

Andover's Town Seal

We tend to disagree with the decision by the majority of the selectmen who have refused to allow the town seal to be placed on a pewter plate to be sold by a local merchant.

Our reasoning is not based on support of the local businessman, necessarily, but more on the thought that denial prohibits the obtaining of something particular to Andover during this bicentennial period.

Austin E. Anderson, owner of the Andover Gift House, had asked permission of the board to use the seal on a pewter plate to be offered for general sale.

The selectmen, Monday night, with only Mrs. Janet Lake in favor of the request, felt that the seal should not be applied to a profit making venture.

Mrs. Lake had lent her support to the use of the seal by the bicentennial commission for use in coins and on a quilt. She likewise moved to allow Mr. Anderson to employ the seal. Selectman George E. Heseltine was absent at Monday's session.

Use of the seal is not an arbitrary license to employ its use in anything other than a creditable memento of Andover.

Such a plate would have historic value, more than likely be in the category of a collector's item. We assume that natives of the community, now residents in other parts of the country, would value such an item as a memoir of their personal lives in Andover.

Andover's seal is unique, in that it contains a story of its founding, through the Indian, the coat and 24 pounds, for which the area was purchased back in 1646.

But its uniqueness does not make it hallowed.

Frankly, if the Great Seal of the United States of America can be portrayed on all sorts of souvenir items, we can't understand why Andover's town seal can't be stamped on a valuable pewter plate.

We remain hopeful that the selectmen will reconsider.

Some Thoughts To Ponder

As we head for the first long weekend of the impending vacation season, we offer some thoughts to ponder thusly:

Memorial Day: Monday is a day set aside to pay tribute to the sacrifices of thousands who have insured our freedoms.

As late as a week ago, young Americans died to uphold the principles established 200 years ago. The Mayaguez incident becomes a part of the American legacy which insures that men are willing to sacrifice to continue to keep this country strong and free.

The fall of Saigon recently signalled for the first time in almost 40 years that there was no active armed combat somewhere in the world.

Throughout those four decades, American fighting men have sacrificed supremely and gallantly.

Monday, Memorial Day, provides that opportunity for us, the living, to pay tribute, to pause, and take note of the price for which freedom continues to be our heritage.

It is a most fitting opportunity to join in the services conducted by the community and veterans organizations to join in this tribute.

Safety: As mentioned previously, this is a long holiday weekend, the first of the long summer season.

Needless to say the highways and resort areas could be jammed.

With safety uppermost in the minds of holiday weekenders, the slight respite can prove to be enjoyable.

The Recycling Auction: Monday night the selectmen were presented a check for \$1,884, the proceeds from the annual town recycling auction held at Recreation Park.

The funds are the result of considerable dedicated

work mostly by members of Andover's League of Women Voters who have been the prime movers in the recycling activity.

For the better part of a year, the committee has been working on gathering of materials and working with students in providing repairs for items to be offered at auction.

Their efforts have been fruitful for the town and the auction itself provided a good time for all.

We applaud their efforts.

Blood Pressure Check: While in the process of tossing bouquets, we'll hand one to the Andover Board of Health and the Andover Visiting Nurses Association.

For the past few Fridays and continuing through the end of this month the nurses have been providing free blood pressure checks in the lobby of the Andover Savings Bank and at the Shawsheen Plaza, from noon to 3 p.m.

It is a valuable service being provided to those who have taken the opportunity to take the few moments to have this life saving check.

High blood pressure is a silent, serious health problem. Detected early through a check on a Friday afternoon can be a most rewarding and life saving experience.

Pvt. Stevens Journal Of The Revolution

In this section of Pvt. James Steven's Revolutionary Journal, the Andover soldier recounts experiences from the battle of Chelsea, so called, brought about by the rescue of livestock that had been seized by the British.

Tuesday Ye 23: This morning I was relieved from gard about tin a'clock and did nothing the rest of the day.

Wednesday Ye 24: This morning I went to feteg. Fare weather and pleasant weather. We com hom to diner and then went to feteg at two a'clock. We workt while six and then we went hom and we draw our gyl of rum.

Thursday Ye 25: This morning I was cald on the man gard. We went to the town hous and sentry and fast I stod fore times. There was a soldier died a stranger to me.

Fryday Ye 26: This morning I was relieved of a gard about ten a'clock then went to Water-town to se the Canon and Boms. In the afternune preaded and then went to here prares.

Saturday Ye 27: This morning I was cald to feteg. We went and workd in the forenune. We come home to diner and there was a perty agoing of sumer but where I cant tel. We got redy to go and there come a expres that the regerlers was a landing some said at miskit but we marcht to miskit and then we herd that they was at Chelsy. We marcht very fast. We got down within a quarter of a mile of the fery and then halted and our ofisers went to look out to place the canon. They went round by the water while thay come in sight of the shoner when as son as the regerlers saw our men they fired on them. Then the firing began on both sides and fired very worm. There come a man and ordered us over a nol rit into the mouths of the canon. We got on top of the nol and the grap shot and canon bauls

come so thik that we retered back to the rode and then marcht down to the fery. The regerlers shouted very much. Our men got the canon and plast them and gave them tow or three guns sids and the firing set in some masure the there was a terribul cry amongst the regerlers. They fired wonc and a wile all night. About ten a'clock the schoner run on to the wais and stuk fast. There come a slup for hur relief. Thay left the sconur.

