



UNION COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



ANNUAL LUNCHEON TO BE HELD APRIL 10

After two years of physical distancing due to the COVID 19 pandemic and cancellation of the Union County Historical Society's annual luncheon during that time, the Society is pleased to host its annual luncheon on Sunday, April 10 at 2 pm at the Garden Restaurant, 943 Magie Avenue in Union.

"We are looking forward to welcoming so many of our members and friends of the Society that we have not seen for two years. It is sure to be a celebratory event," President Joanne Rajoppi stated.

Well-known historian, academic and scholar Dr. Jonathan Lurie will be the featured speaker at the luncheon. A graduate of Harvard University with a doctoral degree from the University of Wisconsin in Madison, Dr. Lurie has a long and distinguished career at a teacher, lecturer and author of several important works.

Dr. Lurie has also served as an instructor at Rutgers,

Newark since 1962, attaining the status of Professor in 1985. He also has served as visiting fellow in law and history at Harvard Law School and a visiting professor of law at the United States Military Academy, West Point. His topic for the luncheon is "What Has Happened to Our Commitment to Honesty? A Few Strictly Non- Partisan Observations."

The cost of the luncheon is \$35 per person and anyone wishing to attend can contact the President at 908-468-1012 for reservations.

Oral History Program

On April 6th at 6 p.m. a talk on Oral History will be presented by Dr. Abigail Perkiss of Kean University. This event is co-sponsored by the Union County Historical Society, Kean University and Union County Cultural and Heritage Affairs. The event will be held at the Liberty Hall Academic Center and Exhibition Hall, 1003 Morris Avenue, Union.

Parking is available behind Liberty Hall adjacent to the Blue House and Firehouse Museum. We hope you can attend.

We are also looking forward to our May meeting with the presentation of awards for student excellence in their study and love for history.

John Prescott, Coordinator of Programs at the Union County Office of Cultural and Heritage Affairs and UCHS President Joanne Rajoppi discuss Women's History Month and John's recent presentation on notable women of Union County at the March meeting of the Society.



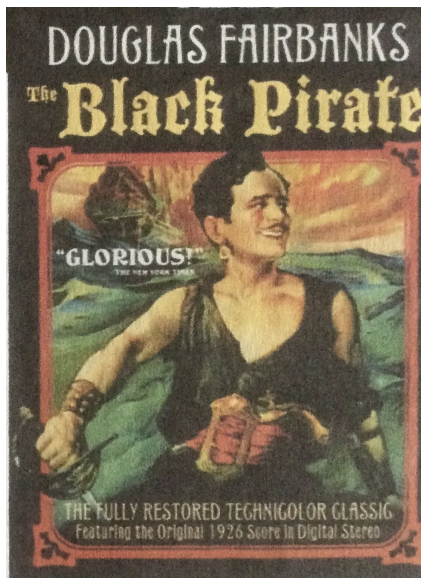
 <p>Amalya Lyle Kearse Senior Judge Amalya Lyle Kearse was the first woman ever appointed to the U.S. District Court of Appeals, Second Circuit, (Union)</p>	 <p>Mary Mapes Dodge Author of the classic <i>Hans Brinker</i> and the <i>Silver Skates</i>, Dodge served as the editor of <i>St. Nicholas Magazine</i> for children, and is buried in Evergreen Cemetery, (Hillside)</p>	 <p>Judy Blume Acclaimed author of many novels and beloved children's books, Judy Blume has received numerous literary awards, (Elizabeth)</p>
 <p>Grace H. Park Grace H. Park became the first Asian-American country prosecutor in New Jersey history. She was both the first female and the first minority individual to serve as prosecutor in Union County, (Westfield)</p>	 <p>Dr. Virginia Appgar Physician Dr. Virginia Appgar established a method to quickly assess the physical condition of newborn babies. Known as the "Appgar Score," it is used widely around the world, (Westfield)</p>	 <p>Meryl Streep Considered by many to be the greatest actress/actor of her generation, Meryl Streep has received more than twenty Academy Award nominations—more than any other actress or actor, (Summit)</p>
 <p>Bonnie Watson Coleman The first African-American woman to represent the State of NJ from the 12th Congressional District, which includes a portion of Union County, is Bonnie Watson Coleman, (Plainfield, Fairwood, Scotch Plains)</p>	 <p>Florence Price Dwyer In 1956, Florence Price "Flo" Dwyer became the first Republican woman, and the second woman ever, elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from the state of New Jersey, (Elizabeth)</p>	 <p>Carol Ann Blazejowski Athlete Carol Ann Blazejowski was the first recipient of the Wade Trophy, awarded to the best women's collegiate basketball player. She is also a National Basketball Hall of Fame inductee and former WNBA team executive, (Cranford)</p>
 <p>Alice Harding Alice Harding became a world-renowned horticulturalist and author. Types of peonies, lilacs and irises are named in her honor, (Plainfield/Farwood)</p>	 <p>Catherine Bauer Wurster Catherine Bauer Wurster, was an architect, author and adviser to five U.S. Presidents on urban housing and planning, (Elizabeth)</p>	 <p>Dr. Deborah Cannon Partridge Wolfe Dr. Deborah Cannon Partridge Wolfe was a renowned educator and also one of the first female African-American Baptist ministers, (Cranford)</p>

