

## 1876—A Big Year for Growth in Fairport

*By Bill Poray*

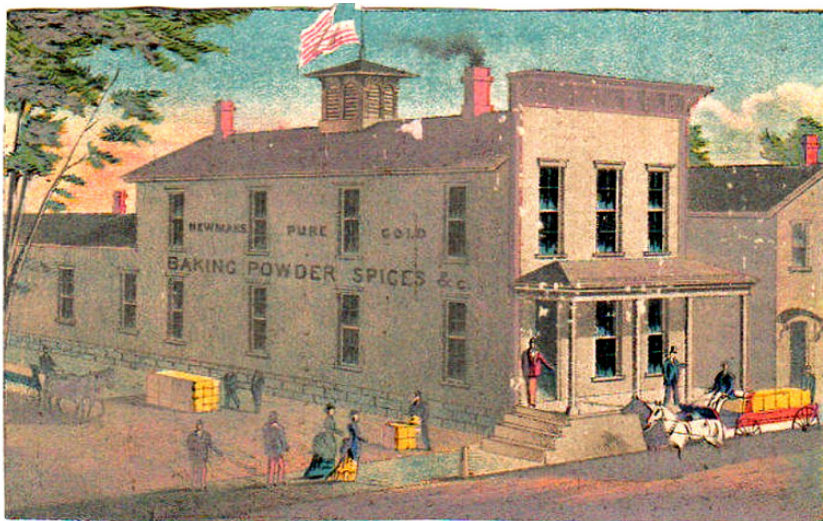
*The last quarter of the 19th century was a tremendous period of growth in Fairport, especially the 1870s and 1880s. With access to both the canal and the railroads, business leaders chose to locate their factories here. New streets were added at a dizzying pace, and houses were built in record numbers. The 1876 newspaper article below, which has been edited a bit for the sake of space, gives an indication of the enormity of construction in just one year. Many of our most beloved 19th century homes and buildings are included, such as the Henry DeLand home (Green Lantern / Dominic's on Main), the First Baptist Church of Fairport, and the elegant French Chateau home at 187 South Main Street. All three are Fairport designated Landmarks and on the National Register of Historic Places.*

Fairport Herald—  
Friday, May 26, 1876

### Building in the Village

We presume there are not many, even in the village, who are aware of the number of buildings erected and the extent of modern improvements made upon old ones, within the past two years; nor do they comprehend the amount of money expended in that direction. To tell them of it would be regarded as a wild statement; it needs the names, localities and figures to convince. From a few hours spent during the past three or four days in looking over the ground, we have made up the following list. It probably does not embrace one-half of the new residences and business places, and of the old ones so modernized as to transform them into apparently new structures:

—Nathan Slocum, on the south side of Filkins Street, dwelling house, at a probable cost of \$2,000. (*Perhaps the author meant the south end of the street, as Filkins St. has east and west sides, but no south side.*)



Newman's Pure Gold Baking Powder, Cream of Tartar, spices and other products were manufactured in this building on North Main Street.

—Charles Granger, on the street connecting Filkins with South Main, dwelling house, at an estimated cost of \$2,000. (*The author is referring to George Street, which may not have been named when the article was written.*)

—Silas Woodin, on the same street as above (*George Street*) dwelling house, costing about \$1,500.

—George W. Sanford, dwelling house on South Main Street; probable cost, \$2,000.

The above are built by the owners.

*Continued on page 4*



~ Bob Hunt ~

## Comments from your President

June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017:

I'm sitting in my carriage barn office a bit early this month to write some comments for the *Historigram*, as Cindy and I are heading off to the Rotary International Convention in Atlanta tomorrow morning. There will be about 40,000 Rotarians from

around the world in attendance and we are looking forward to meeting up with a few of our international friends in Rotary. We are also looking forward to a couple of the keynote speakers, Bill Gates and Jack Nicklaus. We will share their messages in a future issue.

