"The Clinton Independent"



1985

CLINTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



7th annual "VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS"

Your Clinton County Historical Society Spotlight is on Paine-Gillam-Scott Museum this month where old-time holiday activities begin Dec. 1 and end Jan. 2.

As in the past PGS will be decorated with holiday greens "hauled from the swamp" and a cedar tree, which is what early pioneer settlers used for their Christmas trees when settling here, will be brimming with old time trims.

A full schedule of PGS activities is listed on the green flyer enclosed.

See you there



AT ST. JOHNS... VETERAN'S MEMORIAL PLANNED

As 1985 draws to a close CCHS is working with John Caudy, memorial co-chair, and Dave Miller, Mt. Rest Cemetery manager, to raise \$3,200 for a Veteran's Memorial to be placed at the cemetery next spring. A foundation was laid this fall. The existing memorial was erected to honor "Volunteers of the Union" and the planned marker will honor veterans of all wars.

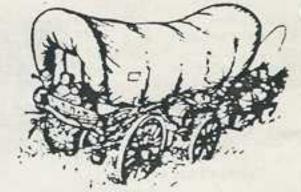
Donations can be sent to: Veteran's Memorial Fund, c/o Mt. Rest Cemetery, St. Johns, Mich. 48879



Meet the people

Who Came To Clinton County . . .





CLINTON COUNTY PIONEERS WHO DIED BETWEEN June 10, 1889 & June 12, 1890

John Haire Samuel L. Ackley John H. Patterson Franklin Smith Jasper Brown Mrs. Catherine Sherwood Rev. Wm. T. Baldwin A. J. Halstead Mac Robert Webster Mrs. Mary Warren Dr. L. W. Fasquell Pter Vanvlick Mrs. G. C. Joslyn Moses D. Brown David Sevey Mrs. L. Millicent Jason Christian Baker Ezekial Niles Mrs. Sarah A. Sage Mrs. Sarah A. Sage Mrs. Susan A. Harper Mrs. Jacob Snyder Marvin Brown Lyman Swaggert Mrs. Sarah D. Holly Mrs. Lydia A. Sowle Augustus D. Griswold George W. Parks	Lebanon Greenbush Maple Rapids Essexville St. Johns Palo St. Johns St. Johns Greenbush St. Johns Ovid Eagle Watertown Bingham Duplain Bengal Bath Maple Rapids Dallas	June Aug. Aug. Aug. Oct. Nov. Nov. Dec. Jan. Feb. Feb. May	15, 1, 9, 1, 14, 11, 22, 29, 30, 1, 8, 8, 1, 8, 4, 17, 25, 25, 29,	1889 1889 1889 1890 1890 1890 1890 1890	69 years 75 years 74 years 74 years 68 years 68 years 68 years 55 years 54 years 78 years 78 years 70 years
Augustus D. Griswold					
			==		
Mrs. Mary L. Gillson	Eureka			1890	68 years
Frederic Miller	Dallas			1890	76 years
John Jones	Riley			1890	86 years
					Property of the state of the st

(Submitted by Janet Snyder)

Bath beats plows to Christmas tree

Bath Township's "official" Christmas tree is now in James Couzens Park having just barely been saved from machines clearing a path for I-69 near there.

The living 20-foot white spruce was transplanted near the park gazebo and was one of 11 trees rescued so far by residents who are "adopting" the trees to save them.

In the unique project private citizens are paying \$35 per tree to have them planted, most between the sidewalk and street in front of their homes. The township is paying the balance.

Of the 19 trees which township official: arranged to "adopt" from the state's right-of-way, were a purple plum and ed maple planted in the right-of-way at Clark/Webster Roads which folks call the "crossroads" of the town.

The Christmas tree in the park will be lit in a 6:30 p.m. ceremony Dec. 6 and that will be followed by caroling.Last year townsfolk began holding an annual "Caroling" night at the park. This is the third year a manger scene will be displayed at the gazebo there.

in the news

At Bath townsfolk were "waiting for a miracle" recently at the Bath United Methodist Church. Erected over 100 years ago, and rebuilt after the 1927 school explosion, parishioners say the miracle happened - over \$20,000 was pledged to restore the church. Included will be a firmer foundation with a new fellowship hall. Church officials said the \$20,000 along with a \$40,000 building fund is enough to continue the work.

Hi pry records the church was built in the 1860's for about \$3,000 but it suffered severe damage from the school explosion. It was located next to school and part of the restoration then includad enlarging the structure as a memor-

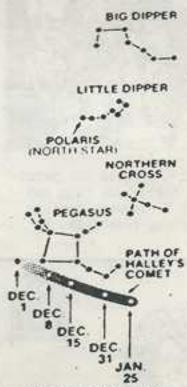


Halley's comet, visible through telescopes since 1982 on its return orbit toward the sun can be seen now with binoculars and astronomers say it is brighter than expected.

To find the comet look for a group of faint stars named "Pleiades," about 4 degrees above the eastern horizon at sunset. The comet will gradually brig en and move lower in the sky as Janua nears.

The comet is named for Edmund Haley who was born near London on Nov. 8,16 and who computed the comet's orbit in 1682.

The comet is believed to be a "dirty ball of dust and ice" which astronome say is travelling 54,000 mph. It is 78 million miles from Earth and 166 million miles from the sun.



Look for Halley's Come! high in the southern sky at sunsel, gradually brightening and moving lower in the sky through January.

Happy New Year

in the news

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(Notes from CCHS Bd. of Dir. meeting 11/14/85 from Dorothy Cressman, Rec.Sec)

OATLEY HOUSE: Cost to move the small doctor's office adjacent to Paine-Gillam Scott Museum, and to put it on a foundation, is estimated at \$8,264. We will await opinion from the Clinton Co.Board of Commissioners before taking action.

NEEDED;

Volunteer guides at PGS Museum at Christmas activities. Call Catherine Rumbaugh at 224-2894 or 224-7402.



After the Civil War patriotic fervor was high and small flags were popular Christmas tree trim. CCHS MONTHLY MEETING: Open House at Footon Time Transfer of Marshall, new president of Michigan Historical Society. This is our annual cookie exchange.

PAINE-GILLAM-SCOTT: Special programs and hours during December. See green flyer enclosed for all PGS activities.

GENEALOGY: No information available on upcoming meeting.

ARCHIVES: DeWitt Township Hall 4700 Brook Road Mon-Wed: 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, Dr. Paine and PGS (Submitted by Catherine Rumbaugh)

John W. Paine purchased two lots in St. Johns in 1858 and in 1860 he builthe house one one lot and the first brick store on the other. (Both are on Maple Street across from the courthouse there). Hence we honor him; the doctor who remodeled it; and the last residential owner - in the name of our museum: Paine-Gillam-Scott. Last year students touring the facility at Chrismas time sang Happy Birthday to the house. This year, at our Dec. 19th CCHS Open House, the membership will sing it too. Then Alfred and Frances Nelson will entertain at the organ and Euphonium.





Clinton County Historical Society

P. G. Box 174 Snint Johns, Michigan 48879 ST. JOHNS, MI.
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