Thoughts About the Last 100 Years by Bill Frolich Continued

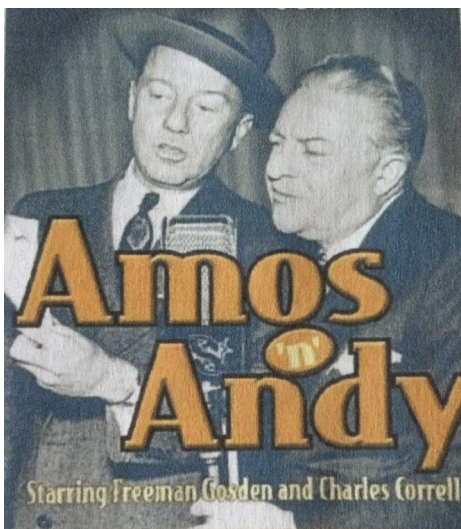
We saw movies, too, in the good old days, but they were black and white silent pictures, like "Ben Hur", "King of Kings", "The Black Pirate", and "The Man in the Iron Mask". If you had not yet learned to read, you needed someone with you who could explain the sub-titles to you. By 1929 the "talkies" ended that problem.



About this time radio had grown up a bit, and we had four major stations to which to listen. We had WEA, WJZ, WOR, and WABC. Most of them broadcast interesting programs of various lengths of fifteen or thirty minutes, and even a full hour. Most of these programs included brief commercials, but nowhere near the amount of time used by the present day programs. Some sponsors were makers of laundry products, thus originating the term "soap operas". Among the popular programs were "Twenty



"Thousand Years in Sing Sing", "Amos 'n' Andy", "The Witch's Tale", "The Lone Ranger", "First Nighter", and Lux Radio Theater of the Air", which featured hour-long edited versions of popular movies; sometimes with the original cast members. Lowell Thomas presented, "The Sea Devil, Count Felix von Luckner", a German sea raider who captained a full-rigged sailing ship named "See Adler" during the World War, sinking many cargo vessels, yet with no loss of life.. Occasionally there was an un-sponsored program known as a "sustaining program", still looking for a sponsor. Radios were rather large




items, some of which could be carried around, but the only miniature one was Dick Tracy's wrist radio, a product of the mind of Chester Gould, a cartoonist in the comic section of a newspaper.

Television was still in the hands of the experimenters, and un-available to the general public. Science magazines showed pictures of complicated set-ups of wires, vacuum tubes and large scanning discs with a ring of lenses. Video had a long way to go.



WDY's hexagonal studio, located at General Electric's Aldene plant in Roselle Park, New Jersey, 1922. On September 19, 1921 RCA was issued a license for WDY, with studio and Transmitter.

OVER THE BACK FENCE


Tracy here. You hear me Chief? A wireless phone around my wrist. Think anyone else will ever try it?