

Historic May's Lick School Receives Restoration Grant

On April 7, Lowe's and the National Trust for Historic Preservation announced that they were awarding a grant for \$48,300 to the May's Lick Community Development for restoration of the May's Lick Negro School. Altogether, grants were made to 17 historic Rosenwald schools in the Southeastern US. Rosenwald schools were primary schools for African Americans which were partially funded by Julius Rosenwald between 1918 and 1932.

"The Rosenwald schools tell a story of extraordinary generosity," said Richard Moe, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. "In a time of great racial inequality, Julius Rosenwald worked with communities across the South and Southwest to improve educational opportunities for African Americans. These schools represent a critical link to our national heri-

tage, and we are very pleased that Lowe's understands the importance of preserving (them)."

According to Robyn Jones of May's Lick Community Development, the funds will be used to "repair & replace the roof and trusses, rebuild the window openings, repair & preserve the historic soffits, and repair & replace exterior doors."

A committee of former teachers, students, and other citizens has been formed to help fund and guide the restoration of the school. This committee is gathering information on anyone who taught at or attended the school, school photos, news articles, or any other artifacts. If you attended the school, or know a friend or family member who did, or have information related to the school, please contact Tammy Williams at 606-375-3236, Robyn Jones, or Bob Devoe.

Here Comes the Asparagus Festival!

Members of May's Lick Community Development are busy getting ready for the Twelfth Annual May's Lick Asparagus Festival.

restore the old May's Lick Negro School will be serving fried fish dinners. Come on out and enjoy the good music, great looking cars, and a



This year, for the first time ever, the Festival begins on Friday May 16, with a Classic Car Cruise-In from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm in the lot next to the May's Lick Market on US 68. Music and Games will be provided by Kenny Throckmorton, Sam Huff will present a spectacular 'Elvis' tribute, and the committee working to

tasty fish dinner, and party in the Lick before the big Festival.

The next morning, on May 17, the Festival begins bright and early at 9:30 a.m. with the third Farmer's Fitness 5K race through the streets

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May's Lick Celebrates 220th Anniversary

by Peggy Parker

"Left our habitation at 11 in the morning, our friends and neighbors attended us with heavy hearts, the morning appeared like a funeral". This was the entry Mary Shotwell Morris wrote for May 6, 1788.

On that May morning in 1788, five families left the security of their homes in New Jersey and began the trek that led them to settle in May's Lick. The group consisted of the families of 3 brothers, Abraham, Cornelius, and Isaac Drake and the families of a brother and sister, John Shotwell and Mary Shotwell Morris. The entire group contained at least 30 people- ages 55 to 2 ½ years old, most were under 15.

Mary Shotwell Morris kept a journal of the trek. While somewhat terse, this is the only record of the journey. Almost 3 weeks into the trip, her entry of May 25th, *"Went on our Journey, traveled along the banks of the Potomac, some difficulty attended us, going down a hill a four-horse wagon ran over a child with both wheels. The child was taken up for dead but soon came to and was admirable preserved, no bones broken and no wounds appeared. We then went on and crossed Will's creek, 11 miles and so on to Cumberlandtown and there put up, having traveled 15 miles".*

Daniel Drake (one of May's Lick's most famous citizen) claims to be that child in the book Pioneer Life in Kentucky. He was 2 ½ years old at the time. He went on to become a doctor and in 1820 he organized the Medical College of Ohio in Cincinnati. He was connected, either as a lecturer or professor, at different times, with Transylvania University, the University of Louisville and Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia.

The group arrived in Limestone (Maysville) on June 18. They stayed there for a few days and then traveled on to Washington.

They didn't move out to the Lick until the fall when they had cleared enough land to build their cabins.

-- to be continued

Progress On the New Fire Hall

On February 18 a ground-breaking ceremony for the new May's Lick Fire Hall and Community Center was attended by many leading political figures and many enthusiastic observers. State Senator Charlie Borders and Representative Mike

architectural firm DLZ, Robyn Jones, president of the May's Lick Community Development, and other members of the Community Center planning committee.

The community of May's Lick received a \$300,000 grant from the 2006 General Assembly to build the new facility. Bids for construction were unsealed on April 18 and details are still being negotiated, but work is expected to begin soon. The grant is only considered sufficient to complete the building structure and as much interior finish as needed to make it functional. Additional funds will need to be secured to furnish the new community space. There are also plans to supplement the

exterior with brick and other enhancements to make the building more compatible with the restored May's Lick Negro School. Community Development president Robyn Jones thinks it may be an advantage in the long run that funds are tight, saying, "I think it's good that we as a community have to be involved in the completion of the project, raising funds and doing so much work ourselves. It's going to make our new Fire Hall & Community Center feel like our own."



photo by Terry Prather

Denham participated, along with Mason County Judge Executive Buddy Gallenstein, William T. Cooper, field representative for Congressman Geoff Davis, Mason County Commissioner Donald Tumey, and Maysville Mayor David Cartmell. Others tossing a ceremonial shovel of dirt included Kevin Cornet, project coordinator for the Buffalo Trace Area Development District, May's Lick Volunteer Fire Department Chief John Larry Dodge, Bob Prewitt, representing the

Asparagus Festival to Host President!

