

Stratford Historical Society UPDATE

VOLUME XXIII, ISSUE I

SEPTEMBER 2018



Capt. David Judson House c. 1750
Catharine B. Mitchell Museum

MARK THE DATES:

- September's General Membership Meeting: Saturday, September 29th at 2:00 pm at the Stratford Library
- Time to Renew Your SHS Membership
- Governing Board Meeting, Monday, October 29th at 1pm.
- November's General Membership Meeting: Saturday, September 17th at 2:00 pm at the Stratford Library

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Visiting Glebe House 2
- Marge Jacaruso is 106 2
- Dateline Stratford August-Sept. 1953 3
- Peoples' Cornerstone 4
- Stratford Characters 4
- Upcoming Events 4
- Suffrage Lite 5
- Sakespeare to Town? 5
- Influenza Strikes 1918 6
- Washington Bridge Closing 6
- 2018-19 SHS Ballot 7

September's General Membership Meeting

September 29th, 2:00 pm, Stratford Library Lovell Room, 2203 Main Street

Women in the American Revolution: Putting the 'Her' in Heroics

Eric "...will introduce some of the women who risked their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor to lift the yoke of British control of the 13 Colonies. Women who are missing from our history books, their stories as soldiers and spies left untold..."

George Washington, Paul Revere, the Marquis de Lafayette are all names taught in school as having been heroes of the American War for Independence. Molly Pitcher is a name we see given to a rest stop on the New Jersey Turnpike. But who was Molly Pitcher? Was she one person or a composite of two or even three women who performed similar acts of courage? Whether one, two



Eric Chandler—photo from Eric's Facebook page.

or three, "Molly" was not the only example of women who served the cause of independence between 1775 and 1783. There are many tales of

All meetings are free and open to the general public. Please bring a friend! Donations are gratefully accepted.

courage to be revealed in this 45-minute illustrated talk, about these largely unsung heroines of the American Revolution.

Eric Chandler has been involved in American Revolutionary War Living History since 1974. Mr. Chandler has portrayed infantry, light infantry, whale-boat raider and both mounted and dismounted dragoons. He is a resident of Norwalk, CT, a Norwalk Historical Commissioner and a retired land title insurance underwriter. Mr. Chandler's artistic endeavors have included cartooning, working in local theater and decades as a musician playing saxophones in area Rock & Roll and Blues bands."

Hartford Courant
February 9, 2017

—◇—

"The past is never where you think you left it."
Katherine Anne Porter, author of best-seller *Ship of Fools*

—◇—

Suggestions for fund raising

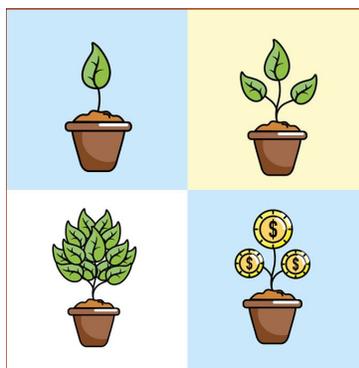
We invite you to please put on your finest, fun, creative thinking caps. We're seeking suggestions for fundraising ideas for our Society. Here are some we've thought of, but our guess is you can do better.

Witch's Brew Bash. How about a night sampling witch's brews concocted right here in Stratford by our local brewmasters? We already know of Two Roads Brewery's "*Roads Mary's Baby*", but we have several other breweries and wine distributors in town who could provide equally compelling seasonal brews for sampling by our attendees. Anyone ready for a little Seven Deadly Zins?

Stratford Trivia Night. How about a night dedicated to Stratford's past where winners go home with select Stratford merchant prizes?

We could augment the thought process with "trivial" foods and beverages.

Decoy Day. We think a day dedi-



cated to Stratford carvers may "pare well" with our understanding of what

it takes to whittle a prize winning decoy. Participants could carve their entries from balsam wood or Ivory soap. We could then hold a contest with the carvings to determine which is the fastest, most creative, most beautiful, or stays afloat the longest.

Gin Rummy Champion Night. How about a Gin Rummy tournament featuring rum drinks made to honor Stratford's own rum runner, Captain Selby? A professional dealer would ensure attendees all knew the game's rules, and the winner would take home a "bootlegged" bottle of Captain Morgan's.

The foregoing are just a few of our quick fundraising thoughts and ideas. Please share your own better ideas with us. We welcome your suggestions!

Visiting Woodbury Glebe House

By Dolores Hctor

“Set in the picturesque Litchfield Hills of historic Woodbury’s village center, the Glebe House Museum offers visitors a glimpse of Revolutionary War-era Connecticut. The 18th century Georgian house is furnished as the home of the Reverend John Rutgers Marshall, John, his wife Sarah, his nine children, and three slaves (who) lived in the “glebe” (parsonage of the Episcopal Church) during the turmoil of the American War for Independence. The Museum collection includes many pieces of 18th Century Woodbury furniture.”

One early August morning a

group of nine Stratford Historical Society docents, Jeanette Caron, Shirley Clevenger, Barbara Firisin, Dolores Hctor, Pam Hutchinson, Judy Kurmay, Christine Lesko, Gail Liscio and Carolyn Shannon journeyed forth to view another historic house with a story of its own.

It wasn’t only the Glebe House that attracted the group to Woodbury, but also that that goes back to the mid seventeenth century when a number of families left Stratford for Woodbury over a religious dispute within the Congregational Church called the Half-Covenant involving the sacra-

ment of Holy Communion. With approval from the colonial authorities they set out to carve a new community in the wilds of Connecticut to the north.

(See Wilcoxson, Howard. *The History of Stratford 1639 – 1969*, Brewer-Borg Corp., Bridgeport, CT, 1940 Chapter 9 “Ecclesiastical Troubles 1665 – 1670” pp. 149-167 and Chapter 10 “The Woodbury Planters” pp. 168-175)

(See Knapp, Lewis. *In Pursuit of Paradise - History of the Town of Stratford, Connecticut*, Phoenix Publishing, Kennebunkport, Maine, 1989 pp. 34-37)



The Glebe House Kitchen Fireplace with Gail, Christine, Dolores, Jeanette, Judy, Shirley, Barbara, Carolyn, Pam. Photo by Pam Hutchinson.



Children of the American Revolution

By Dolores Hctor

The DAR has recently shown an interest in what the Stratford Historical Society has to offer. Initially a small group came to do some research and were given a tour of the House by Assistant Director, Sandy Rutkowski who subsequently gave a July morning tour to eight more ladies from the Mary Silliman Chapter of

the DAR.

Pictured to the left are four Children of the American Revolution who came with their chaperones for an August Sunday tour of the Judson House and Museum arranged by Barbara Firisin and conducted by Dolores Hctor and History Tour trained Michael Sabados giving his first tour assisted by Pam Hutchinson. The group

representing the Charles Merriam Chapter of the DAR CAR from Waterbury are studying early American History. They were particularly interested in the Hawley Family.

