

HALFMOON

An excerpt from "Saratoga County Communities
an Historic Perspective" pages 56-59.

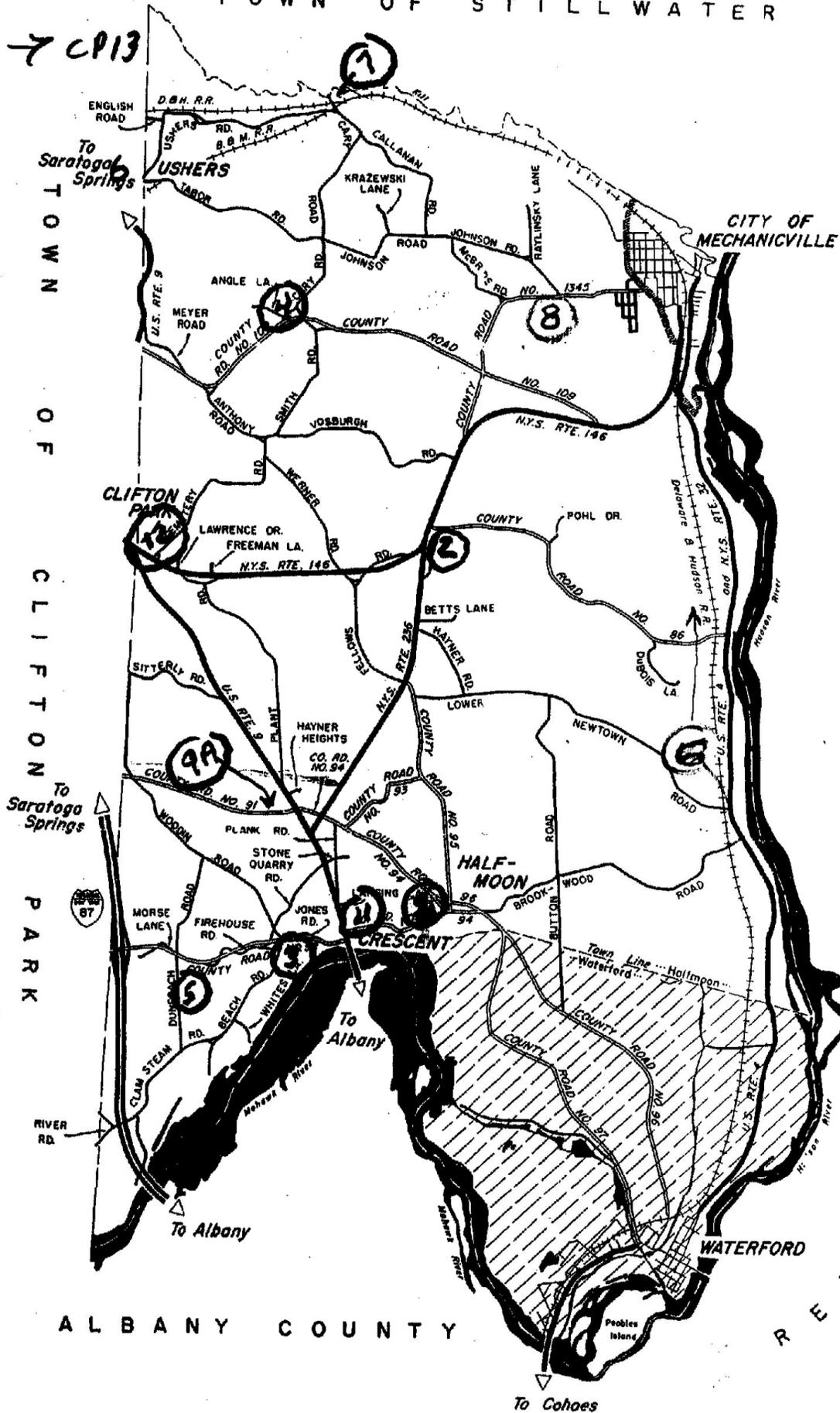
In the same way that many religious societies met at private homes in their incipience, so were school-age children educated at home by their parents or tutors. The onset of public education in Halfmoon came with the allotment of \$1200 from the Saratoga County Board of Supervisors in 1792 pursuant to their Act for the Encouragement of Schools passed the same year. When the New York State Legislature established a common school system in 1812, 11 districts were created in Halfmoon. Private schools as well appear in Halfmoon's history, the most notable being Halfmoon Academy for young women.

This school was organized and constructed in the 1820's and was operated successfully until 1880. In 1863, the Clifton Park Female Seminary was founded also as a private institute. Because public school education stopped at the eighth grade for the most of the 19th century, private schools were the only vehicle for the continuing education. Students in Halfmoon attended high school outside the town until the formation of the Shenendehowa Central School District in 1950.

TOWN OF STILLWATER

1/7/12
JB

HW26 - CP13



TOWN OF CLIFTON PARK

RENSSELAER COUNTY

ALBANY COUNTY

To Saratoga Springs

To Saratoga Springs

To Albany

To Albany

To Cohoes

CITY OF MECHANICVILLE

WATERFORD

HALF-MOON

CRESCENT

USHERS

CLIFTON PARK

MORSE LANE

CLAM STEAM RD.

RIVER RD.

ALBANY COUNTY

To Albany

To Albany

To Albany

To Albany

LABOR RD.

