

# Town of Minisink Museum

Volume 11, Issue 1

September 2012

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**MUSEUM**

**BUILT 1992**

**OPEN TUESDAY 10 AM - NOON**

**No Admission**

**Donations Welcome**

**2 ROY SMITH DRIVE  
WESTTOWN NY 10998**

**845-726-3700**

**FAX: 845-726-4205**

**Email: [minisinkmuseum@hotmail.com](mailto:minisinkmuseum@hotmail.com)**

**Website: [www.townofminisink.com](http://www.townofminisink.com)**

**Meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> Monday, @ 7 PM, Town Hall  
February, April, June, August,  
October, December**



**New Walkway**

## **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

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## **UPDATES**

Cub Scouts – November 2011  
Little Christmas – January 2012  
Good News Nursery School – 18 attended – June 2012  
Girl Scouts – June 2012  
Slide Show Presentation – Wawayanda, Minisink and Greenville Seniors – Summer 2012  
Grants - \$250 from County Historian for walkway

Please Note:  
Calendars are Still Available  
2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 - \$20.00

## Rules For Clotheslines...

You have to be a certain age to appreciate this. I can hear my mother now.

Do you remember?

Be sure to read to the end...the poem is so true.

**THE BASIC RULES FOR CLOTHESLINES:**

(If you don't know what clotheslines are, better skip this.)

1. You had to wash the clothesline before hanging any clothes - walk the entire lengths of each line with a damp cloth around the lines.
2. You had to hang the clothes in a certain order, and always hang "whites" with "whites," and hang them first.
3. You never hung a shirt by the shoulders - always by the tail. What would the neighbors think?
4. Wash day on a Monday! Never hang clothes on the weekend or Sunday for Heaven's sake!
5. Hang the sheets and towels on the outside lines so you could hide your "unmentionables" in the middle (perverts & busybodies, y'know!).
6. It didn't matter if it was sub-zero weather .... clothes would "freeze-dry".
7. Always gather the clothespins when taking down dry clothes! Pins left on the lines were "tacky!"
8. If you were efficient, you would line the clothes up so that each item did not need two clothespins, but shared one of the clothespins with the next washed item.
9. Clothes off the line before dinner time, neatly folded in the clothes basket, and ready to be ironed.
10. IRONED?! On Tuesday .. Well, that's a whole other subject!

### 100<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY

Alice Horler was born May 22, 1912 in the Town of Minisink to Arthur James Horler and Elizabeth Farber. She was their third child. She married Robert Myers Weeden June 15, 1931 in Westtown NY. Robert Myers Weeden will be 100 years old December 11, 1912 and was born in the Town of Greenville to Oliver James Weeden and Jennie Ann Clark. He was their first child. Alice and Robert Weeden had two children born in Westtown: Robert Jr. and Clara.

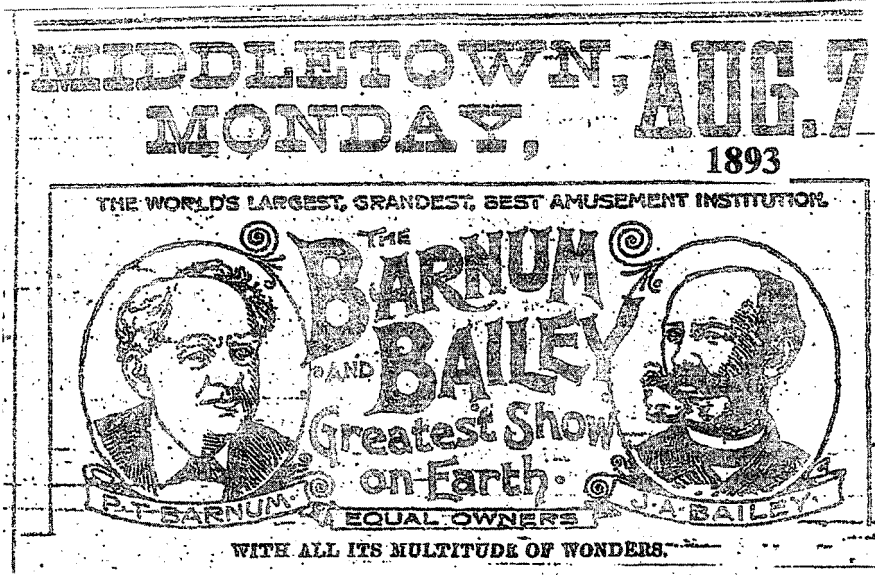
### HAPPENINGS

On Tuesday's our volunteers, Mary Jane Brodt, Linda Diehm, Laura Grace and Ann Nester have been busy updating our family and subject files, and reorganizing our library. Mike VanDervoort and Calvin Bailey have been busy with capital improvements at our complex. Larry Hansen updates our displays periodically. A big thank you goes to the Highway and Building and Grounds Department for helping us complete our new walkway and replacing half of the roof on building #1. Carol VanBuren has been busy working on various research projects. Cablevision interviewed and recorded Larry Hansen. Mike VanDervoort has been leading tours of the Museum and doing presentations for various groups. Mike, Carol and Mary Jane have been conducting some house histories.

