

Volume 51 No. 2 Issue #122 September 2018

Morse: 19th Century Renaissance Man

Samuel Finley Breese Morse (1791–1872) epitomized the titans of the Industrial Revolution in America with his wide-ranging accomplishments in technology and art. On Thursday evening, October 25, 2018, photojournalist Jim DelGiudice details the life of the Massachusetts-born Morse, who worked for a time in New Jersey.

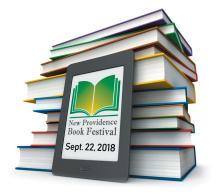
Mr. DelGiudice will speak at 7 PM at the DeCorso Center at 15 East Fourth Street in New Providence. Refreshments will be served afterward.

Although not his only contribution, Samuel Morse is best known for his invention of the telegraph and the code which bears his name.



Readers may use the key on page 4 to decipher the Morse code below.





New Providence Book Festival

On **Saturday, September 22, 2018**, 9 AM to 3 PM, the Salt Box Museum will host, on its grounds, the second annual New Providence Book Festival. Over a dozen New Jersey authors, across various genres, will be on hand to discuss and sign their books. A free raffle ticket will be given for every book purchase. All are invited to come to this cultural event. Refreshments will be available at our bake sale. The Salt Box Museum will be open to all visitors free of charge. The raindate is September 29th.



President's Letter

One hundred years ago, the First World War ended. Some historians have remarked that World War One brought the world into the modern era, admittedly at a frightening cost. Other advances came from industrious inventors, such as Samuel Morse with his telegraph. Progress is important, but so is knowing its history.

The New Providence Historical Society contributes to that mission through its work of recording, preserving and educating at the local level. In support of these objectives, we have lined up a range of activities for the fall.

On Saturday, September 22nd, the Society is once again hosting the New Providence Book Festival on the grounds of the Salt Box Museum. Over a dozen New Jersey authors—several from New Providence—will be signing books and participating in panel discussions. For every book purchased, the buyer will receive a free raffle ticket for a \$50 gift certificate for Moe's Bistro and an overnight stay at the Murray Hill Hotel & Suites. In addition, the Salt Box Museum will be open free of charge. Refreshments will be available thanks to our bake sale. Special thanks to Lantern Hill and our other sponsors for supporting this event. The rain date for the festival is September 29th.

On the weekend of October 20th and 21st, the Salt Box Museum will again participate in Union County's "Four Centuries in a Weekend."

On Thursday, October 25, 2018 at 7 PM, historian Jim DelGuidice will make a presentation on the fascinating Samuel Morse at our fall meeting. Refreshments will be served.

On Sunday, October 28, 2018, the Society will have a booth at the New Providence Street Fair.

We hope you are able to partake of many of these events this fall. Volunteers are always needed and encouraged. If you'd like to volunteer, or just have questions, please give us a call at 908-665-1034.

LindaKale President

i. i. i. i.

Special Note: Many members have still not renewed their annual membership. Please check to see if your membership is up-to-date. Dues are vital to keeping the Society functioning.

The War to End All Wars

A century has passed since the end of World War I, the "war to end all wars." The phrase was first used by the British author H. G. Wells. Later, the term became associated with Woodrow Wilson, despite him using the phrase only once.

Over nine million combatants and seven million civilians died in the war. It was the first war to employ armored tanks, U-boats and "dog-fighting" aircraft. Also, the use of poisonous gas and trench warfare contributed to the battlefield stalemate and prolonging of the war.

At the center intersection of New Providence, in front of the Presbyterian Church, an honor roll plaque commemorates the service of local veterans of the "World's War," a label used before anyone knew it would require a number.





The World War I Victory Medal, shown above, was awarded to each veteran of the war.

HONOR ROLL OF THE WORLD'S WAR

JOHN O. ADAMS **NICHOLAS ANNELLI** PASQUALE ANNELLI GEORGE S. ATTERIDG DONALD BADGELY **CLEMENT BOIN** JAS. ALSEN BROWER ALONZO P. BURNETT GEO L. BURNETT NICHOLAS COMPANA GIOVANI COLEBELLA LUCIANA COLEBELLA **ROSS DELIO** E. KINSLEY DICKINSON MICHAEL DICORZA **GEORGE EARLE** J. C ALVIN FACKINER LESTER FACKINER WALTER L. FAUST

DANIEL FITZPATRICK ROBERT FITSINGER **GEORGE GENUNG LILIAN GRAY** OTTO HANSER HARRY C. HIGH DONALD IRVING PASQUALE JANNELLI **GEORGE JEFFERS** JOSEPH JOHNSON LEO KAMMERER HARRY KENNEDY NICHOLAS KRAYER JOHN KRAYER PETER KRAYER THOMAS LENCI, JR. CARMINE MAFFEL MICHAEL MAZZUCCO CELESTINE MAZZUCCO

ADOLF MILLER CLARENCE MOLL FRED. B. MCNAMARA LEON G. PARCELLS STEPHEN PARKER MARGARET PELOUBET JOSEPH PIGNA ERNEST REICHENBACH GEORGE REICHENBACH ARTHUR RENDALL **GROSVENOR ROBINSON** HERBERT L. ROWE ERNEST B. RUBSAMEN, JR. C. LOUIS RUBSAMEN WALTER H. RUBSAMEN ADOLF SCHULTZ FRANK SHARP **CLEMENT SIMON** FERDINAND SIMON

