

# *Historical Society News*

## **H**OUSE **T**OUR

*"A Walk  
Through Time"*

A  
Walking Tour  
of  
Historic Homes  
in  
Hightstown,  
N.J.



**Inside:**  
**The Great Influenza of 1918-19**  
**Peddie in World War I**  
**'A Walk Through Time'**

**AUTUMN 2018**

## Features

### 2 *President's Message* BY CAPPY STULTS

### 3 **THE GREAT INFLUENZA OF 1918-19** BY CAPPY STULTS

### 12 **PEDDIE IN WORLD WAR I** BY DR. DAVID MARTIN PEDDIE ARCHIVIST

### 14 **'A WALK THROUGH TIME' IN OCTOBER** BY SHIRLEY OLSEN

### 16 **HOUSE TOUR PHOTOS**

## Newsletter Layout

Rick Pratt has graciously donated his time and graphics eye for layout of the newsletter since our Spring 2015 issue. He pushed for the magazine style layout that we have all come to love with the big photos and multitude of images. He also created the crossword puzzles, the "Where is This" contest, and the "What's the Difference" image search. He garnered the partnership with Fine Homebuilding magazine to allow us to include a back cover article from their fine magazine for six issues. He has set the bar high to say the least.

Unfortunately, he has just informed us that he can no longer continue in this capacity, and that this will be his last newsletter layout.

With huge shoes to fill, we are looking for his replacement. We may be able to twist his arm to guide his replacement. Please email me at [cstults@allenstults.com](mailto:cstults@allenstults.com) to volunteer to take over on our vital newsletter.

## President's Message

### DEAR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS,

As Summer draws to an end, we look forward to one of our most treasured events, the biennial House Tour. The date is October 21st, and as usual that committee has come up with beautiful homes. We are very grateful to the homeowners who open their homes to us. This year's tour promises to be the best ever.

Although we are well through half of the year, a number of annual dues remain to be paid. I encourage you to check your records and send a check if you overlooked it. If you prefer, send me an email and I can tell you when you paid last. Thank you to those who have paid and special thanks to those who have made separate donations.

We continue to be contacted by people from around the country (and world) who are interested in our special towns or are doing their genealogies. Many have never even been in New Jersey. But once contact has been made, they feel part of Hightstown-East Windsor and we welcome them into our family. One special lady contacted us via her son. Roslyn Gross Rosenthal, daughter of the David Gross who owned the Cereal Roller Mills in Hightstown, resides in Texas and is 94 years young. Those mills burned to the ground in 1920, having stood where the Memorial Park and Library, and the municipal parking lot are now located. I will continue to do interviews with her and her son, Billy, for a future article as we approach the 100th anniversary of this great fire that transformed downtown Hightstown.

I thank everyone who attended our annual meeting at Ely House. It was a great success. Please reach out to me with any suggestions for future programs and with any 'stories' you wish to tell that we can save for posterity. History is something we all share and it brings us closer to one another. You don't have to have been born and raised here to enjoy it and to "make history" for future generations.

This current newsletter and the previous one have featured two horrific events of 100 years ago: World War One and the "Spanish" Influenza. In doing the research and in reading every Hightstown Gazette and Cranbury Press printed in 1917-19, one comes to realize that today's instantaneous and constant news can be depressing but the world is so much better today than a century ago. We like to think of the Hightstown area of old as being free of turmoil--a Hallmark card or Currier & Ives print--but it wasn't so. It wasn't free of turmoil: there were thefts, divorces, lawsuits, suicides, accidents, fires, floods, freezing, heat waves, and, yes, even crooked politicians back then. Understanding history can help us all better abide today. Take some time to research. It is fun and enlightening.

Thank you for supporting HEWHS.

Cappy Stults, President  
[cstults@allenstults.com](mailto:cstults@allenstults.com)  
800-792-8660

The last newsletter told the story of World War One, both on the world stage and in Hightstown-East Windsor. The war began in 1914 and ended on November 11, 1918. Nine million combatants were killed and seven million civilians died. But there was a much worse killer than the war, itself, from 1917 to 1920. It was called--misnamed--in those years the "Spanish" Influenza, or Spanish flu. The war killed strong young men in their 20s, 30s and 40s. So too did the Spanish Flu. The influenza killing was so great in the United States, life expectancy significantly dropped, both for adults and for children at birth.

The first outbreaks occurred in late 1917 and early Spring 1918. These were mild and similar to prior Flu/Grippe outbreaks that affected mostly the very young and the old. But my research in the Hightstown/Cranbury newspapers reveal that there were unusually high death counts in 1917 and 1918 before it was declared to be the Spanish Flu. These prior deaths were reported as "diphtheria" and "pneumonia" and were thought to have been caused by bacterial pathogens. It is now commonly believed by medical investigators that many of these cases may have been misdiagnosed by the doctors and morticians and thus misreported in the newspapers. This would be a characteristic of this pandemic: widespread misreporting of causes of death. There were few laboratories, if any, in those days and there was probably no perceived necessity to further investigate the root causes of these early deaths. As written earlier, the

1918 Spring virus died out quickly as most previous Winter/Spring influenzas had in the past. But this Flu reappeared with a vengeance in late August through November.

Eight issues of the *Hightstown Gazette* from August 29th, 1918 through October 17th, 1918, are missing from our hardbound collection and on microfilm. We are still looking for the missing issues. It is possible that some issues were not published due to the severity of the outbreak but we cannot be sure as of this writing. Therefore the first two reported deaths I could find were in the *Cranbury Press*, October 11th issue: Fred Doyle, age 34, chief of the Hightstown Fire Company and manager of the Central Hotel in Hightstown, and, ironically, Dr. C.M. Franklin, age 37 (see below). The *Gazette* on October 24th had the following death notices: Dan Danser, age 38; George Mullins, age 28; Eva Wolfe, age 22; Harry Dey, age 24; Evelyn Watson, age 4; Vernon Perrine, infant; Herman May, age 5; Elizabeth May, age 8. Eight deaths in a little over one week. The October 31st issue reported the deaths of William Russell Silvers (owner of the Spice Mill), age 32; and Jeremiah Brandt, Jr., age 17. Even a concise explanation of what killed these people requires several pages.

## The "Spanish" Influenza

The Spanish Flu was misnamed at its birth (more later), but much like a childhood nickname, it has survived through the years. It was a pandemic of unequalled proportions and is said to have exceeded the total number of deaths from the European Plague of 1347-1351. Many rank the Plague as the #1 killer of all time based on how much it disrupted a much smaller world population, and they place the Spanish Flu as second-worst. After my research, I disagree. I think the Spanish influenza killed more people.

