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County celebrating Archives Day Wednesday

By JODY McNICHOL , Dispatch Staff Writer

WAMPSVILLE - Madison County's annual Archives Day will be held on Wednesday from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. in the lobby of the Madison County Office Building in Wampsville.

In conjunction with the Society of American Archivists, American Archives Month, Archives Day is being held across America.

The event will include documents held in the county archives including records from one room schoolhouses across the county, information on the earlier railroads in the area, maps of the canals, election returns, atlases from 1853 and 1875.

A display on the Madison County Courthouse, which is celebrating its 100th year in Wampsville, will also be presented by Madison County Historian Mary Messere and Wampsville Historian Terry Blowers.

Lectures begin at 1 p.m. and topics include what is available from the county clerk's office, facts and fun of Madison County.

"Special guests" from the past include the notorious Sheriff William F. Bonney, familiar during the Loomis Family era, Melville Landon, known as lecturer Eli Perkins, Mrs. Thomas Morris, will discuss moving the courthouse from Morrisville to Wampsville, and school-teacher Myrtilla Miner of the Brookfield one-room schoolhouse.

In addition, a portrait of James Warren Nye will be unveiled at 1p.m. Wednesday. The only judge whose portrait has not hung in the courthouse, Nye was born in DeRuyter in 1815, served as Madison County district attorney in 1839 and judge from 1840 until 1848.

Nye was appointed governor for the Nevada Territory in 1861 by President Abraham Lincoln and became senator in 1865.

The portrait is being prepared for the centennial celebration of the Madison County Courthouse next September by artist Michele Jenkins.

Refreshments will be served at 1 p.m. and free booklets on history will be available on a first-come first-serve basis throughout the day.

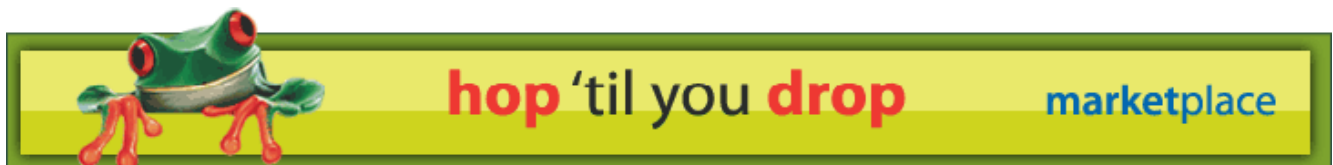
For more information, contact the Madison County Clerk's Office at 366-2160 or the Madison County Historian at 366-2453 or e-mail at: mary.messere@co.madison.ny.us

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