#### VOLUME 14, ISSUE 5

## Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society Newsletter



#### Fall into Autumn with W-PHS

As the leaves change color and the days grow shorter, W-PHS embraces the seasonal shift.



From the first day of school to our first W-PHS program of the season, Autumn brings new beginnings and many exciting opportunities! Our fourth-quarter calendar. detailed in this newsletter. is packed with engaging events. including monthly programs, special events and performances.

#### Starting with the inaugural

W-PHS Program on Wednesday, September 4th, featuring the history of B. Forman Park, Wayne County's first park, to "Δ Christmas Carol" on November 30th and а special 60th Anniversary event on December 4th, there is a range of activities for you to enjoy. All events tie back to our intriguing history, linking the past to the present.

These are exciting times for local and national history connections! We recently discovered an oil on canvas folk art portrait at the American Folk Art Museum in depicting Illinois. early Pultneyville settlers, David and Catherine Stolp Crane. Research confirmed their pioneering roots in Pultneyville in the early 1800s. It also revealed that Catherine was the daughter of Frederick Stolp and the granddaughter of Abraham Peper, Sr. who settled in Pultneyville in 1807/08. The genealogy documented that in 1827 Stolp and his father-in-law, Peper, owned a farm together on the lakeshore in Pultneyville that they purchased for \$1,600.

The Stolp and Crane families moved to Illinois in 1835 where the folk art portrait was done in 1845 by renowned artist, Sheldon Peck, according to museum notes.

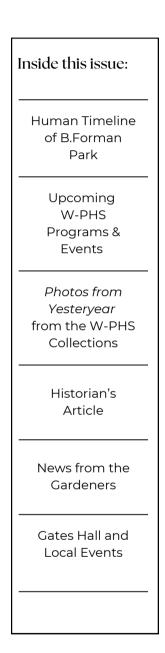
It is the hope of W-PHS to one day have a high resolution print of the portrait in its collection for exhibit purposes. Anyone interested in being a donor for the acquisition of this print, please contact me at nanhance@gmail.com or 315.589.8873.

Another significant national connection to our local history is the Lake Ontario Marine Sanctuary designation, positioning Pultneyville as the western most terminus of New York's first marine sanctuary. This sanctuary, one of only sixteen nationwide, will raise awareness and attract visitors to our St. Peter exhibit and divers to the site of the St. Peter shipwreck in the waters of Lake Ontario just east of Pultneyville where it has rested quietly since 1898.

As W-PHS embraces new/ discoveries and seasons, \\/@ continue to share our rich history with enthusiasm. Join us in the upcoming months for a series of engaging programs, performances, and events. As Autumn approaches, W-PHS appreciates your ongoing support as we bring our shared history to life.

Regards,

Nan Nanette Peters Hance W-PHS President







W-PHS Annual Picnic See the B. Forman Park Human Timeline again on Sept 4!

It was a cool beautiful day at B. Forman Park on Wednesday, Aug. 7, as W-PHS held its annual picnic. A sumptuous picnic supper followed by a proclamation presented by Assemblyman Brian Manktelow recognizing the 60th anniversary of the founding of the society began the evening. The highlight of the evening was a human timeline depicting the history of the park. From the Native Americans to present day park activities the audience saw and heard this story come alive. Thanks to the following cast the history of the park came alive: Al Henry, Perry Howland, Debbie Parts, Charlotte Buehler, Paul Arndt, Dan Montondo Lorraine Dawes, Peter Parts, Sandy Zeman, Cliff Doge Gary Buehler, Carol Bailey and the Sutherland's grandchildren, Zoey and Noah Zecher.

If you missed the program it will be presented Wednesday, Sept. 4, at 7 PM in Gates Hall. The cast will be the same except for Terry Sutherland and Bob Zeman who will graciously take the parts of Debbie and Peter Parts. The program was a long time dream of picnic program chair Dottie Howland and was dedicated to the late Peter Evans, county historian and champion of local history. Click <u>here</u> for more picnic photos!





# Homecoming Accolades

The W-PHS extends its grateful appreciation to Peter Parts, Chair of 2024 Homecoming Festivities and of course, to Deb too for her unwavering support.

Our sincere thanks to the enthusiastic team of volunteers who not only friend, fun, and fund-raised, but ensured a successful family-friendly event. Thank You to all who played a role in presenting this year's memorable festivities.



