

Living in Lewis Community Newsletter



Winter 2017

Lewis Center circa 1908

Lewis Veterans Park

A lot has been accomplished at the Lewis Veterans' Park over this summer. The cement sidewalk was continued along the front. A stone masonry façade on the outside walls has been completed by Carl and Emma Jean O'Kusky. A formal roadside granite LEWIS VETERANS PARK sign calls attention to our Veterans' Park and the cement base also has the stone masonry facade to match the Park walls. Two granite benches have been donated by Jay Heald, who has assisted us with all of the granite purchases and placements. We will soon see the military emblems and an inscription on the center granite block.

We are currently verifying Lewis Veterans to be listed on bronze plaques. There is a public Lewis Veterans Park Facebook site with lists of Lewis Veterans researched thus far along with pictures of our construction progress. If you have a veteran in your family, who enlisted in the military from Lewis or lived in Lewis more than ten years, please check to see if he/she is listed. Right now we are just researching Revolutionary War through Korean War. Information may be given to David Blades (518-873-2017), left at the Lewis Town Hall (581-873-6777) or messaged on the Lewis Veterans Park Facebook site. (the lists are also on pgs 6 and 7 in this issue)

Currently there are Lewis Veterans Park T-Shirts and Sweatshirts being sold at Denton's Bear Essentials Store in Lewis to help support the Project. Anyone wishing to send donations to help support the Project can send them to Lewis Veterans Park, PO Box 502, Lewis, NY 12950.

Lewis Heritage Trail

Have you walked, biked or driven the Lewis Heritage Trail? It was established a few years ago with a Creating Healthy Places grant. There are 8 interpretative signs in and around our hamlet. They are full of history and photos from the past.

Begin in front of Adirondack Outdoor and follow the map (printed on each sign) through town. In the future we want to build on that trail and add other historic places.

Lewis is RICH in History!

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Interpretative sign next to Veterans Park

The interpretative sign above was to be located on Hale Hill for the Missile Site. Some of the signs were moved. Go exploring and see if you can find where they are now located.

Message from the Supervisor

Another year has passed as Town Supervisor and here we are at budget time. The tax cap this year for the Town as set by the Comptroller's Office was 1.0122 %. I am proud to say that the Town Board was able to stay below the tax cap numbers and not reduce services. We were also able to give the employees a 3 % raise this year. We passed our 2018 budget on Nov 9th.

This continues to be a busy year. We applied for and received a grant for a new salt shed that will be completed in 2018. We completed the next section of trail in the Thrall Dam trail system and are currently looking for more grant money for more work to be done there.

We also received a Records Management grant that we will begin later this month. This grant will help us organize our existing records as well as purge any records that are no longer needed. This will make things much easier in researching information requested. This is the first step in hopefully having our records digitized for even easier access.

We continue to work on the third phase of the Towns water project that began in 2008. We have applied for a \$750,000 dollar grant to complete the water system on the southwest side of Rt. 9 south of the Post Office. We are still waiting to hear if we were awarded the money.

We recently repaired the roof on the Town Hall stripping and replacing the Shingles. This work was completed by Todd Stevens Construction. We also did some painting and staining on the porch and building, trying to keep our Town Hall as appealing as ever!

I also would like to thank all the Town Employees, the Town Board and especially Town Clerk James "Jim" Pierce for helping ease me into the transition as Supervisor. As you know Town Clerk Jim Pierce is retiring this year with over 40 years serving the people of Lewis. There is no one I respect more than Jim. He has been a great influence and mentor to me, first as a Councilman for 18 years and then the last two year as supervisor. His knowledge and expertise are going to be greatly missed. I'm sure I will be calling him from time to time for some advice. Thank you Jim for your service to this community, good luck in the future and enjoy your retirement, you have most definitely earned it! God Bless!

In closing I want to thank all the residents of Lewis for the faith you have showed in me as Supervisor. I look forward to continuing the next two years. As always my door is always open, please, feel free to stop by or call.

Jim Monty

Lewis Cemetery News...

Preserving local history is important for our future. One method of accomplishing this is through cemetery upkeep. In 2016 the NYS Division of Cemeteries deemed our cemeteries in good physical condition. Our goal is to continue to maintain and improve our cemeteries. For many, many years our cemeteries have benefited from volunteers in various roles striving for improvement. The Lewis Cemetery was recently the recipient of a generous donation from Adirondack Flagpoles in the form of a 30' flagpole. A beautiful sight to behold.

