



From the tracks and marks in the snow it appeared that Brown partly recovered and started back about twelve or fifteen feet where he was struck with a club, fracturing his skull in such a manner as to cause instant death. He fell into a ditch, breaking the ice, where it appeared from the amount of blood, that he laid there a short time before he was pulled out on the bank and his body searched.

A party of Irish railroad workers were seen in Williamsville the following week; one man, Lawrence Fogarty, seemed to have considerable money on him. He was seen using a ten dollar bill to pay for three glasses of whiskey. This aroused the suspicion of Thaddeus Prentice, constable of Williamsville, but the men said they were immediately going back to work. When Constable Prentice returned from Buffalo the next day, he found they had not left as reported and therefore arrested Fogarty, who had in the meantime shaved his whiskers and changed clothes with his brother. Fogarty said he was not Lawrence Fogarty, but when others would not vouch for him, he "threw off his coat and, in a frenzied manner, shouted that his name was Lawrence Fogarty and 'he could say it dead or alive.'" He was arrested, as was his brother, Thomas.

Fogarty was examined the week of January 24, 1853. On January 29<sup>th</sup>, Fogarty was fully committed for trial and the case was sent to the Grand Jury. Meanwhile, Officer Marshall of Alden arrested Michael Brown, also an Irishman, on suspicion of being one of the murderers of John Brown. Brown, no relation to John Brown, had been one of the witnesses in the examination of Fogarty and it was felt that he knew more about the murder than he had yet to see fit to disclose. Both Fogarty and Brown were held for trial on the murder of John Brown.

The murder trial for Lawrence Fogarty began April 14, 1853. Brown's son told the court that he had seen Michael Brown at the Brown farm four or five days before the murder. Michael Brown was accompanied by another Irishman, Patrick Ryan. The two men wanted to buy some hogs, and Mr. Brown told them that if he did not sell the hogs elsewhere, he would sell them to Brown and Ryan. A witness testified that he had seen Fogarty and Michael Brown talking together on the night of the murder. Another witness saw two men following another man on the plank road that evening. One of the men was carrying a large stick.

The case of the People vs. Fogarty was given to the jury on Wednesday night, April 20, 1853. On Thursday morning they reported that they had been unable to agree upon a verdict, and after some remarks from the judge, they were discharged.

The Fogarty case was given to a new jury in June 1853. On July 2<sup>nd</sup>, after several days of testimony, Judge Harris proceeded to deliver his charge to the jury. "The charge was pronounced by all present one of the most erudite, brilliant and discriminating ever made in Buffalo." The jury retired at 9:30 am and at 10:15 returned with a verdict of guilty. The Judge pronounced the sentence on Fogarty—execution by hanging on August 26<sup>th</sup>. The moment the sentence was given, Fogarty became very excited, accused some of the witnesses of perjury, and swore he knew nothing about the murder. This tirade continued until he was removed by the court officers.

Lawrence Fogarty was granted two stays of execution by New York Governor Horatio Seymour, but was finally hung on November 25, 1853, proclaiming his innocence until the very end. "I am an Irishman and a Catholic; I have lived and I die a Catholic. I am innocent of the murder of John Brown...I die an innocent man. I forgive all who swore falsely against me, and leave them to God to pardon. God of Heaven, forgive the man who committed this deed for which I am going to die."

As for Michael Brown, indicted with Fogarty for the murder of John Brown, he was honorably acquitted of all participation in the murder.

Was Lawrence Fogarty innocent as he proclaimed? Did Michael Brown have anything to do with the murder? Were Fogarty and Brown arrested because they were Irish? We will probably never know the answers to these questions.

Photos and article submitted by Karen Muchow

**COVID-19  
STATEMENT**

The Alden Historical Society is monitoring the status of government advisories and mandates to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus. The health and safety of our trustees, archivist, curator, volunteers and visitors are extremely important. Please check our website, [www.aldenhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.aldenhistoricalsociety.org) and follow our Facebook page for the latest updates. Stay safe and healthy.

