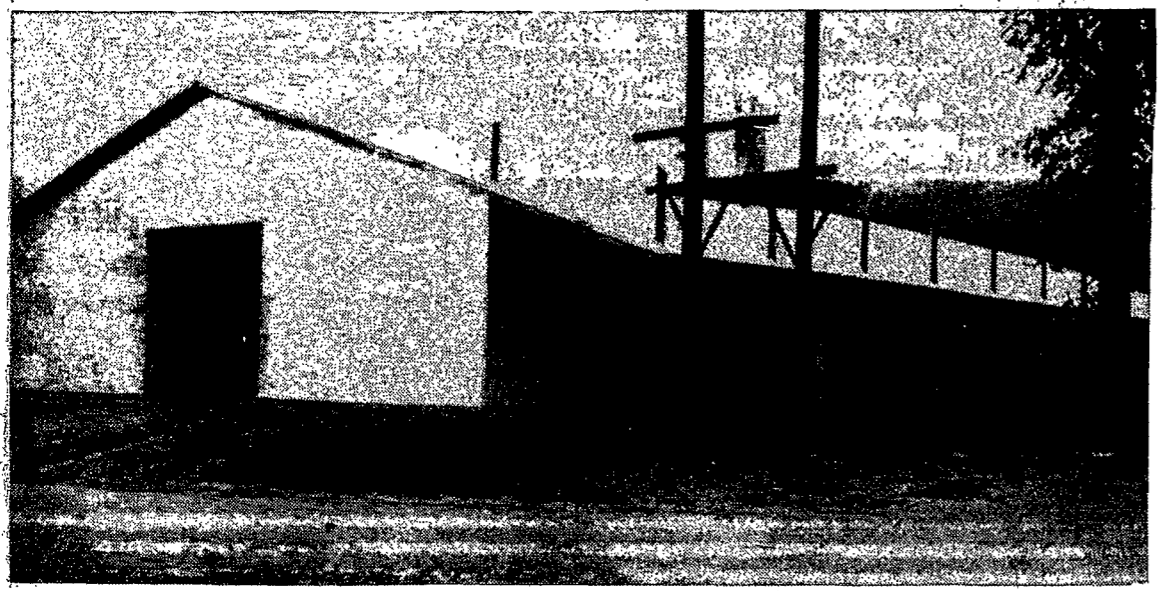


It's 'Fair Time' Again - - Next Week at Altamont



IT'S READY FOR FAIR WEEK! — Two weeks ago the Enterprise printed a photo of this new building while it was in process of construction at the south end of the Altamont Fairgrounds. It is now completed, and is already almost half full of antique vehicles (horse drawn) and antique automobiles. The building will also have a large exhibit of antique cars, owned and restored by members of area antique automobile clubs. (Photo by Edward C. Brandow)



WATER RAN THROUGH THEM — The photo above shows a pile of old wooden water pipes, that were part of a water distribution system installed in the McKownville area between 1800 and 1820. They have presumably been in the ground more than 150 years. This will be an exhibit in the area of the Farm Museum and the antique farm machinery exhibit at the Altamont Fair next week. (See these water pipes at the south end of the Fairgrounds. (Photo by Edward C. Brandow)

ALTAMONT'S DIAMOND JUBILEE FAIR SET FOR OPENING MONDAY, AUGUST 11; FAST-PACED PROGRAM FOR 75th ANNUAL EVENT

Monday, August 11, will be a big day at the Altamont Fairgrounds, for it marks the opening of the 75th annual exposition. Held every year since its inception in 1893, with the exception of two years, 1942 and 1943, during World War II, the Diamond Jubilee Fair promises to be the best ever in its 75-year history.

Back in the early 1900's the Fairgrounds, such as they were, presented a picture of rural gaiety with hundreds of horses and carriages parked wherever there was room to tie up the horses. Special trains were run out to the Fair from Albany, and it was not unusual to see lines of people stretching almost from the railroad station to the main entrance on Grand street, waiting to get into the grounds. A well shaded picnic grove was open for their picnics, and it is still maintained today for any who wish to bring their picnic to the Fair.