ANGLE LA.

MAYER ROAD

ANTHONY ROAD

SMITH RD.

NEUBER RD.

LAWRENCE OR.

FREEMAN LA.

SITTERLY RD.

U.S. RTE. 9

WOODEN ROAD

PLANK RD.

STONE QUARRY RD.

FIREHOUSE RD.

JONES RD.

BEACH RD.

WHITES

CLAM STEAM RD.

ALBANY COUNTY

To Albany

To Albany

To Albany

To Albany

KRAZEWSKI LANE

JOHNSON RD.

CALLANAN

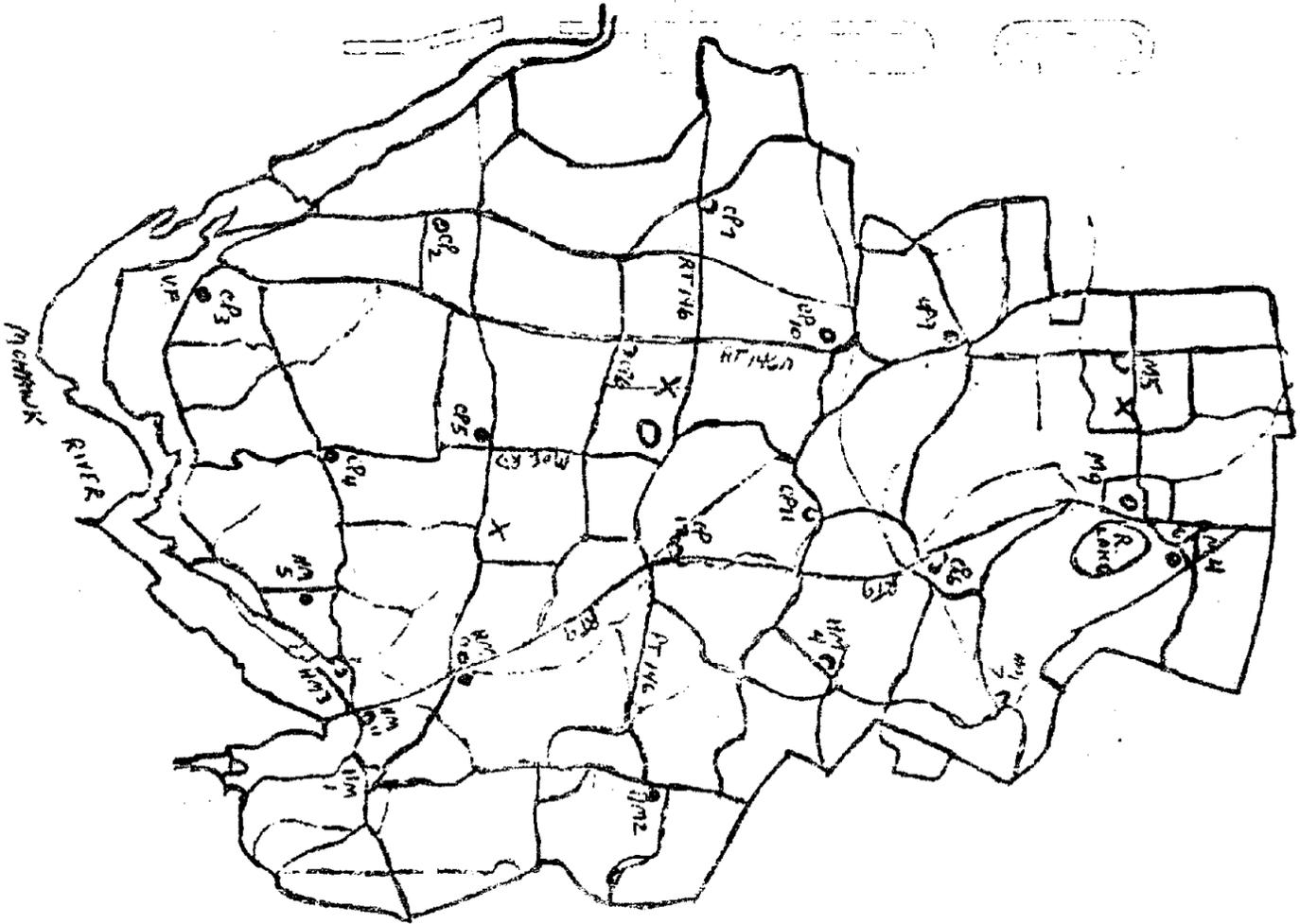
JOHNSON RD.

