



1976 DEWITT MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

Top Row - left to right, Willis Fuller, Terry Gartside, directors, Rev. Jerry Cole, Treasurer. Bottom row - left to right, Fred Grove, Director Gerald Thiel, President, Joan Overway, Secretary, William Hayner, Director.

(not pictured) Mrs. Sam Russell, Booking Agt., Mrs. David Bordul, Custodian.

Thank You

The 1976 DeWitt Memorial Association Board of Directors takes this opportunity to thank sincerely, each and every individual who, so unselfishly, has donated his or her time on the 30th Annual Ox Roast. We are very proud of our close-knit community which works so well year after year to produce one successful ox roast after another.

We also express our sincere thanks to the many local service clubs, groups and organizations which have cooperated so fully once again, helping us to bring you Ox Roast, 1976.

We thank, in particular, the DeWitt Businessmen's Association, who support the Ox Roast in hundreds of ways. To mention a couple, they are largely responsible for the production of this souvenir booklet, and they also close down their businesses to allow the ox roast to go on.

A special thank you goes to the Dana Corporation for bringing their annual picnic to the ox roast.

Other major supporters of the Ox Roast year after are the DeWitt Lions Club, DeWitt Vets Club, DeWitt Post of the American Legion, St. Jude's Ushers Club, Lake Geneva Association, Merry Mixers Square Dance Club, St. Jude's and Bank Boosters Bingo Committees, DeWitt Library Board, DeWitt Education Association, DeWitt VFW and their Auxillary, Masonic Lodge, Blue Star Mothers, others DeWitt church groups, the DeWitt City Police Department, Fire Department, DPW, City Council and Mayor, members of Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, Little Leagues and their leaders and countless of other individual supporters.

A Big Thank you to all of them and to each of you for contributing so generously of your time and effort in putting on and supporting the 30th Annual Ox Roast. All proceeds go to improve the DeWitt Memorial Building, which exists to serve the needs of our community and its organizations and to house the DeWitt Library.

1976

PROGRAM

Saturday, August 21st

DeWitt Mich.



30th

DeWitt Ox Roast

Spartan

DUPLICATING AND PRINTING

15551 North East Street

489 - 4330

CARLTON'S MOBILE HOME SALES

14500 N. U.S. 27

PHONE (517) 489-6839 or 489-9423

SALES & SERVICE

MOTOR HOMES - TRAVEL TRAILERS

PONDEROSA SPORT CENTER

MINI GOLF—BASEBALL MACHINES—PIN BALL
DRIVING RANGE

FROSTY - FREEZE

11888 U.S. 27

DeWITT, MICH.