Today the auto has replaced the horse and approximately 30 acres have been set aside for parking. Admittance by car to the grounds is over a private road, with three entrances to speed up entry to the grounds.

Many of the older Fairgoers will remember when harness racing was a big attraction at the Altamont Fair. However, with the advent of the automobile and the establishment of flat tracks in nearby locations, horse racing was suspended due to the fact that the better horses were booked at these special meets. Thus one of the finest half-mile dirt tracks at any county fairgrounds in New York state was turned over to the gasoline buggies. Many nationally known auto racers showed off their skills to the crowds until the early 1950's when the directors decided to drop auto racing and get back into the county fair business with its many educational features.

Ground was broken for the 3,200-seat grandstand in 1923 by Peter Orsini, father of Millard Orsini, one of the present Fair directors. The Altamont Fair in 1955 was one of the first county fairs to offer free grandstand seats for the opening day auto thrill show and the five-act review held twice daily, also other special events held on stage in front of the grandstand. Incidentally, the entire seating area of the grandstand is receiving a coat of paint this year so that it will be spotless when the Fair opens on August 11. The present 4-H cattle barn was the original grandstand and was remodeled several years ago.

Official opening ceremonies will be held at the grandstand Monday night at 8 o'clock. Mayor John D. Miller will welcome the Exposition and its thousands of visitors to Altamont. Residents can well be proud of the Altamont Fair and the high type entertainment for all ages it offers.

Start T. Rombough, a resident of Altamont, present secretary of the Albany, Schenectady and Greene County Agricultural Societies, Inc., and Fair manager, took over in 1952 and since that time great strides have been made in making the Altamont Fair the largest tri-county fair in the state.

At the present time the Fairgrounds are composed of over 70 acres, 25 acres having been added in the past eight years. Many new buildings have been erected in the last few years in spite of the fact that buildings such as the

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R. R. Museum Feature Of the Fair Next Week

The Railroad Museum which houses old No. 3028 on the Altamont Fairgrounds will be open daily during Fair week so that people may view this giant of the rails.

Old 3028 is one of the last Alco steam locomotives built in Schenectady and was obtained from the National Railways of Mexico three years ago by Great North Eastern Railroad Foundation Inc., a non-profit group which has begun a three-year campaign to raise \$45,000 to support a planned program of overhaul and maintenance of the locomotive.

After purchasing the locomotive, the Foundation officials and Altamont Fair directors were able to get together on the proposition and a special building, to be known as the Railroad Museum, was constructed on the fairgrounds as a permanent home for old 3028.

The steam locomotive, along with an antique electric locomotive will be on display daily during Fair week from 10 a. m. to 11 p. m., with members of the Great North Eastern Railroad Foundation on hand to answer any questions.



TO MC DIAMOND JUBILEE REVIEW — Jerry Toman, nationally known entertainer, will MC the Diamond Jubilee Review held at 2:15 and 8:15 daily starting on Tuesday, Aug. 12, at the Altamont Fair. He possesses rare combinations of humor and song; dialects and wit; voice and ventriloquism; which rate him as one of the finest in his field, according to the Diamond Jubilee committee.

LUTHER EMPJE DIES; WAS AREA BUSINESS MAN FOR 39 YEARS

Luther C. Empje, long-time resident of Guiderland Center, passed away on July 31 at the Veterans hospital, Albany, after several weeks of illness. He was 58 years of age.

Mr. Empje managed Empje's Food Market from September 1930 to January 1946, when he purchased the market from his father after his return from service in World War II.

In 1934 he became postmaster for Guiderland Center, and served in that capacity until his death.

Luther received his education at Voorheesville and Delmar schools. Never one to really become actively involved in community affairs, he nevertheless supported any worthwhile project in his own quiet way, and most often with a donation.

During the dark days of the depression of the 30's, no "knight of the road" ever went away from his market hungry, nor was any sincere family ever refused help when they needed it, in the form of credit. An era of service to his beloved Guiderland Center is past.