I put it as #1 ahead of the Plague for five reasons: (1) it was not known to have appeared before; (2) its spread was so rapid that medical professionals had no idea of what they were dealing with; (3) those that it killed were not the usual, most prone, very young and old, but were primarily strong males in their 20s-40s; (4) it disappeared as quickly as it appeared; and (5) even today little is known about its alpha and omega. Fully one-third of the world's population was infected and 20% of those infected died worldwide, higher than the death rate in the U.S. Various "official" reports state that 50,000,000 died with the first 25,000,000 dying in less than 6 months. But historians, including medical historians put the deaths at closer to 100,000,000 for reasons to be explained later. These reported numbers do not include related deaths due to starvation primarily caused by a lack of manpower to harvest crops, and resulting nutrition-related deaths. These conclusions are also shared in John M. Barry's 2004 book, *The Great Influenza: The Epic Story of the Deadliest Plague in History*, among the first books on the subject to reach the best-seller lists.

The Spanish Flu is reported to have first appeared in the United States in Kansas in early 1918. Current thought is that it was brought in by Chinese immigrants. It was the first instance of what is now known as H1N1. From childhood I have been very aware of the great pandemic of 1918 and have always been amazed how few people have known about it. They know about the black Plague, about smallpox and cholera, and maybe can even guess about their era, but few can place when the Spanish Flu epidemic took so many lives. When 20th-century epidemics are discussed, many would state that AIDS is the worst and some might not even mention the 1918 Influenza.

Our family business, the Allen & Stults Co., started as funeral directors and morticians around 1881. John E. Allen and Charles E. Stults both died in 1917, and in 1919/1920 my great-grandmother Adelaide and her 23-year-old son, Stanley, made a decision to sell the funeral part of their business to her sister's family, A.S. Cole in Cranbury. I was always told how the deaths in our area were so numerous and so quick that they could not keep up with them. The emotional stress was very high. In my research I found that the public turned against funeral directors as caskets were unavailable and bodies had to be stored for days before they were able to be cremated. Morticians had to make decisions and choices that were many times not very popular with their own family and neighbors.

As I began my research, I found that publications focused on the Spanish Flu were few in number or impact for a long time. I found this odd due to the disease's worldwide reach. Few articles appeared in magazines during its scourge; even fewer college theses covered the subject afterward. Newspaper articles about it were terse if they appeared at all. With all of the attention in contemporary times given to AIDS, and the success achieved through anti-viral drugs, infection with Spanish Flu was generally unavoidable,

was spread very quickly, death was swift, and it is still incurable by medication.

Although there was a minor international study done in 1922, the next major study of the worldwide impact of the pandemic was a 1998 symposium in Cape Town, eight decades later. Many medical research studies were done during and after the war, but nearly all ended in dead ends or, worse, incorrect conclusions. The best medical minds struggled to identify or isolate the pathogen that caused so much tragic loss, leaving behind debates and uncertainty.

Years ago I was able to find one book in print by Alfred Crosby, published in 1976, *America's Forgotten Pandemic*. Another book that compiled the papers from the 1998 symposium, no longer in print, is entitled, dryly, *The Spanish Influenza Pandemic of 1918-1919: New Perspectives 2003*. Crosby opined that the Influenza came to the Americas in late 1917 via Asians who were coming through the United States to work in the war effort and also from those who worked in the Panama Canal Zone. He believes that many were misdiagnosed as having other tropical diseases. Regardless of these opinions, a scholarly consensus remains that its origins are still unknown.

Why such little study for such a horrible killer? Crosby quoted H.L. Mencken who wrote in 1956: "The influenza epidemic is seldom mentioned, and most Americans have apparently forgotten it. This is not surprising. The human mind always tries to expunge the intolerable from memory, just as it tries to conceal it while current." Mencken may have nailed it. The Spanish Flu, unlike the Plague and Smallpox remains a mystery and therefore something we have no ability to prevent.

In 1916 in a military camp in Etaples (et ah plu), northern France, there was an outbreak of what may have been the Flu. Soon thereafter was an illness outbreak at a barracks in Aldershot, England. Those stricken at both military camps were the youngest soldiers and the mortality rate was alarmingly high. Death was occasioned by what is called in medical terms heliotrope cyanosis, a bluish coloration of the skin, later known to always be a symptom of Spanish Flu.

Since the beginning of the germ theory of disease in the 1860s, proponents of this theory had believed that diseases were spread only by bacteria. For centuries, human experience with fast-spreading plagues taught that some benefit could sometimes be gained by voluntarily cutting themselves off from the world. They quarantined themselves and their towns. Nobody would be let in and nobody allowed to leave until the disease had run its course. But during the war years this was not possible. Millions of men were traveling around the globe both as soldiers and as maritime merchants to supply the war effort. In 1917 and most of 1918, most U.S. troops

## **Influenza - continued from page 4**

weren't even tested for illness before they boarded their transport ships.

This new death was very different from others and appeared suddenly. Those who were stricken either died within days or lived with no permanent or lasting aches and pains. The death charts by age were contrary to the historical "U" and resembled an inverted "V" instead, the highest rates of death being in the 20 to 30-year age group. For the medical community its brevity was a puzzle. Doctors had no chance to try different remedies or learn much about it. It inflicted a patient suddenly with no warning and killed sometimes in hours, but at most in 2-3 days from the onset of symptoms. Many bodies had to be burned due to a lack of caskets and of morticians. Still others were just buried in mass graves, one such discovered in Philadelphia in 2015.

What was it like to be infected by the lethal 1918 strain? Victims quickly experienced severe headaches, body pains and fever. Their faces turned blue/black, the marks of cyanosis, and they coughed blood and bled from the nose. Death typically occurred when the virus invaded the lungs causing pneumonia and drowning the patient. Attacks lasted 2-4 days although many reports had people collapsing suddenly and dying on the spot or within just a few hours. I personally conclude that this difference may be because some people hide symptoms for various reasons or can tolerate early onset differently than others. The time from infection to death may have actually been nearly the same for all.

### **A Killing Season**

Crosby states that most experts now believe that the 1918 influenza in North America had its first outbreak in the Midwest. From that point, it swept around the world in three waves, the first being in March/April 1918 spreading rapidly through overcrowded WWI camps. It next spread to Asia and North Africa in May-June, and then to Australia in July. At that time the mortality rate was still

fairly low and not of major concern. But the second wave was highly lethal. It appeared in late August 1918 in various locales and lasted for 3 months, leaving tens of millions dead around the world. The final wave was in early 1919 and was not as prolific.

Not surprisingly, the virus spread along the conduits of the war; camps, trains, ships and military bases. The deadly second wave engulfed the entire world in just a few weeks. Out of military necessity in WWI, men were moved daily by the hundreds of thousands. Three or more slept in quarters designed for one. They also ate in close quarters that were not regularly cleaned, if ever. During transport they were in confined spaces that lacked fresh air, especially in bad weather. Many soldiers had never been on ships before and the obvious happened - throwing up, also in close quarters. All these and others were ideal conditions to spread the virus.