## Message from the President

On behalf of the Board of Trustees for your Alden Historical Society, I hope that everyone has stayed healthy and safe. As the Western New York region moved forward with “Phase 4” reopening, the Board of Trustees started to take up the debate of whether to reopen our own building at 13213 Broadway to the public. It was finally decided to embark on a plan to open the building on Sunday, September 13 – the date the Alden/Lancaster Art Show would have been held. A reopening plan was established, following all CDC and State protocols, and we opened our door to welcome the public as scheduled. While the reopening did not attract many visitors (the Buffalo Bills game on TV was heavy competition), it was good to be able to offer to the community an in-person view of our collection for the first time in six months.



Speaking of “the building,” we recently arrived at the decision to name our building the Alden Heritage Center. We intend the new name to emphasize the key role the building has in fulfilling the Historical Society’s mission to tell the story of the people of Alden, New York.

To also help with our mission and to provide more information about the Historical Society and our collection, to attract new members and volunteers, we have spent the last two months developing our own web site. We are grateful to the Town of Alden for hosting a page about the Society on its own erie.gov site, but the pandemic made us realize that we needed to provide more information to the public, especially during a time that access to our collection is limited. The site is now finished and we hope the public finds it to be an enjoyable and informative resource.

As we continue to move forward with “the new normal,” there are still questions the Society Board must address, including the status of our November Annual Meeting and December Bake Sale & Fund Appeal. Please check our web site, Facebook page and the Alden Advertiser for the latest updates. In the meantime, stay safe and thank you very much for your support and interest.

Christopher Gust

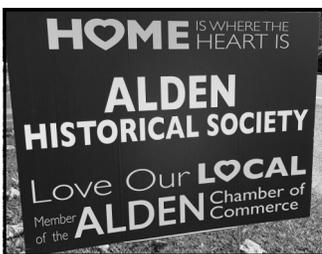
## A Note of Thanks

A note of thanks to Mitchell A. Martin, Community Representative for State Senator Patrick Gallivan, for recently providing two gallons of NYS Clean hand sanitizer that assisted the Historical Society with our reopening plans.



Photo and article submitted by Christopher Gust

## Love Our Local



The Historical Society participated in the Alden Chamber of Commerce’s recent “Love Our Local” campaign. It is our privilege to preserve, present and promote the history of our local community that we love.

Photo and article submitted by Christopher Gust

## Condolences



**Joan M. Gadd** February 10, 1937 - July 07, 2020  
Gadd-Joan M. (nee Clark) of Alden, NY. Beloved wife of 65 years to William Gadd, Jr.; dear mother of Clark (Janice) Gadd; daughter of the late Robert "Buster" and Marie Clark; also survived by several in-laws, nieces and nephews.

## *Curator's Corner*

These pictures show some of the items that our earliest settlers would have used to begin to establish themselves on their Holland Land Company purchase.

When kids visit the Heritage Center, I ask them to close their eyes and imagine our little town as the wilderness that it was in 1810. No houses, no stores, no electricity. Heavily forested land with bears, wolves and other animals. The settler's closest neighbors may have been somewhere in Darien.

The first order of business would be to build a rudimentary shelter such as a lean-to. Trees would've been cut, both to clear the land for a garden and to become logs for a cabin. Our settler's only tools were an axe, saw, and perhaps an adz for shaping the logs. He would have had a rifle for protection and to kill animals for food. The cabin door would be fashioned from three roughly split half logs with wooden hinges. A window would have been covered with oiled paper. The roof was elm bark.

Moses Fenno arrived in the spring of 1810 from New England. He built a cabin near where the Whistle Stop is located, and began an orchard and garden. Other early settlers arrived later that year, and we assume they helped each other with cabin building and clearing the land.

Our dependence on power tools and stores to complete the simplest construction makes the accomplishments of these pioneers astounding. Take a look at these simple tools and imagine yourself making a home in the wilderness.



Photos and article submitted by Kris Rogers

## *Henskee Schoolhouse Outdoor Clean Up*

The Historical Society thanks the Town of Alden Parks Department for removing the overgrown shrubs in front of the Henskee Road schoolhouse during July and doing a general cleanup of the landscaping. New shrubs that should remain close to the ground were planted in the front. Looks much better!