McNALLEY'S STANDARD

N. 27 AT 127 INTERCHANGE

OPEN 24 HOURS

MECHANIC ON DUTY

FAST FRIENDLY SERVICE AT REASONABLE PRICES

WITH THIS COUPON

Lube, Oil and Filter \$6.99

669-3141

WILLARD J. REED AGENCY

INDEPENDENT INSURANCE AGENTS

REPRESENTING SEVERAL FINE COMPANIES

AUTO—HOMEOWNERS—LIFE—BUSINESS

669-7604 669-3417

108 W. MAIN STREET

DeWITT

PICTURES OF EVENTS



PICTURES OF EVENTS



DEWITT OX ROAST 1976

- 10:00 a.m. Parade - beginning at Scott School - reviewing stand at Fuerstenau School by Memorial Building - passing through and around town.
- 10:00 a.m. til 6:00 p.m. WITL RED WAGON broadcasting live from driveway by bank.
- 11:00 a.m. til 11:00 p.m. **OX ROAST OFFICIALLY OPENS**
 Food Tent - (located on Bridge St. just north of light)
 Oxburgers still only 75¢ each
 Games Tent - (located on Main St., just west of light)
 Run by local clubs, groups, other organizations
 Beer Tent - (Located on O'Shaughnessy parking lot off East Main St.) Run by St. Judes' Ushers Club.
 Merchants Tent - (Located on North Bridge at intersection of Jefferson) run by DeWitt Downtown Merchants Assoc. Souvenir program booklets available here.
 Bingo Tent - (located on East Main at intersection of Franklin (volunteers from St. Judes and Band Boosters)
 Lottery Booth - (located on SE corner of Bridge/Main intersection. Run til 7 p.m. by Merry Mixers and ten by ox roast personnel) Tickets on sale all day for cash and other prizes.
 Midway - B.J. McDonagh Co. Ticket booth located on SW corner of Bridge/Main intersection. 50¢ per ticket.
 Art Show - sponsored by Mrs. Hansen, Library Association (located in Memorial Building by Fuerstenau School)
 Bath Equestrian (Square Dance on horseback) (also in parade)
 Pony Pulling - sponsored by Clinton County Pony Pulling Association (located by city DPW at McGuire Park)
NOTE: Riverside Park - ball diamond and park are reserved for the entire ox roast for the Dana Corp. picnic.
 Prize - Schwinn 27" 10-speed bikes, His and Hers (all prizes announced from main lottery booth stand and over radio - need not be present to win.)
 Prize - \$100.00 cash.
 Garden Tractor Pull - organized by George McGinnis (located at city DPW - McGuire Park) Rules at Terranovas and the public is invited to participate as well as watch.
 Prize - \$100.00 cash
 Prize \$100.00 cash
 Prize - Suzuki TX-125 Duster Motorcycle
 Square Dancing - DeWitt Merry Mixers - Dave Crissey calling (located on parking lot between VFW Hall and Masonic Temple. Dancing continues in the Memorial Building after demonstration.
 Also event will be held in Mem. Bldg. if it rains
 Prize - \$100.00 cash
 Prize - \$100.00 cash
 Prize - Sunfish 14 foot Sailboat
 All Ox Roast Events close - games, beer, food, bingo, merchants exhibits and midway games and rides.
GRAND FINALE - Fireworks display - by bridge at Riverside Park (run by Bruce Angell and assistants)

Note: There may be some additions to this schedule - some events may be added currently in the planning stage.



CULLIGAN WATER CONDITIONING
DE WITT, MICHIGAN 48820

PHONE 371-5800

PHONE 669-6032

GENE'S TOTAL SERVICE
POWERMIX - GREASE JOBS - OIL CHANGE

PHONE 669 - 9063

U.S. 27 AT BRIDGE EAST DeWITT, MI.

G & L SALES

FARM IMPLEMENT—SHORT LINE
GEORGE WHITE MANUFACTURER
SPRAYERS—WAGONS—DISKS—CULTIVATORS
LOADERS—DOZERS—AUGERS—ELEVATORS

"what you need is what we have"

Marvin LaLone 669-3107

U.S. 27 DeWitt

FRED SHAVER INSURANCE AGENCY

3408 NORTH EAST STREET

LANSING, MICH. 48906

SERVING LANSING AND SURROUNDING AREAS
COMPLETE INSURANCE SERVICE

CALL 371-2318 OR 371-2257

BILL SHAVER

AL METCALF

Zig's Farm Market
FORMERLY CENTENNIAL
FARM MARKET

BAKERY-CHEESE COUNTER-CIDER

US-27 at Dill Road, DeWitt, Mich.

FRANKLIN OIL CORPORATION (OHIO)

Industrial Metalworking

Lubricants

669-9066



Keck's

669-7355

RCA

TELEVISION & APPLIANCE SERVICE

126 E. MAIN

DEWITT

DE WITT AREA CHAPEL

HERBERT BROWN

ROBERT SIRRINE

PAUL TATE

111 S. FRANKLIN

DeWITT

HOWE'S GREENHOUSE

PHONE 669 - 9822

8160 U.S. 27

DEWITT' MICH.