JOHN C. SMITH FRED STAHL LOUIS STAHL THEODORE STAHL W. HERBERT STEPHENS WILLIAM STURM LESTER TEMPLETON CREIGHTON THOMPSON **CARL TOTTEN** HAROLD VAN DYKE J. WILBUR WAHL WALLER WATSON WM. E. WEBSTER HARRY BASINGER WELBORNE LEONARD WELBORNE GEO WILLIAMSON HAROLD WOODRUFF ROBERT WOODRUFF

Calendar for Upcoming Historical Society Events

2018

September 9, 2018	Sunday	Open House at Salt Box Museum, 1-3 PM
September 20, 2018	Thursday	Trustees Meeting, 7 PM, Mason Room
September 22, 2018	Saturday	New Providence Book Festival at Salt Box Museum, 9 AM- 3 PM
		(Raindate: September 29, 2018)
October 18, 2018	Thursday	Trustees Meeting, 7 PM, Mason Room
October 20, 2018	Saturday	Four Centuries in a Weekend, Open House 10 AM - 5 PM
October 21, 2018	Sunday	Four Centuries in a Weekend, Open House 12 Noon - 5 PM
October 25, 2018	Thursday	Fall Talk, "Samuel Morse" DeCorso Center, 7 PM
October 28, 2018	Sunday	Booth at New Providence Street Fair 10 AM - 4 PM
November 4, 2018	Sunday	Open House at Salt Box Museum, 1-3 PM

2019 -

January 17, 2019 Thursday Trustee's Meeting, 7 PM, Mason Room

^{*}Please check our website, www.newprovidencehistorical.com, for details and updates. Anyone wishing to attend a trustee's meeting, should contact Linda Kale or Rick Anderson to check it has not been rescheduled. Or you can call 908-665-1034.



William Bigham is Our 20th Scholarship Recipient

William Bigham is the 20th recipient of the New Providence Historical Society Scholarship. He graduated from New Providence High School with honors in U.S. and European history, among others. William is in particular drawn to military history.

His Boy Scout Eagle project served to enhance the environment of Lord Stirling Park in Basking Ridge, NJ. William plans to attend American University in Washington, DC, where he will major in history and political science. He hasn't decided his plans for after college, although he says he's thinking of law school, becoming a history teacher or maybe even running for public office.

The Changing Face of New Providence

Eden Nail & Spa opened in July at 18 South Street, the former site of the Colorado Ski Shop, and earlier Bell Drugs.

The new Chase Manhattan Bank building has completed construction and opened for business at the site of

the old Friendly's Restaurant at 75 South Street.

Chopt Creative Salad Co. opened its third New Jersey location in the Village Shopping Center, at prior location of Investors Bank.

Construction on the **Tide Dry Cleaners** in the Village Shopping Center has been completed and is open for business.

Two long standing houses at 125 South Street (next to Our Lady of Peace Church) were demolished in early August.

Bank of America at 15 South Street has announced their closing.





Member & Citizen News

Please welcome new members Jean Davies, Edward Chambliss, Peter DeSarno, Christopher Siebelts, Julie Turner, and John Turner.

Gene Fox passed away on July 15, 2018. He and his wife Kathryn resided in Summit. Retired teacher, Governor Livingston Reg. High School, Berkeley Heights. An active volunteer with many groups, Gene was a long-time member of the New Providence Historical Society and served as president from 1982 to 1983.

Clara DelMonte passed away on April 22, 2018. Clara was a resident of New Providence for 68 years with husband Angelo. They owned and operated DelMonte's Deli, in 1950s and 1960s. She was a dedicated member and officer of New Providence Senior Citizens Club. She was also a long-time member. of the New Providence Historical Society.

If you have news you would like included in the next *Turkey Tracks*, please send it to:

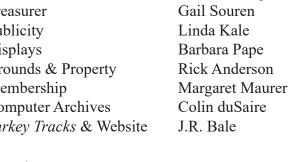
New Providence Historical Society c/o New Providence Memorial Library 377 Elkwood Avenue New Providence, NJ 07974

Attn: J.R. Bale

New Providence Historical Society Officers & Committees

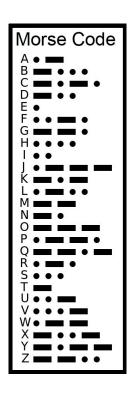
President Linda Kale Vice President Rick Anderson Corresponding Secretary Carol Smith Recording Secretaries Kerry Lee

Sara Jane Vignali Gail Souren Treasurer **Publicity** Linda Kale Barbara Pape Displays **Grounds & Property** Rick Anderson Membership Colin duSaire Computer Archives Turkey Tracks & Website J.R. Bale



Trustees

Rick Anderson, Patrick Annelli, J.R. Bale, Linda Kale, Margaret Maurer, Barbara Pape, Gail Souren, Carol Smith. (One vacancy at this time.)



Salt Box Museum Hours

1350 Springfield Avenue March to November First Sundays, 1-3 Or by appointment Telephone: 908-665-1034

Mason Room Hours

at the New Providence Library **Tuesday Mornings** 10 AM to Noon Telephone: 908-665-1034 Appointments available

Website: newprovidencehistorical.com

Turkey Tracks is also available in color on our website in PDF form.

Facebook Page: facebook.com/NewProvidenceHistoricalSociety





New Providence, New Jersey 07974 377 Elkwood Avenue Memorial Library New Providence Historical Society