

INTERVIEW WITH MARIAN DEUEL
Interviewed by Cynthia Goldstein

Compiled under the auspices of the
Henrietta Oral History Project

CONTENTS

Preface	i
Outline of Topics	ii
Oral History	1
Index	17

PREFACE

About the Henrietta Oral History Project

Oral history is a field of study pertaining to the collection of living people's voices and memories of their own experiences with people and communities in past events. Oral history gives one a sense of accomplishment; through oral history, we have a sense of catching and holding something valuable from the receding tide of the past.

In 1984, active Henrietta community resident Cynthia Goldstein set out to capture Henrietta's history from the perspective of individuals who had a long-standing relationship with the town. She met with and gathered the reflections of several notable people, including Don Cook, Marian Deuel, Esther Kroeger, Stephen McNall, and Ruth Van Ostrand. Her interviews were captured on audiocassette tape and then donated to the Henrietta Public Library to augment to the established collection of local history materials.

In 2007, staff at the Henrietta Public Library decided to give those voices and memories new life, by making them more readily accessible to the public. All oral history interviews were transcribed by our generous and hard-working volunteer Nan Porter, and the audiocassette tapes were transferred to a digital format by sound engineer Robert Howland.

For more information about local history resources and the Henrietta Oral History Project, contact the Henrietta Public Library at 359-7092.

May 2007

OUTLINE OF TOPICS

Marian Deuel's sentiments on living in Henrietta	1
History and development of the <i>14th Warder</i> , what became the <i>Henrietta Journal</i>	4-5
Early political and social organizations in the town of Henrietta during the 1950s mentioned in the <i>14th Warder</i>	5-9
<i>14th Warder</i> articles pertaining to the financing of water lines in Henrietta; the development of the public library and schools in Henrietta; public health issues affecting Henrietta residents; and, the opening of commercial establishments, including the Suburban Plaza	7-16

INTERVIEWEE: Marian Deuel
INTERVIEWER: Cynthia Goldstein
DATE: June 22, 1984

TAPE 1 SIDE 1

This is Cynthia Goldstein. I'm talking with Marian Deuel for the Henrietta Oral History Project. Today is Friday, June 22, 1984. Tape one, side one.

Cynthia Goldstein: Mrs. Deuel, on July 17, 1968 you wrote an editorial for the Henrietta Journal which you published and edited. You called it "Sesquicentennial Revised Memories". I wonder whether you'll read it to us.

Marian Deuel: I'll be, yes, I'll be very happy to do so. Because I think many people now living in Henrietta don't realize the way Henrietta was in 1968. And as a child I came out several summers to be with my aunt, Alice Abbott, on Chase Road. We had so many good times and it was such a different, uh, quieter life than we have today, that I had to write this:

"So much has been written and read lately about the early, mud stained, difficult beginnings of the town of Henrietta. And so much also has been chronicled as it happened during the past 13 years in your Journals, regarding the vigorous beginnings of new churches, schools, subdivisions, shopping plazas, organizations and so forth, that we thought you might enjoy still another phase of an earlier Henrietta, when the present Castle Road was Chase Road, and comfortable homes were widely spaced with wheat, oat, hay, alfalfa fields, and fruit orchards in-between. Those were the days when modern central heating had not yet come to the town, and one scampered from bed to stand by the parlor stove to dress in the morning. One had to turn and turn to keep both back and front warm enough. For a pampered city child in the eyes of the more sturdy country folk really felt the cold. There was a pipe which led from the parlor stove through the ceiling, to the bedroom above, but little heat ever reached there, and one depended upon the enormous feather bed and many blankets and hand-sewn quilts for warmth. But that was only in winter. The summer was quite a different matter. For one can hardly wait for school to close before leaving for the farm. Our uncle would meet us at the end of South Avenue car line, and if he were late we would wait in the hotel, later Guy Michaels, which is now gone, until we saw the shiny black Nelly, a gentle former racehorse gone blind, coming with the carriage and driver. This was a big moment for it meant many happy weeks for tree climbing, frogging, picking cherries, berries, apples and so forth, and according to our mother, running wild. And then, there were those wonderful plays we produced in the big barn with beautiful costumes, the baseball games with our girl cousin and seven brothers who lived down the road.

(Deuel)

“And the exciting manufacture of perfume from rose petals for sale to kindly neighbors who paid in pins, while we never did know what finally happened to the pins. And the big picnics with children and adults from far and wide, laughing and talking, playing games and exchanging the delicious dishes and homemade bread, pies and huge cakes. And the hours of pure contentment reading from the large library or playing the old horn phonograph, or the huge old Steinway and singing old fashioned songs and hymns. On Sunday, Nelly, who had been brushed and curried on Saturday before bath time, would take the whole family to church. She’d be stabled with the other horses in the church hitching shelter. And who can ever forget the delightful Peonies Sunday each year at Ridgeland. The old church building was burned long ago, but never do we see the peony bushes next to the lawn of the Stone Company but the heavenly scent-filled memories return. And the home at the north of the tracks there on East Henrietta Road. This was once a schoolhouse where the three R’s were rigorously taught and pupils went forth into the world, really knowing how to read and write and **spell**. The little old stove had to be well fed in cold weather, and it was the duty of the boys to keep the ashes out and the coal on and to clean the blackboards and floor. And woe betides anyone who sassed the teacher, or who had not prepared his or her lessons. Those unfortunates had to stay during the recess or the noon hour, or worse after school, as many had to walk several miles to reach the school it was really punishment to have to stay after school. Henrietta was a sleepy, comfortable town where there was no great wealth, but no one cared. For all lived satisfying lives. There were few stores nearby, and one of the more interesting events was the coming of a peddler, who brought his wagon full of such a variety of merchandise that everyone in the family could find things to purchase at a very nominal fee. As his visit took many hours to conclude, he was often invited to eat with the family. And many were the tales he related to the utter fascination of the children. Another major event was the coming of the thrishers, commonly called thrashers by us all. To a city child it was thrilling to watch the oats or wheat go down into the machine and the solid stream of cream oats or golden wheat come out, and to watch the careful building of the tall straw stack. Those were busy days for the women folk, for they had to bake for many days in preparation. Everyone helped his neighbors at threshing time, and while the work was hard, the men seemed to enjoy the companionship it brought and the huge dining table at which all hands ate was a merry one. On really warm days everyone would sit around with a big pitcher of blackberry vinegar or raspberry crush and just enjoy the gentle breezes through the huge trees which shaded the century-old home and the sloping lawn. Life was pleasant in those days. The roads were hard-packed dirt, and easy on the horses hooves. Animals played a very great part in the lives of the village residents, for they depended upon them for their wool, cut carefully and regularly; the beautiful cows which provided the families with milk and cream and butter; and the horses, so necessary for transportation and so beloved, were almost a part of the family. Even the dumb chickens were valued for their eggs and the Sunday dinner which never did taste so good anywhere else. Henrietta has progressed a long way since then, but we sometimes wonder whether life now is so much better than it was in the early days when we knew it here. Certainly the wash tub is no longer pulled into the kitchen to be filled with hot water from the well in the back of the old wood burning stove and from the rain barrel outside the door.