In the decades prior to 1918, modern medicine had made great strides. Prior to the 1900s, scientists and professionals believed that influenza was caused by a bacillus, a bacterium, with a name, Pfeiffer's bacillus. Viruses were virtually unknown. Those viruses that had been "discovered" in the 1890s were thought to be transmitted only from animals to animals, and in some cases from animal to man. Only Yellow Fever a decade earlier had been called a human virus. The science of virology was in its infancy; only a handful of medical researchers could give a decent explanation of what a virus was or how it operated.

Because little was known about viruses in 1918, and due to the fact that medical and scientific professions were strapped by the war, the world was ill-prepared and maybe even lax when this disease surfaced. It was just the "grippe," many believed. Others believed that the stress of war just made the symptoms of the grippe worse.

Prior influenza epidemics seemed to have appeared from a single place, typically within a large land mass such as Russia, North America and China. They had short incubation periods and spread from person to person in places where people were crowded together. They typically were also seasonal. Spanish Flu was not seasonal. Temperature and climate had little influence upon its course.

Medical historians now believe that the August 1918 Flu mutated from the Flu of the spring. In a week's time there were outbreaks in Sierra Leone, France and Boston. A ship from England to Freetown, Sierra Leone/west Africa, arrived on August 15th with 200 sick sailors on board. Within a month 3% of Sierra Leone's population was dead. In Brest, France, during the same period, 370 on one base died. This is where Hightstown's WWI soldier died and is buried, Pvt. Lewis Forman,

*Influenza - continued on page 6*

## **Influenza** - *continued from page 5*

October 5, 1918, as highlighted in the last newsletter. By September, hundreds of thousands had died in Europe while America had yet to be affected on home soil.

Perfect death records even in the sophisticated areas can not be relied upon as accurate. Doctors diagnosed incorrectly, many deaths from influenza were not reported while others were reported to be from other causes. In Britain, there were 200,000 known deaths. France was higher at 250,000. Russia 450,000 deaths were reported as typhus (a bacteria). Influenza was overlooked as a reported cause of death. Meanwhile Russia was being blanketed by refugees from the War and their own revolution.

How about Spain, its namesake? Well, the 1918 influenza was likely called Spanish Flu because Spain was neutral in the War and its news reports were uncensored by its government, unlike other European countries who used news reports for propaganda. So Spain's newspapers were the first to report of its existence. Originally in Europe the disease was referred to as the "Spanish Lady." In Europe during WWI, actual statistics and reporting were limited because the Reich (the German Government) had banned the publication of any and all human statistics. They even banned the reporting of births and marriages, as well as deaths.

Although ignored by the German government and not reported in the German/Austria press, on October 17, 1918, the local government of the city of Mannheim, Germany, closed its cinemas, theaters, and other places of entertainment and schools due to the high number of deaths. But in order to not depress the spirits of the their population, two days later on October 19th the German Ministry of the Interior revoked the local regulation. The German Society of Physicians was enraged with this reversal, protesting that the physicians and nurses were exhausted and the hospitals were overwhelmed. They insisted that the

revocation of the quarantines would only further spread the epidemic but the government would not budge.

Moving back to America in October and November, the Flu spread quickly. Although ubiquitous, it was not evenly spread city to city. For instance, Philadelphia had higher mortality rates than did New York, much to the bewilderment of public officials and medical researchers. I believe it may be because NY had more immigrants in 1918 than Philadelphia so NY immigrants may have had some immunity. Also there were more soldiers/sailors going through Philadelphia because there were two bases within 20 miles of Philly which held tens of thousands of troops.

### **The Influenza in Hightstown and East Windsor**

As reported earlier in this article, the deaths appeared to begin in Hightstown the first week of October 1918. Schools and even church services were banned. The town was in a state of quarantine. There were even guards posted on the entrance roads to Hightstown preventing people from entering and leaving the town. The quarantine was lifted in early November in both Hightstown and Cranbury.

Also as noted above, the *Cranbury Press* reported the first "Influenza" death in Hightstown in early October 1918, ironically of Dr. C Montayne Franklin, age 37. He was practicing with his father Dr. George Franklin whose home and office were on the corner of South and South Main streets, across from the Peddie School campus. A Peddie graduate, he and his father were held in very high esteem as physicians. His funeral was private as were most funerals during the pandemic. Funeral parlor services, in-home viewings, and church services were not being held. Graveside services were closed for family only, if even that, to prevent the spread.

Mrs. Bertram S. Clayton was Cranbury's first influenza death on October 16, 1918. The same week Margaret Carroll, a nursing student at St Peter's and Cranbury resident died at age 37. Fred Doyle, a fireman and the manager of the Central Hotel of Hightstown, also died the same week, at the age 34. Five died of influenza the following week, October 15, and during the week of Oct 20th William Silvers, owner of famous J. S. Silver's Spice Company died at age 32, Vernon Farr age 22 in Army camp in Mass, Walter Shreve age 27 and R Bruce Gordon Jr. Age 24, died here as well.

The hotel manager, Doyle, and the Spice company executive, Silvers, would certainly be some of the first exposed to the virus from interaction with outsiders. The town's most important physician, Franklin, would have been exposed almost immediately as well, treating those that were stricken first. In Cranbury the "entire William Russell Silvers family was stricken" during the week of October 11th, but only William died, at age 37. Walter Shreve of Cranbury died the

*Influenza- continued on page 7*

## Influenza - continued from page 6

following week. Both were reported as pneumonia.

Copies of news articles in this newsletter reveal that Hightstown and Cranbury church services were canceled for weeks in October 1918 and then again in November. Schools were also closed as were all public performances. There is also a notice from the State requiring the cancellation of all public events and a notice from Vicks VapoRub advising physicians to limit their orders as they were out of the product. As late as January 2, 1919, the *Hightstown Gazette* published a notice from the Board of Health: "for the welfare of the public the Board of Health has decided to close all public high schools, Sunday schools and church meetings, motion pictures, entertainments and dances. All cases of influenza are quarantined and no persons are allowed to leave or enter the houses. The children seem to be very susceptible to the grip of influenza." The early 1919 strain now was affecting the very young and old as well. This ban was lifted on January 13th, 1919. John M. Dey, Jr., Cranbury, died Jan 20, 1919, at age 43, one of the three brothers to die of influenza in just three months.

As referred to earlier, the most unique difference with the 1918 flu and previous pandemics was the high incidence of deaths among those age 20-40, particularly men. This is usually the group least likely to succumb to disease. This remains a mystery even today. Some speculate it may have been genetic or maybe physiological. Some think that men, out of masculine impulse to continue working rather than resting when they were sick, caused their deaths. A cold or slight feeling of being unwell was not sufficient reason for a man, nearly always the only breadwinner, to stop working.

