

200 years

Continued from Page 10

So, the committee decided since 2018 was passed and, with fundraising stilled, we would refocus our plan. There may have been a higher hand at work here, because a quick look at the 2022 calendar revealed a perfect time. July 1-4 ran from Friday through the holiday on Monday, and allowed for a fantastic conclusion with fireworks. So, the date was set and the committee turned attention to how these days would be used.

I refer everyone to visit www.Lewiston200.org for the detailed schedule, but the weekend contains musical concerts "Summer of '69," Buffalo Philharmonic, Nerds Gone Wild, local favorites Lewiston Choraleers, Reflector and The Tower, and "Blues Monday."

In addition, Friday kickoff includes a village bell ringing beginning at 6 p.m. A parade Saturday at 11 a.m. along Center Street followed by dedication of the Alphonso I. DiMino Memorial Band Shell at 1:45 p.m. That will be immediately followed by a two-hour concert by the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra beginning at 2 p.m. All events are free and open to the public, however, for the dedication and BPO concert, there will be reserved seating immediately in front of the stage reserved for special invitees for this particular event. After a brief hiatus, the band shell will host Nerds Gone Wild Saturday night.

Sunday begins with a community worship service held outside at the Old Stone Church (Presbyterian) at 11:15 a.m., immediately followed by a picnic. Then, at 1 p.m., village Historian Russ Piper leads a dedication of the new marker for Potter's Field in the cemetery behind the Old Stone Church. At 2 p.m., St. Paul's hosts an old-fashioned ice cream social.

Then music again at the band shell all afternoon and evening. Choraleers at 2:30 p.m.; Reflector at 4 p.m. and The Tower at 7 p.m.

Also, on Sunday evening at 7 p.m., the always-popular and fascinating historical "Marble Orchard Ghost Walk" will meet at the Peace Garden. This is a pre-ticketed event, so please plan ahead and reserve your place.

Monday, the national holiday will be less-packed. At 10 a.m., Ken Slaughenhoupt, president of the Historical Association of Lewiston, will offer the Lower Landing Historical Tour in Artpark. This is a 12,000-year story of the importance of the Lewiston community from pre-history to today.

The Council on the Arts' "Blues Monday" will hit the band shell stage at 7 p.m., as "Red, White and Blue Monday." Always a great time.

At last, as dusk settles onto the village, you will not want to miss the extraordinary fireworks for this special Fourth of July.

Bicentennial committee Chairwoman Leandra Collesano said, "I want to thank the many people who have given of their time, money and talent to make this celebration such an exciting and fun weekend. Not only the committee members, but also village and town officers, and sponsors who have been so very generous.

"Please come join us for the entire weekend or any portion you can attend. Two hundred years is really something, and we want you all to be a part of it."

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



Congratulations Lewiston on 200 Years!

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