

What Others THINK OF US!

Many people have noticed and remarked about the "Andover Spirit" but we felt that the following article written by Martha Speeth that appeared in the April 11, 1976 issue of "Sunday Spectator"...

"Sunday Spectator", April 11, 1976

By Martha Speeth

If the essence of the Andover spirit could be bottled, like the maple syrup vendued there last weekend, there should be a good market for it.

Village? I should say community, for village and town and school district cooperate, along with organizations and businesses.

I asked a number of the local residents how their community performs so well in carrying off ambitious, large-scale events, time after time.

"It's the people," some answered. Another said, "You have to have at least one real active organization, for the others to form around and cooperate with."

Both answers may be right. Maybe they are different ways of giving the same answer. Organizations are composed of people people sharing goals and pooling efforts and ideas.

People who don't say, "It's a good idea, and I hope it can be done, but I am too busy to get involved in anything more right now."

People who don't say, "I am too busy with my business and my family." For the people who ARE active in such team efforts...

munity betterment. What are some of the things we can notice about Andover?

Both political parties are active there. Local offices are contested in most elections. Good numbers of voters turn out for these elections.

There have been young people involved in local government, along with seasoned veterans. This too would seem ideal.

They have a weekly newspaper. It poses no conflict of interest for me, a writer for the daily press to praise the influence a local weekly has, and the service it performs for its community.

It is fitting that Andover was chosen as the site of the county's official Bicentennial celebration. That community is capable of hosting the event, an undertaking which would be beyond the ambition of many communities that size.

Already the enthusiasm is boiling vigorously, bubbling over and trickling toward other communities. There is a challenge for the rest of us to prepare for the Bicentennial celebration by reactivating costumes, sprouting beards (if we have the potential) and planning our forms of participation.

The Spirit of '76 and the Spirit of Andover, if analyzed carefully, might prove to be compounded of the same elements. We need that spirit in all our communities, as an antidote to the apathy, the cynicism, the cares, the disenchantment which infect us in these troubled times.



50 YEARS AGO

April 9, 1926

J. H. Backus, Publisher

Health Officers hold their annual report - Members of the Board of Health are: C. H. Watson, C. E. Brown, F. E. Boyd and Wm. F. O'Connell. P. W. Richardson is registrar. The registrar reported 13 births and 17 deaths with 3 still-born, giving a net of 10 births to 14 deaths...

THE ANDOVER NEWS

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Whitesville, Thursday afternoon. Ralph Burgett is assisting in Pierce's Garage.

School was resumed in the Andover High School, Tuesday, after the Easter vacation.

Charles Baker has moved his family from the rooms in the Atwood Block on Main Street to the rooms over Horan's Hardware.

Harry Drevas, proprietor of the Fountain of Youth, received his final set of Naturalization Papers at the term of County Court held in Belmont this week.

Charles Howland has rented his residence on Rochambeau Avenue to Mr. and Mrs. Francis Casey who will occupy the same. Mr. Howland is moving his family into the rooms in the P. J. Dougherty house on Chestnut Street.

A. W. Kaufman of Whitesville, has purchased of Zedie Smith, the Isaac Smith property on the Greenwood Road.

Henry Stephens is building a second story on the brick building containing the Dr. John Conner Dental Parlor and the Stephens Insurance offices. He will arrange the floor as a flat and occupy the same with his family when completed.

Harry Boyd of Batavia was a Sunday guest of Carl Clarke of Independence.

Miss Irene Dougherty spent Easter guest of friends in Elmira.

Mrs. Charles Howland and family were callers in Hornell, Saturday.

Miss Thelma Alvord returned Friday from Belmont where she has been nursing.

Ralph Williams passed the Easter vacation at the home of his grandmother, Mrs. Harriett Lee of Railroad Valley.

Miss Emily Perry was in Hornell, Saturday, to visit her mother who is ill at the St. James Mercy Hospital.

J. Bennett Dawson came home from Depew to pass the Easter vacation with his mother, Mrs. M. Dawson.

Mr. and Mrs. W. F. O'Connell and daughters, Gertrude and Cecelia, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Ramsey in Hornell, Sunday.

