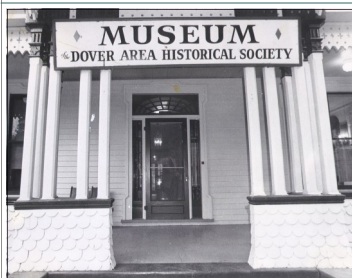




The Old Tye News

Volume XLIII Issue I

Winter 2012



Nights at the Museum.
Page 4

GRAND-OPENING
OF THE
BAKER OPERA HOUSE,
DOVER, N. J.
Monday and Tuesday Evenings,
APRIL 5th and 6th,
BY THE
ALFA NORMAN
ENGLISH OPERA COMPANY.
First Night - "The Bohemian Girl."
Second Night - "The Widow."
PRICES EACH NIGHT.
ALL SEATS RESERVED.
Admission Children
50c. (Under 10c.)
The sale of reserved seats will begin
at 7 P. M. on Thursday evening, April 5th, at
the box office, where diagrams may be seen.

BAKER OPERA HOUSE
DOVER, N. J.
Wednesday, March 15, '99
MR. FRANK SHERIDAN
—AND—
MR. ARTHUR LARKIN
AND THEIR
NEW YORK COMPANY
will appear in their very funny
Farce Comedy
**HIS
BETTER
HALF**
in three acts of continuous laugh-
ter.
PRICES - - 35 and 50 cents
Seats now on sale at Kilgore's Drug Store, and
can be secured by telephone.

1886 & 1899 Page 5

Dover Lawyer Becomes United States Supreme Court Justice

Mahlon Pitney Sets Up Practice In Dover - Becomes Close Friends With Dover's First Mayor George Richards

DOVER-Mahlon Pitney was born in Morristown on Feb. 5, 1858 to a wealthy family. His father was a lawyer and a N.J. State Supreme Court Judge. After attending public schools, Mahlon graduated from Princeton in 1879 and then studied law from another lawyer rather than attending law school. He was admitted to the N.J. bar in 1882 and immediately set up his first practice in Dover on Blackwell Street. According to the local newspaper, Iron Era on Nov. 7, 1882, "Mahlon Pitney is located in his new office, next door to the Iron Era. He is a gentleman of high attainments and excellent character, and we predict for him a career of usefulness, and an honor to Dover."

One of Pitney's first clients was Dover's first mayor, George Richards who owned vast wealth in real estate, retail businesses, mining interests,

railroads, banking, you name it, he had interest in it. Pitney represented Mr. Richards in many legal battles and challenges, especially dealings with his Dover-Rockaway RR and the Central Rail line that ran through the heart of Dover.

Many of the detailed accounts of Pitney's dealings while in Dover between 1882 and 1889 are lost due to misplaced records and old newspaper accounts that have lost their usefulness in being able to read and study. Other sources may still be available, but that would require detailed research and study.

When Mahlon's father, Henry C. Pitney was appointed Vice Chancellor of NJ in 1889, Pitney returned to Morristown and took over his father's practice.

(cont. pg 10)



MAHLON PITNEY,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
MASTER IN CHANCERY AND NOTARY PUBLIC,
IRON ERA BUILDING,
DOVER, N. J.

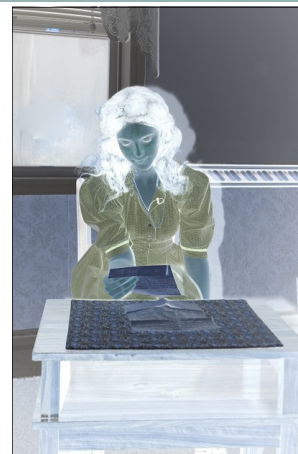
Mahlon Pitney had his offices on Blackwell St. next to Iron Era

Dorothy Returns Home

DOVER-The stage was set for our long time house "ghost" Dorothy to return home to reclaim her secret love letters hidden away in the museum house floor space for nearly 100 years. Love letter that were accidentally discovered when work crews from the Masonic Lodge were removing a ceiling on the second floor that revealed a floor space hiding space in a bedroom on the third floor. After careful

investigation, it was discovered these love letters belonged to a little girl that lived in this house many years ago. A little girl by the name of Dorothy "Dot" Condict. The discovery of these letters also explained the strange events that occurred prior to the finding of these letters-strange events that were so pronounced that one could only come to the conclusion that the house was haunted.

(cont. on page 8)



2012 PAID MEMBERSHIP**LIFE TIME MEMBERSHIP**

Phillip D. Alvarez, Blairstown
 Attilio's Tavern, Dover
 Ira & Cynthia Ayers, Randolph
 Jean Baker, Hopatcong
 Bill & Ginny Birch, Bernardsville
 Carolyn Bishop, Dover
 Benson Thomson Agency, Dover
 Joan & Alan Bocchino, Dover
 James Brooks, Ocean City
 Curtis & Lois Brown, Lancaster, PA
 Harriet Buono, Dover
 Joan Burdge, Dover
 Shirley Hendrickson Burgess,
 Randolph
 Charles & Marion Caccavale, Wharton
 Robert Carpenter, Rockaway
 Eve Casey, Dover
 Phyllis Casey, Dover
 Dom Ciardi, Picataway
 George Coulthard, Dover
 Norman & Mary Lou Dailey, Dover
 Florence D'Agostino, Dover

Mike D'Agostino, Succasunna
 James & JoAnn Dodd, Dover
 Patrick Fahy, Dover
 Margeret Fischer & Bob Starling,
 Erwinna, PA
 Jay & Patti Ferriero, Mt Arlington
 Evelyn Gilbert, Jensen Beach, FL
 David & Karen Glaser, Dover
 Bob & Linda Gordon, Mt Arlington
 Victor & Ellen Guadagno, Sparta
 Ellen G. Gustafson, Kingman, AZ
 Frank & Grace Hamilton, Old Lyme, CT
 Willard & Betty Hedden, Randolph
 Dorothy Hertel, Safety Harbor, FL
 Jackie & Ken Hillman, Scottsdale, AZ
 Mariann Horan, Douglassville, PA
 Betty Inglis, Dover
 Carl Iosso, Dover
 Jim & Verna Johnson, Pompton Plains
 Patricia Kalena, Dover
 Martin & Laura Kane, Mt. Lakes
 Wm. & Nancy Kattermann, Dover
 Richard Kelly, Dover
 Karen Kovalesky, Hackettstown

