



The Lyme Light

A publication of the Lyme Community Foundation
“To enhance and support the community through learning and enrichment”

NOVEMBER 2017

www.lymecommunityfoundation.org

VOLUME 19, ISSUE 11

Second Annual Haunted House is Another Success

The second Annual Haunted House was held at The Copley House the weekend before Halloween and was, once again, a big success! After weeks of preparation *The Copley Asylum* was brought to life by community volunteers, students and Lyme Community Foundation board members. The creative residents and staff of The Asylum welcomed visitors in their own social ways... The costumes and props were amazing, and the fun and scares memorable. Everyone, participants and visitors alike, enjoyed the 3 nights of scary fun. On Saturday afternoon a matinee was held for younger children and families to tour the Asylum, Trick or Treat and enjoy the Halloween festivities. The weekend's events were enjoyed by young and old alike! We also want to send very special thank you and shout out to the students of Lyme Central School, the Chaumont and Three Mile Bay Fire Departments, and our community volunteers. We couldn't have done it without you!

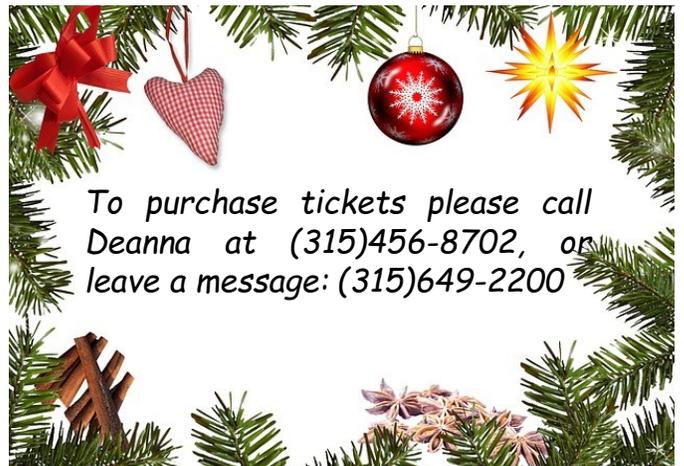
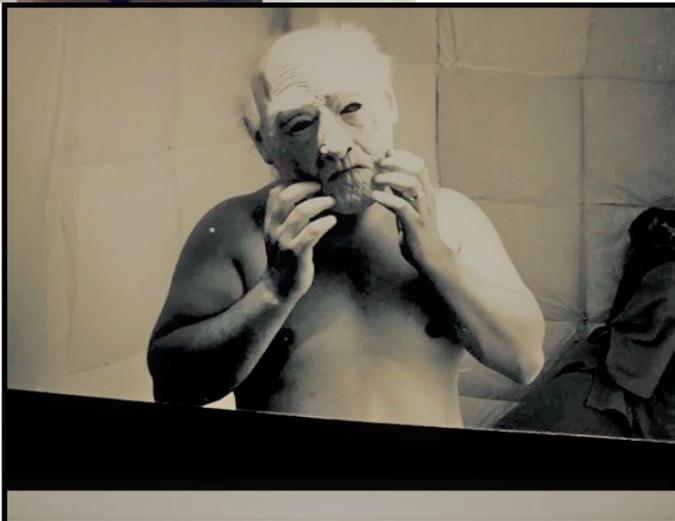
LCF Holiday House Tour December 9, 2017



Did you buy your tickets for the Annual Lyme Community Foundation Holiday House Tour? Once again members of our community have graciously agreed to open their homes for this terrific event. Join the merriment and stop by and see holiday décor that will warm your heart with holiday spirit. After the tour join everyone for a holiday get together at the Copley House. Food, drinks, music, and merry making are guaranteed to be enjoyed by all. All proceeds go to supporting the work of the Lyme Community Foundation.



Two of the spooky characters that entertained the hundreds who attended the event: "Bitey" (left) and "Gramps" (below).



To purchase tickets please call
Deanna at (315)456-8702, or
leave a message: (315)649-2200

Editor's Corner

Dear Readers,

The season of Thanksgiving is filled with good food, friends and family and of course the biggest "F" of them all- FOOTBALL. Enjoy!

May you and yours experience good health and happiness in the days ahead.

Karen Donahue, Editor

LYME LIGHT DUE DATES

Articles are due to the Editor...

