

SUSSEX DAY 1987

Presented by

The Sussex-Wantage Chamber of Commerce

and the

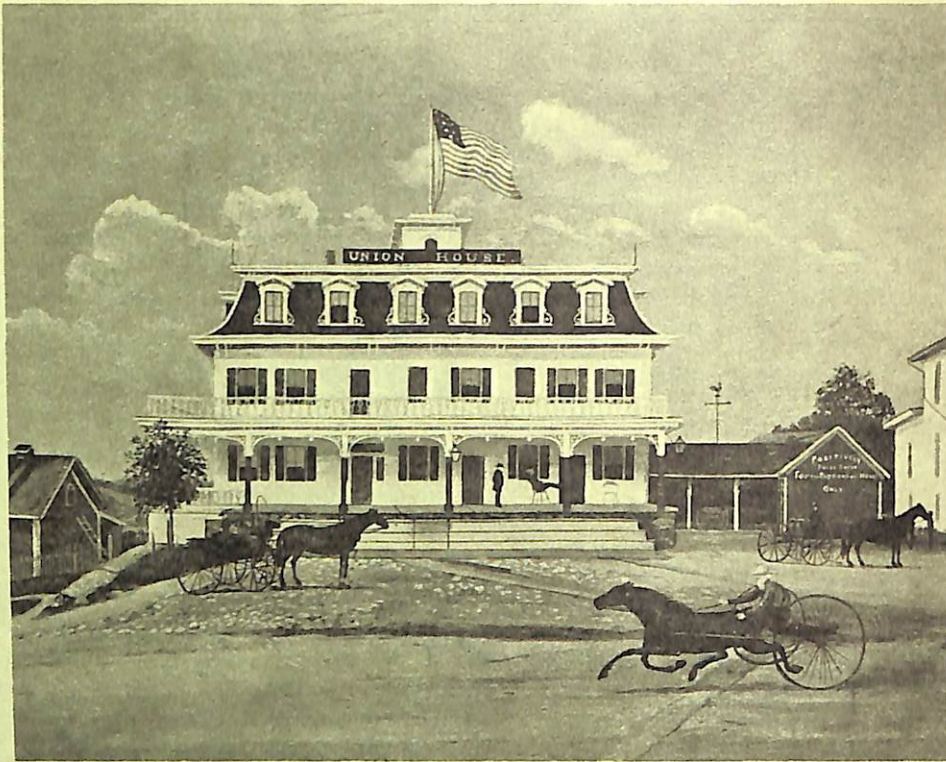
Sussex Borough Recreation Commission

at

Brookside Park, Sussex

Saturday, June 20, 1987

Program of the Day



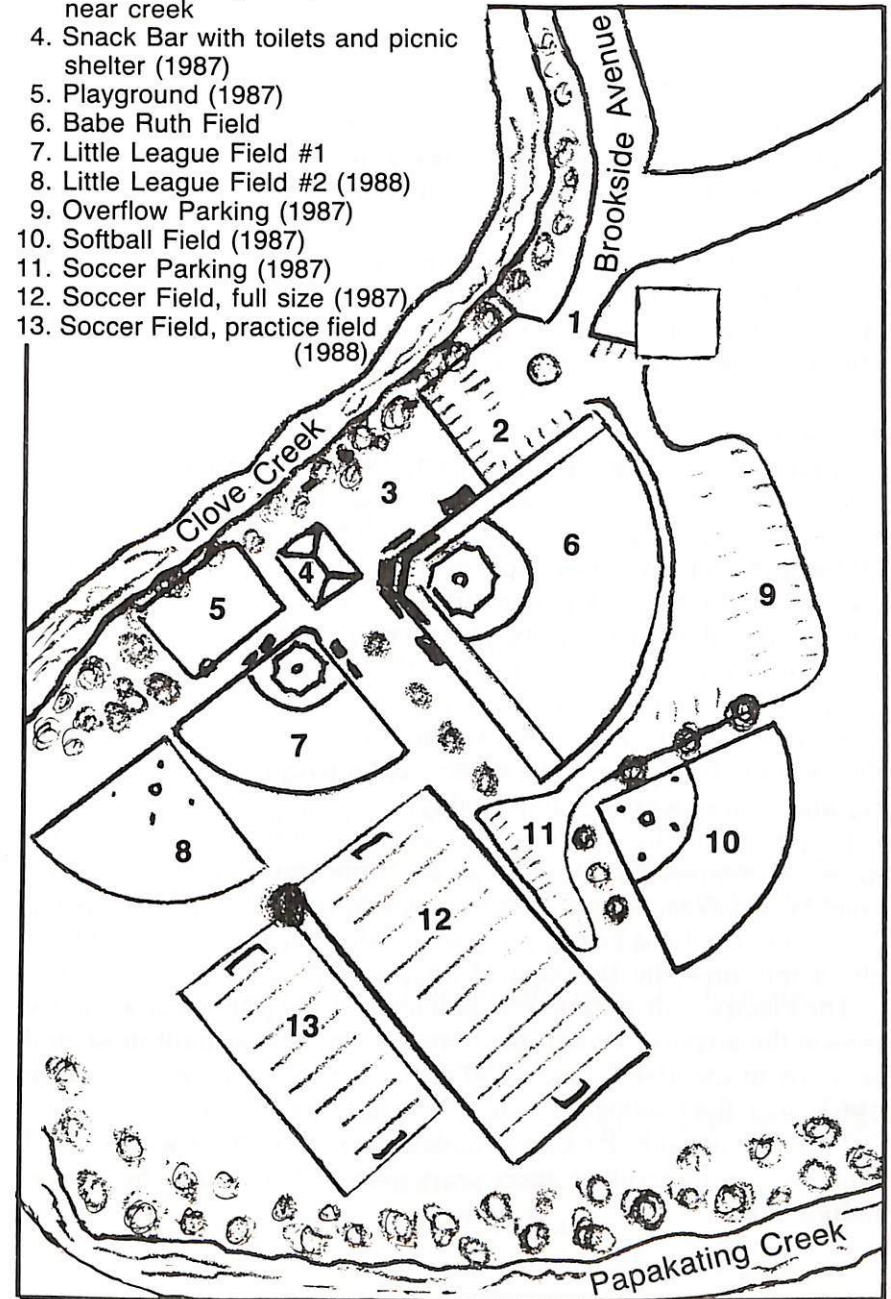
Sussex Inn

875-3000

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New Jersey

Brookside Park

1. Gate
2. Parking Area
3. Open Area, for future Basketball Courts, Hockey Rink, Picnic Area near creek
4. Snack Bar with toilets and picnic shelter (1987)
5. Playground (1987)
6. Babe Ruth Field
7. Little League Field #1
8. Little League Field #2 (1988)
9. Overflow Parking (1987)
10. Softball Field (1987)
11. Soccer Parking (1987)
12. Soccer Field, full size (1987)
13. Soccer Field, practice field (1988)



“Brookside Park”, The Sussex Recreation Field

By Howard Case

There is no doubt that the Lenni-Lenape Indians camped along the banks of the Papakating Creek at what is now “Brookside Park”; the Indian village of Twisusawkin (“place where the plums abound”) was located about where the hospital is today. This was an important Indian village, as it was near where the Papakating Creek flows into the Wallkill River. There were several other local Indian villages.

The area became the property of Peter Decker, whose family sold the field to Nathaniel Loomis (who lived at what is now 38 Newton Ave.). It remained in the Loomis family for about a century, until after the death of John Tracy Loomis (Nathaniel’s grandson) in 1937. After the first World War Loomis meadow was used as an aerodrome.

After work on Tuesday, May 21st, 1928 Virgil Kinney was anxious to try out his new Standard Curtiss OX5 airplane and asked his close friend Edgar Case to go up with him — Ed refused. Virgil taxied around the field a couple of times and took off, circling over Sussex several times. Upon landing he apparently came in too fast, hit the ground and flipped the plane over, crushing the pilot. Edgar Case and Andrew Layton were less than 100’ from the crash, they dashed over and pulled Virgil from his wrecked plane, he died within a few minutes. The **Sussex Independent** stated “As far as is known this was the first plane to be owned and quartered in Sussex County, and it also was the first fatality.”

In spite of this accident (my Dad would never talk about it) Loomis meadow continued to be used as an airport until just after the second World War. Sussex Airport moved to its present location about 1946, and the field began being used informally as a ball field. At about this time the Borough of Sussex acquired title to the land.