David & Sherry Lenox, Dover
 Jacqueline Loeffler, Dover
 Mel & Barbara Loory, Boonton
 Bert & Linda McDonald, Dover
 Charlotte Morgan Luer, Denville
 Betty MacNaughten, Mine Hill
 Marilyn Martin, Cottage Grove, MN
 Terry Forsstrom Meloskie, Denville
 Dr. Hugh Miller, Dover, DE
 Otto Miller, Mine Hill
 Robert L. Miller & Claire Rohloff,
 Bloomsbury
 Rich & Barbara Newman, Dover
 Henry O Baker Ins., Dover
 Helen & Carmen Pennella, Dover
 Dave & Lisa Pennella, Dover
 Michael & Catharine Picciallo, Dover
 Frank Poolas, Dover
 Wm. Richardson, Mt Arlington
 Cindy & Rich Romaine, Dover
 Stan & Marj Schoonmaker, Dover
 Robert, Patricia & Samuel Schwarz,
 Dover
 William & Susan Shauer, Dover
 (Cont. below)

LIFE TIME MEMBERSHIP

Peg & William Shuler, Dover
 Ulla, William & Paul Shuler, Dover
 Smith, Taylor, Ruggiero Funeral
 Home, Dover
 JoAnn, Bob & Mike Steinberg, Dover
 Robert. & Rose Tiefenbacher,
 Lafayette
 Jackie & Ken Hillman, Scottsdale, AZ
 Dr. Arthur Tiger M.D., P.A., Dover
 Dr. Anthony Troha, Mine Hill
 Tuttle Funeral Home, Randolph
 Robert & Alice Wagner, Wharton
 Francis & Louis Wagner, Canton, GA
 Kay Walker, Succasunna

Henry & Phyllis Winstead, Rockaway
 Debbie & Bob Wood, Succasunna
 Bill & Brenda Woodhull, Dover
 JoAnne Zarger, Mine Hill
 In Memory of Arch Nicholas
SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP
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 Margie Bell, Los Angeles, CA
 Brownwood Realty Co., Dover
 Dover Renaissance, Inc., Dover
 George W. Johnson, Dover
 Nancy & Wm. Kattermann, Dover
 Scott, Judy & Jeffery Miller, Dover
 Murray's Tavern, Dover
 Sylvia Rubens, Randolph
 Rev. James J. Slaterry, Dover

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP**FAMILY MEMBERSHIP**

Francis R. & Marie Hoffman, Dover
 John & Mary Hynes, Easton, NJ
 Nancy & Emily James, Dover
 Gary Kazin & Family, Rockaway
 Eleanor & Dick Kehoe, Succasunna
 George & Lynn Laurie, Dover
 Eugene & Beatrice Lemoncelli,
 Blairstown
 John Mann & Family, Lake Hiawatha
 Catherine & Larry Magliocchetti Dover
 Linda & Jim Mullin, Dover
 Joseph & Sharon Nazzaro, Randolph
 Penny & Pat Visioli, Milford, DE
 The Doug Zeek Family, Dover

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Robert D. Ciardi, Irwin, PA
 Janet Hooper, Dover
 Nancy Nicholas & Family, Dover
 Shirley & George O'Brien, Dover
 Helen & Bob Slack, Dover
 Leroy & Edith Varga, Dover
 Neldon & Alma Williams, Dover
 Patricia Davis, Landing
 John A. Detore, Randolph
 Patricia Farruggia, Hopatcong
 Kathleen Kalena, Dover
 John Kuzel, Denville
 Helen Guiles, Dover
 Richard C. Palmer, Mine Hill

Philip & Mary Carthage, Belfast, ME
 George & Mary Castellitto, Randolph
 Juan & Kathleen Casiano, Dover
 Susan Champion & Family, Montville
 Christopher Chapman & Family, Dover
 John & Mary Chirip, Randolph
 William. & Judy Ciardi, Randolph
 Richard & Cathy Cole, Dover
 Jack & Gail Delaney & Family, Dover
 Paul & Olga Downs, Dover
 Maribeth & Frank Dulfer, Dover
 Hudson Favell & Ada Rosen, Dover
 Kevin & Mary Flanagan & Family, Dover
 Dr. Edward & Ellen Forbes, Randolph
 Debra & George Force, Wharton
 Bill & Bonnie Gregory, Morristown
 Karen & Roy Hendrey, Dover (cont. below)

Carrie Schwabacher, Dover
 William A. Slack, Okeechobee, FL
 Mike Srsich, Rockaway
 Charles Walker, Greensboro, NC
 Joseph F. Woodhull, Portland, OR
 William B. Woodhull, Newton

SENIOR MEMBERSHIP

Charlotte E. Arndt, Denville
 Bob Bahrs, Morris Plains
 Joshua Bennett, Dover
 Joseph & Carolina Bentravato, Dover
 Frederick J. Blakley, Dover
 Joyce Boniface, Mine Hill
 Ennette Boyiatgis, Dover
 (cont. next page)

SENIOR MEMBERSHIP

Walter M. Buczek, Totowa
 Flavia & David Brock, Dover
 James & Doris Bush, Randolph
 Frances Campbell, Mt Tabor
 Jean Cater, Dover
 Jean Chervnsik, Dover
 Deanna Cicchetti, Wharton
 Louis Cloitre, Dover
 Mary Lou Cole, Dover
 Lowell A. Cook, Twp. of Washington
 Francis S. Cordes, Tavares, FL
 Earline A. Cortese, Morris Plains
 Margaret H. Coward, Houston, TX
 Henry Crouse, Underhill, VT
 Harold Curtis, Kenton, OH
 Ed Daniels, Dover
 Jim D'Auria, Dover
 Francisco DeJesus, Dover
 Catharine DeShazo, Dover
 Thomas DeShazo, Millsboro, DE
 Douglas Dickerson, Dover
 Mr. Drew Diesel, Newton
 Richard & Elfriede Egan, Dover
 Jean Evans, Wharton
 Alexander D. Everitt, Lafayette
 Robert Fancher, Wharton