December 2017 Issue: November 15

January 2018 Issue: December 13

***Please forward text and photos to our email address:
lymelightnews@gmail.com***

All Saints Church Christmas Bazaar November 11 9-3 pm



Mark Your Calendar! The Christmas Bazaar at All Saints Church, located in Chaumont on Madison Street, will take place on Saturday, November 11th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Come for the homemade pies, piping hot soup made from scratch, deli sandwiches, pulled BBQ pork and one dollar hot dogs! Browse the tables for hidden treasures and great deals on household items. Enjoy a delicious lunch while visiting with friends and neighbors. Lots of great prizes donated by local businesses at the raffle table, too. All are Welcome! Call Marie at 315-649-3527 for more information. Donations (no clothes, please) are greatly appreciated and can be dropped off at the All Saints Church Parish Center, Chaumont, NY.

CHICKEN AND BISCUIT DINNER

Three Mile Bay Methodist Church

Main St, Three Mile Bay, NY

Nov. 15 Serving 4- till

Adults \$10 - Children \$5 - Under 5 yrs. old free

Take Outs available !

From the President

How can it be November already? I do have to say we ended up having a beautiful fall, even though we all felt we didn't have a summer this year. When you live in Northern New York you have to take whatever good weather you can get. The warm fall days provided us all a chance to take those extra boat rides, bike rides and a chance to get outdoors to enjoy the beautiful weather. We can't ask for more than that.

Our family was extremely busy this fall. Our son Joshua married his high school sweetheart Brittany Sharlow on October 14 in Clayton. It was a beautiful day to celebrate with all of our family and friends. On days like this we realize how truly blessed we are!!

As soon as the wedding was over we had to get busy working on our room for the haunted house. The haunted house is a collaboration between so many people in our community. We could not do it without all of the support from our sponsors and volunteers. On one Saturday we had a large group of Lyme Central students who came out in the pouring rain to help us create the outdoor maze. Thank you to everyone who came to the haunted house and for the parents who brought their children trick or treating. We are so fortunate to live in such a great community where everyone works together to make a difference in our community.

On behalf of the Lyme Community Foundation we would like to wish you and your family a very Happy Thanksgiving!!
Deanna Lohrop, President

Foundation Acknowledges Glenn Dodge at 100th Birthday Party

After recognizing the achievements of Kent Wiley at a ceremony September 9th, the Foundation recognized another outstanding citizen who has given decades of service to our community—Glenn Dodge. Mr. Dodge turned 100 years last month, and it says a lot about him that he needed *two* birthday parties to fit in all of his well-wishers.

After holding a family birthday party on October 7th, Mr. Dodge invited the general public to another party on October 14th. Lynda Carney, Lyme Community Foundation Awards Chair, highlighted Mr. Dodge's years as a teacher, soldier, firefighter and family man as the basis for the award. Nearly 200 people attended. True to his modest attitude, Glenn thanked everyone for coming, and could only marvel at how "wonderful it was to reach 100."

Thank for being such a friend to our community!

Waterfowl Aloft

By Gerry Smith for Ontario Bays Initiative



Blue Goose and Snow Goose Photo by Lee Ellsworth

Even though fall has been very mild to date, one of the signs of the advancing season is appearing in the Thousand Islands Region. Geese and ducks that have nested in the Arctic Boreal Forest and Prairie Pothole regions to our north and west are arriving locally. Coming from these “duck factory” areas that produce most of the continent’s waterfowl, they are passing along our section of the Atlantic Flyway. While some will remain to winter on the open water sections of Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River, most will proceed to areas farther south and east.

The behavior of these autumn travelers is much different than when they passed through in spring. Since late summer they have been hunted, beginning with Arctic geese pursued by the Inuit. Thus they have become far more wary of humans and their activities. Whereas in spring flocks of Canada Geese would stand and peer from a cut cornfield at a roadside human, they now flush at the slightest provocation. Fall migrant flocks are more often heard before being seen as they pass high overhead well out of shotgun range. These changes make seeking waterfowl in autumn a challenge for hunter and watcher alike.