Usually, in the early spring, I remove the bird feeders from the rope I stretch across the back patio and tell the birds to start eating bugs. However, this year I took two of the feeders, a seed tube feeder and a mesh niger seed feeder, and hung them in the large white pine off the patio. What a hit they have been; I cannot keep them stocked with seed. Using the feeding station are cardinals, mourning doves, blue jays, several varieties of sparrows, grackles, crows, goldfinches and chickadees. I even spotted a red-bellied woodpecker one day. The male goldfinches are brilliantly decked out in their mating yellow. About six weeks ago, while working in my barn office, I heard a tap, tap, tap on the outside wall next to my desk and I thought, well—a woodpecker is tapping on the siding for some reason. But, on observation, I see it is a black-capped chickadee working on a small knot hole, making it larger, I assume, for a nest site. Sure enough, a pair of chickadees are raising a family in the wall space next to my desk. A bit of research tells me they lay six to eight eggs, so they will have a rather large family. I hope to be able to spot them as they leave the nest and learn to fly. We will keep you posted. Our house wrens have also returned, Ty and Betty (named after my father and stepmother), back to raise another family in the wren house hanging from the pole supporting our clothes line. What singers they are.

Canal Days was this past weekend and PHS had our usual tent booth in the library parking lot. Saturday was a beautiful, sunny and warm day. But Sunday saw rain most of the day. We did sell about \$325 worth of items from our gift shop and signed up a few new members. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped during this two-day event.

With summer barbequing season now upon us, I remember fondly the chicken recipe my mother found in our local paper when I was about ten years old. I still use this marinade to this day, called Cornell Sauce, and I will tell you to make a double batch as the chicken is even better the next day.

In 1946, Dr. Robert Baker researched and developed innovative ways to use poultry. This Cornell Chicken Barbecue Sauce recipe has stood the taste test of time, having been showcased for more than five decades at the Baker's Chicken Coop at the New York State Fair. Baker developed the recipe while working for Pennsylvania State University, but the barbecue sauce he devised was not appreciated until he joined the Cornell faculty with a mandate to promote New York State's poultry industry.

Here's the recipe:

- 1 egg
½ cup of vegetable oil
1 cup of vinegar
2 t salt
2 t poultry seasoning
¼ t black pepper

Whisk the ingredients together in a sauce pan and heat gently until it blends together, but do not allow to boil. Add your chicken parts to the sauce and allow to marinate at least two hours or overnight if possible. Barbecue slowly for about one hour, basting every five to ten minutes. Internal temperature should be 165 degrees. Enjoy.

We were in Scotland from the 25th of April until May 14th on a Rotary Friendship Exchange. We will have to tell you about it another time.

Thanks for your continued support of the Perinton Historical Society. It is appreciated.

Bob

Rhunt356.rh@gmail.com (note the new email address)
585-415-7053



## Perinton Historical Society

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Table with 2 columns: Position and Name. Rows include President (Bob Hunt), Vice President (Vicki Profit), Secretary (Doug Whitney), Treasurer (Linda Wiener), and Communications (Pat May).

### TRUSTEES

Table with 2 columns: Name and Position. Rows include Keith Boas, Bill Poray, David Wild, Lucy McCormick, Jim Unckless, and George Wolf.

### MUSEUM

Table with 2 columns: Position and Name. Row includes Director (Vicki Profit).

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## Upcoming Programs & Events

**Wednesday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 p.m.**

**At the Kennelley Park Gazebo**

Program: *Women's Suffrage: Yea or Nay?*

Presenter: Fairport Historical Club

The club will re-enact a debate that actually occurred within the club in 1914. The presentation will take place at the Gazebo, but will move inside to the library in case of inclement weather.

**Wednesday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m.**

**At the Fairport Public Library**

Program: *An Evening with Miss Susan B. Anthony*

Presenter: Jeanne Gehret

This program is co-sponsored by the Fairport Public Library and will be held in honor of the VoteTilla event happening the late afternoon and evening of July 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Wednesday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, from 7:00-9:00 p.m.**

**At the Fairport Historical Museum**

Event: Open house to welcome VoteTilla

Following the VoteTilla events, our new program season will begin in September.

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## Women's Suffrage: Yea or Nay?