#### **SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2024**



# Thank you!

Thank You Assemblyman Brian Manktelow for the Legislative Resolution recognizing the 60th Anniversary of W-PHS! Your continued support is very much appreciated.



Save the Date Our Agricultural Scene "All about Apples & Agriculture" Oct 2, 7pm Gates Hall

Featuring our rich apple & agricultural history . . . and more. A special program which coincides with Wayne County Apple Tasting Tour Month. Produced by Alison DeMarree, Retired Cooperative Extension Agent. This program is free and open to the public.



## W-PHS Membership

To become a member or to renew your membership, go to <u>w-phs.org</u> for forms and info. W-PHS is member of the North America Reciprocal Museum Association (NARM). With a W-PHS Sustainer membership or above, you get free or reduced entrance fees at over 1300 institutions, including many nearby. <u>narmassociation.org</u>



Save the Date W-PHS Annual Meeting and Program Nov. 6, 7pm, Gates Hall

Election of Officers The Year in Review Treasurers Report Bylaws Changes Strategic Plan Property Assessment Update Looking Forward to 2025 & Beyond Refreshments Served! This meeting and program is free & open to the public.



# Albert Young's S. S. America Model

Come see the 45 inch radio controlled model of the S. S. America that is now on display at the WPHS house at 4130 Mill Street in Pultneyville. No, you can't take a cruise on this liner, but you can do an imaginary tour thanks to the generosity of Mr. Donald Young II, who has loaned to the historical society this elegant model which is displayed on the large table in the meeting room/kitchen. It was built in the 1950's by Mr. Young's grandfather, Albert Young who owned Young's Funeral Home in Williamson.

A bit of history about this model-it was sailed under its own power on Lake Ontario and ponds in the Williamson area. Mr. Young constructed this and other model ships to interest his two voung sons. The liner America was designed for the North Atlantic passenger route between the United States and England or France. She was the flagship for the United States Lines when launched in 1939/40. During WW II this vessel served as a troop carrier and returned after the war to her trans-Atlantic passenger runs until 1964.

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## "A Tea Out of Time" to be held at Gates Hall

In 2017, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage in New York State, the Wayne County Historical Society produced "A Tea Out of Time." The play, written by Larry Ann Evans and Linda Stevenson, was performed in the Carriage House at the Museum of Wayne County History to rave reviews from attendees.

The plot: Sixteen ladies out of Wayne County's past – one from each town (with one extra from Lyons – it's the County seat and always gets more of everything!) have received a mysterious invitation to tea. No one knows who sent them, but all are curious and brave enough to decide to attend. The catch? These women are all from different years in Wayne County history, which they begin to realize as each arrives for the tea party. It takes a little while, but thanks to Assemblywoman Mildred Taylor – the 'first lady of Wayne County' – all eventually sort themselves. As they sit down to tea and conversation, each woman's fascinating story is revealed bit by bit, poignantly and with humor, while awaiting the arrival of the guest of honor: celebrated Suffragist, Susan B. Anthony.

"A Tea Out of Time" entertainingly examines what questions one woman might ask another from 100 years in her future. What possible conversation might ensue between a woman brought up in the 1850s and one from the 1950s? What would a women living in1853 think if she saw a woman wearing a 1969 miniskirt? How would a woman in 1914 feel if someone told her that there would be a World War and a global pandemic in just a few short years?

This staged reading of this marvelous historical play, the first since 2017 (with just a few 2024 updates), will be held at Gates Hall in Pultneyville on Friday, November 1 at 7 PM and Sunday, November 3 at 2 PM. All proceeds will benefit the Wayne County Historical Society, and co-sponsor Williamson- Pultneyville Historical Society to help with upkeep and expenses for the Museum of Wayne County History in Lyons and historic Gates Hall . . . the nation's oldest, continuously active small community theatre.

Tickets available at <u>www.waynehistory.org/events</u>. \$15 per ticket for WCHS and W-PHS members, and \$17 for non-members. See you at the show!



Fall Wrap-Up Submitted by Linda Parmelee

Hard to believe we're about to finish another gardening season. The gardens enjoyed the warm weather, especially the phlox and day lilies. We had a bumper crop and the phlox were especially fragrant.

Each week we tried to keep the most public areas of the properties looking good while keeping an eye on the beds in the background. Working out of the sun and away from the mosquitos was our goal.

