



Historical Society News

Summer 2021

Trouble At Lover's Lane

By Cappy Stults

A couple of weeks ago I was contacted by a resident of East Ward Street. She was very concerned after speaking with an employee of an engineering firm who was walking around the bridge with an associate. He indicated to her that the bridge superstructure was going to be removed and the bridge width and walking bridge widened. He explained that the bridge no longer met standards and that it needed to be upgraded to be able to handle the increased traffic.

First some history. Until 1896 Ward Street ended at Peddie Lake. It was more of a dirt lane than a street as only two houses were on the west side of the lake to South Main Street. Here follows an excerpt from "bridgehunter.com."



The lattice portal brace is topped with cresting at the outside panels, and the roller bearing of each span is also located at the abutment end. The pipe railing which passes through the compression members is original. With the exception of the steel open grid deck, the bridge is in remarkably

Physical Description: The well-preserved 2-span thru truss bridge on coursed ashlar abutments and mid-stream pier is an unusual and possibly unique double intersection Warren with floor beam hangers. The panel points and hangers carry built-up floor beams which appear to be original. The present steel deck and stringers were installed in 1969. The inclined end posts and top chord are composed of channels and plates while the diagonals are toe-out angles joined by battens. The tension members have narrower battens and pass through the wider-spaced compression members.

complete condition with no visible major welded repairs. The grid does not detract from the integrity of the bridge.

Historical and Technological Significance: The 2-span thru truss built in 1896 is a nearly complete example of the uncommon double intersection Warren with floor beam hangers. It was fabricated and possibly designed by the New Jersey Steel and Iron Company of Trenton, one of the most important mills in the country prior to its absorption into the Carnegie's American Bridge Company in 1901.

(cont. pg 3)

President's Message

Dear Members and Friends,

Now that we are well past the Winter's newsletter article on snowstorms, we have already started to sizzle a little. This issue may ramble a little because I reached out and was able to get a lot of input from current and past residents, particularly about McGraw-Hill whose demolition was certainly a surprise to many. I would be happy to add any of your memories in a future issue if you have any to share. I did take some liberties in sharing a number of mine.

I also received some great information from longtime members Linda Ely Mansmann and Ben Zaitz about the Kinnachs. Who knew that cow diarrhea would make the Society newsletter? I hope you enjoy learning about 536 South Main and some old Hightstown names.

Our first article is about the Ward Street bridge. Please keep your ear to the ground so we can vocalize our opposition to the replacing and widening of the bridge. It would significantly change the street and area and not for the better, not to mention losing the historic structure.

I would like to thank the estate of Elnora Wright Dexheimer, previously of Rogers Avenue, for donating some of her old items. Additionally, Nathan Smith of Stockton called and offered a very old scythe for the museum. It will go nicely in our display of farm implements.

I can't overstate our gratitude to and admiration for Greg Ciano. After producing great live performances, COVID could have but did not stop him from producing another gem. The kids were awesome as well. The recent What's In a Name? was very creative and enjoyable. Over 50 attended its debut on our outdoor screen behind the freight station. The weather was also great. Thanks again to Greg and his family.

We also owe Adam Welch for his digitizing of thousands of old negatives and slides from the Albert, Rogers, Horn, and other collections. Doing so allows for easier referencing and the ability to enhance many of them.

Features

1 Trouble At Lover's Lane

by Cappy Stults

3 Blackboards In The Barn

by Cappy Stults

5 McGraw-Hill: A History and Many Memories

by Cappy Stults

8 Happy Birthday To Us!

by Cappy Stults

10 What's In A Name?

by Gregory Ciano

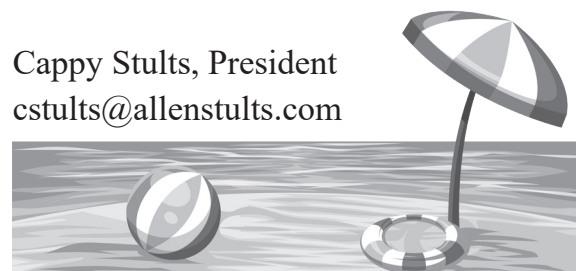
10 Walking Tour

by Gregory Ciano



A reminder to go to our Facebook or downtown Hightstown's Facebook page if you are interested in a walking tour this summer or fall. Tickets are limited. In closing, if you forgot to pay your dues, they are still welcome and needed.