THE SHOPPING GUIDE

"WEEKLY ADVERTISING MEDIA"

"IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE"

PHONE 1(517) 676-2491

GENERAL TELEPHONE

"At Your Service in the Area"

DEWITT AUTO BODY

BEHIND LAUNDROMAT

THE QUALITY SHOP PH. 669-6265

SEE BILL OR PETE

112 WEST WASHINGTON DEWITT

SHINGLE SHACK

"A Nice Place to Eat"

Downtown 669-9284

TERRANOVA'S THRIFTWAY

PACKAGE LIQUOR

GROCERY—MEATS—BEER—WINE

"DEWITT'S MEATING PLACE"

669-6745

OPEN 7 DAYS

129 S. BRIDGE

DEWITT



The above picture is the "Clinton House" built by Captain David Scott, a veteran of the War of 1812, and first white man to settle in DeWitt area. This large Hotel was built between 1840 and 1842, the main Ballroom was on the third floor, which also housed the Clinton County court room until St. Johns became our County Seat. The "Clinton House" burnt down in 1930.



The union 76 Gas Station now rests on the very same spot that the "Clinton House" rested on years ago.

ROGER OVERWAY

AGENT

125 N. BRIDGE

DeWITT

669 - 9949

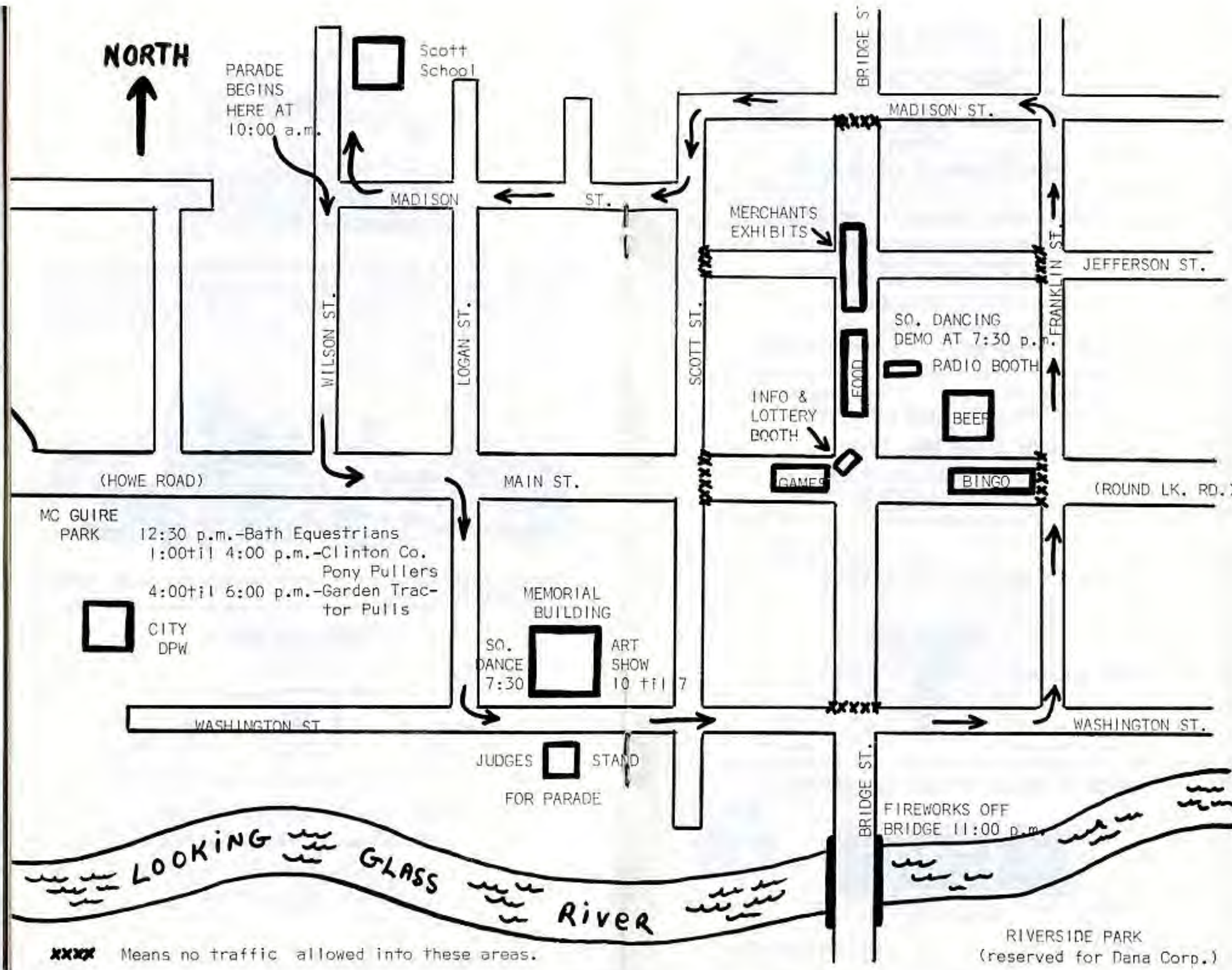


AUTO
FIRE
LIFE & HEALTH

MILBROOK MEADOWS BUILDERS

Custom Building - Lots Available

669-3253



NORTH
↑

PARADE
BEGINS
HERE AT
10:00 a.m.

Scott
School

MADISON ST.

BRIDGE ST.

MADISON ST.

JEFFERSON ST.

FRANKLIN ST.

SO. DANCING
DEMO AT 7:30 p.m.

RADIO BOOTH

BEEF

BINGO

(ROUND LK. RD.)

WILSON ST.

LOGAN ST.

SCOTT ST.

MERCHANTS
EXHIBITS

INFO &
LOTTERY
BOOTH

GAME

FOOD

(HOWE ROAD)

MAIN ST.