Photo and article submitted by Christopher Gust



*Individual Renewal*

Renée Nelson

*Business Renewal*

Alden Kiwanis Club

*New Member Couple*

Larry and Donna Francis

*Donation*

Angelo Daluisio

*Alden Heritage Center Reopened September 13*

Once New York State allowed for the opening of indoor entertainment and museums, the Historical Society Board of Trustees met virtually to discuss the possibility of reopening our building at 13213 Broadway to the public. After much discussion, it was decided to pursue a September 13 reopening date. The required Phase 4 paperwork was completed and a reopening plan created, which was submitted to the Alden Town Board for review and approval, and granted. CDC recommended guidelines will be followed with face coverings required for all. Visitors will be admitted by appointment only with a maximum of four visitors per group. Tours will be self-guided and scheduled on the hour and half hour and limited to 20 minutes, thus allowing time for Society volunteers to sanitize between appointments.

Visitors will be welcomed to the newly named Alden Heritage Center. For years, the building at 13213 Broadway and home to the Historical Society since 1967, was referred to as “the building” or the “historical building”. Town Historian Karen Muchow suggested that a name for the building would help clarify its purpose to the community and eliminate the perception that it is home to a private club. Several names were proposed and, eventually, Alden Heritage Center was decided upon. With the reference of “heritage”, there will be a new focus on the people who lived and worked in Alden as Historical Society looks towards the Town’s bicentennial in

2023. Trustee Conrad Borucki donated his time and talents to repaint the old “Alden History Museum” sign on the front porch to the new name that will welcome visitors for years to come



Photo and article submitted by Christopher Gust

*Society Launches Web Site*

The Alden Historical Society recently launched its own web site at [www.aldenhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.aldenhistoricalsociety.org), completing a two-month project. During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, in which the historical building was closed, it became apparent that the Society needed a web site of its own to present information to our members and the public that went beyond the capabilities of the single page provided on the Town of Alden’s erie.gov web site, and included video tours. A small committee, consisting of President Christopher Gust, Trustee Lynda Tucker and Historian Karen Muchow, worked with web designer Joe Zawada to create the site and its contents.

The site uses modern coding to be viewable on any device: desktop, laptop, tablet or mobile phone. Visitors to the site can find histories of the Society and the newly named Alden Heritage Center, information on the Henskee Schoolhouse, Black Water Baths, Century Homes, membership information, past issues of the Grannytown Gazette, video tours, gifts and much more. We hope the public finds the site easy to navigate, pleasing to view and informative!

Photo article and submitted by Christopher Gust



*Alden*  
*Historical Society*  
**Established 1965**

## *What's in a Name?*



Have you noticed the new sign on the front of the Alden Historical Society building? Yes, we have changed the name of the building. It is now the Alden Heritage Center. When the Society was chartered by the New York State Board of Regents in 1967, it was chartered as a “historical society with a collection,” not as a museum, which requires a different charter. Changing the name to a “Heritage Center” better reflects the mission of the Society to preserve, present and promote the history of the Town of Alden and its people.

Did you know that over the ninety years from 1850 to 1940, the birthplaces of the residents of Alden were the United States and twenty-eight other countries? (The 1850 US census was the first census to list the birthplace and the 1940 census was the last census to be released to the public.) In 1860 there were 60 different occupations listed, and out of a population of 2442, there were 388 listed as farmers or farm laborers.

In 2023, the Town will be celebrating its Bicentennial. What better time is there to focus on the men and women who built the town out of what was wilderness in 1823 to the town it is today. What are their stories? It is time to discover them.

Article submitted by Karen Muchow Photo submitted by Christopher Gust

## *Business Member Spotlight*

We are very grateful for our business members whose dues help us carry on the activities of the Historical Society. We are shining the spotlight on Elwood-Jordans Insurance Agency in this issue.

Elwood-Jordans had its beginning with Frank A. Alger, who established an insurance agency in 1875 primarily to sell fire insurance. With wooden buildings and no fire company until 1890, there had to be some way for business owners and residents to recoup losses. His office was in his home at the corner of Broadway and Church Street.

By 1920, Alger was joined by Arthur G. Hart from Marilla. Frank Alger retired from the business in 1924, at the age of 75, after 50 years of protecting the Alden community. In 1928, Hart took as a partner his son-in-law, Andrew K. Smith, who had emigrated from Scotland in 1923. Hart and Smith had their office on Broadway in the Presbyterian Church's old manse between the library and the church.

