

APRIL/MAY
2021

ALBION AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY

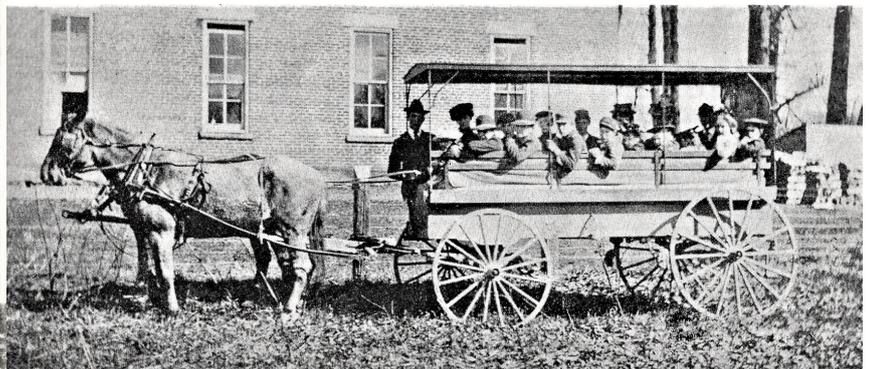
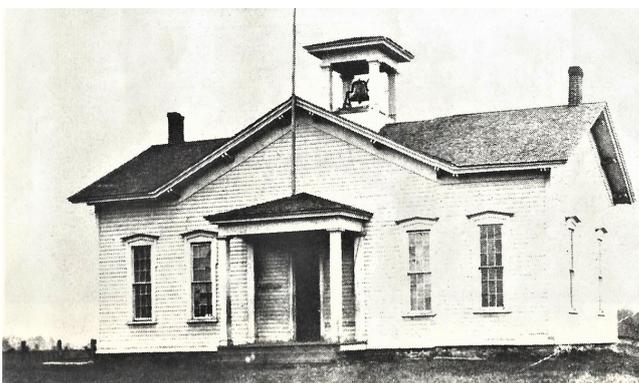
LOCAL HISTORY NEWSLETTER

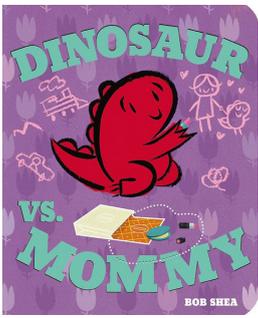


East School - Built 1926 - Present

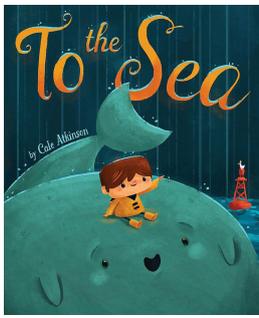
Our focus this time is early education and schoolhouses in Springfield. The first school built in West Springfield was the Springfield Academy, constructed in 1853. So far, I haven't been able to find any photos of that first school, which burned in 1859. The first principal was Professor John A. Austin. The brick building pictured in the top left was built to replace the original school and was completed in 1869. In 1893 the Academy became a public school. A two year high school was added in 1896. In 1912, an attempt was made to add to the building, but during construction the rear wall collapsed, and the building had to be demolished. The second photo is the building which replaced it, built in 1912. In 1930 came the addition of a gym and classrooms, to accommodate a four year high school program. The last graduating class was in 1958. After that grades 7-12 began attending Northwestern High School and grades K-6 attended West Springfield Elementary. The third photo is the East Springfield Academy, built in 1856. It began as a free school, and remained the only free school in the area until 1884. It was demolished and replaced by the building in the fourth photo. Additions were made in 1959 and 1970. The bottom left photo is the North Springfield Academy, built in 1866. It was used as a school until 1900. The original building is still used by the Wesleyan Methodist Church. The photo in the bottom right is what was know as the "Kid Hack". Springfield resident Elmer Strong came up with the idea of a kid wagon in 1889. It provided the township's children the opportunity to attend school in town and it is believed to be the very first public school transportation in the state of Pennsylvania! Mr. Strong used his own farm wagon with crude built in seats and a cover to protect the children from the sun. Side curtains were added to be used in windy, rainy, and snowy weather, and in the winter months, the wagon bed was transferred to a bobsled, filled with straw and heated soap stones, and the ride to and from school became a sleigh ride!

*All information gathered from Springfield Bicentennial Book 1976





17 Available



11 Available



10 Available



10 Available



10 Available

April/May Take Home Book Selections - partnering with Northwestern High School's Virtual Weekend with the Arts

2021 SCHOOL & ART SUPPLIES LIBRARY AUCTION
 RAFFLE BEGINS MAY 1st and the DRAWING WILL BE JUNE 16th.

Benefits The Friends of the Albion Area Public Library
 5 TICKLETS FOR \$2.00 or 25 TICKETS FOR \$5.00

The Spring Garden Basket tickets were drawn April 30th Marsha Hardner and the winner is *Peg Balogh* Congratulations!

May Book Sale
 May 22, 2021 9:30-2:30
 Sale will be held in our parking lot to facilitate social distancing. Tents will be utilized, so the sale will go forward rain or shine! All proceeds benefit the Albion Area Public Library

Our Monthly Newsletters can be viewed or printed from our website : www.albionarealibrary.org

Children's Rabbit Event
 Join us at the Albion Area Public Library for an outdoor rabbit viewing event!
 May 8th, 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM
 111 East Pearl Street
 Albion, PA 16401
 Please make reservations as space is limited.
 Call us at 814-756-5400 or private message us on Facebook.

Like and Follow us on our Facebook page to stay up to date on the latest news about our little community library!



The Library will be closed Monday, May 31st for Memorial Day

Have you been enjoying our Local History Posts? Looking forward to hearing more? We're loving the opportunity to foster community pride and solidarity during these trying times, and we will continue to bring you all the information we can about the history of our wonderful area, but we need your help and support more than ever! Please remember that our little library is independently funded, and any and all donations are both needed and greatly appreciated. If you are able, please consider a donation to help our library remain a part of our community for years to come!