

Oswego County Weeklies

Printers - Publishers
Mexico Independent
WO 3-7813

Phoenix Register
OW 5-4771

Parish Mirror
WO 3-7813

Citizen-Outlet
NO 8-6823

OR 6-3721

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

Everet V. Backus
Publisher

Rodney L. Hall
Advertising Manager

Plant & Main Office
N. Jefferson St.
Mexico, N. Y.
Phone WO 3-7813

ERIE CANAL CELEBRATION IN BREWERTON

Ceremonies commemorating the start of construction of the Erie Canal 150 years ago on July 4th in Rome will be held at the State Dock, Brewerton this Friday, August 18 from 2 to 9 p.m.

In 1817 New York City was still in fierce competition with Boston and Philadelphia for economic dominance of the Atlantic Coast. But Governor DeWitt Clinton, who sponsored and fought unceasingly for a waterway to the Great Lakes, knew the canal would secure New York's position as the commercial center of our new country.

Within five years of the start of canal construction land values along the canal rose one hundred million dollars. New towns came into existence while villages like Rochester became cities. Rochester's population grew from 331 persons in 1817 to over 11,000

in 1828.

Large groups of recent immigrants to this country found work on the canal. Many Irish in upstate New York came in the early 19th century and a large Italian migration followed in the early 20th century to work on the current Barge Canal. Families throughout the Mid-West trace their current residence to the Ditch which gave them access to the fertile plains.

European engineers didn't have the confidence that the New Yorkers had, and refused to help. So lawyers and farmers became engineers and contractors and created one of the great engineering feats of all history. The notion of undertaking such an "impossible" task, and then actually accomplishing it may well have been the birth of the United States penchant for undertaking the technologically improbable. Certainly many new inventions grew out of the needs to meet canal problems, and shortly after completion of the canal a country which previously had practically no engineers was sending experts to Europe.

During the very first year of the canal's operation, 1825, 19,000 boats used the canal, 40,000 immigrants traveled west over it and three quarters of a million dollars was collected in tolls. In the first eight years of its operation the canal more than paid for its original cost and maintenance. Later the canal was to be practically supporting the State of New York.

In the middle of the 19th century the canal was widened and deepened. Competition with railroads became keen, but the canal continued to supply enough in tolls to pay for its upkeep with plenty to spare.

In the 1880's tolls were reduced and gradually abolished. Although this made maintenance costs a state expense (instead of tolls), the effect on rising railroad rates was a public favor. Railroads considering rate increases have since had to consider the possible competition of a free canal.

In 1903 the people of New York voted one hundred and one million dollars for the building of the Present Barge Canal System. The engineering feats required for this canal possibly represent even greater effort and ingenuity than did the original Grand Canal (one of the old names for the Erie)

Despite a slow, but probably steady, decrease in commercial tonnage, the canal system still plays a very important part in the life of upstate New York. Reservoirs and dams originally built to feed water to the canal have become essential parts of the flood control programs of the state. They also supply some of the electricity used by industry and in the homes.

Many of the farms use water that is brought to them by the canal for irrigation, and some towns use canal water for their general supply.

Most important, however, is the astounding increase of pleasure craft on the canal. Over 6,000 permits were issued in 1960 for use of the locks and lift bridges, and by 1966 this had grown to over 10,000. Many boats had come from the Great Lakes to the World's Fair, and it is expected that even more will use the canal on the way to Expo'67. At this juncture in United States history, when the use of leisure is increasing in importance, the Erie Canal is becoming a major recreation source of New York State.

Letters To The Editor

Letter to the Editor

August 9, 1967

Mr. Everet Backus
Mexico, N.Y.

Dear Everet:

I have quite a few calls asking what the various election districts are. Needless to say I find it a little difficult as they have changed over the years.

I think you have a fine idea in putting down the various State & Federal elected officials, however, would it be possible for you to include the number of the district. These are asked for on some various forms, and it might help quite a few people without a lot of effort, by merely adding the district number to the name of title.