Mr. Empje was a communicant of Helderberg Reformed church, a charter member of the Voorheesville American Legion, and a long-time active and associate member of the Guiderland Center Fire department. He was also a member of the National Association of Postmasters.

He was born in Schenectady on June 5, 1913, the son of Eugene Empje and the late Imogene Warner Empje. He is survived by his wife, the former Violet Scholtes; his sons, Reginald, Bryant and Dennis; and two grandchildren; also his father, Eugene Empje, and his brothers, Lester and Paul.

Funeral services were held at the Helderberg Reformed church in Guiderland Center on Sunday afternoon, Aug. 3, with Rev. Chas. J. Boonstra, minister, officiating. Interment was at the Guiderland Reformed church cemetery at Osborn's Corners.

Events to Come Churches, Schools, Fraternal, and Other Organizations

AT PINNACLE AUG. 7-8 "Sounds of Praise" by the King's People, a group of six students from King's College at Briarcliff Manor, can be heard at Camp Pinnacle at 7:45 p. m. on Aug. 7 and 8.

CHICKEN SUPPER AUG. 9 The Ladies' Auxiliary of St. Paul's Lutheran church, Beane, will sponsor a baked chicken supper Saturday, Aug. 9, at Foxenkill Grange hall, Route 43, beginning at 7:30 p. m. (Continued on Page 6)



RADIO -- NOT RAID! — Arnold Proskin, Albany county's district attorney (left), and Gerry Forest, WABY radio MC, talk Punkintown Fair -- NOT politics -- while Mrs. Proskin and daughter Lisa "watch the birdie" for the camera-man, last Friday night. John Ford concentrates at the control panel so Gerry won't miss a cue. Gerry will again MC a 3-hour program from the Punkintown Fairgrounds, New Salem, this Friday and Saturday nights, Aug. 8-9. The Fair starts at 7 o'clock on Friday and 6 o'clock on Saturday. (Photo by Edward C. Brandow)



PUNKINTOWN MENAGERIE — Marilyn Helfrich, far from her home in Mineola, L. I., had a good time during Punkintown Fair time last Friday night. She just had to cuddle between Snoopy and Hee-Haw, stuffed animals, which were prizes offered at the Fair. This week end, the "menagerie" will offer a fuzzy-wuzzy bear. Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Helfrich and their daughter Marilyn were vacationing at Lake Okauchee. This Friday and Saturday, Aug. 8-9, Punkintown Fair will no doubt have some other visitors from afar. For details of the Fair, see the accompanying news story. (Photo by Edward C. Brandow)

Punkintown Fair On Again Tonight, Saturday Night; Last Weekend Great Despite the Rain

By HAROLD LONNSTROM

Plainly, many people desire fun more than anything. This was proved last Friday and Saturday nights at Punkintown Fair. Despite threatening weather all day and the early-evening rain on both nights, the fair attendance was great. A light rain about 5 o'clock Friday afternoon did not cause a hold up in opening on time. Saturday evening the opening was delayed from 6 to 7 o'clock because of rain which started about 5 o'clock and continued for two hours.

During the rain Saturday, fun lovers came and waited patiently for it to stop. As soon as the rain ended there was a flurry of activity by fairworkers to dry off counters, and the fun began and didn't let up until midnight.

More Fun This Weekend Fun lovers who have been to the Fair as well as those who did not get there because of a doubt that the show would go on, will have two more nights to fulfill their yearning for fun.

New Salem's friendly volunteer firemen, sponsors of the Fair, have placed a rush order to have the best weather of the summer for tonight, Friday, Aug. 8, and tomorrow night, Saturday, Aug. 9.

The closing night of this year's Punkintown Fair. They want the Fairground next to the firehouse on Route 85A, two furlongs north of New Salem four corners at Route 85, to be clear and fast for their patrons' funning pleasure. Starting times are 7 o'clock Friday evening and 6 o'clock Saturday evening.

Free and Easy New Salem's volunteer firemen and their families have planned Punkintown Fair for fun-loving families. They believe, the family that has fun together, runs together.