For the observer, an automobile is a useful mobile blind. Also, there are now many more Snow and Canada Goose flocks to observe than previously. The populations of these species have exploded in the last three decades, partly as a result of our agricultural practices. While their numbers have undesirable ecological impacts in the Arctic, they are now much easier for us to find. In addition, range changes resulting from agricultural practices and climate change have occurred. Canada Goose populations, whose ancestors wintered in North Carolina, now spend that season in New York’s Finger Lakes. Some migrant flocks also now winter in our region, something virtually unheard of thirty plus years ago.

In addition to our very obvious Goose flocks, other migrant waterfowl are now with us. Dabbling Ducks, such as American Black Duck and Northern Pintail, should be looked for near wetlands and rocky shorelines. Many species of diving ducks, including Greater Scaup and three species of Scoters, are present in deeper offshore waters. While ducks are as wary as their larger Goose relatives, persistence can locate them. So whenever you are near water look carefully and enjoy the wary waterfowl of Autumn.

Ontario Bays Initiative is a Jefferson County land trust based at the Copley House in Chaumont. More information about OBI is available at OBILandTrust.org.

*"No one knows the
Lake Country like US!"*

Lake Ontario Realty, LLC
12396 NYS RT 12 E (Main St.)
Chaumont, NY 13622
www.LakeOntarioRealty.com

#1 in Local Waterfront and Residential Sales!
Free Market Analysis with Marketing Plan!

The Blue Heron

OPEN MONDAY–SATURDAY
CLOSED SUNDAYS
315-649-2240
HAPPY HOUR SPECIALS 4-6 PM
FULL BAR AND MENU
WING NIGHT MONDAYS
TACO TUESDAYS
FISH FRY FRIDAYS

\$2 DRAFTS, SATURDAYS, 12-6PM @ THE BAR
HANDICAPPED FRIENDLY~
LIKE US ON FACEBOOK
WWW.THEBLUEHERONRESTAURANT.COM

“THANK YOU FOR 10 GREAT YEARS AND COUNTING!”

Charitable Endowment Funds • Scholarship Funds • Family Legacy Funds

Rande S. Richardson
Executive Director

NNY PHILANTHROPY CENTER
131 WASHINGTON STREET
WATERTOWN, NEW YORK 13601

315-782-7110 • Fax 315-782-0047
www.nnycf.org • rande@nnycf.org
www.facebook.com/nnycf

**Northern New York
Community
Foundation**

Your Community. Your Foundation. Your Legacy.

Lyme Garden Club News



Putting the garden to bed for the winter is mostly a matter of cleaning up and covering up. After the first frost (which we have already had here in the Lyme area), it is important to clear out the blackened stems and foliage of annual flowers and vegetables to prevent the possibility of their harboring disease pathogens and insect eggs over the winter. Place any diseased plant material in the trash – not mixed with any compost or winter mulch.

Other fall chores include dividing spring and early summer-blooming perennials. This work should have been completed by the end of October. Bulbs can be planted any time before the ground is frozen. After frost, clean up perennial beds and borders by cutting down the entire plant to 2-3" above the ground. Dig up and discard any weeds and diseased plants – again discard into the trash. Dig up tender bulbs such as dahlia, canna, and gladiolus. Lay bulbs on newspaper to dry and then store in peat, newspaper layers or sawdust in a cool, dark place.

Protect the tender bark of young trees from gnawing critters by wrapping stems or trunks with wire or commercial tree-guard products. Fertilize young trees and shrubs that are well established. It is also a good time to fertilize established deciduous trees and shrubs. They have lost their foliage for the year and the tree/shrub does not put out any new growth at this time. The root takes up these nutrients and stores them. Then these nutrients are immediately available for new growth in the spring when temperature starts to rise and the tree/shrub comes out of dormancy. You should not fertilize evergreens in the fall. You do not want to push out new growth at this time as this new growth will not have had a chance to harden off and would be susceptible to winter burn.

Most likely, the organic mulch you spread to protect the soil during the summer months has substantially decomposed. It is important to spread a new, thicker winter layer of mulch (after the ground is frozen) to protect plants and soil over the winter months – primarily to keep the soil temperature even, and not subject to the freeze/thaw cycles that can occur on sunny winter days. Again, be sure the ground is frozen before spreading the new mulch to prevent rodents from nesting in the soil. New mulch should be spread at least 4" away from the base of any trees, shrubs or plants. Evergreen boughs can be placed over bulb beds – especially to

protect the small, shallow planted bulbs from heaving by the frozen ground.