Now we will be cutting back and raking out beds while enjoying the last blooms of the year. Picking up branches may also be on our list if we continue to have windy days. We may put a few bulbs in to cheer us on next spring.

The gardening group will have a few months to relax before we get back to work next April/May. There's always room for more helpers-come join us on a sunny Tuesday morning next spring!



## In Gratitude

The W-PHS expresses sincere thanks to Devin Shembri for a very generous donation to the society from the sale of "Pultneyville Potatoes" at Homecoming. It was a day-long family affair of cheerful volunteering to provide the tasty Pultneyville favorite and giving back to the community they love.

Thank You Devin and crew for your support!



Sept 4, The History of B. Forman Park - Wayne County's First Park. 7pm, Gates Hall featuring a human timeline cast of characters... and more! This program is free and open to the public.

# Sept 6, Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary Celebration, 11am, William S. Cahill Pier, Oswego, NY See Page 6 for details.

Sept 12, Ryan Quinn Live, Gates Hall 7pm Featuring Season #10 contestant on "The Voice". <u>Click for Tickets</u>

Sept 28, "Speakeasy Easy" Event, 6:30pm Gates Hall A Williamson Chamber of Commerce event. See Page 6 for details & link.

Oct 2, Our Agricultural Scene..."All about Apples & Agriculture", 7pm, Gates Hall

Oct 5, Meet the Spirits Event at Lakeview Cemetery, 7 & 8:30pm\* Click for Tickets

**Oct 14, Apple Cider Pressing Afternoon, 1-4pm W-PHS Grounds, 4130 Mill St.** Be a spectator or a volunteer apple washer, apple presser or cider taster. A "something for everyone" afternoon of old fashioned fun for the young and young-atheart! This event is free and open to the public.

Oct 21, Board Meeting, 5pm, Gates Hall

Oct 26, Meet the Spirits of Williamson, 7pm, Gates Hall <u>Click for Tickets</u>

Nov 1 & 3, "A Tea Out of Time", Nov 1 at 7pm & Nov 3 at 2pm, Gates Hall Co-sponsored by the Wayne County History Museum and W-PHS. Tickets online and available at <u>www.waynehistory.org</u>

Nov 2, "Get Your Holiday Jingle On", 9:30am - 3pm (or until sold out), Gates Hall

Nov 6, W-PHS Annual Meeting and Program, 7pm, Gates Hall

Nov 25, Board Meeting, 5pm, Gates Hall

Nov 30, A Christmas Carol, 4pm Gates Hall

Dec 1, Pultneyville Illumination, Details to follow in Nov-Dec Newsletter

Dec 4, W-PHS 60th Anniversary Celebration, Details to follow in Nov-Dec Newsletter





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Join the <u>Williamson Chamber of Commerce</u> for an unforgettable roaring 1920s "Speakeasy" event on September 28th, starting at Gates Hall and later moving to the Pizza Stop.

Grab your <u>tickets</u> today. Don't miss out on the fun which promises to be a bee's knees good time!



<u>Lake Ontario National Marine Sanctuary</u> <u>Designation Celebration</u> September 6, 11am William S. Cahill Pier, Oswego, NY

This event is free and open to the public.





Sept. 12, 2024 7 p.m.

Gates Hall Pultneyville, NY

## RYAN QUINN TO PERFORM AT GATES HALL

Ryan Quinn, the incredible talent from nearby Clinton, NY, is set to light up the historic Gates Hall stage at 7pm on Thursday, September 12th.

You might remember Ryan from his electrifying, four-chair-turning performance on Season 10 of NBC's "The Voice." He wowed the nation, advancing to the "Live Playoffs" under the mentorship of music icons Adam Levine, Tori Kelly, Miley Cyrus, and Christina Aguilera!

Since then, Quinn has been unstoppable touring, recording, and sharing the stage with legends like Postmodern Jukebox, Aubrey Logan, Loren Gold of "The Who," bass wizard Hadrien Feraud, and jazz genius Scott Kinsey. Ryan's unique blend of rock, pop, folk, soul, and jazz is guaranteed to captivate and inspire!

Don't miss out on this exclusive 90-minute performance! <u>Tickets</u> are available now. Proceeds will directly benefit the Gates Hall Preservation Fund, helping to preserve and enhance America's oldest, continuously active small community theater located at 4107 Lake Road in Pultneyville.

