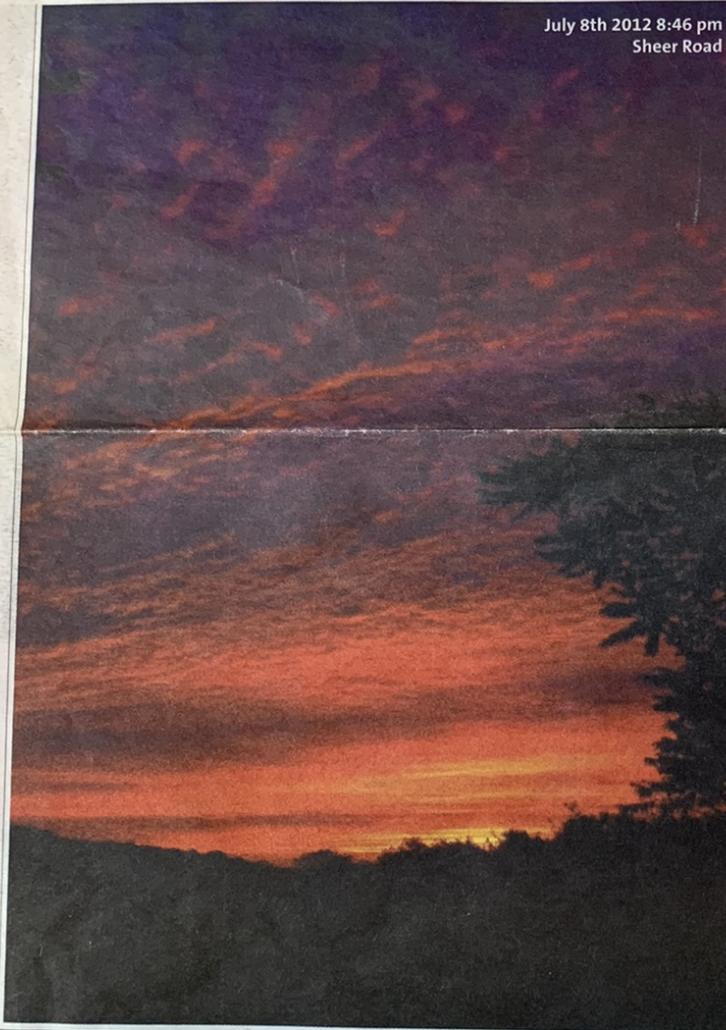


# Sand Lake's <sup>1812-2012</sup>

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## BICENTENNIAL



July 8th 2012 8:46 pm  
Sheer Road



From left to right – Fred, Flora, Nancy and Val

July 29, 2012

### TOWN OF SAND LAKE – GOOD TIMES AHEAD!

Most of you know by now that the Town of Sand Lake was formed on June 12, 1812. Ponder, if you will, what a tumultuous time this was for our nation. Once again, just 36 years after the start of the Revolutionary War, we were battling the English, only this time they were launching attacks from our not-too-distant neighbor to the north – Canada!

In the midst of it all, our first settlers prevailed – Youngmans, Uline, Sipperly, VanAlstyne, Locke – names that echo through the ages. Calvin Thompson became the first Town Supervisor, and with the completion of the Erie Canal in 1825, the region began sustained growth that would contribute mightily to New York being dubbed “The Empire State.”

Today, our town is “home” to some 8,000+ people who continue the legacy of community service, hard work, and belief in the basic values that led to our country’s birth. As we celebrate our beautiful town’s bicentennial, may we reaffirm our collective commitment to make the Town of Sand Lake an even better place to live.

Flora Fasoldt  
Flora Fasoldt  
Supervisor

Nancy W. Davis  
Nancy W. Davis  
Bicentennial Co-chair

Fred Erickson  
Fred Erickson  
Bicentennial Co-chair

Valerie Balga  
Valerie Balga  
Sand Lake Business Assoc.  
President

# The Legislative Gazette

The Weekly Newspaper About New York State and Local Government

legislativegazette.com

P.O. Box 7329, Albany, NY 12224

## "The Main Event" August 25 & 26, 2012 Westfall Village Itinerary of Events

### Saturday

- Parade starts 10 am in Sand Lake
- Parade and picnic at Westfall Village 12 noon
- Welding Demonstrations 12 noon - 1 pm
- Music 1 pm - 5 pm
- Car Cruise 10 am - 5 pm (some cars in parade)
- Vendors 9 am - 5 pm
- Bicentennial Dash 9 am - 11 am
- 3k run/walk 1 pm
- Recognizing Your Own - 3 pm
- Exhibitors 9 am - 5 pm
- Hayrides 12 noon - 5 pm
- Pony Rides, Petting Zoo, Games, Bounce House 12 noon - 5 pm

