

# Community Voices: Letters To The Editor

[Opinions are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Lansing Community News.]

Dear Editor,

The Lansing Historical Association is eight years old this fall, and has been chartered by the State of New York for seven years.

It has grown from a membership of about thirty to a membership of over four hundred while the original board of trustees grew from five to fourteen. The board meets every other month to plan the newsletter and spring and fall programs which are open to the public. There are many other matters and projects that the board must decide on, too. Committees report on the one-room schoolhouse and the various publications and projects that are undertaken.

The newsletter is mailed out every other month to many addresses outside of New York State and also to Canada. To become a member one has only to send in dues each

January to Box 100, Lansing, NY 14882. Junior members (Middle School Students) pay \$2.50. The basic regular fee is \$5, although many members show their appreciation by paying the \$10 Contributing fee, or the \$15 or above Sustaining fee. This year the board decided to add another category, the \$100 Lifetime membership.

The board is always glad to hear from anyone in the community who would like to be interviewed or who would like to contribute to the newsletter. We publish many pictures and help people find their roots and remember their younger days. Give us a call at 533-4514 to learn more about us!

Louise Bement  
President, Lansing Historical Assoc.



Francis Thomas "Curly" Schaffer, 80, of 1145 Warren Road, Ithaca, NY, formerly of Allentown, Penna., died on December 14, 1996 in his home surrounded by his family. He had battled courageously with colon cancer for several years.

Curly, as he was known by his friends, was born on April 13, 1916 in Allentown, Penna. to Robert and mamie Gerhardt Schaffer. His parents and six siblings predeceased him. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Thelma Mae Appel, his daughter and son-in-law, Gail and Henry Neubert, and two grandsons, Hank and Thomas Neubert. The family has lived together for 11 years.

Curly served in the U.S. Navy in the South Pacific theatre of operations during World War II and worked for the Pennsylvania Power & Light Company in Allentown for 36 years. He was a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Copechan Lodge #106.

Curly, affectionately known as "Poppo" to his grandsons' friends, was an

avid supporter of sporting events in the Lansing community and Cortland state baseball. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Lansing Recreation Program, Town Hall, Lansing, NY 14882 or to the Lansing School District Athletic Department, 264 Ridge Road, Lansing, NY 14882.

Private services were held for the family. Funeral arrangements were under the direction of the Lansing Funeral Home, 32 Auburn Road.

## LATE NEWS

- Folks wanting light exercise during the winter may walk the halls of the Lansing Middle School from 6:30-8:30 pm every night that school is in session.
- Adam Garrett was selected Monday as the Ithaca *Journal's* student of the week.
- Lansing's varsity basketball team fell Saturday to Candor 53-48.

Pastoral Column:

# Take Down The Sign

By Pastor John Terry

The Christmas season is always a busy and exciting time! Homes and business offices are beautifully decorated, the malls are filled with shoppers, and festivity fills the air.

The reason for all this celebration is the birthday of the Lord Jesus Christ. But does His presence grace the party? I am reminded of a story. Many years ago a wealthy family decided to celebrate the birth of their son at their mansion. Dozens of guests were invited. They all arrived dressed in the latest fashion. After depositing their elegant coats on a bed in an upstairs room, the guests were entertained royally downstairs. Soon the time came to present their precious newborn son to the guests for celebration. But, where was the child? No one seemed to know. The governess ran upstairs, only to return with a desperate look on her face. Everyone searched frantically for the baby. Then, someone recalled having seen the child sleeping on one of the beds. The baby was found lying on a bed, buried underneath a pile of coats, jackets and furs.

The very object of that day's celebration had been forgotten, neglected, and nearly smothered. Sound familiar?

Amid the lights, tinsel, trimmings and trappings, where is the "Christ child" whose birthday we celebrate? Has He been replaced by Santa Claus? The Bible says "she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room

for them in the inn" (Lk.2:7).

Today, nearly twenty centuries later, millions of people do not have room for Jesus Christ in their life. Although they participate in the festivities of the Christmas season, they keep Christ out of their lives - the "NO VACANCY" sign is still up.

If Christ is kept outside, could something be wrong inside? The Bible tells us that God gave mankind the first Christmas gift. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." Jesus said, "...I came that you might have life, and might have it abundantly... I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door (of his heart), I will come in to him...come unto Me, all you who are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest."

How about you? Are you experiencing the purpose and meaning for which you were created? Do you know where you will spend eternity? The Lord Jesus Christ seeks to save the lost, to bind up the broken hearted. Giving...the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of heaviness.

I encourage you to take down the "no vacancy" sign, and open your heart and life to the Lord Jesus Christ. He is only a prayer away.

Rev. John Terry is pastor of the West Groton - East Lansing Church.

Animal Services of North Lansing  
Meadowridge Veterinary Clinic  
The Boarding Barn  
853 AUBURN ROAD -- 533-7661

## A Child Is Born

Jeffrey and Andrea (Woodall) Lamb of Ludlowville welcome the November 14 arrival of son Nikolas Edward.

## An invitation to the Lansing community to a Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



### Grace Baptist Church

2049 East Shore Dr. (Rte. 34), 533-4515

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