Albert Powers returned Thursday from Painted Post where he had been a guest of friends. Howard VanWee accompanied him home for a visit with Andover friends.

Miss Alice Rogers accompanied Madam Jun. Reed of Whitesville to Syracuse Thursday and was a weekend guest of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Tibbels.

The Alfred College Glee Club will present an entertainment on Wednesday evening, April 14 under the auspices of the Glee Society at the Andover Auditorium. Besides the Chorus work by the ensemble, several specialty numbers including vocal solos readings, instrumental music and dancing.

40 YEARS AGO

April 3, 1936

J. H. Backus & Son, Publishers

Miss Anna Laura Coakley was fatally injured when struck by an automobile while enroute to Mass at Windsor, Ontario, Canada, February 16. She is survived by her sister, Mrs. J. B. Flynn of Windsor; three nephews, Rev. Leo Flynn of Rome, Italy, Howard Flynn of Windsor and James Shaughnessy of Owego. Miss Coakley for many years a resident of Waverly, and a cousin of J. A. O'Leary and Mrs. Margaret Dean. Burial was in St. James Cemetery, Waverly.

Edward Deloss Jones, son of William and Chlora Dunbar Jones was born in Alfred, January 13, 1894, but lived in Andover for 73 years before his death. He came to Elm Valley with his parents at the age of five years. He married Rosella Welch January 21, 1933, who died September 12, 1896. On January 22, 1896 he married Mrs. Ida Babbitt who died March of 1928. He is survived by one son William E. of Elm Valley. Burial was in Hillside Cemetery.

Fourteen members of the Junior Relief Corps met at the home of Mrs. Henry Livermore last Thursday afternoon to observe the March Birthdays of these members. A fine afternoon was enjoyed with games and refreshments. Emily Mea Greene and Katherine Perry were the honored birthday guests.

County Commander F. E. Boyd and Mrs. C. C. Backus, County Secretary, Mrs. A. L. Bloss, were in Fillmore Tuesday evening to assist in the organization of an American Legion Auxiliary Unit in that place.

Get your Spring Frocks \$4.98 - \$7.98 and smart Spring Hats \$1.98 to \$2.98 at James P. Cannon Company.

Palm Sunday, April 5 - Easter Sunday - April 12.

Roger Baker is assisting on the G. W. Barrett farm and milk route.

With Bobbins, Song Sparrows and Blue Birds in evidence we must believe that Spring is not far away.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Cooper are parents of a daughter, Delores, born, March 28. Miss Virginia Dean is the nurse in charge.

William Woodruff has acquired the Petrolia Cheese factory and will operate the same in connection with his other factories this summer. A meeting of interested parties was held Saturday, March 25.

Mrs. James Quinn received a letter from her sister, Mrs. D. A. Murphy of Johnstown, Pa., stating that they were in her recent flood with 19 feet of water in their house. They lost everything in the first floor, but escaped themselves.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bell and family have moved from the John Clair farm in West Valley to the Harry Smith farm on Pingree Hill. Trout season opens April 4.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Erickson of Olean are the parents of a baby daughter two weeks old. Mrs. Erickson was the former Miss Josephine Tanpier, a niece to Mrs. Ezra Slocum and a frequent visitor in Andover.

A son, Charles Leo was born March 5 to Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Davis of Davis Hill. Stephen of Whitesville has been away with the farm work for two weeks.

Several students and teachers, members of the Andover High School attended the Open House of the Central Art Department at Akred, Thursday evening, Mar. 26. They were: Principal, and Mrs. Glenn E. Bretsch, Miss Mary Louise Day, Lawrence Host, Donald Edwards, Kenneth Vars, Wm. Hammeli, Francis Mead, Roberta Church and June Babcock.

The grade pupils of Andover High School have started working on the Operetta "At The Rainbow Gate" which will be presented to the public April 28. The following are in the Operetta: Bernadine Briggs, Flossie Howard, Charles Gath, Roland Shaif, Paul Ryan, Kenneth Gath and Ruth Hardy.

