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The Schools & Teachers of Fish House

FHCC July Breakfast

After three years of no summer events, it was wonderful to see friends and neighbors attend our July breakfast. We are happy that more people have volunteered to help us put on such an event. There were almost 100 people who came and enjoyed our breakfast. We hope you have had a wonderful summer and we look forward to putting on breakfasts in the future.



Bottle & Can Returns

The FHCC managed to pay its bills during the three year drought of events because you continued to drop off your returnable bottles and cans. We are still recovering so every can and bottle is appreciated. Thanks!

FHCC Shirts & Sweatshirts

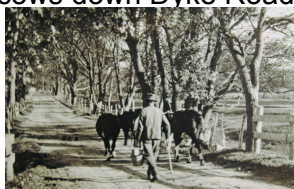
This is the last summer 2023 event where we will be selling the shirts & sweatshirts. The map on their back makes them unique. The prices are \$15 per T Shirt and \$35 per sweatshirt. We have an assortment of colors. Buy them while you can!

Little Free Library

The little library is stocked with a new collection of books. Be sure to check it out. It will be open throughout the year, snow permitting. Take a book, leave a book.

WILLIS HAYDEN (see article to the right)

Not only was Hayden a School Trustee, he was also a farmer. This photo is from a newspaper showing Hayden herding cows down Dyke Road away from the covered bridge and toward the village of Fish House. Tom Tillott was the photographer.



History of the Fish House Schools

There have been three school houses in Fish House.
**** The 1st School** An excerpt from the book The History of Fulton County (published in 1892) by Washington Frothingham, includes some information about the first school house: "Northampton was set apart from the town of Broadalbin February 1st, 1799 and on May 24th they held their first town meeting. Among the early events was the building of the first school house on what is now District No. 1, at Fish House. It is not definitely known when this house was built, but it stood directly on the site of the present one at that place." (The "present one" being the second school house.)

**** The 2nd school - School #2 -**

In May of 1867, the Slocum family deeded a parcel of land to the town of Northampton for the purpose of building a school house on it. The parcel of land was located near the United Methodist Church, almost across the street from the Community Center. The Slocums mandated that a fence be constructed around the school house and in the event that the building was no longer to be used as a school, then the land on which the school sat would revert back to the Slocum heirs. In 1908 the building stopped being a school house. Eventually Dexter Ryder bought the building and had it moved in 1928 to the end of Ryder Road. It has since been "absorbed" into a larger house so that only its roofline can be seen.



**** The 3rd school - School #6**

This two room school (now the FHCC) was built across the street from the one room school on farm land owned by Willis Hayden. Hayden was the School Trustee (he later became the School Superintendent). The architect for the two room school house was Frederick L. Comstock of Gloversville, NY. The blueprints cost \$50. The original plans called for a wood burning stove but New York State mandated that due to the size of the building, it should have a coal burning furnace in a basement. The construction of the school began in the summer of 1908, hoping to open that fall, but the building changes and the state inspections delayed the opening of the school until January 1909. The state was still making inspections in early 1909.



The Teachers of School #6 - now the Community Center

The First Teachers of School #6

Willis Hayden hired two teachers in December of 1908 to start in January of 1909. Grace A.E. Mosher signed her contract on December 3rd and Bessie A.N. Remer signed hers on December 23rd. Grace would make \$8.30 a month and Bessie, \$10 a month. Grace was 43 years old and Bessie was 52. Bessie started teaching in 1880 in Connecticut. When her father died in 1906, Bessie moved west. Later, Miss Bessie would teach in Sacandaga Park at the Gifford Corner Store. That building still stands today and is a private residence.

TEACHER'S CONTRACT
 BUREAU OF EDUCATION, SECTION 47, TITLE 7, CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL LAW, BUREAU 11, SECTION 15, TITLE 8 AND SECTION 17, TITLE 15
 I, Bessie A.N. Remer of Northampton county of Fulton a duly qualified teacher, hereby contract with the board of trustees of district no. 6 town of Northampton county of Fulton to teach the public school of said district for the term of 31 consecutive weeks, except as hereafter provided, commencing January 1st 1909 at a weekly compensation of 12 dollars and 00 cents payable at the end of each thirty days during the term of such employment.
 And the board of trustees of said district hereby contract to employ said teacher for said period at the said rate of compensation, payable at the times herein stated.
 Said board of trustees reserve the right to provide for a vacation or vacations of not more than 2 weeks in the aggregate, during said term, which vacation shall not count as a part of the term of service above referred to.
 Dated December 23rd 1908
Bessie A.N. Remer Teacher
Willis A. Hayden Trustees

