



the Hetfield & Levi Cory houses

Published by the Mountainside Restoration Committee - April, 2019

www.mountainsidehistory.org

From the CHAIRMAN'S INKWELL



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

YOUR WHEELS CAN HELP SAVE HISTORY: The committee has partnered with CARS, Inc. to raise funds by collecting unwanted vehicles. Anyone with unwanted cars, trucks, RVs, motorbikes, 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 call (855)500-7433 or go to mountainsidehistory.org.

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Mountainside Restoration Committee, Inc. was established in 1985 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. These volunteers strive to focus attention on Mountainside's heritage through tours, newsletters, videos and many events during the year. This mission includes maintaining the Hetfield House and Levi Cory House properties in perpetuity and saving/archiving artifacts and documents important to Mountainside's history.

LEVI CORY...The HOUSE and the MAN



The Levi Cory House crosses Route 22 as it was moved down New Providence Road in 2013

On November 2, 2013, a house was moved from the corner of New Providence Road and Mountain Avenue in Mountainside to Constitution Plaza near the Mountainside Library and the Deacon Hetfield House. This house, believed to have been built in 1818, was given the name - The Levi Cory House. Levi Cory was a man who owned this house during its period of historical significance. In the 1890's, Levi Cory rented his house to a group of humanitarian ladies who would bring children from the inner cities of Newark and New York to spend a few weeks in the 'country.' It was during this time, that Mountainside was in the process of separating from Westfield becoming an independent borough, officially, in 1895.

In these summers, when the children visited The Children's Country Home, caretakers noticed that many of them suffered from various ailments and the time they spent in the Mountainside/Westfield area helped them heal. As summers passed, the ladies along with local doctors and nurses, who tended to the children, decided that the home should be solely used for inner-city children who needed medical care. The need grew and the Levi Cory House proved too

small to accommodate the larger numbers of children and the Children's Country Home was moved to a larger property further down New Providence Road. In the 1960's, the Children's Country Home was renamed the Children's Specialized Hospital which is still located, today, at its relocated home on New Providence Road.

The Mountainside Restoration Committee, Inc. raised the funds needed to move this important house because it was slated for demolition. Richard Scott, the house's last owner, in agreement with the developer who had purchased the property, donated the house to the Committee. It was subsequently moved to Constitution Plaza, onto property owned by the Borough of Mountainside.

Levi Cory, the man, was primarily a farmer and an elected surveyor of highways. An 1882 newspaper article stated that Levi was President of the 'Westfield Thief Detective Society.' *"This society is in a flourishing condition and ready when called upon to do active service to pursuit of thieves."* The society was the precursor of what later became the police department.

Cory was born in 1819 and died in 1895 at the age of 76. It is unclear if he ever lived in the Levi Cory House. He was married to Harriet B. Clark from Rahway. Levi was the son of William Cory who died in 1866 and left the family's home to Levi. The family house, today, is known as the Miller-Cory House Museum of Westfield. Levi, his wife and daughter lived in the Miller-Cory house until he died in 1895 leaving the house to his daughter, Theresa. Theresa was the last Cory to own the Miller-Cory House. It is believed that Harriet sold the Levi Cory House after her husband's death. Harriet died in 1903 at the age of 84. Theresa died in 1923 in Los Angeles, and is buried in Fairview Cemetery along with her parents, Levi and Harriet.

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LEVI CORY

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The Cory Coat of Arms from Scotland. The motto reads "Forti Tene Mannu" (bold with a firm hand).



The Corys were originally from Scotland. Levi, who was a registered Republican, served as a member of the Westfield Township Committee and was an elder in the Presbyterian Church of Westfield.

Levi died in early 1895; he never witnessed the official birth of the Borough of Mountainside later that year. His cousin, Joseph Cory, was the first Mayor of Mountainside.