Finally, clean, sharpen and store garden tools in a dry place for the winter. Remember – “Leave your garden in the Fall the way you want to find it in the Spring.”

If you have any questions about your gardens or specific plants, please send your question to lymegardenclub@earthlink.net. Include your email address and we will have one of our Master Gardeners respond as soon as possible.

Don't forget, on “First Saturday” of every month, we are asking all residents to take the time to pick up the trash on the frontage of their own property. This can be a year-round effort to which we all can contribute.

All Saints Church Sunday School Now Open!

All Saints Church in Chaumont holds Sunday School classes for children in Kindergarten - 8th grade or Confirmation Age. Please join us after the 10 am Mass. For further information please call/text Julie Sharlow @ 315-767-8788 or stop in after Mass!

Bay Breeze Golf Links



Bar open evenings

Wednesday—Friday 3 PM

Saturday—Sunday 2 PM

Free Peetza every evening

A & T Diner Open!

Serving Breakfast & Lunch

Open Wednesday—Sunday

Free game room—

Pool, Foosball, Air Hockey

Great location for afternoon birthday parties.

Call for details.

Located on Cheever Road off of

Old Town Springs Road in Chaumont

649-GOLF (4653)

Like us on Facebook



VALLEY PEETZA

“Good Pizza – Spelled Badly”

Open daily at 3:30 pm

Delivery available 6-8 miles surrounding Chaumont

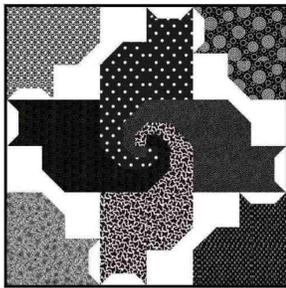
CHAUMONT 315-649-2420

Lyme Free Library



On behalf of the Trustees and staff of the Lyme Free Library, I would like to express our sincere gratitude and thanks for the community's support of our annual dinner and art reception. We are grateful for the generosity of our guests, volunteers and local businesses for making this event a success.

A special thank-you to: Jim O'Reilly for sharing and discussing his art with community members, Laura Moore and the kitchen staff at The Crescent Restaurant for preparing and hosting the delicious dinner, and Andy Barber and Mark Ahlheim for barbecuing the mouthwatering chicken.



Quilting Group

Are you a quilter? Do you want to get out and meet with others who share your interest? Join us every Tuesday at 6:45 to share project ideas and make friends with other quilters. Open to all!



Storytime
every Wednesday at 11am.
Stories, crafts & fun!



Shop on AmazonSmile this Holiday season and Support Lyme Free Library!

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support Lyme Free Library every time you shop on Amazon, at no cost to you. No need to set up a new account - You use the same account on amazon.com and smile.amazon.com. Your shopping cart, Wish List, orders, and other account settings are the same.



Books for Kids

The holidays are just around the corner and many people are looking for ways to give to others. If you want to encourage future readers, you may want to consider our books for children program. Each year the library collects new children's books for children ages 1 to 16 to be distributed through the food pantry during the holiday season. All books must be new and dropped off at the library before December 8th. Over 1000 books have been distributed in the past due to the generosity of community members. We appreciate your support of this worthwhile program.



Card Making with Char Dwyer

Drop by the library on November 14th between 10 and 11:30 am to make two high quality handmade Christmas cards with Char Dwyer. \$5 - all supplies included.



Thanksgiving Crafts for Kids

Join us on Friday, November 10th at 6:30 pm
to make Thanksgiving decorations.

Free. Limited class size. Please call 649-5454 to register.

Mandala Mondays - Coloring Group

Drop-in for part or all of this group coloring event for all ages. We'll supply colored pencils, crayons, and pre-printed coloring pages geared toward adults, featuring beautiful mandala patterns, flowers, architecture, etc. Mondays at 1pm.



O'Reilly Prints – Great Holiday Gifts!

Give as is, or frame for an extra special gift.

Lyme Free Library is offering prints by Local Artist James O'Reilly for just \$20. Prints feature Sawmill Bay, The Cape Vincent Lighthouse, The Copley House, The Chaumont Hardware Store, Cove Cottage, the Cape Vincent Lighthouse, and more! See all of the prints on Facebook.

Booktalk!