Sunday Ye 28: This morning a bout day they come with thare barjes to bord the sconer. Carnul Putnam (General Israel Putnam who was in command) com and ordered us down to the whoife and we fired so that thay retered back to the sloup. Our men run down and fired the sconer and it burnt very fast. The slup begun to (torn copy) In about three quarters of a our after it was sot on fire the magersene blod up and bold out some plunder. Thay fired from Nodles oiland on us sun about an our hy. We are retered to our packs and gout our brekfust. The slups drad of to Boston. There was of our men wounded fore and non cild. After the fier was gon down the men went and got out the plunder out of the rack (wreck). In the afternune there come down about fore hundred men to relieve us and there was of us about a hundred and twenty men of us. Tords night thay got tems and cared a lode of to Cambridge. We staid all night.

Munday Ye 30: This day we did but a litl al day. There was two funerrals. We her that our men tuk of a number of shep and hoses and son catl and we herd they that had alerum from Salem. (The alarm from Salaem was caused the appearance of three British vessels off the harbor entrance.)

Down the Years with The Townsman

75 Years Ago - May, 1900

At the selectmen's meeting this week, a hearing was held on the request of the Lowell, Lawrence and Haverhill and Andover street railways to lay tracks on Elm street to the North Andover line and on High street and the "old railroad" line.

The mercury ran up to 95 degrees Tuesday afternoon, a blistering temperature for this time of year.

At the meeting of the school committee this week, all school teachers were reappointed for the coming year, but several vacancies were determined necessary to be filled.

The Andover Village Improvement Society has a quantity of seeds which have been sent to them by gardeners or private individuals. They would be glad to give them to local persons interested in growing flowers this summer.

The town clerk has entered 109 dog licenses on the books as of this week, a much better meeting of the laws by residents than a year ago when only 37 were registered.

50 Years Ago - May, 1925

Andover's population passed the 10,000 mark with the recent state census. The increase to 10,269 residents, marks a 25 per cent rise in population since the federal census of five years ago.

Professor Charles H. Forbes of Phillips Academy will preside at the annual Lincoln Spelling Bee to be held tonight in town hall. All having reserved seats must be at the hall prior to 7:25.

Burton S. Flagg is at Washington, D.C. this week attending the directors' meeting of the National Reinsurance bureau. He will also attend the annual meeting of the National Chamber of Commerce.

Mrs. Mitchell Johnson of School street gave a bridge party for 60 guests Wednesday afternoon at the North Andover Country Club. Lilacs and tulips were used in the decorations.

Alan R. Blackmer of Oak Park, Illinois, has accepted an offer to coach the Phillips Academy basketball team next year. He is a graduate of Williams College.

25 Years Ago - May, 1950

Rev. and Mrs. Elton Smith are guests of Mrs. Everett Lundgren of Elm street during their visit from Oregon. Rev. Mr. Smith is former pastor of Andover Baptist church.

Rev. Matthew F. McDonald celebrates Mass for 106 First Communicants at St. Augustine's church.

The selectmen have written to the two state senators and local congressman protesting a bill which would create rent control.

The Liberty Bell was in town Friday as part of a nationwide tour of the country assisting in the Independence Savings Bond Drive.

Stanley Swanton was elected president of the Andover Service Club at the annual meeting this week. Harold Heseltine is first vice president; Edward A. Romeo, second vice president; James Mosher, secretary and Guy Howe, treasurer.

10 Years Ago - May, 1965

Donald E. Valle of Valle's Steak House, Portland, Maine, announces plans for a new restaurant and motel on Route 93 near River Road.

A spring trash pickup collection will be in operation next week by highway department crews.

James Murphy of the math department at the high school is elected president of the Andover Teachers Association succeeding Richard Neal.

James W. McLeod is elected president of the Merrimack Valley Chapter, National Association of Accountants.



Monday - N
Tuesday - sliced cheese punch, garden dar cheese sandwich and
Wednesday - roll, gible potates, but cranberry corn bread, whipped topp
Thursday - steamed all t England style old fashioned sup, mustard butter, che whipped topp
Friday - b chicken wit creamy whipp corn kernels bread and applesauce ci

Senio

Monday - N
Tuesday - baked import sauce, sweet green peas, r cream and cl
Wednesday - punch, roast with gible potates, but cranberry sa nbread, strav choice of bev
Thursday - cod fish cal style over fashioned cal mustard, reli cherry jello and choice of
Friday - b chicken wit creamy whipp corn kernels rolls and applesauce c beverage.



To the F
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