

The latest style

What's number one on the hit parade for names bestowed on babies born in upstate New York? Michael ranks first for boys, and it's Jennifer for girls. Or at least these were top choices in 1974. The information comes from the New York state department of health which has compiled this bit of intelligence along with a lot of other data from the vital statistics collected last year.

For instance, the birth rate rose one per cent in 1974 over 1973, and it was the first increase since 1970. The rate of births last year was 13 per 1,000 population in the state. That's 239,166. It was 12.9 per cent the year before.

But back to the more interesting information — the names people choose for their offspring, and how the styles change. You probably would have guessed that Michael has been very popular of late, but just for fun, and if you feel like playing games, see how many of the other first ten on the popularity list for boys' names you can come up with.

Done guessing? It's not that we don't trust you, but the eyes might have inadvertently slipped down. The others, in order of their standing among the top ten:

Robert, James, Joseph and Matthew.
Christopher, Jason, Brian, John, David.

How well did you score? Want to try it with the girls' names? There are some surprises here,

or at least there were for us. See how you do. Now turn it upside down, and check your score.

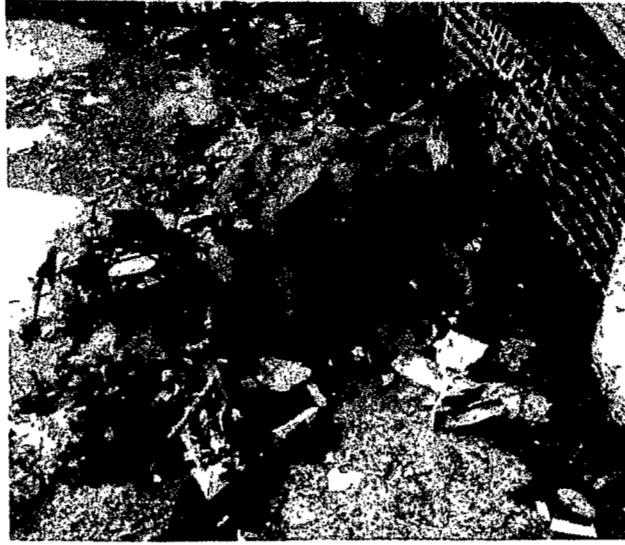
Michelle, Christina, Kristina, Kristin, and Nicole.
Lisa, Melissa, Amy, Kimberly, Heath-

We were pleased to note that all these names, both boys' and girls' are spelled the way you'd think they should be. No doubt we are more aware than most folks of the fanciful ways of spelling names that some parents choose. Their motives, no doubt, are the best, but it is bound to cause some confusion when the kid gets to the age that his or her name appears in print, now and again. All our writing life we've struggled with Kathryn, Catherine, Cathryn, Katharine, and other spelling variations of that good old-fashioned name. In recent years we've also been bugged by the original spellers, not to mention the original names that don't give a clue as to the sex of the child.

So we give our seal of approval to Michael, David, Jennifer, Amy, et al. But we still feel more at home with the names that were popular a couple of generations and more ago. The department of health tells us that they were John, William, George, Charles, Joseph, Frank, Edward, James, Harry, and Harold for the boys, while top choices for the girls were Mary, Anna, Margaret, Helen, Catherine, Florence, Elizabeth, Ruth, Lillian, and Rose. Why shouldn't they be familiar to us? They were our contemporaries. We never played with any Kimberlys or Nicoles; we never watched any Jasons or Brians play mumbletypeg.

BITS & PIECES

by Dick Tefft



It's hard to believe there's any fertility in a handful of sand mixed with broken glass, bottle caps and scraps of paper and plastic. We know from observation, however, that nature, unassisted, will raise a plant in such unlikely soil. All summer we've been watching a tomato plant growing in the most inauspicious situation we can imagine.

As we reconstruct the story of the plant, sometime in the fall of 1974, maybe on Halloween, someone dropped a tomato on the sidewalk in front of the Sanderspre building on Main street in Greenwich.