Crosby noted that towns did not have enough coffins. Mass graves had to be dug. As most who died were young men, the world was left with millions of

young widows and millions of orphans. Kenya lost over 5% of its population. South Africa, although remote, was overtaken suddenly when a troopship arrived returning 1300 men. There were 140,000 recorded deaths in Kenya but estimates are twice that amount when remote areas are included. Those dying did not have a chance to seek medical attention. Indonesia, 1,500,000 died. India had the highest rate in Asia. By December, 6,000,000 were immediately reported to have died. Recent studies triple that number.

Australia imposed a maritime quarantine. Official figures show only 12,000 died in 1918-1919. New Zealand had more natives die than white men. Tonga lost 10% of its population, Western Samoa 25% but as stated earlier, in Eastern American Samoa where the U.S. imposed a tight naval quarantine, there were no deaths (nor on St. Helena island). In 1918 influenza circled the world in a few weeks. Today this spread would logically occur in just hours.

After the 1918-1919 Spanish Flu, other major influenza outbreaks have occurred in 1957, 1968 and 1977. All authorities predict another pandemic will occur. At the 1998 conference, experts were asked when it will surface again and what will occur. They concluded, "we are unsure of when it will reoccur or if there will be the ability or will to implement measures to prevent the tragedies of the past." It took the Asian flu of 1957 to bring the 1918 pandemic back into the light. Previously ignored, it was only studied for the purpose of historical examination. In 1961 an American historian Adolph Hoehling produced a book titled *The Great Epidemic*. He based it on newspapers, reports, photos, posters, handbills and cartoons. It did reinvigorate interest in the pandemic but it did little to uncover causes and controls, and nothing for medical history.

In the 1920s in England a prepared text was put on hold fearing that it would cause panic and anxiety, and no publisher would print it. It was finally published in 1969 in the wake of the 1968 Hong Kong flu pandemic, as was a book by Charles Graves entitled *Invasion by Virus. Can it Happen Again?* This account largely focused on the speed in which diseases can travel in the modern world.

The 1976 Fort Dix outbreak of an unknown influenza raised fear of a possible pandemic. It was quickly determined to be a swine flu and after infecting 250 it disappeared and never left the post. A vaccine was developed and 40,000,000 people were vaccinated. Unfortunately the vaccine caused damage to more people than the swine flu did.

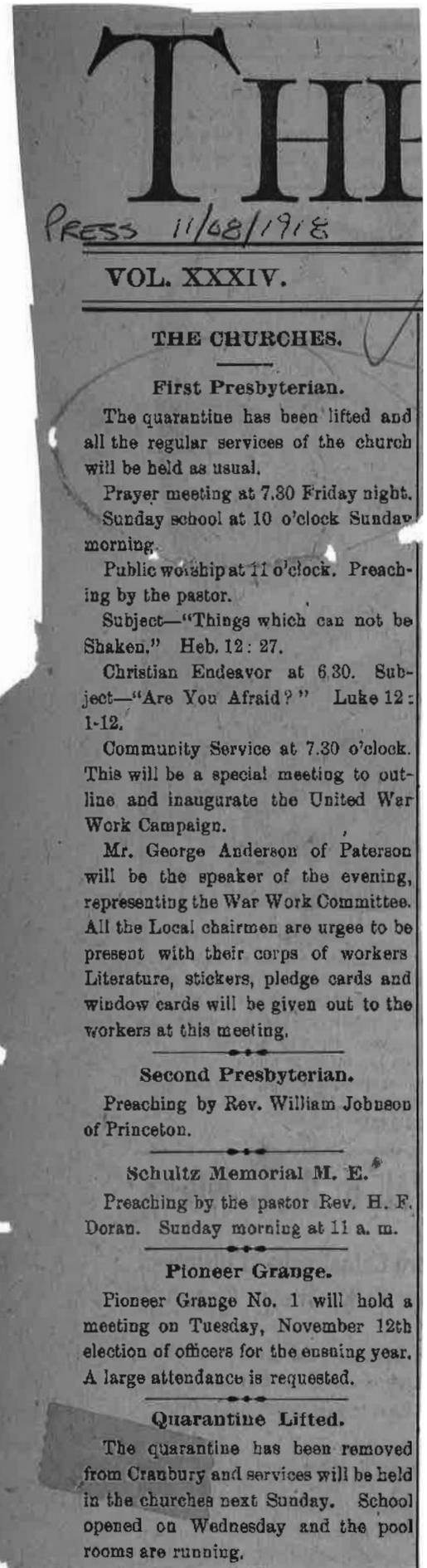
My readings advise that it remains a mystery why the Spanish flu did not prompt human antibodies as a defense while and after affecting hundreds of millions and killing tens of millions. Most recent studies using tissue samples of those

that died within the same week show that death was caused by pulmonary edema/hemorrhage. These patients literally died from drowning in their own blood within 48 hours. But why primarily strong, young individuals died versus the very young and very old is a mystery? More recent speculation is that the virus was not the "killer", but rather the body's massive immune response was, literally killing the host of the virus. Sir MacFarlane Burnet of Australia, was considered one of the world's foremost students of influenza and immunology and was awarded the 1960 Nobel Prize for Medicine. He stated that the very young's bodies are learners and only dispense defensive antibodies "as needed". The old no longer can dispense the required defense. But when the mature but still young body has such rapid inflammation, "their bodies emit a springtide of fluid which overwhelms the lungs." Could this happen again? When scientist and doctors are asked, they answer "probably." The inevitable follow-up question is, "can we control it better with our modern knowledge and methods?" They answer, "maybe." But it is agreed that it is wiser to be humble than arrogant about influenza.

The previously referenced authors believe that the 1918-1919 flu is often overlooked because WWI took priority in all of the news. President Wilson did not want anything to distract from the war effort or the maintenance of morale. Even local papers may have downplayed it for this reason. After the Flu waned, there was a concurrent euphoria over the end of WWI, especially in America. The post war treaty, the League of Nations, economic recession and other concerns, foreign and domestic, grabbed the headlines. Even the voting on prohibition seemed to be reported in greater detail than were influenza deaths.

The number most often reported for Influenza deaths in the United States is 675,000 in the twelve-month period between March 1918 and February 1919. It is difficult to know for sure whether this 675,000 includes the 63,000 soldiers "other causes," half of which (33,000) are estimated from the flu. Regardless, the Influenza killed at least 10 times the number of Americans in one year than the war did in 2 years. But any close investigation of local situations, especially in America's major cities, reveals many opportunities for undercounting. The actual number--as elsewhere in the world--may have been much higher. In 1919, there were 2 flu deaths listed in the Gazette the week of February 6th. This appears to have been the end of the epidemic in Hightstown and Cranbury. If Hightstown and East Windsor experienced only 12 deaths, we may have gotten off easy. But the eight weeks of no *Gazette* reportage during the early and most chaotic period of the pandemic should leave one uneasy.