Cappy Stults, President
cstults@allenstults.com



Trouble At Lover's Lane... (cont.)

The company was established as the Trenton Iron Company in 1846 when Peter Hewitt received a \$180,000. contract for rolled iron rail from the Camden & Amboy Railroad. In 1854 the company produced the first rolled 7" I-beams.




The rolled beams were to revolutionize building construction. Trenton Iron & Steel Co. produced all kinds of structural steel, including shaped steel for many New York City skyscrapers, elevated street railways in New York and Brooklyn, and even Civil War-era gun barrels. Mercer County records indicate that many New Jersey Steel and Iron Company bridges once stood in the county. The non-extant mid-1880s viaducts over North Olden and Southard Streets in Trenton were their work as is the extant 1888 Jackson Street Pratt truss in Trenton

The well-preserved East Ward Avenue bridge survives as one of the best albeit late examples of a New Jersey Steel and Iron Company bridge in the region. It is an unusual example of a double intersection Warren with floor beam hangers. Technologically it represents one of the many variations on the traditionally used trusses that were promoted and marketed during the last quarter of the 19th century. Prior to the consolidation

of smaller bridge fabricating companies into the American Bridge Company conglomerate in 1901, the independent fabricators both designed and fabricated the trusses they marketed.

The bridge spans Peddie Lake, a long narrow mill pond created in the 18th century by damming Rocky Creek, a tributary of the Millstone River. The pond's water-powered grain mills through the 19th century. The lake is now named for the private school located on its western shore. Founded in 1864 as the New Jersey Classical and Scientific Institute by the state's Baptists, the name of the preparatory school was changed in 1872 to honor its chief benefactor. The bridge carries a local street and serves as a more direct route to the northeast section of town, a predominantly 19th-century community.

Boundary Description and Justification: The bridge does not appear to be located in or contiguous to a potential historic district. It is not historically related to the Peddie School that is located on the west side of the span. Therefore, the significant boundary is limited to the span itself and does not include the surrounding property.

Recent information is that the county's plans remain the same but they are finalizing what will be presented at public hearings. There are two big issues here in this writer's opinion. First, is that this bridge appears in hundreds of pictures of the town's history. The other and maybe bigger issue is how the widening would negatively impact Ward Street and its residents on both sides of the lake, let alone South Main Street and the adjacent neighborhoods. Keep your eyes and ears open. 

Blackboards In The Barn

By Cappy Stults

I was speaking with my daughter-in-law Hilary about our grandson Wyatt's friend who recently moved to 536 South Main. The new neighbors are Theresa Luzano and Christopher De Leon and family. She mentioned that the barn had blackboards in them and she wondered what they were for. This set me on a mission to find out why they were there. They were clearly old blackboards not added by the most previous owner nor owners in the 1970s and 1980s, the Eastman and the Schuman families. Then I remembered that when I was very young, the house was owned by the Kimnachs. I didn't remember Mr. Kimnach but I do remember hearing the name Mary Kimnach as a member of different clubs and organizations in town with my grandmother. A little Google research led me to a paper from the Dept of Animal Pathology of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research,

Princeton, NJ. The paper's title was, The Etiology of Infectious Diarrhea (Winter Scours) in Cattle. At the bottom of the first page is the following: "We wish to acknowledge our indebtedness to Drs. J.H. Herron of Bordentown, E.H. Hopper of Ridgewood, and G.H. Kinnach of Hightstown, NJ." These veterinarians gave the



Kinnach House at 536 South Main Street

researchers access to 5 herds in which 400 cows were affected.

My next two steps were to reach out to a "cow person" who may have knowledge of Dr. Kinnach and also to a 1960's neighbor who lived at 540 South Main Street. The best cow person I know is Ben Zaitz who promptly responded to my query.

"Yes, Max (Ben's dad) spoke of him (Dr. Gustav Kinnach) often and I somewhat remember his wife. According to Max, he was a great veterinarian and they worked the dairy cow mastitis treatments involving some sort of silver iodide antibacterial solution before the advent of antibiotics. Milt Cunningham had something to do with it as well making the formulations (Milt was a pharmacist who happened to live across the street at 503 South Main Street). In the basement of the old office, there were still a few bottles of the local brew livestock medicine with the drugstore label. No one thinks of drugstores also treating livestock. Hopefully, the cattle didn't come from our place that they used in the study. A funny word "Epizootics" was a regular part of Max's vocabulary. Over the years I have repurposed it for a number of situations including sick children. Considering the wide variety of diseases they faced without antibiotics and vaccines, epizootic events were pretty serious. Epizootic disease is a disease event in an animal population akin to an epidemic in humans. It generally refers to outbreaks of disease which cause serious economic or public health issues and are a major importance in the international

trade of animals and animal products. (Editor – thanks Ben).