(Deuel)

“Yes, the gas units are a great improvement over the pot-bellied black heating monstrosity and electric lights a major boom for the housewife over the smoking oil lamps or smelly gas lights. The school bus definitely has saved many pairs of shoes yearly over the two mile hike. And the only question now is whether to buy butter or oleo, or not. And will the churned cream come soon? Do we realize these improvements are really just that? Would the kids be better if they had to walk our some of their energies and work out some of their complexes shoveling ashes, coal, snow and working the land? At least it would be something for them to do beside making public love in the plazas, smoking, drinking and tearing up people’s lawns. In those dim and almost forgotten days youngsters had time to play as well as work; to contemplate, to reason and learn. Now so much of a hodge-podge is pumped into their growing minds that not one of them can spell or do even the most simple arithmetic. And college students must take remedial reading courses. The little old red schoolhouse has given way to structures so large and so complicated that even the administrators do not quite know what to do with all the problems they present. And we are prone to forget that many of our wisest men and women had their early beginnings in those very same little one-room schools where strict obedience to the teacher also taught consideration and obedience to human and nature’s law. Cracking black walnuts, butternuts and chestnuts on the old anvil with a stone was lots more fun than buying a modern jar of perfect nuts. Carrying in a pail of foaming milk from the sweet scented barn more than the fully sterilized, homogenized, fat-removed bottle of blue-white fluid they call milk and pay too much for today. Take a gentle, pleasant ride on or behind blind, sensitive Nelly far more satisfying than racing along miles of modern macadam, trying to avoid being killed. And the family readings of good literature, the brain tickling games, the hide-and-go-seek and pussy-wants-a-corner played between the stately trees far more fun than the modern lewd and suggestive movies. Yes, Henrietta was a small and quiet hometown, but it gave its young time to grow, to think and reason within their own limits. They were not force-fed theories which led to riots, civil disobedience, sophistication and disregard for God, nor an abnormal sense of their own importance. Not that all of our youths are so today, but that is to the everlasting credit of their families, teachers, churches and themselves, when they are constantly made aware of evil on every hand. What is the future for Henrietta and her people? Master plans have been made and argued about. Town officials plan and work and seek to guide the growth wisely. This is no mean task in this rapidly growing town which had a population of 3,800 in the 50s, 17,000 in 1964 when the new Town Hall on Calkins Road was dedicated, and today sees more than 30,000 in population here. The officials, the firemen, legionnaires, VFW, churches and many others have worked long and with great dedication during those trying times. The newer residents in particular owe them much. This 1968 sesquicentennial has done much to bind neighbor to neighbor and all to the town image. And it has also served to make Henrietta’s citizens more mindful not only of her early beginnings, but of the fact that they must continue to work amicably together to provide an ever better place for them and their children’s children.”

Goldstein: That was very nice. You've really seen Henrietta from a very unique vantage point from its early beginnings. And I'm going to ask you a little bit about how you came to edit and publish the – uh, what's now known as the *Henrietta Journal*.

Deuel: 1947, when I lived on Pinnacle Road, just below Hillside Home for children, uh, a neighbor came over and wanted to know whether I would type a newspaper. They wanted to start a neighborhood newspaper because they were fighting Strongood Carlsons' placing its television station on Alliance Avenue. And I said, "Oh, yes I would," not realizing what I was gonna get in for. Well, that, we did keep the tower off Alliance Avenue, and they placed it on top of Pinnacle hill. And uh, then, uh we had the... our attorney had gotten into some trouble with the city and we were all called before a court and had to testify, uh, to what we were doing about criticizing the city because they weren't doing enough for crime – against crime. And um, so, the paper was stopped and I was very happy because I didn't care to get into any more controversy. So, it laid there for about a year...

Goldstein: What was the paper called at that time?

Deuel: That was called the *Pinnacle News*. It laid there for about a year and I said, "No, I never would start it again." So, finally about a year or so later – I had done a lot of Red Cross work – and I was made chairman of the first 14th Ward blood program. And, as my mother had died because we couldn't get the right kind of blood for her, I said alright, I would start the paper; a paper. So I star -

Goldstein: And what year was that?

Deuel: That was 1949. And on September 1, 1949 our first 14th *Warder* came out with big banner headlines; we were having a blood program. And my husband and I worked very hard on that. And um, I had no intention really of having a permanent paper. But they liked it and it kept growing and growing and growing. And uh, of course, the more it grew, the more exciting it was for me. And it finally reached the point where my printer could not print – that was a little 9 x 12 paper, and more of a magazine type. And, he could no longer print it on his presses, so he sent us to Bittner Press, and they brought out our first tabloid. On February 1, 1956, uh, I brought in the first tabloid with a banner headline "*Increased Service to the Community - New and large paper offers greater opportunities. We are pleased and proud to present you our new and large 14th Warder. We have always felt that the first duty of the paper large or small was to serve its readers. This Warder has always tried to do. Only the physical limitations of its pages have kept notices, appeals and other news and advertising from publication. Because of the interests and needs of our community that have grown so rapidly it has become very necessary that the Warder keep step with the changing times, so we have increased the space to take care of the increasing needs of the area.*"

Goldstein: What date was that?