Ladette G. Elwood, former Alden postmaster, purchased the agency in 1938. He had his office in his home at 1562 Crittenden Road. Hans Jordans became a partner in 1952. In 1955, the agency's present building at 13361 Broadway was constructed. Mr. Jordans sold the agency to the Iroquois Group in 1985. The agency was run briefly by George Spinnigan, and then Charles J. Phillips, Jr. became president. Mr. Phillips retired on January 1, 2008 and a 1991 graduate of Alden High School, Brooks Bowman, became the new owner.

Today the agency offers both commercial and personal insurance. The six employees have over 60 years of combined insurance experience and are currently appointed to write insurance with over 20 different insurance companies.

We thank you, Elwood-Jordans Insurance Agency, for supporting the Alden Historical Society.



## *Annual Meeting to be November 12*

The Historical Society holds its Annual Membership Meeting on the second Thursday during the month of November. In recent years, the meeting has been held at the Community Center with a potluck supper, election of new trustees and a short program. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the potluck dinner has been cancelled but the annual meeting will still be held on November 12. Details on whether the meeting will take place at the Community Center (with a maximum capacity of 16) or virtually via Zoom will be determined soon. Please check our Facebook page or the Alden Advertiser for the latest information. Conrad Borucki, Clarke Burke, Larry Kocher and Jennifer Strong will be seeking reelection to the Board of Trustees.

Submitted by Christopher Gust



## *Annual Bake Sale Cancelled*

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is necessary for us to cancel the annual Bake Sale we traditionally hold in early December. The health and safety of all those involved is more important and we are sure our membership will agree.

The Bake Sale and Fund Appeal are an important budgetary item for us, so we would like to make the following suggestions if you are financially able:

- ***If you bake an item for the sale – please assess your cost for the item and contribute a like amount.***
- ***If you are a patron, please assess what you would normally spend and contribute a like amount***
- ***If you normally contribute to the Fund Appeal, please send that amount to the Society.***

With your help this year, the negative financial impact will be very small. We have appreciated our member and public support over the years and vow we will be back as soon as it is safe for everyone involved.

Checks may be mailed to: Alden Historical Society, 13213 Broadway, Alden, NY 14004

Article submitted by Sandy Dussault, Bake Sale Committee Gil Dussault, Fundraising Committee



A bit of news we have today...  
 A BAKELESS BAKE SALE is on the way.  
 In these trying days, who wants to bake,  
 pie or cookies or even a cake.

You'd be surprised if you counted the cost,  
 of ingredients, heat, and the time you've lost.  
 Baking for sales is extra work,  
 Yet nobody really wants to shirk.

So we've thought of a plan that's really grand,  
 and feel quite sure you'll understand.  
 In an envelope, if you like, please include the price...  
 of a pie or cake or anything nice.

Without fuss or bother, you've done your part.  
 We hope you'll give with a willing heart.  
 Wishing success for our BAKELESS BAKE SALE,  
 This is the end of our little tale.



**Note:** Donations are not tax deductible

# History Repeats Itself

## 1918—1920

### MUST QUIT KISSING!

MOBILE, Ala., Oct. 8.—The city commission today adopted recommendations of the committee of public health closing all schools in the city, motion picture houses and theaters on account of the prevalence of an epidemic of Spanish influenza. Public gatherings including Liberty rallies have been ordered stopped. The health authorities have recommended that persons refrain from kissing.



### WEAR A MASK and Save Your Life!

The Emergency That Now Confronts Our City Is Beyond the Facilities of the Health Department

✦ The RED CROSS ✦

has come to the assistance of the Board of Health. Doctors and nurses can not be obtained to take care of the afflicted. You must wear a mask, not only to protect yourself but your children and your neighbor from influenza, pneumonia and death.

A GAUZE MASK IS 99% PROOF AGAINST INFLUENZA

### WEAR MASKS

Doctors wear them. Those who do not wear them get sick. The man or woman or child who will not wear a mask now is a dangerous slacker.

GOING TO WORK AT WORK  
COMING HOME AT HOME

### "Flu" Epidemic At a Glance

SCHOOLS, churches, theaters, saloons, public meetings, public library reading room closed.

NO PERSON permitted to enter a house where influenza patient is except members of family, nurse and doctor.