School Districts



WATERBURY HARTMAN

Shenendehowa



"22 SCHOOLS, LET'S GO SEE THEM!"
BUS TOUR, OCTOBER 19, 1980

SCHOOL NAME	LOCATION	BUILT *	LAST USED	STATUS
C15	"Noe" S/W corner, Noe & Grooms	1844	1953	demolished
C12	"Grooms" N/E corner Ray & Sugar Hill			demolished
C13	"VF" Riverview Rd. VF	1848	1953	home
C14	"Wilbur" N/E corner Noe & Crescent	1853	1953	demolished
415**	"W. Crescent" Dunbach Rd. .4mi., on L.		1953	home
H#3	"Kane" Beach Rd. S. of Crescent			demolished
H#11	"Crescent" Churchill Rd, E. of Rt.1	1874	1953	demolished
H#1	"Middletown" Churchill Rd.	1862	1953	home
H#9	"Guideboard" Grooms Rd.		1953	Am. Legion
C112	"Clifton Park" Firehouse Rd/ Cemetery Rd.		1953	Shen Linn
H#2	"Newtown" E. of jct. Rt 1468 236		1953	Convent
H#4	"McArans" Cary Rd, Angle Rd N/W cor.		1953	Quinnell Hall
H#7	"Coons" Coons Crossing	1875	1929	vacant
C18	"Usher's, Pig St." Usher's Rd. E. of Rt.9			demolished
H#	"Maltaville" Rt. 67, E. of Rt.9		1949	home
H#9	"Round Lake" N/E corner Prospect & Andrew	1887	1953	
H#5	"Armstrong's Corners" R. Lake Rd. E. of Eastline			demolished
C19	"Jonesville" Main St	1836	1965	home
Cp 11	"Skunk's Hollow" Kinn's Rd, just W. of Pierce		1953	burned
C110	"Elona" Rte. 146A, S. of Kinns			For Sale
C17	"Waite" Rte. 146, E. of Waite Rd.	1861	1950	home
C16	"Town Sheds, Losee" N/E Cor. Vf. & Cl. Pk. Cen. Rd. 1837		1953	demolished

* Some dates are approximate as many records are still missing. Historians feel that near Clifton Park schools were built in the early 1830's when Clifton Park was a newly formed town from Halfmoon. (As of March 3, 1828) Latest date is given in districts that built more than one school.

** Most early Halfmoon School Records were destroyed in a fire at the town hall, 1890's

PTSA FOUNDERS' DAY
February 25, 1980
Gowana Junior High School
"22 Schools + 10; Reunions - Old and New"

5 P.M. - Displays open

<u>School</u>	<u>Room</u>	<u>Coordinator</u>
CP 2 Vischers Ferry	161	John & Martha Scherer
*3 Grooms Corners	161	
4 Wilbur	157	
5 Moe	157	
6 Town Sheds	166	Don Berthlaume/Mrs. Horace (Julia) Bailey
7 Waite School	162	Al & Lee Hulstrunk Marion Eichenberger (teacher)
*8 Kinns Rd.	157	
*9 Jonesville	163	Carol & Vic Temple Louise Ray Easton (teacher)
*10 Elnora 146A	166	Gerald Smith/Polly Cyphers
11 Skunk Hollow	157	
*12 Clifton Park (Shen Free Library)	157	
HM *1 Middletown	155	Mrs. Chevallier/Jay Mincher
2 Newtown	165	Adelle Harris (teacher)
*3 Beach Rd.	155	
4 Cary Rd.	164	Harriet Boyack/Pearl Harris (teachers)
*5 West Crescent	155	
7 Coons Crossing	155	Bob Floud
*9 Amer. Legion Hall	164	
*11 Crescent School	167	Agnes Brady (teacher)
Malta *4 Maltaville		Mary & Russ McCurdy
5 Armstrong's Corners		Bob Miller
9 Round Lake		Kathy Serven, Marie Westcott (teacher)
10 Present Schools	Library	
*Bell in Bell Court from this school - See Bell Court outside to the left as you exit at Bus port.		

6 - 7 P.M. -- Lasagna Dinner

6:45 P.M. -- All pre-1950 teachers: Please meet at entrance to Cafeteria for picture.

7 P.M. -- Senior Citizens' Kitchen Band

7:30 P.M. -- PTSA Meeting

Call to Order Judy Bonds, PTSA President
 Introduction to Founders' Day.. Carol De Siena,
 Adirondack District Director
 Life Membership Awards Evalyn Gurney, Chairman
 Comments Ev Dash, Founders' Day Chairman

8 P.M. -- Displays Open

MANY THANKS TO -- Alene Zetterstrom; Bev Meers and Betty Martin and their staffs; Gowana students of Mrs. Joomey and Mrs. Johnson; Janie Fox, Evalyn Gurney, Marie Kraft, Donna Daggart, Doris Mulhall, Carol Gronbeck, Mary Siegrist, all coordinators, teachers and parents who manned the displays.

We are meeting in the first building to be completed on campus. First occupied - September, 1953

(over please)

LOCATION & PRESENT STATUS OF ORIGINAL 22 SCHOOLS

- CP 2 N.E. Groom's Corner Sugar Hill & Ray Rd. - razed - site of a private home
- 3 Vischers Ferry (built around 1850) - Private Home
- 4 Wilbur School (district formed 1832) N.E. corner Moe Rd. & Crescent
VF Rd. - razed
- 5 Moe School S.W. corner Moe Rd. & Grooms Rd. - sold at auction Aug. 1955
for \$800. - presently Clifton Park Nursery School
- 6 Town Sheds (built 1837) N.E. corner Vischers Ferry Rd./Clifton Park Center
Rd. - Present CP Town Hall
- 7 Waite School (built 1855) North side Rt. 146, just east of Waite Rd. -
sold at auction 1953 for \$600 - Private home
- 8 Annexed to BH/BL 1915
- 9 Jonesville (built 1836) sold at auction 1977 for \$10,550. - Private home
- 10 Elnora School - Rt. 146A - on left before bridge, sold for \$1,025. -
vacant - for sale - private owner
- 11 Skunk Hollow School - Kinns Rd. - burned
- 12 Present Shenendehowa Free Library - Cemetery Rd.
- HM 1 Middletown - Church Hill Rd. - Private home
- 2 Newtown - Covells Glass Shop
- 3 Beach Rd. - razed - site of apartment garages on left
- 4 Cary Rd. - original burned 3/3/50 - Quonset Hut used as school 3 yrs. -
now private home
- 5 West Crescent - Dunsbach Rd. - Private home
- 7 Coons Crossing - vacant - private owner
- 9 Present American Legion Hall on Grooms Rd.
- 11 Crescent - Church Hill Rd., just east of Rt. 9 on left - razed
- Malta 4 Maltaville - Rt. 67, just east of Rt. 9 on right - Private home
- 5 Armstrong's Corners - S.E. corner Eastline Rd. & Round Lake Rd. - razed
- 9 Round Lake - originally - West Museum - razed