Shirley F. Ferriero, Boonton
 Robert Feinberg, Wesley Chapel, FL
 Roger Flartey, Mine Hill
 John V. Gill, Flanders
 Marie Gleckler, Randolph
 Rolando Gomez, Dover
 Gary Gordon, Morris Plains
 Ms. Joyce Gorine, Dover
 Sophie Goritski, Londonderry, NH
 Allen C. Hale, Lake Mary, FL
 William Hastie, Wharton
 JoAnn Hillabrant, Rockaway
 Mrs. Ruth Hilderbrant, Ironia
 Martha A. Hoffman, Dover
 Malfalda Hooper, Rockaway
 Lyndon E. Hooper, Jr., Camden, DE
 Betty J. Howard, Dover
 Diane L. Hunter, Dover
 Caroline & John Huntzinger,
 Slaughter Beach, DE
 Phil Jaeger, Cedar Grove
 Mary H. Jenkins, Dover
 Catherine A. Jugan, Dover
 Paula Kassell, Dover
 Dan & Judy Klement, Remer, NM
 John Kostakis, Rockaway
 Judith Kovar, Rockaway

Helen & John Kuzel, Dover
 Donald Lansing, Dover
 Virginia List, Dover
 Everett Lucas, Eatontown
 Delores M. Lynch, Stevens, PA
 Athena Mantgas, Dover
 Eleanor Mason, Hibernia
 Sandy Mayer, Morristown
 Gloria J. Melneck, Atlanta, GA
 Roy & Marion Miller, Dover
 Byard & Linda Miller, Heber Springs, AR
 Joan Monnia, Wharton
 John Morrison, Brooksville, FL
 Carlo Nisi, Dover
 Dorothy B. O'Leary, Hanover, PA
 Michael & Irene Palanchi, Dover
 Helen Peterson, Dover
 Raymond Porphy, Ridge Spring, SC
 Diane Power, Rockaway
 Paul Preis, Dover
 Russell M. Reed, Hackettstown
 Edward Reich, Dover
 Ms. Marie Richards, Dover
 Linda Romeo, Burlington, VT
 Emma Lou Rushing, Nepean, Ontario
 Ms. Diane Saitta, Dover
 Ms. Martha Salvesen, Dover
 Bernard Schenkler, Alden, NY (cont. below)

Mrs. Florence Schuten, Pelion, SC
 Donald Seath, Wharton
 Carolyn Seeger, E. Stroudsburg, PA
 Lorraine Shallop, Dover
 Jack & Marie Slater, Rockaway
 Mary & Raymond Storey, Manchester
 Gladys & Paul Sullivan, Dover
 Delores Tate, Belhaven, NC
 Marian Thriemer, Murphysboro, IL
 Judy Truex, Hackettstown
 Jim & Raeann Visioli, Dover
 Ellen M. Visioli, Morristown
 Marsha H. Vitow, Essex, MD
 Marjorie J. Weber, Birdsboro, PA
 Donna L. Whittam, Dover
 Susan M. Wittig, Dover
 Miriam Willinger, Dover
 Clara M Wolford, Dover

More and More Students at Museum Kid Discovering How Much Fun at the Museum House

DOVER-More and more Dover students are discovering the Dover History Museum House through visits, projects and fun events.

The High School Key Club members enjoyed 3 weeks of dressing up for the Halloween Haunted House.

Students from East Dover Elementary & Academy Street recently paid a visit to enjoy all the sights and learn a little of Dover's history. Several High School clubs and study groups have used the Dover History Museum for research and study sessions. For group tours and visits, call Stan at 973.366.2319.



Students from Academy St. & East Dover Schools. Photo by Beth Olney

Upcoming Events

Tuesday * Jan. 17th * 7:30 pm

MUSEUM HOUSE

"Sail the Morris Canal through Dover"

Stan traces the Morris Canal in Dover through photographs, documents & maps.
 No charge & Refreshments served.

Tuesday * Feb. 21st * 7:30 pm

MUSEUM HOUSE

"Dover's Disasters - Updated"

One of the most popular presentations. Updated photos show floods, fires, weather related storms, train accidents, and much, much more.
 No charge & Refreshments served.

Tues. * Mar. 20th * 7:30 pm

MUSEUM HOUSE

"History of Dover's Schools"

Stan is an expert on the history of Dover's schools and has a wealth of photographs, documents, deeds, etc. on charting the district's long successful history.
 No charge & Refreshments served.

Sun. * June 10th * 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

DOVER FLEA MARKET

"Annual Townwide Yard Sale & Root Beer Social"

\$30 donation to the historical society buys a spot at the flea market all day long. One of the most successful yard sales in Dover. Call 973.366.0629 for an application form.

DONATIONS & GIFTS

Grandma's Afternoon Tea	\$1,545
Jean Cater, Dover	\$17
Jack & Maria Slater, Rockaway Twp	\$50
John & Maria Hynes, Easton, NH	\$30
Academy St. School (6th grade)	\$48
East Dover School (6th grade)	\$50
Dover Renaissance, Inc.	\$50
Walter Buczek, Totowa	\$20
PayPal, Inc.	\$61
Halloween House	\$248
Holiday Open House	\$250

Check out more scheduled events for 2012 at:
www.doverhistoricalsociety.com

Events At Bonnieview Led To Its Closure

Recently Uncovered Records Reveal A Deep Scar That Never Healed

DOVER-The Bonnieview Mansion (Pine Terrace Inn) once sat at the edge of Hurd Park, next door to Dover General Hospital. In 1975, the hospital gave the Dover Historical Society a 10-year lease to use the building as a museum. Less than one year into that lease a major incident occurred that may have helped in the decision to close the house forever.

On Monday May 3, 1976 a call was received from the Security Office at Dover General Hospital that artifacts from the museum were found strewn all over the yard and someone needed to claim the property. Two members from the society along with the catalog book reclaimed the belongings and immediately conducted an inventory of the entire museum.

The custodian of the museum, living in the apartment on the third floor, notified the staff that he had a birthday party the night before and admitted his guests may

have wandered through the entire museum. The custodian was asked to return all the missing items immediately or face charges. The missing items were returned.

The next day the museum committee met and accepted the custodian's resignation and gave him four days to vacate the apartment. End of story, right? Well, not quite.