By intent or otherwise, some passerby kicked the tomato out of his path, and it came to rest in the gutter which collects along the front of the building. No one swept the sidewalk, and the tomato laid there undisturbed until it froze. Later it was covered with snow. When spring broke the flesh of the tomato had disappeared and a few seeds were the only vestiges that remained of the fruit.

By chance one of the seeds was on some sand that had been strewn on the sidewalk during the winter. Spring sun and rains and warmth gave the seed the impetus to respond to such nutrients as the soil possessed, and it germinated.

Green leaves appeared and flourished, in a weak kind of way, and as we marveled that nature could do so much with so little in resources, blossoms appeared on the struggling plant.

Finally, by dint of great effort against what seemed to be insuperable odds, the plant produced one fruit. It was developing as well as could be expected in late September, when its progress was arrested.

Sometime over the week end someone uprooted the plant and left it to wither and die. It was a sad ending for a plant which fought valiantly for a life it was not to have. We are saddened by its passing.

From our EARLY FILES

100 YEARS AGO

October 7, 1875

Dr. Ellwood Griffin called on us last Saturday, and stated that he took a nice trout in the McNab brook and let him go in deference to the game law, it being out of season. What virtue! He further stated in an aggravating sort of way, that he caught a bullhead 15½ inches long in McDougall's lake, and a four-pound bass somewhere else, and having got started in this style, he seemed to cut loose from the truth altogether and said that he took half a bushel of bass, pickerel, &c., in all. He offered to go on making statements, but we declined, as we have still some regard for the "probabilities."

77, Greenwich; Mrs. Alfred Young, Greenwich.

JUST A YEAR AGO

October 3, 1974

The Washington County Republican Women's club was planning their annual election luncheon on October 19 at the Town House in Cambridge. Among the guests expected to attend were Mrs. Kathryn Wilson Conroy, daughter of Governor and Mrs. Malcolm Wilson; Congressman Carleton King; Senator Ronald Safford and Assemblyman Gerald Solomon.

FIFTY YEARS AGO

October 7, 1925

The 100 or more members of the Rough and Ready Engine company came home Sunday night from attending the Brockton, Mass., fair with two prizes, \$150 first prize in their section in the water throwing contest, and \$50 for the company traveling the longest distance to the fair.

ALBANY

open line

by Alex Rankin
Governor Carey, and probably the legislature, too, are preparing to take a very long walk off a short pier in the next couple of months.

The long walk is Carey's decision, if all else fails, to take up to \$4 billion in public employee pension funds when the next fiscal crisis in New York city comes due at the end of December.

The short pier is the fact that, based on past performance, it may be like throwing money down a rat hole, with the pensioners left holding the bag, an empty bag.

Carey says he will use the pension funds if the federal government continues to refuse to help the city, and investors continue to refuse to buy city bonds.

The plan is a safe one only if it ends the crisis in the city. But if the city needs still more money in February or March, then it's very risky indeed.

City Mayor Beame, whose attitude has had a lot to do with the refusal of private investors, banks, to lend him money, appears to have finally woken up.

The other day he paid a personal visit to a sanitation, garbage to ordinary people, garage and found everyone washing up and leaving work early.

He fired a couple of supervisors on the spot. But the following day the commissioner of sanitation rehired the two supervisors. Now the commissioner is out looking for a new line of work. Of course it took Beame several days to bring himself to fire his commissioner, something that would have taken about five minutes if it were a private business.

Poor Herbert Miller, the assemblyman from Queens and chairman of the group's health committee. Assemblyman Andrew Stein, who rose to fame in the nursing home scandals, apparently persuaded Miller to allow him to chair a probe into Medicaid abuses. But Stein is the arch foe of Assembly Speaker Stanley Steingut — Stein tried to link him with some of the nursing home hanky-panky.

Now Miller is in the middle of a fight he wants no part of. Steingut doesn't want Stein looking into Medicaid. Stein, independently wealthy and an astute public relations manipulator, says he's going to do it anyway.