## The Clothesline Poem

A clothesline was a news forecast  
To neighbors passing by,  
There were no secrets you could keep  
When clothes were hung to dry.  
It also was a friendly link  
For neighbors always knew  
If company had stopped on by  
To spend a night or two.  
For then you'd see the "fancy sheets"  
And towels upon the line;  
You'd see the "company table cloths"  
With intricate designs.  
The line announced a baby's birth  
From folks who lived inside -  
As brand new infant clothes were hung,  
So carefully with pride!  
The ages of the children could  
So readily be known  
By watching how the sizes changed,  
You'd know how much they'd grown!  
It also told when illness struck,  
As extra sheets were hung;  
Then nightclothes, and a bathrobe, too  
Haphazardly were strung.  
It also said, "Gone on vacation now"  
When lines hung limp and bare.  
It told, "We're back!" when full lines  
sagged with not an inch to spare!  
New folks in town were scorned upon  
If wash was dingy and gray,  
As neighbors carefully raised their brows,  
And looked the other way . . .  
But clotheslines now are of the past,  
For dryers make work much less.  
Now what goes on inside a home  
Is anybody's guess!  
I really miss that way of life.  
It was a friendly sign  
When neighbors knew each other best  
By what hung on the line.  
Life is Short, Smile While You still have Teeth.

The Barnum & Bailey Circus



When the circus came to Middletown, N. Y., the local population made it a special holiday. Few things were more exciting than Barnum and Bailey's Greatest Show On Earth. It was organized and advertised as the world's largest, grandest and best amusement institution. The show required 100 railroad cars for its conveyance. The morning's early hours saw hundreds of country people coming to Middletown by railroad train, by wagon and on foot in time to see the parade, the free exhibits and the side shows. This allowed time to devote the afternoon to see the Greatest Show on Earth.

Middletown with its three railroads brought in loads of circus goers from a fifty-mile radius. By nine o'clock in the morning there were immense crowds at the depot to witness the unloading of cars.

The parade was by all odds the finest ever seen in Middletown. The wagons and chariots looked as though they were fresh from the shop. The parade had four brass bands, a steam calliope, a pipe organ on wheels plus all the animals.

A city of tents was erected for all of the workers and performers. To feed all these people required a large supply of food daily. A one day order consisted of 5 barrels of potatoes, 2 barrels of granulated sugar, 1,200 ears of corn, 25 dozen eggs, 2 bushels of dried beans, 150 bunches of radishes and 50 bunches of onions.

The largest stage in the world at 400 feet in length was erected to accommodate the three-ring circus.

By Laurence Hansen

## **HEALTH ALERT.**

When you drink Vodka over ice, it can give you kidney failure.

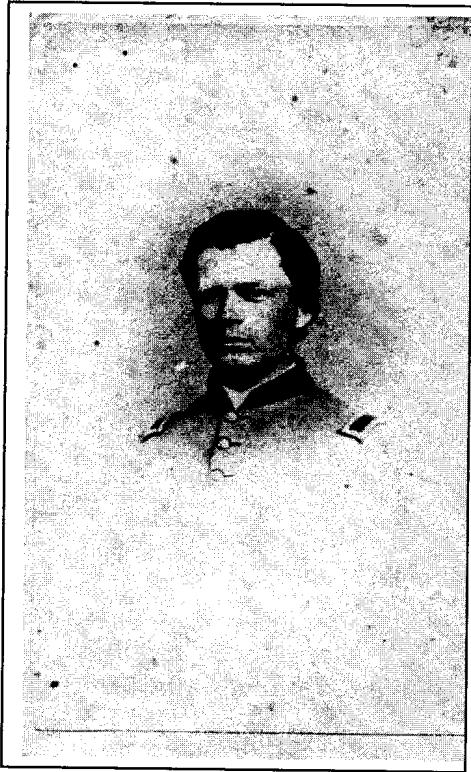
When you drink Rum over ice, it can give you liver failure.

When you drink Whiskey over ice, it can give you heart problems.

When you drink Gin over ice, it can give you brain problems.

Apparently ice is really bad for you.

**WARN ALL YOUR FRIENDS!**



**Vic Vignola did a presentation on Hiram Willis, a Civil War soldier, March 2012.**

**VOTE  
GENERAL ELECTION  
NOVEMBER 6, 2012**

**Town of Minisink  
PO Box 349  
Westtown NY 10998**