The following morning May 5th, the guards at Dover General informed the museum staff that another party had occurred the night before into the wee hours of Wednesday morning. Later that evening an emergency meeting was held to discuss the situation at the museum. While the meeting was in progress, someone noticed the custodian



Bonnieview circa 1890

sneaking people up to the apartment using the back stairs along with food and "bottles" in preparation for another party later that night. (cont. below)

Bonnieview (cont.)

The custodian was immediately put on notice that only authorized personnel from the society would be allowed in the building and actions to the contrary would be considered trespassing and the police would be called. At this time, the people who were in the apartment and the custodian were removed and all the doors were locked.

The very next day, the guards at Dover General notified the historical society that yet another party was held the night before and this time, drag racing was occurring in the hospital's parking lot. A check of the house that morning found all the lights on and flickering and an electrician was called in to repair some wiring.

Bonnieview (cont.)

front door of the museum door was wide open and that water was running in full force on the third floor. Police were called and reported that a break-in had occurred and that someone opened the valve on the third floor bathtub. Two staff members went to the police station to file a report. A Lieutenant on duty stated that he could not understand why this custodian was hired in the first place since he had a police record a mile long.

Later that day the custodian called and told the staff that he would pick up his belongings on Tuesday. Tuesday afternoon

The next day, Friday morning, the staff of the museum was again alerted that still another party was held the night before.

Now taking more severe action, the museum staff had all the locks changed, windows on the second floor secured and all the basement locks were changed and entrance doors repaired. The Alarm system man arrived and changed all the codes on the alarms and tested them to be sure they were working. Meanwhile, the Buildings and Grounds Chairman who was away the whole week, arrived on the scene and stated that the custodian (his son) should stay on until a new custodian could be hired. Based on the decision of the Execu-

tive Committee, the answer was no!

While all this was going on, the custodian was again caught sneaking food and "bottles" up to the apartment. When confronted, he stated that it was his understanding that he could stay on until a new custodian was hired. This time a detective and patrolman from the Dover Police department informed the custodian in no uncertain terms that he had to leave.

On Sunday, the museum was open to the public as usual and that evening the guards at Dover General and the police said they would keep an eye on the building, however, Monday morning the historical society was informed that the (cont. below)

the custodian removed the last of his belongings and the cleaning crew came in and made the apartment presentable for the next custodian.

Shortly after this incident, the hospital alerted the society that it had three months to vacate the premises. After an extensive litigation, the museum closed on July 1, 1977. Despite efforts by the town to buy the building (too costly) or move the building to Hurd Park (impracticable) all efforts failed. On November 19, 1978, the

historic mansion was razed and replaced with a seldom used parking lot.

Compliments of
Don & Jean Alpert
Oak Creek, CO

Compliments of
Margie Bell
Los Angeles, CA

Compliments of
Brownwood Realty Co
Dover

Was Wm Baker Duped at the Baker Opera House?

Records Reveal Mr. Wm Baker Was Scammed at the Grand Opening In 1886

DOVER-In the early part of 1886, the citizens of Dover were about to get one of the newest and finest opera houses in the State of New Jersey. For over 20-years, the only form of professional entertainment came from Moller's Opera House and Saloon on Sussex St. Here early burlesque and minstrels were performed usually before rowdy canal boatmen, miners and factory workers, nothing suitable for a family experience.

By 1886 William Baker thought it was time that Dover was ready for a legitimate opera house to bring to Dover some of the finest stage productions available on the traveling circuit. Operettas, vaudeville acts, minstrel shows and other forms of live entertainment was his desire for the people of Dover.

The Baker Opera House was being prepared as one of the newest and finest houses of entertainment in the state.

The new hall seated over 600 patrons with some of the most comfortable seating available...in the reserved section, the main auditorium and the gallery. The lighting was by gas and controlled by a valve to regulate to any degree of brightness. The heat was supplied by a steel boiler of 25-horse power and the stage, scenery and curtain was nothing but top quality.

According to the Iron Era Newspaper on Feb. 20, 1886, "In every arrangement thus far Mr. Baker has spared neither pain nor expense to procure the best that can be obtained to warrant the certainty that Dover's new opera house is the finest in the State."

To match this great new playhouse, the Iron Era wrote the following on April 3, 1886, "Beyond the peradventure of a doubt the opening of the new Baker Opera House, on Monday and Tuesday evenings of next week, will operate on a high character, will be the greatest announcement event ever



known in Dover. It is the first time that a company of such high merit as the Alfa Newman English Opera Company has ever visited this place and it is doubtful if the town will see such an array of talent again for a long time. We have before us many press releases from papers in the leading cities of the Union, which are too numerous to publish, but all of which
(cont. below)

Dover Suffers One Of The Biggest Hoaxes In Theater History

...speak in glowing terms of the rare artistic talent of this company. On Monday evening they will produce Balfe's famous opera, "The Bohemian Girl" and on Tuesday evening they will sing Gilbert and Sullivan's latest comic opera, "The Mikado." Both will be presented with a full cast of characters, superb costumes, special scenery and a full orchestra of the finest character."

When a severe snow storm hit Dover, just prior to April 5th and 6th (the dates of the Grand Opening), someone should have known something was wrong. With many of the ticket purchasers not showing up either night, something was wrong.

The Iron Era was very kind to Mr. Baker by stating the following, "Besides a very fine

assembling of townspeople, those noted in the audience were many well known faces from Morristown, New York, Rockaway, Chester, Hopatcong, Succasunna, Port Oram, Newton and other places." The following review was stated by the Iron Era: "Not only were the leading parties effectively rendered, but the choruses evidenced a training in social culture and dramatic action that raised the whole performance to such a height of excellence that the oldest opera-goers present did not hesitate to pronounce the delight it afforded them.

But rich and complete as was the production of "The Bohemian Girl", the
(cont. below)



Photographic Archives, Ekstrom Library, University of Louisville

Baker Opera House

presentation of the "Mikado" on the following evening was still more pleasing, if that were possible to the audience."

This is what historians thought was the great successful Grand Opening of the Baker Opera House for 126 years. Now recently uncovered documents tell of a different story.