Earlier this month Richard Buske from the NYS Division of Cemeteries conducted a routine financial review. Revenues (Town of Lewis contribution, lot sales, burial fees and donations) and expenditures (mowing, trimming, tree removal, etc.) were discussed. The Deerhead and Roscoe cemeteries no longer generate lot sale or burial fee income. Grant money will be applied to fix leaning monuments. Mr. Buske expressed concern that future years may be of financial concern. Discussion ensued as how to remedy. A neighboring town has recently acquired 2 cemeteries per order of NYS as the cemeteries ran out of money. We want to avoid this. Simply put, cemetery upkeep isn't cheap. If you would like to help maintain and improve the integrity of our cemeteries please consider making a donation.

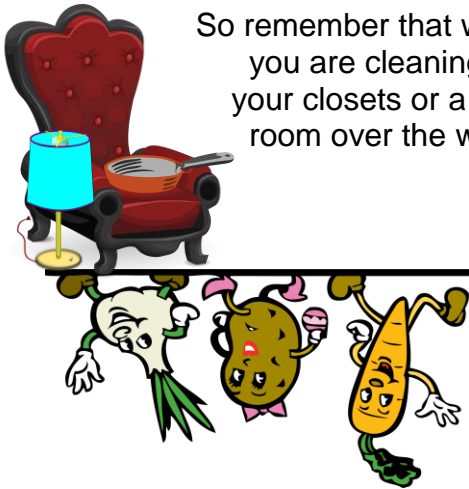
Make checks payable to the Lewis Cemetery Corp. PO Box 532 Lewis, NY 12950.

If you have questions or information that may be helpful feel free to call me at 524-5085.
Thank you, Lanita Canavan, Lewis Cemetery President.

More about our cemeteries on the next page

Got Stuff?

We are planning a **Town Wide Yard Sale** for June 1, 2, 3 of 2018.



So remember that when you are cleaning out your closets or a back room over the winter.

Farmer's Market

There has been some interest in starting a Farmer's Market in Lewis. We want to know if any farmers or crafters would like to join the fledgling effort.

Contact Kathy Linker 873-6493



New Flagpole in the Lewis Cemetery

Lewis Library Rolling on to a New Venture

As you may have heard, after almost four years, the Lewis Library has rolled out its book carts for the last time. They donated most of the books to some wonderful local organizations and have decided to continue their focus on Bringing Our Community Together.

Last month they held a community meeting at the town hall and created a great list of ideas to:

- Get residents INVOLVED around town.
- INFORM you about what's new in Lewis.
- EXPLORE our town's wonderful history.

The Community Committee plans to meet once a month. If anyone wants to join the conversation stop by the next meeting, Saturday January 13, 10am at the town hall. There will be coffee and goodies.

Can't make the meeting? Give us a call with your ideas.

Suzie Dubay 873-6593

Kathy Linker 873-6493

Jeff Scott 962-4895

Do You Remember?

The Town of Lewis used to have an active Community Club back in the 1930's. Among other entertainment they held annual carnivals for fundraising to benefit the community.

Where Are Your Relatives Buried?

All four of our local cemeteries have had **all their tombstones transcribed**. This work was carefully completed for the Lewis, Deerhead (Fairview) and Crossett Cemeteries by our Town Historian, Jean Dickerson. The Roscoe (Blood) Cemetery was transcribed by Joyce M. (PIERCE) Ranieri. The Lewis and Deerhead cemeteries also have the plots identified by block location so they are easier to find.

This information along with all other Northern NY cemeteries can be found online and is a wonderful resource when you are researching your family tree. Just Google the cemetery or look up the Northern New York Tombstone Transcription Project hosted by RootsWeb.



Hike Our Park !

We are continuing the good works of Charlie Martin and Claude Aubin with the revitalization of **Thrall Dam Park**. This park was once a great destination in both summer and winter for locals and visitors. Essex County owns the land and they gave our town the opportunity to reopen it as a park. With that comes our responsibility for its upkeep. Our goal is to bring back access to its wonderful woods and wetlands and make it safe for everyone.

The initial trail system is complete. The trails wind through every corner of the park. We are currently working on trailhead kiosks, maps, trail markers and signage. Until they are installed remember these are multi-use trails, open to hikers, cyclists, horses and ATVs. In the winter the trails will be used by snow machines, snowshoers and X-country skiers. Hunting is also allowed within park limits.

There are 3 entry points with large parking areas.

- Rt 9 (West Entrance)
- Lewis-Wadhams Road (North Entrance)
- Ray Woods Road (South Entrance) *summer only*

No cars/trucks are allowed beyond the trailhead parking.

Be aware and respectful of others using the trails.

Everyone yields to horses.

Please
carry out what you carried in
to keep our park looking nice.

Contact the Town Hall if you would like to help the Thrall Dam Team.
873-6777

The Story Behind Thrall Dam Park

We are planning another **History Night** next spring. We'll have a pot luck dinner and then listen to "The Story Behind Thrall Dam Park". We've already started digging into our historical archives and have unearthed Thrall Lake's long and interesting history.