CHURCH SERVICES

- Greenwich**
Bottskill Baptist
Rev. Brian Labosier, Pastor
Sunday services—
10 a.m. Sunday school.
Nursery through high school.
World Fellowship offering received.
11 a.m. Worship service.
2 p.m. Youth group meeting, 7th grade and up.
Wednesday—
7-8 p.m. Senior choir.
8 p.m. Quarterly business meeting.
- Cambridge**
First Baptist
Rev. Lewis N. Powell, Interim Pastor
Sunday services—
9:45 a.m. Sunday school.
11 a.m. Morning worship service. Sermon, "Seeing Through The Eyes of God." World Fellowship offering will be received.
- Durkeetown**
First Baptist of Fort Edward
Rev. Elliot DeNick, Pastor
Sunday services—
9:45 a.m. Sunday school.
11 a.m. Morning worship.
6:30 p.m. Youth group.
7:30 p.m. Evening service.
Wednesday, 7 p.m. Mid-week service.
- Greenwich**
Church of the Old Fashion Gospel
Independent Bible Baptist
Rev. Ray Felt, Pastor
Sunday services—
10:30 a.m. Morning worship.
7 p.m. Evening service.
Wednesday, 7 p.m. Bible study and prayer.
- Cosassuna**
Lakewood Baptist
Rev. Frederick Jewitt, Pastor
Sunday services—
10 a.m. Sunday school.
11 a.m. Morning service.
Tuesday, 7 p.m. Choir rehearsal.
- Cambridge**
New Skete Monastery
Byzantine Catholic
Vespers each evening at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, 4:30 p.m. Liturgy.
Sunday, 10 a.m. Liturgy.
- Salem**
Holy Cross Catholic
Rev. James F. Pritchard, Pastor
Saturday—
4:45 to 5:15 and 7:15 p.m. Confessions.
5:30 p.m. Mass.
Sunday, 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
- Greenwich**
St. Joseph's Catholic
Rev. Joseph L. Shannon, O.S.A.
Rev. Albert C. Shannon, O.S.A.
Masses—
Daily, 7:30 a.m.
Saturday, 7 p.m. Anticipated Sunday Mass.
Sunday, 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
- Fort Miller**
Wesleyan Church
Rev. Robert Tice, Pastor
Sunday services—
10 a.m. Sunday school.
11 a.m. Morning worship.
6:30 p.m. Junior and Senior youth.
7 p.m. Evangelist service.
Wednesday, 7 p.m. Prayer service.
- United Church of Greenwich**
United Presbyterian
Rev. Donald R. McLeod, Pastor
Sunday services—
9:30 a.m. Church school, grades 3-9.
11 a.m. Worship service.
Church school, preschool-grade 2.
6 p.m. Handbell choir rehearsal.
7 p.m. Choir rehearsal.
7 p.m. Confirmation seminar.
- West Hebron**
United Presbyterian
Rev. S. Sturgis Poorman Jr., Pastor
Saturday—
9:30 a.m. First Saturday club.
7:30 p.m. Preparatory service.
Sunday services—
9:45 a.m. Sunday school.
11 a.m. Worship service.
World-Wide Communion.
Monday—
10 a.m. Bible study at East Hebron home.
7 p.m. Senior High fellowship.
Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Session.
Wednesday—
4 p.m. Junior High fellowship.
7 p.m. Choir rehearsal.
8 p.m. Study course on Holy Spirit.
- East Hebron**
United Presbyterian
Rev. S. Sturgis Poorman Jr., Pastor
Saturday—
9:30 a.m. First Saturday club.
7:30 p.m. Preparatory service at West Hebron.
Sunday services—
9:30 a.m. Worship service.
World-Wide Communion.
Monday—
10 a.m. Bible study at East Hebron home.
7 p.m. Senior High fellowship.
Wednesday—
4 p.m. Junior High fellowship.
8 p.m. Study course on Holy Spirit.
- Salem**
First United Presbyterian
Rev. Ernest C. Butler, Pastor
Sunday services—
9:30 a.m. Church school.
11 a.m. Morning worship.
Monday, 10 a.m. Adult Bible class.
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal.
- Shushan**
United Presbyterian
Rev. Fergus Cochran, Pastor
Sunday services—
10 a.m. Church school.
11 a.m. Church school.
11 a.m. Adult Bible class.
Youth fellowship, first and third Sundays, 6:30 p.m.
Ms. fellowship, first and third Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
United Methodist Women, second Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Couple's club, first Saturday evening of each month.
- Easton**
United Methodist
Rev. Howard Hills, Pastor
Sunday services—
10 a.m. Church school and worship service.
- Easton Friends**
Sunday service—
11 a.m. North meeting house, Route 40.
- North Argyle**
United Presbyterian
Rev. Douglas R. McGuffin, Pastor
Sunday services—
10 a.m. Sunday school.