*End of Influenza text. See following 3 pages for related images*



# ADVICE TO "FLU" CONVALESCENTS

## SPAIN AND ENGLAND REPORT INCREASE IN TUBERCULOSIS AFTER INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC.

### U. S. Public Health Service Warns Public Against Tuberculosis. One Million Cases Tuberculosis in United States—Each a Source of Danger.

Influenza Convalescents Should Have Lungs Examined—Colds Which Hang On Often Beginning of Tuberculosis. No Cause for Alarm if Tuberculosis is Recognized Early—Patent Medicines Not to Be Trusted.

- \*\*\*\*\*
- \* Beware tuberculosis after influenza. No need to worry if you take precautions in time.
  - \* Don't diagnose your own condition. Have your doctor examine your lungs several times at monthly intervals. Build up your strength with right living, good food and plenty of fresh air.
  - \* Don't waste money on patent medicines advertised to cure tuberculosis.
  - \* Become a fresh-air crank and enjoy life.
- \*\*\*\*\*

Washington, D. C.—(Special).—According to a report made to the United States Public Health Service, the epidemic of influenza in Spain has already caused an increase in the prevalence and deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis. A similar association between influenza and tuberculosis was recently made by Sir Arthur Newsholme, the chief medical officer of the English public health service, in his analysis of the tuberculosis death rate in England.

In order that the people of the United States may profit by the experience of other countries Surgeon General Rupert Blue of the United States Public Health Service has just issued a warning emphasizing the need of special precautions at the present time. "Experience seems to indicate," says the Surgeon General, "that persons whose resistance has been weakened by an attack of influenza are peculiarly susceptible to tuberculosis. With millions of its people recently affected with influenza this country now offers conditions favoring the spread of tuberculosis."

### One Million Consumptives in the United States.

"Then you consider this a serious menace?" was asked. "In my opinion it is, though I hasten to add it is distinctly one against which the people can guard. So far as one can estimate there are at present about one million cases of tuberculosis in the United States. There is unfortunately no complete census available to show exactly the number of tuberculosis persons in each state despite the fact that most of the states have made the disease reportable. In New York city, where reporting has been in force for many years, over 85,000 cases of tuberculosis are registered with the Department of Health. Those familiar with the situation believe that the addition of unrecognized and unreported cases would make the number nearer 50,000. The very careful health survey conducted during the past two years in Framingham, Mass., revealed 200 cases of tuberculosis in a population of approximately 15,000. If these proportions hold true for the United States as a whole they would indicate that about one in every hundred persons is tuberculous. Each of these constitutes a source of danger to be guarded against."

#### What to Do.

In his statement to the public Surgeon General Blue points out how those who have had influenza should protect themselves against tuberculosis. "All who have recovered from influenza," says the Surgeon General, "should have their lungs carefully examined by a competent physician. In fact, it is desirable to have several examinations made a month apart. Such examinations cannot be made through the clothing nor can they be carried out in two or three minutes. If the lungs are found to be free from tuberculosis every effort should be made to keep them so. This can be done by right living, good food and plenty of fresh air."

#### Danger Signs.

The Surgeon General warned especially against certain danger signs, such as "decline" and "colds which hang on."

These, he explained, were often the beginning of tuberculosis. "If you do not get well promptly, if your cold seems to hang on or your health and strength decline, remember that these are often the early signs of tuberculosis. Place yourself at once under the care of a competent physician. Tuberculosis is curable in the early stages."

#### Patent Medicines Dangerous in Tuberculosis.

"Above all do not trust in the misleading statements of unscrupulous patent medicine fakers. There is no specific medicine for the cure of tuberculosis. The money spent on such medicines is thrown away; it should be spent instead for good food and decent living."

### Fred A. Doyle.

The funeral of Fred A. Doyle, chief of the Hightstown Fire Department, manager of the Central Hotel, and one of the leading citizens of that vicinity, was held from his home there on Monday. Mr. Doyle was 34 years old and had spent his entire life in Hightstown. Recently, desiring to help the Government with his services he sought a position with the Pennsylvania Railroad, which he held 10 years ago. He was filling the position at the time of his death. The Central Hotel, of which he was manager, had previously been owned and managed by his father, the late Dr. C. A. Doyle.

The funeral services were private, and were conducted by the Rev. H. M. Pierce, of Elizabeth. The procession to the cemetery was escorted by the Mayor and members of the Common Council and the entire Fire Department. Mr. Doyle is survived by his widow, Mrs. Nettie Doyle; his mother, Mrs. Helen Doyle, and two sisters, Mrs. Washington Truex, of Hightstown, and Mrs. Harry Harbourn, of Trenton.

#### Dr. C. M. Franklin.

Dr. C. Montanye Franklin died Wednesday afternoon at his home on South Main street, Hightstown after a brief illness. Influenza was the cause of death. He was 37 years and 6 months of age. The funeral was private and the interment was made at Cedar Hill cemetery, under direction of Allen & Stults.

Dr. Franklin was associated with his father, Dr. George H. Franklin, and enjoyed a large practice in Hightstown and surrounding country. He was recognized as an able and conscientious physician and held the confidence of the residents of Hightstown and vicinity. His death is a great loss to Hightstown.

His entire life was spent in Hightstown. He graduated from Peddie Institute with the class of 1898, from Princeton University with the class of 1902 and from University of Pennsylvania with the class of 1906. He was medical inspector for the Board of Health of the borough and also for the township and medical inspector for the schools of the district. He was a member of the Mercer County Medical Association, New Jersey State Medical Association and of the American Medical Association.

Besides his widow, formerly Miss Irma L. Eldridge, he is survived by a son, Charles M., Jr., his father, Dr. George H. Franklin, brother, William H. Franklin, sister, Mrs. E. D. Johnstone.

Press 10/10/1918  
HIGHTSTOWN



Press 11/18/1918

# DRUGGISTS!! PLEASE NOTE VICK'S VAPORUB OVERSOLD DUE TO PRESENT EPIDEMIC

Tremendous Demand Last Few Days Has Wiped Out Excess Stocks That We Had Estimated Would Last Until Next January. Last Week's Orders Called For One and Three Quarter Million Jars—Today's Orders Alone Amount to 932,459 Jars.

Big Shipments Are En Route to Jobbers. Until These Arrive There May Be a Temporary Shortage. All Deals Postponed—Buy in Small Lots Only.

**RETAILERS CAN GET IMMEDIATE SHIPMENTS DIRECT BY PARCEL POST.**

This advertisement is written on Monday, October 21st. It is directed to the attention of all distributors of Vick's Vaporub, both wholesale and retail. In an emergency such as the present epidemic—our duty—and your duty—is to distribute Vaporub in the quickest possible manner to those sections stricken by influenza. We therefore, call your careful attention to the following:

**DANGER OF SHORTAGE IF SUPPLY IS NOT CONSERVED**

On October 1st we had on hand, at our factory and in twenty warehouses scattered over the country, sufficient Vaporub to last us, we thought, until January 1st, allowing for a 50 per cent increase over last year's sales, and not counting our daily output. This big excess stock had been accumulated during the summer months.