Remember the hedgehogs from last year's History Night? Well, we have found even more fun little tidbits from Lewis' past.

If anyone has any memories or photos about Thrall Dam Park they would like to share they can contact
Jean Dickerson 873-6422
or Kathy Linker 873-6493



Trail to Thrall Lake from the North Entrance

National Figure, Inez Milholland, Called Lewis Home

This summer an exhibit spanning the rich life of Inez Milholland Boissevain was put on display in our town hall. Inez spent much of her short life as a national suffrage leader advocating for women's right to vote. Inez even made speeches right here in Lewis! She died at age 30 in Los Angeles while on a suffrage speaking tour and is buried in the Lewis Cemetery at the top of the hill. Along with the installation of the history exhibit we had a NYS Historical Marker in Inez's honor erected at the intersection diagonal from the Lewis Post Office.

Why is Inez buried in Lewis?

Stop by the town hall and check out the Inez exhibit to learn about her connection to Lewis. This exhibit was sponsored by the Lewis Library with additional history exhibits planned for the future.

Transfer Station Good News!

Whether you use our transfer station or not your tax dollars pay for its operation. You'll be happy to know that for the past year it has been operating in the black. Your sticker prices did not go up, but thanks to Jim Monty's tremendous efforts in curbing illegal dumping there, revising our recycling operation and coordinating with Elizabethtown he has pulled us out of the red.

The current Transfer Station Guide for disposal of household garbage, recyclables, electronic recycling and large items requiring a punch card is located on our town website or you may pick up a copy at the town hall. Proper disposal helps keep our costs down.

You can buy stickers/punch cards at:

- Transfer Station: Saturdays 9am-3pm
- Town Hall: weekdays 7:30am-3:30pm
- Denton's Bear Necessities

Transfer Station Hours

The more you RECYCLE the less you pay!

Want to Know What's New in Lewis?

The Lewis Town Board meets the 2nd Tues of the month, 7pm at the Town Hall.

We have a great town website. Check it out. The latest news and town meeting minutes are posted there.

www.LewisNY.com

Lewis Government Contacts

Town Offices 518-873-6777

Hours: Mon. - Fri. 7:30am - 3:30pm

Supervisor	James Monty
Clerk to Supv.	Susie Ewald
Councilmen	Steven C. Denton Jr. Lanita S. Canavan Jeff Scott Larry Hulburt (thru 2017) Dave Blades (begin 2018)
Town Clerk	Jim Pierce (thru 2017) Vanessa Cross (begin 2018)
Building Insp.	Mike Flynn (office hours - Friday mornings) lewiscodoffice@gmail.com
Tax Collector	Kathleen Robertson 518-873-9818
Town Assessor	Donna J. Bramer (office hours - Tuesdays)
Dog Control	Kevin Jacques 518-873-6420
Town Historian	Jean Dickerson 518-873-6422

Town Garage 518-873-6455

Highway Supv. Kevin Denton
Water Andy Cassavaugh

Town Court 518-873-3204

Court Hours Tues: 6pm - 8pm

Judges: Timothy Pierce
Tyler Glanda

Transfer Station 518-873-2299

Hours: Tues. 2:30-5pm
Thurs. 2:30-5pm
Sat. 9:00-4pm

LewisNY.com

The Veterans Park Committee would like you to take a last look at the lists in this issue to make sure they are accurate before engraving begins.

Information may be given to David Blades (518-873-2017),
left at the Lewis Town Hall (581-873-6777)
or messaged on the Lewis Veterans Park Facebook site.

