

Bethinking of Old Orleans

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Annual Old Timer's Fair

The Cobblestone Museum in Childs, N.Y. at Routes 104 & 98 will present its third annual Old Timer's Fair on Sunday, September 20 from 1:00 - 5:00 P.M. rain or shine. A food stand will be ready to serve at 12:30 P.M. This will include old-fashioned pumpkin desserts plus all-time American favorites such as hots and hamburgers.

The purpose of the Old Timer's Fair is to show and demonstrate various old time crafts, skills and folk arts in an historic setting. Neil Big, professional folklorist, currently working with the Orleans County Council on the Arts, is part of a committee for displays consisting of Virginia Kildoo and Laura Close.

To give you an idea of what to expect, here at the time of this writing is a list of what you'll see: weaving, candle dipping, basketry, wood carving, printing, needlework, rug hooking, broom making, quilting, saw sharpening, taxidermy, blacksmithing, dulcimer making, pottery, an apiarist plus a roving story teller and music on the grounds. Along with all this, visitors to the museum can witness a cobblestone building being pointed up by a local mason.

As a special feature, an exhibit of real Americana consisting of antique folk art items will be on display in the Proctor Room of the historic Cobblestone Church. This will include paintings by local artists of long ago, wooden items both constructed and hand carved, wrought iron work and a variety of textiles. It will certainly be a unique highlight of the Old Timer's Fair and will be on display that day only.

To see and understand more about our local heritage, you are invited to take part in these activities first hand on Sunday afternoon. There will be an admission charge payable either at the Blacksmith Shop, the Cobblestone Church or the Cobblestone School, wherever you begin. This will entitle you to see all six buildings at the museum complex including demonstrations.