In conjunction with VoteTilla, a week-long navigational celebration along the Erie Canal organized by the Susan B. Anthony House and Museum, the Fairport Historical Club will host an historic debate on women's suffrage on Wednesday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30 p.m. at the Kennelley Park Gazebo in the village of Fairport. In the event of rain, the debate will be held in the Fairport Public Library. Registration is necessary to attend the debate in the library.

The debate will be a re-enactment of a discourse held in 1914 by the women of the Fairport Historical Club. It is difficult in today's world to think that any woman would be opposed to granting women the vote, but that was the case. The anti-suffrage team argued that women's time and energy were best spent nurturing their families, and that participation in the political issues of the day would diminish that focus.

Bring your lawn chair to sit back and listen to compelling arguments and learn the outcome of this spirited debate. Also shared will be the Rochester area's voting results three years later, 1917, when the New York State Constitution granted women voting rights.

## Fairport Museum Open House

The last of three events celebrating the centennial of women's suffrage in New York State will be an open house from 7 to 9 pm on Wednesday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, hosted by the Perinton Historical Society in the Fairport Historical Museum on 18 Perrin Street, Fairport.

The open house will provide an opportunity to meet some of the VoteTilla boat travelers who will dock in Fairport that afternoon and will be leaving for their next port the following morning. Special items on display at the museum will include three canal boat horns and pro-women's suffrage and anti-women's suffrage flyers.

## Museum News

The Fairport Historical Museum has extended its hours and is now open on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m., in addition to Sundays and Tuesdays from 2:00–4:00 p.m. and Thursdays from 7:00–9:00 p.m.

## Over the Top: Honoring Fairport's WW I Veterans

This exhibit features artifacts from the collections of the Perinton Historical Society and the Office of the Perinton Town Historian and commemorates Fairport's 280 soldiers and sailors who served during this pivotal war. Read the story of William T. Colmyer, who was aboard the U.S.S. President Lincoln when it was torpedoed by the Germans in 1918. See the trench periscope created by Wollensak Optical Co. in Rochester. Discover the names of ten Fairport soldiers who gave the ultimate sacrifice. This exhibit may be seen during regular museum hours and is on display through October.



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## We need you!

Museum volunteers work one shift per month greeting and assisting visitors. New volunteers are paired with veterans for each shift, and training is provided. We are always looking for new volunteers to staff the museum, and especially need volunteers on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. and Sundays from 2:00–4:00 p.m. If you can give of your time just a few hours a month, please contact PHS Volunteer Coordinator Sue Scheirer by phone at 585-377-3789 or at dscheir1@rochester.rr.com. We look forward to adding you to our volunteer roster!





Hiram P. Wilbur built the showplace home at 187 South Main Street. He also developed the north border of his property, creating Summit Street. Photo by Bill Poray

—H.P. Wilbur, two small dwellings on the new street (*Summit Street*) opened last year through a portion of his farm; estimated cost, ten or twelve hundred dollars. Marvin Parkhurst, builder.

—Rev. J. Butler is preparing to build on the west part of the old schoolhouse lot, which will cost him not far from \$2,500. (*Rev. Butler was the pastor of the Congregational Church from 1864 to 1878. The house referred to is 32 East Church Street, two doors east of the Congregational Church. The "old schoolhouse" was just east of this address.*)



1960 photo of 32 East Church Street, built for Reverend Butler of the Congregational Church. Town of Perinton Historic Archives

—William Bly, for himself, a dwelling on West Avenue, commenced last summer, and now being finished, costing about \$2,800. (*Unknown location on West Avenue*)

—Benjamin Hames, for Charles Williams, dwelling on West Avenue; probable cost, \$2,400. (*Unknown location on West Avenue*)

—Dobbin & Grawbadger, for Grawbadger, dwelling on West Avenue, probable cost, \$1,600. (*Unknown location on West Avenue*)

—William Youngs, for self, a dwelling on the same Avenue (*West Avenue*), at about the same cost \$1,600. (*Unknown location on West Avenue*)

—Peter Elebash, dwelling on West Avenue for himself; will cost, completed, \$2,400. (*Unknown location on West Avenue*)