Lewis WWII Veterans
Sept. 1, 1938 – Sept. 2, 1945

Amsden, Everett	Crowningshield, Spencer A.	Liberty, Robert G.
Arthur, Harry A.	Curran, Millard H.	Liberty, William A.
Bartlett, Roger Sr.	Daniels, Andy W.	MacDougal, Raymond C.
Benedict, Charles O.	Davis, Lloyd W.	Marshall, Raymond E.
Boissevain, Robert Fergus	Denton, Jesse D.	Marshall, Robert J.
Boon, Joseph E.	Dickerson, Harold S.	Mattox, Chester W.
Boull, Oakley E.	Dickerson, Richard F.	Mauran, Alfred C.
Bronson, Charles R.	Dickerson, Willis C.	McCray, Henry
Bronson, John W.	Dubay, Charles E.	McPhail, Angus E.
Brown, Ronald R.	Dudley, Gilbert J.	Mitchell, Fabian I.
Burlow, Edmond F. Jr.	Feltt, Harold S. Sr.	Monico, Luther B.
Burpee, Cecil H.	Gay, Robert S.	Myers, Stanley F.
Carson, James W.	Greenwalt, Joseph S.	Nichols, Ferris R.
Carson, Robert	Hathaway, John A.	O'Kusky, Constance P.
Carson, Ross L.	Hood, John H.	Pulsifer, Nelson J.
Clark, Kenneth R.	Jackson, Philip N.	Pulsifer, Philip N.
Clark, Lester D.	Jaquish, Paul C.	Pulsifer, Richard I.
Clark, Lloyd	Jenney, Ralph E.	Redmond, Philip E.
Cleland, Carlyle M.	Johnson, Dennis H.	Richards, Wallace L.
Cleland, Forrest E.	Johnson, Effie H.	Robetoy, Joseph P.
Cleland, Leland E.	Johnson, Harry P.	Seney, Francis E.
Collins, Leigh W.	Kaleita, Louis F.	Smith, Earl A.
Cornwright, Ervin L.	Keith, Arthur E.	Souliere, Roy J.
Cornwright, Frank	Keith, Richard E.	Spaulding, Hollis M.
Cornwright, Henry W.	Kingdollar, Israel J.	Spear, Sherman W.
Cross, Carlisle C.	Kingdollar, Joseph F.	Stevens, Arleigh C.
Cross, Georgianna E.	Klein, Charles P.	Stringham, Stanley H.
Cross, J. Everett	Knight, Stanley A.	Valentine, Harold L.
Cross, John W.	**Lamb, Harold R.	Wade, Henry C.
Cross, Joyce S.	LaMere, George W.	Washburn, Philip C.
Cross, LeRoy J.	Lawrence, Earl J.	Wells, Franklin E.
Cross, Raymond S.	Lesperance, Edward G.	Whiteman, Robert G.
Cross, Stanley M.	Lewis, Frank E.	Whittemore, Jesse E.
Cross, Thomas J.	Lewis, Ira E.	Williams, Raymond B.
Crossman, Frederick T.	Liberty, Donald	Wisley, Elverton H.
	Liberty, J. Fred	

**Killed in Action

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Lewis WWI Veterans
July 28, 1914 – Nov 11, 1918

Benedict, Merle F.
Blinn, Edwin S.
Blinn, Walter F.
Canfield, Harry H.
Carson, Benjamin H.
Collins, Walter E.
Cornwright, Grover C.
Cross, Allie A.
Cross, Carlton J.
Cross, Raymond S. Sr.
Daniels, Gordon H.
Dickerson, Holland D.
Flagg, George L.
Hathaway, Albert J.
Hathaway, Leon W.
Hathaway, LeRoy
Hathaway, William F. Jr.
Hyde, Leigh A.
Liberty, George
McCray, Fred Jr.
Rives, Jesse
Smith, George H.
Soper, Adelbert C.
**Soper, Leonard A.
Trudeau, William R.
**Tyler, Philip M.
Wrisley, Vernon W.

** Died in Service

Lewis Korean War Veterans
June 25, 1950 – July 27, 1953

Aubin, Claude W.	Gough, Paul L.
Bashaw, Harry L.	Hastings, Benjamin E.
Bronson, Ernest W.	Howard, Elbert A. Jr.
Bronson, Raymond R.	Hume, Hartley J.
Carson, Ross L.	Kelly, Donald B.
Cassavaugh, Earl A.	Kingdollar, Wilford A.
Cassavaugh, Hubert O.	Lewis, Jean S.
Cassavaugh, Thomas R.	Lewis, Thaddeus
Clark, Donald T.	Liberty, J. Frederick
Collins, Edwin C.	Liberty, Robert G.
Collins, Roy	McDougal, Kalvin S.
Cross, David S.	Mitchell, Carroll B.
Crowningshield, John H.	Mitchell, Stephen D.
Dickerson, Lee F.	Moss, Dale L.
Dickerson, Marshall J. Jr.	Moss, LeRoy M.
Dickerson, Warren M.	Norton, Richard E.
Drake, Francis E.	Phinney, Robert F.
Drake, John W.	Pierce, Atwood F.
Drummond, Edward C.	Ratliff, James T.
Drummond, Frederick W.	Richer, J. Hervie
Dunsmore, Joseph V.	Rossner, Neal E.
Gay, W. Wendell	Soper, Clifford A. Jr.
Gillespie, Duane E.	Valentine, Donald M.
Goff, Philip N. Sr.	Wallace, John, Jr.
Gough, Lyman A.	Whiteman, Robert G.

The goal of our newsletter is to keep Town of Lewis residents informed of what's new in town.

We plan on publishing an issue every 6 months.

A color copy is available on the town website.

www.LewisNY.com

Town of Lewis – Community Newsletter
P.O. Box 59
Lewis, NY 12950

POSTAL PATRON
Lewis, NY 12950