TEACHER'S CONTRACT
 BUREAU OF EDUCATION, SECTION 47, TITLE 7, CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL LAW, BUREAU 11, SECTION 15, TITLE 8 AND SECTION 17, TITLE 15
 I, Grace A.E. Mosher of Northampton county of Fulton a duly qualified teacher, hereby contract with the board of trustees of district no. 6 town of Northampton county of Fulton to teach the public school of said district for the term of 31 consecutive weeks, except as hereafter provided, commencing Jan 1st 1909 at a weekly compensation of 8 dollars and 30 cents payable at the end of each thirty days during the term of such employment.
 And the board of trustees of said district hereby contract to employ said teacher for said period at the said rate of compensation, payable at the times herein stated.
 Said board of trustees reserve the right to provide for a vacation or vacations of not more than two weeks in the aggregate, during said term, which vacation shall not count as a part of the term of service above referred to.
 Dated Dec 3rd 1908
Grace A.E. Mosher Teacher
Willis A. Hayden Trustees

Grace A.E. Mosher was born in 1865, her full name was Grace Adella Estabrook. She married Abner Mosher. They lived in Providence. Grace signed a contract (see above) to teach in School #6 starting in January, 1909, making \$8.50 every thirty days. The 1915 census, however, shows her occupation as "housework". Her husband, Abner died in 1916. She later married Benjamin Adams and moved to New Hampshire where she died in 1923.

A Tribute to Miss Bessie A.N. Remer

On September 9, 1974, in the Leader Herald, Ruth Mace of Northville, wrote a wonderful tribute to Miss Bessie A.N. Remer. Ruth went to school in Amsterdam, but every April, she would attend the Gifford School as her father ran the local grocery store in the park. Ruth described Miss Remer as follows:

She was a tiny individual with the presence of a queen. Her snow white hair was arranged in soft waves above an incredibly beautiful, serene face. Fragile blue veined hands expressed themselves wonderfully in each controlled motion. Her voice was light and fresh as dew on a rose. I stared, fascinated, that first morning, as she slowly pulled one fresh white glove, then the other from her hands; then, without taking her eyes from us, she reached to her head, unpinned the black straw sailor hat, and drew it from her elegant head. Here, indeed, was an individual. Miss Bessie instilled in us a real desire to learn about the wonderful world outside. I never dreaded school again.



Bessie Remer

Bessie Amelia Nichols Remer was born in 1856 in Connecticut to Samuel Remer and Phoebe Wing Remer. She started teaching in 1880 at the age of 24. In 1908 she took the teaching job at School #6. She later taught at the Gifford Corner School. She died on August 1st, 1936 and is buried in the Broadalbin Mayfield Rural Cemetery.

GRADE	Names of pupils Enter only boys on this page	Names of parents or guardians	Age	over each day's attendance		
				Month	Day	Year
	Name of teacher	ATTENDANCE OF TEACHER				
	<u>Lutie Anderson</u> <i>Write pupils first</i>					
8	<u>Noyes, Paul</u>	<u>D.W. Noyes</u>	15	1	12	'07
8	<u>Meaney, William</u>	<u>John Meaney</u>	12	2	8	'06
8	<u>Malec, Jaro</u>	<u>Louis Malec</u>	12	9	30	'05
7	<u>Cannell, Elsworth</u>	<u>Floyd Cannell</u>	12	12	17	'05
7	<u>Reynolds, Marvin</u>	<u>Frank Reynolds</u>	13	3	29	'05
5	<u>Brown, Roy</u>	<u>Ella Brown</u>	12	8	9	'10
5	<u>Brown, Nelson</u>	<u>Leora Brown</u>	12	7	27	'10
5	<u>Bleezer, Roy</u>	<u>Clarence Bleezer</u>	13	10	15	'09
7	<u>Reynolds, Rosalind R.</u>	<u>R. Reynolds</u>	14	2	23	'07
1	<u>Moore, Leland</u>	<u>Frank Moore</u>	13	12	12	'08
1	<u>Cook, Leon N.R.</u>	<u>Ivin Cook</u>	13	2	29	'10
2	<u>Hamilton, William W.</u>	<u>Hamilton</u>	14	5	21	'07
3	<u>Hamilton, George</u>		11	5	11	'11

Lutie E. Anderson was born in June 1880, in Fulton, NY to Davis H. Anderson & Alice E. Collins Anderson. In the 1910 census, she is living with her parents in Northampton and is teaching. Her father was a talented carpenter who built several homes in Fish House. The school attendance record to the right is from 1922. According to the 1925 census, Lutie was still a teacher.



Lutie Anderson

Jessie Hayden Crannell was born in 1896 to Willis Hayden and Harriet Vanderhoof Hayden. They lived in Northampton on Old Fish House Road. Her father was a farmer and eventually the school superintendent. In the 1910 census, she is listed as being a student, so it is quite possible that she had Ms. Anderson as a teacher. In the 1920 census, she would be 24 and she is listed as being a teacher. In 1925 Jessie married Jerry Crannell. Jessie continued to teach at School #6 until around 1955 where she then taught in Broadalbin. Jessie lived on Old Fish House Road in the house where she was born. She would take the school bus into Broadalbin to teach. She died in 1964 on her way home from teaching. Jessie was a dedicated teacher who taught for over 44 years.



Mrs. Elsa Jeffers
 Mrs. Jeffers taught at School #6 for a few years until it closed in 1958. She is in the photo of the 1958 class. Mrs. Jeffers went on to teach in the Broadalbin schools.



Thank you to all the teachers! You make a difference in this world.