Join us for an evening of amazing music on September 12th and support a great cause —this is one performance you won't want to miss!



## "Six Pillars of Wisdom" from Footprints by L B. Skeffington submitted by Perry Howland

When I came to the Democrat and Chronicle as state editor the paper had shown little specific interest in agriculture, as far as I could see. It was widely read in about a dozen counties. I began riding the roads, visiting correspondents and community leaders. More and more I fond myself listening to rural people about their hopes and plans. Most of them told me they wanted more "farm news."

As I look back I remember how green I was and who my "teachers' were.

Six names stand out:

1 – Harry Wellman of Kendall. He was chairman of the Joint Fruit Committee set up by the New York State Horticultural Society and the State Farm Bureau Federation. The six men were instructed to plot the future of their industry in the face of great changes, known and unknown. Wellman was a quiet man who held the committee to its task. It came up with a report which years later amazed me for the accuracy of its predictions and programs.

2 – Harry S. Duncan of Wallington, organizer and first chief of the Farm Products Inspection Service. He had been a county buyer of farm produce and served as a dollar-a-year man in Hoover's Food Administration during WW I. He either knew the answers to everything I asked or could tell me where to go. I spent a good deal of time with him and found he had more ideas about better marketing than some of his superiors.

3 – Byron J. Case, Sodus fruit grower, fountainhead of information and highly respected by fellow growers. For some reason "BJ" took a shine to me and called me "my boy," and insisted upon educating me. 4 - George A Morse, Williamson grower. We developed a close friendship about the time we acquired our Lake Ontario property, in 1934. George lived up the road. He was president of the Fruit Testing Cooperative affiliated with the Geneva Experiment Station, a plant breeder and student of nature. At one time he was known as the Blueberry King and I recall going with him to New Jersey to bring back 50,000 blueberry plants.

5 – Samuel Fraser of Geneseo. He had been superintendent of the Cornell University farm, operated an orchard and nursery, and later became secretary of the International Apple Association. Sam had a wide range of scientific information at his fingertips, compiled highly accurate crop and market reports, and was one of the most colorful lobbyists in Washington. Sam had the instincts of a teacher and took great pains to explain things to me.

6 – Roy P. McPherson of Leroy. After the State Horticultural Society and the State Fruit Growers' Association merged in 1918 Roy was named secretary. As such he worked with a program committee, managed the Rochester and Hudson Valley meetings and shows, and represented the industry legislatively. He saw the "winter fruit show" become the largest industry exhibit of its kind in the East. He early came to me with his ides, asked me to help, and I did. Roy was a man of sterling qualities, great persuasiveness and broad vision. As I worked with him through the years I like to think that some of his good qualities rubbed off on me.

"Skeff," as he was widely known, wrote for the Democrat and Chronicle until his retirement in 1959. Some of his pieces were compiled in three volumes, "a rambling and probably biased backward glance at some places I have been, people I have met and some items I have written," he recalled.



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With the Williamson High School students returning to the school on the hill for another year I thought I would look back at the Williamson School throughout the years. The first school in Williamson was Pultneyville's District #1 in 1808, Williamson School #2 opened in 1811 on East Main St. In 1855 a cobblestone school was built on the corner of East Main and Locust St. In 1876 a new brick school was built on what is now the front lawn of the Middle School. The bell from that school has been displayed in the current high school. These schoolhouses only served elementary grades. Promising students from Williamson had to travel to Marion or Sodus both of which had "Academies."

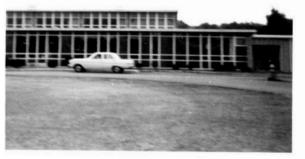
Williamson opened its first high school in 1902 and in 1907 the brick school was doubled in size. The current Middle School opened in September 1931 with 600 students from grades 1-12. The building and land cost \$380,000 were financed with a 40-year bond. In 1951 the school population increased to 850 and a new wing was added to the building and the kindergarten was added. By 1950 the school population had ballooned to 1000 students grades K-12 in what is now the middle school (and the building was smaller than it is today). The crowding was relieved by the opening of the Primary School in 1956, but the school population continued to grow with all of us Baby Boomers. The current High School opened in September 1968 with 509 students relieving the crowding in the now Middle School which still housed 940 students. Those of us who were in old Central School in 1967 will attest to hallways being wall to wall students and there were oneway stairways (up on one end of the hall and down on the other). Current school population is Elementary School: 394; Middle School 280; High School: 296 for a total of 970. Information for this article are from the Williamson Library's Williamson Sun and Record Digital Archive Digital Archives of the Williamson Public Library :: (advantage-preservation.com) and the Williamson Central School District Web-site Visiting WCS - Williamson Central School District.



