

## The Passing Of An Era

At a meeting held recently at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Spicer of Rochambeau Avenue it was decided by the few remaining members of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Independence to cease Morning Worship in the Church due to a lack of funds.

The Church had been sold previously to the Mennonites and had been re-named the Independence Mennonite Church with the Seventh Day Baptist Church Members reserving the right to use it for their Services at a nominal sum.

Despite ceasing regular worship in the Church, members still retain the right to have use of the Church for funerals and weddings. For regular worship, some of the members will attend Alfred Station Seventh Day Baptist Services while others will quietly observe the Sabbath in their own homes.

According to a History of the Church prepared by Walter L. Greene, D.D., and published by the News Printing House, the first religious service in what is now the Town of Independence was held in the home of Samuel S. White, just below the present Village of Whitesville on January 1, 1820. This meeting was conducted by Deacon Daniel Babcock of Alfred, who later was ordained an associate minister of the First Alfred Church.

The first record of the desire to organize a church in Independence is found in the Alfred Church book under the date of September 7, 1823, where it is stated: "Read a letter from the brethren and sisters of Independence wishing to be set off as a district body or church. Voted that we receive the letter and send them council in order to examine their situation, and if they think proper to organize them, and that Elder Satterlee, Deacon Babcock, Richard Hull, Deacon George Stillman, Brother Nathan Pierce and Brother Daniel Pierce be council to send."

The Alfred church records do not indicate that the council ever met, but the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Magazine for August 1824, has a short article headed, "A church constituted in Independence, N. Y., and states: "A number of brethren and sisters in the town of Independence, who were members of several Seventh Day Baptist churches, being desirous to enjoy the benefits of church ordinances and discipline agreed of soliciting of the church in Alfred a council for the purpose of organizing a church in their town, if they should think proper."

Accordingly the council met March 21, 1824. Brother Amos Satterlee was chosen moderator and Jonathan Davis, clerk. The candidates proposing to covenant together gave a statement of their exercises; articles of faith and covenant were presented and cordially adopted.

The council then withdrew and when the Missionary Board met in June, 1825, it was reported that "Elder Satterlee's mission in Western New York of four months resulted favorably for the cause. On this mission field, two churches were formed, one in Troupsburg and one in Independence, and many souls were hopefully converted to God."

There are no records of this first church in existence, so far as we know, however, Rev. William L. Burdick, a former pastor of this church, compiled what is probably the most reliable list that can be made and which he checked with those then living whose memory went back to the time of the organization and as he then said: "I'm not entirely correct, it, at least, indicates the pioneer Seventh Day Baptists in the settlement" about 1824. This list is as follows: John P. Livermore; Annis Greene Livermore; (Mrs. J. P.); Edmund Livermore; Tracy Fitch Livermore (Mrs. Edmund); Mr. and Mrs. William Hamilton; John Tanner; Charles Brown Tanner; (Mrs. J.); Nathan Stillman; Thankful Stillman (Mrs. Nathan); Isiah W. Greene; Betsey

## The Mayor's Column

by James C. ...

The Andover Youth Commission is looking for more adults or youths who would be willing to help develop an on-going youth recreation or service programs. Anyone interested in working on this commission, contact Mrs. Karen Peterson or myself.

There appears to be a number of dogs that are starting to run loose again. There is a leash law in the Village and it will be enforced.

Next week Village Officials will be attending a meeting regarding the proposed County Solid Waste Disposal System. Anyone who has questions they'd like answered or comments to make contact Trustee Mike Brace before Wednesday, January 29, 1975. I will be attending a Mayor's meeting in Hornell related to the problems of the Erie-Lackawanna the same night. Again anyone wishing information or wanting comments expressed contact me prior to Wednesday January 29, 1975.

## DATE CORRECTION!

The Andover Lions Club will be showing a Colored Movie of the Andover Sesqui and Colored Slides of the First 2 Maple Festivals on Saturday night at 8:15, March 8, 1975 in the ACS Auditorium — NOT in January as scheduled in previous High School Bulletins

Bassett Greene (Mrs. I. W.); Hazard P. Clarke; Phoebe Whitford Clarke (Mrs. Hazard P.); Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Merritt; Isacob Babcock; Sally Babcock (Mrs. Reabod); Jonathan Davis; Anna Clarke Davis (Mrs. Jonathan); Mr. and Mrs. Scholard Babcock; Peleg Babcock of Madison Co., N. Y.; Lucinda Brown Babcock (Mrs. Peleg).

The new church was without regular preaching services, except for the occasional visits of ministers from Alfred and other nearby churches and home missionaries who might visit them from time to time.

The first Permanent Organization of the Church was admitted to the fellowship of other Seventh Day Baptist churches in the General Conference on September 11, 1834 and Elder Stillman Coon was appointed to receive the hand of fellowship as messenger from the new church. The Conference minutes for this year report 39 members with Stillman Coon, elder; Nathan Merritt, deacon and John P. Livermore, clerk.