—Green & McAuliffe have built within the past few months three dwellings on North Street (*later changed to Roselawn Avenue*) costing about \$1,500 each. These are occupied by men employed in Messrs. G. & McA.'s lumber yard. (*The lumber yard was just north of Beardsley Street on the bank of the canal. The northeast end of North Street was occupied by the lumber yard.*)

—Levi J. DeLand has just commenced a brick dwelling on North Street (*name later changed to Roselawn Avenue*) for Frank Demoney. Cost, about \$1,200. George Filkins, builder. (*This is Bob and Cindy Hunt's home at 53 Roselawn Avenue.*)

—Mr. H.P. Wilbur is doing the finishing work this season on and about his fine brick residence at the south end of South Main Street. It is the most slightly located and elegant residence in that part of the village. (*Hiram P. Wilbur was for many years commissioner of the canal in this region. His home was at 187 South Main Street.*)

—There were a large number of dwellings commenced last year, a majority of which were completed. Among them are G.L.G. Seeley's modern brick residence on Cherry Street (*an earlier name for West Avenue*) costing not less than \$10,000, and that of Mr. H.A. DeLand's (*The Green Lantern Inn, now Dominic's on Main*) on the corner of South Main and Church Streets, costing, at a moderate estimate, \$30,000. There are but few residences in the villages of Western New York, or even in the cities, that can compare with this in beauty of architecture, elaborate finish, and perfect completeness in all its appointments and surroundings.

—The Society's grounds (*The Fairport First Baptist Church*), opposite Mr. DeLand's will be cleared in a short time to make room for the new Baptist Church (*an early wood frame church and, a house, and small structures were relocated to new locations*), which will be commenced this season. The subscription list for this subject already amounts to nearly \$30,000.

—On North Main Street, between the canal and creek bridge, is S.A. Newman's new building, which is mostly occupied for the manufacture of "Newman's Pure Gold Baking Powder," Cream of Tartar, Spices, etc. A portion of the second story is used by Jared

Newman in compounding Flavoring Extracts, Perfumes and other toilet articles, while another portion of this floor serves the purpose of a dwelling. *(This building burned a decade after it was built, and was replaced by a three story building which was the home of the Monroe County Chemical Company, more recently Apton's Antiques, and today is the Main Street Mercantile. A fire took the third floor many years ago.)*

—Across the railroad is Taylor's brick block, the walls of which were put up about two years ago, but the building was not finished and occupied until last summer. In it is the laboratory of Taylor's Oil of Life, and several other medicines of Mr. Taylor's which have an extensive sale throughout the country.

—Levi J. DeLand has just completed a brick dwelling on East Street, for Patrick Carroll. Cost, about \$1,200. George Filkins, builder.

—Henry J. Lovejoy, dwelling house on Sanford Street *(name later changed to East Avenue)* foundation but just commenced, probably cost \$2,000.

—John Loomis, dwelling house on Whitney Street *(Whitney Road)*; probable cost, \$2,000.

—George R. Sanford, brick dwelling house on Sanford Street, finished late last fall, and which cost something over \$5,500 *(This is the large house at 15 East Avenue)*.

—Three dwelling houses on Whitney Street *(Whitney Road)* belonging to Matthias Miller, Barry Ward, and John Robinson, finished in the early part of last winter, the three costing about \$4,000.



## Question:

**Where is this house and why should you care?**



## Answer:

It's one of the historic homes on a street developed by George Filkins that will be featured on this year's house tour. Save the date of October 1st to visit this charming neighborhood and learn about its history. Contact Elaine to volunteer to be a docent and for more information. [eellaannii@gmail.com](mailto:eellaannii@gmail.com).