FUNERALS of victims of influenza and forms of pneumonia must be buried within 24 hours and funeral must be private.

NO VISITORS allowed at hospitals, except in critical illness of patient.

ESTIMATE 3,000 cases here, 690 being reported yesterday.

Forty-two deaths reported in Buffalo yesterday, due to influenza.

POLICE to enforce closing order and anti-spitting ordinance.

HEALTH Department starts educational campaign.

NO MASSES in Catholic churches Sunday.

LENGTH OF quarantine depends on duration of epidemic.

### THE "FLU" IS INCREASING

No one knows the cause of this disease. It killed twice as many people in the United States last year as our armies lost in France.

### IF YOU WANT TO PLAY SAFE:

1. Keep away from sick people, especially if they cough or sneeze.
2. Use your handkerchief when you cough or sneeze.
3. Avoid crowded street cars, trains, or houses.
4. Don't spit on the floor.
5. Wash your hands before eating.
6. Keep your fingers out of your mouth.
7. Avoid common drinking cups.
8. Keep out of dusty places.
9. SEE THE PLANT DOCTOR IF YOU ARE NOT FEELING RIGHT

### OFFICIAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to all persons concerned that by reason of the appearance in epidemic form of Spanish Influenza in the City of Pullman, for civic reasons of public health protection, all public places where people assemble are

### CLOSED

This includes schools, all places of amusement, dance halls, pool rooms, churches, Sunday Schools, lodges, conventions, etc.

This order to become effective at noon, Thursday, October 10, 1918. When all danger of epidemic has passed this order will be raised.

Dr. J. L. GILLELAND,  
City Health Officer.

THE PITTSBURGH PRESS THURSDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 21, 1918

Before eating—  
When you come home from work—  
Whenever you come in from the street,  
—you must wash properly

Three times when washing your hands is of special importance

THE HEALTH SOAP

SPANISH INFLUENZA

THE HEALTH SOAP

© Lever Bros. Co. 1918

REGISTER TO VOTE

YOUR VOICE YOUR VOTE

## *Alden Heritage Center*

The **Alden Historical Society's** many exhibits are located in the village at the Alden Heritage Center, 13213 Broadway, across from Alden State Bank. The mission of the historical society is to preserve, promote and present the history of Alden and its people.

**HOURS:**

The **Alden Heritage Center** is open to the public from 1 PM to 3 PM the first and third Sunday of each month, **EXCEPT during January and February.** Tours for individuals and groups may be arranged by calling 937-3700 or 392-4295.

**MEETINGS:**

**Program meetings** are generally held at the Alden Community Center on the second Thursday of the month at 7 PM. Notices will be published in the **Alden Advertiser** in advance of the program. Open to the public, these programs are both informative and interesting, often featuring a guest speaker. You are very welcome to come and share your memories and experiences about the evening's program, followed by an informal social complete with homemade refreshments. In the event of inclement weather, we will postpone when Alden school activities are closed.

**Trustee meetings** are held at the **Alden Heritage Center** at 7 PM. Meetings are held the first Thursday of the month in February, April, June, August, October and December. Trustee meetings are open to the membership.

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

New members are always welcome. Your support will assure that the Alden Historical Society will continue to grow and prosper for years to come.

**Please note:** The membership year is April 1 through March 31, with the annual renewal due by April 1.

#### WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT!

**ANNUAL DUES**

Single     \$12.00

Couple    \$20.00

Family     \$25.00

Business \$50.00

Please include your  
Business card

Name.....

Address.....

.....

Phone.....Email.....

**Please make checks payable to Alden Historical Society**

Mail to:

Lynda Tucker, Membership Secretary

Alden Historical Society

13213 Broadway

Alden, NY 14004

**DONATIONS AND MEMORIALS ARE GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED**

**NOTE: Donations are not tax deductible**

**Membership—Lynda Tucker, Clarke Burke, Susanne Galbraith, Jennifer Strong**

**Collections—Jane Burke, Sandy Dussault, Kyle Kavanagh, Larry Kocher, Karen Muchow, Renée Nelson, Kris Rogers**

**Publicity/Newsletter—Lynda Tucker - Editor, Clarke Burke, Elli De-Filippo, Gilbert Dussault, Susanne Galbraith, Christopher Gust, Carl Matthies, Renée Nelson**