MC GUIRE
PARK

12:30 p.m.-Bath Equestrians
1:00 till 4:00 p.m.-Clinton Co.
Pony Pullers
4:00 till 6:00 p.m.-Garden Trac-
tor Pulls



CITY
DPW

MEMORIAL
BUILDING

SO.
DANCE
7:30



ART
SHOW
10 till 7

JUDGES STAND
FOR PARADE

WASHINGTON ST.

WASHINGTON ST.

BRIDGE ST.

FIREWORKS OFF
BRIDGE 11:00 p.m.

LOOKING GLASS
River

RIVERSIDE PARK
(reserved for Dana Corp.)

XXXX Means no traffic allowed into these areas.

DEWITT BAR

DANCING FRI-SAT.

BEER-WINE FOOD TAKE-OUT
LIQUOR

202 E. MAIN

DeWITT

HIGHLAND HILLS GOLF COURSE

COVERED-LIGHTED-HEATED DRIVING RANGE

18 HOLE PUBLIC GOLF COURSE

BANQUET FACILITIES

PHONE 669-9873

U.S. 27 AT ALWARD RD. DeWITT MICH.

DANCE HALL DAIRY

219 N. Bridge, DeWitt

CONES-SHAKES-SUNDAES
SLUSHES-SANDWICHES

DEWITT PHARMACY

KEITH B. BLIZZARD, R. PH.



PHONE 669-6445

113 S. BRIDGE ST.

DeWITT

BILL FOWLER FORD SALES' INC.



669-2725

NORTH U.S. 27

DEWITT' MICH.



BOUGHTON ELEVATOR

AGRIC FERTILIZER

NORTHRUPKING	TIP TOP
WOLVERINE	BALE TWINE
SEED CORN	FARM SEEDS

"CALL US BEFORE SELLING YOUR GRAINS
PHONE 669-6684 DeWITT

GRADY SMALLEY

Long Realty Company

Sales - Building

Leasing-Trades & Appraisals

3300 HITCHING POST ROAD

669-3538 669-2851

BASEMENT DIGGING • SEPTIC TANKS • DRAIN FIELDS
TRENCHING • TREE CUTTING • BULLDOZING

L. A. WILSON & SON

11375 U. S. 27

DEWITT, MICHIGAN

OFF. 669-9634 • PIT 669-3495

RADIO DISPATCHED

BLACK DIRT FILL

SAND • GRAVEL • WASHED STONE

WE APPRECIATE THE DeWITT AREAS BUSINESS.

