

**History
Lecture**
Wed, 11/15
Veterans
History Project
with
Mike O'Brien

**Dickens
of a Holiday
Craft Show**
Sat, 12/2
Vendors in
(3) different
locations

**Holiday
Concert**
Wed, 12/13
Featuring
the Western
Atlantic Wind
Ensemble



Complete details
about our
**UPCOMING
EVENTS**
is available on
our website
hamiltonhistorical.org
609-909-0272

In The Spotlight



A special THANK YOU to every volunteer whom helped make the Ghost Walk 2023 a successful event. A special THANK YOU to the TOUR-GOERS...without an audience, we had no show!!



Hamilton Historical Society Newsletter

November 2023

APPLE OR PUMPKIN PIE?

The chill is in the air and the leaves are falling after dazzling us with their vivid bright colors. Our thoughts now begin to focus on preparation of family and friend gatherings. The well prepared meals often end with apple or pumpkin pie. Yet early farmers thought "Love apples" were poisonous. No, not the apples used in apple pies. "Love apples" is the nickname of the Jersey tomato. In the day, the red fruit (yes, tomatoes are a fruit) were believed to make you sick and possibly kill a person. You can thank Colonel Robert Gibbons Johnson of Salem County for climbing the courthouse steps and publicly demonstrating how safe and delicious the "Love apple" was. And don't we all agree?

So, as the peak of enjoyment of the Jersey tomato fades and you give thanks to Colonel Johnson, turn your thoughts to baking your apple or pumpkin pies. They too have a rich history. Apple pie originated in England and became more widely popular in France, Netherlands and the Ottoman Empire as early as 1390....centuries before the Pilgrims ever set foot on the Plymouth Rock and was finally mentioned in America's first cookbook (American Cookery) in 1796. But, the apple was not used in a pie rather a fruit dessert. Apple pie did not become widely popular to our identity until the 20th century. The phrase "as American as apple pie" is unclear. First Lady Lou Henry Hoover is credited using the phrase to describe the ease of homemaking abilities in 1928 in a NYTimes article. The rich history continues of how apple pie became a cornerstone of dessert and can be viewed in the referenced article.

So apple or pumpkin pie? You decide. The history of pumpkin pie you ask. Well, we have run out of room but, maybe you can look up those fascinating facts and share those at your dinner table this Fall. Enjoy your discovery of apple and pumpkin pie. Better yet, enjoy how delicious they taste.

Reference: NJ.com, "Salem County Rewind: "Love apple" legend; labor in can houses scarce, September 25, 2017.

Southern Living, April 11, 2023, "The Surprisingly Un-American History of Apple Pie".

FAST FACT

Did you know Veterans Day was once called Armistice Day? It was called this at the end of World War I. It was approved by Congress as a legal holiday in May 1938. It was a day to remember veterans we have lost in the past wars and thank the military of today for protecting our country. President Eisenhower renamed the holiday Veterans Day in 1954.



Volunteers Wanted

We offer a very
flexible
Volunteer Program.
Come join
the FUN