The Chronicles of the Ontario County Historical Society
Museum and Research Center
established 1902

Volume 48, Issue 3  September 2019

In This Issue...

A Line a Day .......................... 1
Educator’s Post .......................... 2
From the Director’s Desk .............. 3
Curator’s Loft ............................ 4
Your Historical Society ............... 6
Viral Leanings ........................... 7
Mail Box ................................... 7
Mrs. F. Scott Fitzgerald: Zelda .... 7
News and Announcements .......... 8
OCHS —The Organization .......... 10
Business Members .................... 10
Membership Application ............. 11
Calendar of Events .................... 12

A Line a Day: The Diaries of George M. Hayes
by Nancy Hayden

George’s summer adventures between 1910 – 1912 in Canandaigua continue from the last issue of The Chronicles...

July 17, Sunday 1910
All of us went to church in the morning [Congregational Church]. Right after dinner Father, Elizabeth, [his sister] Jack [visiting friend from the Mohegan Lake School in Peekskill, NY] and I started on a trip around the lake. We found the roads rather rough and muddy. Passed through Reeds Corners, Rushville, Middlesex and down through the very foot of Naples and around up the Naples Hill and then stopped where we could get a fine view. The day was clear as a bell and you could see a long distance down the lake. Took some picture there. Then we went on through Bristol Springs and Cheshire where Father let me take the car. We arrived at the house about three minutes after six having started about half-past two. After supper we drove up to Lincoln Wood to call on the people and let Jack say good-bye. [Lincoln Wood is located on the East Lake Road just south of Thendara - look for the sign Lincoln Wood].

We heard father blowing the horn for us just then so thought we would have to go. Helen Kessler then asked us to wait and go down in the motorboat as they were going to take the trip. We went up to where Father was and asked him about it and he said we might do so. So we went back and stayed awhile longer. We started soon. Edith Welch and I went to the stern and sat and Helen and Jack joined us soon after. Pulled a big raincoat over us so nobody could see us plainly and began to sing. We sang “Cuddle up a Little Closer Lovely Mine”, “Tonight Will Never Come Again”, “What Can I Do To Make You Love Me” and many others. The party in the bow started up to [also] but we had them beaten out on the singing. We met Mr. J. Raines and Mr. Berry up there. Harry Smith and Ruby [VanVechten] were there also. [Eventually Harry and Ruby married. He became a physician and his office was located on the corner of N. Main St. and Greig Terrace. Dr. Sainsbury assumed that practice when he married Dr. Smith’s daughter] Jack and I walked up town with Mr. Berry who was headed for Rochester.

continued on page 5
The Educator’s Post  
by Preston E. Pierce, Museum Educator

Why Did Prohibition Fail? One Local Perspective
We all know the basics of the prohibition story featured at the museum this year. We know how it took more than a century; and the formation of several groups focused on temperance and prohibition; to bring about the 18th Amendment. At its outset, the ratification of the 18th Amendment and the passage of the Volstead Act (PL 66-66) looked like a triumph for reform in American society.

On Oct. 2, 1918, the Ontario County Times published a story whose headline said, “Canandaigua in the Dry Column.” The story began, “At midnight on Monday of this week fifteen liquor places in this city went out of business or closed their bars. There was considerable roistering during the evening on the part of individuals who evidently felt it was their last chance to get a load, but there was not chance to get a…demonstration by the boozers or their friends. The result is accepted as inevitable and without open protest.” It all sounded so up-beat and final. “Dry” days were here at last! Even in a city that just five years earlier got a charter based on compromise with the political “wets.”

We also know the rest of the story. We know about Eliot Ness and the “Untouchables” whose losing fight against bootleggers and gang members in Chicago was even celebrated on television in the 1960s. The name of Al Capone conjures up a black legend in American history. To this day, whenever there is a proposal to regulate or eliminate some social ill, the specter of prohibition failure comes to mind and into the conversation. From the 1920s, when he was a Deputy US Marshall, through his twelve terms as Monroe County Sheriff (1938-1973), Albert W. Skinner was this region’s own version of Eliot Ness. Unfortunately Skinner is largely forgotten now.