Then this epidemic of Spanish Influenza hit us—and in the last ten days this stock has vanished. At first we thought this tremendous demand would last only a few days, but the orders have run:

Wed., Oct. 16, . . . . . 18,504 doz.  
Thur., Oct. 17, . . . . . 25,323 doz.  
Fri., Oct. 18, . . . . . 39,256 doz.  
Sat., Oct. 19, . . . . . 45,893 doz.  
Mon., Oct. 21, . . . . . 77,705 doz.

Up to Saturday, October 19th, we have actually shipped for this month \$400,284.10, or over two million jars of Vaporub.

**THE PROBLEM NOW IS TO DISTRIBUTE VAPORUB QUICKLY.**

Most of this tremendous quantity is still en route to the jobbers, but freight and express are both congested nowadays, and it may be some time before this supply reaches the jobbers. In the meantime, therefore, it is necessary that we distribute, as widely as possible, the stock that we are manufacturing daily, together with that now on the jobbers' and retailers' shelves, in order that it may get to the influenza districts quickly. Our normal output is about 4,000 dozen per day. We are putting on a night shift, but it will be a little while before that is producing.

**WHAT WE ASK THE WHOLESALE DRUGGIST TO DO.**

Last Saturday we notified all of our jobbers, by Special Delivery, as follows:

1st—Deals and quantity shipments of all kinds are cancelled. Fill no quantity orders of any kind, whether taken by our salesman or by your own. Sell in small lots only.

2nd—Order from us in as small

quantities as possible. If you are out we will try to ship a limited amount by Parcel Post or express, and pay the charges ourselves.

3rd—in order to make distribution still quicker, we will ship direct to your retail customers quantities not more than three (3) dozen 30c size at any one shipment.

4th—We are now out of the 60c size and will be for the next ten days.

**WHAT WE ASK THE RETAIL DRUGGIST TO DO.**

Buy in as small quantities as possible. If you have any quantity orders, given the jobber's salesman or given to our salesman, don't bother about them—no need to write us—it is absolutely impossible to fill these orders at this time. If the jobbers in your territory are out of Vick's Vaporub, we will ship you by Parcel Post, prepaid, quantities not more than three (3) dozen 30c size in any one order. Naturally, we can't open accounts at this time, so your check or money order for this amount must accompany order. Don't write us stating to ship thru your jobber, as we then have to wait until we write this jobber and get his O. K. If you wish the goods to come thru your jobber, have him order them for you.

**SNOWED UNDER WITH CORRESPONDENCE.**

Our force has already been "shot to pieces"—twenty-four of our men are wearing Uncle Sam's khaki—and this recent rush has simply buried us. All our sales force has been called in to help in the office and factory. We just mention this so you won't hold it against us if your wires and letters aren't answered promptly.

**SPECIAL BOOKLETS ON SPANISH INFLUENZA.**

We will send, on request, to any retail druggist, 100 or more little booklets, just issued, on Spanish Influenza, giving the latest information about this disease—its history—the symptoms—the treatment, and particularly the use of Vick's Vaporub as an external application to supplement the physician's treatment.

**NEW WAYS TO USE VAPORUB.**

In addition to the usual method of using Vaporub—that is, applied over the throat and chest and covered with hot flannel cloths—our customers are writing us daily telling of their success in using Vaporub in other ways, particularly as a preventive. They melt a little in a spoon and inhale the vapors arising, or melt it in a benzoin steam kettle. Where the steam kettle is not available, Vaporub can be used in an ordinary teakettle. Fill the teakettle half full of boiling water, put in half a teaspoon of Vaporub from time to time—keep the kettle just slowly boiling and inhale the steam arising.

According to a Bulletin just issued by the Public Health Service, Dr. Stiles recommends that the nose and throat be kept coated with some oily substance. For this purpose Vaporub is excellent—just put a little up the nostrils from time to time and stuff well back into the air passages.

THE VICK CHEMICAL COMPANY, GREENSBORO, N. C.

## SOCIETY NEWS & NEEDS

The Society has been approached by the Friends of the Hightstown Library to partner in contracting with a firm to **digitize the Hightstown Gazette, Village Record and Excelsior microfilm to searchable pdfs.** The firm would also provide the site for public access. We will be looking for donations to donate a reel in memory or honor of your family or anyone you please. Discussion about this project will be held at the Tuesday, Sept 11th meeting, 7 pm.

**Volunteers are needed** for officer positions and to assist in publishing our newsletter. Rick Pratt has announced that this is his last newsletter. He has provided excellent layout and creative design but he is "moving on". Contact Cappy if you are able to volunteer. Additionally the current officers have not been changed since 2015-2016. Things are running like a "clock" but we need new people to help wind this clock while the current team are around to assist. Contact Cappy.

Thanks to **Jen and Steve Worringer** for scraping and painting our porches. The Ely House is scheduled to be painted later this year. Also thanks to Cookie and Kevin Cummings and Bev Mann for their work around the property.

The Society is contacted nearly once a week from people around the country seeking local historical information. A recent contact was from a man in Arizona whose father was on a ship with merchant marine Charlie Richardson in WWII. The ship was sunk by a torpedo in the Pacific. He is looking for relatives of Charlie to share a recording of his father's memory of the attack which killed **Charles Albert Richardson**. Anyone knowing anything about what is believed to be this past Hightstown resident, please let Cappy know.

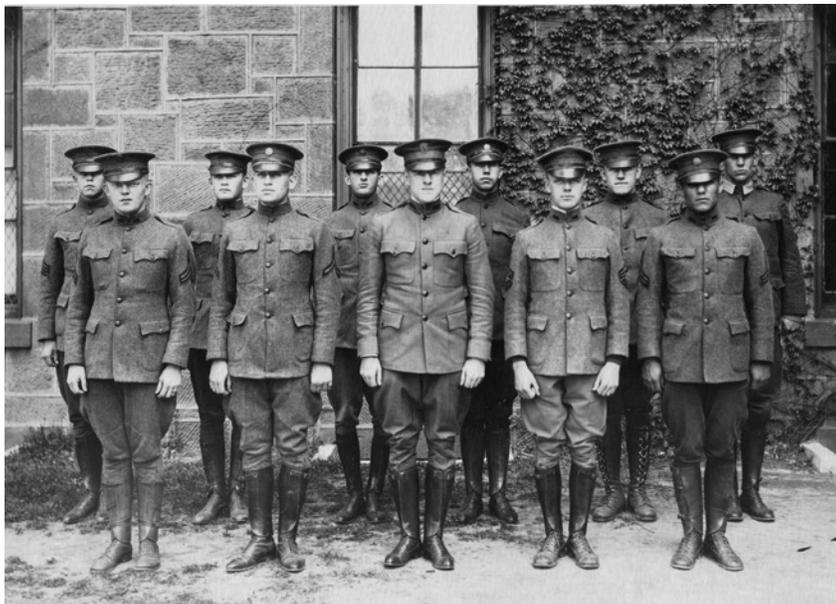
[Cstults@allenstults.com](mailto:Cstults@allenstults.com)

A Marti Unger contacted us from California. She is visiting Hightstown while this newsletter is being printed. She will be visiting sites where her grandfather Landis Elliott Wright lived as well as relatives. Her relatives included Applegates, Perrines and Cowards. Cappy can supply anyone interested with her email address.

