

Historian's Report, May 2026

Public Celebrations: The annual Aurora Ledyard Memorial Day Observance was held on May 30th, at St. Patrick's Cemetery, with the honor guard commanded by Kevin Murphy from American Legion Post 1107, along with Mayor Janet Murphy, Fr. Bill Moorby, and myself. Some of those attending observed an eagle flying overhead during the brief ceremony.

"America 250": I am assisting with preparations by ALHS for the upcoming July 4 Reading of the Declaration of Independence at the Ledyard Town Hall at 11 a.m. Following this event, and also on Sunday July 5, The Press of Robert LoMascolo will again be hosting a printing event at his studio on Moonshine Rd. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Display: The new display in Patrick Tavern, "Our Home: How We Saw It," opened with a reception on Friday June 5th. This display of works drawn from the Village of Aurora Archives and private collections enables the viewer to explore what scenes meant "home" through the eyes of earlier generations, including those depicted on the Bicentennial Quilt and in a special corner on "The College Home." June hours for the self-guided exhibit are every Tuesday, 4:30-6:00 p.m. and alternate Saturdays June 13 and 27 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Special thanks to The Cayuga Museum of History and Art for permission to display images of two maps drawn by archaeologist Harrison Follett in the 1940s: one of the journeys of the Moravian missionaries through Central NY (see the Village Newsletter of April 2026) and the other compiling the archaeological results then known into a map of successive Cayuga village occupancy 1550-1800.

Queries: On June 12-14 I am hosting visiting scholar Jane Oakes, working with the Leffingwell Collection of the Village Archives. Her program on the connection between Clara Barton and Dr. Albert Leffingwell is taking place at Opendore on June 14. The new display (see above) has already elicited several queries; views of E. B. Morgan's properties will rotate into this progressive display during the summer.

Research and Publication in Press: Part 1 of "Paine's Creek: The Man Behind the Name," covering Edward Paine's Revolutionary War service through his role with the Little Lessee Company and arrival in Aurora, will appear in the upcoming issue of *The Southern Cayuga Tribune*.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Schwab, PhD
Village Historian