### Sunday

- Vendors 11 am - 4 pm
- Music 11 am - 4 pm
- Interfaith Service 1 - 2 pm
- Exhibitors 11 am - 4 pm
- Hayrides 11 am - 4 pm
- Pony Rides, Petting Zoo, Games, Bounce House 11 am - 4 pm
- Time Capsule Dedication 3 pm



# CRYSTAL LAKE PARK

Submitted by Mary French



Mascot, restored to original magnificence

*The Legislative Gazette*  
The Weekly Newspaper About New York State and Local Government  
Sand Lake - Section A - August 14, 2012  
Empire State Plaza, Room 106 Albany, NY 12224 Tel: (518) 473-9739  
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The Crooked Lake Supper Club Announces  
**The Joey Thomas Big Band!**  
The Old Daley Inn on Crooked Lake Autumn Leaves Harvest Ball Saturday, October 6, 2012 6:30 - 11:00 pm  
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When the trolley line ran from Troy to Averill Park, Crystal Lake was referred to as "Utopia Coney Island". A population explosion occurred during the summer months. For some it was a one-day round-trip trolley ride from Alba on the outskirts of Troy, or at a later date, a United Traction Company bus ride. Others would stay at hotels in the area for extended vacations. Fishing, hiking, boating and camping were available at the seven lakes within the town and could be interspersed with visits at Crystal Lake for rides on the carousel, swing, Ferris wheel and miniature train ride.  
The carousel was moved to Crystal Lake in 1926 from Ford Park in Green Island. Robert Kolb remembers spending summers in the 1940's with his grandfather and carousel's owner Edward Henry Kolb. Many persons recount stories of working on the carousel, of picking their favorite animal, and winning a free ride after catching the brass ring. Rides were 5 cents each or six for 25 cents. They would play two 78-mp songs per ride on a Victrola record player. Robert also remembers "pretty young girls" would often get free rides. In the mid-1940s ticket prices were raised to 8 cents. The carousel had a total of 58 figures: 39 horses, 5 goats, 3 camels, 3 giraffes, 3 lions, 3 elephants and 2 teddy bears plus two chariots. You could also visit a building housing a variety of games including ring toss and a milk bottle game. A dance hall was opened on Saturday nights for round and square dancing. A hot dog stand and restaurant were adjacent to the bathing beach. Many church, firemen and Odd Fellows picnics were held at the park. The carousel was moved in 1960 to Crescent, 20 miles northwest of Averill Park.  
We are indebted to William Benjamin for restoring fire-charred horse, Mascot, and his article on our carousel, "History of Mascot on the 191 Century Louis Bopp - Charles Loof Carousel" in the June 2009 issue of *The Carousel News and Trader*.

The Kiwanis Club of Sand Lake would like to congratulate the Town of Sand Lake on the Bicentennial.  
The focus of Kiwanis Clubs is on changing the world by serving children, one child and one community at a time. If you are interested in joining or getting more information please visit our web site at [www.sandlakekiwanis.org](http://www.sandlakekiwanis.org).

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## FOX MANSION — BICENTENNIAL HISTORICAL ARTICLE

Submitted by Mary French

On April 25, 2001 the Fox Mansion was accepted by the National Register of Historical Places. Peter Shaver of the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation completed the nomination.  
The Fox house in Sand Lake, built in 1840 by the Albert R. Fox family, is one of the finest Greek Revival style residences in Rensselaer County. The two-story frame house has all the hallmarks of the Greek Revival style, including two-story pilasters framing all five bays on the facade and a stylish one-story porch with ionic columns supporting a heavy entablature extending across the front onto symmetrical one-story flanking wings. Window panes in the mansion came from the Rensselaer Glass Works which Albert and his brother Samuel ran from 1837 to 1853. Albert graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Class of 1830 and was a NYS Senator from 1848-1849.  
The surrounding grounds are in excellent condition and contain a large fountain on the south side. It is remembered that the Sand Lake Baptist Church of which Mr. Fox was a member, held their baptisms at the fountain in the 1800s.  
The Fox House is the first property in the Town of Sand Lake to be accepted by the National Register.  
For years stories about the Fox House being part of the Underground Railroad were told. A tunnel was supposed to be their hiding place. Both the house and the barn were used to shelter the runaways. Judy Rowe has the closest story about the tunnel. In 1979 a very elderly woman was brought into Rowe's IGA store and asked never found any tunnel.  
The Fox Mansion's other claim to fame was when it housed Vesteyers Antique Doll Museum and gained international recognition for its fine collection with Lilian Cavasare Sproule as curator.