What went wrong? Why did a reform that made a lot of sense to a growing body of people over the years go so terribly awry? The answers are many according to those historians who have investigated the story. Certainly, having a plentiful supply of liquor just across the waters in Canada undermined prohibition in Upstate New York. Political pressure from unrepentant “wets” played a role in the failure of prohibition. So did the corrupting influence of money—from smugglers, manufacturers, saloon keepers, and others—played a role as well. Certainly, a big reason for the failure of prohibition was the fact that the ratification of the 18th Amendment was not a truly democratic process. (Which is why the process was changed when it came time to ratify the 21st Amendment repealing prohibition.)

What is seldom discussed, however, is the biggest defect in the Volstead Act and state laws passed to enforce prohibition right from the start. Getting caught operating a “speakeasy” or an illicit still carried very little penalty in New York. William D. Moss, prohibition administrator in Northern New York, sent letters to local mayors, chiefs of police, judges, district attorneys, and the state police in 1930. Moss was very explicit in a published report in the Democrat & Chronicle (May 27, 1930). In an article with the headline, “Local Forces to Blame for Speakeasies,” Moss called attention to a decision of the Court of Appeals which places speakeasies in the category of disorderly houses, gambling resorts, etc., and maintained that speakeasies constituted a public nuisance,” a very low level offense. He pointed out that municipalities that focused on closing speakeasies, even for a short time, and levying fines, could profit handsomely. There was no mention of jail time or serious criminal consequences. Among the earliest local officials to speak out about this problem were two local judges; County Court Judge Horace Fitch, and Canandaigua City Court Judge William H. Hamlin. Both expressed frustration throughout the period.

On Nov. 7, 1930, the Daily Messenger reported on one of Judge Fitch’s days in court. “Four women were in court on nuisance charges [running a speakeasy]… In sentencing the four Judge Fitch said: “As long as I am county

continued on page 11
As we approach the end of our fiscal year, I thought it would be appropriate to give our members a glimpse at the state of our organization. There are several ways to look at where we are and how we stand as an organization in our place among the Ontario County family of cultural institutions. While this is not intended to anywhere near a full-blown annual report it will provide some perspective and mark time in our 117th year.

Overall, the state of the Historical Society is good. We have 500+ active members, a stable professional staff of 5, a growing group of 50 volunteers and a Board of Trustees that meet monthly. The Board actively oversees our well-being and participates in our activities on a regular basis. Everyone contributes to the pursuit of our mission to preserve and promote the history of Ontario County. The social state of our Society is healthy.

It is fair to say that our staff is aging. All are over 60 years. A challenge we face in the coming years is to attract younger professionals who love our community and know Ontario County’s history and the place it has in our state and national history. Our heritage is rich and must not be only understood but preserved.

A challenge being addressed by the staff and Board of Trustees is the condition of our building and our need for additional space. Our Claude Bragdon museum building, built in 1914, needs some repair and restoration according to a building condition report completed in 2017. The need for space to properly store our collections, the need for additional gallery space, educational rooms and social facilities is well documented in a space study completed in 2018. A Capital Campaign is looming, but first we must find funding for a $40,000 Facility Master Plan. This plan will combine the results of the other planning documents, lay out to the community and capital funding agencies all our needs and ideas for our future. It will set forth our vision.

Financially, the Society continues to struggle. Our annual budget is in the $275,000 range. While operational costs continue to rise, we have kept expense increases to a minimum, cutting some costs and eliminating others all together. We have chosen not to increase membership fees but rather add additional fundraising events. State mandated increases in minimum hourly wages have been a challenge; as have the spiraling cost of health care. To address the cost increases in personnel, we chose not replace our accountant that retired in 2018. Instead, we hired an accounting firm to take care of the books and to prepare monthly reports for the Director and the Board. This saved a considerable amount of money. An independent accounting firm annually reviews our books and prepares our IRS 990. As far as our financial underpinning, we have a board-managed investment account. Donations to this endowment are needed and always appreciated.