To make it easy on the family pocketbook the Fair offers free supervised parking on the acres of space surrounding the Fairground and admittance to the Fair is also free. To make it easy on the legs there are plenty of benches. There is no charge for sitting and visiting with friends or just people-watching between rounds of fun.

Dime Ride The national consumers price index goes up and up. But the ride price index at Punkintown remains steady. It still takes only a (Continued on Page 4)

Driver Education Course

Guiderland Central Schools program of continuing education will offer the three-hour course in driver education Monday, Aug. 11, from 7 to 10 p. m., in the large group instruction room at the high school. A maximum class size of 36 students has been established; a fee of \$3 will be collected that evening.

Students must bring their driver's permit in order to receive their certificate upon completion of the class. To register, call 861-8592, ext. 35. For additional information contact Mr. Pryor, director of continuing education.

Princetown Church Installs New Pastor

Rev. and Mrs. Harold Irish, their three daughters and one son were honored Sunday afternoon at a reception in the parish hall of Princetown Reformed church, following the installation of Rev. Mr. Irish as pastor of the church.

Mrs. David Millington was chairman of the committee arranging the reception.

Rev. Mr. Irish was installed as pastor by the Classis of Schenectady. Rev. Douglas Walrath, field secretary of the Palatka Synod of Albany, delivered the sermon. Rev. Raymond Van Zoeren, retired, of Scotia, delivered the charge to the minister, and Rev. Paul A. Benes, pastor of the Lishakill Reformed church, the charge to the congregation. Harold Joslin, elder at Christ Community Reformed church and vice president of the Schenectady Classis, presided at the 3:30 p. m. installation service.

The Ministry of Music was presented by Mrs. Irish and Miss Darlene Young. Mrs. Terrance Van Zoeren was organist. Choir directors were Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Vrooman.

Serving a pastorate at Prattsville for the past five years, Rev. Mr. Irish succeeds Rev. Russell Johnson at the Princetown church. Rev. Mr. Johnson assumed a pastorate in the Rochester area in January, after serving the church at Giffords for 10 1/2 years.

The little boy was giving his teacher a hard time. "If several sheep are a flock, and several cattle are a herd, what would you call several camels?" asked the teacher. "A carton."

Barbecue Set Saturday

The Plotterhill Volunteer Fire company will serve its 10th annual chicken barbecue on Saturday, Aug. 9, from 3 to 6 p. m. at the firehouse on Schenectady-Mariaville Rd., Route 159.

Proceeds will go to the firemen's building fund. Tickets will be available at the door.

Warren Gifford, chairman, is assisted by Larry van Erten, John Van Oort, Alton Bradshaw, William Rose, Steven Mastrea, William Bernaski and Edward Gifford.

Granges To Have Big Show At the Fair Here

Members of the Albany, Schenectady and Greene County Granges are busy readying their exhibits for this year's competition at the 75th annual Altamont Fair, Aug. 11 through 16. Many are being prepared with the Diamond Jubilee theme in mind.

This year the Granges will use all the space in the Grange building. In former years space was shared with other organizations. This means that the subordinate Granges will present 18 exhibits of a varied nature where formerly only six or seven were shown. Each subordinate Grange now chooses its own topic instead of having one assigned to it. The competition is friendly but earnest and makes for very interesting exhibits.

This year's Grange exhibits have been resolved through the co-ordination of the Tri-County Grange association. This association meets regularly every month to plan its fair exhibits and activities for the ensuing year. Helen Turner, master of the Niskayuna Grange, is president and Joseph Kupperbacher is secretary. The State Deputy Grange Master of Schenectady County, Clarence Schmid, is the Grange representative on the Fair Board serving as an associate director. The association recently held a work party to paint the interior of the Grange building.

There will also be exhibits by the junior Granges. Junior deputies, state deputies, Pomona Granges and Pomona lecturers. On Wednesday evening during the Diamond Jubilee Fair week, the annual Grange square dance competition will be judged. Bill Chaffin will be the caller and the public is invited to dance along with Grange people.

