

# THE

# LIZETTE

# GAZETTE

MARCH 2020

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

Vol: 1 Issue: 6

## HAPPENING NOW



### Celebrating Women's History Month



Every year March is designated Women's History Month by Presidential proclamation. The month is set aside to honor women's contributions in American history. Women's History Month began as a local celebration in Santa Rosa, California. The Education Task Force of the Sonoma County (California) Commission on the Status of Women planned and executed a "Women's History Week" celebration in 1978. The organizers selected the week of March 8 to correspond with International Women's Day. The movement spread across the country as other communities initiated their own Women's History Week celebrations the following year.

In 1980, a consortium of women's groups and historians—led by the National Women's History Project (now the National Women's History Alliance)—successfully lobbied for national recognition. In February 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued the first Presidential Proclamation declaring the Week of March 8th 1980 as National Women's History Week.

The 2020 Women's History Month theme is "Valiant Women of the Vote." The theme honors "the brave women who fought to win suffrage rights for women, and for the women who continue to fight for the voting rights of others. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, guaranteeing and protecting women's constitutional right to vote.

Source: <https://www.womenshistory.org/womens-history/womens-history-month>

### More Military Walk of Honor Banners Coming to Riverside This Spring!

There is very limited space for large singular banners (18 soldiers) and wall banner (45 soldiers); please submit a form online from our website and send payment to secure spot ASAP; once we receive the form we will confirm the type of sponsorship selected as they are received on a first come, first serve basis. See sponsorship costs on website.

All sponsorships include (1) Honoree Booklet, (1) 11x14 frame, and the banner space which will be displayed annually. Please send check or money order to Riverside Historical Society at 10 Zurbrugg Way Riverside, NJ 08075. Attach photo onto online form or email. Honoree's photo to [RiversideHistoricalSocietyNJ@gmail.com](mailto:RiversideHistoricalSocietyNJ@gmail.com)



Individual banner (back to back at random with another soldier)



Wall banner will feature 45 soldiers together and mounted on Police Station alongside War Memorial



Author, Herman Maurer

## Celebrating 125 Years of Riverside with Our Book Launch!

On the eve of Riverside's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Riverside Historical Society gathered at our monthly meeting to celebrate the town's anniversary and the launch of "Progress to Riverside: A Story of Our Town's Past." The book by Herman Maurer captures how the little town of Progress grew into the town of Riverside. It covers a vast amount of detail complete with photos and maps from our archive and other resources, each footnoted for accuracy. You'll see familiar early town names such as Yearly, Pearson, and Bechtold and just might learn a thing or two about what life was like along the river in the early nineteenth century.

We were honored to have over 60 people, including Mayor Jason Frey, join us at our celebration and look forward to the next 125 years to come!



Still need a book? Order online or stop by the museum Thursday mornings from 9:30-11:30am! The Riverside Library also has copies for sale!



Pictured above are all those who contributed to the creation, editing, indexing, advertising, and sales of the Anniversary Book. Thank you all for your efforts and enjoy your keepsake framed image of the back cover of our beautiful book!

### EVENTS IN & AROUND 08075 IN MARCH

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18 7PM**  
**RIVERSIDE HISTORICAL SOCIETY @ THE AMERICAN LEGION**  
 Join us as we celebrate Women's History Month with a program on Riverside's nurse, Julia Arndt! Learn about what we discovered in her medical journals she kept during visits through town and much more!

**MONDAY, MARCH 16 7PM**  
**TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING @ TOWN HALL**

**MARCH 28 9AM**  
**PARK CLEANUP @ PENNINGTON PARK AND NEWTON LANDING'S TRAIL**  
 Help clean up our parks! Bags, gloves, and grabbers provided. Bring your own water! Email Burlington County at [clean-comm@co.Burlington.nj.us](mailto:clean-comm@co.Burlington.nj.us) for more information.

### Check out our website to:

- Shop our online store, including purchasing the new book!
- Submit your sponsorship forms for the new additions to the Military Walk of Honor
- See when our Open Hours are or to mark your calendars for our next meeting!