Deuel: This was February 1, 1956. At this time, the paper had not only covered the 14th Ward, but the 13th and parts of Brighton, and I had heard that Henrietta was growing. And uh, I said to somebody, "How do I ever get to find out how to get to Henrietta for the ads and the news?" And somebody said, "Well, the supervisor is Don Cook." And I thought, "Oh, I know Don Cook!" So I called Don up, and I said, "Do you remember me?" And, "Oh, indeed I do." Because he had just been a senior in High School when my husband and I were married and bought our home on Hiding Road. So I went out to see Don and of course you know Don loves publicity. And he was very enthusiastically trying to build Henrietta. So I said, "Well Don, how about carrying some of your news items and maybe some ads?" He said, "That's fine." So, I think at first we just had a very few things. But I noticed here that I did have some ads for the Atman Heating at 2781 West Henrietta Road, The Garioga Restaurant, 2960 West Henrietta Road, Hicks Heating, which is still in business and put my new furnace in last year, 99 Norman Road, Smith's Restaurant, 3024 East Henrietta Road, the Ajax Junk, at 2996 West Henrietta Road, and Meisenzahl Dairy, 3660 West Henrietta Road, and in February. Then in September I had Southtown opening.

Goldstein: It's interesting to recall some of these early businesses that were located in Henrietta as the town was changing from a rural community to a suburb. A small town newspaper chronicles the events large and small which shape a community. And it's interesting to look back at some the early political and social organizations – it tells us a lot about life in the 50s and the seeds from which our town grew.

Deuel: October 1st, 1956: "Henrietta leader Fred Krenzer announced the appointment of 12 new committeemen, when the Republican organization met on September 24th. They will serve for one year. Then in District 5, it's Ethel Babcock, Evan Evans, George Plum, Robert Dewhirst. District 6 would be Ruth Little, Richard Ness, George Beachey, Floyd Warden. District 7, Marian Sweeting, John Girecky, Jack Baker, and Charles Moreland. Mr. Krenzer was unanimously re-endorsed for another term at Committee Chairman and Executive Committeemen. These appointments were made partially in answer to charges made that the newer residents of town lacked representation. Three committee members from districts other than the Suburban Heights' area who are newcomers to town include Robert Marathew, Kay Fralick, Dennis Young. Uh, all committee members named have lived in town less than 3 years and represent 15 of the 28 committee members. Committee Secretary was Gertrude Dunn and Treasurer Dean Schmink."

Also, I see that the "senior citizens of 50 years or more were invited to a Halloween party in the Civic Center. There was music, entertainment, refreshments and a fine time for all planned. Mr. Howard Stone was chairman of the dance committee. Senior citizen officers were Raymond Birmingham, President; Catherine Stone, Vice President; and Ray McLean, Secretary."

And then, later, "Henrietta's taxpayers approve the establishment of a town library by a 2 to 1 margin. Estimated cost to the town in 1960 would be \$8,000 to \$4,500 annually thereafter, according to Walter Campbell, chairman. It will be

(Deuel) housed in the Civic Center, 3030 East Henrietta Road at a monthly rental cost of \$35 to cover heating and utility costs. Trustees will be appointed to set up the library.”

December 4, 1956 “Suburban Heights received a long promised gift of \$18,000 toward the sewers now being installed in sections 1 and 2 of Henrietta’s once stormy Suburban Heights tract from the Development Corporation, Supervisor Don Cook announced. The money was pledged in September at the conclusion of an investigation by the FHA of complaints of poorly functioning septic systems there. The FHA said the money was meant for the installation of the legs hooking individual houses into section 1 to the street sewers. Section 2 was built with these lines in place. However, now Cook said, the money will be used toward the entire sewer job, since there is no legal way for the town to pay for improvements on private property. Although this leaves an extra burden on section 1 owners, a spokesman said they are reconciled to handling the money that way.”

December 18, 1956: “At an impressive ceremony at Rush Henrietta Central School Auditorium, 30 veterans of Rush, Henrietta and Honeoye Falls area were initiated into the VFW and their post, Rice-Hallick Post 5465, was formally activated. The Post meets the second Tuesday of each month. A membership drive is now being conducted.”

Goldstein: What other articles did you have in that December 18, 1956 issue?

Deuel: “The name of the Lutheran Church of Henrietta has been changed to Pinnacle Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod. While the church services are now held in the barn, land has been obtained on Pinnacle Road, Henrietta, and it is expected a new church will be built next year.”

Goldstein: The barn was then located on East Henrietta Road.

Deuel: Yes. “During the last two years, 24,000 in Monroe County saw the Humane Society’s live animal shows in schools and churches. 7,100 children from the Boy and Girl Scouts have visited the Humane Society shelter on West Henrietta Road. A committee has been formed to help Lollypop Farm to grow. The Farm Extension Committee has been busy preparing plans for additional houses; an 8 foot chain link fence will be erected around the six acres to contain baby deer, llamas, pigmy burrows, goats, black Persians lambs, ponies and other four footed friends so children can feed them. John Winright, a prominent architect, is planning the layout of Lollypop Farm extension. It is planned to begin grading and so forth within the month.”

Goldstein: The January 15th, 1957 issue of the *Warder* has an interesting article which contains information about the Town appointing a full-time nurse. Why don’t you read that one?

Deuel:

“According to Supervisor Don W. Cook a full-time nurse, Mrs. Virginia Oliver, who has served as part-time, and Mr. John A. Buyck, who previously served as attorney when his services just were needed, were both named to fill the new official office.”

