition likely originated from a Woolworths marketing gimmick in the late 1800s.

Children's mass and living Nativity scenes

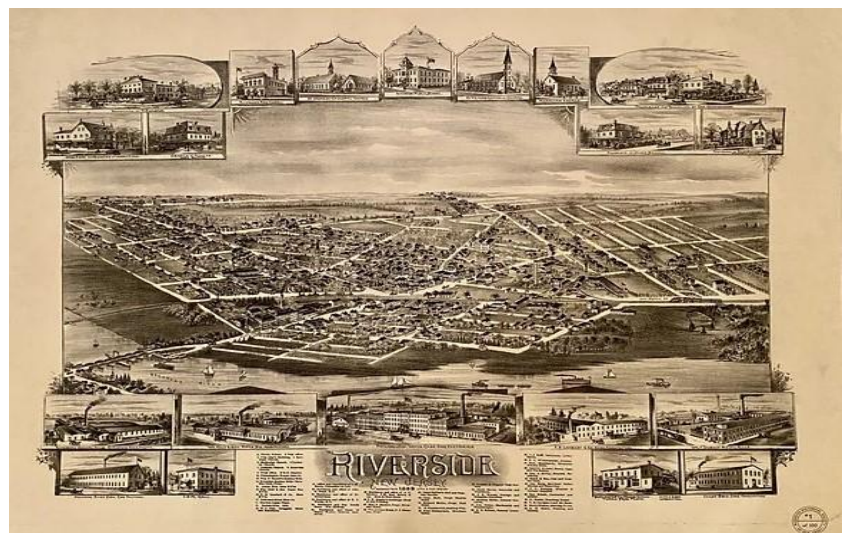
Families with children attend a shorter, dramatized mass with a nativity play.

HISTORY, PAGE BY PAGE!

The 1899 O. H. Bailey Map Booklet is back from the printer! This 28-page pamphlet compliments the map with a short history about the location and its owners.

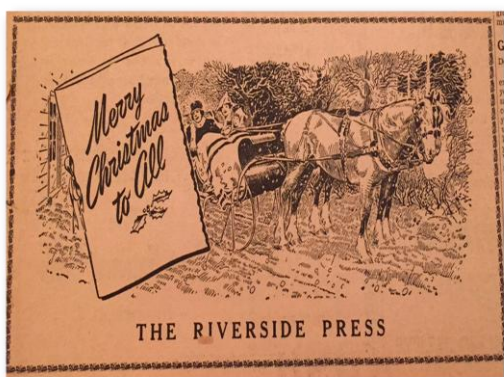
Thank you for the months of research dedicated to this project by our great team – Herman Maurer, Joanne Mongon, Alice Smith, Joanne Smith, and Brittany Rae in putting this publication together for Riverside's Third Grade History Project.

If you have previously purchased the map, please stop by the museum for your complimentary copy of the publication during our operational hours on Thursdays 9-4 and the second and last Saturday of the month from 1-4. The 2024-2025 3rd graders will also receive copies when they tour the museum in the Spring. Funding has been made possible in part by the New Jersey Historical Commission/Department of State, and the Burlington County Board of County Commissions, Department of Resource Conservation, Division of Parks. Thank you!



Visualize the past with our new booklet and its map!

Nostalgic for holidays of years past? How about some ads from the Riverside Press archives!



Season's greetings from the Riverside Press in 1943



Partial advertisement from the GEM Store located at 18 Scott Street



OPEN HOURS AT THE MUSEUM

Every Thursday from 9am-4pm.
Every second and last Saturday of the month from 1-4pm.

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!



COMING UP IN & AROUND 08075

THURSDAY, January 2nd, 2025 6-9pm

Smithville Synth Night @ Historic Smithville Park Annex Art Gallery

Experiment with sound using electronic instruments; county event, see their website for more details!

WEDNESDAY, January 15th, 2024 7pm

January Meeting of the Riverside Historical Society @ American Legion #146

Join us in the new year for fun programs and fellowship!

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