Gerald Harvey who was a young neighbor on Springcrest, remembers that Kinnach was the vet for Elsie the Cow at Walker Gordon (of Borden's Fame). His parents were friendly with the Kinnachs.

Although I can't be certain, it sure seems likely that Dr. Kinnach, pharmacist Cunningham and maybe Max Zaitz and the dairy owners in the area spent sometime in that barn using the black boards as they worked on treatment and cures for cattle diarrhea. But I still wanted to know more about the house so I then reached out to a childhood neighbor of the Kinnachs, Linda Ely Mannsman who lived at 540 South Main (currently owned by the Wards). Linda is also an equestrian (and her husband is a vet). Linda responded, "I remember Dr.

and Mrs. Kinnach. They had a son named Wilson who went to Peddie School and he always drove a MG. I think he lives in PA now. He would be around 77." (note – Wilson H. Kinnach became an English and Humanities professor and author). Linda then explained that 536 in 1863 was originally owned by the Gordons. Mary Gordon was a Davison and Linda Ely's mother's aunt. Mary left the empty lot south of 536 to Linda's mother. Her parents built what is 540 South Main. The 1875 atlas map indicates ownership names of Hutchinson or Mount as street numbers did not exist back then and of course it was in East Windsor Township in 1875, not the Borough. The Gordon's therefore did not build that house but must have purchased it later.

Linda added this information:


Mary Elizabeth Davison b1861-1945, married George R. Gordon b1862 (married 1882). Her brothers were Charles Henry Davison b1858 and Aaron Augustus Davison b1852. Mary was William H



Hightstown residents responsible for library's growth. Mary Kimnach is front row, fourth from the left.

1947. Mary Kimnach is listed as one of the Incorporators. Thanks to Curtis Crowell for the library history. I'll write more about the library history in the next issue.

Dr. Kimnach died of a heart attack in his home in 1961. The obituary indicated he was a vet in Hightstown since 1920. He also was very active in the community having served on the school board. Gerald Harvey advised that he thought Mary was killed in an auto accident but I have not been able to verify it or even where Dr. and Mary are buried.

Now I know much more than I did about the Kimnach family, 536 South Main Street, and maybe the blackboards. But as always, there is much we do not know. 

Davison's b1888 aunt, Linda's mother's father's father. My mother enjoyed spending time with Aunt Mary Gordon. The 540 house was where Aunt Mary Gordon's flower garden was.

We cannot leave out Mary Kimnach who as stated was very active in the community. Mary was on the Board of the Hightstown Library when it was decided to build a library at its current location. Having been "founded" in 1921, this is its 100th anniversary. James (Jim) Copleston was President of the Board in 1958 and wrote an extensive history of the library from 1921. Jim's wife Kay Perdoni Copleston taught English to me and many others in Hightstown, including my parents. Jim Copleston wrote that on June 13, 1921, thirty people met at town hall to discuss plans for starting a library. C. Herbert Davison (Rug Company) was elected Chairman and then appointed Jane Donnell as Chairman (she was a teacher and principal in the school system). The Friday Club (of which Mary Kimnach became very active) arranged for a room in the Smith House on Stockton Street to be a temporary library. They raised pledges of \$226 from various citizens. Although the seed had been planted in 1916, the formal organizational meeting did not occur until June 1921 and incorporation did not occur until

McGraw-Hill: A History and Many Memories

By Cappy Stults

Those of us who still live in Central New Jersey were likely shocked over the winter to see the dozens of pieces of equipment arriving at the grounds of the McGraw Hill north building. In the following weeks, we witnessed the razing of this building, nearly returning it to how it must have looked prior to McGraw Hill's arrival in the 1950s and 1960s. I thought it appropriate to have a little retrospective about this property and McGraw Hill. I was lucky enough to have had a summer job there in 1968 and 1969. I was a mail boy, sorting the daily incoming and internal mail, thereafter pushing my cart around the entire complex delivering the mail to every department. In my second year, I would pick up the mail at the post office at 6 am. Then I picked up the daily newspapers to deliver to the executives.