Williamson Union School 1920 (2018.027.01)



Williamson Central School 1966 (2007.0247.02)



Williamson Elementary School 1966 (2007.0247.02)

## Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society Board of Trustees

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President	Nanette Hance	nanhance@gmail.com
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Collection Management Communication Fundraising	Florence Doyle TBD TBD	

#### **EXOFFICIO TRUSTEE**

Town Historian

Perry Howland

peridot@rakedsouthgarden.com

#### W-PHS COMMITTEES AND OPERATIONS

In addition to the Board of Trustees the work of W-PHS is supported by the following committees, leaders and coordinators for specific purposes as needed. Leaders and Coordinators attend Board meetings at the request of the Secretary or as deemed necessary and requested by committee leaders which include, but is not limited to:

"Meet the Spirits" Event Exhibits Finance and Audit Get Your Holiday Jingle On Golf Tournament Home Tour Homecoming Picnic Programs

#### **OPERATIONS**

Correspondence **Education Liaison** Gift Shop Grants (Local and Regional) Grounds Hospitality Supplies (Mill St & Gates Hall) IT Administrator Membership Nominating Volunteer & Visitor Engagement Newsletter Social Media Publications Media and Publicity Website Updates

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To contact any of the above, please call 315.589.9892 and leave a message.

## About the Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society

Founded in 1964 and chartered in 1971, the mission of the Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society is to preserve, protect and share local history of the Town of Williamson, NY, in general, and the unincorporated hamlet of Pultneyville in particular, by creating curiosity, inspiring involvement, and providing exceptional experiences by making history come alive.



The Society is located in a landmark dwelling known as the Auchampaugh home at 4130 Mill St. This house was built for Harvey Auchampaugh about 1858 by Russell Cole, a local blacksmith and builder. Auchampaugh was a prominent businessman in the hamlet, a harness maker, drugstore proprietor and Postmaster for several years. Rooms in the home contain exhibits, archived information, a gift shop and business office. The Society House is regularly open mid-June through mid-October 1-4pm Friday through Sunday or by Special Appointment by calling 315.589.9892.

#### W-PHS Board Meetings Information and Program/Event Cancellation Policy

W-PHS Board meetings are generally scheduled to be held at Gates Hall at 4107 Mill Street, Pultneyville at 5 pm on the last Monday of the month as per published schedule. However, due to COVID-19, and to ensure social distancing, the time and location may change, or may be held electronically.

Any W-PHS member in good standing may attend on a non-voting basis and can request to be placed on the agenda for a specific purpose related to the Society. For the meeting schedule, please refer to the society's website at <u>www.w-phs.org</u>. The meeting schedule is also published in every newsletter.

The W-PHS Board meetings/program/event cancellation policy: From time to time there may be a need to cancel a program, event or meeting because of weather. Cancellation Criteria: Schools are closed and/or after school events are cancelled due to weather (Williamson/Wayne County). W-PHS Programs/Events will be cancelled by the Program Chair. Cancellations and rescheduling information will be posted on W-PHS website, social media and/or an email to all members.

### W-PHS Board Meetings 2024

JANUARY 15 FEBRUARY 12 MARCH 25 MAY 20 JUNE 24 AUGUST 26, 7pm OCTOBER 21 NOVEMBER 25

All Board Meetings will be held in Gates Hall at 5:00 pm unless noted otherwise on <u>www.w-phs.org</u>

#### Contact us

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Newsletter ideas? Send to Barbara Crawford, Editor at news@w-phs.org Alard Equipment Corp. 6483 Lake Ave, Williamson 315-589-4511

All County Construction https://all-county-paving.com/

Cavallaro-Neubauer Chevrolet 3740 Route 104, Williamson 800-491-8625

Chance Farms, LLC 4000 Lake Rd., Williamson 315-945-7771

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Empire Tree Surgeons Empiretreesurgeons.com Fox Fruit Farms LLC 3635 Lake Rd., Williamson 315-589-5113

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Lettering Lounge 6160 Route 21, Williamson 315-589-4145

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