



Guess who turned the big 5-0????



Around the Conklin Neighborhood

By Joan McGuigan

It was a birthday celebration time in Conklin this past week. The Lawrence family never has just a small celebration. It is always some theme thrown in. This time, the "Cup Was Passed" from a forty-year-old to a fifty-year-old celebrant. Eddie Lawrence turned "50." He almost missed the party due to a location mix-up. But, it all turned out fine when he finally made it to his "Aunt Linda's" house. It was a great time. When you receive the cup, you are in charge of passing it on to the next person turning 50. Certain male cousins were in charge of getting Eddie to the party. For the next celebrant, maybe they should get the girl cousins to help out.

Connie Fabrizi's birthday celebration was a little quieter, but just as much fun. Maria and Maddie were in charge and as usual did a great job. Instead of a birthday cake, she had a delicious apple pie. They are like "Renee" who always substitutes a pie for a cake on birthdays.

Gert and Leroy Jenkins also were part of a Mackin-Dodd birthday celebration held at Reardon's. Like the Lawrence family, the Mackin family has lots of relatives in the area. I'm not sure if it was a surprise party for Kathy (Mackin) Dodd, but I heard lots of relatives were there joining in the fun.

Happy Birthday to Eddie, Connie and Kathy! I only have one picture to share. It is one of Eddie with the "50" cup.

Anniversary wishes go out to Annie and Kevin McGuigan!

Don and Elizabeth Einstein enjoyed a party this past week, too. Their grandson, Derek Linebaugh, graduated from the Police Academy and is now officially a Broome County Deputy Sheriff. They all celebrated with a party last Friday evening. Derek decided during his first year at University at Buffalo that he wanted to go into law enforcement. After seeing him graduate from UB last year, get married six months ago to Hannah Secord, and now the Police Academy graduation, the Einstein/Linebaugh family has enjoyed a lot of celebrating thanks to Derek. Derek is also one of our SV grads.

Guess that is it for this week. Happy Thanksgiving to all of you. Call with your news.

Mic (775-1894)

Vestal man puts together anti-war Song Video

Where do the best song videos come from these days? Hollywood? NYC? How about Broome County?

Welcome to the modern digital video era. Fancy effects that once required expensive equipment and professional expertise can now be created with desktop computers and editing software, and at least one local resident is making use of those tools. Not so long ago, Broome County resident Dave Elder put together a video for an original song called "If I Was You" that he humbly — or perhaps not so humbly — calls "The 2nd-best Anti-war Song Video of All Time."

Of course, Dave doesn't expect anyone to just take his word for it — he'd like people to watch "If I Was You" and make up their own minds. Viewing the YouTube video doesn't cost any money, and from start to finish will only take about 3 minutes of the viewer's time.

"I'm not trying to tell you what to think," says Elder, slyly referencing the chorus line of his song. "If you've seen better anti-war song videos, I'd sincerely like to hear about them. Feel free to post a comment on my Facebook music page (Dave Elder) or send me an email (link information at Dave's website daveelder.com)."

So what kind of impressive special effects show up in this video? In a scene he calls "The Charge of the Light-string Brigade" a group of 15 Daves scramble out of a trench, each one holding the same Black Fender guitar. In a similar segment, a group of marching Daves form a Fender firing squad with instruments aimed straight at the viewer. Elder had these and most of the other sequences filmed at his Vestal location, but for the section where he stands by a brick wall next to changing Uncle Sam posters, he did have to drive over to the parking lot next to the Endicott DMV. However, those Uncle Sam posters that he reacts to in the video, while looking quite realistic, did not actually hang from that brick wall — they magically appeared through the sorcery of modern desktop video editing.

Dave had to go a bit further to find the gas pump that shows up in verse 3 — that required a side trip along Route 267 a bit south of the PA border, but Elder felt the resulting image justified the trip, though he invites viewers to judge for themselves.

Where did he find the military vehicles that show up in the video? While in a couple of places they seem to move, they all come from a series of stills Dave took with his old 35 mm camera of props parked next to Madison Square Park in Manhattan for use in the 1998 version of "Godzilla" and they look a lot more impressive on film than they did in real life. Standing next to them, he thought they looked like obvious fakes made of cheap painted plywood, so it surprised him how believable those counterfeits came across in the finished prints, but that very quality made them ideal for his project. Elder also added to the mix a handful of other photos from his collection that he snapped at demonstrations in NYC, D.C. and Texas.

Check it out at <http://youtu.be/wgYTiaY99Ys>



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Happy Holidays to you all!

Starting with Thanksgiving 2017 we will be trying out a new holiday schedule for the upcoming year. We will be closed entirely on the year's major holidays- Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Years, Memorial Day, Independence Day / July 4th, Labor Day. The office will be closed as always but there will also be no pickups of any kind from now on the above holidays.

To clarify starting with the day of the actual holiday all pickup days will be pushed forward by a day. Please see the chart below for your scheduled holiday date.

On Thursday November 23rd Thanksgiving there will be no pickup -> Thursday's trash will be picked on Friday November 24th -> Friday's trash will be picked on Saturday November 25th.

On Monday December 25th Christmas there will be no pickup -> Monday's trash will be picked up on Tuesday December 26th -> Tuesday's trash will be picked up on Wednesday December 27th -> Wednesday's trash will be picked up on Thursday December 28th -> Thursday's trash will be picked up on Friday December 29th -> Friday's trash will be picked up on Saturday December 30th.

On Monday January 1st New Years Day there will be no pickup -> Monday's trash will be picked up on Tuesday Jan 2nd -> Tuesday's trash will be picked up on Wednesday Jan 3rd -> Wednesday's trash will be picked up on Thursday Jan 4th -> Thursday's trash will be picked up on Friday Jan 5th -> Friday's trash will be picked up on Saturday Jan 6th.

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This schedule applies only to Residential Service