

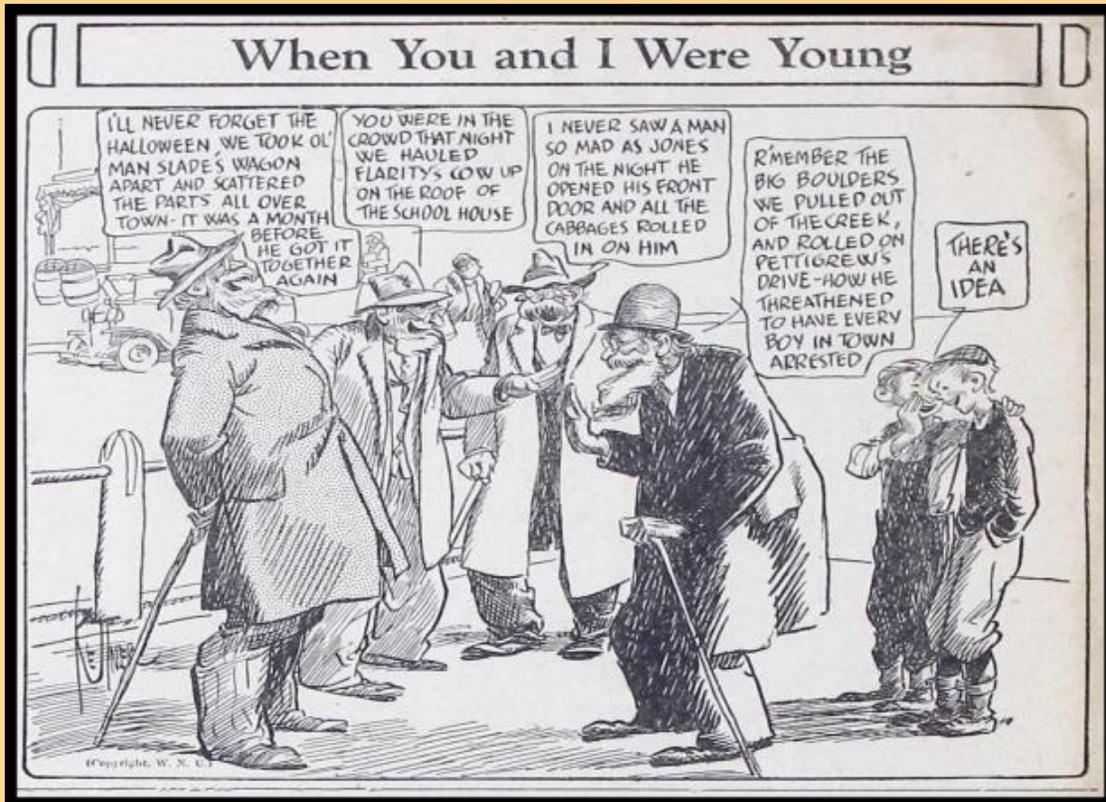


Item of the Week *from the Long Island Collection*

LONG ISLAND COLLECTION

DIGITAL LONG ISLAND

EAST HAMPTON STAR ARCHIVE



East Hampton Star, October 28, 1932, Page 2

It's Halloween time again and I often think back to my own childhood where my neighborhood barely survived the shenanigans of the holiday. While I remember a lot of children going door-to-door in costume trick-or-treating, there were a fair amount of kids who left no stone unturned, covering everything in eggs, shaving cream, Silly String, and toilet paper. Woe be to you if you were caught in their path! I would later emerge from my home the next day to survey the damage, paying particular attention to the smashed jack-o'-lanterns in the street. In my neighborhood now, I mostly get small children accompanied by their parents at my door. The odd middle schooler is few and far between and there are seemingly no teenagers. Trick-or-treating ends around 6 p.m. and everything looks pristine the next day! It's not that I miss those days, but it has always seemed to me that Halloween should involve some type of mischief. The act of trick-or-treating on Halloween itself didn't become a custom in the United States until the late 1920s. On researching how people once celebrated Halloween in East Hampton, I discovered that many people held "Hallowe'en" (short for All Hallows' Evening) parties or dances where tasty treats, such as crullers and apples, were served, games were played, and awards were presented for best costume. Amusingly, the East Hampton Star reported on the yearly antics of costumed children performing the usual pranks around town, such as removing gates, lighting fires, and tapping on windows. Over time, however, the pranks became more destructive and the tone of the articles

went from easygoing to reproachful. Children were now breaking windows, tearing down fences, and defacing public property. It seems like the Halloweens of my childhood were very similar to the 1920s, but with candy thrown in the mix. Some things never change, while others change for the better. I wonder how long my quiet Halloweens will last.

EXPLORE MORE

The Digital Long Island Collection is part of New York Heritage Digital Collections. Included are searchable scans of deeds, drawings, etchings, inventories, letters, maps, paintings, pardons, patents, photographs, plans, postcards, prints, sculptures, sketches, textiles, tiles, yearbooks and more to come.

The East Hampton Star Archive is a fully searchable, online digital archive of our local weekly newspaper, that features each complete issue of the paper from 1918-1968, exactly as it appeared in print. Visit the archive online, for a tour of our Town's history that will fascinate both the amateur and professional historian!

The Karl Grossman Research Archive is an extensive collection of materials digitized from the personal archive of Karl Grossman, an investigative reporter, columnist, author, and current professor of journalism at SUNY Old Westbury. The archive brings together a decades long career in reporting and journalism with topics ranging from the economy and pollution to fishing and East Hampton Town. Patrons are capable of searching this 6,500+ item collection by collection name, year, title, or keyword search.

The Local Artist Research Archive is a collection of over 10,000 items digitized from Guild Hall, containing materials including personal letters, photographs, news clippings, and art catalogs concerning artists of the East End. Patrons are capable of searching this archive by collection, title, or keyword search.



Welcome to the Long Island Collection's "Item of the Week." We are an archive dedicated to the history and people of Long Island, with a special interest in all things East Hampton and East End. Unlike some small local history rooms in other public libraries, we have over 100,000 items including, but not limited to, rare books, maps, photographs, deeds, postcards, letters, newspapers, and whaling logs.

We also have a dedicated and hardworking staff ready to help you with any questions you may have. Unable to make it to the library? No problem! We upload images from the collection to **Digital Long Island** on a weekly basis, so there's always something new and interesting to behold.

Please visit us at the Library, make use of our extensive online digital resources, or contact us for assistance. Our public hours are Mon.-Tues. and Thurs.-Sat. 1:00-4:30 p.m.

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