Church meetings probably began at the school house, but as interest and numbers increased Isiah W. Greene, the owner of a distillery that stood at the Corners near where the parish house was located in 1834, was persuaded to turn his distillery where men were "drinking themselves drunk" into a place for holding meetings. It is said that this building was never again used for distilling purposes.

The first church building was erected about 1844 at a cost of \$800 on the present site on land purchased of Samuel Livermore for \$15.00, and seated about 200 people.

This building was replaced in 1875 by another costing \$3,000 with much of the material of the old church being used by Frank M. Bassett in building a barn on his farm that was occupied by George H. Kenyon on Lot 127 in 1834.

The second church building had been in use but a few years when it was destroyed by fire in January 1884 with the present building being erected the same year on the old foundation at a cost of \$2,500.

The growth and spirit of the church can be readily seen by the rise and decline in membership by certain key decades: 1824 — 21 members; 1834 — 36; 1874 — 188; 1904 — 106; 1934 — 95; 1974 — a mere handful which led to the retirement of the church recently. And, "So passed an era."

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### WANTED:

TICONDEROGA VETERANS  
I am seeking Men and Officers who served aboard the mighty aircraft carrier, U.S.S. TICONDEROGA — particularly those of WW2 — while there is time left!! Every man who served on this fine ship is entitled to join our group. We will be having our 4th Annual Reunion next May at Atlantic City, N. J.

If interested, and for more details, write me, giving your rate, rank, Division and year on board.

JAMES H. MORGAN, Jr.  
Big "T" Veterans' Assoc.  
Waterside Lane  
So. Berwick, Maine 03998  
P.S. If Veterans Post Commanders were to post this letter on their bulletin boards, it would be greatly appreciated.

Dear Editor:

"THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY", Allegany County Unit, asks all social, religious, civic organizations as well as firms, industries and schools to please schedule a program within their groups on Cancer. Public Education concerning cancer is an absolute necessity, treatment at the earliest indication of cancer means life.

"Cancer may occur in any part of the body. It may grow quickly or slowly. However, all cancers have the common characteristics of relentless spread and threat to life. The annual health checkup is urged for the purpose of discovering cancer before symptoms appear. The 'Procto' and the 'Pap' are both tests that should be included in this complete physical. We urge everyone to ask their doctor to do them."

"The American Cancer Society's Allegany County Unit has films, and, qualified speakers who will come and talk to your organization free of charge. The program can be as short or as long as your program chairman wishes. Please contact: Mrs. Roger Francisco, Bolivar; Mrs. Charity McCormick, R.N.; Andover School Nurse; or Donald Insley, Nursing Department, Alfred Ag-Tech."

## Andover Lodge No. 558, F. & A. M. Install Officers

Andover Lodge No. 558 F. & A. M., installed its new officers at the regular meeting on January 6. Howard Burdick acted as Worshipful Master (Installing Officer); Everett Clair as Marshall and Erwin Lewis as Chaplain. The following are the new Officers:

William Pratt — Master  
Allen Kruger — Sr. Warden  
Frank Russell — Jr. Warden  
Donald Thorp — Secretary  
Everett Clair — Treasurer  
Paul Fickett — Sr. Deacon  
Dave Hardy — Jr. Deacon  
Ron Morris — Sr. Master of Ceremony

Jim Grossman — Jr. Master of Ceremony  
Poland Kemp — Marshall  
Wayne Carter — Chaplain  
Paul Ordway — Tiler

On February 3, the First Degree will be conferred on a class of three. Members are urged to attend. Visitors are always welcome.

## Annual Meeting Of Andover Free Library

The Annual Meeting of the Andover Free Library will be held at the Library on Friday, January 25, 1975 at 4:00 P. M.

Annual reports will be given and such other business transactions as may come before the meeting.

## Lions Club To Hold 3rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Plans were announced today by Phil Fitch, Chairman, for the Andover Lions Club Third Annual Easter Egg Hunt to be held on March 23, 1975 for local children. Over 15,000 prizes will be available again this year for the Kiddies to grab off.

To help fund this project, two huge Valentine boxes of candy on display at the local Market Basket (retail value over \$70) will be given away as prizes in the Valentine Day Contest. Contact any Lions Member or see Phil at the store for the rules of the contest.

Prize winners will be announced on Feb. 13, 1975 with all proceeds from the contest going towards prizes for the Kiddies.

## Grange News

Andover Grange will meet Saturday P. M., at 2 o'clock at the Grange Hall for a short business meeting. Please Come!

## Girl Scout News

There have been parents asking what the money from the Girl Scout Cookies is used for and feel that an explanation should be in the paper.

Each Troop receives 18c per box of cookies for their treasury. This money is used for financing troop programs, special trips or events and to purchase equipment.