Also in the January 15th issue, they stated that “a new bank, Genesee Valley Trust, had been opened in Southtown Plaza and Security Trust and new East Henrietta branch Lincoln Trust. Newspapers were named to print legal notices, as were the Rochester *Democrat and Chronicle*, the *Honeoye Falls Times* and the *14th Warder*.”

The January 15th issue, uh, carried uh the, not only the naming of the *Warder* as an official paper, but also an editorial which showed our feeling toward the wonderful town of Henrietta: “When the Henrietta Town Board met on January 2nd to inaugurate its members for the year, it also named official banks and newspapers. The *Warder’s* proud to have been named to print the legal notices for the Town of Henrietta. Surveys were made, questions asked of many residents of Henrietta, and when all possible information regarding the *Warder’s* coverage of this area was obtained it was found that this newspaper had given better coverage than other papers. Also, that many people here liked and read the *Warder*. We are pleased that this honor has come to the *Warder*, for we have worked very hard the past several years to give careful consideration to the southeast Rochester and south Brighton and Henrietta. We have felt that our entire southeast area is important and interesting, and many wonderful things are happening here; that the folks who live here are the best to be found anywhere. Folks here are keen to the duties and obligations required of good citizens and it has been thrilling to us to feel a surge of new life which has sprung up in all of the southeast area within the past few years. We talk of Henrietta as a boom town, just as they did of Brighton about 15 or 16 years ago. Both are fine towns, where officials and the people must work together for the common good. In neither town is there room for those who would ferment and stir up trouble. Their sense of fairness and good neighbor attitudes must work out problems which will arise amicably. America’s strong because there are little men, little business, and little towns all working together. One President Eisenhower, millions of ordinary citizens like us. One Eastman Kodak, millions of little business. One New York City, millions of small towns and villages; each one important to the whole. In the individual lies our greatness.”

Goldstein:

In that same January 15th, 1957 issue of the *Warder* in which that editorial appeared, there was an interesting article about how, uh, water lines were financed, uh, for some of the early suburban tracts. Why don’t you read that one?

Deuel:

“Residents of the Pinnacle/Calkins area met in Rush Henrietta School on January 10th, 1957 and chose a committee of six homeowners to meet with representatives of the J. P. Wilmot and the Town of Henrietta, to make final decisions regarding the purchase of water facilities from the Custom Manor Homes, Inc. They will meet on January 19th at 2:00 p.m. in the Town Hall. The

(Deuel)

firm states that existing water mains for which they are asking would be \$61,830 [but] actually cost the company \$74,195 to build, but to replace today would cost \$85,000. Cataldo Maggiulli, 45 Pinnacle Road, acted as chairman after Supervisor Don Cook suggested a resident be chosen to preside. James P. Wilmot and his attorney also were present. Before the Town can purchase the water line, which was installed two years ago by Custom Manor Homes, Inc., the residents must agree on the purchase then 51% of the residents of the area must sign the petition. The Town now has the borrowing power it didn't formerly have, so it will be able to float a loan to cover the cost. This purchase will save \$25 a year on their original bill and \$20 per year by reduced fire insurance rates."

Then, "the Rice-Hallick VFW Post dedicated an American and a VFW flag which were presented by Mr. Hallick of Rush, after whose son the Post was named. Five new members joined, so membership is now about 35."

Oh yes, and there are "Lions now in Henrietta – of the two-legged, charitable variety. Charlie Edwards announced a meeting at The Garioga on West Henrietta Road for January 8th. Presentation at the first meeting were leaders of state organizations and a fine representation of Henrietta businessmen and manufacturing representatives. The new Lions expect their charter in February."

Then, on March 12, 1957, the *Warder* announced that the "East Henrietta Post Office has moved back across the road to the store, once owned by the Country Store of Henrietta. Postmistress Mrs. Helen S. Finnegan and her helpers welcomed the larger space."

Goldstein:

What address was that? Was that on East Henrietta Road?

Deuel:

That was on East Henrietta Road. Also, March 26th, "two prospective land developers of Henrietta were confronted by irate residents when the Planning Board met on Tuesday, March 19th to review applications by Henrietta Homes Inc. and Joyce Homesteads, Inc. The main contentions of homeowners in Suburban Heights are those which adjoin much of the land on which the proposed homes would be built. That was that the new owners planned to subdivide the land into smaller building lots than the 100' requirements for a residential zone. The tract is on the north side of Calkins Road. It was originally bought from the owners who have no interest in the project now. The Joyce tract, south of Calkins, drew restrained objections, as many of the lots had only 95' of frontage. There were many speakers. After the hearings, the Board retired to weigh the evidence and ultimately reserved decisions."

April 16th issue told "Strasenburgh million-dollar plant was to rise on ground. The groundbreaking for an ultramodern plant along the Miracle line." (pauses)

Goldstein:

That was on Jefferson Road.

Deuel:

Yes, and would uh, the plot "on a ten acre plot and was set for June by Robert Strasenburgh and Edwin Strasenburgh." Now on April 30, 1957 we advertised the annual spring concert which would be given by the Rochester Civic Orchestra and sponsored by the Town of Henrietta through its Recreation Commission.

(Deuel)

“Thomas Hall and Hugh Lee, chairmen, were assisted by Henry Beck, Robert Miller and Jack King in preparing for the gala event. Proceeds were to go the Henrietta Boys and Girls Scouts Camping Fund. A large committee also assisted. General Chairman, John Buyck, assisted by an enormous list of workers were helping to make the annual Community Chest Red Cross drive a success.

END OF SIDE 1

TAPE 1 SIDE 2

Goldstein:

In the April 30, 1957 issue of the *Warder*, I see an interesting article about breaking ground for Good Shepherd Church parochial school.