The Twelfth Annual May's Lick Asparagus Festival proudly welcomes Nelson Doyle and his living history portrayal of Abraham Lincoln.



Nelson Doyle as Abraham Lincoln

Mr. Doyle was born and raised in Mason County near Lewisburg, the son of Orville and Jessie Doyle. He graduated from May's Lick High School, attended Morehead State University and Georgetown College, and is retired after 30 years of teaching at Grant County High School. He has been portraying Abraham Lincoln at public events since 1987.

Doyle is a charter member of the Association of Lincoln Presenters, which started in 1993 with 35 members and has grown to 180 members across the nation.

Kentucky and the nation are preparing to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the birth of our 16th president, and the May's Lick Asparagus Festival hopes everyone will take advantage of this opportunity to meet "Honest Abe."

12th Annual May's Lick Asparagus Festival!

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of May's Lick. Runners can register at Jones's May's Lick Market on U.S. 68, or downtown on the morning of the race, starting at 8:30. Entry forms are available at www.mayslick.com. The entry fee is \$15 which includes a race T-shirt!

Food and craft vendors begin selling their wares in the town square and on the lawn next to St. Rose church at 10 a.m., and the Asparagus Hall of Fame & Gift shop will open downtown. The Asparagus Festival Kid's Carnival returns this year with even more games, prizes, cotton candy, and lots to do for all kids!

Volunteers from the Federal Mogul Relay for Life Team will be directing traffic to convenient parking areas, and free transportation will be provided to and from parking during the festival.

You can always count on lots of great live entertainment at the Asparagus Festival! This year's line-up includes great music from Kentucky Express, dancing by the Country Tap Cloggers, music by the Liberty Coronet Band, and other great acts!

Peggy Parker will be giving tractor rides to nearby Burrwal Farm, tours of her asparagus fields, and informative talks on asparagus cultivation.

Returning this year is the popular Antique Tractor and Farm Machinery rally. If you've got a vintage tractor and you'd like to show it off, and meet with a fine group of other enthusiasts, bring in your baby! Registration starts at 11:00 a.m., and the rally starts at noon in Roff Memorial Park, and ends with the Asparagus Parade at 4:00 p.m.

If you haven't tried asparagus – you
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May's Lick, Kentucky

This quarterly publication is produced by the Newsletter Committee of the May's Lick Community Development (a non-profit organization), including Robyn Jones, Jennifer Gleason, Peggy Parker, Annette Walters, and Jim Ward, editor.

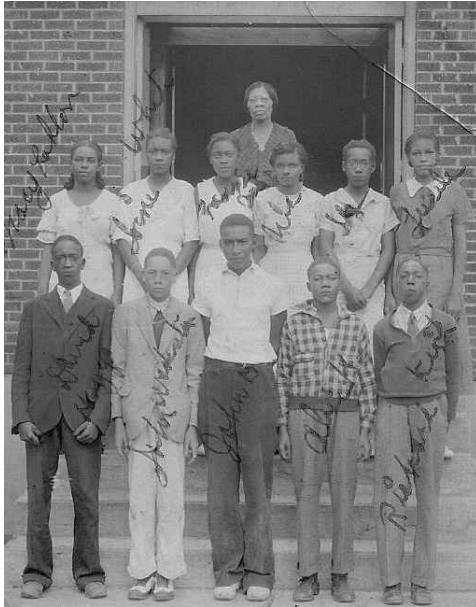
Visit www.mayslick.com !

Dig Out Your Old Photos! You Can Help Restore Our Rosenwald School!

by Robyn Jones

A community committee has been formed to help direct the restoration of the historic May's Lick Negro School. This committee is working hard to preserve the history of the school and its students. They are collecting copies of old photographs of classes and the building, especially interior photos that show the classrooms and lunchroom, or the back of the school. If you have any, they would be an invaluable aid to the restoration. You can bring them to the next meeting of the school committee, Saturday May 31 at 1:30 pm, in the basement of the Second Baptist Church, or you can bring them to Robyn Jones, Virgie Clayton, Tammy Williams, Norm Franklin, or Sam Lofton.

The school committee is planning several fund-raising activities to help with the restoration, including a fish fry on Friday May 16, during the Festival Cruise-In, and a School Restoration T-Shirt for sale during the Festival.



The Eight Grade Class of 1936

The committee is also working on a school reunion planned for September 5-7. Any help in contacting former students would be appreciated.

If you'd like to get involved with this great project, contact Tammy Williams at 606-375-3236.

12th Annual Asparagus Festival!

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certainly will have a chance on Saturday, May the 17th! For a REAL Taste Of Asparagus, come to the basement of the St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For \$6.00 you can taste a variety of dishes made from our star vegetable, Asparagus. We have it all, from soups, appetizers and salads, to main dishes and casseroles, to breads and desserts. Copies of the recipes will be available for purchase.