Following the tour the group ate their lunch on the lawn and visited the Gift Shop before leaving.

Marge Jacaruso is 106!

Our favorite former Avon Park denizen, and long time Historical Society volunteer, Marge Jacaruso, celebrated her 106th birthday in July. You may read about her birthday celebration at marge.stratfordhistoricalsociety.info.

Rather than repeat what we’ve said about Marge in past newsletters, we thought it might be better to remember Marge by looking back on former Avon Park days.

(Extracted from **Part 2 Avon Park** by Joseph H. Quire).

The things that were said about Hollister Heights can be said about Avon Park: the customs, the cuisine, boccie, the civic-minded people, and organizations like the First District Improvement Club on Sedgewick Avenue, founded by the Schirillo brothers.

Avon Park started growing

rapidly when Chance Vought moved from Hartford and merged with Sikorsky Airplane Co. in 1939.

According to some residents Avon Park became densely populated in such a short time because property was cheaper and the homes were less expensive.

The elevation of most of Avon Park is from sea level to 10 feet, requiring the builders of the older houses to extend the cellars six feet above the ground.

An extraordinarily gifted resident of Avon Park was Tony Santoro, a stone mason. He supervised and built the walls, walkways, dams, bridges, and buildings in Longbrook Park during the 1930s.

Avon Park Picnic Grounds

The following was taken, in part, from an article in *The Bridgeport Post*, November 1891.

“Avon Park is located in the town of Stratford not far from the center and on Stratford Avenue. It comprises two acres of pine grove surrounded by a high fence. Hammocks and rope and box swings are plentiful.

There is good well water on the premises and at night the place is lighted by scores of street lamps. The pavilion, 140 x 45 feet, is a fine structure built on a stone wall foundation with a double floor and an elevated stand for the orchestra.

Near the center of the park is a bandstand with a sounding board. Seats are sufficient to accommodate one thousand people. Many people ride daily on the open trolley cars to Stratford for the enjoyment of the ride and the establishment of the park will give an added incentive.”

Happy birthday Marge!



Caricature of Marge from a few years back.



Marge painting at Ashlar Village in Shelton several years ago.

Dateline Stratford August - September 1953

The Hartford Courant

August 21, 1953

Two Connecticut Men Win Tree-Sawing Title

CHICAGO. Aug. 20 (AP) - Two strong-armed tree surgeons from Connecticut sawed their way to the national tree-sawing championship yesterday.

The winners, both 42, were Tim T. Janosko of Stratford, Conn., and John Stashenko of Stamford, Conn. Using a two-man saw, the pair cut through a 24-inch poplar log in 3 minutes, 18 seconds.

The prize was an electric chain saw.

All the contestants were delegates to the 29th Annual National Shade Tree Conference.

The Hartford Courant

August 28, 1953

Acting Governor Gets First Realty License

Acting Gov. Oscar Peterson Jr. of Stratford Monday was awarded license number one for Connecticut real estate brokers. The presentation was made in the Governor's office by State Insurance Commissioner W. Ellery Allyn, under whose jurisdiction the licensing of real estate brokers and salesmen has been placed.

License number one is shared by Mrs. Peterson who with the acting governor form the partnership of the Housatonic Land and Title Co. of Stratford.

The licensing of real estate brokers and salesmen was required by the recent session of the State Legislature.

The Hartford Courant

August 28, 1953

Curtiss Family Society To Meet in Stratford

STRATFORD. Aug. 27 (Special) -

The annual meeting of the National Curtiss Society, descendants of John and Elizabeth Curtiss, will be held Sept. 12 at Sterling House here.

The family genealogy which has been in preparation for several years under the direction of Harlow D. Curtiss of Manlius, N.Y., will be available for distribution.

Registration will start at 11 a.m. followed by lunch and a business meeting. The Rev. Dr. Loyal Y. Graham, rector of the Stratford Episcopal Church, will speak.

Descendants of other Curtiss lineages are welcome to attend.

The Hartford Courant

August 31, 1953

Mrs. Huldah H. Brown

STRATFORD. Aug. 30 (AP) - Mrs. Huldah H. Brown, 65, who was executive secretary of the Sterling House Community Center here for 29 years, died in a Boston, Mass. rest home today.

Born in Grand Isle, Vt., Mrs. Brown came here to teach school in 1918 and later set up night schools and classes for immigrants in this area.

She also started many boys and girls clubs in this area.

She leaves a son, Seth, of Stratford, and two grandchildren.

The Hartford Courant

September 9, 1953

Stratford Girls Win In Canadian Softball

TORONTO. Sept. 8 (UP) - Stratford, Conn., girls softball team won its opening game in the American women's softball association world tournament today by defeating Atlanta, Ga., 11 to 2.

Bev Mullinet and Anne Edmonston both hit two-run homers for the winner. Mary Jane Jagen and

Lorraine Meehan were the winning pitcher and catcher, with Sarah Lewis and Jo Dunham the losers for Atlanta, which committed eight errors.

The game was the first of 11 scheduled at the Canadian National Exhibiton [sic] today.

The Hartford Courant

September 16, 1953

Stratford Feud Delays New Plant

Zone Ruling Bars \$17,500,000 Sikorsky Project Temporarily By ROGER DOVE

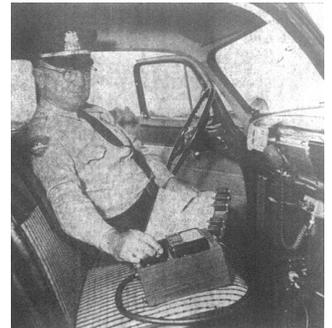
STRATFORD. Sept. 15—Most Connecticut cities would turn themselves inside out to attract a new industry, or to prevent an old one from migrating South. But Stratford, despite the vigorous objection of town officials and a large segment of the population has at leased [sic] temporarily slammed the door on a proposal to build a \$17,200,000 plant here for Sikorsky Aircraft Corp.

The Board of Zoning Appeals ruled that present zoning laws cannot be changed to permit a construction of the factory in "AA" residential zone...

"In spite of the decision of the Board of Zoning Appeals, we are continuing these studies, pending further action by the Town in making a site available for the plant."

A Sikorsky spokesman said tonight that the firm will now wait the outcome of the court actions.

"We were invited to come to Stratford," he said. "We accepted. Now the people of Stratford are discussing the situation. We are not a party to these discussions, and will just stand by and await the outcome of it all."



Police Chief Patrick Flanagan testing new radar box. Photo from *The Stratford News*, August 20, 1953.



Sterling House Little League team. Photo from *The Stratford News*, August 20, 1953.



THINGS DON'T LOOK so good for our side, or so it seems, to these spectators watching proceedings at-the contest.
Stratford PAL rifle team. Photo from *The Stratford News*, August 27, 1953.