Book Talk *noun* (buk)(tawk)

1. A conversation about a book that one's read, infused with joy and emotion. Best if done daily.

Book Talk, our book discussion group meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7pm.

Open to all! Please join us!

December – No Meeting

January 16th – *A Spool of Blue Thread* by Anne Tyler

February 20th – *On My Own* by Diane Rehm

March 20th – *The Warmth of Other Suns* by Wilkerson

Library Board Meetings

The Lyme Free Library's Board of Trustees meets on the second Monday of each month at 6 pm. All meetings are open to the public. Changes posted at: www.lymefreelibrary.org.

Library Hours

Monday 10 to 4, Tuesday 10 to 8, Wednesday 10 to 6, Friday 10 to 8, & Saturday 10 to 4.

lymefreelibrary.org

American Legion News



The Cape Vincent American Legion Auxiliary has tickets available for the Annual Thanksgiving Dinner **Basket Drawing**. Dinner includes everything needed for a Holiday Meal. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5 ~ available at Legion Hall, 248 E Broadway, Cape Vincent Liquor Store or from any auxiliary member. Drawing is Friday, November 17 at 4 pm in Cape Vincent Legion Hall. To purchase tickets by mail send check or money order to CV AL Aux #832, PO Box 97, Cape Vincent, NY 13618-0097. Mail requests must be received by November 12 to meet the Friday, November 17 drawing date. One need not be present to win. Proceeds are used for Veteran and Community Support.



**North Shore
SOLUTIONS**

Matthew Turcotte
Owner & Founder

Phone: 1.315.771.7743

Email: mst@northshoresolutions.com

Website: www.northshoresolutions.com



Adding Personality to Web Design



Restaurant and Bar

Closed Monday
Live Music on Weekends
Friday Fish Fry
Prime Rib Saturdays
Full Lunch and Dinner Menu
Dine-in or Take-out
315-649-3622 12260 NYS Rte. 12E



Welcome Fall!

Shop Hours
 Sunday 10-4
 Wed, Thu 10-5:30
 Friday 10-6
 Saturday 10-5
CLOSED— Mon.&Tues.
315-778-1191

Brian Peters
Plumbing, Heating, Electrical & A/C
(315) 778-5100

Air Conditioning: New Installation & Repair

Plumbing: Well & Water Systems, Pressure Tanks, Pipe Repair

Heating: Boilers, Furnaces, Heat Pumps, Tune Ups, Repair

Electrical: Troubleshooting, New Service, Upgrades & Repair

Cottage Opening/Closing: Serving Chaumont & surrounding areas

Specializing in Modular Home & New Construction Mechanicals
Installations, Service, Repair & Emergencies

Authorized Dealer: Fujitsu Mini-Splits & Heil HVAC Credit Cards Accepted
 http://www.bpetersmechanical.com email: heatmiser@tds.net



Main Street- Chaumont, NY
Full Service And Competitively Priced!
Open 7 Days a week
Hardware * Soils & Mulch
Plumbing * Electrical
Tools * Rental Equipment * Propane
Bait and Tackle
Grills * Paint * Lumber
Window and Screen Repair



SITTIN' PRETTY
PET GROOMING
Lynn Swagler
11320 NYS Rte. 12E
Chaumont, NY 13622
(315)649-3066

www.sittinprettypetgrooming.com



- Web design
- Programming
- Computer repair
- Over 16 years' experience

www.benrubacha.com
benrubacha@gmail.com
 Or find him on Facebook
 References available
(315)783-3893

Veteran Profile: Francis J. Monick

by Terry Brennen

Three years ago, The Lyme Heritage Center reached out to the community through Facebook and asked for the names of all veterans from our town, past and present. The response was great, and by the end of the project, family members provided scores of names, in addition to the names found in casualty lists and other sources.

One of those names did not come from a family member, because that veteran's immediate family is no longer living here. His name, listed on the Jefferson County Veteran's Memorial in front of the County building, is Private First Class Francis John Monick. He died just a couple of months after his twenty-second birthday, on November 21, 1943, in an awful but inspiring event: the Battle of Tarawa. I decided to research this man's life, using military reports, news archives, and other sources. After months of research, I felt that more people should know what details I learned.

