

Bethinking of Old Orleans

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1997 MUNICIPAL HIGHLIGHTS

Part I



Each December I poll the local historians for information on significant happenings in their areas. Here follows a random selection to be continued next week for total coverage of Orleans County.

Town of Carlton - Lysbeth Hoffman, Historian. Carlton became 175 years old on April 13. Originally, the name of the municipality was Oak Orchard. Town of Carlton Fire Co. #1 Inc. purchased a new transport vehicle which is being used for EMS calls. It is housed at Fire Station #1 at Waterport. The fire company gave land behind the Recreation Hall to the Town of Carlton for use as a Youth Recreation Park. Hail Cannons were erected at Circle-R Farm Orchards to prevent hail damage to fruit. This is the first time such devices have been used in N.Y. State. Rita Power was installed as the 25th Postmaster at the Kent Post Office. 7 new homes were built in Carlton during '97 including a new parsonage next to the Carlton United Methodist Church. This is the congregation's first new parsonage since 1907. Area roads were improved including Baker Rd. by the Town of Carlton; Lakeshore Rd. east from 98 by Orleans Co. and Rt. 18 from Kuckville west done by NYS DOT. The Federal Government dredged Oak Orchard Harbor during the summer months.

Town of Kendall - Alida Clow, Historian. Extension of Water District No. 2 was completed while Water District No.3 along the lake shore is under way. The Kendall Lions Club took the lead in raising funds for building a Medical Center on Rt. 18. Lions International gave a \$75,000 grant while the State group of Lions gave \$7500 for construction costs. Mrs. Clara Cliff, one time resident of the town and now living at the Orleans County Nursing Home, celebrated her 100th birthday on Oct. 5. A six million dollar renovation project is on schedule at the Kendall School system adding 8 rooms to the Elementary School building and 2 rooms to the high school.

Town of Murray & Village of Holley - Marsha DeVilipps, Historian. A gazebo was dedicated at the Canalside Park near the falls behind the Jubilee Store. Holley received a large grant of money for canal improvement as related to this tourism corridor. The Community Library celebrated its 50th anniversary. For the first time, Holley has a Mayor who was not elected into the position. Louis Passerall was first appointed to the Village Board and then elevated by appointment to Mayor. Long time Murray Supervisor Jim Piedmont did not seek re-election to that post. He will be succeeded by Henry Lenning.

Town of Yates - Virginia Cooper, Historian. More recently a bad fire caused extensive damage to the Town Highway garage behind the Baptist Church at Yates Center. Town trucks are now being housed in the Village of Lyndonville garage

Cemetery was rededicated after being cleaned up. A new sign is now in place with the whole view being greatly improved. Mrs. Cooper says "Of all the things I've accomplished as historian, I'm proudest of this". Rt. 18 was repaved to the county line, a much needed improvement for what is known as the Seaway Trail. Mrs. Cooper also feels "We need to push tourism because of all our assets."

Town of Barre - Helen Mathes, Historian. The Town of Barre had a very successful Hot Air Balloon Family Fest for three days in Aug. at Pine Hill Airport. Five new dwellings were erected this year. West Barre Methodist Church completed their Renovation Project. Many young people enjoyed Vacation Bible School at Barre Center Presbyterian Church. Water Districts 2 & 3 were completed. The farmers had a good year with the field crops, wheat, oats, beans, sweet corn & cabbage. There will be a shortage of hay this winter because of dry weather and the leaf hopper. Three more Dairy Farmers gave up this year. We now have ten in the Town. the E-Mail address for the Historian office is HBM@eznet/net.

Town of Albion - Edith Anderson, Historian. Colonna's car wash opened on West Ave. at West Academy St. in Albion. Dr. A.J. Monacelli built and opened his new dental building at S. Main and Allen Rd. Victory Baptist Church was completed on Clarendon Rd. The canal bridge on Brown St. opened after extensive repairs. Two historic markers were erected, one for the home of Grace Bedell on West State St. and the other at the former Santa Claus School on Phipps Rd. Dr. John Fernandez was elected Supervisor. A new Rite Aid Pharmacy is practically completed at the corner of Rt. 98 and 31.

Village of Albion - Neil Johnson, Historian. A settlement was reached with Waste Management and the town. Hence, they will be able to present a Landfill application and have agreed to provide \$100,000 to the town for experts to evaluate it. Surveyors have completed work on Rt. 98 and 31 in the Village for plans of rebuilding both streets in 1999. The village completed a new parking lot adjacent to Dime Operations Center. In May the Chapel at Mt. Albion Cemetery was dedicated to former Mayor Donna Rodden.

Photo - Our picture which is loaned by Lysbeth Hoffman, shows Kitty Louise Hart 1871-1962 and her older sister Alice J. Hart 1865-1913. They were two of five daughters of Joseph S. and Harriet A. Cole Hart. Kitty married Myron J. Billings and Alice married Dennis Evarts. This photo was taken around 1880 when the family moved into their new home on S. Main Street in Albion, now known as Friendship Manor. This is an interesting photo in that it was taken in a photographer's studio. The sleigh, horse's leg (lower left) and other