## Totem Pole at Totem Lodge

What happened to the Totem Pole at Totem Lodge? Maryanne Schultz, PhD, Director, Visual Resources Center, School of Architecture and Planning at the University at Buffalo has given permission to use information on the museum's website.  
Persons arriving at the Troy & New England Railway station in Averill Park were taken to Totem Lodge.  
Text from [twings.buffalo.edu/anthropology/museum/pole.htm](http://twings.buffalo.edu/anthropology/museum/pole.htm) follows.  
"From 1904 - 1958, the Totem Pole stood at Burden Lake. Originally the Totem Pole was a gift to Matt Larkin, 'the father of the jaywalk', to be erected on his late Burden Lake estate. Upon its arrival from the Northwest coast to Albany, a wood-carving friend of Larkin allowed the Pole to incorporate the likeness of several of his friends and added a skeleton with top hat and trumpet at top. Once the estate was enlarged to 85 cottages, dining room and theatre (seating nearly one thousand guests), by the Katz family, it became well-known as the Totem Lodge.



County Club. Some of the greatest Broadway stars performed at the Lodge on the weekends. After falling upon bad times, the Totem Lodge was sold to David Schoonholt, who opened it as a boys' camp and later, a one-day country club. In 1958, a violent storm caused the Totem Pole to fall. It remained at the Lodge until the Schoonholt family donated the Totem Pole to the Museum in 1978.  
The Totem Pole originally arrived to the Museum in segments. Five of the six segments were conserved and re-erected in 1987.  
Dr. Frank J. Dinan, Professor of Chemistry at Canisius College, Buffalo, New York, developed a special combination of urethane monomers to fill the Totem Pole forming a special beam to fill decay and deterioration from weather and insect damage and providing strength and rigidity for structural support in its rebuilding."  
Now the Totem Pole at the Anthropology Research Museum at the University at Buffalo is all that is left of Totem Lodge. Buildings were razed in 1985. However a legacy of Totem Lodge grounds remains for persons playing golf at the Burden Lake Country Club.

**2012 Town Wide Garage Sale**  
September 15th and 16th  
Plan a sale in your Yard or Reserve a site in the Vendor Corral information and applications can be found at:  
Uncle Marty's Antiques/Grill  
Tremont Lumber  
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**Town of Sand Lake Bicentennial Committee**

For Judy, She related that as a child she had played in the Fox House and also mentioned they played hide and seek in the old tunnel. What old tunnel? The tunnel in the cellar was her answer. However, prior and subsequent searches have never found any tunnel.  
The Fox Mansion's other claim to fame was when it housed Vesteyers Antique Doll Museum and gained international recognition for its fine collection with Lilian Cavasare Sproule as curator.



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The entire manufacturing process was completed at Faith Mills. A pair of long johns began with cars loaded with shoddy (reclaimed wool) being brought by freight cars on the Troy and New England Railway to the warehouse. From there the cotton or wool went to a storage building and down to the mixing room. Wool or cotton/wool blend was pulled into fine pieces, picked apart by many needles, and blown through pipes up to the main mill. There it was fed into carding machines, and came out as yarn and spun onto long rollers. Upstairs the mule spinners fed the ends from the rolls through the machine, and the yarn segments were spun onto bobbins. On the same floor, bobbins were fed into the knitting machines to knit the material, which was washed, dyed and dried in the basement, before it went up one more floor to the cutting room. Underwear sections were cut, tied into bundles and sent up one more floor to the sewing room. The number of pieces sewn determined a person's pay. Completed garments were inspected for flaws and sent down one floor to be shipped.

As a fully integrated mill complex, every family knew persons who worked in receiving, picking, carding, spinning, knitting, washing, dyeing, drying, cutting, sewing, labeling, packaging, shipping, or office work.

In 1943 each employee received an Army-Navy Production Award certificate and an E Award pin for providing long woolen underwear and blankets for the war effort. The E Award was a highlight in the mill's history.

## Happy Bicentennial Sand Lake



Mark L. Kestner PE  
Consulting Engineer PLLC

Mark Lindsay Kestner Jr, PE  
Vice President

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*Celebrating*



*Sand Lake's 200<sup>th</sup> birthday*

### Hours of operation:

Monday thru Thursday 11:30am - 10pm    Friday & Saturday 11:30am - 11pm  
Sunday 12pm - 9pm