McGraw-Hill History

McGraw-Hill was founded in 1917 and grew to become one of the largest publishing companies in the United States by the 1950s. They were aggressive in expansion and purchased a number of their competitors over the years. They not only published



books (mostly for education), but they also published Business Week magazine and many trade periodicals. Bloomberg bought Business Week in 2009.

McGraw-Hill moved to Hightstown due to the costs and problems associated with operations in New York City. Affordable distribution space and problems with the New York City post offices pushed them into finding a location with access to transportation hubs, a good employment market, along with affordable land for the corporation and affordable real estate for their employees.

After a three-year study, they found the East Windsor property of 38 acres on the south side of Hightstown-Princeton Road, one-half mile from route 130 and 50 miles from corporate headquarters in New York City. The distribution center that was built on that property in 1957 was designed by famous architect Alfred Easton Poor, and still remains. This location was to be their largest distribution center in the country.

In 1961 they hired Poor again to design an office building on 66 acres directly across the street. The building was occupied in November 1962. It included a very large data center for the periodicals and the book publishing operation. It was truly the beginning of the computer age. I remember the temperature-controlled center and the almost airlock system to keep dust and other contaminants out, including this "mail boy".

McGraw-Hill changed considerably over the decades. In 2014, the McGraw-Hill property was purchased by QTS (a corporate data center company) and then built the solar farm to the west.

Before There Was McGraw-Hill...

Prior to this property housing the McGraw-Hill complex it was the family home of Dick VanHise and Shirley VanHise Olsen. Dick and Shirley VanHise's father Leonard farmed where the McGraw



VanHise family farm was located where McGraw-Hill once stood.

Hill building once stood for Isiah Barclay (Chamberlin & Barclay) on shares, or similar rather than paying rent. Dick remembers the farmhouse pictured as being in a group of trees east of a little irrigation pond where McGraw Hill later built softball fields for their employee league. He also remembers the entire area was open fields and depending on the season, wheat, rye, soybeans, and potatoes grew there too. They also hunted pheasants there when they were young.

Dick recalls having a party phone line with the Scotts (across the street where the distribution center was built). VanHise's were 0288R and the Scott's 0288. Shirley adds that her mother swore that Mable Scott was listening to her conversations. Mabel was an old maid and never married. They later shared with the Terwilligers who were 0288W.

A quick side note: Bill Scott's sister ran a little candy shop in her enclosed porch east of the W. C. Black School (the old High School was there too). This writer remembers it as being called Mrs. Rue's store. Corner of Joseph Street and Stockton.

In the 1950s, Dick's Uncle Russell farmed the land adjacent to their farm. He lived in the currently preserved farmhouse on One Mile Road. Hightstown-Princeton Road was a two-lane, crowned road and Old Mile Road was not much better than a dirt road. During snowstorms when Russell had to go for milk and bread, he invariably would get stuck in the snow and stand on top of his truck and waved to Dick's father to bring the tractor to pull him out.

Terwilliger also sold to McGraw Hill and he started a painting business in the building on the southeast corner of route 130 (recently a real estate office).

Memories of McGraw-Hill

Dick VanHise remembers in-

side the data center were computers that were floor to ceiling. There was a raised floor for all of the wires, it was fireproofed throughout. During demolition, they spent a lot of time on that area, probably due to asbestos.

Gerald Harvey had moved to Hightstown when his father came to work at McGraw Hill. They rented a house on the south-east side of Springcrest, very near to the backyard of 536 South Main Street (see Kimnach article above). A cornfield was in between as the new high school had yet to be built. They later bought the Appleget's house on Stockton Street. Gerald reminded me that he was "editor" of the Blade when Bill Robbins wrote the story at the end of this article.



McGraw-Hill in the early days.

Gerald wrote, "My father was still an officer in the Royal Air Force in 1950, but shortly after I was born, he decided to resign his commission and move to America. To be fair things were tough in England (when I was born my parents received another egg in their ration, this nearly five years after WWII had ended). In America he was no longer a pilot and got involved in inventory control and traffic (what we would now call supply chain management). He worked in the early stages of containerized shipping and computerized inventory control, cutting edge areas in the globalization of trade."

Gerald lived around the corner from Gustav Christie, Executive Vice-President at McGraw-Hill. Gerald relates "my favorite memory is going to Mr. Christie's office when I was about nine. He had a bookcase with McGraw-Hill publications in it. He said I could pick out any book and keep it as my own. I chose "Danny Dunn and the Home-work Machine."

