



## More Ways to Learn About Your Community's History

### Interview an older relative, friend, or person in your community

One of the best ways to learn about the history of your community is to interview an older relative or friend. Ask an adult you know if you can interview him or her. If you are able to, record the interview on your phone or computer so you will always have a record of your conversation. These types of interviews are also called **oral histories** and are important tools for helping us understand the past. Some questions you might ask include: When did you first come to Newark? How has life changed since you were a child? What event in your life had the biggest impact on you?



Four mayors of Newark being interviewed for WBOG.



Children performing a traditional dance for the Portuguese Day Parade.

### What happened on the day you were born?

Go to [www.onthisday.com](http://www.onthisday.com) and enter your birthday to find out what happened on that day. You may not realize how many important events have occurred on your birthday. Also look up the birthdays of your family members and see how all of you have a place in history!

### Create a family tree



A family tree is a diagram showing the relationship between members of a family. It can include brothers and sisters, parents, grandparents, cousins and anyone else who you consider to be a family member. Family trees have traditionally been drawn by hand, but now there are many great digital tools that making creating a family tree easier than ever.

Go to [www.familyecho.com](http://www.familyecho.com) to start creating your family tree. Begin by entering yourself and build your tree from there!

Did you know the Newark Public Library subscribes to **Ancestry.com**? If you need to research your roots, this resource is available in the Reference Department located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Main Library.

## **Make a time capsule**

A time capsule is a collection of items that is sealed for a period of time and opened by someone in the future. Anyone can create a time capsule. Take an old shoe box, put in some items that are meaningful to you, and select a date in the future in which it will be opened. You might also include a letter about what your life is like for whoever finds it. Make sure you leave behind instructions for when your time capsule should be opened and don't hide your time capsule in too difficult of a spot or it might never be found.



## **Follow My Newark Story on HistoryPin**

HistoryPin is a digital, user-generated archive of historical photos, videos, audio recordings and personal recollections. Users are able to use the location and date of their content to "pin" it to Google Maps. The Newark Public Library is using HistoryPin to create a digital tour of historic Newark. Search for "My Newark Story" on HistoryPin to see our collection. Create an account on [www.historypin.org](http://www.historypin.org) and you too can upload photos to our map and share your memories of Newark.



**Military Park in the 1950s.**

## **And Visit the Library, of course!**

The Newark Public Library has a rich archive located in its specialized collections. It contains many historic maps, census records, city directories, newspapers, Newark obituaries, postcards, photographs, and some yearbooks. We encourage you to explore our holdings.