

## ***“It’s a Lovely Day”*** **in the Faircroft Neighborhood**

*On Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, from 1:00 to 5:00 pm,  
PHS will host its 43<sup>rd</sup> annual house tour.  
Mr. Rogers would approve of the name and site of  
the tour: a vintage tree-lined neighborhood in the  
Faircroft subdivision. Tour attendees will stroll in  
a U-shaped formation, from Nelson Street to  
West Church Street to Fifth Avenue.*

Faircroft is an area with a rich history. Nelson Lewis purchased his large West Church Street farm in about 1870. He relocated from Greece, where he served as town supervisor during the Civil War. His Fairport property bordered West Church Street to the south and the canal to the north. Many streets were created from his farm, including those that became the Faircroft neighborhood: Fifth Avenue, Clifford Street, Galusha Street, and Nelson Street. Lewis was praised in an 1874 Fairport Herald news article for not only growing the finest lot of watermelons in the town but also for laying out village lots from the best part of his farm, “both as to soil and location.”



Portrait of Yale Parce,  
from the Parce  
family archives

In addition to farming, Lewis was an active member of his adopted community. He served as a trustee at the inception of the Fairport Union School Board of Education in 1873, was elected Village President (equivalent to Mayor in those days) in 1883, and was the first commissioner on Fairport’s Board of Water Commission in 1893.

The Nelson Lewis farm was subdivided and a hefty parcel was sold to Martin Galusha and John Clifford. The land was later sold to developers Joseph F. Gowell, president of the Gowell-Parce Realty Company and to Yale Parce, the secretary-treasurer of this new company. Finally, Yale Parce, who devoted much of his career to the real estate business in East Rochester and Fairport, purchased the interest of his partner. Gowell had been promoted in his work as a salesman for the Johns-Manville Company and transferred to its Buffalo headquarters.

FAIRPORT HERALD  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 1924

**FAIRPORT IS GROWING !**

**Have You Seen Faircroft ?**

FAIRPORT’S RESTRICTED HOME  
SITE DEVELOPMENT

**Fully Improved**  
SEWERS, CEMENT WALKS

ONLY A LIMITED NUMBER OF  
LOTS TO BE SOLD

TERMS ARRANGED

**GOWELL-PARCE REALTIES, Inc.**  
110 WEST CHURCH ST. 41 WOODLAWN AVE.

FAIRPORT HERALD  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1924

**Faircroft**

Fairport has doubled in population  
within the last 15 years. It is reason-  
able to expect that it will double again  
in the next 10 years.

Nearly half of the lots in Faircroft,  
Fairport’s newest development, have  
been sold.

TERMS AGREEABLE TO PURCHASER

**YALE PARCE**

41 Woodlawn Ave. Fairport, N.Y.



## From your President

As an historian, I love spending my time studying the people and events of the past. Over the last few weeks, my own family has celebrated some milestone events. My son, Will, attended his last two proms as a high school student and my youngest daughter,

~Vicki Profitt~

sophomore Alison, was asked by a friend to her first prom.

On June 15<sup>th</sup>, I went with my son to “Back to the Future Day,” where high school seniors are invited to revisit their elementary schools. Will and fifty of his classmates walked around the bus loop in their caps and gowns high-fiving the elementary students. The seniors then went into the building and revisited their old classrooms. Many of their teachers, who had retired, came back to reconnect with their former students. In a few days, my husband and I will attend Will’s high school graduation. Yes, there have been tears shed as I mourn the loss of my baby boy who has grown up so quickly, but I am excited to get to know the man he has become.



PHS has also been involved in many events since May. We once again hosted a very successful Greenbrier Garden Club plant sale on the steps of the museum. Sixty people attended Suzanne Lee’s White Haven Virtual Cemetery Tour. Bill Poray joined two classes of Allendale-Columbia students on a canal path bike ride to the museum, where I gave them a tour of the exhibits and discussed our Carl Peters mural. We planned and staffed our PHS Canal Days booth and Members Open House in June. Our 1970s themed Colonial Belle cruise, complete with live music by Andrew Young, is coming up on July 15<sup>th</sup>.

We are able to plan and participate in all these events thanks to our members, who donate time, energy, funds and creativity to make the Society a vibrant powerhouse in our community. I am so proud of this incredible organization,

which is now 570+ members strong.

Wow! It really has been busy. I look forward to some downtime in July and August hanging out in the Secret Garden with some good books and sweet furry and feathery friends. Enjoy your summer as well.