The Mountainside Restoration Committee's Levi Cory House was opened to the public in December of 2018 after five years of renovation and restoration. Several additional restoration projects will begin soon, which will include the addition of two porches which were once a part of the house. The first



Mayor Paul Mirabelli officially opens the newly renovated and restored Levi Cory House on December 8, 2018.

porch will be built thanks to a grant from the Watts Mountainside Community Foundation. The house now serves as a museum for Mountainside Children's interests and home to the Village Shop which is open on a limited schedule – tentatively, the second and fourth Friday/Saturday each month. Please check the website for definitive opening dates – www.mountainsidehistory.org

CHAIRMAN'S INKWELL

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MRC ESTATE SALES: A 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 while the homeowner profits, as well. Several very successful MRC Estate Sales were held during 2018 and in recent months. 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. 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 restore this historic house. Plaque forms can be found at 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.

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 visit www.mountainsidehistory.org; or call (908)789-9420.

*Scott Daniels – Chairman,
Mountainside Restoration Committee, Inc*

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 2018, the funds were earmarked for repairs and restoration to the Levi Cory House. A drawing was held on May 6th. Following are the winners:

1st Prize: 7-night Villa Vacation in Florida — Gary Olson

2nd Prize: Restaurant Certificates — Donna DeRose

3rd Prize: Pair of Ancestry DNA Testing Kits — Rich Cotter

4th Prize: Supermarket Certificates — Rich Leonardis

Congratulations 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..



2019 Restoration Committee CALENDAR

Unless specified otherwise, all events are at the Hetfield House

April 7 – 'Maizie Brews a Tea Business... an interpretive presentation,' – Hetfield House (1-3pm) – see back cover for announcement.

May 2-5 – Spring Plant Sale (9am-4pm).

June 9 – Levi Cory House Children's Open House – tent (1-3pm).

September 20-21 – Annual Garage Sale.

September 19-22 – Fall Plant Sale (9am-4pm).

October 19-20 – *Four Centuries in a Weekend* Open House.

November 11 – Veterans' Day Luncheon.

December 7 – Mountainside Tree Lighting and Cookie/Hot Cocoa Sale – Borough Hall.

December 14-15 – Gingerbread Open House Weekend.

Like and follow us on FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/hetfieldhouse.mountainside>

The ARTHUR J. BRAHM Scholarship Award



Mountainside Restoration Committee Vice-Chair, Ruth Goense, is pictured with the 2018 Arthur J. Brahm Historic Preservation Scholarship Award recipient, Isabella Toth. Isabella's winning essay was written about her neighbor, Winfield Miller. The award is given each year to a graduating Deerfield eighth grader. Contest entries are on display at the Hetfield House for all to read. Scholarship criteria announcements for the 2019 award are available through the Deerfield School Guidance office.

NEW WEBSITE design in the works

The Committee's newest member, Sue Gallagher, has been working tirelessly developing and designing a spectacular new website for the Mountainside Restoration Committee. Watch for the re-launch in the next few weeks. The web address will be the same, so continue to visit us at www.mountainsidehistory.org; and, like us on facebook!

VOLUNTEER with us!

The Hetfield House and Levi Cory House are successful historic houses, 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/Marketing, Events, Exhibits, Clerical, Housekeeping, Fundraising, Grant-writing, Shop Staff 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 or call 789-9420. A volunteer application can also be downloaded at www.mountainsidehistory.org

The YEAR in REVIEW

(March 2018 – March 2019)...

PAINTING UNVEILING: On, Thursday, March 22, the unveiling of a newly-acquired Harry Devlin painting was held with a reception featuring children of Harry and Wende Devlin as guest speakers.

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

GARAGE LAWN SALE: On Saturday and Sunday, September 15-16, 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 Restoration Committee.

DEERFIELD FIFTH GRADE FIELD TRIP: On October 16, for the fourth year, Deerfield School fifth 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.



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

UNION COUNTY'S FOUR CENTURIES IN A WEEKEND OPEN HOUSE: During the weekend of October 20-21, visitors from all over the County and beyond enjoyed the Hetfield House tours and a miniature re-creation of a revolutionary war battle along with special displays.

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 Restoration Committee volunteers.

THE VILLAGE SHOP HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE: On several November and December weekends, the Levi Cory House was the site of a Holiday Village Shop. Many shoppers enjoyed the unique holiday items and curiosities offered.