The electric sub-station was built about 1940 (the wires were one reason the airport moved); the borough garage was built in several sections in the 1940’s and 1950’s; the sewer plant was erected in 1963; and field lights were installed last year (1986).

Today Brookside Park, a complete recreation field with several buildings, is the result of many years work and dedication by several individuals.

EVENTS SCHEDULE

June 20, 1987

TIME	
11:00 - 5:00	Vendors Open for Business
11:00 - All Day	American Revolutionary Re-enactment (Mott’s Artillery) Exhibits/Demonstrations
11:00	Musical Chairs (Registration at Information Booth)
11:30	Talent Show (Pre-registration)
12:00 - 1:30	Children’s Games
12:45	Citizen of Year Award to John Hoch (Presented by Chris Parrott, President Chamber of Commerce.)
1:00 - 2:00	Prince & Princess Contest (Pre-registration by 6/18)
1:00	Dunk Tank opens for volunteers.
1:00	Smokey the Bear Arrives at the Park
1:45	Baby Photo Contest
2:00	Pie Eating Contest (Register at Information Booth)
2:30	Musical Chairs (Register at Information Booth)
3:00 - 4:30	Children’s Games
3:00	Little Miss Sussex Boro Contest (Pre-registration by 6/18)
3:30	Little Miss Wantage (Pre-registration by 6/18)
4:00	Miss Sussex Boro Contest (Pre-registration by 6/18)
4:30	Beautiful Legs Contest (Male Adults Only/ Register at Information Booth)
5:30	Pie Eating Contest (Register at Information Booth)
6:00	D.J. Music
9:00	★★FIREWORKS!!! ENDING THE DAY★★

ON LOCATION

WNNJ-WIXL Radio

Many other activities to join as the day goes along.

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Presented to John Hoch

Sussex, New Jersey

Sussex Day — June 20, 1987



The Sussex-Wantage Chamber of Commerce and the Sussex Recreation Commission proudly present the Citizen of the Year Award to long-time citizen of Sussex Borough, Mr. John Hoch.

Mr. Hoch has been instrumental in our community of Sussex, implementing many new projects and ideas to improve our town, both for the betterment of all the citizens and especially for the children.

Beginning in 1967 Mr. Hoch has been involved in the organizational setting of the Baseball/Little Leagues in the community. He has been helpful in the re-establishment of the Brookside Park Project which is ongoing at the present time. John was manager of the Little League from 1967-1969, Manager of the American Legion Baseball from 1967-1981, and Secretary of the American Legion Baseball County Committee.

Mr. Hoch is a member and Past Commander of the American Legion Post #213 of Sussex, New Jersey. He has been County Chairman of the N.J. State Safe Deposit Association; Director of the Franklin Kiwanis Club; Treasurer of the Industrial Pollution Control Financing Authority. John has served as Treasurer of the Wildcat Booster Club; along with serving as a member of the Sussex County Hospital Advisory Council and serves on the Board of Directors at Sunnyside Hospital in Port Jervis, New York.

Mr. Hoch is a Trustee to the American Cancer Society and a member of the Hofstra University Alumni Association.

Mr. Hoch has been an inovative factor in the political arena of Sussex as Councilman in Sussex from 1967-1969; originator of the Sussex Planning and Zoning Boards; Vice Chairman of the Planning Board in 1969; and Chairman of Sussex Zoning from 1970 to 1983.

Mr. Hoch is employed as Vice President of the National Bank of Sussex County. He has lived in Sussex for 25 years with his wife, Rita. They have two daughters and five grandchildren.



The Mott's Artillery Regiment of the Sixth Company of Artillery is a recreated regiment from the Colony of New York with Mr. Chuck McGatha as present day Commander.

The Sixth Company of Artillery, Second New York Regiment was established at the time of the American Revolution by Gershom Mott who was from New York. Commander Mott was active very early in the American Revolutionary War both as a member of a committee of correspondence and as a Son of Liberty. Commander Mott took part in the march to Quebec, Canada, and delivered money and clothing to the American prisoners after their defeat at Quebec. Commander Mott spent most of the War in the highlands of New York and commanded Fort Constitution in New York. He came to New Jersey with John Lamb and was stationed at Pluckemin, N.J.

