

Bicentennial Bytes and Updates

-- OCTOBER 2021 --

WELCOME!

I have been tasked with helping to keep committee members (County and Town), volunteers, and members of the Board of Supervisors apprised of our efforts as we prepare for the Bicentennial celebration on April 11, 2023.

- Patti Holdraker,
Member, Steering & Souvenirs Committee

We urge you to share this newsletter with your networks

BICENTENNIAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

A Bicentennial Executive Board has been formed from the Bicentennial Committee. The Executive Board's task will be to work on the ongoing details of the bicentennial, review major issues, and make preliminary decisions for discussion and voting at the next full Committee meeting. The Executive Board, which will meet about once a month between quarterly committee meetings, consists of Bicentennial Committee Co-Chairs, Gene Bavis and Rosa Fox; Wayne County Historian, Peter Evans; Wayne County Clerk, Mike Jankowski; Wayne County Tourism Director, Christine Worth; Committee member, Steve Heald; Committee member/Secretary for the committee, Caryn Devlin.

BICENTENNIAL ACTIVITY BOOK

A Bicentennial Activity Book is nearing completion. Filled with 60 pages of local history, word searches, puzzles, coloring pages, and more, the activity book is geared for Primary & Elementary aged children, but we know many adults will find the pages fun, as well. Activity Book chair, Caryn Devlin, is working on the final stages of the book, and is hopeful the book will be ready to print by December 2021. The Activity Book will be available as a PDF for anyone who wants to download it. It will be published with funds from the Wayne County Historian's budget and distributed FREE of charge. We plan to offer it to school districts who may want to consider using it as a part of their local community curriculum. We also plan to provide copies for Libraries and Historical Societies to distribute.

BICENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE CALENDAR

This calendar is the result of over a year of hard work. Led by Loreen Jorgensen and Chris Davis, hundreds of hours went into preparing it. It covers 2022 and 2023. For each of the 730 days there is at least one historic fact each day. For each of the 24 months, there are numerous photos on various themes such as Transportation, Schools, Tourism, Veterans, Agriculture, etc.

We did not produce this calendar for you to keep track of your appointments, though we suppose you could. This calendar is a "history book." If you are



a history buff and enjoy thinking about historical events, you can use this to look at "This Day in History." It may even stimulate you to look up more information on various topics.

We are proud of this project. We hope that you will agree with us AND that you will purchase one or more as gifts. They are \$15 each and are available at most historical societies and some Town Offices. To find a location, please check our website: www.waynecounty200.com

T-SHIRTS

Bicentennial T-SHIRTS ARE AVAILABLE! They can be purchased at the Museum of Wayne County History which is open Tuesday through Saturday (<https://www.waynehistory.org/>) OR you can contact Gene Bavis to make arrangements to get one.



REPORT TO THE WAYNE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Since the Co-Chairs, Gene & Rosa, have been appointed by the Wayne County Board of Supervisors, they like to do periodic "in person" reports to the Board. At the October 19 regular meeting of the Board, they made a brief report on what has been happening recently and presented each Town with a copy of the Calendar for their Town Office, and a Wayne County Bicentennial Highway Sign to be put up at or near their Town Hall.



Rosa Fox and Gene Bavis with the presentation of a highway sign and Bicentennial calendar to Wayne County Board of Supervisors Chairman Ken Miller

WAYNE COUNTY UNITY FESTIVAL

The Wayne County Unity Festival was scheduled for October 16, but due to the forecast for bad weather, it has been postponed until the Spring of 2022.

DONATIONS

Donations to the Bicentennial continue to come in. Have you become a "200 Club" member yet?

We have been able to fund the production of Bicentennial T-shirts and a portion of the Bicentennial Commemorative Calendar through these generous donations.

Both the t-shirts and calendar sales build funds for other projects. The "big events" of 2023 are going to need a significant amount of money to keep the celebration affordable for our Wayne County families.