Best Regards,
Leon E. Vickery, Jr.

Dear Editor:

For months now we have been sending you releases about the nationwide Peace Corps Placement Test. I thought you would be interested in the response to notices which you and others have printed.

Last year, over 40,000 Americans applied for Peace Corps service. One third took the Placement Test at their local post offices following newspaper notices. The efforts of newspaper editors across the nation have been vital to our effort; there are now over 13,000 Volunteers at work in 56 developing nations. Another 15,000 have completed two years of service overseas and have returned to the United States.

We thank you for being instrumental in helping the development of other nations and for your continuing cooperation in bringing the Placement Test to the attention of your readers.

Sincerely,
Stephen Allen
Director Applicant Services

Letter to the Editor

August 9, 1967

I am not a Fireman's wife so never belonged to the Ladies Auxiliary but I sure have had to call these men more than once and without questions asked me or a hesitation in any way, they always came. It made no difference whether they had to jump out of a nice warm bed, only to find snow falling outside or zero weather or it might be a Hot summer night, yes or even a pouring rain. Regardless, they came.

This Central Square Fire Company is an organization, vital to our vicinity, we as a public

SMOKING HABITS SURVEY

Information about smoking habits will be obtained from residents here the week of August 14 as part of a national survey, Director James W. Turblitt of the Census Bureau Regional Office in Boston reported today.

In addition to the questions on smoking habits of the population asked for the U.S. Public Health Service, the August survey will include labor force information for use by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics in determining the national employment and unemployment figures for August.

All information provided to the Census Bureau is confidential and the facts obtained will be used only for statistical purposes. The same information will be sought from all households in the survey throughout the U.S.

DIABETIC SCREENING TEST

In connection with its Thursday night Chest X-ray Clinic, the Oswego County Health Association is now offering a demonstration Diabetic Screening Test. The results of this screening test will be included on the regular chest x-ray reports which

has x-rayed over two thousand people from all of Oswego County. The x-rays are read by Dr. Warren Hollis of the County Division of Tuberculosis. This community service is a joint effort of the Oswego County Division of Tuberculosis Control and the Oswego County Health Association, your Christmas Seal Agency, 0 West Bridge St., Oswego, N.Y.



C - B LADD
And His Country Lads
Junior Place — Lead Guitar
Jack Greeley — Violin
Steve Green — Rhythm & Caller
Now Playing At The Mallory Hotel
Every Saturday Night
9:00 P.M. to 1:00 A.M.

WAGON Wheel Restaurant

Central Square, N. Y.
Open 7 Days & Nites

- Draft Beer
- Billiard Table
- Private Dining Area
- Bar Snacks
- Special Lunches