I look forward to meeting with you on our Colonial Belle cruise and to seeing you back at the museum for our program season opening presentation on September 19<sup>th</sup>. As Ferris Bueller said, “Life moves pretty fast. If you don’t stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it.”

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## Perinton Historical Society

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

<i>President</i>	Vicki Profitt
<i>Secretary</i>	Suzanne Lee
<i>Treasurer</i>	Linda Wiener
<i>Communications</i>	Jane DeMeis

### TRUSTEES

Keith Boas	Bill Poray
John Bowley	Nancy Slaybaugh
Kay Joslyn	Jim Unckless
Lucy McCormick	

### MUSEUM

<i>Director</i>	Vicki Profitt
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### MISSION

To promote interest in preserving and sharing local history through education and accessibility.

The *Historigram* is published nine months per year by the Perinton Historical Society. The content of our newsletter is provided by PHS Board members and committee staff. Opinions expressed in any article in this newsletter are those of the author of the article alone and are not those of the PHS unless expressly stated otherwise.

<i>Editor</i>	Bill Poray
<i>Art Director</i>	Keith Boas
<i>Production &amp; Distribution</i>	Jim Unckless
<i>Proofreaders</i>	Irene Poray, Nancy Slaybaugh





## Canal Days 2023

Staffing a booth at Canal Days is a great way for PHS to get out into the community and let people know who we are and what we do. Although opening day started off blustery, Canal Days '23 on June 3 and 4 went smoothly. Our volunteers handed out more than 100 PHS newsletters and countless membership brochures. We garnered several new members, sold some gift shop items and had lots of fun.

Thank you to our volunteers who helped pack, set up, staff and tear down the booth: Nancy Slaybaugh, Bob Easterly, Gary Sommers, Bob Swinehart, Kay Joslyn, Larraine Raeder, Bill Stevens, Mary Stevens, Deb Mabry, Susan Prener, Kathy Cloonan, Gail Yander, Keith Boas, Carol Anne Boas, Jeanne McElhinney, Brian Kelly, Jean Kelly, Vicki Profitt and Alison Profitt. Much appreciation goes to Linda Wiener and Dave Wiener for setting up and tearing down the booth each day and being available to assist with volunteer questions and to Lucy McCormick for planning a fun train race and a groovy dress up box full of clothing and accessories reminiscent of the 1970s.

## Perinton Ambulance

We are fortunate to have Perinton Ambulance (PerintonAmbulance.org) serving our community. Over the past year, PHS has collaborated with Chief Mike Hoskins on several presentations. Historical ambulance memorabilia has been donated to PHS to be used in future exhibits. The chief was also present at our PHS Members Open House, and kindly provided this statement:

*On behalf of Perinton Ambulance, I would like to personally thank those who stopped by our table to talk about our services. We have a great relationship with the Historical Society and look forward to a display highlighting our long, rich history serving the local community and participating in future events.*

*Support from the community allows us to care for more than 4,500 residents annually and respond to more than 5,900 calls. Your help and support are necessary to keep us providing exceptional medical care to those in our community who need it most. As our tag line states, we are Always There and Ever Prepared. Thank you.*

*Chief Mike Hoskins*



## Upcoming Programs & Events

**Saturday, July 15<sup>th</sup> from 2:30–5:30 pm**  
at Packett's Landing

Event: PHS Cruises the Canal on the *Colonial Belle*  
Ticket sales have closed

**Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the museum**

Program season opener

*"It's a Lovely Day..." continued from page 1*

The land was surveyed and laid out for forty-eight lots. It was advertised in the newspapers as a restricted subdivision, which meant the developers could control what types of homes could be built and limit the size of the lots.

By October of 1924, three cellars were staked out and contracts for construction of sewers were in place.

Tragedy struck in December of 1924 as a sewer cave-in claimed the life of a workman in a sewer trench.

By 1945, thirty-seven homes had been built on the original forty-eight lots.

## Docents Needed

While October 1<sup>st</sup> is months away, the house tour committee is busily at work. One task being addressed at this time is getting house tour docents in place. This delightful task entails two commitments: first, meeting with the committee house captain and the homeowners in advance of the tour and second, working a two-hour shift the day of the tour, sharing information with tour attendees.

To volunteer, please contact Joyce Hawkinson (joycehawkinson@mac.com or 223-4991) or Maxine Nelson (nelsonmaxine32@gmail.com or 425-4919).

Mr. Rogers would admire your willingness to serve the museum community in such a meaningful way!