He was born in Brasher Falls to Joseph and Maggie Monick, on September 19, 1921. Joseph, Maggie, and Francis had moved to Pamela and made a living by farming, labor, and basket making. Joseph's neighbors recalled that he was a "go as you please" foot racer in his younger days. Three daughters would be born in Theresa: Mary, Annie Rose, and Kathleen. All were listed as Iroquois in census records.

When Francis was 13, his mother, father and an infant sister all became ill, reportedly with pneumonia and all three died with days of each other in May, 1934. His three younger sisters entered St. Patrick's Orphanage in Watertown, and Francis boarded with local farmers. He worked on several farms, but for at least seven years boarded and worked on the farm of James and Nellie Bishop, near Rosiere.

On Thanksgiving 1941, Americans still debated how to support our British, French and Russian allies while staying neutral in the war, mere weeks before the shock of Pearl Harbor. Within a year, by November 1942, the war had taken some alarming turns. Japanese offensives in the Philippines, Burma, and Guadalcanal extended its control of the Pacific. Japan invaded the Aleutian Islands of Alaska, and Japanese submarines fired on targets on the coast of Oregon and southern California. President Roosevelt ordered the internment of all Japanese-Americans on the west coast, and exclusion zones for Italian- and German-Americans on the east coast.

Francis Monick enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps on March 23rd, 1942. By April he reported for duty, and by July he was in training at Parris Island, and by October aboard the U.S.S. President Hayes, steaming toward Guadalcanal. Like most recruits, he was probably eager to engage the enemy. At the time, USMC 1st Division had been sporadically fighting in Guadalcanal since the summer, in response to a Japanese buildup there in the spring. Monick's force, USMC 2nd Division, arrived in late October 1942, in relief of 1st Division. Part of "B" Company, 1st Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, defended Guadalcanal in November. Monick was shot in his left thigh.



Francis Monick, April 1942. This photo courtesy research by Chief Rick Stone & Family foundation (USMC personnel file).

From there he evacuated to "CUB One" a seaplane-accessible medical base set up three months earlier at Espiritu Santu, New Hebrides, about a two-week sail aboard a hospital ship. By the end of November, he was aboard another hospital ship, the USS Solace, enroute to New Zealand.

The 2nd Division set up tents in the towns and villages outside Wellington, New Zealand, from February through October, 1943. The Rev. Willard Wyeth, the 8th Regiment's chaplain, described this in his memoir, The Leathernecks Come Through (1944) as a period of "rest, relaxation, and finally intense training." Local officials invited the Marines to have an exhibition baseball game in the local cricket grounds before a crowd of 25,000 curious locals. Local families invited many marines and soldiers into their homes for dinner. A few US/Kiwi romances sparked.

Around this time, he wrote to Nellie Bishop, that he was recovering, but he hoped to "get back to business." He sent a picture, later printed in the Watertown Daily Times of himself, smiling and wearing his Purple Heart. Nellie sent Francis a package, maybe hoping he would get it before Christmas. *(continued on page 10)*



Thanks to all volunteers, sponsors, and attendees, who participated in our 2nd Annual Haunted House event! We appreciate all of the time, sweat, screams and scares it took to put together another great event that helps us support the community. Your hard work made this an enjoyable event for everyone. See you next year!

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA!!

Saturday December 2, 2017

- 9am to 1130am
- Presbyterian Church, Chaumont
- \$5.00 per person under 2 free
- French toast, scrambled eggs, sausage, milk, juice, coffee/tea



NOTICE: CHRISTMAS IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER

The Lyme Food Pantry will be holding Christmas sign-ups every Saturday, (excluding Thanksgiving week) from November 4th through to December 2nd. At the Chaumont Presbyterian Church on Main Street, from 1 to 3 pm.

Request after December 2nd will need to be made through: CAPC in Watertown 782-4900 or the Salvation Army 782-4470

Baskets will hold Christmas Dinner, Food for a week and toys for Lyme Children 16. Distribution will be Saturday, December 16th. From 1:00 through 3:00. Any questions please, Call 315-649-2424.

We are able to continue only because of the generous support from the Community. Thank you!