Deuel:

“Pledges of \$230,363 were reported in the drive for funds for a parochial school. The Rev. George Vogt, pastor of Good Shepherd Church, Henrietta, and St. Joseph’s Church in Rush, announced the ground would be broken before summer on East Henrietta Road for an eight classroom school and attached auditorium. Completion is planned for September 1958.”

May 14, 1957: “The annual Henrietta Memorial Day Parade on Sunday, May 26th would form at 2:00 p.m. at the Castle Company, East Henrietta Road and travel south to the Monroe County Fairgrounds, where the American Legion and VFW Post would conduct a memorial service. There would be 19 organizations in line, a band and color guard units. Any other organizations wishing to participate should contact Jack King of the Recreation Commission or Mrs. Verna Howland. Committee members were Tom Hall, Chairman, Henry Beck, Robert Miller, John King and Hugh Lee. When the newly formed Henrietta Lions received their charter on May 6, 1957 at The Garioga, William G. Kennedy of Avoca, District Governor of the Lions International, presented the charter to the club president, Mr. David Dalrymple, a Rochester attorney. Mr. Charles Evans emceed the festive occasion. The club meets each second and fourth Tuesday.”

The July 9th issue stated the “Democratic Women’s Club of Henrietta was sponsoring a fresh air kids program in the Henrietta area at 10 a.m. July 17th at Canfield Woods at Mendon Ponds. Cam Wintercorn and Ruth Smith were co-chairmen and invited all sponsoring families, as well as members of the club, to attend with their families. Treats, games and prizes would be provided. Next meeting would be August 13th at the Town Hall on Erie Station Road.” July 9th was the “31st consecutive year the American Legion would sponsor the junior baseball here. A schedule of many games for the Ely-Fagan Post was given.” On July 23, 1957 the *Warder* stated the “Ely-Fagan American Legion Post installed new officers in the Henrietta #1 Fire House as follows: William Day, Commander, Chester Keney, Adjunct, James Finnegan, Treasurer, Ephraim McHargue, Sergeant at Arms, and Franklin Miller, Commander.”

Goldstein:

July 23, 1957 issue also has an article about a rather historic and precedent setting school board election.

Deuel:

In this same issue “Mrs. John Van Ostrand of 348 Pinnacle Road was elected the fifth member of the board at the annual Rush-Henrietta District School Board meeting. She was the district’s first woman member. The annual budget of \$1,389,750 was voted on and accepted. Mrs. Van Ostrand, a former three-year teacher, is a member of many local organizations.”

August 6, 1957 the “Pinnacle Lutheran Church broke ground for the very first Suburban Heights church on Sunday, August 11th at Pinnacle and Stone Roads. Mr. Albert Deily and Mr. Charles Payne are co-chairmen of the building committee. The congregation purchased 3 acres of land last July and the Rev. Delbert Tiemann states that approval has been given to proceed with the new church by the Eastern Mission Board of the Eastern District of the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod. The church members had been meeting in the barn on West Henrietta Road, with an average of 70 adults and more children weekly. The new building will have a seating capacity of 200 with a full basement for Sunday school and church society’s work. Plans for completion of the building are expected to be up November 1st of this year.”

Now on September 4, 1957 “according to the latest figures from the Department of Commerce, Washington D.C., the population of the Town of Henrietta as of April 1st is listed as 8,147 residents with 4,115 males and 4,032 females. The September 17, 1957 *Warder* of the same year had a heading ‘Everyone in Henrietta must Reregister in October to Vote in November.’ A house-to-house canvas will take place September 26th from 6 to 9:30 p.m. by the combined efforts of both Democrat and Republican members of each club. Information regarding registration and voting places will be distributed throughout the area. Henrietta had four [?] places but now there are seven. Twenty-one women from each club will be assigned a district to cover and pass out the vital information necessary to know where each person should vote, and to what district they have been assigned. In capitals they ask: PLEASE LEAVE YOUR LIGHT ON FOR US.”

By September 25, 1957 “Henrietta had fixed rules for new subdivisions and Town Attorney John Buyck was instructed to draft an ordinance governing the operation of the Town Dump in Lehigh Station Road. As envisioned, the law would regulate the method of dumping and permissible kinds of rubbish, and also provide for licensing arrangement which would restrict the dump for the benefit of Henrietta residents. Also, an ordinance for restricting the location of new gasoline stations was referred to the Planning Board and the number of feet from places of public assembly. The requirement for drainage district formation as a condition to a subvisital approval was scheduled for action at the Saturday meeting.”

“By October 1st the resolution was approved by the Citizens’ Committee for a library in Henrietta”- now this is in ’57-. It read: “Be it resolved that 1) the Town of Henrietta establish a public library and raise money by tax to equip and maintain this library in accordance with Section 255 of the Educational Law of New York State. 2) The town appoint five residents of the Town of Henrietta who are interested in providing public library service to the town, as trustees of

(Deuel) the public library; to serve without compensation and that said trustees apply to the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York for a charter, and to the Board of Trustees of Monroe County Library System for admission to that system which provides services and cash payments to its member libraries. Members of the Citizen's Committee are Mrs. Walter Campbell, Chairman, Robert Kugler, Vice President, Mrs. Bailey Burritt, Secretary. Bailey Burritt, Mrs. Foster Broadbent, Walter Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Case, Mrs. John Doyle, Wilton Griffiths, Vincent Hagggett, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Hempelmann, Mrs. Arthur Kalsbeck, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kane, Charles Kinyon, Mrs. Robert Kugler, Robert McClelland, Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence O'Dell, Mr. and Mrs. Hyam Plutzik, [Mr. and Mrs. William] Sherwood, George Simmons, [Mr. and Mrs. John Van Ostrand, Mrs. John Wenrich, and Mrs. J.B. Woodruff." Then: "A legal notice was given for a special town election on the 14th of October for the creation and establishment of a public library in the Town of Henrietta; and to expend, not to exceed a sum of \$8,000 and expend annually thereafter a sum of money not to exceed \$4,500, said monies to be raised by general town taxes."