The present Sixth Company of Artillery, Mott's Artillery Regiment, has been in existance for approximately 16 years. Under the command of Mr. McGatha, there are at any one time approximately 15-20 members.

In addition to performing all along the eastern coast of the United States and France, the Mott's Artillery has created two commercials for national television for Coors and for the State of New Jersey.

The present commercial can be seen for Coors Beer, and the other commercial which can be seen around the Christmas holidays is of the reenactment of George Washington, crossing the Delaware which was made for the State of New Jersey. They have performed in the movie "The Hard Winter" which was produced at Waterloo Village. Other performances have included their reenactments at Jockey Hollow, the Princeton Battlefield, Old Barricks in Trenton, Yorktown and Waterloo Village. Members of the group also had the privilege of performing in France during the 200th anniversary celebration of the signing of the Peace Treaty in Paris, France.

At Sussex Day, the Mott's Artillery will demonstrate musket and cannon loading/firing, musket ball molding, tin piercing, chair caning, candle dipping, and early-day cooking facilities in their official replica of a Revolutionary War encampment. They will be wearing uniforms of the Continental era and Militia uniforms common to New Jersey and the northern Sussex area and will be carrying weapons from British, French and American Militias.

The Mott's Artillery is open to anyone who is interested in joining. In the mid-1970's during the bicentennial years, there was a Sussex Militia which combined with the Bergen County Militia known as the Bergen/Sussex Militia. Mr. John O'Connor of Sussex was a member of the Bergen/Sussex Militia.

Commander McGatha and his group are very knowledgeable on the history of our country during the Revolutionary War era and on their exhibits/demonstrations. Please make them welcome to our Sussex Day/community and be sure to stop by to visit with them and ask questions about their exhibit. They will be demonstrating the loading and firing of the cannon at various times of the day. It is quite remarkable to see how our forefathers defended our country to give us the freedom which we continue to enjoy today in America.

IN APPRECIATION

Our sincere thanks to all who supported and helped our community's Sussex Day of June 20, 1987, in donations of flowers, supplies, prizes and many other items, but especially **their time**.

An extra special thanks for those donating their endless hours during the day to:

Sussex Boro Police Department
Sussex Boro Maintenance Department
Sussex Fire Department
Sussex Ambulance Squad
WNNJ-WIXL Radio

From the Sussex Day Committee:

Chris Parrott, President Chamber of Commerce
Connie Stevens, President Recreation/Co-Chairman
Sharon Tatolli, Co-Chairman
Les Gunderman
George Steffener
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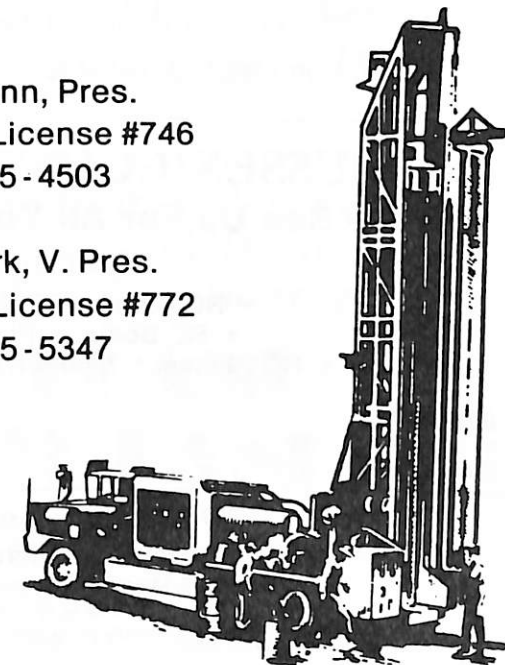
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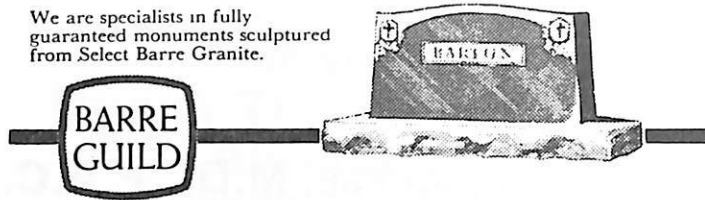
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