As a museum, our collection is in great shape as is our library of resource documents. Our exhibits are popular and our educational programs such as the “Mystery Drive” and “National History Day” continue to be well attended. We are happy to say that museum attendance has grown considerably since forming our new relationship with the Ontario County Arts Council. The museum as a venue hosts several events each year. Finally, we continue to work with other historical organizations at the local, state and county level to celebrate events such as the centennial of woman’s suffrage.

Personally, I appreciate all that the community has done to help make the Historical Society the cultural center it is today. OCHS has experienced many ups and downs since I was appointed the Executive Director in July of 1995. But I am pleased to report that in 2019, our Historical Society is healthy both as an organization and as a society dedicated to preserving and promoting our county’s heritage.
Remember the “ka-ching” sound made by older mechanical cash registers? We recently received a donation from Ron Fazar, Fairport, NY, of a 1912 National Cash Register that actually works! This impressive bronze-colored cash register was owned and used by George Popplewell, who ran one of the first auto sales and service garages in Canandaigua. Ron, who is the grandson of George Popplewell, meticulously dismantled, cleaned, repaired and reassembled the cash register to its original condition. Ron also donated a c.1905 Golden Gem adding machine, photos of the Canandaigua Auto Shop, as well as other related items and documents.

George Popplewell (1886-1967) was originally from Ithaca, NY, where he had taught at the Sibley College of Mechanical Engineering, Cornell University. He lived most of his life in Canandaigua where he owned one of the first auto garages with C.O. Hallenbeck. He sold Studebaker, Packard, and Nash autos and repaired most any other brand. He later worked for Eastman Kodak Co. He was married to Clara Edsall Popplewell and had four children; they lived at 33 Howell Street. He and his wife are buried in Woodlawn Cemetery.

In 1910, when the Ontario County Times published Canandaigua As It Is Today, George Popplewell’s auto shop was touted as a new and flourishing business. “The Canandaigua Auto Shop and Garage, 30 Ontario Street, opposite the Canandaigua Hotel, ranks among the most complete establishments of its kind. Conveniently located with excellent facilities for storage and making repairs of all kinds, it has become deservedly popular among automobile owners. The shop also does expert machine work of all kinds, deals in motoring accessories and has the exclusive sale in this vicinity of the famous Overland and Maxwell cars. The business is owned and managed by Messrs. C.O. Hallenbeck and George Popplewell. Both members of the firm are young and enterprising and constantly alert for opportunities to improve their business and advance the interests of Canandaigua. In view of the rapid strides being made in the direction of popularizing the use of motor vehicles for both pleasure and business purposes, the Canandaigua Auto Shop promises to gain steadily in importance as one of our staple industries.”

We at Ontario County Historical Society again extend our appreciation to Ron Fazar for preserving and donating his grandfather’s cash register to the Museum. It represents Canandaigua’s early 20th century local businesses as well as the beginnings of the rise of the American auto industry. If you would like to see the cash register, please come in to the museum where it is on display in the Research Room.
August 13, Saturday

“Studied and took lesson. Called on Vera [one of his female friends]. In the afternoon met Geo. Farnham at the lake and we went to Mr. Drayton’s boat house where we met him. His boat the Compeer is a dandy. [Mr. Drayton was in banking with George’s father.] It is a fair-sized boat, large cabin and plenty of rooms. We started about half-past three and first went to Lincoln Wood where George got off to get his tennis shoes. We then went straight up the lake to Walton’s where we had a fine little supper aboard the boat. After supper we went to Pearl Beach and called on Mary Clausen. We met Miss Catherine Schulyer, Charlie Benham, Walcott was there also. We were then invited to a dance that night at Mrs. Morses’. Mr. Dayton took us down in the boat and we got off and went over. Mrs. Morse and Mr. Wells were both there. Then everybody began to flock over. Mary Maxfield was there. I was married [assume dated?] to her last summer before this diary was in existence. I saw her downtown just before I left. Jane and Helen Maxfield were also there. Mary Clausen, Catherine, Emily Coye, Miss Alice Paddock, Mrs. Coye and Miss Wolcott, were also there and then Mr. Eaton, Warrick Worthington, Geo Mitchell, Mr. Ames, Stuart Beard, Dudley Coye, Maynard Clement, Geo Farnham and I. We spent a delightful evening there and I for one was sorry to leave the place where I had spent so many good times the year before. We anchored in Seneca Cove for the night and passed a fine night. Saw Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln also.”