LYNN'S FLOWER SHOP

DeWitt's Complete Floral Service

Dried Flowers-Gifts-Weddings

Funeral Sprays-Corsages

Lower Level-Hen's Nest

669-3045



FITCH PHOTOGRAPHIC STUDIO

SENIOR PORTRAITS-WEDDINGS-COMMERCIAL

121 W. MAIN, DEWITT PHONE 669-3509

100 N. EMMONS, ST. JOHNS PHONE 224-3565

DAN ZELINSKI BUILDER
pecializing in contemporary homes
specializing in Contemporary Homes
of Distinction
669-3608

B. C. "76"
William Wilson, Owner
Quality Auto Care and Wrecker Service
Downtown **669-5201**

MR. KELLY'S FASHIONS
"Where Smart Women Shop"
Catering to the Jr. - Missy
and Queen Size Figure
108 Bridge Street 669-3314

BALLARD HOME CENTER

COMPLETE HOME REMODELING
FLOOR COVERINGS
KITCHEN CABINETS FIREPLACES
CEMENT

118 North Washington DeWitt

OLDE COUNTRY CATERERS

FEATURING HOMEMADE FOODS
L 669-9747 114 W. MAIN DEWITT



TOM KING OIL COMPANY
Jobber - Standard Oil Products
641-6331 641-6187

SUBURBAN

SERVICE AND SUPPLY

ALLIS-CHALMERS / GOODYEAR BELTS
SERVICE ON ALL LAWN AND GARDEN EQUIPMENT

11371 US 27
DEWITT, MICHIGAN 48820

TELEPHONE
669-3474

DOUGLAS B. TWISS AGENCY

Insurance of all Forms
108 W. Main Street
DeWitt Phone 669-7604

WILLIS CRESSMAN

BASEMENT DIGGING SEEPAGE BEDS
SEPTIC TANKS CRUSHED LIMESTONE

"FRIENDLY SERVICE"

PHONE 669 - 2845

DeWITT

BILL O'SHAUGHNESSY CHEVROLET INC.

PHONE 669 - 2021



122 E. MAIN ST.

DeWITT, MI.



12875 S. U.S. 27

DEWITT, MICH.

MOBILE HOMES, INC.

R. E. S.

BOOKKEEPING AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE

BUS. PH. 669-2211 RES. PH. 669-3285

RICHARD E. STODDARD

218 N. BRIDGE ST.

DEWITT, MICHIGAN

DREPS RECREATIONAL CENTER

"COMPLETE SALES & SERVICE & LEASING

COACHMAN-FULL LINE-DODGE R.V. SERVICE CENTER

PHONE (517) 669-9996

DeWitt, Michigan

DALMAN'S HARDWARE

PLUMBING SUPPLIES PAINTS FARM SUPPLIES

WHIRLPOOL APPLIANCES ZENITH RADIO & T.V.

669 - 6785

103 SOUTH BRIDGE STREET DEWITT

FAMILY BARBER SHOP

BILL LONIER

8:00-6:00

TUE-FRI.

124 WEST MAIN



8:00-5:00

SATURDAY

DeWITT

DEWITT MEMORIAL BUILDING

On Oct. 16, 1945, Mrs. Earl Pierson, Assistant Librarian, issued a request to every organization in DeWitt Township to send two representatives to discuss the possibility of building a community building in DeWitt. A piece of property on West Washington Street, where the present memorial building stands, had been donated by Mr. & Mrs. William Rogerson, for the purpose of building a library, but they were agreeable to the construction of a community building, provided a library was accommodated.

The first donation was a pledge of \$1,000 given by Mr. & Mrs. Verne Walker. All of the organizations agreed to raise money for this purpose. They formed a non-profit organization to erect and maintain a building, and named their group the "Memorial Association."

In April, 1946, delegates and leaders of clubs met to find a way to raise money. They decided on a street carnival, which was a very successful three day event, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Most prizes and articles for booths were donated with expenses being less than \$100.00. Later the event was cut to two days, Saturday and Sunday, and at present is a one day event, being held the second Saturday before Labor Day weekend of each year. From this street carnival, the present 29th annual Ox Roast has grown, and it has become an annual event to provide funds for the operation and maintenance of the Memorial Building. Jack Lenneman and Don Reed were the principle chefs and became known as the "Barbecue Kings" of Central Michigan.