Same October 1st, the *Warder* told of the "Henrietta Community Civic Center fall program which opened the past Friday and offered trampoline, archery instruction, soft and touch football, dodge ball, pool, shuffleboard, ping pong and tumbling. Afternoon sessions were from 3 to 5 p.m., Saturdays 1 to 4 with evening programs 7 to 10 p.m. and Saturdays 7 to 11 p.m. The Civic Center is sponsoring Small Fry Football. Later in the fall it is planned to offer golf instruction again, as it was well received last year. There were still a few open spaces for clubs to hold their meeting."

Goldstein: I see in the October 29, 1957 issue you reported the results of the library vote. How did it go?

Deuel: "Henrietta's taxpayers approved the establishment of a town library by a 2 to 1 margin. Estimated cost to the town in 1960 would be \$8,000 and \$4,500 annually thereafter according to Walter Campbell, Chairman. It will be housed in the Civic Center, 3030 East Henrietta Road at a monthly rental cost of \$35 to cover heating and utility costs. Trustees will be appointed to set up the committee."

Goldstein: The November 12th issue you have an interesting article about a public health committee that was available to residents of the town.

Deuel: "A public health committee of the town announced that health services available to town residents. Town taxes have paid for this. Miss Jeanne Hills, town nurse, said they also maintain a cupboard in the Town Hall. Any Henrietta resident may borrow equipment which is sufficient to set up a hospital room. [?] encourages any town resident who has discarded white material to contact Mrs. Lapedes, chairman of the committee, for use in this new service to residents. By December 10, 1957 it was obvious that a trained librarian was needed because of the large room at the Civic Center which houses Henrietta's first library, according to Harold Hacker, Monroe County Library System Director. He and his staff will prepare a layout to guide in the preparation of a room. The Town

(Deuel)

Board is eager to receive applications for the 18 hour position of librarian. It is hoped to open the new library in January. There are 670 books on order and a local drive for book donations will soon take place.”

In the January 28th issue the *Warder* claimed that it seemed to be a time of firsts. “The new Auxiliary of the newly formed Rice-Hallick Post 5465 had been formally installed on second of December, 1957 and had received its charter, showing the required number of 16 members. Elected were: Mrs. Ruth Madison, President, Mrs. Mary Schaffer, Vice President, Mrs. Ethel Babcock, Secretary, Mrs. Joyce Hendricks, Treasurer; and all the women who were eligible invited to join the Post. They must be wives, widows or mothers of veterans, or children or legally adopted children of veterans. Also, members of city or out-of-town Posts might transfer from their previous posts. The first organizational meeting was held on January 21st, while the next; to which all prospective members were invited, would be held February 11th. Annual dues were \$5, for which members would be able to attend many worthy civic projects being planned for the year. Then William Zornow, Collector for the Town of Henrietta announced in the January 28th issue of 1958 the legal notice that he had received the tax role and warrant for the collection of taxes for the present year of 1958. And he gave the news that the Town Office on Erie Station Road would be open. Also that fees were: January without fees, February 1%, March 2%, April 3%, and May 4%. The Town Board has approved a sewer and water plans for Amar Division, which would contain about 35 homes. It would be off the south side of Jefferson Road, east of Edgewood Avenue, and would be developed by Amar Homes, Inc.” The same January 28, 1958 *Warder* carried two large legal notices which defined the “receipts and disbursements of 1957 as follows: balance 1957 was \$268,770.07. Receipts: \$1,459,095.98. Disbursements: \$1,463,848.63. Balances on hand December 31, 1957: \$264,017.42. They lost \$4,753.65 for the year.”

Still in the 28th *Warder* was an announcement of “the employment of Robert H. Wendt as Town Attorney with the privilege of hiring Lewis H. Case, at his own expense, as Counsel to the Planning and Zoning Board. Wendt was named to the \$6,500 annual post left vacant by John H. Buyck on January 2, 1958. The reason for hiring Case to advise the Planning and Zoning Boards stemmed from the fact that Wendt is also attorney for the Rush-Henrietta School District, whose Trustees often meet at the same time. Besides becoming the Town’s Legal Adviser, Wendt will also handle work for special improvement districts, with additional pay. The districts will reimburse the Town for such services according to practice followed since the Town Attorney’s Office was created a year ago. Wendt lives on Lehigh Station Road, Henrietta. His Law Office is in the Powers Building. Case is a member of the Law Firm of Warren, Case, Weingartner and York, and he resides at 3495 East Henrietta Road.”

The February 11, 1958 *Warder* said, “Henrietta residents respond to plea for library books with over 700 books for their first public library during the week-long book drive. The drive was sponsored by the Henrietta Library Board of Trustees, according to Mrs. Walter Campbell, Board President. Although the drive ended officially on January 18, books are still coming in and will continue to be welcome. The first task was to weed through and process the

(Deuel)

donations, which will augment the basic collection of approximately 700 volumes which the library is buying. Gift books from other Monroe County Library systems and a sizeable loan from the state to help swell the total available for circulation. To store the collection loan shelving has been moved into the newly refurbished room in the Civic Center on East Henrietta Road, which will house the library. A record collection for children and adults is also being planned.”

“February 25, 1958 saw the opening of Sibley’s fourth branch in Southtown Plaza, with living mannequins displaying the latest fashions, soft music by Sil Lovelli’s ensemble for entertainment, and Eddie Meath of WHEC as master of ceremonies. There was also a hearty Henrietta welcome by Supervisor Don Cook.”

The same February 25th issue of the *Warder* carried my editorial entitled *Snow, Snow, Beautiful Snow, but Oh My Aching Muscles*: “Day after day the snowstorm blew. It quite obscured our roadway, and Whittier’s lines that once were old became indeed our reality: The mailman brave, the milkman too, the snowplows and paper boys with help performed their weary tasks on time, while life stood still and some were snug within. Our bucking Chevy wound its way to empty stores and worried merchants, while schoolboys drove their mothers wild in homes too small for boundless energies. Oh yes, we dearly love the snow. It’s clean and white and glistening. But, come July, we won’t complain, ‘We’ve had it brother!’”

