

from



## the Hetfield & Levi Cory houses

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[www.mountainsidehistory.org](http://www.mountainsidehistory.org)

### From the CHAIRMAN'S INKWELL



Following are some of the many activities and announcements from the Mountainside Restoration Committee during the year. You are encouraged to take advantage of these programs and help support historic preservation in Mountainside.

**YOUR WHEELS CAN SAVE HISTORY:** Recently, the Historic Committee has partnered with CARS, Inc. to raise funds by collecting unwanted vehicles. Anyone with unwanted cars, trucks, motorbikes, RVs, trailers, heavy equipment, etc. should consider donating to help the Mountainside Restoration Committee. The vehicles don't have to be in working order and will be picked up from wherever they are. Vehicle donations are tax-deductible. To donate your

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#### MISSION STATEMENT

The Mountainside Restoration Committee (also serving as the Mountainside Historic Preservation Committee) was established to preserve the Borough's links to the past. The premier venues are the Deacon Andrew Hetfield House (circa 1760) and the Levi Cory House (circa 1818), both restored and continually maintained by this Committee. We strive to focus attention on our heritage through tours, newsletters, videos and many events during the year. Our mission includes maintaining the Hetfield House and Levi Cory House properties in perpetuity.

### HARRY DEVLIN - Mountainside's ARTIST TREASURE



*Wende Devlin-Gates and David Devlin after unveiling "Queen Anne Spring" by their father, Harry Devlin.*

On Thursday, March 22, the Mountainside Restoration Committee held a reception honoring the late Harry Devlin and unveiling his painting entitled *Queen Anne Spring* which was recently acquired by the Committee. During the early part of the reception, Devlin's daughter, Wende Devlin-Gates and son, David Devlin, spoke about growing up in Mountainside in the famous Devlin family. March 22, 2018, would have been Harry Devlin's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Harry Devlin and his wife Wende moved from Elizabeth, NJ to their 19<sup>th</sup> Century Mountainside Victorian farmhouse, set back on Hillside Avenue, in 1950. They raised seven children in Mountainside and resided here for over 50 years. After long illnesses, Harry died in 2001 and Wende passed, ten-months later, in 2002.

Harry was a member of the Mountainside Restoration Committee and was instrumental in helping to save and move the Deacon Andrew Hetfield House in 1985. He also created the line drawing of the Hetfield House which is now used on this newsletter masthead and in many of the Committee's publications and letterhead. Limited signed and numbered copies of his Hetfield House

portrait were donated to Mountainside and sold as a fundraiser during Mountainside's Centennial Celebration in 1995. Wende and Harry Devlin served as Grand Marshals of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration parade.

In the talk by siblings Wende and David, during the unveiling reception, they shared memories of a loving, fun and bustling childhood growing up with their work-from-home parents on a three-acre "farm" in Mountainside. They spoke of their menagerie of animals on the property, including their donkey named Eliza Doolittle – also known as the "Burro" of Mountainside. Eliza escaped often and was frequently found wandering around Mountainside and Westfield.

Harry worked from his carriage house studio on the property which was filled with his and Wende's renderings, commendations and awards and was always open to visitors. Wende was also a prolific artist and author. Both Harry and Wende worked together as author and illustrator on many projects including the syndicated comic strip called "Full House" - later renamed "Raggmopp" (after the family poodle). The comic strip was based on their life with seven children. They also co-wrote and illustrated more than 20 children's books including the "Old Black Witch!" (which later became a movie) and two sequels, "How Fletcher Was Hatched", "The Cranberry" series, "To Grandfather's House We Go: A Roadside Tour of American Homes" and "What Kind of House is That?".



*Wende and Harry Devlin*

Harry Devlin has been an artist in many arenas as painter, illustrator, cartoonist, photographer, and architecture expert. While serving in the

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## HARRY DEVLIN

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Navy during WWII, Devlin was an illustrator of enemy planes which helped Naval intelligence. After the war, he worked for ten years with Collier's Weekly as an illustrator. He also illustrated for the Saturday Home Magazine and the New York Daily News.

Following his dismissal from the New York Daily News, after he refused to draw a pro-McCarthy cartoon, Devlin continued working privately as a painter and an illustrator of comic strips, advertising and children's books.

His paintings were largely devoted to architecture-especially Victorian architecture. His painting style results from a technique similar to photo-realism. He would alter slide images to define his basic composition, but incorporated "high truths" by removing offending items such as telephone poles, wires, automobiles and other buildings in order to create a nostalgic mood. His book on the subject of architecture entitled "Portraits of American Architecture: Monuments to a Romantic Mood, 1830-1900" has become a major source of information on architecture.