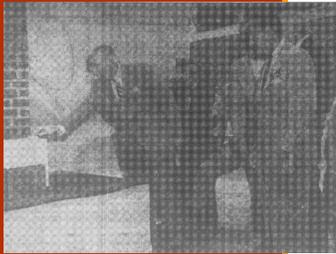
Now Showing August - September 1953



Stratford Theater c 1946

- | | | |
|----------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| August 2nd | All I Desire | Barbara Stanwyck, Richard Carlson |
| August 9th | Great Sioux Uprising | Rhonda Fleming, Sterling Hayden |
| August 16th | Abbott and Costello Meet Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde | |
| August 23rd | Shane | Alan Ladd, Jean Arthur |
| August 30th | Stalag 17 | William Holden, Don Taylor |
| September 6th | Gentlemen Prefer Blondes | Jane Russell, Marilyn Monroe |
| September 13th | War of the Worlds | Gene Barry, Ann Robinson |
| September 20th | The Caddy | Dean Martin, Jerry Lewis |
| September 27th | So This Is Love | Kathryn Grayson, Merv Griffin |

People's Bank Cornerstone Laid



George Waldo, chairman of People's executive committee, puts first bit of mortar in cornerstone. From *The Stratford News*, August 6, 1953.

From 1918 until 1953, 35 years, there was only one bank in Stratford: Stratford Trust. People's bank coming to town was a "big deal" as it opened up additional banking opportunities for Stratfordites, particularly those residents who had moved to town from Bridgeport and desired to continue their banking relationship with People's.

The Stratford News August 6, 1953

Cornerstone is Laid

Bridgeport—People's Branch Here To Open By Christmas

The cornerstone of the Stratford branch of the Bridgeport—People's Savings bank, Main

street and Cemetery drive, was laid at 4:15 p.m. on Tuesday afternoon at ceremonies attended by many local civic leaders, businessmen and officials.

The cornerstone was placed by George H. Woods, president of the bank, and George Waldo, publisher of the Bridgeport Post and Telegram, who is the vice-president of the bank and chairman of its Executive committee.

The Rev. F. Stanley Sellick, pastor of the First Congregational church, delivered the invocation; and the Rev. Martin Hitchcock, assistant pastor of St. James R. C. church gave the benediction...

Cornerstone Contents

A copy of last week's *Stratford News* was among the items placed in a container in the cornerstone of the Bridgeport Peoples' Savings bank branch on Tuesday.

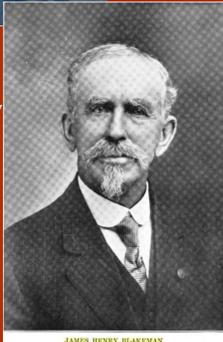
Other items which may be found someday by our posterity were 1953 minted coins from a penny to a half-dollar; the bank's latest statement; a copy of the bank's bylaws; a list of the officers and directors of the bank; the annual report of the State Bank commissioner; and, a copy of Monday's *Bridgeport Post*.

Stratford Characters—JH Blakeman



J Henry Blakeman in private's uniform, photo from the William Warren manuscript c 1863.

James Henry Blakeman from *History of Bridgeport and Vicinity, Volume II, 1917*.



JAMES HENRY BLAKEMAN

James Henry Blakeman is not a stranger to long time members of the Stratford Historical Society. We've heard of his Civil War experiences from both Carolyn Ivanoff in 2009 and Keith Miller in 2013. (As a refresher on Mr. Blakeman's Civil War service you may wish to consult Carolyn Ivanoff's excellent presentation on Mr. Blakeman entitled "*A Hard Road To Gettysburg 1863—Four Comrades from Connecticut*" available at jhb.stratfordhistoricalsociety.info).

We've touched on Mr. Blakeman's participation in town life, particularly in Oronoque, in past issues of the *Update*. We've known little, however, of Mr. Blakeman's remarkable civil life in Stratford in his post-Civil War years. Mr. Blakeman was active in town and state politics right up to the time of his passing.

Mr. Blakeman passed away on September 21, 1918. His passing was commemorated and mourned throughout the area, but, most particularly, in Oronoque.

History of Bridgeport and Vicinity Volume II, 1917

During all the years of his residence in Stratford since his return from the Civil war Mr. Blakeman has been an active factor in the public life of the community. For twenty-two years he been a member of the board of assessors and has held almost every office in Stratford save that of selectman. In 1897 he was elected to the state legislature and is now serving for the fourth term in that body. He is now seventy-five years old and is the oldest man in either branch of the general assembly. He is the father of many bills, among which is one that is especially notable—the bill requiring saloons to remain closed on

Memorial Day. Mr. Blakeman is a member of the Congregational church. He belongs also to the Cupheag Club and to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, while for twenty-eight years he has been a member of the Grange, in which he has held every office. He belongs also to the Sons of the American Revolution and to Elias Howe, Jr., Post, No. 3, G. A. R. of which he is senior vice commander. The records show that his present home, which he purchased in 1866 from a distant relative, was many years before a den of thieves and his patent and deed to the present land date back to King George of England. The place is beautifully situated on the Housatonic river, about five miles from its mouth, and is one of the historic and interesting old landmarks of this section of the country, forming a connecting link between the primitive past and the progressive present.

Upcoming Events

The town has several events planned in the coming weeks. Sunday, September 16th is the **Latin Music Festival** from 1pm until 6pm at Paradise Green.

On Saturday, September 22nd **Forest-to-Shore** day will be celebrating many of Stratford's natural resources at

various locations around town. The day ends with a Shakespear play on the Shakespear Theatre grounds.

Civil War Day will be held Saturday, September 29th at Boothe Park. The Society hosted this event last year at the Judson House. Reenactments from the Civil War

will be held from 10am until 4pm.

On Saturday, October 13th, the Perry House is holding a **Country Hoedown**. The Hoedown sounds like a "hoe" lot of fun. We may discover some fundraising ideas of our own at the Perry House hoedown!



Forest to Shore Day
Sept. 22, Saturday, Times Beach
Roosevelt Forest and Short Beach. Enjoy our surprising natural habitats and geographic benefits.



Civil War Day
Sept. 29, Saturday, Boothe Memorial Park.
Reenacting a soldier's life of drills, spies, food, games, signal corp, field medicine, Firing demonstrations.

Suffrage "Lite" in 1893

For the times, Connecticut was being very progressive when it adopted limited suffrage for women. Many women believed, at the time, that the limited suffrage law was overstepping the bounds of propriety, and chose not to register for this first election. Stratford registered only 12 women for the first vote following adoption of this new law.