August 14, Sunday

Got up at 7:30 and had a breakfast. Spent the day mostly in cruising around. Took Geo. home [to Lincoln Wood] and Mr. Drayton and I came home. Took a ride in the car in the evening.

Fast Forward to 1912

June 29
Start music lessons with Miss Newman. Come and take Kate [Davidson] out in the car in the morning and in the afternoon we go to the Bijou & Chocolate Shop and I stay at her house awhile. [Kate lived at 134 N. Main St. – the current home of Wood Library.] In the evening we take Kate and her mother and sister out driving and Kate sits with me and we have a beautiful time.

Sunday, June 30
See Kate. Take a ride in the afternoon and blow out two tires. In the evening take dearest Kate to church and go home with her. Asks me to wear her ring for her and I give her my class pin. We have a wonderful talk together, bless her dear heart. She leaves for the lake to-morrow and I go up to same place for a few days. [The Davidson family has a cottage on the West Lake Road – Davidson Landing.]

July 1
Call up Kate but she was already gone. We are going to write to each other very often. Go down on the aquaplane with Dave, Mort and Cal and Allen Cook.

July 2
Write a nice long letter to Kate. Go to Bijou and bum around home.

July 5
Get a beautiful letter from Kate and also report of exams. Pass Physics with 70 and flunk German. Write Kate.

July 6
Stop music lessons to study German. Take a swim in afternoon with Al Cook. Go to Bijou. Go to Happyland theater in evening. [Happyland was located where Canandaigua National Bank is today]. Take a long ride in car. Write to dearest Kate everyday and get a letter from her.

In place of writing a “line a day” in his diary, George would occasionally summarize the days that have passed in a long paragraph. He prefaced the entry with “Dates don’t count now”.

continued on page 9
Your Historical Society

First rider in at the August 25th “Bike Rally”

Master gardener Lou Bliss shows off the butterfly house she won at the “Garden Party” June 25th

Karen White at Brews and Bratts - “Mystery Ride 2019”

Master gardener Dorothy Grant’s gardens — over 300 people attended our first “Garden Tour” on June 29th

The museum recently received recognition for being in the Blue Star Museum Program supporting our veterans

Arts Council’s summer exhibit “Tell A Story” drew a great audience
Viral Leanings
by Maureen O’Connell Baker

It’s hard to believe that September is here. The summer months seemed to fly by…but not without first stopping at OCHS, as our doors welcomed many visitors from all over the country. Some of these new faces are members of our Facebook family, which has grown to over 4,000 since spring.

In addition to visitors in the museum, these past few months have shown an increase in the community visiting our website and Facebook pages checking for upcoming events and fundraisers. This digital format has proved to be very successful in promoting everything from garden tours to auctions and just sharing useful information in and around the area. OCHS visibility has increased tremendously as a result, with a huge spike in visits by the younger history enthusiasts (age 20-35). Their electronic devices i.e.: smart phones and tablets are the “go to” options for instant information. If we can reach them via those devices, then it’s a win-win for everyone. You might be interested in learning that we had over 5,500 visits to our website (www.ochs.org) during the month of August. Research requests and registration inquiries for our “John North Willys Bike Rally” topped the list.

It’s been a fabulous summer and we are excited to move into fall. Check out our Facebook page and “like” us. The historic photos that we share with our “family” never fail to conjure some of the best memories and storytelling among our members. It’s a source for some good laughs which is always good for the soul.