[www.RiversideHistoricalSocietyNJ.com](http://www.RiversideHistoricalSocietyNJ.com)



### A note from our President:

It's unthinkable to miss another Historical Society celebration but it happened. Thank you all those who stepped up to help out with February's launching of the society's new book - *Progress to Riverside - A Story of Our Town's Past* by Herman Maurer. I heard there was standing room only. I missed being with you, but try telling the doctors that you have a special place to be. With my now limited mobility, I am once again forced to slow down. When this happens, I do two of my favorite activities - crocheting and reading. I have two good reads - Maurer's book and *Didn't See It Coming* by Carey Nieuwhof. And I certainly didn't see it coming, but I'll be back....Alice

**Lou's DELI**  
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# HAPPENING THEN

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## LIZETTE'S CORNER



*Lizette Zurbrugg*

Not a lot has been recorded of the woman who some could argue as the first lady of Riverside though that is changing every month with our newsletter named in her honor: The Lizette Gazette! We do know she was the wife of the prominent Theophilus Zurbrugg and a former Red Cross Nurse and from personal accounts we have recorded in our collection, she is said to have been somewhat of a spitfire with a strong personality. Lizette lived in Riverside until moving in 1912 to the Zurbrugg Mansion along the Delaware River in Delanco and was a part of the Zurbrugg Memorial Hospital administration until her death in 1923.

While we're still researching and learning more about her each month, sometimes even something as simple as her name's spelling is not even set in stone...unless you count the plaque once displayed on the Zurbrugg Memorial Hospital- spelled like the above!

Celebrating  
Women's  
History  
Month

Here are just a few Riverside women  
of our town's past and how their  
stories helped shape the future:

Celebrating  
Women's  
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*Mrs. Savannah Long*

For over sixty years, many of the outfits worn throughout Riverside first went through Mrs. Long's hands at her shop on Lafayette Street. As a tailor, her business complimented that of her husband's who was a dry cleaner. Together they would build a home where they also ran their business out of at 111 Lafayette St., though Mrs. Long would continue for the next six decades on her own after her husband died in 1946. With her strength in carrying on during such an emotionally pivotal time, her gifts with a needle and thread, and the bond she shared with her community it is no wonder she was a Riverside mainstay for decades.

*Julia and Anna Elizabeth Arndt*

Once dubbed New Jersey's oldest twins (in 1939), the Arndt sisters are indeed from the same family as the street which bears their name. Anna, who has also been cited as (A.) Elizabeth and Lizzie, looked after their homestead and was a Sunday School teacher for 40 years while Julia, whose medical journals will provide our program next month, worked as the Township Nurse for 25 years. Julia was a charter member of the Women's Suffrage Party while both sisters were members of Riverside's WCTU (Women's Christian Temperance Union). These hometown twins were also very much into family history and wrote the story of the Arndt family coming to America together.

Want to learn more? Our March program is dedicated to Julia's medical journals which were donated to our collection in 2018 and transcribed by our diligent archive volunteers! Join us March 18 at 7pm at the American Legion to learn more!



*Dr. Emma Weeks Metzger*

Did you know New Jersey's first female doctor was from Riverside? In her 93 years, she held several distinct honors and even came out of retirement at age 73 to help her son, who had taken over her practice, when he served during WWII. She was one of the original ten physicians on staff at Zurbrugg Hospital when it opened in 1915, one of the first residents of Riverside to have a telephone, and delivered nearly 3,000 babies! She was also the recipient of the Medical Society of New Jersey's Golden Merit Award for over 50 years of medical practice. She had several practices include one on Washington St. and one on Pavilion Avenue though her most well known office may be the one she ran out of her home at the corner of Fairview and Washington St. where her house still stands today.

*Mary Edna Tillery*

Once Principal of the Progress Street School, she would go on to be employed by Riverside Elementary School after Progress Street School closed in 1947. She is described by former students as a "delight" and taught until her death in 1966. We do not have a photo of her in our collection (if you have one please send!) however, we felt the image of the school she resided over would be a suitable representation of her presence as a notable Riverside woman.



To learn more, stop by our museum on the last Tuesday and Saturday of every month from 10am-2pm or make an appointment by contacting us at: [RiversideHistoricalSocietyNJ@gmail.com](mailto:RiversideHistoricalSocietyNJ@gmail.com)  
Visit us on the web at [riversidehistoricalsocietynj.com](http://riversidehistoricalsocietynj.com)

**What would 19<sup>th</sup> Century social media look like? Wonder no more! Taken from Riverside newspapers:**

**March 21, 1892 - Tonight there will be a meeting of citizens at Hafner's Hall to talk about building a "lock-up".**

**March 31, 1894 - Pine's new pharmacy will open tonight.**

**March 20 - 1895 - The Moravian Church people are introducing water in the church.**

*Riverside Historical Society*

*Preserving history for future  
generations since 1984.*



[www.RiversideHistoricalSocietyNJ.com](http://www.RiversideHistoricalSocietyNJ.com)



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