**Program/Refreshments— Conrad and Carol Borucki, Sandy Dussault**

**Building and Grounds—Larry Kocher, Conrad Borucki, Christopher Gust**

**Fundraising—Gilbert Dussault, Jane and Clarke Burke**

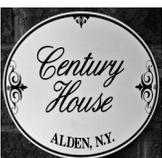
**Nominating—Jane Burke, Elouise DeFilippo**

**Audit—Lynda Tucker, Clarke Burke**

**Budget—Clarke Burke, Christopher Gust, Larry Kocher,**

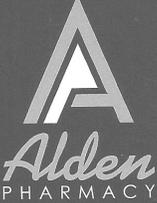
**Historical Marker/Signs—Christopher Gust, Clarke Burke, Gilbert Dussault, Larry Kocher, Karen Muchow, Jennifer Strong**

## *Century Homes*



Although we accept information on any century house, we are now focusing on the 100+ yr old houses located in the town. If you are interested, please email us at: [AldenHistSoc@gmail.com](mailto:AldenHistSoc@gmail.com). We have Century House signs for sale for \$45. Sue Galbraith





**Alden Pharmacy  
& Gift Gallery**

LOCAL 716.937.9818  
TOLL FREE 1.877.384.4762  
FAX 716.937.4073

AldenPharmacy@AldenRX.com  
www.AldenPharmacy.com

13203 Broadway  
Alden, NY 14004



Member FDIC

**Alden STATE BANK**

*Serving the Community for over 100 Years*



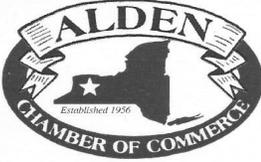
**www.aldenstate.com**



**Elwood  
Jordans**  
A G E N C Y

**Brooks D. Bowman**  
President

13361 Broadway  
Alden, NY 14004  
ph (716) 937-9196  
fax (716) 937-9552  
bbowman@elwoodjordans.com  
www.elwoodjordans.com



**ALDEN**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
Established 1956

13500 Broadway  
Alden  
New York 14004

716-937-6177

www.aldenny.org  
email: secretary@aldenny.org  
www.facebook.com/aldenchamber



LAW OFFICES OF  
**MICHAEL W. COLE, PLLC**

**Michael W. Cole**  
Attorney and Counselor at Law

13349 Broadway Street  
Alden, New York 14004  
(716) 937-9150  
Fax (716) 937-9580  
mcole@michaelcolelaw.com

**JENNIFER L. STRONG, ESQ.**  
Neill & Strong  
Attorneys and Counselors P.C.

www.neillstrong.com

13166 Main Street, Alden, NY 14004  
Telephone: (716) 937-3353  
Email: jlstrong@neillstrong.com

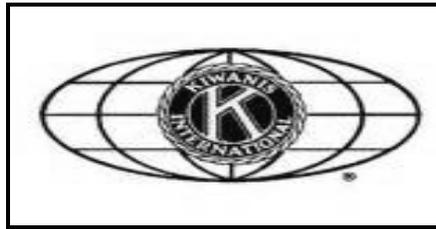


**Thomas A. Steffan**  
Attorney at Law

**Cooke & Steffan, Attorneys**



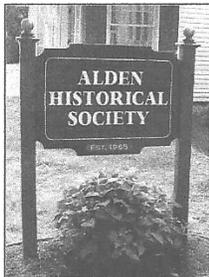
13132 Main Street  
Alden, NY 14004  
Ph: (716) 937-9111  
Fax: (716) 937-4508  
Email: tsteffan@cookeandsteffan.com



**BUSINESS MEMBERS OF THE  
ALDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The Alden Historical Society, founded in 1965, is a volunteer supported organization whose mission is to preserve, promote, and present the history of the Town of Alden and its people.



*Alden Historical Society*  
13213 Broadway  
Alden, NY 14004

*Find us on Facebook.com/AldenHistoricalSociety  
and on the web at www.aldenhistoricalsociety.org*

*Chartered by the Board of Regents  
New York State Education Department*

Prst Stad A  
Postage Paid  
Alden, NY 14004  
Permit No. 6

*We appreciate the support we receive from the Town of Alden.*

*Thank you.*

www.alden.erie.gov