I also reached out to Gustave Christie's son Bob for any memories. He wrote, "I was four years old when the building opened (1957). When the land was chosen by my dad he had to have Harold McGraw come down from NYC to approve the location. Harold had his driver bring him down. Unfortunately, he got off of exit 8 and instead of turning right at Stockton Street, he went straight. He saw the shantytown of bars that are now the bank and post office. They stopped at Club 8 for info and directions."

For those who do not remember, between Rogers Avenue and the two service stations at Academy, were three or more bars and the buildings were frame and pretty run down (much as described in the young Bill Robbins story below).

Bob adds, "Despite that, McGraw still approved the site. The warehouse was a state-of-the-art technology for the distribution of textbooks. The office and data center were later built across the street. After it was completed, all of McGraw-Hill's back-office work for the book company globally and all payroll divisions were done in Hightstown."

Bob Christie closed his email stating, "It has been very difficult for me to watch the buildings torn down knowing that it is what brought us to Hightstown in the 1950s. It makes me sad to see such a large part of my family's life destroyed. There were so many people that were close to my family that worked so hard at McGraw that made it so successful."

Bill Kendall's father was employed at McGraw for over 25 years. He relates, "they were a great company and my father was very proud to work there. So sad to see the entire north complex gone. He would be shocked to see it gone. Glad he never did."

In the 1990s the book company moved to Ohio. Bobbie McKnight, a classmate of mine (1969) related to me that he was a manager and worked there for 23 years. He was offered a move to Ohio but wanted to stay here in the Hightstown area.


In 1964 during the NJ Tercentenary, the following article appeared in the Hightstown Junior High School paper, called the



McGraw-Hill property today.

“Blade.” The author was 8th grader Bill Robbins who later became an English teacher, department head, guidance counselor, and school principal. (thanks to Gerald Harvey for this appropriate article).

“Hightstown is an old man who still has sparks of vitality. For the past fifty or so years, Hightstown just grew older as a farmer. But all of a sudden, about five to ten years ago, he got a sudden spark of renewal. He became interested and involved in new industries, such as RCA and McGraw Hill, and others. New developments rose and hordes of people searched for new homes. This old man got out of his wheelchair and stood up straight again, but he did not throw away his cane. In some sections of this man, like Main Street, the oldness still prospers. There aren’t any new developments or different entertaining buildings or sights. Hightstown is a crazy man, half old and run down and half new and energetic.”

We can be grateful to McGraw Hill for all of the great families it brought to Hightstown East Windsor and the many varied jobs it offered to local and area natives, not to mention the great summer jobs for youth such as myself. 

Happy Birthday to Us!

By Cappy Stults

The Hightstown-East Windsor Historical Society was founded in 1971, 50 years ago this year. It was the brainchild of the Junior Friday Club whose president at the time was Hazel Zirkle. This also was the year of Hightstown’s 250th anniversary which certainly spiked the interest in forming a group focused purely on local history and preservation. An open “planning session” was scheduled for May 23, 1971, and amazingly 84 people attended the session held in the then Peddie Science Building (now the Casperson History House). Protem officers were appointed until the organization was formalized. They were James Pickering, Secretary, Robert Craig, Vice President, Mrs. Maurice Shuman (Eleanor) President, and Mrs. James Zirkle (Hazel) Treasurer. By June 1971 the Society had 56 paid members.

It is interesting to note that 3 of the 4 protem officers were East Windsor residents and the lone borough resident was a Peddie School resident (Octagon House). Over the next 5 months, the organization was formalized. An organizational meeting was held on Saturday, September 23rd which included the election of officers. The officers elected to serve 1971-1972 were President Eleanor Shuman, Vice President Linda Estenes, Treasurer Hazel Zirkle, James Pickering, Secretary.

Eleanor Shuman was born in Trenton and was a Hightstown resident from 1941. She was head of the history departments at Hightstown High School and Intermediate School. She was a member of the State Historical Society and State Historical Commission as well as the organizer of and advisor to the Jerseyman’s Club. Her husband, “Mickey” was assistant headmaster of Peddie School and longtime football coach. She was also an author and had a radio program, “The Story of Trenton”. Additionally, she was a Fulbright Scholar at the American University in Cairo, Egypt.