# Peddie in World War I

BY DR. DAVID MARTIN,  
PEDDIE ARCHIVIST

"The Great War" began in Europe in 1914, but in the early years of the war it was hardly mentioned in the Peddie School newspaper, except for editorials every few issues. William Howard Taft, former U.S. President and future chief justice of the Supreme Court, brought the war powerfully to the school's attention when he was the commencement keynote speaker in June 1916, addressing the theme of preparedness. As the war continued, the editorials became more frequent, and more and more attention was paid to staffing and training Peddie cadets. After we entered the war there were frequent drives for war bonds and other support.



*Peddie cadet officers standing before Wilson Hall at Peddie*

Peddie was serious about preparing her students for military service and created a battalion of cadets in four companies, all drilled under the capable leadership of Captain Mason Ivins of the New Jersey National Guard. When Captain Ivins was called to active duty in 1918, he was replaced by Captain Leslie S. Hyatt, a graduate of the Pennsylvania Military College. Drill was conducted four days a week, and every effort was made to prepare Peddie's boys for active service if needed.

Peddie's greatest contribution to the war was made by her students and alumni. All together nearly 600 former students fought or served in support units of an estimated one thousand Peddie alumni of military age. Of these, two were killed in action, nine died of disease, and five died in accidents inside or outside of training camps. 124 Peddie alumni won commissions as officers and 92 served as non-coms.

One of the most interesting stories is that of Harold A. Hunt, Class of 1916. Hunt, known to everyone as "Bunny", served in the Ambulance Corps and sent frequent letters from the front to the *Peddie News*. He was captured by the Germans and spent several months in a prison camp. Bunny survived the

war and personally told of his adventures in an address to the school at Chapel in February 1919.

Some ten faculty also served in the war. Two were officers and one was wounded in action. Lynn Stratton, a math teacher for one year in 1916-1917, was wounded while serving in the American Expeditionary Force in Italy. The most noted faculty member to serve in the war was John Plant, Class of 1906, who was a popular athletic coach from 1906 to 1926. In 1917, he volunteered to serve in the Y.M.C.A. Hospital Corps as part of the A.E.F. (American Expeditionary Corps) in France.

All of campus was overjoyed when the war ended. Excitement at a premature rumor of peace on November 7, 1918 became real when the armistice became known on November 10, the day before it was to take effect "on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month." What we would call an "all school meeting" took place at 3:30 PM to plan a celebration, which would focus on a huge bonfire that night. The freshmen were entailed to gather all the necessary firewood. Meanwhile a victory parade gathered in town shortly after supper. The Peddie students marched in a platoon, drawing the cheerleaders in two old buggies. They carried a sign declaring, "We've got the Kaiser's goat." At 9 PM the activities focused on the school's bonfire, which was attended by townspeople as well as all of campus.

## **Peddie And The Great Flu Epidemic**

The influenza pandemic of 1918-1919 was one of the greatest plagues of world history. Conditions were rife for infection because of the millions of refugees set in motion by the Great War and because so many soldiers were crowded together in training camps and in battle zones. For all the influenza's worldwide killing, however, Peddie's experience of it was surprisingly mild.

*Peddie- continued on page 11*



*Peddie's Robeson Infirmary, built in response to the Influenza*

The epidemic came in three waves in the U.S., the first in spring 1918, the second and greatest wave that fall, and a follow up wave in spring 1919. The first attack in the U.S., largely confined to military installations, went unnoticed in the school newspaper, but things grew serious enough by October 1918 that short updates were being posted on the front page of the *Peddie News*. The October 18th issue reported over 100 cases in Hightstown; as a result, "the churches, schools, and other public places have been closed." The schools that were closed must have been just the public schools, since the Peddie newspaper made no reference to the school's classes being cancelled. No flu cases were yet reported on campus. The greatest impact was that three football games had to be cancelled for fear of spreading contagion between campuses. Peddie organized intramural football for its students instead. (Some rumors have persisted over the years that the 1918 Peddie-Blair football game--the longest prep school rivalry in the state--had to be cancelled because of the flu epidemic. It was not. The 1918 game was played at Blairstown on November 16 and resulted in a 0-0 tie.)

A week later the total number of cases in town had risen to 150, and a second death was reported. A case was rumored on campus but was later proven mistaken. By the end of the month, Peddie was "proud to say that as yet she has not been visited by one case of the disease." There were, though, more cases than usual of other illnesses, and as a precaution a fair number sick of students were confined to their rooms. Thus Peddie employed the one approach to the influenza that was later shown elsewhere to be effective, at least to a limited degree: isolation. Peddie, as a boarding school, could keep its students on campus, away from con-

tact with townspeople.

The November 6, 1918 issue of *Peddie News* broadcast that the flu ban was lifted. Public places and churches were reopened, and public schools were scheduled to open the next day. Peddie's school activities appear to have gone on unabated. No mention of the flu is made during the weaker spring 1919 outbreak. Thus, Peddie appears to have escaped this great epidemic that struck as close as Hightstown.

*Photos for this article, courtesy, Peddie School Archives*



*Peddie celebrated the end of the war with this bonfire*

## 'A Walk Through Time' in October

On Sunday afternoon, October 21st, the Society will host its 15th biennial house tour, with the theme, "A Walk Through Time." The tour, from 1 to 5 pm, features several homes grouped closely enough along South Main Street that visitors are encouraged to leave their cars behind and walk from one house to another. Tickets are \$20 when purchased in advance and \$25 when bought the day of the tour. Tickets may be bought in advance at Perennial Home at 119 West Ward Street, or at Ely House (164 North Main Street) on the day of the tour. The tour is a fund-raiser for the Society. For more information go to hewhs.com.

