

Count Down to Lewiston's Bicentennial Celebration

From now until July, the Historical Association of Lewiston and Lewiston Bicentennial Committee will team with Niagara Frontier Publications to highlight news, events and features commemorating Lewiston's first 200 years. These exclusive pieces will count down to a grand celebration, scheduled to take place July 1-4, 2022.

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Joseph Brant and Lemuel Cooke build historic site

832 Ridge Road: Cooke House

At 832 Ridge Road sits a house with history that predates its construction. The first known structure built on this spot was made by Joseph Brant, a Mohawk chief, and his tribe. It was the site of their camp, and later the cabin of Brant.

Englishmen took a liking to him, and Sir William Johnson "pampered" Brant, even sending him to England to get an education.

The tribe was allied with the British during the Revolutionary War, a time when they would, of necessity, vacate their ancestral village to be protected by the British. Their loyalty to the British would gain them a piece of land in Canada, which would eventually be named Brantford, because it was recognized as Brant's ford.

The home, as it stands today, was built by Capt. Lemuel Cooke, who placed it on top of the Brant home foundation. His father, Isaac, fought in the Revolutionary



An historic house on an even more historic site: Lemuel Cooke built upon the foundation of an earlier house built and occupied by Joseph Brant, a Mohawk chief. • A closer look at the former Cooke House as it looks today. Not far south from this home is the site of the "Brant Spring," a long-time water source for the Mohawk residents – still referred to in modern real estate records.

War under Washington, and Lemuel served as one of the rare army surgeons on the rebel side.

Lemuel Cooke moved to Fort Niagara in 1796 when the gov-

ernment offered a program to provide free transportation to any soldier who would work a year at a frontier fort. Around 1802, Cooke moved to Lewiston, making him one of the first settlers of the area. In the War of 1812, he would provide medical aid to soldiers in his home and later helped soldiers cross the river in the Battle of Queenston Heights.

This job was especially fit for him because he operated the ferry house in Lewiston landing.

Afterward, Lemuel Cooke would become a reputable person in the area and a Lewiston judge. In 1820, he would build a respectable house on Ridge Road, where it still stands today.

Bicentennial Weekend

The Lewiston bicentennial cel-

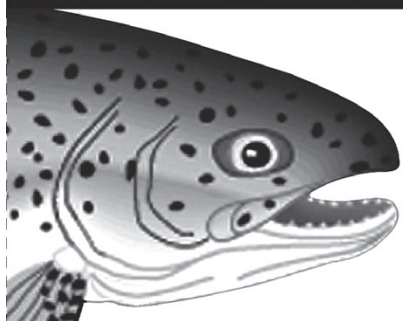
ebration is now just weeks away. Visit www.Lewiston200.org for details. Be sure to invite all your former Lewiston friends and family to join us for the four-day celebration of Lewiston's history.

Thanks to Ken Slaughenhoupt, Tom Collister and Austin Heinz for the article.

• Find all of the HAL articles online at www.wnypapers.com.

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Stream & Lake Map of New York

LOST STREAM MAP

The STREAM & LAKE MAP OF NEW YORK resembles another map-- known to Pennsylvania anglers as the "Lost Stream Map."

It was completed in 1965 after a 30 year effort by Howard Higbee, a former Penn State Professor.

Professor Higbee painstakingly plotted by hand, the location of 45,000 miles of streams onto the map. It sold extremely well - until the printer declared bankruptcy and hauled Higbee's work to the landfill.

But reprints were impossible because the maps were printed in non-photographic blue. Higbee was even offered \$400 for one of his last maps. And state agencies were forced to keep their copies under lock and key.

Then, at the age of 91, Howard Higbee's dream came true. Computers made it possible to reprint the map.

Then the STREAM & LAKE MAP OF NEW YORK was created.

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Professor Higbee's Stream & Lake Map of New York is the first and only highly detailed map of its kind. The 3.5-foot-by-4.5-foot New York map shows 65,000 miles of streams plus lakes.

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RAVE REVIEWS

"It is in showing where to find out-of-the-way trout streams that makes the map such a treasure to the fisherman."

—Joe Gordon, TRIBUNE-DEMOCRAT, Johnstown, PA

"I have one of the original Higbee's Stream Map of Pennsylvania on my wall behind my desk. It's the best thing available as far as streams are concerned. I use it all the time for reference. I don't know of anything more extensive and it is the most accurate map out there as far as streams are concerned."

—Dave Wolf, PA Fish and Boat Commission

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HAL looks at Niagara Parks

The Historical Association of Lewiston's next program is "The History of the Niagara Parks." James Hill will speak at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 26, at the Lutheran Church of the Messiah Fellowship Hall, 915 Oneida St.

Since 1885, Ontario's Niagara Parks have cared for the Canadian side of the Niagara River. Hill's presentation includes the

story of the park and some of the dramatic events that have taken place on the grounds cared for by the Niagara Parks Commission.

For 25 years, he has been with the Niagara Parks Commission historic sites – including Old Fort Erie, Laura Secord Homestead, Mackenzie Printer and McFarland House. He has overseen

an extensive art and artifact collection, plus over 100 markers, monuments and plaques along the Niagara Parkway. Hill also worked for Parks Canada and the Friends of Fort George, holds a private pilot's license, and formerly served as a captain in the Reserve Army. He lives with his wife, Jeannie, and two children in Niagara Falls, Ontario.

This community event is free and open to all. Refreshments will be served.

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Guest: Emily from NF Culinary Institute
Topic: Summer Sizzler Series

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