*Provided by  
Lucy McCormick and Kay Joslyn*

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## File Fixer Upping

Many informational files at the museum have new, more accessible homes thanks to the active group of volunteers known as the Thursday Morning Crew. The People files are now located in the gift shop wing, in spacious new file cabinets. Henry DeLand? Hawk DiRisio? Fritz May? Yep, all there. Above the cabinets are notebooks of documents and genealogies. The Businesses files have been relocated to these file cabinets as well.

The older file cabinets in front of the volunteer desk is the place to find Streets/Buildings/Homes files, organized by street. To access information about a building, you need to know the street address for that building. For example, if you are looking up the First Congregational Church, you need to know the street address, 26 East Church Street.

Another section of the museum that has undergone significant renovation is the Reference Library. You now see color-coded binders on topics such as the Canal and Trains.



The resources most frequently used here are the notebooks pertaining to homes. The collection of notebooks contains information on homes in Perinton and Fairport, including for the most part, an exterior photo with brief architectural and historical building data:

- 1948 Windshield Survey of Perinton Houses (yellow spines)
- 1976 Survey of Fairport Houses (off-white spines)
- 1991 Survey of Perinton Houses (green spines)
- 2008 Survey of Fairport Houses and Buildings, an Amendment to the 1976 Survey (tan spines)
- 2014 Survey of Fairport Houses and Buildings  
One volume, includes a historic overview of Fairport and Perinton and an annotated list of properties (white spine)
- House Tours from 1978 to the Present, indexed by street (gold spines). The first volume is a comprehensive index, indicating which year a property was on a tour.

Information about people, businesses, buildings and homes is an important part of our community's story. Making that story more accessible has been the mission of the Thursday Morning Crew: Susan Angevine, Mary Ellen Capineri, Joyce Hawkinson, Karen Junker, Lucy McCormick, Donna Moore, Nancy Slaybaugh, Karen Smallman, Debby Vercant, and Jean Whitney.

In addition, three behind-the-scenes website proofreaders, Karen Allen, Kathy Cloonan, and Karen Junker, have helped PHS Web Manager Doris Davis-Fritsch make that story virtually accessible as well.

*Provided by  
Lucy McCormick, Nancy Slaybaugh, Jean Whitney*

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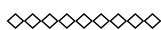


## ***Coming Soon*** **Member Survey**

Last September a group of PHS members got together to start looking at what the future holds for the Perinton Historical Society and the Fairport Historical Museum. The group brainstormed and came up with all sorts of ideas. However, the team also felt that it was important that we survey the society's membership to get input on the direction we should go.

Headed up by Jane DeMeis and Linda Wiener, the Strategic Planning Committee included Shelia Tulloch, Pat Grace, Mary Ellen Capineri, Cindy Zanni, and Vicki Profitt. The first order of business was to create a survey tool. The group reviewed multiple formats that Mary Ellen brought to the committee. It was decided that for ease and no cost, the survey would be created in Google. Multiple renditions were created and edited by Mary Ellen and then brought back to the group for approval. Finally, in April, the committee presented a draft to the PHS Board of Directors. After a few more tweaks, the board approved the survey.

We are now asking that you, the members, take this short survey. You will receive a special membership email message in mid-July with a letter of explanation from Director Vicki Profitt. We will also be looking for members to join a focus group to be held in the near future.





# PHS Members Celebration

*What are the chances that the PHS Members Open House would fall on a gorgeous evening between two rainy days? Pretty high, it seems. We were also fortunate that the smoke from the Canadian wildfires had dissipated, leaving us with a cool, but pleasant night to celebrate our members.*

Our third annual Open House included a visit from Perinton Ambulance Chief Mike Hoskins and a table staffed by ladies from Greenbrier Garden Club, who have maintained the museum gardens for more than 40 years. Nancy Ragus, from the Fairport Perinton Partnership, was on hand representing the Partnership and the Fairport Perinton Merchants Association. PHS members Kay Joslyn and Nadine Fiero manned the House Tour and Colonial Belle information table. Suzanne Lee and Anica Harris handled the *What is It?* items, which is always a big draw.

Fairport artist Lori Capron Galan worked on a plein air painting in our beautiful museum gardens. Fairport's only organ grinder, Tim Wagner, entrained us with Finster Baby, a 20-note self playing mechanical organ.