According to Deshler Welch author of "The Theater" "If ever there was a musical concern heralded and trumpeted beyond endurance, it was the "Alfa Norman Opera Company." The star of the concern was a

young lady with some good looks, a little voice, but no culture and less talent. Aided by two unscrupulous journalists of New York City, the lady was imposed on the public as a prima donna. She appeared at the Fifth Avenue Theatre, where she was announced to sing in a repertoire of operas. The repertoire dwindled to two works, because the lady could not learn the music of the others. Then she started on the road, deluged with paragraphs from the pens of the unscrupulous journalists. As an English opera singer the road would have none of her, and when her company were about to collapse, the

clutched at the straw of the bogus edition of "The Mikado" by means of which they have been floating ever since. Miss Norman's company is universally admitted to have given the worst performances of "The Mikado" seen in the country, while Miss Norman's Yum-Yum is acknowledged to be the feeblest known in history. Last week, the ragged remnant of this preposterous concern, "busted up" under disgraceful circumstances, and the unscrupulous journalists who "managed" the concern was driven out of Albany by the long suffering public, who drew the line of patience at the Alfa Norman Opera Company."

Growing Up In East Dover In The 1920s

"The Morris Canal Was Our Playground in the Summer & Winter"

DOVER-Growing up in Dover in the 1920s was fun and exciting according to 10-year old Frederick John "Bud" Allen. "The Morris Canal was our playground in both the summer and winter" says Bud. Growing up at 12 Hooey Street (Rutan Dr.), young Bud's world was mostly in East Dover. Just before World War I, Bud remembers a large field near the Salem Street Bridge that housed a temporary Army camp and as more and more enlisted men arrived, the camp grew and had to move to a larger field on the westside of S. Salem Street. It became a large tented camp and often soldiers marched out to Salem Street and sometimes they trained at Guenther's Field (Hamilton Field).

Bud remembers the inside field of the old Dover racetrack was used for Carnivals and Circus's. When the circus came to town, everything was unloaded at the Lackawanna depot near Warren Street. Bud

and his friends would get up as early as 3 am to get a job helping unload the animals from the freight cars. Sometimes ponies, camels or whatever needed to be done. The pay was a free pass to the circus.

Swimming in the Morris Canal was always a treat for Bud. At the end of Sammis Ave. Bud remembers a swimming hole called "Kinneys". Up from Extrom St. was a swinging bridge where they used to swim. The big boys would often dive off the bridge into the canal. Another popular swimming hole was at the Belmont Ave. Bridge. Bud remembers using the canal for swimming in the summer and ice skating in the winter.

Bud tells us the story of another one of his playgrounds. After you cross the Salem Street Bridge on the right side was a



Downtown Dover in 1920s was very busy.

huge stone quarry. The kids used to play climbing the rocks and swinging on a boom that was used for loading the rocks onto freight cars. About 1922, they removed the boom and installed siding. On the top of the quarry they built a wooden building. Later Bud and his pals found out it was a movie set for one of the episodes of "Perils of Pauline" starring Pearl White.

(cont. below)

Dover in 1920s

Bud remembers Saturday's at the Playhouse Theater that always had comedies and western serials which ran in episodes. The price was ten cents for children. Bud would have to work all week doing chores for his mother in order to earn that dime. Sometimes Bud and his pals would pool their money so one or two could get in. Once inside, they would open the exit door on the side by the Salvation Army and the rest would sneak in.

Another one of Bud's playgrounds

was the Swedes Mine and the Swedes Mine mountain. When it got too hot they would all head to the Morris Canal for a dip. In the winter time they would sleigh ride down the mountain. Bud remembers one of his teachers at the Belmont Ave. School, Daisy Wiggins who lived on West Main Street in Rockaway would skate to school. After school, Bud and a bunch of kids would skate with her back to Rockaway.

Bud remembers on several occasions, they would get to Dead Man's Curve and watch them pull cars out of the ditch. Once he remembers a trolley car going too fast around the bend and toppling over on

its side. According to Bud, one time a man and a woman in a "Model T Ford" made it around the bend, but something went wrong with the steering and they both went over into a swamp. Near the Dickerson Mansion (Dover-Rockaway Road) there was a hill that Bud and his friends would sleigh down to Dead Man's Curve and make it all the way to the trolley barns (Lakeland Bus.) The most popular places for ice skating in Dover were the Morris Canal, the Canal Basin (JFK Park) and Billy Fords Pond (Crescent Field). Some nights huge bon-fires were lite to stay warm and on the clear nights the pond was crowded.

Remember W. F. Cooper?

DOVER-Photo to the right shows the Cooper brothers along with Papa Cooper. Standing left to right are Bill Jr., Jack, Bill Sr., Bob and Sonny.

This 1947 photo was taken at the Cooper service garage at 68 E. Blackwell St. William Cooper started selling Cleve-lands and Chandlers in 1919 and got the Studebaker franchise in 1920. His first building was at 68 E. Blackwell and later moved to 228 E. Blackwell.

In 1947 W.F. Cooper moved to a

new showroom on Rt. 46. After Studebaker discontinued their automobiles, Cooper got the franchise for GMC & Fiat in 1967.

The business was sold in 1982 to a Pontiac dealer who wanted the GMC franchise.

The family physician was Dr. Costello who since 1927, bought a total of 43 Studebakers from W. F. Cooper.



Young Dover Boys Sign Up For The Civil War

Many Young Men Not Even Out of Dover High School Go Off To War

DOVER-It seems like only yesterday when the occasion occurred that young Dover boys like Eddie and Charlie felt the need so great that they went out and bought themselves uniforms and ran off to Harpers Ferry, Va to fight in the War. Eddie was Captain Edward Payson Berry of the Berry Homestead in East Dover who was teaching in Branchville at the time. Eddie was a member of the Presbyterian Church and was studying for the ministry. His best friend Charlie was Captain Charles Gage. They joined as privates in Bramhall's 6th N. Y. mounted battery. They served two months, without pay, before they were transferred to the 5th N.J. volunteers and mustered into service in October, 1861.

Young Eddie saw a lot of service with his first promotion as a hospital steward. At the battle of Fair Oaks he was a

second lieutenant and was soon promoted to first lieutenant. Soon after Eddie was made a quartermaster, then adjutant and then captain. At the second battle of Bull Run Eddie was taken prisoner and marched to Richmond. During that long march he received no food except for some corn that fell from the feed-baskets of the horses of the guards.