**New Haven Morning Journal
and Courier**
August 12, 1893
**TWO LADIES WHO WILL
VOTE**

**At the Coming School Election In
September—The Right of Suffrage
Has Already Been Granted to
Mrs. Sarah B. Newton, Wife of
Attorney Newton, and Miss Annie
E. Clark, a Teacher at Eaton
School.**

...The new law does not limit the time, and registration can be made up to the hour of opening the polls on school election day. There is no charge made for the registration. Town Clerk Brethauer informs the registrar of the ward in which the applicant resides, and the name is duly printed on the regular voting list.

Connecticut is one of the few states that grant this suffrage to women and the passage of the act at the recent session of the general assembly was marked by

much opposition. The act under which women may vote is as follows:

Section 1. Every woman who shall have attained the age of twenty-one years, who shall be a citizen of this state, or of the United States, and who shall have resided in the state one year, and in the town for six months, and can read the English language, shall have the right to vote at any meeting held for the purpose of choosing any officer of schools or for any educational purpose under the general or special laws of this state.

Section 2. Any woman who is entitled to vote under the first section of this act may be registered by the town clerk as a qualified voter in town or school district meetings, by making application to him for that purpose. It shall be the duty of the town clerk in each town to keep registry list of the women entitled to vote in town or school district meetings under the provisions of this act, and to register the names of any women who may apply for registration for that purpose; provided that after being examined by him under oath they shall satisfy him that they have the qualifications required by this act.

Section 3. Any woman, who after taking such oath before the town clerk, shall testify falsely con-

cerning her qualifications or shall knowingly vote illegally at any school, town or district meeting, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of \$50, or imprisoned 30 days.

Section 4. Whenever, in any school district, registry lists shall be used by those voting in school district meetings, it shall be the duty of the registrars of voters of the towns in which such districts are situated, to prepare separate lists of the names of those women residing in such school districts that have been registered by the town clerk under the provisions of this act.

Section 5. At all elections to which the provisions of chapter CCXLVII of the public acts of 1889 apply, there shall be provided a separate ballot box distinctly marked "For Women's Ballots," and all ballots of persons permitted to vote under the provisions of this act shall be deposited in the box so labeled.

The New York Tribune

September 24, 1893

CONNECTICUT WOMEN REGISTERING

Bridgeport, Conn., Sept. 23—Twelve women registered as voters in Stratford under the new law today, Mrs. Henry J. Lewis, wife of the famous oyster planter, being the first.



Mary S. (Mrs. Henry J.) Lewwss Stratford's first registered female voter.

Shakespeare Theater Coming to Town?

The Stratford News
September 3, 1953

To Be Or Not To Be

Town Considering Shakespeare Festival Theatre

Whether it is better to settle the American Shakespearean theatre in Stratford, or to withstand the slings and arrows of an outraged Westport, is a question which will probably be decided by the townspeople of the Town of Stratford and the Board of Directors of the American Shakespearean Theatre within two months, it appeared today following an exploratory meeting into the matter on Thursday evening at the Boothe Memorial Park.

The meeting was called by the Stratford Chamber of Commerce, and the Chamber is showing that it is anxious to get the views of all sides before any final decision is made.

Chamber President Raymond J.

O'Connor said today that "we in the Chamber would have been lax if we had not arranged this meeting; and we would be lax if we did not explore the possibility of having this theatre settle in its rightful place, Stratford. However, before a definite invitation is extended to Lawrence Langner and his Shakespearean Theatre, we want to make sure that the people of Stratford want the theatre here. We are convinced that Mr. Langner would like to settle here, but we realize that he can make no commitments until he finds that he is welcome."

Attending the Thursday meeting were Council Chairman Frank A. Larkins; Town Manager Harry B. Flood; Harold Clauson of the Bridgeport-City Trust company, trustees of the Boothe Estate; Arthur Hart, Ninth district councilman; Joseph Melnik, Boothe Park superintendent; Mr. O'Connor;

Mr. Langner and Richard Grayson of the Theatre Guild; Franklin Prentice and Theodore Krueger of the North End association; and Paul Deegan, executive secretary of the Chamber.

The tentative proposal is for the Shakespearean theatre to lease from the town a portion of the 48 acre Boothe Estate for the theatre. Mr. Langner told the group that the theatre could certainly contribute to the upkeep of the park."

Mr. Langner explained the general plans for the theatre, and agreed to attend any meetings called in Stratford to discuss the matter further.

He accepted an invitation to speak before the residents of the Putney area next Tuesday, September 9, at 7 p.m. at Boothe Park, and told Council Chairman Larkin that he would be willing to talk to the Council or a public hearing called by the Council to discuss the matter...



Above is a picture of the model of the replica of the Globe Theatre which will be built by the American Shakespeare Festival Theatre and Academy somewhere in Fairfield County. Stratford seems to be in the running once more. According to the committee for the American Shakespeare theatre, the "Theatre that will be built to house Shakespeare's plays will be patterned after the original Globe Theatre in London and will have approximately 1600 seats...

Bridgeport Evening Farmer

HOW TO AVOID INFLUENZA NOW GOING ROUNDS

Some Words of Advice By Dr. W. H. Brown, Health Officer of the City.

Cause—Germs which grow in the nose, throat and lungs of persons suffering from the disease.

Spread—By tiny droplets from the nose and throats of the infected persons. These may be taken into your system by infected persons sneezing, coughing or spitting in your face, or by using the same handkerchief, towel or eating utensils.

Prevention—Avoid the cougher, sneezer and spitter! Do not use the common towel or drinking cup—even in the home. Avoid crowds. Keep your body in good order by proper care of the skin, good food and fresh air.

Duty—If you have a "cold" be sure you do not become a "spreader." Cover your nose and mouth when you sneeze or cough. Destroy or disinfect your sputum. Use your own towel, drinking cup and eating utensils. If you develop fever, go to bed and call your physician.

September 21, 1918

Look out for Spanish influenza.

Easiest thing on earth at this season is for a man to "catch a cold". Then it's Spanish influenza maybe! Be on guard. Warmer underwear may save the day! Good Autumn-weight union suits—\$2.25. Shirts and drawers of gray-wool-and-cotton in nice weight—\$1.75.

Right side, front.

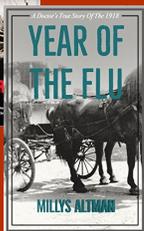
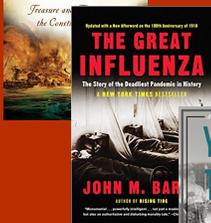
HOWLAND DRY GOODS CO.

Bridgeport Evening Farmer

September 20, 1918



First Washington Bridge 1808 -



Influenza Strikes Connecticut

In late August, and early September, 1918, the "Spanish" flu surrounded Connecticut, but Connecticut reported no flu cases until September 12th. The submarine base at New London was quarantined due to flu cases coming in from Boston on September 12th.

The Bridgeport area was reporting no influenza cases until September 21st when a Mrs. G. Gould of 311 Stratford Avenue returned from a trip to Boston with the flu. Boston had been hard hit by the so-called Spanish flu.