CAN ANYONE IDENTIFY THE TWO MYSTERY PICTURES?

Charlotte?
Lottie?
Jurlalott

Regina
Shinski

Ken Flagler

Virginia
Hester

Joullott

Art Lake
Floria Flagler
Shinski



Kay Hoppin-Jack

Pamela
Stevens

Kathy
Jarvis

Calvin
Hanselbroughter

Art Lake
Floria Flagler



The Committee of Fifty

The Committee of Fifty was called together by Mr. R. O. Winans. He asked each civic organization in the proposed central district to send a representative to serve on the committee. The committee agreed to present the proposition of centralization to the district.

Petitions were circulated by the committee, statistical information was compiled by Mr. Winans and a task force from the committee made several trips to the Education Department to demonstrate the need for the program and the support of the people of the district; all of which resulted in the approval by the department.

Every civic organization in the district was represented on the committee, and good ideas were freely exchanged between these organizations. The committee members reported to their organizations the results of the committee meetings and brought to the committee meetings ideas from the organizations. These ideas were carried back to the homes of the members. During the entire program there was complete understanding throughout the district.

In January of 1950 the people voted to centralize and elected the Board of Education. The Board and the Committee prepared the building program, interviewed architects and, with the indispensable help of Mr. Winans, gathered the information for the bond issue. Together they submitted the school site to the people for their approval and in March of 1951 the people voted to purchase the site.

The committee has continued to work with the Board of Education. Together they have selected the design of the building and the details of the program. Without them, the educational facilities that we now have would be only a dream.

Mr. Irving Althouse
 Mr. Horace Bailey
 Mr. Alexander Baranowski
 Mrs. Howard Barrett
 Mrs. Donald Bassler
 Mr. Glenn Beck
 Mr. Ralph Beck
 Mr. Edward Bell
 Mr. Chester Betts
 Mr. Armand Bonnet
 Mrs. Averill Bornis
 Mr. Arthur Pauchard
 Mr. Charles Brenne
 Mr. Leland Brubridge
 Mr. John Cerullo
 Mr. Charles Cleveland
 Mr. George Culp
 Mr. Walter Crawford
 Mr. William Craty
 Mr. Charles Cyphers
 Mr. John Davey
 Mr. George DeGroot
 Mrs. Doramed Desjardis, Secretary
 Mrs. Fred Droms
 Mr. John Dudek
 Mr. Walter Englemore
 Mr. Ellis Faulkner
 Mrs. Alma Fountaine
 Mr. Ann Gagnon
 Mrs. Alice Goddard
 Mr. Harrison Goddard
 Mrs. Richard Guyer

Miss Blanche Hatlee
 Mr. Mildard Hayner
 Mr. Neil Hesson
 Mr. Robert Jerome
 Mrs. Robert Jerome
 Mrs. Nell Johnson
 Mr. James Keeler
 Mr. Walter Knapp
 Mr. Robert Mack
 Mrs. Stewart Martin
 Mr. James McKair
 Mr. Delbert Melj
 Mr. John Morris
 Mr. Philip Morse
 Mrs. Kenneth Noyes
 Mr. George Owen
 Mr. Charles Picard
 Mrs. Clarissa Potter
 Mr. Everett Priddy
 Mrs. Elsie Prime
 Mr. Franklin Pritchard
 Mr. Vernon Shear
 Mr. Vernon Sicks
 Mr. Donald Smith
 Mr. William Sumner
 Mr. Burr Vail
 Mr. Charles Van Housen
 Mrs. Reba Waite
 Mrs. Marion Williams
 Mrs. Warren Williams
 Mr. Rodney O. Winans, District Superintendent

the great plains

Shenendehowa

CENTRAL SCHOOLS

✓ About Shenendehowa

- ▶ Shenendehowa covers approximately 86 square miles serving families from the communities of Clifton Park, Halfmoon, Ballston Lake, Round Lake, Malta and parts of Waterford, Rexford, Mechanicville and Stillwater. Approximately 9,200 students attend seven elementary schools (gr. K-5), three middle schools (gr. 6-8) and a high school (gr. 9-12). Shenendehowa is the largest central school in Saratoga County and the largest in student population in the Suburban Council, an interscholastic athletic consortium of 11 area schools districts. Nine of the twelve school buildings are located on a 232-acre campus in Clifton Park, New York. There are three neighborhood elementary schools located off campus. Traditionally, the schools were named with Iroquois words. Shenendehowa, for example, means "great plains."