After two weeks confinement in Libby Prison, he was exchanged and once again returned to his command. In the vicious battle of Gettysburg on July 2, 1863, Eddie was the acting major of his regiment in Sickles's advance, when Longstreet massed his forces upon him. Eddie was shot in the leg and left in the field as his front line fell back. Here Eddie lay for three days and three nights without food and drink, except for a bunch of cherries which had been shot off from a tree near him. On July 5th, young Eddie was found and taken to a nearby

hospital. Immediately his leg was amputated and because of the infections that followed, young Eddie died five days later on July 10, 1863.

Eddie's body arrived back in Dover unannounced and when news broke out, a great deal of gloom spread throughout town. A public meeting was called at Union Hall where great numbers of people spoke of the deceased and of the others who had fallen during the war. A resolution of Respect and Condolence to the memory of Capt. Edward Berry was passed by the citizens of Dover on July 16, 1863. Capt. Berry was laid to rest in the Orchard Street Cemetery.

Then there was 18-year old Alonzo Freeman who enlisted at the outbreak of the war in Company H 61st N.J. Volunteers.
(cont. below)

Civil War

At the battle of Antietam on Sept. 17th 1862, he was wounded in the thigh and lay upon the field for nearly a week before he was discovered. Taken to a hospital in Frederick City, Md. young Alonzo died four weeks later.

Jimmy Losey of Dover joined Company B 27th N.J. volunteers in Sept. 1862 and after ten months of service he re-enlisted in Company B 33d N.J. volunteers. His regiment was with Sherman's famous "march to the sea". In the summer of 1864, young Jimmy was wounded in the leg at the battle of Peach Tree Creek before Atlanta. He was taken to a hospital at Kingston,

Georgia where he died following complications from amputation.

The Love brothers of Dover also enlisted in the war effort. George and Andy joined together with George going to Company E 9th N.J. volunteers and Andy going to Company A 1st N.J. cavalry. Both brothers became sick with George passing away on February 24, 1862 and his brother Andy passing away on March 4, 1862.

We can never forget the story of Jimmy and Tommy, two friends of Dover who served their country well.

(cont. below)



Veterans of the Civil War march in Dover c 1875

Young Jimmy McDavitt Tried To Help His Best Friend Tom

Jimmy McDavitt entered the service as sergeant of Company E 11th regiment of N.J. volunteers on Aug. 18, 1862. He fought at the second battle of Bull Run and at the battle of Fredericksburg where he escaped injury amongst huge losses. Meanwhile, his friend Tommy Halsey entered service as a Captain in the same company and the two men fought together. Major Halsey along with 26 other men were taken prisoner and confined for eight months in the Andersonville Prison. Upon his re-

lease, Major Halsey again re-enlisted into service. It was at the devastating battle of Chancellorsville that the two men would soon part ways. Chancellorsville was known as General Robert E. Lee's "perfect battle" because he was fighting Union forces twice his size and yet Lee inflicted heavy losses and won the battle. During the course of action Capt. Halsey was wounded and laid in the field. His best friend, Jimmy McDavitt came running to his assistance and while binding up the

severe wounds on his friend, Jimmy was struck in the head with a bullet and died in just a few moments. Another major lost that day at Chancellorsville was Lt. General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson who was accidentally shot by friendly fire.

On July 19, 1881, 27 veterans of the Civil War started the Major Anderson Post No. 54, Grand Army of the Republic Post and soon after renamed it to the James McDavitt Post.

(cont. on page 9)

Dorothy (cont. from page one)

The story has been told over and over again to the point where interest peaked with articles written in several of the local newspapers and on the internet.

On September 28, 2011, N. J. Cablevision arrived on the scene to recreate the events leading up to the discovery of the hidden letters. With the help of local actress Grace Albee of Dover High School who recently played the leading role of Annie in the high school spring musical, playing the part of Dorothy along with society members that actually witnessed many of the strange events in the house, Bob and Alice Wagner, Stan Schoonmaker, Joan Bocchino, Rick Kelly and George Laurie all came together to present the entire true story of "Dorothy" for New Jersey Television.

Tom Lupo and his film crew recreated the events using his professional skills to set the scene, prepare the sound and lighting and present a brief rehearsal prior to the actual filming. Mr. Lupo is well noted for his investigations of other

"ghost" stories around the state, and appeared very impressed in what happened in Dover.

In one scene, Dorothy is seen sitting in her room behind a desk reading with amusement the many love letters she was getting from the boys in school. With the magic of editing, she is seen reading her letters with her voice over actually voicing the contents. Other scenes were reenacted with Dorothy's shadow passing Bob Wagner in the hallway with his shocked look and goose bumps going up his arm. Another scene is an incident that happened in the basement when George Laurie was looking for a leaky pipe and Dorothy would approach him and look over his shoulder. Feeling the sense that someone was there Mr. Laurie turns around to his surprise and sees no one.

Then a round table discussion of the society members explaining their experiences and finally and one on one interview conducted by Mr. Lupo asking each society member his or her feelings about the events that took place.

The results of this entire occur-

ance led to the following conclusions: by finding the letters, members of the society were able to directly relate to the past and those individuals who actually occupied the house in earlier times before radio, television, computers, etc.; a peek at what life was like in this house through the eyes of a little girl; and because no one was ever really frightened by what was happening, only surprised, we thought that maybe Dorothy wanted us to find these letters in order to give new life and meaning to the house, a house we are all sure of, that she really loved.

Compliments of
Nancy & Wm Kattermann
Dover

Compliments of
Murray's Tavern
Dover

Compliments of
Sylvia Rubens
Randolph

Memory Bricks At JFK Park - A Part of Dover Forever

This is the list of individuals who so far have supported the Historical Society's "Buy-A-Brick" campaign to have personalized engraved memorial bricks placed at the Dover Gazebo at JFK Commons:

Susan Champion, Montville
John Morrison (2 bricks) Brooksville, FL
Jean Cater, Dover
Margaret Coward, Houston, TX
Don & Jean Alpert, (2 bricks) Oak Creek, CO
Susan Champion, Montville
Jack & Marie Slater, Rockaway Twp.
Robert & Rose Tiefenbacher, Lafayette

William Woodhull, Dover
Jay Thomson, Randolph
Joyce Gorine, Dover
Charles & Marion Caccavale, Wharton
Frances Cordes, Tavares, FL
Maxine Rosen, Ulster, PA
Jean Evans, Wharton
Libby Butler, NJ
John & Maria Hynes, Easton, NH
Melissa Iturralde
Michael Del Vecchio
Kathleen Doboney (2 bricks), Wharton
Richard Palmer, Mine Hill

Johanna Silvester, NJ
Joan Bocchino, Dover (Call Joan for an application at 973.361-3279.)