Linda Estenes was a junior in Hightstown High School and a Hightstown native. She was vice president of the Jerseyman’s Club and a member of the Drug Task Force. Hazel Zirkle had been an area resident for only 5 years but was very active in local organizations. She had three children at the time and was president of the Junior Friday Club and an active member of the



Methodist Church.

James Pickering (Jim), had lived in the area all of his life and was the East Windsor Township Clerk for 12 years at the time of his election, 1971. You also have read about him as being the official weather observer for the area. He lived on Old Cranbury Road in the township and was a member of the Presbyterian Church. His son Ken has contributed recent articles to the newsletter.

A formal installation of officers was scheduled for November 21, 1971, to be held at the Coach and Four restaurant on Franklin Street. This was a very busy year for Hightstown due to the weeklong 250th celebration scheduled for October. It is quite remarkable that with all of the celebration planning and activities, that the Society was able to be organized.

The Society operated without any location for a few years but held its first house tour in 1973. In June 1974 the current society museum became available from the Huldah Ely estate. The membership raised \$10,000 as the down payment and Max Zaitz provided a mortgage for the balance.

Abner Reed, the owner of a substantial

amount of land on the northwest of town, built the house and James Cubberly purchased the house at a sheriff's sale in 1849. Cubberly was director and cashier of the Central Jersey Bank which stood immediately to the north on the corner of North Main and Bank Street, giving the street its name. The house on the other corner of course is known as the Reed House and Reed Street is just around the corner.

Although we call it the Ely House, there had been three families that lived in it before the Ely family purchased it in 1917. Huldah Ely, the last resident, never married and was a schoolteacher in Hightstown. At the time of the purchase, the Society had 311 members. Many volunteered over the following five years scraping, painting, and repairing plaster.

For years the main fundraiser for the Society was an antique doll show, the first being in 1977. The final show was in 1992. Antique doll dealers purchased tables and enthusiasts bought tickets for the show. They were mostly held at the Hightstown Country Club if I recall correctly. Today, other than for COVID, the biennial House Tour is the major fundraiser.

In the 1980s Minute Maid/Coca Cola was locally managed by Carl Bleier who lived in Freehold. I was able to get him to join the Greater Hightstown East Windsor Improvement Project (aka GHEWIP). When Carl advised me that the plant was "expanding" over the old railroad right of way, I asked him about the freight station that had been sometimes occupied as an art studio. Carl advised they were tearing it down and I asked if the Society could have it? He said yes but it had to be moved. I presented a plan to the Society and it was agreed to accept it but we had to

raise the money to move it and build a foundation. I went back to Carl and told him the Society accepted the station but I had a problem. We didn't have any money to move it or build a foundation. I had estimates for both and gave them to him. He said, "let me call the home office". Within a day Carl had the approval and the money. That part did not cost the Society a cent. It was moved on October 3, 1990, from Summit Street through the center of town to its current location.

Then fundraising began for retrofitting the station as a meeting room, museum, and library. It did not go really well as the cost for the project was going to be \$100,000 plus. Richard Hutchinson, long-time member, resident, historian, genealogist, and past editor of the



Mayor Roach swears in first Historical Society president Eleanor Shuman.

Junior Club Aids Project

The Junior Friday Club of Hightstown will again participate in the Community Improvement Program, co-sponsored by the General Federation of Women's Clubs and Sears, Roebuck and Co. The purpose of the program is to stimulate federated women's clubs to cooperate with other groups and individuals in analyzing and meeting community needs.


Since this year marks the 250th Anniversary of the founding of Hightstown in 1721 the Club will assist the communities with the organization of a Historical Society for the Hightstown-East Windsor area.

Mrs. James Zirkle, chairman of the Community Improvement Program and her committee will contact area residents to seek their assistance with this project. If interested contact Mrs. Zirkle at 448-1784.

Additional information will be forthcoming at a public meeting scheduled in May.

Gazette article announcing our start.

Homeowners in the borough and township have been gracious enough to offer their homes every other year for us to put on public view. Not only is it a fundraiser, but it gets us new members. Most recently we have held annual meetings at various historic locations in the area and Greg Ciano, our local "producer", has written historically themed musicals for children's performances and presentations to the public. They have been widely acclaimed. We are always grateful for the donations and hard work of the members of the Rocky Brook Garden Club, the Friday Club, and the Woman's Club. And of course, we owe a debt to all of those who have served as officers and most of all, you the members.