Mail Box

Dear Ed,

Many thanks for your help in providing historical photos of Ontario County for our 100th anniversary celebration cake. It was the perfect focal point for our gala.

Sincerely,
Cindy Kimble and Staff
Finger Lakes Tourism Alliance

Dear Ed and Historical Society Members,

Thank you so much for once again letting our church use your “backyard” for our Vacation Bible School.

We played games with over 80 children this year. Having a grassy area is a great benefit and helps prevent injuries.

We really appreciate the help from our neighbors.

Jeannie and Ed Balance
United Church Stampede Sports

Mrs. F. Scott Fitzgerald: Zelda

Discover “Zelda” in a Reader’s Theater production sponsored by the Ontario County Arts Council and written by OCAC member, Kathy Penner Morris. Zelda Fitzgerald was a writer, dancer, and Jazz Age celebrity who struggled on and off with mental illness. Her husband, famed writer F. Scott Fitzgerald, called her the first American flapper, and she became a 1920s icon due to her vivacious nature and bon vivant lifestyle. The readers of the play will include Kathy Penner Morris, Tina Blackwood, Shawn Anderson, Edward Varno, and Tom Poplaski. There will be two performances given at the Ontario County Historical Society Museum, 55 North Main Street, Canandaigua. The evening performance is Friday, Sept 13th at 7:00 p.m. and there will also be a Saturday matinee on September 14th at 2:00 p.m. $10. Admission tickets are available now at the OCHS museum. Kathy Morris first wrote about Zelda in 2008 and has modified that work for this production, “So much of Zelda’s life was overshadowed by him and their identity as a couple”, Morris said. She tried to find her own identity, only to be thwarted by her lack of maturity and her husband’s controlling nature and alcoholism. She tried many venues, eventually choosing madness as her escape.” This production at the OCHS museum only has seating for 25 people, so call (585)394-4975 for reservations soon. Wine will be available at the Friday evening performance.
News and Announcements

- It has been an amazing summer at the Historical Society. Our two history exhibits attracted a variety of people from both in town and out of town. It was one of our best summers for attendance.

- Of course we cannot talk about visitors to the museum without acknowledging the Ontario County Arts Council that brought two dazzling art exhibits by their talented members to our north gallery. The combination of art and history seems to be the perfect blend to attract visitors. We are looking forward to their fall/winter exhibit, “Captivating Light” that will open October 5th.

- Our two summer events, the “John North Willys Bicycle Rally” and our “Mystery Drive” attracted a good number of attendees. Both events were a financial success.

- We received an overwhelming response to our promotion in the June Chronicles for our “Fall Foliage Train Excursion” to the Adirondacks. The event sold out in just a few days! We apologize to those who were not able to get a seat.

- Looking forward to next year, our theme for our 2020 local history exhibit will be “Immigration.” Does your family have special stories, photos, illustrations, documents that tell how you and your family came to live in Ontario County? Did your family come from Europe, Africa, Asia, Central or South America? Did they come 400 years ago or last week? Let us know about your story! Contact Wilma Townsend, curator@ochs.org or (585) 394-4975.

- Notice: We needed to change the date of our fundraiser “Small Treasures Out of the Attic” auction. It will now take place on Saturday, October 26th. It will be held at the First Congregational Church in Canandaigua. Item viewing is at 2:00 p.m.; auction begins at 3:00 p.m. Rob Lillis will be the auctioneer. Please call the museum if you have a small treasure to donate. Plan to attend. It will be a fun event.

- A Reader’s Theater production “Zelda” about F. Scott Fitzgerald’s wife will be presented in the Historical Society’s north gallery on Friday, September 13th and Saturday September 14th. Special thanks to the Ontario County Arts Council and Kathy Morris for making this happen. We heard that Ed Varno has been cast in the role of F. Scott. Tickets are now available at the front desk for $10.

- Help wanted: Our long time corresponding secretary and former treasurer, Sherry Sulkes, has announced that she will step away from her role managing thank you letters for the donations we receive here at the Historical Society. This is a very important role. If you are interested in hearing more about what’s involved call Ed Varno at (585)394-4975.

