



## NEWS RELEASE



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### **County Clerk Hanlon announces Archives Day 2020 Jane G. Clayton Award Winner** *Allentown Historian, Alice Wikoff, wins award*

Allentown, NJ – Monmouth County Clerk Christine Giordano Hanlon is pleased to announce that Alice Wikoff of Allentown is the winner of the 2020 Jane G. Clayton Award. The award was presented by Clerk Hanlon and the Clayton Award Committee to Alice Wikoff in October and will be featured in Clerk Hanlon's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the County Clerk's Archives and History Day commemorative video.

The Jane G. Clayton award is given to individuals who, over many years, have made outstanding contributions to the awareness, understanding or preservation of Monmouth County's history.

“Alice Wikoff is a dedicated and outstanding town historian who embodies the Jane G. Clayton



*County Clerk Christine Giordano Hanlon (L) and County Historical Commission Executive Director John Fabiano (R) present Allentown Historian Alice Wikoff (M) with the 2020 Jane G. Clayton Award*

Award because of her commitment to historic preservation and her efforts to protect the rich history of Allentown,” said Clerk Hanlon.

Over the years, Alice Wikoff has gone to great lengths to maintain and preserve the architecture, streetscapes, parks, signage or any issue warranting attention. For decades, she has diligently researched and assembled Allentown’s history in 27 three-ring binders that include hand-drawn illustrations, historic photographs and other artwork of the borough’s history, which is a treasure for generations to come. Alice’s other work includes creating a 75-page condensed version of Allentown’s history.

Ms. Wikoff has also worked tirelessly to restore the Allentown’s Lakeview Cemetery, which is the final resting place for many veterans of the Revolutionary War and early residents of Allentown. Her efforts include restored headstones, interpretive signage and tours offered to Allentown’s high school students.

“Alice’s passion and enormous efforts in preserving and protecting Allentown’s history is unparalleled,” said Clerk Hanlon. “We owe her a debt of gratitude for preserving all of this information for future generations to enjoy.”

The Jane G. Clayton Award, named after the former County Clerk who established the Monmouth County Archives, has been given annually since 1997 to an individual who has made a major contribution to the preservation and knowledge of Monmouth County history.

The Jane G. Clayton Award Committee members are County Clerk Christine Giordano Hanlon, County Historical Commission Executive Director John Fabiano, County Historian Randall Gabrielan, and former County Historical Association (MCHA) Executive Director Meg Sharp Walton.

This year, the Monmouth County Clerk's Office will be celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the County Clerk's Archives and History Day through a virtual event, during which Clerk Hanlon will announce Alice Wikoff as the 2020 Jane G. Clayton Award recipient. This virtual event will be released in late October through the Monmouth County Clerk's website and social media pages.

For more information about past Archives and History Day events, visit the Monmouth County Clerk's Office website at [MonmouthCountyClerk.com/Archives](http://MonmouthCountyClerk.com/Archives), or contact the Monmouth County Archives Division by phone to 732-308-3771.

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