Through his career, Devlin was bestowed numerous honors and awards including the National Cartoonist Society Advertising and Illustration Award for 1956, 1962 and 1963; their Illustration Award for 1977 and 1978; and their Magazine and Book Illustration Award for 1990. Harry and Wende were awarded the Syracuse University's highest



The seven Devlin children with the "Burro of Mountainside", Eliza Doolittle.

award for alumni – the Arendts Award. Harry was awarded an honorary doctorate of humanities from Kean University and a Presidential citation from Rutgers University.

Besides being an active and revered member of the Mountainside Restoration Committee, Harry was a member of the New Jersey Council on the Arts and the New Jersey Committee for the Humanities, a trustee of the Morris Museum, Vice-Chairman of President Eisenhower's "People to People" committee and President of the National Cartoonists Society. He has designed stamps for the U.S. Postal Service and a license plate to honor New Jersey history for the NJ Motor Vehicle Commission.

The cake served during the March 22 unveiling event read: "Celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Harry Devlin...His Art Lives on Forever". We are fortunate to have his painting hanging

## CHAIRMAN'S INKWELL

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vehicle, go to [mountainsidehistory.org](http://mountainsidehistory.org); or call (855)500-7433.

**MRC ESTATE SALES:** A new division of the Mountainside Restoration Committee has formed to conduct estate sales in the Mountainside area. Trusted, Mountainside-based antique and estate sale experts, who are Committee volunteers, will run the sales. All commissions benefit the preservation of Mountainside history. Several very successful MRC Estate Sales were held during 2017. Call (908)789-9420 for MRC Estate Sales.

**BRICK FUNDRAISER:** To purchase bricks, please pick up a flyer at the Mountainside Library, Borough Hall or go to [www.mountainsidehistory.org](http://www.mountainsidehistory.org). These bricks make up the path leading to the front door of the Hetfield House and will be expanded to the Levi Cory House. The Committee will continue to sell bricks to raise funds for the upkeep of the

Hetfield House and restoration of the Levi Cory House.

**HISTORY OF MOUNTAINSIDE BOOKS:** The most recent history of Mountainside: *A History of Mountainside – 1945-2007 – It Was Only Yesterday* by Connie McNamara is available for purchase at \$19.99 in the Mountainside Library. The original *History of Mountainside* by Jean Hesketh-Hershey covers the history until 1945 (copies are available for \$20 each, call 789-9420).

**PUT A PLAQUE IN THE LEVI CORY HOUSE:** Individuals, groups and businesses can show their support of the Levi Cory House move and restoration by "putting a plaque in" the Levi Cory House. These plaques will indicate your sponsorship of the architectural features contained within the house such as doors, windows, fireplaces, stairways, or entire rooms! You can show your support with a sponsorship, a dedication, an honor or a memorial. Each plaque will be a forever reminder that you helped save and

## RAFFLE WINNERS announced

Each year, the Mountainside Restoration Committee holds a Spring fundraising drive for some needed project in the Hetfield or Levi Cory House.

In 2017, the funds were earmarked for installing electricity in the Levi Cory House. The drawing was held on May 7. Following are the winners:

1<sup>st</sup> prize — LG 55" 1080p Smart TV:  
Richard Brown

2<sup>nd</sup> prize — Google Home Wireless  
Assistant: Bronna Butler/Michael  
Ribick

3<sup>rd</sup> prize — Gift Certificates from area  
Restaurants: Evelyn Holcome

4<sup>th</sup> prize — Gift Certificates from area  
Supermarkets: David Cook

Congratulations to our winners and thank you all for your support!

Please support this year's Spring fundraising drive by donating and for another chance to win great prizes. See letter on page 4.

in the Hetfield House as a reminder of the life of this wonderful man and talented artist.

restore this historic house. Plaque forms can be found at [mountainsidehistory.org](http://mountainsidehistory.org)

**HETFIELD HOUSE IS AVAILABLE FOR USE:** The Deacon Andrew Hetfield House is available for use by community groups for meetings or tours. It is also available for rent to individuals or organizations for other events. For information on availability, please contact Diane Kontra at (908) 397-2472.

**HARRY DEVLIN HETFIELD HOUSE DRAWINGS** (signed and numbered) and **POSTER PRINTS OF "QUEEN ANNE SPRING"** are available for sale for \$25 each.