A novelty and food sale booth will be set up all week where people may purchase home baked goods, jams, jellies, vegetables and novelties made or grown by Grangers.

Old Wooden Water Pipes In Fair Exhibit

At the Altamont Fair next week, there will be an exhibit several wooden water pipes, which date back about 150 years. This should be an interesting exhibit, especially to oldtimers who can remember when many municipalities were equipping their water systems with this form of piping.

The exhibit will be located in the area of the farm museum and antique farm machinery exhibit, at the south end of the Fairgrounds.

These specimens of wooden water pipe were taken from the ground beside the McKownville water filtration plant in 1968. They were part of an ingenious water distribution system installed by William McKown between 1800 and 1820, and have been in the ground presumably more than 150 years.

In 1793 William McKown, who leased a tavern called the Five Mile House on the original Schenectady Path or King's Highway, foresaw the coming of the Great Western Turnpike and purchased a large tract of land along the Kromme Kill (now called Krum-Kill), and erected a large frame tavern and hotel on the site of what is now King's Shell Station, at the end of Fuller Road on Rt. 20. Later Witbeck's Tavern, it burned in 1917.

In 1799 William McKown leased land to the Great Western Turnpike company for the road, and the tavern of "Billy" McKown became a well known stopover for settlers bound for the west and cattle drovers bound east for market.

Mr. McKown erected cattle pens and stables for provide for the animals. The water conduits provided water for these installations. Some have been found as far away as Elmwood St.

At Old Sturbridge Village, Massachusetts (circa 1790-1830), the period in which these pipes were installed, is an exhibit of how such pipes were made by holding a straight pine log in a rigid frame and boring with a large guided hand auger. They were apparently common to the period.

William McKown died in 1843, and his remains rest in Prospect Hill cemetery where the family was moved from the private burial plot in McKownville.

Nearly three-fifths of United States land is used to produce crops and livestock, one-fifth is covered by ungrazed forests, three percent is in cities and other urban uses, and 12 percent is desert, tundra, swamp, and other land of limited use, says a U. S. Department of Agriculture report.

Town Candidates Are Named by Democrats

Guiderland Democrats last week picked John Boucher, a county highway department foreman, as their candidate for town supervisor.

The 102 Severson Ave., Altamont, resident will oppose incumbent Carl J. Walters, who seeks his third two-year term.

After the nomination Boucher indicated that he intends to wage an extensive door-to-door campaign in his first try for public office.

Selected as town board candidates at the nominating caucus in the Guiderland Center firehouse were Michael Antalek of Lone Pine Rd., a retired General Electric employee, and Clifford Womer of 133 Lincoln Ave., Altamont, who was the head custodian at the Altamont Elementary school until his retirement.

Millard Orsini, co-owner of an Altamont business, will be the Democratic candidate for highway superintendent, and Ernest Radley, a retired transportation executive who served for 20 years as fire commissioner, will seek the post of receiver of taxes.

The town clerk candidate is Mrs. Joan Bianci of 41 Terry Ave., and Dan Throneburg of 24 Arcadia Ave., McKownville, who operates a hearing aid center, is running for town justice.

The meeting was chaired by James Doran. Appointed as a committee to fill vacancies were William Jones, Walter Carlson and Stuart Rombough.

Jones and William Mahoney have acted in the capacity of co-leaders of the town party since the 1968 death of John Hayes.

Earlier the county legislative candidates had been endorsed and Robert Pfeifferberger, whose 26th district includes two election districts in Guiderland and three in Colonie, appeared at the caucus to elicit support.

Also running on the Democratic ticket for legislative posts are John Cunningham and Edward McMahon. Cunningham faces incumbent Republican Harvey Barhydt while McMahon will oppose Ray McDowell, who was tapped by Republicans to succeed Salvatore Amato when the latter decided to run for the town board instead of the county position.

The animal trainer was in the noted producer's office to demonstrate his dog's talents. A scrappy cocker spaniel, the dog ably quoted poetry and climaxed the audition with a medley of operatic arias in perfect pitch. "Not bad," the producer declared as he leaned forward toward his desk. "Now, let's see her legs."