11 a.m. Worship service.
- Argyle**
United Presbyterian
Rev. Gerald Hazard, Pastor
Sunday services—
10 a.m. Family worship.
- Salem Methodist Charge**
Rev. Arthur E. Bagley, Pastor
Chaplain James H. Bagley Sr., Assistant Minister
World-Wide Communion Sunday. A special World Service offering will be received in all three churches for the Methodist World Global Ministries West Hebron.
Sunday services—
9:30 a.m. Holy Communion.
9:30 a.m. Coffee and fellowship hour.
9:45 a.m. Sunday school.
Salem Sunday services—
9:45 a.m. Holy Communion.
10:45 a.m. Sunday school.
Observing Rally day.
11 a.m. Fellowship hour.
11 a.m. Senior choir.
Shushan Sunday services—
10 a.m. Sunday school for all ages.
11 a.m. Holy Communion with a sung liturgy by pastor and choir.
7 p.m. United/Methodist youth.
- Greenwich**
Centenary United Methodist
Rev. W.C. Denson, Pastor
Thursday—
7 p.m. Finance committee.
7 p.m. Trustees.
8 p.m. Administrative board.
Saturday, 10 a.m. Confirmation class.
Sunday services—
9:45 a.m. Church school.
9:50 a.m. Chapel service.
11 a.m. Worship service.
Communion.
Monday, 6:30 p.m. U.M.W. covered dish supper and business meeting.
Wednesday—
6:45 p.m. Youth choir.
7 p.m. Adult choir.
- Argyle**
United Methodist
Robert L. Flower, Pastor
Sunday services—
10 a.m. Worship service.
Nursery care provided during the worship hour.
Family worship, fourth Sunday of the month. Church school classes attend church.
11 a.m. Church school.
Youth fellowship, first and third Sundays, 6:30 p.m.
Ms. fellowship, first and third Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
United Methodist Women, second Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Couple's club, first Saturday evening of each month.
- Easton**
United Methodist
Rev. Howard Hills, Pastor
Sunday services—
10 a.m. Church school and worship service.
- Easton Friends**
Sunday service—
11 a.m. North meeting house, Route 40.
- Schenleyville**
St. Stephen's Episcopal
Rev. Joel MacCollam, Rector
All services at 9 a.m.
Sunday services—
1st Sunday, Celebration of Holy Eucharist and healing service.
2nd and 4th Sunday, Morning prayer and celebration of Holy Communion.
3rd Sunday, Celebration of Holy Eucharist.
5th Sunday, Reading of Litany and celebration of Holy Communion.
- Greenwich**
St. Paul's Episcopal
Rev. William R. Harris, Rector
Sunday services—
8 p.m. Holy Communion, Prayer Book.
10:15 a.m. Sunday school, parish hall.
10:30 a.m. Holy Communion and sermon, Prayer Book, first and third Sundays. Holy Communion and sermon, New Liturgy, second and fourth Sundays.
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Holy Communion, New Liturgy.
- Salem**
St. Paul's Episcopal
Rev. Robert Cook, Rector
Friday, 6 to 9 p.m. Thrift shop.
Sunday services—
9 a.m. Morning prayer and sermon.
9:30 a.m. Church school.
- Cambridge**
St. Luke's Episcopal
Rev. Robert Gardam, Rector
Sunday services—
8 and 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist.
- North Argyle**
Community Church
Rev. Earl Hodgkins, Pastor
Sunday services—
10 a.m. Sunday school.
11 a.m. Worship service.
Wednesday, 8 p.m. Bible study and prayer meeting.
- Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints**
40 Salem Street
Greenwich
Samuel J. Brayton, Branch President
Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Relief Society.
Sunday services—
8:30 a.m. Priesthood.
9:45 a.m. Sunday school.
11 a.m. Sacrament.
Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Aaronic Priesthood, young women's activity night.
Wednesday, 4 p.m. Primary.
- Christian Science Society**
Greenwich
Sunday service at 10 a.m.
Sunday school for pupils to the age of 20 convenes during the morning service.
Wednesday evening meeting second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 8 o'clock. Testimony meeting.
Reading room open Thursdays from 2 to 4 p.m.
Radio broadcast Sunday from WKAJ, Saratoga, at 7:15 a.m.
- Cambridge**
Church of Open Bible
Rev. Roger Seacord, Pastor
Sunday services—
11 a.m. Morning worship.
12n Bible study.
Tuesday, 8 p.m. Prayer and Bible study.