On March 25, 1958 the *Warder* noted that Friday the 28th would be the last for sewer petitions and asked, “Have you signed the petition being circulated in Henrietta for the sanitary sewer, which accepted, will service nearly 1,500 acres of the central portion of the town? If you have not signed, they suggest you call the Town Hall. The proposed sewer and extension of the trunk line in Sewer District #1 is an enlarged version of a sewer ok’d, which was urged by residents of East Henrietta hamlet two months ago. If approved by the residents and installed, the project would make sanitary sewer facilities available to Good Shepherd School in East Henrietta Road, now in the process of construction. Also, the trunk line would have a beneficial effect on the Henrietta Central School. William M. Thompson, Jr., School Board President explained that the trunk sewer would make it easier to build an addition to the main school building in East Henrietta Road at some future date. The school now relies on septic tanks and we would not want to tax the existing tanks with too big an addition, Thompson pointed out. The petitions will call for construction of a trunk sewer line only. Once the trunk line is installed it will be easier for groups seeking sewer services to circulate petitions for lateral sewers to serve their homes and tie into the big trunk line. Cost of the trunk line project has been estimated between \$350,000 and \$400,000 and Supervisor Don Cook said more precise estimates will be known when the petitions are prepared. The trunk sewer would be constructed from Jefferson Road, south across vacant land to the vicinity of East Henrietta Road at Garden Parkway. Town officials estimate the trunk line will cost about \$6 a home, per year, and \$12 an acre per year for farmland. Everyone in the area to be served by the trunk line would be accessed for it, Wendt explained. Separate petitions would be required to provide sewer facilities to

(Deuel)

individual homes. Cook said, 'It may be possible to have the trunk line operating this year if the petition forms are signed promptly, and necessary approval of state agencies is obtained quickly.' Concentrations of homes in East Henrietta, along East Henrietta Road, Garden Parkway and Calkins Road, and streets in between these points would be served by the trunk line."

"Dr. Phillip Winslow, acting Health Officer for the Town of Henrietta, announced an Immunization Clinic at William Gillette School, on 10 Groton Parkway, March 27, 1958 at 9:38 a.m. All children between the ages of 3 months and 5 years can receive immunization against smallpox, diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough. Booster shots will be given to children who have had the initial shots four or more years ago."

And in great big capitals at this same time: "HENRIETTA LIBRARY OPENED. Approximately 1,500 books are now available to Henrietta residents and will be given out on a record loan basis. The Board members have been very busy with the hundreds of details necessary to make Henrietta's Town Library one which will be of real service. An official Open House was held on March 22, 1958 with Supervisor Don Cook officiating and a brief ceremony followed by refreshments and a pleasant time for all, according to the report."

The April 1, 1958 issue of the *Warder* had a card of the Board of Trustees of the Henrietta Public Library to thank all of those who had helped in any way to make their open house such a success. Also in this issue the paper had a legal notice which it was noted to the owners of dogs that they must get their licenses before April 15, 1958. After that date, owners not complying with the law were subject to a \$10 fine."

Goldstein:

1958 was the year in which the Rush Henrietta School District realized that they would be needing schools, although I'm not sure that at that time they could have foreseen the tremendous population explosion and the numbers of children who would need to be educated in Henrietta. Why don't you read the article in your April 1, 1958 *Warder* which tells us about a vote that's going to be held to allow the school district to purchase property.

Deuel:

"School plans have been ok'd by Rush Henrietta for the construction of a \$1,250,000 elementary building at Pinnacle and Lehigh Station Roads. It was scheduled for completion by September 1959 as a result of voting on March 26 by residents of the Rush Henrietta Central School District. Results were: 862 yes and 698 no, with 17 void votes plus many eligible who did not vote. This bond issue" - they passed it anyway. "This bond issue will help to buy the land, consisting of 50 acres at Pinnacle and Lehigh Station Roads. The site contains enough acreage for another future building. This elementary school in the latest voting is the first step in the School Board's three-point program. Others include enlargement of the main building on East Henrietta Road and the modernization of the West Henrietta building. These will be presented for voting when necessary studies and state approvals are obtained."

(Deuel)

The April 1, 1958 *Warder* stated that “Ray Feasel had ended 40 years of carrying the mail to Henrietta homes on March 31. Mr. Raymond Feasel of 1360 Lehigh Station Road had been recommended by the National Safety Council for his safe driving. He has averaged 20,000 miles a year during each of his 40 years. Mr. and Mrs. Feasel have a son, Raymond Jr., a senior at Rush Henrietta Central School and their daughter, Virginia, teaches in Ontario.”

“A full house was the hope and objective of a committee for the 3rd Annual Pop Concert to be held May 3, 1958 in Rush Henrietta School with Dr. Paul White conducting,” according to the April 15th *Warder*. Also, of special interest to area folk was the fact that “four members of the orchestra were Henrietta residents. They were Milan Yanovitch, horn, Stanley Hasty, clarinet, Ralph Razzi, violin, and Dr. White, the conductor. Arrangement Committee for the concert included Don M. Cook, Jack Barker, Mr. and Mrs. McCrystal, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Vولو, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Swan, John Parker, Jerry Flynn, Mrs. Verna Rowland, Lewis Case and Gene Gillis. General Chairman of the ticket committee was William Williams, with William Farrell, Chairman of Student Tickets. The concert was given for the benefit of the Henrietta Community Civic Center.”

The April 15, 1958 issue also noted that “the Town had approved an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance, permitting golf courses to be built in residential zones in town. This will permit the construction of an 18-hole course on the north side of Erie Station Road diagonally across the street from the Town Hall.”

