

Life in Matawan and Aberdeen During Covid-19: Share Your Experiences Through Stories and Photographs

The Library wishes to capture and preserve our community's history during the Covid-19 pandemic. We will be collecting stories and photographs that will become part of the Matawan Aberdeen Public Library's Local History Digital Archives so future generations can learn from and experience this event through our community members' first-hand accounts.

Everyone has a story to tell - we need stories from everyone! No matter your age, profession, or background, everyone is welcome to submit. We are also very interested in the stories of first responders, medical professionals, people in isolation, teachers, students, and supermarket employees.

Your submission can be anything from a paragraph to a daily journal or even a poem. Here are some questions to consider when telling your story, but feel free to describe your experiences however you choose:

- When did you first hear about COVID-19 (coronavirus)?
- What experiences made the situation feel very real or surreal to you?
- What emotions have you and/or your family experienced?
- What good things have happened? Have there been "silver linings"?
- What bad things have happened in your family/friend circle?
- What have you found most helpful in dealing with this situation?
- How have you balanced work life and family life?
- What are you most worried about?
- How did you explain the situation to your children and how have they reacted to not going to school, seeing their friends, etc.
- Describe life for you in March, April, and May. What was your daily routine? What did you do to pass the time? What are some of the biggest changes that have affected your life and/or that of your household?
- How are you maintaining connections with people outside of your household?
- If you were telling this story to someone 100 years from now, what would you want them to know?

How to submit your story:

You can begin submitting your stories immediately. Email your story submissions to mapladults@lmaxac.org. Please include your name, phone number, and email address.

Photographs tell a story. Have you taken photographs around Matawan or Aberdeen that capture life during the Covid-19 pandemic? Please consider sharing one or two.

How to submit your photographs:

Photographs must be from March 1, 2020 to the present.

Each person may submit up to two photographs.

Please write a caption and identify any people in the photograph(s).

Submit photos to maplphotosubmissions@gmail.com and name the file with your last name and submit as a .jpg.

Include your name, email address and phone number with the submission.