



CAMDEN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Park Boulevard & Euclid Ave, Camden, NJ
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Sunday, March 11 at 2:00 PM

An Unbroken Chain: Five Generations of Camden Quilts

The Talavera Family

In honor of Women's History Month, the Camden County Historical Society hosts a special exhibit of quilts from five generations of mothers and daughters -- the oldest made by a little girl who lived at 703 West 3rd Street in the city of Camden. Far from dazzling showpieces, these quilts are workhorses made -- and used -- by one extended Camden County family. Some were intended as precious heirlooms; others were made by a little girl just learning to sew under protest. You'll see hardworking bedclothes made from scraps at a time when waste was unthinkable; quilts that welcomed new babies into the family; and more modern quilts made as a creative outlet by women with busy lives and demanding careers. We invite you to meet members of the Talavera family and learn the stories behind each quilt that serves as a link in the unbroken chain of five generations of local women.

Sunday, April 15 at 2:00 PM

Fabulous Finds & Outrageous Fakes

Richard O. Pillatt

Collector and Restorer of Antique Furnishings

Join Antiques Detective Richard Pillatt for a fascinating behind-the-scenes look at today's antiques market where both sides of the counter -- buying and selling -- can be fraught with fraud and countless complexities.

Using a display of objects from his personal collections, Pillatt demonstrates just how fine the line can be between fabulous finds and outrageous fakes -- and how difficult it can be for the consumer to tell the difference.

Bio: Richard O. Pillatt is past president of the Camden County Historical Society and current member of the Board of Trustees. He has been a professional restorer of fine 18th- and 19th-century furniture and home furnishings for 40 years. A member of the Greater Delaware Valley Antiques Dealers Association and an avid collector himself, he knows the antiques business inside out and from all angles.

Sunday, May 6 at 2:00 PM

Preserving the Legacy of RCA Victor

Frederick O. Barnum, III

Author, His Master's Voice in America

Learn what it takes to keep the memory and legacy of RCA-Victor alive from Fred Barnum, author of His Master's Voice in America, and member of the Camden County Historical Society Board of Trustees.

For 20 years, Fred has been lecturing, writing articles, interviewing retirees, salvaging artifacts, and working with Rutgers, WHYY, and the Camden County Historical Society, among others, to make sure the memory of this once-powerful industrial giant that called Camden home is not forgotten.

Bio: Born and raised in Long Island, NY, Fred Barnum joined RCA Government Communications Systems in Camden in 1984. When RCA and GE merged in 1986, Fred became a GE employee.

Five years later, he accepted an assignment to research, write, edit, publish and sell a 90-year, fully-illustrated history of RCA and the Victor Talking Machine Company. The final product, a 400-page, hard-bound book titled His Master's Voice in America, was published in December 1991 -- all 5,200 copies sold out within six months.

Remaining with the company throughout a dizzying series of corporate sales and mergers in the 1990s, today Fred is Business Development Manager for L-3 Communications Systems-East here in Camden, where it all began. Since the publication of his book, he has made it his mission to keep the legacy of RCA-Victor vibrant and alive for generations to come.