If you haven't donated yet, please consider a donation in any amount. Pass the information along to your friends and neighbors encouraging their support.

To donate, simply visit <https://www.waynehistory.org/donationcampaigns>. Select the level you wish to donate. A "special level" to commemorate Wayne County's 200 years is available – the "Wayne County 200 Club." For your donation of \$200 you will receive a special commemorative GIFT. You may also send a donation to the Wayne County Historical Society, 21 Butternut Street, Lyons, NY 14489.

Be SURE to clearly mark it WAYNE COUNTY BICENTENNIAL FUND.

BICENTENNIAL PROJECTS AND CHAIRS

With the T-shirts and Calendar projects completed, we are now focusing in on some other projects to move toward completion.

Activity Book for Primary Age Children – Caryn Devlin (Marion)

Bicentennial Photo Quilt – Bob Mogray (Walworth)

and Joyce Lyke (Ontario)

Torch Relay – Jeff Washburn (Newark) and Bob Oaks (Macedon)

Memories Book – Amber Linson (Walworth)

Bicentennial Minutes – Bruce Farrington (Sodus)

Geocaching – Linda Guest (Lyons)

Antique Boat Show – Sodus Bay Junior Sailing Association/

Sodus Bay Yacht Club

– contact - Dave Pennington (Rochester)

Wayne County NY Challenge – Gene Bavis (Walworth), Rosa Fox (Huron), and Christine Worth (Macedon)

Family Fun Day – The Wayne County Library Directors had agreed to help organize this.

There are many other events and projects in the works. We will expand upon those in future **Bicentennial Bytes**. A "Schedule of Events" should be available by the Spring of 2022 since some events will impact a significant number of people and require reservations for facilities and significant budget implications.

TOWN COMMITTEES

Each town should have a committee established to help with the promotion of county-wide activities, as well as to plan local events within their town to help celebrate the bicentennial. Please support these committees in your town. Attend a meeting, join in an activity, reach out and let the committee chairs know you are willing to assist. The following are the town committees and their chairpersons (or acting chair).

Arcadia – Chris Davis

"Old Galen" (Galen & Savannah) – Hugh Miner

Lyons – Linda Guest & Patty Alena

Macedon – Linda Braun

Marion – Jennifer Hunter

Ontario – Jim Switzer

Palmyra – Beth Hoad

Sodus – Steve Heald

Walworth – Amber Linson

Williamson – Perry Howland

"Old Wolcott" (Butler, Huron, Rose, and Wolcott) – Rosa Fox

The Wayne County Bicentennial Committee

LEADERSHIP:

Co-Chair – Gene Bavis, Walworth Town Historian

Co-Chair – Rosa Fox, Huron Town Historian

County Historian – Peter Evans

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Peg Churchill

Retired Wayne County IDA Director

Karen Dean

Reliant Community Credit Union

Caryn Devlin

Historian, Town of Marion

Phil Eygnor

Supervisor, Town of Huron

Linda Eygnor

North Rose - Wolcott Board of Education

Bruce Farrington

former Village of Sodus Point Historian

Steven Groat

Supervisor, Town of Galen

Linda Guest

Historian, Town of Lyons

Rhea Hayes, Executive Director,

Museum of Wayne County History

Steven Heald

former Sodus Town Historian

Patti Holdraker

Times of Wayne County

Kim Iraci

Williamson Public Library Director

Michael Jankowski

Wayne County Clerk

Richard Lasher

Supervisor, Town of Rose

Alicia Linzy, Teacher

Lyons Central School

Brian Manktelow

NYS Assemblyman, District 130

Marygrace Mazullo, Superintendent

Williamson Central School

Laurie McFaul-Frey

Wayne County Fair

Robert Oaks

former NYS Assemblyman, District 130

Jim Paprocki, Webmaster

Wayne Historians Organization

James Schuler, Assistant Director

Wayne County Youth Advocacy Program

Linda Stevenson

Wayne County Historical Society

Christine Worth, Director

Wayne County Tourism