## Special Recognition Level Memberships

*As of June 12, 2017*

### Business (\$100)

#### **Fairport Village Inn, Wayne and Patty Beckwith**

103 North Main Street, Fairport, NY 14450

Phone: 585-388-0112

Website: <http://www.thefvi.com>

#### **Forever Financial Advisors, LLC**

**Annie McQuilkin, MS, CFP®**

140 West Church Street, Fairport, NY 14450

Phone: 585-598-1377

Website: <http://www.foreverfinancial.com>

#### **The Inn on Church**

11 West Church Street, Fairport, NY 14450

Phone: 585-678-1106

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/theinnonchurch>

#### **Robert Ruhland, Keller Williams Realty**

2000 Winton Road S. Bldg. 1, Rochester, NY 14618

Phone: 585-303-6607

Website: <http://bobruhland.yourkwagent.com>

#### **Ed Bradford, Liftbridge Financial Advisors**

6 North Main Street, Suite 400w, Fairport, NY 14450

Website: <http://liftbridgefinancial.com>

#### **Pixos Print**

75 Goodway Drive, Rochester, NY 14623-3000

Phone: 585-500-4600

Website: [ReadytoRun@pixosprint.com](mailto:ReadytoRun@pixosprint.com)

#### **Suzanne Lee Personal Histories**

33 Chesham Way, Fairport, NY 14450

Phone: 585-267-6189

Website: <http://SLeePersonalHistories.com>

#### **Joel Cuminale, Turning Point Signs & Design**

7 East Avenue, Fairport, NY 14450

Phone: 585-377-9310

Website: <http://www.tpsigns.com>

#### **DeLand (\$100-\$249)**

Jim and Sheila Tulloch

#### **Potter (\$250-\$499)**

None this month

#### **Perrin (\$500 and above)**

Dan and Doreen Spoor





The cast of "Shining a Light on St. Mary's Cemetery." Photo by Keith Boas

## Cemetery "Tour" Illuminates St. Mary's Cemetery

This year's *Illuminated History* presentation, held at the museum, featured the eternal residents of St. Mary's Cemetery. More than 120 attendees heard the stories of nine members of the burying ground, as portrayed by our volunteer actors. Those residents illuminated included William J. Cary, hotel operator; Antoinette Marinelli Galante, who told of her life in Italy before arriving in Fairport in 1958; Madalena Carlomusto, Thelma Prinziavalli and Antoinette Guarino Messerino, who were both shopkeepers; Benedetto Ansuini, a member of the World War I Lost Battalion; Catherine Hickey Kennelley, grandmother of Fairport mayor Vincent G. Kennelley; Virginia DiRisio, sister of six men who went off to fight in World War II and James Barranco, proprietor of Barranco's store, which is still in existence today on North

Main St. and operated by his son, Charlie.

We were honored to have members of the Barranco, Galante, Carlomusto and DiRisio families in attendance at the tour, as well as members of other families with loved ones interred at St. Mary's.

The efforts of our actors are sincerely appreciated—MaryAnn Cady, Wes Harris, Anne Johnston, Suzanne Lee, Lucy McCormick, Vicki Masters Profitt, Dave Scheirer, Sue Scheirer and Doug Whitney.

Special thanks to Suzanne Lee for assisting with tour planning, writing scripts and creating the program and to Mike Mason and Maura Walsh at Church of the Assumption for their assistance.

## An Evening with Miss Susan B. Anthony



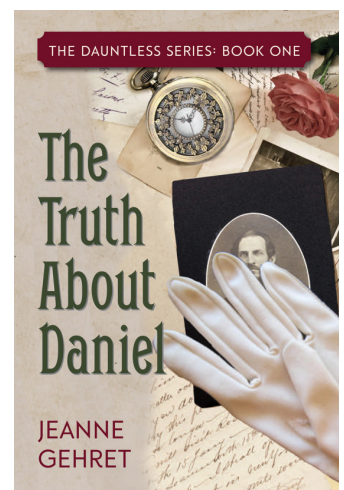
In honor of the VoteTilla event commemorating the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage in New York State and the 200th anniversary of the construction of the Erie Canal, the Perinton Historical Society and Fairport Public Library are pleased to present "An Evening with Miss Susan B. Anthony" on Wednesday, July 19th, 7:00 p.m. at the Fairport Public Library. Miss Anthony,

as portrayed by Jeanne Gehret (pictured above) will discuss the background on the social conditions prompting her fight for women's rights and will stress her activism for abolition and temperance.