This is what the bricks look like before placed at JFK Park. For an application form, Call Joan at 973.361.3279

Dover Teacher Mary Toye Turns 105

HACKETTSTOWN-In October 2011, Mary Toye celebrated her 105th birthday in the Clarence W. Sickles Health Care Center at Heath Village in Hackettstown.

Toye Graduated from Dover High in 1925. After graduating, she received a degree in French from the College of St. Elizabeth in Morristown in 1929. She taught for a year in Patterson, and then returned to Dover and took a position at the Academy Street School.

In 1936, Ms. Toye began a career as a French teacher at Dover High and went on to receive a Master Degree at Seton Hall. Toye taught French at Dover High for 27-years until 1963, when she became guidance counselor for 12 more years, finally retiring in 1975.

Mary Toye has kept in touch with past students and fellow teachers over the years and she receives plenty of cards, letters and visits from former students throughout the year, especially around the holidays.

Toye has lived at Heath Village since 1996 and lived independently up until 2009. She is an icon at Heath Village and is loved by staff and residents alike.



Dover High's First Football Team - 110 Years Ago

DOVER-According to Stan Schoonmaker in his publication "The History of Dover High School Football 1901-2003" "Dover High School has had a lengthy and glorious history related to football. It was one of the earliest entries into the world of High School football in New Jersey playing its first game in 1901 defeating Morristown two times, 16-0 and 17-5."

What about the unorganized football playing prior to 1901? According to the Iron Era on Nov. 5, 1897, "The boys at the high school have organized a football team and will play their first game with the Hackettstown Institute team some time the latter part of this month." However, there is no record of this game ever being played.

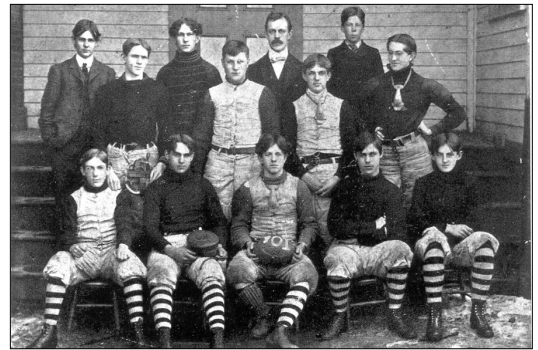
Some of the earliest football games reported in Dover, but not necessarily under the auspices of the high school, but perhaps the Dover Athletic Association shows on Oct. 29, 1898 Dover lost to Newton, 10-6; Nov. 5, 1898 lost to a Morristown team, 6-0 and Nov. 12, lost to

Madison, 10-0.

At this early beginning of unorganized football, kids from all over and of all ages signed up to play for teams. Dover supposedly had several organizations that sponsored teams besides the high school efforts (which had nothing to do with the actual school functions) and they included the Dover Athletic Association and the Dover Athletic Club.

Other early games that were played included, Dover AA defeated by Madison 20-0 on Oct. 20, 1899; Dover 6 - South End F.C. 0 on Oct. 28, 1899; Nov. 4, Dover 6-Newton 0; Nov. 7, Dover 6-VanVoorst FC 10; Nov. 24, Dover 0-Nassau FC 10; Nov. 2, 1900, Dover 16-Rockaway 0; Nov. 9, Dover 6-Port Oram 5; Nov. 30, Dover 27-Hackettstown 0; Nov. 18, 1901, Port Oram Tigers 17-Dover Juniors 0.

Now by 1901, Dover High School and other High Schools began to loosely



organize their teams which were comprised of students and other kids living in town to make up a team. Now the schools began to keep records of their scores. Thus the Dover High School Football team became somewhat organized and started developing stricter rules of play.

Historians are still researching to find out when Dover High "officially" took on the mascot of the Tiger. This report is to be continued.

1920's (cont. from page 6)

Bud remembers McFarlan Street (Route 46) being a dirt road from the Extrom Street bridge westward to just a little beyond Pequannock Street and becoming a dead-end. Blackwell Street was then Route 6 which led motorists through town westward toward Lake Hopatcong. Bud remembers J. B. Richards slaughter house on the north side of McFarlan St. in a field near Perry Street. Richards would bring in the steers, sheep and horses to the Lackawanna freight yards and drive them on Sussex Street to McFarlan Street into those fields until ready for slaughter.

Blackwell Street was very busy in the 1920's. From Mercer Street and the way

to the Baker Theater the sidewalks were crowded with people and shoppers, especially Fridays and Saturdays. The lines for the Baker Theater extended all the way down to Warren Street, while the lines for the Playhouse extended all the way to Blackwell Street. The trolleys ran from Landing to Milburn where they met Public Service Co. to Newark. Another line ran from Dover to Wharton and still another line ran from Denville to Boonton.

Baseball was a big thing in Dover then. We had Rye Field and Mase Ave. Field (To be continued)



This 1922 parade in front of the Baker shows how active and busy Dover once was, a shopping and business mecca for the entire Lakeland Region.

Civil War (cont. from page 7)

Burtis M. Broadwell enlisted early in the war in Company D 5th N.J. volunteers. He saw a great deal of service and died in a hospital on Oct. 5, 1864. Noah Haggerty enlisted on May 18, 1861 in the 1st N.J. volunteers and after a great deal of service he passed away from exposure to the cold in the Army. Daniel Palmer enlisted in Company E 11th N.J. and was shot in the shoulder at Chancellorsville. He was taken to Chestnut Hill Hospital where he died a few days later. Tommy Plumstead entered in the Company K 39th N.J. and on a charge

at Fort Davis, young Tommy was struck by a bullet and instantly killed.