By September 24th, 25 cases of the flu were reported in Bridgeport. The good news for the Stratford area was that as the flu moved west from New London, its virulence diminished. Deaths from the flu in New London were much more likely, and prevalent, than they were in this area. Bridgeport reported its first flu related death on September 25th.

The interesting fact of the "Spanish" flu was that its origin, we now know, was at an Army base in Kansas. With America's involvement in

World War I greatly increasing in 1918, young soldiers were taking what were first mild cases of the flu to Europe in January and February of 1918. Cases of the flu diminished in Kansas, but by August of 1918, the flu "reappeared" with a killing virulence that had not been seen since the time of the "black plague" in Europe.

When the flu "returned" to America's military camps in September of 1918, it was deadly. Over half of America's soldiers in World War I were killed by the flu. Unlike other influenzas, the "Spanish" flu killed those in the prime of life while largely sparing the very young and the elderly.

Of particular note to Stratford residents, while the death rate in Bridgeport in late October and early November quintupled (doubtless a result of the flu), the increase in Stratford's death rate was barely perceptible. Stratford reported few flu related deaths.

The case described below is fairly representative of how the flu struck its victims.

The Bridgeport Telegram

September 26, 1918 INFLUENZA CLAIMS FIRST OF VICTIMS HERE AT HOSPITAL

The first victim of the Spanish influenza epidemic which is becoming prevalent in the city was recorded yesterday when after a few days' suffering Dr. William Duclos, natureopathic physician of 467 State street, died in the Bridgeport hospital yesterday afternoon [sic] at 2:30 o'clock. He was removed to the institution late Monday apparently suffering from pneumonia which developed after he was taken to his bed with influenza.

Contracted Cold at Camp.

Dr. Duclos was 24 years of age. A few days after he registered for the 18-45 draft he visited an officer friend at Camp Devens, Ayer, Mass., where he sought information as to entering the army in a special branch of the service. While there he took cold and when he returned to his home here kept at work.

He was about as usual early Monday morning but was taken to his bed. A physician was summoned and ordered his immediate removal to the Bridgeport hospital where he passed away.

Washington Bridge Closing Bad for Business

When the Washington Bridge was rammed by the steamship Monitor in 1868, business in Bridgeport suffered due to the loss of trade with the town of Milford. Bridgeport wanted action taken by the towns of Stratford and Milford to put Washington Bridge back into service.

Bridgeport Daily Standard
September 25, 1868

The business interests of this city is suffering, and the people of Milford and Stratford are put at a great inconvenience, by the interruption of travel, caused by the broken draw at the mouth of the Housatonic river, at Milford. Recently a gentleman traveling on horseback, from this city, desired to visit Milford on important business and not being aware that the bridge was down, drove to Stratford and was obliged to

go to Derby in order to get to Milford, making him an additional ride of eighteen miles. It is an "outrage" and either the Bridge Company or the towns of Stratford and Milford should be forced to repair the draw. It is a pity the Legislature is not in session to act promptly regarding the matter.

Who is at fault? That's the question.

Books Of Note

Three wonderful books that provide insight into the less enlightened periods of our past are *Connecticut Pirates & Privateers*, *The Great Influenza*, and *Year of the Flu*.

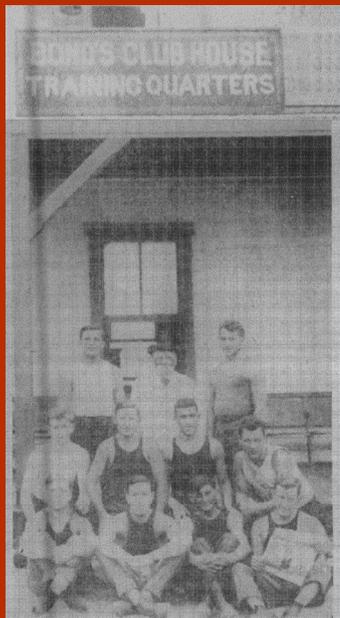
Connecticut Pirates draws the subtle distinctions between pirates and privateers about as well as any history in exist-

ence. The most informative part of the book is its thorough coverage of Captain Kidd.

The Great Influenza is an exhaustive history of the Spanish flu and its impact on World War I. Using 21st century DNA research, the flu's origin is traced to a military camp in

Kansas in early 1918.

Year of the Flu is a very personal account of how one doctor and his wife struggled to serve their community during the flue epidemic of 1918. Doctors and nurses were working around the clock to administer to the sick and dying during the flu's spread.



SELDOM WAS A PICTURE taken at Bond's unless John himself was declared in by the boys. Here's a group photo from Shang Wheeler's collection of famous sports personalities. Top row, left to right—Johnny Howard, Capt. Bond and Battling Levinsky. Middle, row, left to right, Johnny Red Allen, Battling Hontz, Mohawk Jimmy Coffey and Fighting Mike Smolick. Front row, left to right, Knockout Brown, Bobby Reynolds, One-Punch Howard and Joe Smith.

Oldest House in Connecticut

Henry Whitfield House in Guilford

The upper photo to the left is the left side of the Whitfield House. The lower photo is of a statue of Henry Whitfield near the house. The home is a state museum and is worth the visit just for the plethora of historic displays on the site covering everything from witch trials in Connecticut, to antique furniture, to the restoration of the house, to colonial dress, to Guilford town history, and much more.

A plaque inside the Whitfield house reads:

"The Whitfield House has stood on this spot for nearly four centuries. The first stones were laid in 1639—the same year the Taj Mahal was under construction, three years before Isaac Newton was born, and years before the end of the Ming dynasty. Guilford was a fledgling settlement of about 350 English Puritans, and it was 135 years before the American Revolution.

Today, the Whitfield House is the oldest building in Connecticut and the oldest stone structure in New England. It stands not only as a tangible link to Guilford's English origins, but as a testa-

ment to the generations that followed and preserved this piece of America's history."

Another plaque continues:

"For 260 years, families lived in the Old Stone house and called it home. Not all of the owners actually lived in the house — some were absentee landlords who rented the property to tenants. Even after it became a museum in 1899, caretakers and curators continued to live in the house until a barn on the property was converted into a residence in 1923..."

Bond's Training Camp

If you're like me, you've heard many stories about John Bond's training camp for boxers at Bond's Dock. It's not that easy to learn much about what went on at the training camp, or what boxers actually trained there. The following article provides a great deal of insight into the workings of John Bond's training camp.

Sunday Herald

September 12, 1943

Capt. Bond's Shrine of Many Famous Fighters

Stratford Training Plot Once Seethed with Action

By T. F. MAGNER Former Sports Editor of the Sunday Herald

...It was sentiment that brought Trainer (Joe) Smith back the other day to where Capt. John Bond's famous training quarters stood for many years on the Housatonic waterfront in Stratford.

