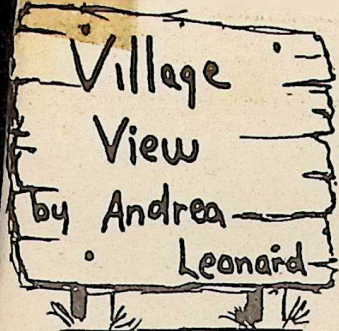




Part II - Personal interview conducted by Village Advertiser columnist Andrea Leonard with Mr. Holbrook Davis of Osterville.

If you hadn't changed your mind, Mr. Davis, had won, and were now a Selectman, what things do you now see you would change, and how?

"Were I Selectman, I would try, first of all, to define the kind of community Barnstable people want in the longer run. Then I'd favor the many minor and some major steps to achieve that goal. Right now we are drifting -- drifting towards the kind of community most people really don't want."

"To be more specific, I would recognize that:

1. As the Planning and Economic Development Commission reported, land is being subdivided at a rate of 3,000 acres a year or more on Cape Cod.

With present zoning, we are going in the direction of a peak population of over one million people; Cape Cod can't support those numbers and a decent way of life, and I'm glad to see the proposed new Charter recognizes these land development problems and recommends certain changes in the town's organization which are intended to deal with them.

2. Productivity in the public sector is usually notoriously low. Is it in Barnstable? And if it is, let's do something about it. There are experts who can help. Without a responsible level of productivity on the part of employees, the tax payer is throwing his money on the out-going tide.

3. At present, neither law nor justice prevent or correct crime. More must be done; from my own experience I know that government and private agencies, working in close harmony, can make progress against conditions in society which cause crime and unhappiness."

"The town needs a standing committee, chaired by a Selectman, to analyze the problems and trends, to supervise a collaborative effort with social agencies, schools, churches, indeed with all interested persons and bodies."

"4. We need additional sources of revenue. The possibilities should be seriously and professionally studied. Would that we could erect toll gates at the bridges and collect a quarter from every visitor!

But seriously, the present system of first

civilized and hardworking countries, which don't have some of our problems, today the position of the United States has changed drastically. I don't think most of us have woken up to that yet, and the waking up may be an unpleasant, but useful, experience."

What, then, is your impression of the local scene, Mr. Davis?

"On the local level, my principal impression is of change and acceleration of change. I see so many more people, two shopping malls across the street from each other, bulldozers by the dozen, and three real estate agencies at every crossroad."

"One thing that doesn't seem to have change much, in Barnstable at least, is respect for a decent way of life and respect for law and order -- this would not be the case if one were returning, perhaps, to a city."

At this point I asked why, if he found so many discouraging changes, he had chosen to return.

"The answer is, even though I'm concerned, as I think so many Americans are, about changes nationally and locally, the fact is, this is home. My family lived in Barnstable in the first half of the 17th Century."

"I'm proud of America's past and challenged by its future and feel we can do something about its problems. And we will do something about them, all of us."

While talking with Mr. Davis a few months ago, I understood he was seriously considering running for Selectman this March. I reminded him of that.

"Quite correct; you asked me a few months ago if I was thinking of running for Selectman and I said I was. Why was I then, and why am I not, now?"

"Firstly, because I felt, and continue to feel, that in recent years, at least, our Selectmen are not as concerned as they should be about the direction the town is taking. In ten years' time, without planning, restraint and care, Barnstable won't be the pleasant place to live it is today."

"It's also going to be very expensive for everyone; the tax rate is \$15 per thousand today, but what about tomorrow? In short, I'm upset about the attitude in Town Hall, and I think most people are."

"To me, if a person has the time, he shouldn't sit back and complain without at the same time thinking of actively doing something about it. That's one of the reasons I was thinking of running."