

NNHS NEWS LETTER

Northville Northampton Historical Society

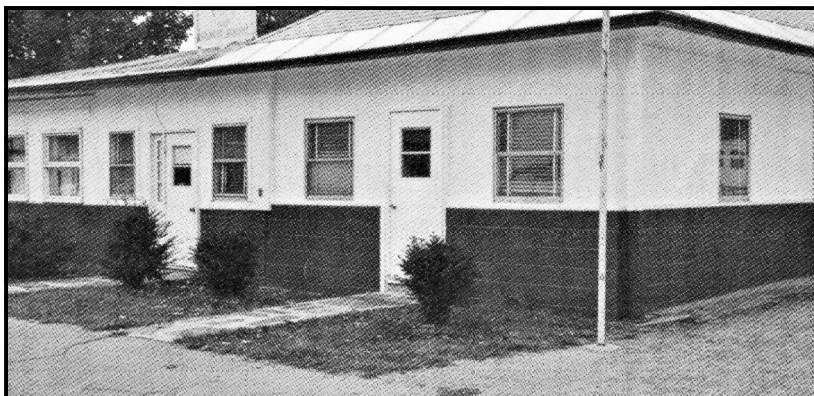
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Editor
Gail M Cramer



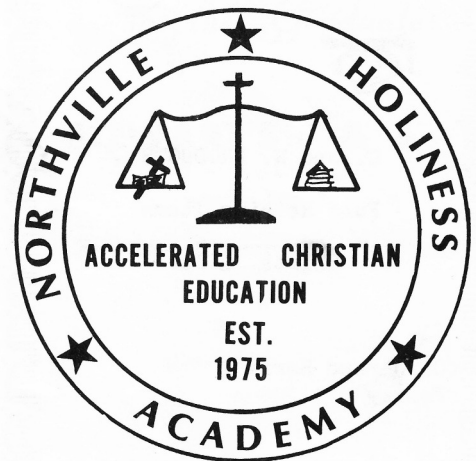
PRIVATE, ACADEMY, PAROCHIAL, *School in Northville? Absolutely !*

In 1975, the pastor of the Pilgrim Holiness Church, Rev Edward S. Lacates, and parents in the church met for the purpose of making plans for a Christian Day School. On April 16, 1975 the church members voted to become affiliated with Accelerated Christian Education Inc. of Garland, Texas. The A.C.E. provided guidelines and curriculum for the students. Pastor Lecates served as Principal and Administrator. The first classes began in the basement of the P.H. Church. The first day of classes was on September 3, 1975, with students wearing uniforms. The school started out with about 19 students and gradually grew to over 50. Students enrolled from Northville, Edinburg, Lake Pleasant, Saratoga, Mayfield, Rockwood and Gloversville.

The property next to the church was purchased from Tony Caffeleite where the former Tony's Fruit Market was located. The classes were moved from the basement of the church, to this building in 1976. Many improvements and additions were added to the building including a gymnasium.



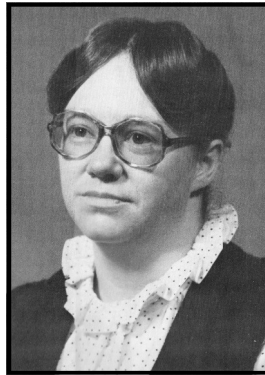
The Pilgrim Holiness Church was originally named The Holiness Mission. It was established in 1906 or '07 and soon afterwards in 1908 this building was built to house the church.



The name, "Northville Holiness Academy" was chosen and Gerald R. Ginter drew up the official logo.

“The Eagle” was the title of Academy’s yearbook. The 1983 yearbook was dedicated to Bonita Van Nostrand Wildermuth “Bonnie”.

Under her picture the students had written the following. “ We wish to dedicate this yearbook to Mrs. Bonita Wildermuth, a teacher who has meant a great deal to each of us. We have found her always willing to help us in our studies and in our spiritual needs as well. Although forceful at times, she has always been fair and understanding.



From a former student of the Academy:
I had 11 years of perfect attendance there . When students had questions about what went on in school they always said ‘Go ask Matt!’ He was there, guaranteed. The Passing score was 80% so we were held to a pretty high standard. A huge honor at NHA was to go out and put the flag up mornings. I remember doing that and felt like I was the king of the world . It was a privilege that was earned. High grades, memory verses learned, no detentions, homework done and more. I also remember a wooden paddle called “the board of education “ and believe me THEY USED IT . Every month we had to learn a few verses in the Bible and every December it was the Christmas story. I can still quote parts of it to this day. We used to walk over to 2nd Street to take French class at Miss Schuylers. Sometimes I wanted to go to NCS but looking back I wouldn’t trade my experience for anything. If there is one thing that I learned it was RESPECT YOUR ELDERS. At Christmas time we would go to nursing homes and sing for them, which made me feel good. Matt Ginter



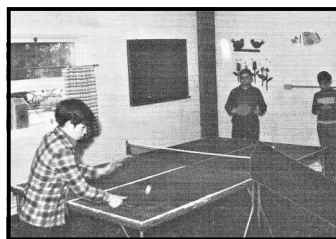
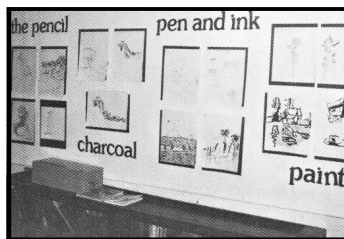
Rev. Edward S Lecates Principal



Academy School Board 1981

Josephine Schuyler, Geneva Washburn, Rev. Edward Lecates, Rev. Meredith Foster, Gerald Wildermuth, Sr.

