

THE VILLAGE LOG

CAESAR'S CREEK
PIONEER VILLAGE
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PIONEER DAYS SHAPING UP

The fall harvest festival, Pioneer Days, September 17 and 18, from ten till five both days, is shaping up well, according to Linda Lee, the General Chairperson. Again the festival will be built around the theme of harvesting the crop of sorghum cane and turning it into molasses as the central part of the activity.

Homer Marsh reports that the cane crop looks good, although not so high as in years past. It is a good stand.

Linda reports that craft people will be on the Village grounds in abundance and a few new ones will be among them. Ballentine from Yellow Springs, a bookbinder, just completed a year's study of that art in England. He also brings with him antique tools from England.

In addition to the crafts will be food, which will consist of ham and beans with cornbread, stew or soup, pie and cookies, drinks including cider and coffee, with possibly a surprise or two as the kitchen becomes more organized closer to the festival dates. Burnett Butterworth and George Wall built an additional tray rack along the rear of the building so as to expedite the payment procedure.

Jim Merrick has several music groups lined up for the stage so that there should be music all day. Don Richards has some gospel music for the Meeting House for Sunday afternoon. If you can help, call Linda, 897-2672, or Don at 897-6546.

HARVEST HANDS NOW NEEDED

Everyone who can, and even those who can't, are urged to help out on the stripping of the cane in preparation for processing it into molasses, the highlight of the fall harvest festival.

Anyone who can is asked to help out in the cane patch any time during the week of Sept. 11, stripping the stalks of their leaves, a simple but tedious job essential to the making of sorghum.

The simple job employs a stripper stick, several of which will be available at any time for all comers. If there is to be molasses, the cane must be stripped. An hour or two by everyone will get the job done. The Village runs strictly on volunteers and here volunteers are badly needed.

NEW COMPRESSOR NEEDED

The cooler recently got a case of "bad car" blues, from the fact that your car never acts bad except when it isn't near a garage. The cooler had run constantly all the first part of the summer at a time when only a few cans of coleslaw were stored in it and it really wasn't needed. Then, when the Civil War Reenactment was taking place and the cooler was really needed, it quit.

Jerry Boyer and Bruce Hastell both diagnosed a failed compressor, and there was no chance of a new one until the reenactment was over. Volunteers improvised with ice and chests, avoiding too much loss of food.

Jerry put in a replacement at the cost of over \$200, and the cooler is now working again.

VILLAGE JOINS PARADE

For the first time in two years the Village members took part in the Harveysburg Labor Day parade held on September 5. Bruce Hastell pulled a hay wagon behind David's truck with Villagers dressed in pioneer costume parading. About twenty people participated.

The Village had taken part for several years, then in recent years had not, but this year decided to join in. Getting organized for this was handled by Thelma Hatfield.

RIDDLE BELL FINALLY HUNG

The Riddle school bell, a commemorative bell presented to the Village by a memorial fund for Larry, was recently placed on a pole and set near the front of the school by Burnett and George.

The bell, in memory of Lawrence Riddle, husband of Annafrances and father of Linda Lee, had been purchased some years ago from the Hillsboro foundry. The Village had stored it, awaiting a caretaker. Mr. Riddle was a founder and charter member of the Village.

LEGAL COUNSEL SELECTED

For some time trustees have felt the need of an official legal counsel to represent the Village. Recently, Mildred Crane and Joe Hatfield, after an interview, recommended a Lebanon attorney, Jackson Hedges as Village counsel. Jack had long offered to help the Village. The trustees welcome Mr. Hedges.

RE-ENACTMENT A SUCCESS

The re-enactment of Morgan's capture and the ensuing battles and encampments necessary to bring the historic panorama across were well received and will probably merit a repeat in another year, according to opinions expressed by participants following the two-day event.

Hastily prepared over a three week period, it nevertheless attracted some several hundred onlookers both days and brought out about a hundred and twenty-five soldiers of several corps from as far away as Cleveland, Louisville and even from Florida, as Morgan himself returned from a visit there just to be included in the activities Sunday.

Preparation was enthusiastically included in the busy Villagers' schedules as Cal Purnell took off work to supervise grounds and parking and Paul Apostelos spent much time painting signs. The kitchen food was ample and good. A highlight of Saturday evening was a big kettle of stone soup which fed one and all, Confederate and Union, male and camp follower, Villager and visitor.

In addition, on Sunday morning the sleeping soldiers (not the guard) were greeted with a breakfast of pancakes,

coffee, sausage and syrup cooked at the furnace shed by Patty Apostelos, Homer and Edna, Linda Lee, Calvin and others. For soldiers just having slept off a huge pot of stone soup, here was another great meal.

Camp life on both sides was exhibited with the two sides of the Hawkins house serving as opposite headquarters. Skirmishes all Saturday led up to a major battle in the afternoon with the outcome unsettled as darkness crept on. More skirmishes followed on Sunday and Morgan's capture in the afternoon. Three cannon and a mortar were used as well as rifles and pistols.

Both sides, and Villagers, camped in the new grounds to the rear of the sorghum field which had been especially prepared for the occasion.

TWO NEW TRUSTEES NAMED

Two new trustees were recently named by the existing trustees as specified by the by-laws.

Thelma Hatfield and Frank Crabtree were named to finish out the unexpired terms of Tim Hill and Ed Simpkins, who recently resigned.

PHIL AND PENNY WED AUG 27

The Richards and Linda Lee recently attended the wedding of Carriage Hill craftsmen Phil Blosser and Penny Yeazel.

CETA PROGRAM TERMINATES

The summer CETA program at the Village came to a close the second week of August. Awarded Village T-shirts were the four students who completed the schedule. They were Dawn Evans, Tanya and Todd Robertson and Diane Ferguson.

CRANE GIVEN BY BLACKSMITH

There used to be none and then there was one, and then two, and now three.

In rebuilding the Hawkins fireplace the one original crane was in storage, so Don Richards talked to a visitor one day who turned out to be a blacksmith. The smith, Charles Yankie of Lebanon, promptly made a handsome crane and delivered it to the Village. So now there was one for each side of the saddlebag chimney. But both sides had cranes, unknown to anyone except Glynn Marsh, who salvaged and stored them in his shed. When his property in town was sold recently, the two matching cranes came to the Hawkins house again.

So now the two cranes of the original building will go back in and the Yankie crane will probably serve the Village in the Inn.

HELP BRING IN FALL FESTIVAL SEASON; COME TO PIONEER DAYS

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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