For early in October, 1914, Smith and Dan Morgan, manager of many of the country's leaders boxers of that era, invaded Stratford and pulled in at Bond's with a small army of glove wielders to train for subsequent bouts.

Morgan, known as "Dumb Dan" because he got all the words in in one breath when it came to talking shop, took a lease on the quarters. For some years prior to this the place had not been used to any extent.

Smith and the fighters soon

made friends with the neighbors around the training quarters and ring fans flocked over every after noon to watch the boys in action.

Heading the vanguard was Morgan's prize box office attraction - Battling Levinsky of Philly, one of the cleverest light-heavyweights of modern fistiana.

Levinsky, whose real name is Bernard Lebowitz, fought everybody in his class at least a half dozen times and made a lot of dough for "Dumb Dan."

...Others who came to Stratford at the time were Otto Kohler of Cleveland, Johnny Howard, now a police lieutenant in Bayonne, Tom Kennedy, a big heavyweight now in the movies, Valentine Braun, known in the ring as Knockout Brown and another battler who brought in plenty of shekels for Morgan.

In two years Brown made \$26,000 in the ring, fought them all in the lightweight class, but never became a champion. At present he is working in a defense factory in New Jersey.

The remainder of the invasion consisted of Walter Mohr, Special Delivery Hirsch, Phil Bloom, Battling Hontz, Bobby Reynolds and Barry Williams, a burly light-heavyweight who resembled Levinsky in appearance and stature. Williams is seen occasionally in a movie mob scene.

"These were glorious times," Smith remarked as he stood at the end of the road leading to

Bond's old place. "All the boys worked hard and enjoyed 'Cappy' Bond's genial hospitality. It's gone now and only the spirit of it remains."

...For more than a quarter of a century Bond's training quarters was the shrine of famous fighters, and those who aspired for such honors in the ring game.

Forty-eight years ago it had its rendezvous when Tommy Ryan, who had just won the welter-weight title by defeating Mysterious Billy Smith in 20 rounds at Minneapolis, came there. Ryan and a friend had been associated in the Michigan lumber camps and through this friendship he happened to come to Stratford.

Ryan was so impressed with the place that he decided to train there. As champion, Ryan was, of course, the cynosure of all eyes and the center of an admiring throng. It was Ryan's coming that made Bond's Dock one of the important places in town.

After Tommy had been there for a year or more, Capt. Bond removed the old structure which had stood for more than 100 years. He engaged the assistance of the "shore lilies" and it was all they could do to pull down the building which had been truneeled and doweled, and was of old fashioned substantial construction.

To read this article in its entirety go to bond.stratfordhistoricalsociety.info.

Theodore Judson Retires

Theodore Judson and his wife were quintessential "Stratford Characters." Through their 38 years of service at the Stratford Point Light, many tales were appended to Stratford's folklore. Mr. Judson reported in 1886 that he'd seen a sea monster "easily 200 feet in length." On July 15th, Mr. Judson captured a mermaid, but she slid through his arms and escaped leaving only her scales on his hands.

Sunday Herald

August 18, 1918

"Uncle Clamity" Thene Judson, After Tending the Stratford Point Lighthouse for Thirty-eight Years, Is Going to Retire

Thirty-eight years ago there had been no Spanish war; thirty-eight years ago Bryan had not started to run for president; thirty-eight years ago there were no submarines, and the Huns were still civilized Germans; and thirty-eight years ago, Theodore Judson, better known as "Uncle Clamity" Thene Judson, came to the Stratford Point Lighthouse. April, it was, of the year 1880. And now after a lifetime service, "Uncle" Thene is to be pensioned and retired, just as soon as he hears from the government. He will still be a citizen of Stratford, however, "for a hundred years or so more," he says.

It wasn't the present light-house that Mr. Judson made the home of his wife and children, his goods and chattels, however. The old wooden structure was still in evidence, and it was not until ten years later that the new iron and steel house was built. There were only two other houses on the Point - one belonging to Merl Cowles and the other to Peter Goncart. In Stratford, including West Stratford, there were six hundred voters, so Mr. Judson has seen the town grow out of infancy.

"It was certainly lonesome in those days with the nearest house a mile away," said Mrs. Judson. "And I had to teach the children myself; regular school term they had, from fall to spring, so that they wouldn't be behind other children."

"It wasn't so bad," Uncle Thene protested. "I had my wife and children. We would have been all right if it hadn't been for the mosquitoes. They were so thick that I've seen them about ten inches deep on the side of the barn, hanging on like so many bats."

(I was slapping and fighting them at that very minute - mosquitoes the size of flies.)

"Were?" I asked. "You don't mean to put that in the past tense, do you?"

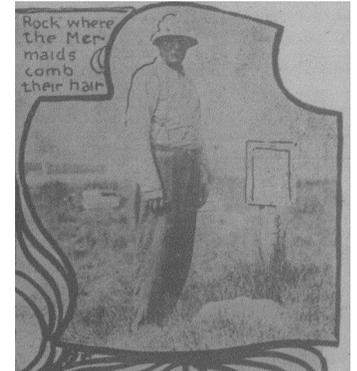
"Oh, they ain't at all bad now," he said easily. "You see we had

a Saint Patrick of the Point, William R. Hobson, he was, and he ditched and dyked the meadows and got rid of most of the varmints. These we have now we don't mind much. You see they have already bit us as full of holes as we can be, and they can't do anything but bite in the same old holes any more. It's a little hard on strangers, though.

"...These rocks are not to wreck ships so much. They are mostly for mermaids to play on. And speaking of mermaids, I did a charitable act several years ago. You see, I watched them trying to hold their comb and brush and mirror with only two hands, so I put up that mirror you see there with the rock just under it for them to sit on. If you don't believe it, go look at the print in the rock - they have sat there so often. They can't walk, but they flap up the path."

I wanted to stay around till I saw one and talked to her, but Uncle Thene explained:

"I'm afraid I hurt their feelings. You see I had five girls over from New Jersey last week and the mermaids all got jealous. Anyway, you couldn't talk to them. They just have sign language, and you have to understand it. And there [sic] are shy just like all girls. They are a little afraid of strangers..."



Thene Judson at his mermaid grooming rock



Mr. and Mrs. Thene Judson. Read this Sunday Herald article in its colorful entirety at thene.stratfordhistoricalsociety.info.

Legendary Stratford Mosquitoes

Stratford's summers are chock full of blood thinning tales of its legendary mosquitoes. Here are just a few examples from 1868.

Bridgeport Evening Standard
August 1, 1868

- A stranger visiting in Stratford says that if some of the 'muskeeters' there only painted with the right colors he should mistake them for canary birds, they are so sizeable and musical.