“Are you an angel? The Henrietta Board of Trustees is convinced that Henrietta’s swarming with angels, according to an announcement made today by its president, Mrs. Walter Campbell, who stated that all items requested by the Board for the new library had been donated by various residents. Mrs. Campbell had reference to the poster on display in the library since its opening, which declared, ‘We’re looking for some angels who will pay for ...’ and then there followed a list of articles needed by the library but which had not been included in the budget. Members of the heavenly band and their gifts included: Dr. and Mrs. Hempelmann, magazine rack, Schminck Insurance Agency, bookmarks, Dr. and Mrs. Harry Fulbright, a doormat, Mr. and Mrs. Irving Lapides, a folding door, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Case, cherry wood and its finishing for a dictionary stand to be built by Bailey Burritt. Mrs. Campbell said all the Board, and all who use the library are deeply grateful. She added that a new poster will soon be up which will list the celestial sect and perhaps also the means whereby other residents may obtain this angelic status.”

Now Henrietta’s second shopping center in the Suburban Plaza on East Henrietta Road was announced in the April 22, 1958 *Warder*. It opened with “nine individual stores and a bank to serve shoppers near the Monroe County Fairgrounds. It is within walking distance, or a short distance if driving, from suburban homes surrounding. It is the only shopping center between East Henrietta Road and the Twelve Corners. It was planned and developed by Wilmorite, Inc., who expected that expansion will eventually complete the 30 acres of property there. It has parking for 2,000 cars and Michael DeAngelis was the architect.”

(Deuel)

And, the April 29th issue carried a two page spread advertising the opening of Suburban Plaza, East Henrietta Road. Besides a large artist's drawing of the plaza stores, it included a location map, four contractors' ads, and a list of 10 opening stores and soon to open offices and business concerns.

The May 13, 1958 *Warder* told readers "Grand Marshall Ephraim McHargue would lead a colorful troop of marching units in Henrietta's annual Memorial Day Parade, as it marches past the reviewing stand on Sunday afternoon, May 25th. It will be in formation at 2:00 p.m. at Suburban Plaza, with the Rice-Hallick Post 5465 Veterans of Foreign Wars leading the memorial services at the Fairgrounds. They will be followed by 30 organizations which were named. The parade was sponsored by the Henrietta Recreation Commission and was conducted by a special committee representing veterans and civic organizations. The civil defense police were in charge of the parade formation and parking." Editorial note: it was a magnificent parade.

Goldstein:

So with the opening of Suburban Plaza in April of 1958 which changed the complexion of this area of Henrietta and with the Memorial Day Parade of that year, which is an annual event even to this day, we'll end tape one of the chronicles of Marian Deuel, former editor and publisher of the *Henrietta Journal*. This is Cynthia Goldstein.

INDEX

- 14th Warder*
advertisements in 5
coverage of Henrietta, NY 5
first issue 4
legal notices, printing of 7
- Abbott, Alice (aunt) 1
Ajax Junk 5
Atman Heating 5
- Babcock, Ethel 5
Baker, Jack 5
Beachey, George 5
Beck, Henry 9
Birmingham, Raymond 5
Bittner Press 4
Buyck, John 7, 9, 10
- Campbell, Walter 5, 11
Case, Lewis H. 12
Cook, Don 5
Custom Manor Homes, Inc. 7-8
- Dalrymple, David 9
Day, William 9
Democratic Women's Club of Henrietta 9
Deuel, Marian
role in editing and publishing newspapers 4
sentiments on growth of Henrietta, NY 1-3
Dewhirst, Robert 5
Dunn, Gertrude 5
- Ely-Fagan American Legion Post 9
Evans, Evan 5
- Feasel, Ray 15
Finnegan, Helen S. 8
Finnegan, James 9
Fralick, Kay 5
- Garioga, The 5
Girecky, John 5
Good Shepherd Church parochial school 9
- Hall, Thomas 9
Henrietta, NY, Town of
banks located in 7
health services provided by 11, 14
housing development in 8, 12
Memorial Day Parade 9
nurse, appointment of 6-7
ordinances, gasoline station 10
population 3, 10
Recreation Commission activities 8
tax roll 12
Henrietta Homes, Inc. 8
Hicks Heating 5
Howland, Verna 9
Humane Society 6
- Joyce Homestead, Inc. 8
- Keney, Chester 9
King, Jack 9
Krenzer, Fred 5
- Lee, Hugh 9
Library, Town of Henrietta
book drive 12-13
donations received 15
early history and development 5-6, 11-12, 14
members of Citizens' Committee 11
resolution 10-11
voting 11
Lions, Henrietta 9
Little, Ruth 5
Lollypop Farm expansion 6
- Maggiulli, Cataldo 8
Marathew, Robert 5
McHargue, Ephraim 9, 16
McLean, Ray 5
Meisenzahl Dairy 5
Memorial Day Parade, Town of Henrietta 9, 16
Miller, Franklin 9
Miller, Robert 9
Moreland, Charles 5
- Ness, Richard 5
newspapers
14th Warder, first issue 4
Marian Deuel's role in the development of 4
Pinnacle News 4
- Oliver, Virginia 7
- Payne, Charles 10
Pinnacle Lutheran Church 6
Plum, George 5
population, Town of Henrietta, NY 3
postal services 8
- religious institutions
Suburban Heights 10
Rice-Hallick Post 5465 6, 8, 11
members of 12
- schools 14
Good Shepherd parochial 9
Rush-Henrietta School Board election 10
sewer petition 13-14
Smith's Restaurant 5
Southtown Plaza 5, 12
Stone, Catherine 5
Stone, Howard 5
Strasenburgh plant 8
subdivisions, development of 8, 10

Suburban Heights
church 10
sewers in 6
Suburban Plaza 15-16
Sweeting, Marian 5

Tiemann, Reverend Delbert 10

Van Ostrand, Mrs. John 10
veterans 6, 8
Vogt, Reverend George 9
voting 10

Warden, Floyd 5
water lines, financing of 7-8
Wendt, Robert H. 12
Wilmot, J.P. 7

Young, Dennis 5