To tell the truth

by Ned Pattison

I don't like to give speeches. Speeches are one-way communication. They have their place, but when I have an opportunity to speak to a group, which I enjoy doing, I prefer to put aside my notes, draw up a chair, and just have a conversation. I think I learn more about what my constituents are thinking, and they get a lot more out of this kind of speech.

Of course, that's not always possible when you have more than a half million constituents to converse with.

During the recess and week end visits back to the 29th district, I frequently hold town meetings where I can get together with constituents for an exchange of views on current issues and questions. There are no speeches, just conversation. So far, I've met with citizens of the 29th district in this manner at Greenwich, Fort Ann, East Greenbush, Rensselaer, Hudson, Copake, Fort Edward, Stillwater and Windham.

At the start of the meeting, I make an agenda from suggestions provided by the audience. When 7 to 10 topics have been listed, I begin the meeting and proceed item by item until the time we have agreed to adjourn, usually about 2 to 2½ hours after we start.

It occurred to me that it might be valuable both to me and to the readers of the column to follow a similar procedure as I do at the beginning of the town meetings. I could take suggestions from the floor on what subjects you would like me to discuss in this column. This will take some effort and thought on your part, but I hope you will take the time to

THIRTY YEARS AGO

October 3, 1945

Nearly the entire population of Salem and two or three thousand visitors from vicinity places turned out the previous Friday to do honor to T.Sgt. Francis J. Clark, holder of the Congressional Medal of Honor, and to welcome Gov. Thomas E. Dewey, who went to Salem to present the sergeant with an additional decoration, the New York State Conspicuous Service medal.

The Washington County Historical association elected Ralph Pierson Smith of Hudson Falls president at the annual meeting held in Cambridge the previous Saturday. Other officers elected at the meeting were: Mrs. Robert McClellan of Cambridge, first vice president; Gordon Dillon of Salem, second vice president; A.D. Bartholomew of Whitehall, third vice president; Miss Mary Blackall of Fort Edward, secretary; Mrs. Grant Tefft of Greenwich, treasurer.

Deaths: Esek Brownell, 65, Cambridge; Mrs. Samuel McDowell, 87, Greenwich.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

October 5, 1955

The public hearing on the proposed increase in water rates, originally scheduled to be held in the Albany office of the public service commission would be held at the community center in Greenwich. Mayor Charles Dolan had been notified by the PSC that the place of hearing had been changed for the convenience of Greenwich people.

A choice of 18 courses was being offered to the people in the Greenwich central school district under the adult education program, B.F. Tillotson, director, had announced.

In the first league football game of the season Greenwich central school was defeated 46-14 by Salem in a game played at Salem.

Deaths: Mrs. Floyd R. Smith, 62, Cambridge; Mrs. William S. Dobbin, 92, Greenwich; Mrs. Jay M. Gilchrist, 70, Battenville; Mrs. James M. Eddy, 61, Center Falls; Mrs. Frank B. Roberson,