✓ Shenendehowa History

- ▶ The Shenendehowa Central School District was organized on January 14, 1950, by a vote of the residents of 21 former common school districts and one union-free school district. These 22 schools in the towns of Clifton Park, Halfmoon, Malta, Waterford, Ballston and Stillwater (representing approximately 86 square miles) became officially centralized on July 1, 1950. From 1950 through 1953, the district housed grades K-8 in 16 one-, two- and three-room school houses plus an eight-room school house in Round Lake. All high school students (gr. 9-12) were transported to one of four high schools: Ballston Spa, Mechanicville, Waterford or Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake. In 1951, the School District voted to purchase 160 acres to build an 1,800-pupil school for kindergarten through grade 12. This land was part of the Shenondahowe or Clifton Park Patent of 1708. The Iroquois word "Shenondahowe" means Great Plains. That's how the district became known as Shenendehowa Central Schools.

▶ The Carillon Bells

Before 1950, the district was made up of 22 one- and two-room school houses, 11 of which still had school bells ([click here for a location and status of the schools](#)). Rodney Winans, the first superintendent, helped to centralize the district. He brought the 11 bells together to the bell court on the main campus (now Gowana) and had them assembled into a carillon.* The bells are a symbol which pays tribute to the schools and the towns which combined to form Shenendehowa Central Schools.

**Note: Age and the elements began to take their toll on the Carillon Bells. Currently, they are being safely stored in one of the district's storage facilities until they can be refurbished and displayed properly once again.*

Location and status of original 22 schools that centralized to form Shen (underlined schools indicate where the bells of the Carillon came from).

- Clifton Park #2 Greens-N.E. corner, Sugar Hill & Ray Rd, razed
- Clifton Park #3 Vishers Ferry (circa 1858), Clifton Park, private home
- Clifton Park #4 Wilbur (circa 1832)-N.E. corner Moe/Crescent-Vischers Ferry Rd, Clifton Park - razed
- Clifton Park # 5 Moe-S.W. corner Moe/Grooms Road, Clifton Park, sold at auction in 1955 for \$800, now a nursery school
- Clifton Park #6 Town Sheds (circa 1837)- N.E. corner Vischers Ferry/Clifton Park Center Roads, Clifton Park razed (site of current town hall)
- Clifton Park #7 Waite (circa 1855) - North side Route 146, East of Waite Rd, Clifton Park, sold at auction in 1953 for \$600
- Clifton Park #8 - Originally located on Appleton Rd, annexed to Burnt Hills Ballston Lake in 1915, Clifton Park #13 renumbered #8 North side of Ushers Road, razed
- Clifton Park #9 Jenaville (circa 1856) - West side Main St. opposite church, sold at auction in 1977 for \$10,550.
- Clifton Park #10 Eilers - West side Rt 146A, south of Kinns Rd, sold for \$1,025 private home
- Clifton Park #11 Klass, Skunk Hollow - South side of Kinns Rd, west of Plank Rd, burned by vandals
- Clifton Park #12 - Northwest corner Cemetery Road/old Route 146, sold used as private business
- Halfmoon #1 Middletown - Churchhill Road, private home
- Halfmoon #2 Newtown - Intersection Rte 146/236, private business
- Halfmoon #3 Beach Rd - razed
- Halfmoon #4 Cary Rd - original burned in 1950
- Halfmoon #5 West Crescent - East side Dunsbach Rd., private home
- Halfmoon #7 Coons Crossing - private owner
- Halfmoon #9 - Originally located on Rte 9, moved around the corner, now a private business
- Halfmoon #11 Crescent - North side Churchhill Road, east of Rte 9, razed
- Malta #4 Maltaville - Rte 67 east of Rte 9, private home
- Malta #5 Armstrong's Corners - Southeast corner Eastline Rd and Round Lake Rd, razed
- Malta #9 Round Lake Free Academy - razed following repeated vandalism

✓ Graduating Class Size History

1954--28	1978--696
1955--46	1979--662
1956--66	1980--681
1957--69	1981--698
1958--75	1982--699*
1959--81	1983--666
1960--95	1984--647
1961--85	1985--660
1962--99	1986--681
1963--101	1987--675
1964--145	1988--623
1965--148	1989--592
1966--170	1990--579
1967--207	1991--582
1968--228	1992--568
1969--244	1993--502
1970--339	1994--523
1971--336	1995--529
1972--450	1996--526
1973--459	1997--534
1974--507	1998--544
1975--570	1999--582
1976--577	2000--583
1977--642	2001--604
	2002--605
	2003--647

*Largest graduating class

✓ Opening enrollment history

1955-- 1,711	1980-- 8,882
1956-- 1,788	1981-- 8,628
1957-- 1,825	1982-- 8,312
1958-- 1,912	1983-- 8,056
1959-- 2,008	1984-- 7,914
1960-- 2,118	1985-- 7,831
1961-- 2,260	1986-- 7,981
1962-- 2,483	1987-- 7,990
1963-- 2,799	1988-- 8,164
1964-- 3,184	1989-- 8,321
1965-- 3,723	1990-- 8,564
1966-- 4,383	1991-- 8,687
1967-- 5,048	1992-- 8,755
1968-- 5,867	1993-- 8,838
1969-- 6,722	1993-- 8,838
1970-- 7,458	1994-- 8,909
1971-- 8,264	1995-- 8,998
1972-- 8,777	1996-- 9,105
1973-- 9,069	1997-- 9,171
1974-- 9,404	1998-- 9,186
1975-- 9,697	1999-- 9,237
1976-- 9,853*	2000-- 9,121
1977-- 9,786	2001-- 9,162
1978-- 9,770	2002-- 9,231
1979-- 9,304	2003-- 9,355

*Largest enrollment

January 1950

Organized by a vote of residents from 21 common school districts and one union free school district in Clifton Park, Halfmoon, Malta, Waterford Ballston and Stillwater.