For further information on the above-mentioned activities of the Mountainside Restoration Committee and updates on the Hetfield House and Levi Cory House happenings, please call (908) 789-9420 or visit [www.mountainsidehistory.org](http://www.mountainsidehistory.org).

Scott Daniels - *Chairman,*  
*Mountainside Restoration Committee*



## The YEAR in REVIEW

(March 2017 – March 2018)...

**HETFIELD DESCENDENT SPEAKER EVENT:** On, Thursday, March 23, 2017, Valerie Shafer, a genealogist and Hetfield descendent spoke to a full house at the Hetfield House about her descendents and the many settlers of our area.

**SPRING & FALL PLANT SALES:** A sale of beautiful Spring plants was held in May and a Fall mum plant sale was held in September.

**GARAGE LAWN SALE:** On Saturday and Sunday, September 16/17, the Hetfield House lawn was taken over with garage sale items during the Newcomers' Club town-wide garage sale. Proceeds of the sale benefited the Mountainside Historic Committee.

**DEERFIELD FIFTH GRADE FIELD TRIP:** On October 17, for the third year, Deerfield School 5<sup>th</sup> graders, with their teachers and chaperones, walked to the Hetfield House from Deerfield School for a field trip where they toured the house, learned some local history and created historic figures scarecrows for decorating the house.

**UNION COUNTY'S FOUR CENTURIES IN A WEEKEND OPEN HOUSE:** During the weekend of October 21-22, visitors from all over the County and beyond enjoyed the Hetfield House tours; a miniature reenactment of the Revolutionary War Battle of Monmouth, and displays of a historic coin and Mountainside Pottery.

**VETERANS LUNCHEON:** In honor of Veterans' Day on November 11, the Hetfield House hosted a luncheon for our Veterans. Many veterans and guests enjoyed lunch provided by the Arbor Terrace at Mountainside and served by Historic Committee volunteers.

**VILLAGE SHOP HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE:** On several November and December weekends, the Hetfield House was the site of a Holiday Boutique. Many shoppers enjoyed



Joe DeVico and his Speakeasy Trio perform with John Bucher (right) during February's Speakeasy Social.

## The ARTHUR J. BRAHM Scholarship Award



*Mountainside Restoration Committee Chairman, Scott Daniels, is pictured with the 2017 Arthur J. Brahm Historic Preservation Scholarship Award recipient, Lily Collins. The award is given each year to a graduating Deerfield 8th grader. Contest entries are on display at the Hetfield House for all to read. Scholarship criteria announcements for the 2018 award are available through the Deerfield School Guidance office.*



*During Deerfield's Fifth Grade field trip in October, students created historic scarecrows.*

the unique holiday items and curiosities offered.

**COOKIE & HOT COCOA SALE:** During the Annual Borough Tree Lighting on December 2, the Committee sold Cookies and Hot Cocoa to hundreds of Girl Scouts and Mountainsiders.

**GINGERBREAD OPEN HOUSE:** Gingerbread Open Houses were held on Saturday and Sunday, December 9/10. Adults were invited on Saturday afternoon for a wine and cheese reception. Sunday's open house hosted many families who visited the house to enjoy music, crafts, delicious holiday treats and hot cider with Mr. and Mrs. Claus and her gingerbread man.

**SPEAKEASY DINNER EVENT:** Recently, on February 23, "Flappers and Bootleggers..A Roaring 20s Speakeasy Social" was held at the Hetfield House. With speakeasy jazz music performed by "Joe DeVico and his Speakeasy Trio" and Mountainside's own John Bucher, roaring 20s attired guests enjoyed dinner and 20s trivia throughout the evening.

## WATTS FOUNDATION provides grant to restore Levi Cory house porch

The circa 1818 Levi Cory House, now at Constitution Plaza adjacent to the Hetfield House, will soon have one of the original porches restored thanks to a grant from the Watts Mountainside Community Foundation. A photo from the early years of the house shows it had porches on two sides of the building which the Committee hopes to restore.

Thanks to the Watts Foundation, one of these porches will soon be built. The Committee also expects heat and electricity to be up and working soon which will allow for a Certificate of Occupancy to be granted so the Levi Cory House can open to the public. It is planned as a museum for Children's interests and a consignment shop.

The Watts Foundation also granted funds during early 2017 to repair and paint the interior first floor walls of the Levi Cory House.