Commissioner Howland and his crew were indeed a most welcome visitor on Voorhees last week when they opened one road to motor traffic after a 12 week blockage.

Oliver Kemp was a business caller in Sunbury, Pa., Wednesday.

Miss Veronica Joyce of Hornell is spending a week with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Peter Joyce on Joyce Hill.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Perry and daughter, Geraldine were dinner guests at the home of his sister Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Butler on Davis Hill, Sunday.

Mrs. C. C. Backus was in Knoxville from Saturday until Tuesday called there by the illness of her mother, Mrs. Jennie Loughhead. Miss Florette DeKemper has gone to Plymouth, Mass where she is employed.

30 YEARS AGO

March 14, 1946

Claire C. Backus, Publisher

Miss Kartleen Howard and Norman Drew passed the weekend in Buffalo with his sister, Mr. and Mrs. William Bell and family.

Miss Jessie Burger of Niagara Falls and Clayton Burger of West Clarksville were Sunday guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Burger.

Miss Rea J. Swartz of Greenwood Hill, spent the weekend at the home of her sister, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Yanni.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Burdick and son, Mr. Louis Burdick and Mrs. Emma Burdick of Elm Valley were guests of Mrs. Sadie Scott and Mrs. Florence Churn in Cuba, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Hollanbeck and family of Lockport were weekend guests of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George McAndrew.

Mrs. Pearl Mosler and son, Orville Mr. and Mrs. Council Berger and daughter, Lois, were Sunday evening callers of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Mead of the Valley. William Burdick and Robert, Michigan, arrived home Saturday.

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"Inside The State Capital"

By James L. Emery

For some time, the topic of meaningful welfare reform has been discussed by many people. It seems that everyone wants welfare reforms, and needs them, yet little is actually done about the problem.

Last year, officials of Orange County balked at state mandates to dramatize that welfare costs are just too much. This year, the New York State Association of Counties has asked for a freeze on welfare costs and says it intends to probe the State Legislature in hopes that some real welfare reform might be passed.

As the chairman of the Temporary State Commission on Reducing the Social Services Expenditures, I have had the honor to lead the State's welfare reform effort. The Governor's newly created commission was a very big disappointment to me. After years of careful, thorough research, the Commission failed to report in February of 1975. The only findings of the commission were that the State's dollar charges for welfare are too high and that the State's welfare program is too complex.

Meanwhile, the counties continue to suffer under the weight of the skyrocketing welfare program. County officials have stated that welfare is consuming one-half of their local budgets, and one county leader recently said his county's welfare costs for next year are going to be higher than the entire budget of that year's school. For the State of New York, the cost is costing \$1 billion annually, with the total going to the Medicaid program.

Comparing New York's program with California's, of approximately the same population size, which offers a very low level of benefits, the latest figures available, show the program is costing the State \$1.4 billion on a total of \$1.5 billion. New York spent \$2.3 billion on only 13.9 percent of the total U. S. recipients. Further breaking down those costs, we find that California was spending \$32 per Medicaid recipient while New York was spending \$811.

In researching the treatment of the recipients, the Commission found that in California the average hospital stay per Medicaid patient was 6.1 days at a cost of \$748. In New York State the average hospital stay per Medicaid recipient was 19.1 days at a cost of \$2,690.

In other words, we are taking care of fewer patients than is California at twice the cost. Every study conducted by the Commission pinpointed the problem as New York's poor administration of the program. We are the only state with a major welfare budget that has dual administration of its program. Both the state's Social Services and Health departments administer the state's program. We are the only major state without computerization of its data program. And we are the only major state which has no monitoring system to check people's eligibility for program.

I have introduced legislation to clean up our welfare program. We must enact those legislative proposals, and then implement the control systems they would create. This would save the counties, state and federal governments billions of dollars in a few short years.

However, I and other members of the Legislature can not do it by ourselves. We need the Governor's support and so far that has not been forthcoming. Until the Governor puts his weight behind our major reform proposals, we can expect that the Democrats who now control the State Assembly (and the State Senate) will not move our legislation.

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