Bridgeport Evening Standard
August 6, 1868

- It is said that the Stratford mosquitoes [sic] have nearly all

emigrated to Bridgeport this year. It is reported that in the eastern district, a chap who was bothered with them, undertook to shut them out by putting up a screen to his window. At night when the 'gray backs' came, they were provoked to find themselves thus cut off from their supply of food. The young man laughed at them as he saw them butting against the screen, and finally retired for a good night's rest. The 'skeeters held a council of war, and decided to put their bills together which they did. Thus lengthened out, they reached through the screen, clear across the room and

tapped the sleeper. In the morning he was found nearly exhausted from loss of blood, and mosquitoes still drawing a supply through this long bill. No use to try to dodge 'toll' from the Stratford stingers!

The Hartford Courant
August 5, 1868

"And the east wind brought the" mosquitoes [sic]. Never since white men first explored these coasts have these little pests been more numerous and annoying than this season. We give our Stratford neighbors the credit of raising the varmints, and this year they send them over to prey upon

us. The extensive marshes in the southern part of Stratford are known as the "Musquito Kingdom," and they breed there in enormous quantities. Whenever an east wind prevails for a few hours it brings them directly into our city. This year they are regular cannibals; they respect no man's right; blood flows in our streets continually; they invade domestic peace and set at nought [sic] the solemnity of the sanctuary and the prayer meeting. Their blood be upon their own heads and their bills upon some other sufferers than ourselves.

Real Stratford Snake Oil

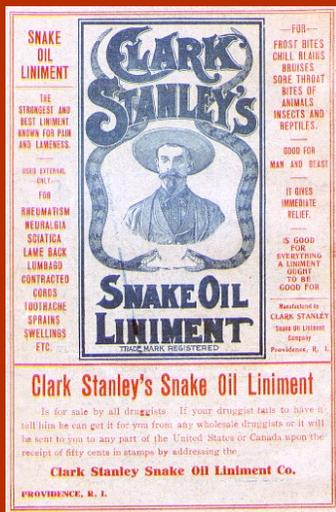


Photo from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Snake_oil.
Photo circa 1905.

Ordinarily, a news story about snake oil salesmen is the type of material we would expect to find in the *Bridgeport Herald*. So, to come across a headline in the *Bridgeport Telegram* which reads "Texas Snakes Due in Stratford For Fair Exhibit" is a rare find indeed. We felt compelled to follow this story wherever it might lead.

Here's what we've learned:

- Sachs Street was renamed Cornwall Street in about 1922. The Cornwall Street name disappears after 1972, and appears to be renamed Agresta Terrace.
- No "J Fleming" is mentioned in the town directory of 1916, 1918, 1919. Based on the fact that Mr. Fleming was living in a boarding house at the time of this story, we assume his stay in Stratford was very temporary.
- We never found a mention of a "J Fleming" in any other *Bridgeport Telegram* story, or any mention of 300 rattlesnakes being delivered to Stratford. One would suppose 300 rattlesnakes shipped cross-country would

be quite a news story in itself. It would seem that shipping 300 snakes from Texas would likewise have created some excitement in Texas.

- Mr. Fleming states he registered for the draft in 1918, however, we can find no military record for him.
- It's possible Mr. Fleming was living in Stratford under an assumed name.

Here's the snake oil tale. It's priceless, and, we assume, the reporter believed what he was writing as this portion of the article was followed with other "regular" town news. The newspaperman seems to have met Mr. Fleming's Gila monster which may add some credibility to the tale.

Bridgeport Telegram

September 13, 1918

Texas Snakes Due in Stratford for Fair Exhibit

STRATFORD, Sept. 12 (Special) - About 300 rattlesnakes will soon be received in town by J. Fleming of 3 Sachs street, who as a dispenser of a medicinal snake oil. These snakes are to come

from Texas and are for the purpose of advertising at fairs and in towns about the country during the coming months when Mr. Fleming will be away selling his goods.

One Big Monster.

In addition to the snakes, Mr. Fleming has one large Gila monster that he exhibits wherever he stops. The bite of the Gila monster is much more dangerous than that of a rattlesnake, said Mr. Fleming this afternoon.

Starts Tour Next Week.

Mr. Fleming claims to have been in every town in the United States during the 16 years that he has been selling snake oil and he hopes that he will be able to spend another 16 years at the work. He is seldom at his home on Sachs street, being most of the time in some town or city between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. He registered Thursday in the selective draft so will not begin his winter tour until next week when he will open at the fair in Huntington.

In speaking of the medicine he said that well known liniments now for sale everywhere were sold in the same way in the beginning.

Dutch Elm Disease Strikes



The tree with no leaves, above, was the last of Stratford's great elms on Elm Street. The tree was located at Elm Street and Stratford Avenue until about 5 years ago when it was removed.

Dutch Elm disease was first identified in Connecticut in an elm tree located in the Glenville section of Greenwich in November of 1933. During 1934, Dutch elm disease was found in 50 other trees in Stamford, Darien, Norwalk, Fairfield and Old Lyme. All these trees were cut down and burned in an effort to stop the spread of the disease.

Dutch elm disease is thought to have been introduced from Europe as a result of activities during World War I. Dutch elm disease was first identified in Holland in 1918 and was thusly named.

The disease carrying beetle that infected elm trees with the disease appears to have taken its time finding its way to

Stratford. We know from first-hand eye-witness accounts that many elm trees were destroyed on Elm Street during the hurricane of 1938. In the aftermath of the hurricane, the immediate downed elms made Elm Street impassable for days. Dutch elm disease, apparently, did not strike Stratford's elm trees in any large number until several years later in 1943.

The Stratford News

August 20, 1943

DUTCH ELM DISEASE FOUND IN NUMBER OF STRATFORD'S TREES

Professional analysis of samples of Stratford elm trees suspected of being infected with the Dutch elm disease, has revealed that

suspicions were correct, and several beautiful specimens are marked for slaughter. Some of them are on town property, some on private grounds.

The disease was first discovered in the town during the spring when a dead elm was found to have been killed by it. The tree promptly was felled and the wood burned, no other method of fighting the blight being known.

The trees now condemned will get similar treatment early next month, as soon as the Department of Public Works can manage the task. Meanwhile, careful inspection will continue so that as many elms as possible can be saved.

Useful Club 1918

Bridgeport Herald
September 1, 1918
Stratford Boys' and Girls' Useful Clubs Awarded Their Prizes

"100 per cent American" is the sign on one of the Stratford children's war gardens. And that slogan could well apply to them all.

Tuesday was a big day for these little citizens, for on that day prizes were awarded for the best garden, the best single row, and the best pig.

Robrt [sic] Scoville of Hartford, Federal food administrator for Connecticut, was one of the judges; Mrs. Harry Burnes of Stratford and Mrs. Frank Fickett of Bridgeport, the other two, William Sheehan, director of education for the food administration, also a citizen of Hartford, was an interested spectator.