So there is a quick review of our first 50 years. But there is so much more than reviewed above. A reminder that our meetings are generally on the 1st Monday of the month at 7:00 PM. You are more than welcome to attend. Check the website and Facebook. Here is to another 50! 

What's In A Name?

By Gregory Ciano

Our children's theater program received a tweak this year as we went into the home stretch of COVID. After three weeks of trying to rehearse online, and getting nowhere fast, we decided it would be easier to open the doors to the freight station and rehearse together. However, after losing three precious weeks of rehearsal we decided to switch gears to make a short film this year! If the kids forgot a line it was no problem. We'd just do take two or three or four if needed!

newsletter, arranged for a bequest of \$276,000 from an aunt's estate, thus the name Sara Hutchinson West Education Center, in honor of our benefactor.


The Society building and grounds have been the receiver of many talents. Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts have earned badges and honors for their work on our behalf over the past 50 years. Additionally, local historic family and legal documents have been turned over to our library committee for cataloging for future research. The museum keeps busy with changing our displays and accepting donations of locally significant furniture, pictures, farm equipment, signs, and fixtures.

Homeowners in the borough and township have been gracious




This year's show was about the life of John and Mary Hight from their birth to their death and everything in between. Everything from what brought them to this area, how they earned a living, and how the Revolutionary War affected them.

We had our premiere in the parking lot behind Ely House on Friday, May 21 at 8:30 pm. The weather was perfect as we enjoyed the show under the stars.

We had a great time making this film (as the blooper reel reveals) and plan on doing this again next year with a different Hightstown/East Windsor history topic. You can watch the video through the QR Code below or can find it on YouTube by searching "Hewtube" and "What's In A Name." The bloopers will come up too. 



Walking Tour

We're doing our walking tour again this year in conjunction with the Downtown Hightstown organization. Follow Cappy Stults around Hightstown and discover all the history that is all around you! Tour dates are Thursday, June 10, Thursday, July 15, and Thursday, August 12 at 5:30 pm. Tickets are \$18 can be purchased through our Facebook page, Downtown Hightstown's Facebook page (both under "Events"), through this QR Code, or at the Door. The tour starts at the Ely House 164 North Main Street. 



Hightstown East Windsor Historical Society

Founded 1971 to educate while preserving for future generations, our people and our community's history.



Officers for 2020-2021

President: Charles "Cappy" Stults
609.448.0110 - cstults@allenstults.com

Vice President: Robin Smith

Recording Secretary: Shirley Olsen
609-448-8388

Treasurer: Robert Szychowski
609-448-9490

Committee Chairs

Finance: Robert Szychowski
609-448-9490

Property & Grounds: Warren Olsen
609-448-8388

Library: Joe Louderback
Robert Craig
609-584-1806

Website: Eileen Couturier
Gary Stevens
609-469-1860

Membership: Cookie Cummings
cookcummins@yahoo.com

Museum: Cookie Cummings
cookcummins@yahoo.com
Robin Smith
Sue Dilger

Newsletter: Charles "Cappy" Stults
609.448.0110 - cstults@allenstults.com
Gregory Ciano
gregory.ciano@gmail.com

Programs: Gregory Ciano
gregory.ciano@gmail.com
Christian Kirkpatrick
Nancy Laudenberger
609-443-6536

Publicity: Shirley Olsen
609-448-8388

Building Committee

Christian Kirkpatrick, Shirley Olsen, Warren Olsen, Robert Szychowski

Society Trustees

Nancy Laudenberger, Bonnie Lou Field, Warren Olsen, Irene Schubert, Bev Mann and Gary Grubb

Layout by Gregory Ciano. Printed by Harwill Express Press

Membership Application

Support us this year at the following rates:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual\$20 | <input type="checkbox"/> Family.....\$25 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Booster\$40 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining.....\$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life (Individual)\$200 | <input type="checkbox"/> Life (Family).....\$275 |

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email 1: _____

Email 2: _____

Where did you hear about membership?

Please mail the completed application along with a check made payable to:

HEW Historical Society

Membership Committee

164 North Main Street

Hightstown, NJ 08520

- I would not like to be part of the New Member Spotlight.

Volunteer Opportunities

I would like to volunteer to help out with the following committee(s):

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Property & Grounds | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Library | <input type="checkbox"/> Programs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Museum | |

Hightstown-East Windsor
Historical Society
164 North Main Street
Hightstown, NJ 08520
www.hewhs.com

Presort Std
US Postage
PAID
Permit #510
Trenton, NJ