July 1950

Officially centralized and named "Central School District No. 2, of the Towns of Clifton Park, Halfmoon, Malta, Waterford, Ballston and Stillwater, County of Saratoga, New York."

1951

District voted to purchase 160 acres and to build an 1,800 pupil school to house K-12. The area of the campus was part of the SHENONDAHOWE (Iroquois for Great Plains) or Clifton Park Patent of 1708. The Board of Education simplified the name at the time and began referring to the district as Shenendehowa Central Schools (the name would not be formally changed with the State Education Department until 1973).

September 1953

Kindergarten students and gr. 8-12 moved into the main building that was Shenendehowa Central Schools (now Gowana/Acadia)

January 1954

Grades 1-7 moved into rooms in the main building (now Gowana/Acadia) as they were being completed closing the numerous one- and two-room school houses.

Configuration change: K-12 in one building (what is currently Gowana/Acadia)

1958

Additions made to Arongen (now Acadia).

1962

A new wing was built on to the main building (now Gowana/Acadia).

Configuration change: K-6 in Arongen (what is currently called Acadia) and gr. 7-12 in the High School (what is currently called Gowana).

August 1964

District purchases 51 adjoining acres (Karigon/Orenda and Tesago/Skano are built on this parcel). Shenendehowa Junior High (called Middle A, then Koda, now called SHS Freshman building) opened housing gr. 7-9.

Configuration change: K-6 in Arongen (what is currently called Acadia); gr. 7-9 in junior high (what is currently SHS Freshman Center); and gr. 10-12 in high school (what is currently Gowana)

1966-67

Tesago (courage) and Skano (peace) Elementary Schools opened housing gr. K-6

1967

District purchases an additional 25 acres adjacent to the campus (bus garage area).

1968

Orenda (great spirit) and Karigon (to join together) Elementary Schools opened housing gr. K-6.

September 1970

Shenendehowa High School was built and housed grade 9-12. The original high school building (currently called Gowana) is named Middle School B and the original junior high school building (currently called SHS Freshman Center) is named Middle School A. They house gr. 6-8.

Configuration change: K-5 in five elementary schools; gr. 6-8 in two middle schools; and gr. 9-12 in the high school.

1970

District purchased 94 acres east of Moe Road.

June 1972

Jerome Rosen donates land to on Crescent-Vishers Ferry Road (Okte)

August 1972

Robert VanPatten donates land on Round Lake Road (Chango)

1973

In compliance with State Education Law, the official name of the district was changed to "Shenendehowa Central School District at Elhora" (at the time Elhora was the primary post office).

September 1973

Because of increasing enrollments, the ninth grade was moved to the middle schools and sixth grade was moved to the elementary schools.

Configuration change: K-6 in five elementary schools; gr. 7-9 in two middle schools; and gr. 10-12 in the high school.

September 1973

Okte (to achieve) Elementary School opened housing gr. K-6.

September 1974

Chango (happy and cheerful) Elementary School opened housing gr. K-6.

1976

Middle School A is renamed Koda (friend) Junior High and Middle School B is renamed Gowana (great) Junior High.

July 1983

District's name formally changes to "Shenendehowa Central School District at Clifton Park."

April 1988

District office moves from Winan's Wing in Arongen (currently named Acadia) to Fairchild Square.

1988

Additions to Skano/Tesago and Karigon/Orenda are made.

September 1987

All campus kindergarten classes are moved to Arongen.

Configuration change: Arongen (now called Acadia) K-6, North and South elementary schools are gr. 1-6, Okte and Chango are gr. K-6; gr. 7-9 in two junior highs, gr. 10-12 in the high school.

October 1989

Four-room addition made to the high school.

February 1989

Addition to Chango Elementary.

September 1989

Addition to Koda and Gowana junior highs.

September 1992

Arongen (currently called Acadia) closes because aging infrastructure is in poor condition. New building opens on Clifton Park Center Road. It is named Arongen and houses grades K-6. Kindergartners in housed in the closed now Arongen building (Acadia) move back to campus schools.

Configuration change: K-6 in seven elementary schools; gr. 7-9 in two junior highs; and gr. 10-12 in the high school.

September 1994

Old Arongen renovated, reopened and renamed Acadia (place of plenty) it houses all of grade 6.

Configuration change: K-5 in seven elementary schools; g. 6 in Acadia; gr. 7-9 in two junior highs; and gr. 10-12 in the high school.

September 1998

Additions to Gowana/Acadia facility and the high school are made.

Configuration change: K-5 in seven elem. schools; gr. 6 and 7 in Acadia, gr. 6, 7 and 8 in Gowana; gr. 8 and 9 in Koda (now called SHS Freshman Center); and gr. 10-12 in the high school.