Harriett's Angels

Town of Lyme News

Reports of 'Roadside Photographers'

This from www.townoflyme.com:

"There is a lot of concern in the Town of Lyme about strangers in cars taking photos of children lately. We want to let everyone know that if one of our Town Assessors is out checking property and taking photos of houses, their vehicle will have a car sign in the window that says "Town of Lyme Assessor." The Assessor would also not be using a cell phone to take their photos, they would have a camera. They also carry ID's to identify them as assessors. If you see a vehicle that you are concerned about, you can call the Town Office and we will have the make, year and color of the vehicle that the Assessor is driving. The number is 315-649-2788.

Sign Ordinances Discussed *by Terry Brennan*

The Board and the public discussed roadside signs at the September Town Board meeting. Lyme Zoning Ordinance section 605 permits certain temporary signs, but prohibits the use of flashing light signs, some portable signs, and signs that do not meet specific specifications. Temporary signs include: signs advertising real estate and special events (e.g. garage sales, etc.).

Real estate signs are defined as "announcing the construction of a project or the sale of lots or buildings" and must be removed within 30 days after "completion of the construction or sale."

Prior to the meeting, Zoning Officer Millington had removed signs in violation, such as those placed on utility poles and real estate signs that "project into the public right of way" without a permit, some of which were real estate signs that directed purchasers to the actual parcel.

Supervisor Aubertine, Councilman Dan Villa and Amanda Miller, owner of Lake Ontario Realty each laid out their concerns. The town wants to keep sight lines clear for pedestrians and drivers, but Ms. Miller argued that potential real estate purchasers sometimes need directional arrow sign to find a real property parcels.

For the time being, the Town will allow portable real estate signs, so long as they are not in the right of way.

Francis J. Monick *(continued from page 8)*

From August 27 to 31, 1943, Eleanor Roosevelt visited Wellington, part of her morale-building trip through the South Pacific islands. Mrs. Roosevelt made the trip C-47 military transport aircraft, and wore a Red Cross uniform. The visits seemed to have a positive affect on the men, as if a family friend unexpected dropped by to visit. She also took the opportunity to thank New Zealand, who had ground forces in Greece and North Africa. She wrote about her visit in her daily "My Day" newspaper column.

Meanwhile, U.S. military commanders were planning the next Central Pacific offensive, which included Monick's 2nd Division. They planned an amphibious assault on a chain of coral islands rising just six feet high and located just a few degrees north of the equator and just a few degrees west of the international date line, called the Tarawa Atoll.

The southernmost of the chain, the island of Betio (rhymes with 'ratio') had an airstrip, which would be an important link in the strategy to eventually take the Marshall Islands from Japan. After a U.S. Marine raid on the Tarawa atoll in 1942, Japanese forces had built reinforced bunkers from sand and coconut tree logs, and even installed large naval artillery guns.

To make the mission even more difficult, the island was surrounded by an uneven, lumpy ring of coral growth that extended 500 to 800 yards out from the shore. This was complicated by hard-to-predict tides, which could strand landing craft far from the shore. Assigned the code name "Operation Galvanic", commanders set November 20, 1943 as "D-day".

By October 23, 1943, PFC Monick's "B" Company had mustered aboard transport ships of the assault force, part of a group of 143 ships, and about 35,000 men (Navy sailors, Marines and Coast Guard). The force landed at the island of Efate, to conduct rehearsal landings on November 8th. By this time, aerial intelligence had reached the division command that Betio was heavily fortified, and that the Japanese troops defending it were dedicated and well-trained. Days before the landing, the division commander, Colonel William Marshall was relieved of his command, reportedly due to nervous exhaustion.

The pre-landing plan included bombardment of Betio, but commanders could not tell how much damage the Japanese gun positions took until the actual landing.

Francis J. Monick (continued from page 10)

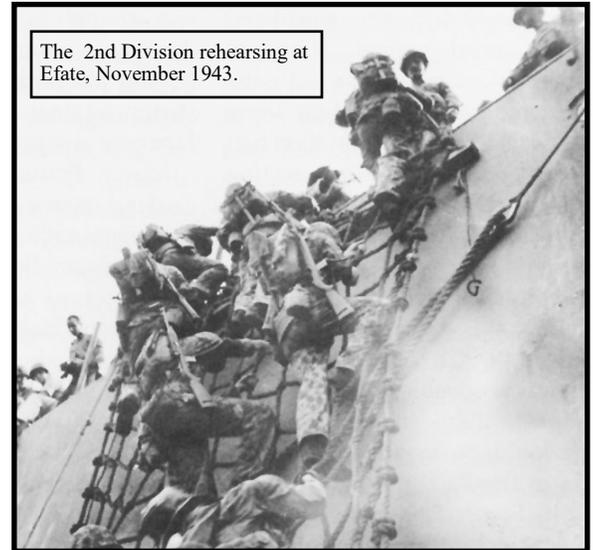
Although some damage was done by the U.S. bombardment, the Japanese positions remained formidable.