- We are always looking for new board members. If you are interested, please call Ed Varno and he will put you in touch with the Nominations Committee. Terms are for three years and run from November to October.

- Thanks to a generous donation, we have been able to update our computer system to comply with Microsoft’s required change in technology. We are an information-based organization and need to make these changes. Our last server was installed in 2009. We are indeed fortunate to have such generous benefactors.

- Finally, please mark your calendar for November 2nd and attend the Historical Society’s Annual Meeting. The theme will be immigration. We are still seeking out a venue. Watch your mail for details.
July 9

Dates do not count now for I am just going to ramble on in a general spiel. Am spending most of my time on the lake. Am down with Al Cook and Mort every morning swimming and riding the aquaplane. Go out riding in the car most every afternoon for a fairly long ride. Am playing in a tennis tournament here in town. We go up the lake for two weeks at Cooks. I spend most of my time walking. Walked to Seneca Point and up to Woodville and over to the Iron Spring and up several glens including Clarke’s Gully on the other side of Whaleback. Mr. Lansdale, Mr. Darling, Father, Dave and I walk up on top of Gannet’s one morning. Then the rest of the men leave us and Dave and I walk down to the Iron Spring and back to Bristol Springs where we buy some things to eat and have a little lunch out in the woods. The next day I walk over through Bristol Valley to Stoney Lonesome Valley and up that for a long time and then cross over to the Naples Hill and back the Bristol Road to Cooks making a 14-mile walk of it in 3 hours. It was a wonderful walk and I will take more like it in the future. Mrs. Darling had a supper party for us while they were up there and after the party in the evening, we all go out canoeing. We had some great swimming while we were up the lake.

When we come down from the lake for good, I started in studying with Miss Nelly Freeman. [Geometry: Miss Freeman lived at 85 Howell St.] Two lessons a week and a lot of work to do. Visit the Bijou, Happyland and Chocolate Shop every evening as usual. Take moving picture magazine and so I know almost everyone that I see acting. Big street carnival comes here and that wakes up the town a little. The Misses Palmers [72 Gibson St.] give a large garden party to which I am invited and we have a dandy time. I spend most of the evening with Helen Adams and have one grand time.

August 23

Call on Mrs. Hovey. See “The Money Kings” and take a swim. Call on Kate Davidson and have a dandy time. Play piano and she mandolin for a while with “Tib” and Ethel. [Tib and Ethel were Kate’s sisters and eventually George marries Tib!]

September 3

The day we floated along in the canoe by the shore.

September 4

Practice piano. Write to Kate. Drive up to Miss Lee’s camp where “Sis” is. Rained Hard. Listen to band concert on lawn in the evening.

September 5

Take and ride and swim with Dave. Play 3 sets tennis with Catherine. Go to dentist and then to trial. Take Kate to Bijou in evening and see effect of cyclone at Geneva. Stay at her house awhile. Dandy girl.

September 8

Go to church twice. Ride to Bristol Springs. Puncture. Break in house. All o.k. Having a lot of dentistry done nowadays. Worse luck.

September 9

Play tennis with Catherine and take her to Bijou and Choc. Shop. Go back to her house for a while and play piano and wander out in the garden. Dearest Kate.

September 12

Father sees me off for college. [Williams College in Massachusetts]

Note: We’ll learn more about life in Canandaigua and the surrounding area in the December issue of Chronicles when his entries will focus on Christmases throughout his adult life.
The OCHS Organization

Staff
Edward Varno  Executive Director
Wilma Townsend  Curator
Maureen Baker  Receptionist
Preston Pierce  Educator
Barb Hill Part-time Receptionist
Betty McMahon  Research Coordinator*
Gene Rogers  Building Support*
Linda Alexander Librarian*
Darlyss Boates  The Chronicles Editor*

*Volunteer

We wish to extend a special thanks to all of the volunteers who donate so many countless hours in support of the Historical Society.