For further information on the Levi Cory House or to donate toward its restoration, please visit [www.mountainsidehistory.org](http://www.mountainsidehistory.org); or call (908)789-9420. The Mountainside Restoration Committee is a 501(c)3 charity and your donations are tax-deductible.



*Santa & Mrs. Claus with the Gingerbread Man during December's Gingerbread Open House.*



*The Children's Choir from Our Lady of Lourdes Church performs during December's Gingerbread Open House.*



The Hetfield House



Levi Cory House

## MOUNTAINSIDE RESTORATION COMMITTEE, INC.

1385 US Highway 22, Mountainside, New Jersey 07092

April, 2018

To Mountainside Residents & Friends:

Since 2013, when the circa 1818 Levi Cory House was given to the Mountainside Restoration Committee and moved to Constitution Plaza, we all knew it would require a great deal of restoration. As funds became available, the Committee has taken on many restoration projects including a new roof, exterior painting, first-floor interior walls, electrical service, replacement of exterior trim, installation of stairs to the crawl space and many other projects. Much more needs to be done in order to open the house to the public.

We are making this annual appeal for donations to help the Mountainside Restoration Committee raise funds toward additional restoration work of the Levi Cory house. Our next big project is the purchase and installation of shutters, front door and repair of 2nd floor walls and ceilings in the Levi Cory House. Your donation of \$25 or more will help us fund these projects. You will also be entered into a drawing to win one of the following prizes

- 1st Prize:** 7 nights lodging: 1 or 2 bedroom villa located in Florida, the Carolinas or other U.S. destination (based on availability). Must be used by Feb. 28, 2019 (transportation not included). (Value: \$1500)
- 2nd Prize:** Restaurant Certificates for Bovella's, Ferraro's, Grille Stone, The Stage House & Spanish Tavern (Value: \$200.00)
- 3rd Prize:** A Pair of Ancestry DNA Kits (Value: \$179.00)
- 4th Prize:** Supermarket Certificates for Shop-Rite, Stop'nShop & Acme Markets (Value: \$75.00)

On the yellow stub, please fill in your contact information, and include your donation of \$25 or more. Checks can be made payable to the "Mountainside Restoration Committee, Inc." (a 501(c)3 charity). These items **should be returned no later than May 3, 2018** to Carol Clark, 308 Summit Rd, Mountainside, NJ 07092. The **drawing will be held on Sunday, May 8 at 12:00 noon** at the Hetfield House on Constitution Plaza adjacent to the Library (winners need not be present).

Thank you and we invite you to participate in our events as outlined in this newsletter. We look forward to seeing you!

Sincerely,

*The Mountainside Restoration Committee*

## 2018 Restoration Committee CALENDAR

Unless specified otherwise, all events are at the Hetfield House



- April 15 – Hetfield House Open House, for visitors and tours (1-3 pm)
- May 3-6 – Spring Plant Sale (9am-4pm)
- June 9 – Biennial Tour of Mountainside's Gardens (10am- 4pm)
- September 14-15 – Annual Garage Sale
- September 13–16 – Fall Plant Sale (9am-4pm)
- October 20-21 – Four Centuries in a Weekend Open House
- November 11 – Veterans' Day Luncheon
- December 1– Mountainside Tree Lighting and Cookie/Hot Cocoa Sale (Borough Hall)
- December 8-9 – Gingerbread Open House

### VOLUNTEERs needed

The Hetfield House is a successful historic house, thanks to our wonderful volunteers who are a vital part of our organization. Volunteers keep the house maintained and allow us to provide so many wonderful events and services to our community. Areas where we could use help include: Archives, Education, Research, Publicity, Events, Exhibits, Clerical, Fundraising, Grant-writing, Housekeeping and Gardening. As an added benefit to students, aged 13-18, volunteering at the Hetfield House provides the opportunity to fulfill community service requirements. Please contact us at [hetfieldhouse1@yahoo.com](mailto:hetfieldhouse1@yahoo.com) or call 789-9420. Applications can be downloaded at [www.mountainsidehistory.org](http://www.mountainsidehistory.org).

### Mountainside Historic Preservation Committee

Scott Daniels, *Chairman*  
Ruth Goense, *Vice Chair*  
Carol Clark, *Treasurer*  
Jason Pastore, *Secretary*  
Carol Goggi, *Newsletter Editor*

Alice Cowell, Bob Gardella, Diane Kontra, Thomas McGee, Jim Toner, George Urban, Sandra VanderMeer and Ethel Ward

Wendy Fech-Caccamo, *Borough Council Liaison*