Usually, with an operation of this scale it is hard to piece together the actions of individual units. That is also true here, because the well-planned mission had difficulties, and many would-be eyewitnesses died along with their stories.

The simplified timeline of the battle was as follows. From predawn to around 9am on November 20th a final naval bombardment of the Japanese guns struck an ammunition depot on the Island. At approximately 9am, the first waves of landing craft, designed to land in four feet of water, became jammed by the lower than expected high tide at the edge of the coral reef, and had to wade in from about 500 feet from the shore. As they slowly came to shore, Japanese gun positions recovered from the bombardment and set up a deadly crossfire, leading to heavy casualties. Three battalions of Marines were in the first wave. Behind the first wave came the division headquarters party, led by Colonel Marshalls' replacement, Colonel David Shoup. He rallied the men, despite crossfire pinning the first wave down. The second wave followed, and over the entire day, made progress measured in feet per hour. By sunset, there were almost one thousand confirmed dead. The violence was so striking that military journalists and photographers tasked with documenting the battle stopped for a few minutes, out of shock.

Meanwhile, PFC Monick's 1st Battalion, had disembarked the transport ship and boarded a Higgins landing craft mid-morning of the 20th. Because of the fierce resistance and slow progress of the first two waves, they remained in the Higgins for about eighteen hours. At one point, 800 meals were handed out from patrol boats. The men were reportedly very thirsty and hungry but also very seasick.

Monick's 1st Battalion finally came ashore, with full packs, but waterlogged around 5pm on November 21st. Like the other landing parties, he waded through hundreds of yards of coral shoreline, against the still fierce Japanese machineguns. One of "B" Company's officers, 1st Lieutenant Dean Ladd was wounded by a gunshot to his belly while still wading in, and was guided back to a rescue boat by one of his men. Ladd later said: "if anybody is wounded you're not to stop, or everybody'd get killed."



The 2nd Division rehearsing at Efate, November 1943.

Some of the dead and wounded were carried back to the transport ships. Others floated away, and some washed ashore. By the third day of fighting the 4,700 Japanese defenders had fought nearly to the last man, with 17 captured. Nearly 1,700 marines were killed.

PFC Monick likely died on Betio, after surviving the landing. The 8th Regiment's Chaplain, Willard Wyeth, organized a temporary burial site and noted the location of Monick's burial site, among the others.

After the war, remains from Monick's burial site were taken to the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Hawai'i, aka the "Punchbowl" where they remain, unidentified. In the few intervening years, paper and other markers buried with each Marine disintegrated in the tropical climate of Betio. However, DNA tests of the unidentified remains at that Punchbowl indicate that four are likely Native American, and one of these is likely PFC Monick, who was Iroquois. Organizations such as Chief Rick Stone and Family Foundation and History Flight have worked for years to identify and repatriate such remains, so that family members can know the fate of their loved ones.

"B" Company Commander, Captain John Murdock wrote in a letter to Francis's eldest sister, Mary, that "the common enemy has found its betters in men like Francis, Miss Monick, and the sacrifice that he made will hasten the day when men may once again breathe the clear air of freedom."

- Community Events, November 2017 -

Wed Nov 8 Town Board Meeting, @ Town Offices, 6:30pm

Fri Nov 10 Veterans Day observed

Thanksgiving Crafts for Kids class, @ Lyme Free Library, 6:30pm

Sat Nov 11 All Saints Church Bazaar, 9am

Wed Nov 15 **Deadline for December Lyme Light**

Thurs Nov 16 Parent/Teacher conferences @ Lyme Central

Thurs Nov 22 **Thanksgiving**

Thurs Nov 29 Elementary Concert @ Lyme Central



Lyme Community Foundation
Post Office Box 601

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #10
Chaumont, NY 13622

ECR Postal Customer
Resident
THREE MILE BAY, NY 13693