If the Whole of the Seven Lakes Council sells 290,075 boxes, each neighborhood receives 2c per box. Our neighborhood 76 includes: Andover, Wellsville, Scio, Bolivar, Allentown and Richburg.

This money will be used for a trip, skating party or whatever is decided to do as a Neighborhood.

The rest of the cookie money goes to the Council. Their money is used to finance maintenance and development of the 14 Council-owned Camping Sites, to provide Camperships for needy girls and to underwrite certain operation costs of programs offered to girls.

We also have a new Cookie Company this year called "The Little Brownie Bakers" which is a division of Beatrice Foods Company.

We appreciate the sales we have had in the past years and hope we do as well this year.

The Girls in Troop 1054 would like to thank everyone for their support especially the residents of Andover.

Betty Ordway, Leader

## Grange News

by James Perkins

Young Patrons met on January 17, 1975, for their regular meeting. The Pennsylvania State Grange Prince, George Rogers, was an honored guest.

Final plans were made for the Annual Pomona Grange Youth Banquet at the Six S Restaurant on February 21st. The speaker will be Bert Morse, New York State Grange Chaplain. The price of tickets for the banquet is \$3.50 per person and its starts at 7:30 p. m.

Genesee Valley Grange in Scio, N. Y., is having a pancake supper on Tuesday, January 28, 1975 at 6:00 p. m. and continues until all are served. Public is invited to both of the above events.

For inquiries about tickets for the banquet will be answered by calling 478-4565.

## Attention All Andover Grangers

The Allegany County Pomona Grange will meet at the Birdsell Grange Hall on February 7 at 7:45 p. m. for their next regular meeting. Part of the program will be the F.F.A. Speaking Contest.

Anyone interested is cordially invited to attend.

## Andover Lions Very Busy

The word "busy" only half describes the Andover Lions Club as a review of their activities reveals. During the Fall and the Holiday Season this vigorous Club has conducted the following activities:

1. Conducted "Sing-A-Longs" at two of the Wellsville Nursing Homes and distributed souvenir tokens. Seven of the Lions under the chairmanship of Don Baker, were assisted by two girls of the newly formed Leo's Club of Andover to provide thirty hours of entertainment for the residents.

2. Conducted an Ecology Project under the chairmanship of Ralph Searle in which eighty junk cars were removed and collected from the Andover area.

3. Held a "Firearms Safety School" for the young "Hunters-To-Be", in which several of the area youngsters successfully competed. The course was sanctioned by the National Rifle Association thereby allowing the holders of the completion certificates to obtain their first Hunting License. Lions Frannie Horan and Phil Fitch co-chaired this course and expended a total of twelve man hours.

4. Under the guidance of Lions Charles Howland and Clint Bundy conducted a "Snowmobile Safety Course" for the area youngsters, numbering fifteen. All successfully completed this course and received certificates.

5. Distributed over seventy-five toys to Andover's less fortunate children during Christmas. Chairman Carmen Coglia and his committee expended approximately \$150 and 36 man hours. The Ms. LIB-R-TEE Belles of Andover contributed \$50 to the program and 25 toys were donated from community residents which the Lions Club acknowledges and greatly appreciated.

6. Purchased and distributed 30 Food Baskets and 10 Fruit Baskets to Andover's Senior Citizens and shut-ins during the Christmas Season. Rev. Ray Albough and his committee spent nearly \$500 and approximately 40 man hours on this hearty and traditional project.

7. Distributed 135 Christmas gifts, which were donated by the Andover Lions and their wives to the residents of four Wellsville Nursing Homes. An additional cost of \$126 was spent and 36 man hours expended. Lion Ralph Searle and his committee report that this Lion project was very successful and was well received.

Sponsored a Christmas Decorating Contest for Andover residents. Chairman Chuck Wallace and his committee had a very difficult task in judging the winners due to the magnitude of decorating done this year. Cash prizes for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners were awarded totaling \$50. Man hours expended amounted to 30.

9. Under the leadership of Lions Dale Green and Charles Howland, the Andover Lions are preparing a movie on the Andover Sesqui-Centennial and a slide show on the Allegany-Steuben Maple Festivals sponsored by the Andover Lions Club. Plans are nearing completion for a public showing which will be held in the Andover Central School Gym on March 8, 1975 at 8:15 p. m.

To top it all off the Andover Lions have held lengthy meetings in preparation of the "Third Allegany-Steuben Maple Festival" which will be held in Andover the 1st Weekend in April — 5 & 6.

Other activities on tap are the 3rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt; Free Sight and Hearing Clinics; and a Memorial Day Chicken Barbecue and Games.

Based on their charitable service projects for the community, the deaf and blind, it is not surprising to learn that the Andover Lions Club is the "Number One" Club in their District which is comprised of 39 Lions Clubs from Rochester to the Pa. Border.