



The Tewksbury Historical Society

Post Office Box 457
Oldwick, NJ 08858

May 2022

Society Meeting on May 22 - Lecture on " New Hampton: the Invisible Sons"

Gina Sampaio and Robbie-Lynn Mwangi, the Curator and Assistant Curator, respectively, of the Lebanon Township Museum, will be our guest speakers at the Society Meeting on Sunday, May 22, 2022, at 1 PM, at the Zion Lutheran Christian Education Building, 18 Miller Avenue in Oldwick. The parking lot entrance is on Church St., just past Miller Avenue. The meeting is open to the public and refreshments will be served. If you can bring a treat to share, please let our Hospitality Chair Martha Wrede know at 908.439.3557.

The speakers will present "New Hampton: the Invisible Sons". The Lebanon Township Museum is the site of the former New Hampton School which was attended by the Carlisle Indian boys. These young men from Carlisle worked on the local farms and were known by all the town residents. They were important members of the school and the community. Their contributions to life in the Township will be showcased.

Lebanon Township is the type of community where families stay for generations. Centenarians and those approaching that milestone have continually provided the staff at the museum with stories and photographs of local events and sites. However, none of them has had any recollection of the Carlisle Indian School students who spent almost three decades living, learning and working in the village of New Hampton.

Carlisle was the United States' first Residential Indian School located one hundred thirty-five miles from New Hampton in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. The curriculum included an "Outing Program" that sent students on work training excursions, including thirty-four boys and young men to work on farms here.

It wasn't terribly long ago that these students were remembered: as a matter of fact, their existence was only made known to us through the transcriptions of oral histories that were given in the early 1980s. These histories, from former students of the New Hampton schoolhouse (now the Lebanon Township Museum), recall that "Indian boys went to school here" and "Indian boys from Carlisle worked on the farms." Local newspaper articles from the early 1900s report news of the boys: from the young harmonica player that would be sorely missed by the local boys to the one who, unfortunately, passed away. These boys, with perhaps the exception of the one who ran away, were recalled with fondness and warmth. Their personality traits and dreams were known by the community they lived in and shared with the reporters.

With the passage of time, they have been forgotten. Thanks to the oral histories, the time afforded by the pandemic shutdown and the Carlisle Indian School Digital Resource Center we, the Lebanon Township Museum staff, have rediscovered the existence and the names of these young men. We have become passionate about sharing the stories of New Hampton's Invisible Sons: not just publicly naming them but learning as much as we can about each one of them. Our local and extended community has responded with enthusiasm, all of them marveling at the existence of this forgotten facet from our shared history.

With the help of Carlisle Indian school archivists, newspaper articles and input from descendants of one of the farmers as well as one of the students, we have been able to begin to create more complete pictures of these students' lives. We would love the opportunity to more widely share our research on the Carlisle Indian School's Outing Program, its impact on Lebanon Township and all of New Jersey and most specifically those who were temporary residents and students here. It's time for their stories to become visible and once again remembered.



Sampaio, a graduate of Rutgers University with a minor from the American Studies Department, is the Curator of the Lebanon Township Museum at New Hampton . She is a past docent and Museum Administrator at the Red Mill Museum Village, assuming her current position in 2019.

Mwangi, a silversmith, has a B.A. in Studio Arts. She worked in art education and managed volunteer programs before joining the Education Staff at the Red Mill Museum Village where she collaborated with Sampaio. Currently she is the Associate Curator at the Lebanon Township Museum at New Hampton.

Tewksbury Barn Tour Returns July 24

The Tewksbury Barn Tour makes its return after a 4-year hiatus due to the pandemic on **Sunday, July 24th from 10 am to 4 pm**, Rain or Shine. Jointly sponsored with the Tewksbury Trail Association, the tour will feature six barns in and around Tewksbury – an eclectic mix of active horse barn and barns turned into recreation and entertainment spaces. Tickets are available NOW on our website at www.tewksburyhistory.net then click on the Barn Tour page and pay via PayPal with a major credit card. Tickets are \$ 30 per adult and \$ 5 children ages 11 to 18. Children ages 10 and under are free. You must purchase in advance by July 23rd. Tickets purchased the day of the tour are \$ 35 per adult with children ages 11 to 18 \$ 5 and children ages 10 and under free. There will be no refunds.

We're looking for docents on the day of the tour to work a 3 hour shift. If you're available please email tewksburynjhistory@gmail.com.

Tewksbury Auto Tour

Journey on Tewksbury's scenic roads and bridges, stop at historic sites, take in the vistas and rolling landscapes on **Sunday, August 7th from 11 am to 3 pm**, rain or shine. Have an antique car or belong to a car club? What better way to see Tewksbury with the top down. We did this tour last year and it was a great success so we thought we'd bring it back.

You can reserve a tour booklet in advance by visiting our website www.tewksburyhistory.net then click on the Tewksbury Auto Tour page or purchase one the day of the tour. Tour booklets can be picked up or purchased beginning at 11 am on August 7th at Society Headquarters 60 Water Street in Mountainville. The price is the same - \$ 10 per booklet.

Tag Sale

Put off that spring cleaning and didn't donate to our Spring Tag Sales? You're in luck as we're holding another Tag Sale on **Saturday, September 3rd** (Labor Day weekend) from 8 am to 4 pm, rain or shine, in our Oldwick Carriage House. We'll be holding collection days in late July and August so watch future email announcements on when you can donate.

Membership

If you didn't pay your dues it's not too late and it's easy – just log on to our website www.tewksburyhistory.net, scroll down the main page and there's a PayPal button where you can pay with any major credit card.

THS EMAIL

Please remember to update your email address book as our email has CHANGED. Our new email is tewksburynjhistory@gmail.com.