



NOW & THEN
 at the
LOCAL HISTORY MUSEUM & ARCHIVES
 (Downstairs at the STOCKBRIDGE LIBRARY)
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TALES OF CHRISTMAS

The Stockbridge Library, Museum & Archives presented *Tales of Christmas* at St. Paul's Episcopal Church on December 4. Volunteers in costume respective of their pieces entertained with seasonal stories for everyone's enjoyment. Readings ranged from *The Nutcracker*, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, *A Visit from St. Nicholas*, *A Christmas Carol* and much more.

They also participated in the Tuesday Club "Holiday Readings and Music" program which was presented on December 15.





HELEN PIGOTT
M&A VOLUNTEER, HONORED

Helen Pigott was born in Stockbridge where she lived her entire life. Helen loved the town and gave much to it. She served 16 years as Executive Secretary for the Town of Stockbridge. She also served in the capacity of volunteer for many organizations including the Glendale Auxiliary, Laurel Hill Assn., Chamber of Commerce (*Holiday house tours*), Talbot Swap Shop, the town’s Cemetery Committee, and the Stockbridge Library, Museum & Archives to name a few.



As volunteer at the Museum & Archives she was in charge of clippings (*cutting out articles and items of interest pertaining to Stockbridge for the M&A archival files*). Helen’s knowledge of the town was extensive. Because of this, she was the go-to person for information on the town and the people in it. As needs arose, she was the one you could call on to help or to provide that piece of information you required. Unfortunately, Helen had to curtail her volunteerism back in October due to ill health. Her help and caring will be dearly missed at the Museum & Archives.

On December 8th Barbara Allen, Curator, presented Helen with a “Volunteer” pin in appreciation of the many hours she had given to the Stockbridge Library, Museum & Archives (*pictured above right*). Sadly, Helen passed away on December 14th with her family by her side. Although she is gone, she will reside in the memories of all who knew her. I’m sure she is up there organizing things and being just as helpful as she was down here. For people like Helen there is always a place that needs her special talents.

CORRECTION

In the November 2015 issue 41 on page 2 it was stated that “Masters was a gardener for Henry Ivison Parsons of Bonnie Brae, Prospect Hill Road.”

At the time Masters worked for Parsons, he lived at 6 Glendale Road. He hadn’t moved to Prospect Hill Road at that time.

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

The very popular *Behind Closed Doors* program will be back again this year. It is still in the planning stages at this time. It will start on February 3 (Wednesday) at 6:30 p.m. at the Stockbridge Congregational Church. Watch for more information on it next month.

HARNEY & SONS – TEA TALK & TASTING

January 27, 2015 at 6 p.m.

Mike Harney and associates from Harney & Sons Tea Company of Millertown, NY will share the story of tea, demonstrate the correct way to brew the beverage and offer tastes of several different kinds. Join us for a cuppa.

RENOVATION UPDATE

Different parts of the renovation project are reaching final stages. The path to the back entrance has been poured (*pictured right*). Pieces from the Library’s former front steps have been refashioned to serve as tables and benches on Rosie’s Walk (*pictured below*). Walls in the new, second floor reading room that used to be an attic are going up (*pictured right*).



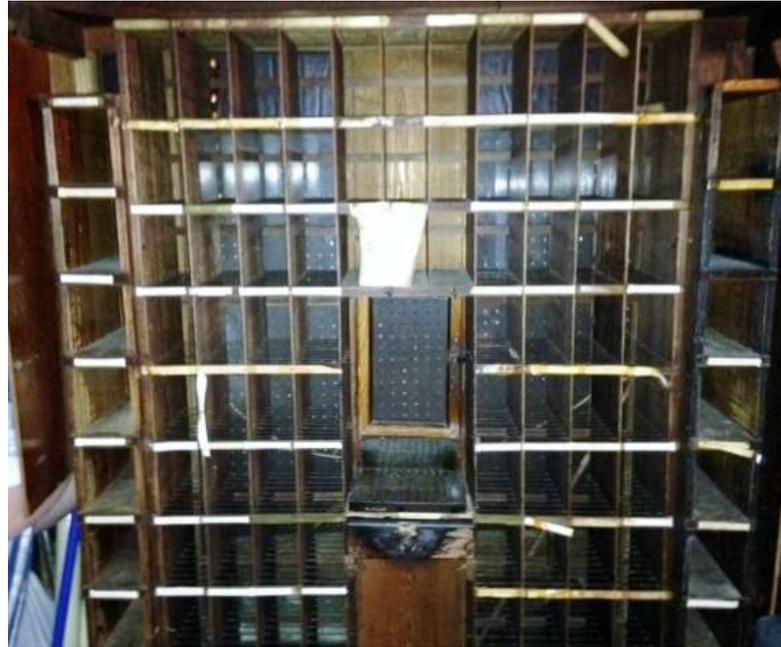
GLENDALE POST OFFICE

By Joshua Hall

In 1851 a post office opened in the Glendale section of Stockbridge. At that time the Glendale Woolen Mill, owned and operated by the Honorable John Z. Goodrich, provided numerous jobs for the residents of the village. The post office was housed in the company store which was built some 15 years earlier of locally fired bricks. The post office and store quickly became the center of life for village residents. In the early years the company-appointed proprietor of the store seems to have held the position of postmaster beginning with John H. Strong. Following his tenure it passed to Charles Goodrich and then to Franklin W. Adams. When the woolen mill began to falter in the late 1880s, the store and position of postmaster was transferred to Sanford A. Cook, a merchant from North Adams who had relocated his family to Glendale.

After the death of Sanford A. Cook in 1923, the store was sold again. This time it was sold to Peter I. Adams, Sr., who became the proprietor of the store and postmaster. The position of postmaster in the village of Glendale has stayed in the family ever since. In 1931 his daughter, Helen A. Miller, became postmaster. She held the position until she retired in 1966 after 35 years. In 1958 Helen A. Miller oversaw the move of the post office from the Glendale Store to her newly constructed home, just down the street. When the post office moved to its new location, the post office boxes (pictured right and below) moved with it.

"Ma" Miller, as she was known in the village, was succeeded by her daughter-in-law, Dorothea A. Miller, who served as postmaster for 34 years retiring in 1992. In 1990 there was the possibility of the post office closing due to the need to settle the estate of Helen A. Miller, but the villagers of Glendale were able to save their post office. The fourth generation to work at the Glendale Post Office is Lois A. Hall, the great granddaughter of Peter I. Adams.



Although many changes have occurred in the Glendale post office, one thing has not. It still remains the center of village life. The mailboxes that were brought from the Glendale Store in 1957 to the new site have been found along with other items, all of which will be donated to the Museum & Archives by the family.



MUSEUM & ARCHIVES - TEMPORARY HOURS DURING RENOVATION PROJECT

The M&A office and display area has relocated to 14 Main Street in the Merwin House.

The display area of selected items is open to the public on Fridays and Saturdays from 10-1.

For research or donations, please contact Curator Barbara Allen at 298-4703 to make an appointment. *(If you need to contact the Library, call 298-5501)*