Many activities took place in the school and out of school as the yearbooks attests to: Basketball, baseball, volleyball, soccer, sewing contests, field trips, senior trips, graduation parties, competition with other schools, etc.



In 1981, Rev. Lecates resigned as pastor of the church. In 1988 the members of the church had voted to sell the school and church building to build a new church edifice. At this time enrollment had decreased considerably so it was no longer viable to continue the academy, so the academy disbanded in 1989. The school and church buildings were sold to Robert Logan. The school building operated as the Flamingo restaurant for a time then the Baptist Church of Northville bought it from Logan, for a youth and community outreach center.

People Were More Interesting When I Was a Kid

By Patsy Graff Suydam

When I look back at my early years in Northville it seems as though there were a lot more interesting people than today. I live in Johnstown now so I'm not really qualified to comment on Northville's shortage of characters, but I do think that children have a pretty acute sense of memorable people. I was thinking recently about some of those folks and I remembered Claude Wilcox. He was a vivid memory because he used to walk by our house almost daily to fish at the spillway after he retired. My father was fascinated with Claude's coats. He seemed to have an extensive coat wardrobe, including I think, a long, black Persian lamb that must have kept him toasty for winter fishing.

I researched Claude a bit, and he was interesting. He was born on March 18, 1884 in Bakers Mills, Warren County. Some of his early jobs were working as a "livery boy" using a horse and buggy. He also worked as a deck hand and "boiler firer" on the Lake George steamboats.

Claude moved to Northville in 1910 and married Edna Paul in 1911. On census records Claude gave his occupation as "Interior Decorator" and he worked as a decorator and painter until retirement. He also worked periodically for the FJ&G Railroad. When Claude died in 1976, he had two daughters and two sons and eleven grandchildren. He is buried in Prospect Hill Cemetery in Northville.

A news item dated November 26, 1948 had a heading *Catches Big Pike*.

"Claude Wilcox was successful in catching a northern pike recently that weighed thirteen and three quarters pounds and measured thirty-eight inches long in the Sacandaga Reservoir. This is the largest fish having been reported recently."

Claude caught the pike from his post on the spillway and walked by our house with it. When my dad saw the fish he was in awe because he never caught a pike that large in spite of being a pretty fair angler himself. My father ended up buying the fish and Arch Taber in Mayfield mounted it. Claude's pike hung on our wall along with a very nice bass that my father actually did catch. The U.S.A. record pike was caught, not at the spillway however, but in the Sacandaga in 1940 near Broadalbin. That pike was a monster 46 pounds and 52 inches and never made it to our wall.

I love to read old newspapers because the news can be very special and entertaining. I found another interesting Claude Wilcox news item dated March 5, 1928: "Claude Wilcox is driving a new Chandler Car and Ralph Gifford a new Chrysler."

I guess Claude picked the right car because an advertisement for a 1928 Chandler touted that it was "Powered for Mountains."

Another news item in 1928 reported that "Mr. and Mrs. William L. Kested are having their residence on Washington Street newly painted and the work is being done by Claude Wilcox of this village." Claude also had the job of painting the old Adirondack Inn.

In 1917 Claude was a witness in a sensational Northville murder trial. He testified that while painting the residence of the accused man and wife on the day of the murder they were drinking, and that when they went “up street” the husband “was not drunk when he started out, but he staggered a little.” Claude testified that the couple was “sometimes sober and sometimes drunk.” Much testimony involved the couple’s drinking habits at the murder location, the Riverview hotel in Northville. Eye witness testimony to the murder was conclusive and the husband earned a life sentence for murder and was sent to state prison in the Village of Dannemora and later to Auburn state prison. The wife had a lesser sentence for complicity.

I know more about Claude now than when I was a kid but there was a reason I remember him. I think he was a character.

REMEMBER THESE GUYS?



From left to right:

Clint Cramer, Artie Wyant, Marve Cramer, Borden Warner, Perry Cramer and Maurice Fountain

Back in the late 40s and early 50s these men and their families met every Friday night during the summer, for a picnic in the field up behind Clint Cramer’s house in Maple Grove. (about 2 miles out of the village) They played softball, and hashed over old ‘stories’.

Clint had the biggest coffee pot you’ve ever seen. He filled it with water, dumped a whole pound of coffee in it then put it on the fireplace. Later he would call ‘COFFEE’ and everyone at their table would hold their cup out behind for him to fill.