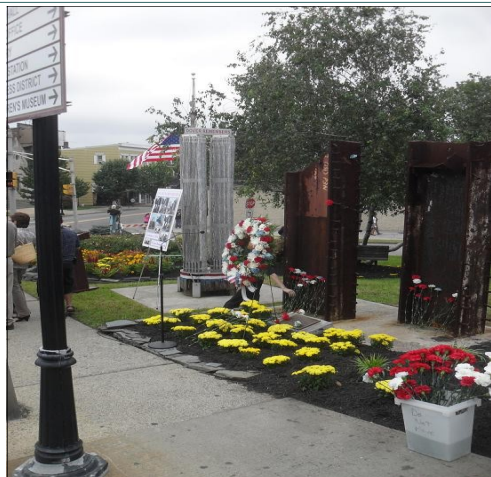
Most of Dover's Civil War veterans lived to be a ripe old age. Take William Hedden for example who served in the 8th Regiment N.J. volunteers who died on April 8, 1923 at the age of 80 when he fell from a wall in his yard. In a similar accident, veteran Edward G Rockwell died in 1923 when he fell from a cherry tree. Jacob Housel of Spruce Street died in 1928 at the age of 86. J. Wellington Briant died in 1929 at his home on Grant Street at the age of 92. Alonzo B. Searing died in 1932 at the age of 87.

The last surviving Civil War veteran of Dover was Nelson Terry who died on May 23, 1939. He was injured in a fall from his front porch at his home on Princeton Avenue and never recovered from those injuries. He joined Co. M, 2nd N. J. Cavalry in 1861, and served throughout the entire war, being at Bull Run, Manassas Junction, Gettysburg, The Wilderness and Antietam. After the war he worked at the Richards and Boynton Stove Works. He was married on April 12, 1873, and on April 12, 1939, he and his wife, Mary, celebrated their 66th wedding anniversary and his 94th birthday. Six weeks later he died from his accidental fall.

Dover Area Historical Society
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Dover, New Jersey 07802-0609
www.doverhistoricalsociety.com



HAPPY NEW YEAR
2012
FROM YOUR FRIENDS &
NEIGHBORS AT
DOVER RENAISSANCE, INC.



Remembering Tenth Anniversary of 9-11

President—Betty Inglis
Vice President—Stan Schoonmaker
Recording Secretary—Joan Bocchino
Corresponding Secretary—Wm Woodhull
Treasurer— Bill Shuler
Museum Committee—George Laurie,
Stan Schoonmaker, Alice & Bob Wagner
Ways and Means—Bob Wagner
Photographer—Rick Kelly
Old Tye Editor—George Laurie
Grant Committee—Linda Mullin, George
Laurie, Betty Inglis
Archivist—George Coulthard
Webmaster—Phil Reynolds

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT
(Editors note: Our beloved President, Betty Inglis is recuperating from a serious operation in 2011 and wanted to submit this report)

Another successful year at DAHS!
We have completed the room renovations on all three floors. We have our website up and running with our webmaster, Phil Reynolds. A very successful tea, "Remembering Grandma", was held on Sept. 24, 2011. Over \$1500 was realized on this project. Thank you ladies! Also, we appreciate all the efforts of the men. Thanks to Wendy Baker and the DHS Key Club as well as the Dover Boy

Scout Troop# 64 the first Halloween Haunted House has been completed. People have been enjoying this project.

We have received a grant, which has helped us with our operating expenses. We will hold a flea market in the Spring of 2012.

George Laurie continues to draft interesting and entertaining newsletters for the Society

Our ghost, Dorothy, creates great interest from all.

Stan Schoonmaker has provided some interesting programs. His outreach

Supreme Court

(cont. from page one)

Pitney was then elected to the US House of Representatives in 1894 and re-elected in 1896. He soon resigned from Congress to be elected to the NJ State Senate. He was soon elected President of the Senate. Pitney was then appointed to the NJ Supreme Court for a seven year term in 1901. On March 13, 1912, President Taft nominated Pitney to the United States Supreme Court.

Pitney passed away in Washington, DC and was interred at the Evergreen Cemetery in Morristown. He was the classmate of Woodrow Wilson at Princeton and was the great-grandfather of the late actor Christopher Reeves.

Compliments of
Scott, Judy & Jeffrey Miller
Dover

Compliments of
Rev. James J. Slattery
Dover

Compliments of
George W. Johnson
Dover

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

Family - \$20 * Individual - \$12

Senior Citizen (62 and older) - \$8

Junior Member (Student) - \$6

Sustaining Member - \$75
(Display Ad or Compliments of:)

Life Membership (one-time payment) (Husband & Wife or Individual) - \$300

Dover Area Historical Society is a 501(c)3
Not-For-Profit Organization

DOVER AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY Board of Trustees

Brenda Woodhull	2012
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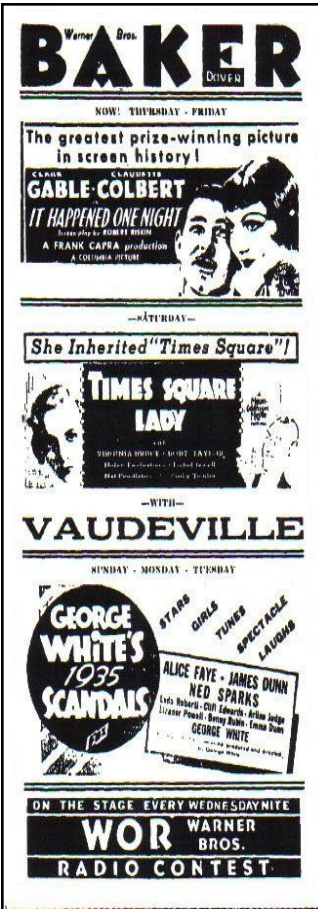
program has led to an increased interest in the Society and attendance at the events.

We have held some class reunions at the museum. We have had flea markets with Stan's clam chowder. There is a special program on our ghost, Dorothy. Stan has created some DVDs of various events. The house is utilized by many organizations such as, Dover Reading Circle and College Club of Dover, for meetings.

Where to next DAHS?

Respectfully Submitted, *Betty R.*

Inglis/President



Baker Theater 1934