The \$10 prize, awarded for the best garden, the neatest, the best planned, according to second crops, etc., and the most faithful workers, went to the Juniors - the Billie Sunshine Useful Club.

Isabel Sniffen, acting president of this club, received the prize for her club, making a very effective speech. This is what she said:

"This money is going to make jam for the soldiers."

That patriotic idea was the children's own, decided upon at their last meeting. Whichever

club received the prize was to give it for jam for the soldiers.

The prize for the best single row in all of the gardens was awarded to George Labounty. This prize consisted of seven and a half in gold. George said, too, that his money was going for jam. The seventeen and a half dollars worth of jam ought to be some of the best the boys in France ever ate. It represents a great amount of effort, of time and of loving sacrifice by the little children.

The second prize, five dollars, for the best row was given to Susan Freeman of Club 4, the "Colored Kids' Club," the others call it. Susan looked at her money and couldn't decide on the spur of the moment. "I reckon I'll decide later" she remarked.

There was a special prize offered for Club number 3. This is the Louis Bristol Blighty Garden, named for Louis Bristol, a boy now in France in the trenches. His home is near the garden and his mother offered a ring for the best row in that garden. It was won by Edna Totama.

And as a third prize, Mrs. Flickett gave a box of chocolates. Eleanor Welmann being the fortunate winner.

Walter Goddard received \$2.50 for the best pig.

Ten dollars of this prize money was given by First Selectman James Lally, and other friends contributed the rest. All of

Stratford is interested in this army of young gardeners and indeed they have a right to be.

Before the presentation of prizes Mrs. Richard Howell explained to the children that it is a hard job to decide on the best among so much good work and that nobody must be unhappy, because everybody could not get prizes. Then Selectman Lally, who is a special friend of the children, told them that Stratford was proud of them and hoped that next year they would do even more.

And the little ones, the prize winning Billie Sunshine crowd, lined up all in a row like soldiers, each one in front of his individual garden to welcome the judges. The other children say that babies always have the advantage.

"Dad" Barber gave them a party on his houseboat an' everything," said one boy. But the little fellows don't "get by" on their size. Nobody that ever saw their garden would think that for a minute.

One of the Useful Club girls, Justina Stavola, had put up, all by herself, 204 cans of vegetables. How's that for a youngster? Oughtn't it to make some of us grown-ups a little ashamed?...

Read the remainder of this charming article at club.stratfordhistoricalsociety.info.

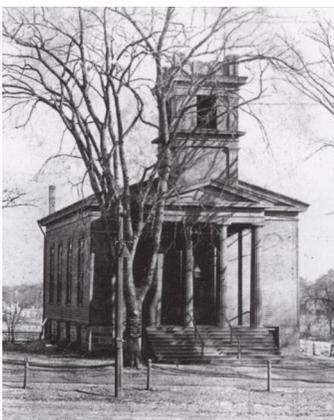


THE PRIZE WINNERS
Front Row (left to right)-Edna Totams, Eleanor Weiman, Isabel Sniffen, Susan Freeman
Back Row (left to right)-George La Bonty, Walter Goddard.



The Judges, and The Captain of The Workers, Mrs. Richard Howell, Captain, Stratford. Mrs. Harry Boras, Stratford. Robert Scoville, Federal Food Administrator for the State of Connecticut. Mrs. Frank Fickett, Bridgeport.

Methodist Sunday School Concert



Stratford Methodist Church 1839 to 1903.

Bridgeport Daily Standard
August 14, 1868
Stratford.

The Sunday School concert and exhibition was a decided success; the church was well filled at an early hour, and precisely at eight o'clock the exercises were commenced. The scholars acquitted themselves well and elicited praise from every one; no one required prompting, no one faltered or even hesitated in going through their allotted parts. The recitations and dialogues were well rendered in clear, distinct voices, and the

young girls and boys reflected great credit upon their teachers and won golden laurels from their friends. The "Secretary's report," by Master Weston, gave many important statistics as regards the number of scholars and teachers in the school, the amount of missionary money collected during the year, the number of books and papers in the library, and the number of deaths, but we failed to remember the figures. The speech from Carrie Fields, an interesting little Miss only four years old, was one of the best

exercises of the evening. She took her place upon the stage and made her bow with all the dignity of a queen. The church was perfectly still, so that she was heard by every one. Her speech was a sermon that some ministers might well be proud of, and the childish rendering of it made it the more interesting. If every one would once in a while act on the following lines they would be benefitted—

"God never made such as I
To laugh, and talk, and eat,
and drink,
And never think..."

Dear Members: Don't miss an issue of our **UPDATE** newsletter. Please include your dues in the enclosed envelope (or use the form on the back of this page). Thank you!

Proposed Slate of Officers for 2018 - 2019

PRESIDENT	Gail Liscio
VICE PRESIDENT	Tom Vos
RECORDING SECRETARY	Tina Vermette
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY	Carolyn Shannon
TREASURER	Shirley Clevenger

STANDING COMMITTEES

Accessions	Carol Lovell	Library	Gloria Duggan
Building	Joseph Bonitatebus	Membership	
Education		Newsletter	David Wright
Finance	Shirley McCormack	Programs	Gail Liscio
Garden	Patty Casenhiser	Publicity	David Wright
Grounds	Joseph Bonitatebus	Scholarships	Shirley McCormack
Hospitality	Pam Hutchinson	Ways/Means	
Hosts & Hostesses	Barbara Firisin		

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

To cast your vote, please use the mail-in ballot printed below and return it to the Society Office before September 29th, 2018. If you wish to nominate a candidate, or work on a committee, please attend the September 29th General Membership meeting at the Stratford Library.

STRATFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2018 - 2019 ELECTION BALLOT

FOR ALL CANDIDATES, **OR**

FOR ALL CANDIDATES EXCEPT:

NOMINATIONS FOR:

POSITION _____ NAME _____

POSITION _____ NAME _____

STRATFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Box 382, Stratford, CT 06615 • Tel. (203) 378-0630 • judsonhousestfd@aol.com

MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

- Senior \$15.00
- Individual \$20.00
- Family \$30.00
- Business \$50.00
- Life \$200.00
- Extra Gift - \$ _____

May be paid in three consecutive installments.

(Dues and contributions are tax-deductible)

Name

Street Tel.

Town & State Zip

Email

Annual Dues are Due and Payable Oct. 1

Please make checks payable to Stratford Historical Society. Please send a GIFT MEMBERSHIP in my name to:

Name

Address



Stratford Historical Society

967 Academy Hill
P.O. Box 382
Stratford, CT 06615

Phone: (203) 378-0630

Fax: (203) 378-2562

E-mail: judsonhousestfd@aol.com

newsletters@stratfordhistoricalsociety.info

**The best we can do about the past is to
keep the memories alive!**

www.stratfordhistoricalsociety.org