PHS Trustee Lucy McCormick had a wonderful idea for this year's treat – strawberry shortcakes. She and a trusty team of assistants met at her house to cut and sugar the multitudes of strawberries. The strawberries, whipped cream and water were courtesy of Wegmans Perinton. Special thanks to Amazing Grains Bread Co. for baking and donating 100 shortcakes for our event. Lucy, Erin McCormick and Jane DeMeis handed out the water and strawberry shortcakes.

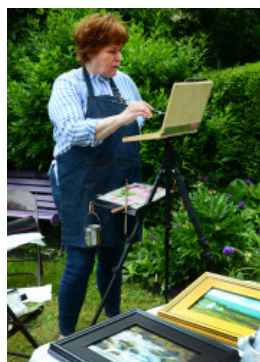
Did you get a chance to enjoy our new front porch rocking chairs? Mike Squires of Fairport business The Adirondack Guys gave us a great deal on these beauties.

Nancy Slaybaugh, John Bowley, Jim Unckless, Mary Stevens, Bill Stevens, Nadine Fiero, Linda Wiener, Dave Wiener and Suzanne Lee helped with set up and tear down. Brent Smith and Nancy Bowley oversaw the gift shop during the event. What a wonderful evening!

Congratulations to our drawing winners:

- Sharon King, winner of wine and flowers donated by Lucy McCormick
- Ann Castle, winner of the Powers Farm Market gift basket containing a gift certificate, pickles, salsa and preserves donated by Suzanne Lee
- Janice Larson, winner of the Abbott's gift card donated by Suzanne Lee
- Pat Swedrock, winner of the beeswax candle and "The Naked Bee" lotion, lip balm and body butter donated by Vicki Profit

Finally, incumbents Lucy McCormick, Bill Poray and Vicki Profit were reelected to the Board of Trustees and John Bowley was elected as a new board member.



Photos by Keith Boas





# Special Recognition Level Memberships

*As of June 15, 2023*

## Business (\$100)

**Amazing Grains Bread Company**  
1000 Turk Hill Road, Fairport, NY 14450  
Web: AmazingGrainsBreadCo.com

**Barranco's Clothing and Shoes**  
32 North Main Street, Fairport, NY 14450,  
Phone: 585-388-1270  
Email: BarrancosClothing@gmail.com

**Canandaigua National Bank & Trust**  
72 South Main Street, Canandaigua, NY 14424  
Phone: 585-394-4260, Web: cnbank.com

**Fairport Village Inn**  
Wayne and Patty Beckwith  
103 North Main Street, Fairport, NY 14550  
Phone: 585-388-0112, Web: thefvi.com

**GRITWORX Designs Woodwork**  
7 Tea Olive Lane, Fairport, NY 14450  
Phone 585-678-1156, Web: gritworxdesigns.com

**Hon. Evelyn Frazee, Hon. Thomas Klonick**

**Lift Bridge Yarns**  
23 North Main Street, Fairport, NY 14450  
Dawn Verdugo & Jessie McNaughton  
Phone: 585-364-0521, Email: Dawn@LiftBridgeYarns.com

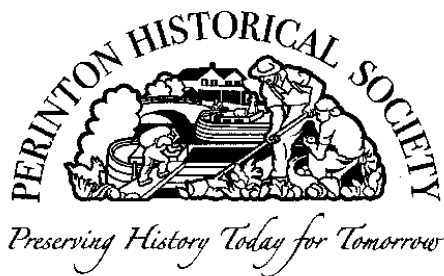
**Lucien A. Morin II, Partner**  
McConville Considine Cooman and Morin, P.C.  
300 Meridian Centre Blvd., Suite 110, Rochester, NY 14618  
Phone: 585-512--3534, Email: lmorin@mcclmaw.com,

**Salle d' Escrime of Prescott, AZ**  
**A Fencing Club**  
Patricia Dodge Waples, Owner

**DeLand (\$100--\$249)**  
Anonymous (1)

**Potter (\$250--\$499)**  
Fairport Historical Club

**Perrin (\$500 and above)**  
Suzanne Lee  
Wes and Anica Harris



Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Permit No. 149  
Fairport, NY 14450



Trying out one of the  
museum's new front porch  
rocking chairs  
—June 13, 2023



**Fairport Historical Museum, 18 Perrin Street, Fairport, NY 14450**

The museum is open during the following hours: Saturdays from 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. and  
Sundays and Tuesdays from 2:00–4:00 p.m. Free admission. Group tours, presentations and special projects are by  
appointment. Please call and leave a message at **585-223-3989**. **[www.PerintonHistoricalSociety.org](http://www.PerintonHistoricalSociety.org)**