September 1999

Third middle school added to Gowana/Acadia building. It is named Koda. Four science classrooms are added to the old Koda and it is renamed Shenendehowa High School West. The high school is renamed Shenendehowa High School East.

Configuration change: K-5 in seven elementary schools; gr. 6, 7, and 8 in three middle schools; all of gr. 9 and half of grade 10 in Shen High School West (currently called SHS Freshman Center); and half of gr. 10 and all of grade 11 and 12 in Shen High School East (currently named Shenendehowa High School).

January 2001

The community supports a referendum to add on to High School East (currently called Shenendehowa High School) allowing all of grade 10-12 to be housed there when construction is complete (scheduled for Sept. 2003).

May 2001

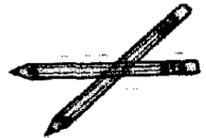
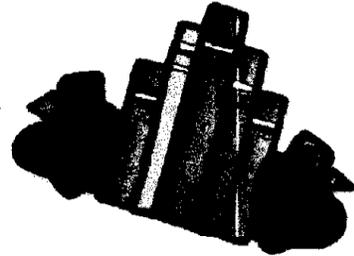
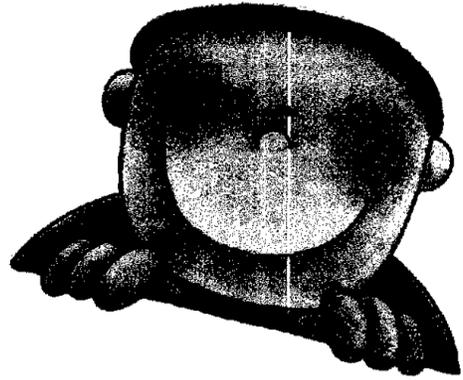
The community supports a referendum to purchase a building on Route 9 to house the district office personnel.

November 2001

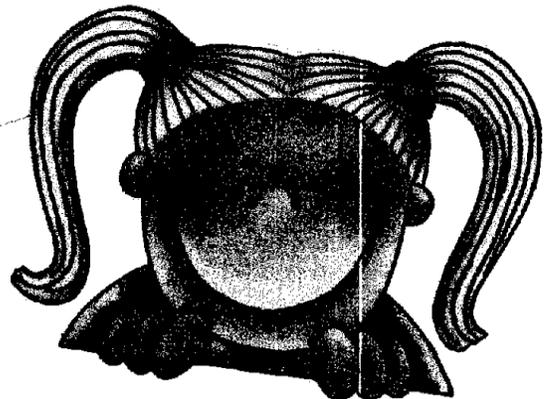
The Board of Education votes to rename the high school buildings. High School East will be named Shenendehowa High School. High School West will be renamed Shenendehowa High School Freshman Center.

February 2002

The Board of Education votes to rename the high school buildings. Shenendehowa High School will be renamed Shenendehowa High School East Building. Shenendehowa High School Freshman Center will be renamed Shenendehowa High School West Building.



► School openings
In 1953, the original building (now Gowana/Acadia) opened.
In 1966, a middle school was opened on the campus (now Shenendehowa High School West Building).
In 1966 through 1968, Skano, Tesago, Karigon and Orenda Elementary schools opened on the campus.
Shenendehowa High School (what is now the East Building) was opened in 1970.
In the mid 1970s, two off-campus elementary schools were built. Okte opened in 1973 and Chango opened in 1974.
In 1992, another off-campus elementary school opened (Arongen).
In 1999, Koda Middle School was added to the Gowana/Acadia facility.





MERE
KAISE
Gazette
Photog
Richard
left, a
Hayne
the
Shene
Class
look a
yearb
their
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week
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anniv
event

Shen's first grads to mark 50th

By PAM ALLEN
Gazette Reporter

HALFMOON — They were the days when pulling a prank meant concealing a rubber snake in a teacher's locker, or, to the delight of classmates, trying on one of her fancy hats when her back was turned.

It was a time Art Hayner remembers well, especially since he had a reputation of being one of his class's biggest pranksters. Among his fondest memories is of hiding Margaret Simmonds' lunch in the closet — repeatedly.

"She always knew," said Hayner of his 12th-grade teacher.

That was more than 50 years ago when Central School

District No. 2 of the towns of Clifton Park, Halfmoon, Waterford, Ballston and Stillwater opened its doors to students.

The school's first senior class graduated with 29 students, and this year brings the Class of 1954's 50th anniversary reunion. The reunion, which will take place on June 5, will include the school district's first four graduating high school classes, from 1954 to 1957.

The school system, which is known today as the Shenendehowa Central School District, was consolidated in 1950 from 21 one- and two-room schoolhouses throughout Halfmoon and Clifton Park.

Part of the campus was finished in 1953, and a small class of kindergartners and 216 high schoolers moved from the

focus on Saratoga county

smaller schools to the new building on Route 146. Grades one through eight were brought in as their classrooms were completed.

"I was scared to death. Nervous. Petrified," recalled Judy Cassidy VanDerwerken, Class of 1957, who moved from the one-room Clifton Park School No. 12 on Cemetery Road in Halfmoon when she entered the ninth grade.

"The whole high school got herded into the gymnasium that first day," said Dick Lee, who graduated with Hayner in 1954.