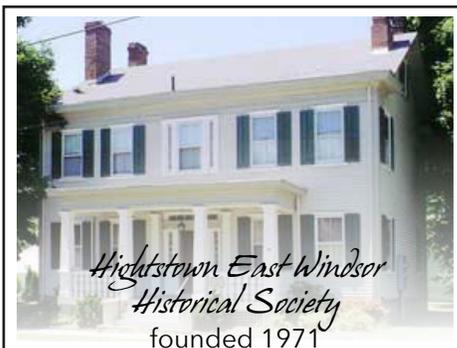
The tour will feature houses that are suggestive of the variety of architecture along South Main Street, which vied with Stockton Street in the 19th century to become the avenue that featured Hightstown's finest residences. Singling out just three, one at 314 South Main was built on land owned by John C. Ward, who had it built before selling the property in 1867. Through similar transactions he encouraged the build-up of a considerable stretch of South Main Street. This house was a virtual twin to that located at 536 South Main Street (not on the tour). It has been altered from its original appearance by replacing the original gingerbread porch that closely resembled the one that can be seen at 536. Many original features of the interior have been preserved.

At 321 South Main, the George Melville house was built about 1905. This features an eclectic design displaying touches of the Colonial Revival and Shingle styles. In 1942 the Peddie School bought this home from the to use as their headmaster's home and named it the "Swetland House," in honor of Dr. Roger W. Swetland, a former headmaster of 34 years. Since then, five headmasters have resided here. Throughout these years, this home has been the setting for many grand social events for visiting dignitaries and faculty.



The most architectonic of the three stands at 513 South Main. (*featured on cover*) The Applegate house was built about 1908, the home of Thomas Ely Applegate and his wife Anna Dey Applegate. Thomas was a son Edward T.R. Applegate, for whom the village of Etra in East Windsor was named. Edward had been a New Jersey Assemblyman, Judge, farmer, lumber merchant, and founding director of the First National Bank of Hightstown. The house embodies a design by Knoxville, Tennessee architect, George F. Barber that appeared in a book of his designs published in 1901. This fine home has five porches including a forty-foot-long front porch dominated by a colossal portico of doubled columns influenced by the rarely seen Beaux Arts style.

HIGHTSTOWN-EAST WINDSOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY



*Hightstown East Windsor  
Historical Society*  
founded 1971

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

*Officers for 2016-2017*

President- Charles "Cappy" Stults  
609-448-0110 cstults@allenstults.com  
Vice President- Robin Smith  
Recording Secretary- Shirley Olsen  
609-448-8388  
Corres. Secretary- Vacant  
Treasurer- Robert Szychowski  
609-448-9490

*Committee Chairs*

Finance- Robert Szychowski  
609-448-9490  
Property & Grounds- Warren Olsen  
609-448-8388  
Beverly Mann  
Library- Robert Craig  
609-584-1806  
Eileen Couturier  
Website- Gary Stevens  
609-469-1860  
Membership- Cookie Cummings  
cookcumings@yahoo.com  
Museum- Cookie & Christa Cummings  
Newsletter- Robert Craig  
609-584-1806  
Programs- Christian Kirkpatrick &  
Jane Cox  
609-443-3138  
Programs- 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 Rick Pratt  
Printed by Harwill Express Press

# Upcoming House Tour...

## Sunday, October 21st, 1-5 p.m.

### Ticket Information

Advance Tickets: \$20  
 Day of Event Tickets \$25  
 Children \$5

*Includes Special Floral Arrangements by  
 The Rocky Brook Garden Club  
 Antique Cars from Central Jersey Antique Car Club*

*(HOUSES MAY BE TOURED IN ANY ORDER)*

### Pick up program and map at

1. THE ELY HOUSE—Tickets for Sale  
 164 North Main Street, Hightstown  
*(Note: The Ely House is not on tour)*
2. The John C. Ward House  
 314 South Main Street, Hightstown
3. The Melville P. Chamberlin House  
 321 South Main Street, Hightstown
4. The Eldridge House & Guest House  
 402 South Main Street, Hightstown
5. The Milton H. Cunningham House  
 503 South Main Street, Hightstown
6. The Thomas Ely Applegate House  
 and Carriage House  
 513 South Main Street, Hightstown

### Monthly Meetings

Anyone is welcome to attend our meetings. We discuss progress of each committee and welcome your input for new ideas and offers to assist with our upcoming programs.

### Meetings are held:

The first Monday of the month at 7:00 pm in Ely House. 164 North Main Street, Hightstown.

### Membership ~Application~

Support us this year at the following rates:

- Individual \$20
- Family \$25
- Booster \$40
- Sustaining \$50
- Life (Individual) \$200
- Life (Family) \$275
- Newsletter ONLY \$10

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 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):

- Property & Grounds
- Library
- Membership
- Museum
- Newsletter
- Programs
- Publicity



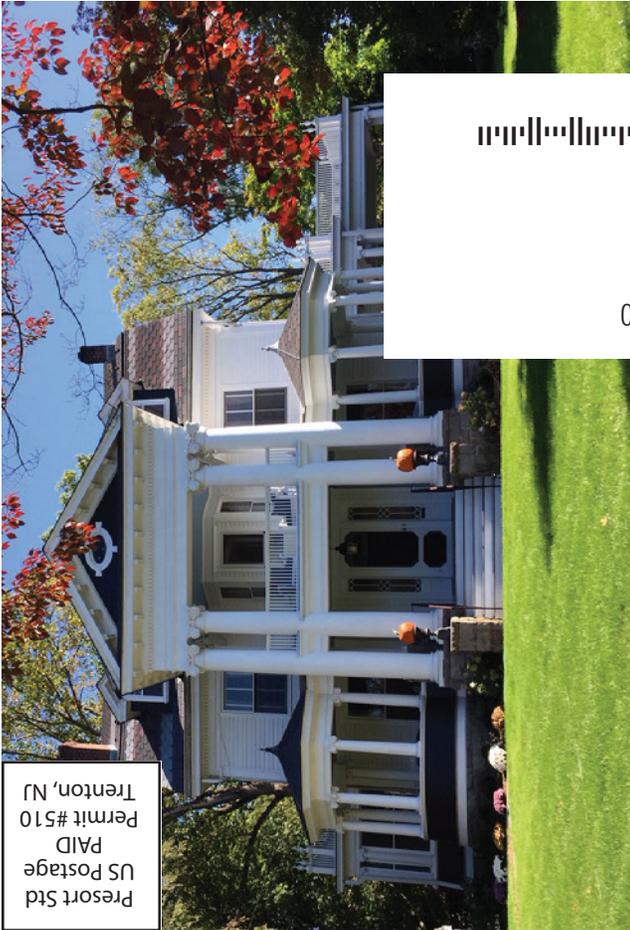
**Five Houses!**

**One Day!**

**Four Hours!**

**Oct. 21st**

**See pg 14...**



**Hightstown-East Windsor  
Historical Society  
164 North Main Street  
Hightstown, NJ 08520  
[www.hewhs.com](http://www.hewhs.com)**

1\*\*1\*\*03\*\*\*\*\*SCH 5-DIGIT 08520  
Joseph & Margaret Ram  
72 Einstein Way  
East Windsor, NJ 08512-2540



Presort Std  
US Postage  
PAID  
Permit #510  
Trenton, NJ