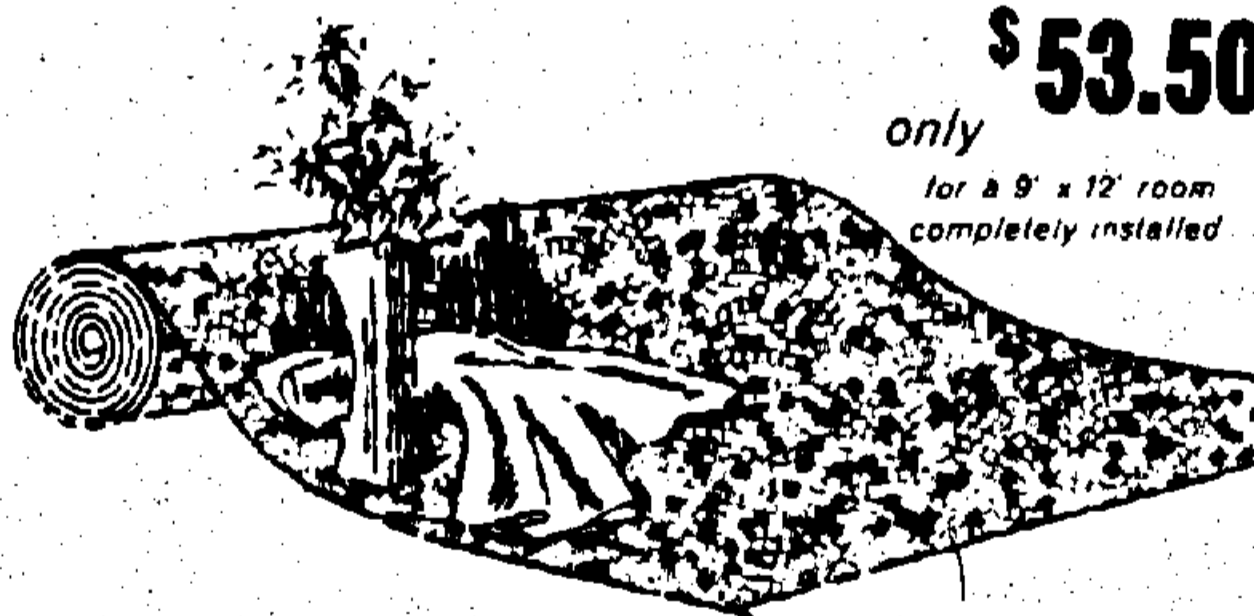
NOW AT CRIM'S

The intriguing beauty of hand-set mosaic floors in easy-care vinyl.

all at a NEW LOW PRICE

\$53.50
only

for a 9' x 12' room
completely installed.



Armstrong VERNAY
VINYL CORLON

- Random mosaic design.
- Ideal for single rooms or in "open plan" living areas.
- Wide range of colors make decorating easy.
- Made in rolls six feet wide—Spacious beauty with a minimum of seams.
- Famous Armstrong vinyl floor quality at a new low price.

Drop in or call, we are anxious to show you this exciting new floor.

1500

Square Yards of
Inlaid In Stock



CRIM'S FLOOR & WALL COVERINGS
AND CUSTOM KITCHENS

SOUTH MAIN STREET • PH NO8-6444 • OPEN FRI. EVENING • CENTRAL SQUARE, N.Y.
Experts In Beautifying Your Home

take for granted but never volunteer to help them. The men of this local company have worked hard and long hours to prepare one of the most economical, efficient fire stations in the County. Now why don't we donate a buck or two to help them out. Lets turn the tables. If every family in this Fire Zone gave just a dollar, Yes or even 50 cents. Just see how much it would help those men! We give to the March of Dimes and other worthy causes---No questions asked and expect to do so. Yet we as a public never think of giving to a worthy cause like this, necessary to our public located right here in the center of our own home town. BUT we are Johnny on the spot to call them to help us in emergencies and I bet they never scan down a list to see if your or my name is on it as a donor. Better yet I'll bet they haven't even got one.

Come on you people of the public---APPRECIATE what these boys have done for our community---LETS ALL GIVE A LITTLE.

A Thankful Citizen.

Our Legislators

U.S. SENATORS
Jacob K. Javits
Robert Kennedy
Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

REPRESENTATIVE
31st District
Robert C. McEwen
House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

STATE SENATOR
43rd District
H. Douglas Barclay
State Capitol,
Albany, N.Y.

STATE ASSEMBLYMAN
117th District
Edward F. Crawford
State Capitol
Albany, N.Y.

DELEGATES OF N.Y.S.
CONSTITUTIONAL
CONVENTION

Edward F. Crawford
38 East Bridge Street
Oswego, N.Y. 13126

Laurence H. Kissel
405 Paddock Road
Watertown, New York

Edmund L. Shea
724 Pickering Street
Ogdensburg, N.Y.

find peace,
security and
fulfillment
... tune in today
for
good news

help for
daily living

WOSC
1300 KC
9:30-10:00 a.m.

Monday thru
Saturday