The original building incorporators were L.J. Griswold and J.B. Vincent, Leo Spayde, Leon Blizzard, Mildred Carris, Hazel Norris, Verne Walker and Mr. & Mrs. William Rogerson.

This building was dedicated to all veterans of all wars. It has been the meeting place for all local organizations and is quite unique in its inception and use.

The building was opened for partial use for the 1947 Ox Roast and was dedicated at the annual event in 1948. A bronze plaque placed in the lobby of the library by the DeWitt Blue Star Mothers, reads, "Lovingly dedicated to the men and women who served in all branches of military service, and to those who gave their lives to their country." The plaque also lists the eight names of local boys who gave their lives in World War II.

In September, 1965, an addition to the Memorial Building was started. This addition gave DeWitt the needed room for its Library and community events. This addition, which is still unfinished to date, calls for a lounge, snack bar, and two more restrooms, the dance floor, paneling and ceiling are completed.

Our building now houses one of the most modern libraries in the state, for an area of this size. It is a member of the Central Michigan Library System. There is currently a meeting room with complete kitchen facilities for use by the public and also a second level also for use by the public.

The DeWitt Memorial Association, a non-profit organization, sponsors the Ox Roast each year to help maintain the Memorial Building. Rent paid by the Library and weekend rentals from the two halls also help to defray costs.

Nine DeWitt residents, volunteering their time, make up the Memorial Association Board. Three members are replaced at each annual board meeting, which is held in January, giving each member a three year term to fill.

Public meetings are held on the last Wednesday of each month, at 8:00 P.M. in the Meeting Room, adjacent to the Library, in the Memorial Building.

Jail House

General Store



EARLY HISTORY OF DEWITT

On October 4, 1883 Capt. David Scott and his wife and two of their sons arrived in what is now DeWitt to make the first permanent white settlement in Clinton County. A bronze plaque was erected in DeWitt Village in 1913 by the Clinton County Pioneer Society making note of this fact. After the fire in 1930 the plaque was rescued by the late Agnes Steinhardt Forbes who later gave it to Howard Courtland. He returned it to the DeWitt Bicentennial Commission who replaced it on its original stone on a foundation donated and set by Ted Powell at 223 S. Bridge St. It is along one of DeWitt's main highways where all may drive up and read the inscription from their cars.

The Bicentennial Commission also erected three other historic markers within the city as permanent reminders of DeWitt's colorful past.

There is one at the south east corner of Locust and Dill that commemorates the site of the first grist mill in Clinton County. It was built in 1844 by Jesse and Milo Turner and was burned in 1901. Timbers from the mill are incorporated in the Home of O.E. McGuire who lives at 310 Dill Road.

Another is at 206 East Washington, this building was the first Clinton County Jail, and the only original County building remaining. On October 12, 1840 the following resolution was adopted: "That four hundred dollars be appropriated in erecting offices for the following county officers: treasurer, clerk, register of deeds; also that sufficient amount of money be appropriated in erecting a jail and dwelling house attached thereto, for the use of the jailer; the offices to be completed by the 15th of September, 1841, the jail on or before October 15th of the same year. "The Board of Commissioners convened Dec. 3, 1841, and awarded the contract to William H. Utley he being the lowest responsible bidder. The contract for the offices was four hundred and thirty nine dollars, and for the jail and residence one thousand and seventy-eight dollars. The buildings were not completed at the specified time, and in March, 1842, Seth P. Martin was appointed by the commissioners to attend to the completion of the jail. The building is still four-square and is the home of the Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Tilford and family.

The other is at 110 East Webb Drive and is the site of the first General Store in the county. It was built by Milo Turner in 1838. The remodeled white house is the original store building. Milo and his brother, Jesse, did much building in and around DeWitt but left for the gold fields of California in 1850. The house is now owned by A.E. McInire.

All of these new signs are mounted on huge boulders found in the DeWitt area and are so located that you can drive up and read them from your car. It is our hope that one day soon DeWitt will have an area Historical Society to perpetuate the heritage and history of the area and work toward a DeWitt Museum.

Faye Hanson 7/13/76