COOKIE & HOT COCOA SALE: During the annual Borough Tree Lighting on December 1, 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 8/9. Adults were invited on Saturday afternoon for a wine and cheese reception to celebrate the grand opening of the Levi Cory House. Sunday's open house at the Hetfield House saw many families visiting the house to enjoy music, crafts, delicious holiday treats and hot cider with Mr. & Mrs. Claus.

DOWNTON ABBEY-STYLE COCKTAIL PARTY: Recently, on February 22, a Downton Abbey cocktail party was held at the Hetfield House. With jazz music performed by the John Bucher Trio, hors d'oeuvres, cocktails, trivia game, silent auction and guests and volunteers dressed to the nines in Downton Abbey attire, the evening was a huge success.

Mountainside Restoration Committee

Scott Daniels, *Chairman*

Ruth Goense, *Vice Chair*

Carol Clark, *Treasurer*

Jason Pastore, *Secretary*

Carol Goggi, *Newsletter Editor*

Alice Cowell, Susan Gallagher, Bob Gardella, Diane Kontra, Valeri Shafer, Jim Toner, George Urban, Sandra VanderMeer and Ethel Ward.

Rachel Pater, *Borough Council Liaison*

Newsletter design and layout courtesy of Anjali Mehrotra



The Hetfield House



Levi Cory House

MOUNTAINSIDE RESTORATION COMMITTEE, INC.

1385 US Highway 22, Mountainside, New Jersey 07092

April, 2019

To Mountainside Residents & Friends:

The Mountainside Restoration Committee is very happy that the circa 1818 Levi Cory House opened to the public in December with a Grand Opening ceremony held on Saturday, Dec. 8. Thanks to generous contributions from our local businesses and families, the extensive work required to renovate and restore the Levi Cory House was completed to allow for this opening. Some work is still required and there is also work to be done on the circa 1760 Deacon Andrew Hetfield House.

We are making this annual appeal for donations to help the Mountainside Restoration Committee raise funds to paint the Deacon Andrew Hetfield House which is a landmark and symbol of the history of Mountainside. Your donation of \$25 or more will help us fund the much-needed painting of our beloved Hetfield House. 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 January 31, 2020 (transportation not included). (Value: \$1500)
- 2nd Prize:** A Ring Video Doorbell (Value: \$250)
- 3rd Prize:** Restaurant Certificates for Bovella's, Outback, The Stage House and Spanish Tavern (Value: \$140)
- 4th Prize:** Supermarket Certificates for Shop-Rite, Stop-'n-Shop and 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 2, 2019** to Carol Clark, 308 Summit Rd, Mountainside, NJ 07092. The **drawing will be held on Sunday, May 5 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

Visit the Hetfield House on Sunday, April 7, 2019 for a very special interpretive presentation... "MAIZIE BREWS A TEA BUSINESS"

On Sunday afternoon, April 7, 2019 at 1-3pm, the Mountainside Restoration Committee will host 'Maizie Brews a Tea Business,' a dramatic presentation, brought to us in conjunction with the Public Scholars Project of The New Jersey Council for the Humanities, at the Deacon Andrew Hetfield House. Guests will be entertained as Maizie discusses her experiences as a woman in 1925 opening her own business – a Tea Room. Ironically, the Deacon Andrew Hetfield House once operated as a Tea Room during prohibition.

What if it was 1925 and you wanted to open a Tea Room? What if you were a woman who wanted to open a business? In this dramatic presentation, Maizie Stanton will explain how her husband reacted and what she needed to do to prepare for this undertaking. During this session, the challenges faced by women who were stepping out of their homes and into the business world will be explored. Participants will engage in a lively discussion about the Tea Room craze and the evolution of women as entrepreneurs.

Maizie is brought to life by Maureen O'Connor Leach who has been a historic interpreter for over 25 years and has presented a variety of programs at historic sites throughout the country. She is a member of the New Jersey Living History Advisory Council and a Commissioner for the Monmouth County Historical Commission. Ms. Leach holds a BA in History and a JD.

Tea and cookies will be served. A \$5 per person donation is suggested.



Maizie Stanton, interpreted by Maureen O'Connor Leach, will present a program and discussion on Sunday, April 7 at 1pm entitled "Maizie Brews a Tea Business".