Address correspondence to:
Ontario County Historical Society
55 North Main Street
Canandaigua, New York 14424

We are open Tuesday through Friday 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Saturday 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. and Wednesday until 9:00 p.m.

Business Members

We wish to thank the business members listed below for their continued support. Please consider them when purchasing goods and services. In addition to these business members, we also appreciate the small donations we receive from dozens of local businesses in Ontario County each year.

1840 Inn On The Main
Aberle Eye Care
Allen County Public Library
B & E Electric
Bella Rose Bed & Breakfast
Bristol Mountain Winter Resort
Canandaigua Carpets Inc.
Canandaigua Insurance Agency
Canandaigua National Bank
Clifton Springs Historical Society
Clifton Springs Historian
Dick Anthony Ltd.
Edelweiss Properties Realtors LLC
Farmington Historian
Farmington Historical Society
G.W. Lisk Company Inc.
Granger Homestead Society
Saralinda Hooker Planning and Development Consultant
ICON Salon & Spa
J. D. Chapman Agency Inc.
Johnson-Kennedy Funeral Home Inc.
JSJ Decorating
Lynch Furniture Co.
Lynns National Bank
Mayflower Gardens Ltd.
Mid Continent Public Library
Mitchell Pierson Jr. Inc. Realtors
Naples Historical Society
Northside Apartments
Ontario County Historian
Patty's Place
Paychex
Phelps Community Historical Society
Phelps Sungas Inc.
Randall Farnsworth Auto
Ray's Restaurant
Renaissance - The Goodie II Shoppe
Sonnernen Gardens and Mansion
Stargazer Property Group
Uncle Sam's Antiques
Velmeex Inc.
Veterans HVAC, LLC dba Potter Heating and Cooling
VR Food Equipment Inc.
West Bloomfield Town Historian
Willow Bend Farms
judge I shall do what I can to stop this practice of maintaining a nuisance. Yet, how am I to make any progress when even women make it their business…” Each of the women was fined, sentenced to jail terms, and then had the jail time suspended. Two men were also in court on nuisance charges that day. Both received fines and jail time; and then had the jail time suspended. Judge Hamlin told the *Ontario County Times* (May 16, 1928) that he had information leading him to believe that there were “thirty-four places in Canandaigua where intoxicating liquors may be purchased in violation of the national prohibition law.” He further stated that in the days of “license” [legally controlled bars], “the highest number of saloons here was only thirty-two.” He lamented that, for several reasons, it was nearly impossible for local police to gather evidence enough to press charges. In an article later published in the *Times*, a raid on a Tillotson St. home resulted in officers finding seven barrels of alleged hard cider. However, the case was dismissed by US Commissioner, Walter Knapp, for lack of sufficient evidence. There was no further explanation.

Prohibition failed for many reasons, but the one least remembered was a lack of meaningful enforcement. Fines, loss of “product,” and embarrassment were the main factors in enforcement, however temporary. Remember, Al Capone, the most famous prohibition violator, was ultimately convicted not for murder or violation of the Volstead Act, but for income tax evasion.
The Chronicles

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 13-14: Ontario County Arts Council Readers’ Theater — “Zelda” at 7:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m.

September 14 and 28: Drop off day for “Treasures Out of The Attic” auction at museum; 11:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.

October 2: Genealogy Society meets 7:00 p.m.

October 5: Arts Council exhibit opening — “Captivating Light” reception at 1:00 — 3:00 p.m.

October 19: OCHS fundraiser — “Speakeasy” at Warfield’s, Clifton Springs; tickets at museum

October 19: Arts Council Kids “Fall Fun Event” at 1:00 — 3:00 p.m.

October 26: “Treasures Out of The Attic” auction; Congregational Church at 2:00 p.m.

November 2: Annual meeting of Historical Society; place/time TBA

November 6: Genealogy Society Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

November 28-29: Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

November 30: Arts Council Event — “Trains, Trees, and Treats”

Notices: If your address changes seasonally, please let us know the alternate address and the effective dates.

OR CURRENT RESIDENT