Much of the school hadn't

been completed in 1954. Band practice had to be in the Round Lake Auditorium. Students and teachers ate in their classrooms because the cafeteria was still under construction, as were the science and lab rooms.

There were so few sports teams that all the boys were in the same team. To the surprise of many, their basketball team beat Northville their first game at home in six years.

Then, their soccer team played the first game it ever played, defeating the much-touted Lansingburgh team.

Lee, who played on the team, was astounded at the victory.

"I didn't know our team was so good at soccer," Lee said.

And school dances were a success. See CARILLON



Richard Lee
"54"
Ball, Yearbook, Athletic
Good Citizenship Award,
Committee: President

of Richard Lee of
he appeared in his
wa yearbook 50
the school's first
Class is planning its
June.

ago, when a rebound in many goods resulted in high-ends on about 12,000 properties.

ove sparked wider anger and led to the filing of more than 1,400 grievances at City Hall. About 440 led to reductions.

n statistics from the Capital Association of

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MI & CHRIS
Cover Charge
46-6431

of grievances. Those decisions can be challenged in court.

One of the consequences of no revaluation this year is the total taxable assessed valuation fell by \$1.9 million to \$1.416 billion.

Popolizio attributed the decline to several factors: nonprofits, such as Union College, acquiring property that becomes tax exempt; demolitions; bigger tax exemptions for senior citizens and the disabled that were approved by the City Council;

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Mother's Day Dining Guide

Appearing Sunday, May 2, 2004

of properties. Those decisions can be challenged in court. The same percentage, the tax rate for each household increases to make up the difference.

The city tax rate, not including county and school taxes, is currently \$19.75 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The tax rate for 2005 won't be known until the City Council adopts a new budget later this year.

The total taxable assessed value dropped considerably in 2000, when a reassessment resulted in \$240 million worth of

guidelines will be available in the City Hall assessor's office

property value being chopped from the roll. The city made some strides restoring assessed value in 2001, 2002 and 2003, but is still off about \$147 million from the 1999 total, \$1.564 billion.

Reach Gazette reporter Michael DeMasi at 395-3118 or demasi@dailygazette.com.

Plan to have recruits ready to replace police retirees is considered

Glenville board hears Chief Purdy

By VICTORIA R. SPAGNOLI
Gazette Reporter

GLENVILLE — As four town police officers anticipate retirement next year, town officials are considering a plan that would have recruits trained and ready for duty by the time the officers retire.

The need for this type of proactive plan was addressed by the Town Board during a discussion about filling a current police vacancy.

Sgt. Daniel Moffett retired in late March. An officer will be promoted from within to fill the sergeant's position, so the town will have to hire a new patrol officer.

Moffett's retirement brings the department's roster to 24 officers. However, of those 24, two are recruits currently in the academy and a third officer is out on disability until midsummer. So, the department is down to 21 working officers. The department lost its traffic safety officer and is now down one officer per shift, said Police Chief Jack Purdy.

With the looming retirements in 2005 "we really do have to preplan for this," Purdy told board members Wednesday.

If four more officers are lost and not replaced, it means several programs can't continue, he said. Purdy said because of the money saved by Moffett's retirement, there are funds — about \$26,000 — to hire two new recruits and put them in the

August police academy.

He also wants the town to hire an additional two recruits for the January 2005 academy.

Councilman Mark Quinn asked if running the department at 21 officers was putting things in a dire situation. Purdy said no, but "if we go any lower it can be an extremely tenuous situation."

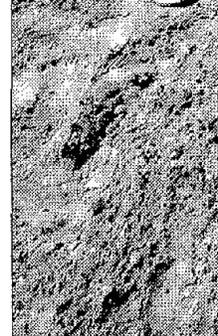
Councilman Peter Russo asked if there is a "magic number" where the department should be. The chief said it can run with 25 officers but ultimately he'd like to see the force grow to about 34.

A consensus of the board favored a taking a fresh look at planning for police retirements. Councilman James Denney said the board needed to "commit to a program . . . so that we're not just being reactive."

Supervisor Clarence Mosher agreed, citing the need for a two-year plan and the need for officials to get a better idea of when officers will retire.

Last fall, the board hired two new officers after nearly four months of debate regarding the size of the police force. In 2003 the Efficiency in Government Committee suggested holding the department at 23 after two officers retired. A majority of the board at the time agreed.

The decision to leave the positions vacant caused friction between the police and town officials. In November, the board, in a 3-2 vote, decided to fill the positions.



Future sh

Michael Tamasi, ri
dy water a red map
The spot is Tiny Tot

COMMUN

Kids' day Sun at Union Colle

SCHENECTADY
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The college's Ke
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It will feature
Bounce," a soccer
basketball shooting
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ice cream, hotdo
burgers.

Student groups
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and will run the pr
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Card party to held at St. Mar

SCHENECTADY
Rosary Society will
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Mary's Church Ha
Avenue. A \$3 don
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SCHENECTADY
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will host a building
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Post 357, 1309 Fifth
for the meal are
\$2.50 for children u

Breakfast plan at Carman Fir

ROTTERDAM -
and sausage brea
held from 8 a.m. to
day at the Carma
2-12-04

Suspect nabbed in armed heist

SCHENECTADY — Quick down by a man who pointed out