Jeanne Gehret has presented Miss Anthony in costume for dozens of organizations and school groups. The characterization is accurately crafted down to the smallest details, thanks to Jeanne's time as a docent at the reformer's home.

Following the portrayal, Jeanne Gehret will sign copies of her newest book, *The Truth About Daniel*, which is a fictional account of the life of Susan B. Anthony's brother, Daniel Anthony. The soft-cover book sells for \$14.95, cash or checks accepted.

Registration is required and begins June 2nd. To register, visit [www.FairportLibrary.org](http://www.FairportLibrary.org) and locate the presentation on the event calendar or call the library at 585-223-9091.



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## Perinton Historical Society Looks Back in Time

The images below are of the same property on the east side of South Main Street. At left is the former home of John and Lydia Ives. George E. Slocum purchased the property in the spring of 1908. Within a few years, the storefront façade was added. The photo at right was taken in 1965. *From the collection of the Perinton Historical Society*



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### PHS Annual Meeting Held

More than fifty PHS members attended our annual meeting and picnic, which was held at the Perinton Park Pavilion on Tuesday, May 16th. A vast array of tasty food was provided by members, who also enjoyed hot dogs, hamburgers and veggie burgers supplied by the PHS. After dinner, President Bob Hunt made remarks and several board members gave reports to the group.

In short, we had another amazing year filled with interesting programs, many volunteer opportunities and lots of fourth graders! A big thanks goes to Bob Hunt and Secretary Doug Whitney, who were our chefs at the grill for the evening.

We sincerely appreciate our PHS members for attending the programs, volunteering at the Fairport Historical Museum and serving on committees, and for getting the word out about the PHS. Membership dues, donations, bequests and gift shop sales allow the PHS to not only survive, but thrive. Thank you for making a difference!

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### Canal Days 2017

Another Canal Days weekend has come and gone. The weather was beautiful on Saturday, June 3rd, but the majority of Sunday was nearly rained out. Thirty seven items were sold at the booth, totaling \$334.03. Although Canal Days is no longer as significant a source of revenue as it has been in the past, it is a wonderful way for the PHS to connect with the community and raise awareness of the museum and its holdings. Thanks to all who helped set up and take down the booth and who worked the booth during the event.



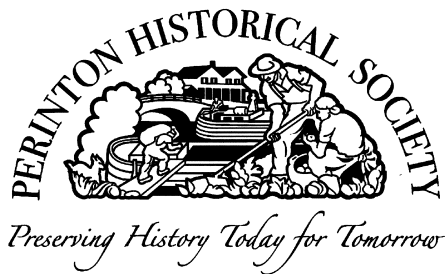
### Colin McKechney Awarded Eagle Scout Rank

On May 23rd, Boy Scout Colin McKechney was awarded his Eagle Scout rank at a ceremony held at the Masonic Temple on South Main Street. Colin's award was the culmination of years of hard work as a Scout. His project was to digitize many of the PHS records from the resource library.

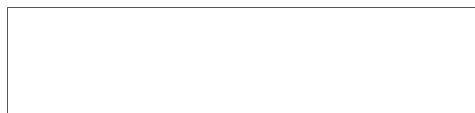
Since then, President Bob Hunt has been working with National Honor Society members, as well as adult volunteers, to scan in the contents of filing cabinets, which are located by the volunteer desk.

We're proud of Colin and his accomplishment and thank him for starting us on our digitization project!





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In this photo from 1937, brickwork has been completed on the Works Progress Administration (WPA) library project at 18 Perrin Street. A carpenter climbs a ladder made of scrap wood to continue his work on the east (front) gable. Windows will soon be installed, and workers will lay the slate roof shingles. Fairport's new library opened in the spring of 1938. *From the collection of the Perinton Historical Society*

## Fairport Historical Museum

18 Perrin Street, Fairport, NY 14450

The museum is open to the public on Saturdays, Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at the hours below:

Saturday 10:00–1:00 p.m.      Tuesday 2:00–4:00 p.m.

Sunday 2:00–4:00 p.m.      Thursday 7:00–9:00 p.m.

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)**