The many visitors to our community during the Festival all have one thing in common – they get hungry! And local civic groups are getting ready to make sure that there is something delicious to tempt everyone! The May's Lick Volunteer Fire Department plans to have a fish fry, and the May's Lick Lions Club, Homemakers, and the Night-owls will have food booths. There will be BBQ, Lemonade, and lots of deep fried Asparagus! To sign up as a food vendor call Robyn at 763-6823.

The Asparagus Art exhibit in the Presbyterian Church will open for viewing at 10 am. The Art Show showcases all types of art depicting asparagus in it's many forms. Artists

from near and far offer up a diverse interpretation of the king of vegetables. Calling all artists and budding artists to enter your work of art. Cash prizes as well as People's Choice Award and public display. Art should be taken to the Presbyterian Church on May 16th. For more info call Jennifer Gleason, 606-763-6827.

The one and only Asparagus Parade will start at 4 p.m. So grab your horse, car, tractor or bike and join in! Plan to line up in the parking lot of the Baptist Church at 3:30.

The Festival will wrap up with the Asparagus Bed Derby. The Amish Youth are the defending champs, and they're ready to take on all challengers. You do not have to provide a bed – we have racing beds ready for teams. So get a 5 member team together and contact Robyn at 763-6823 to sign up and be ready to roll! This year our special guest referee is prepared to lay down the law!

There are many opportunities to pitch in and help make the Asparagus Festival a success. You can volunteer to help set up on Friday May 16, or in the morning of the 17th. If you'd like to be part of our big day in May's Lick, just contact Robyn Jones at 763-6823 or 763-6269.

NOTICE

On Saturday May 17, Raymond Road from US 68 to the Main Street intersection will be closed to traffic from 8:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Also, Main Street from Laytham Pike to the South entrance on U.S. 68 will be closed from 9:30 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. for the 5K road race. A section of Main Street from Raymond Road North to Palmer's Funeral Home will remain closed until 6:00 p.m. KY 324 traffic will be detoured South on Main Street to U.S. 68 during the Festival.

The Community of May's Lick thanks you for your patience.

Community Directory

May's Lick Volunteer Fire Dept.
763-6429 John Larry Dodge, Chief

May's Lick Lions Club
763-6589 Wayne Cropper, President

May's Lick Street Light Fund
763-6362 Ron Wulfekamp

May's Lick Homemakers
Helen Clary, President

May's Lick Night Owl Homemakers
763-6640 Annette C Walters, President

Licking Valley Girl Scouts
763-9058 Rae Pierceall

James Roff Community Park
763-6823 (Reservations)

Little Lambs Daycare
763-6782 Connie Howard

May's Lick Baptist Church
763-6355 David Cheek, Pastor

May's Lick Second Baptist
763-6735 Daniel Childs, Pastor

May's Lick Christian Church
763-6203 Phillip Cook, Pastor

May's Lick Lighthouse Church
763-6782 Daniel Lee Howard, Pastor

May's Lick Presbyterian
564-4929 Lynn Eberly, Lay Minister

New Hope Christian Church
759-4673 Mike Stephenson, Pastor

St. Rose of Lima
606-845-4601 Rev. Verne Hogan, Pastor

**May's Lick Community
Development**
763-6823 Robyn Jones

A May's Lick Business Reborn!

Holman's Grocery Store, a family-owned business and landmark in downtown May's Lick for more than 20 years, has now re-opened as the May's Lick Auction. The new business is owned by Mark and April Holman Miller, who have refurbished the building.

The Millers started their remodeling project in December of 2004, and they have kept as much of the original character of the store building as they could. The molded tin ceiling is the original and has been painted and detailed as well as repaired where needed. They actually found remnants of paint under the white that told them what color the ceiling was years ago, and they believe it is now painted close to the original 1899 color.

The old shelves in the back of the building once served as the old post office that operated on the premises years ago. The shelves were repainted, and are being used for the auction house as well as for items to be displayed. The original front doors on the building were restored.

All the glass in the windows is original, in fact the broken upstairs windows were replaced with windows found in the building that had been covered over through the years.

Now that the interior of the building has been completed they will use it for a consignment auction. Mark Miller, auctioneer, is licensed by the Kentucky Board of Auctioneers.

The Millers are interested in antiques, glassware, furniture (new and old), collectibles, and items that



are generally of good condition and quality.

The May's Lick Auction is located at 5064 Main street on the corner of old U.S. 68 and 324. The first sale date is May 10, starting at 7 p.m., and more information can be found at www.auctionzip.com, or you can contact the Millers via email at mayslickauction@windstream.net or at 606-763-9690.



Farmer's Fitness 5K

sponsored by

The Mason County Cross-Country Team

Saturday, May 17, 2008 9:30 a.m. Registration at 8:30 a.m.

Entry fee is \$15, includes race T-shirt. Register morning of event or pre-register at Jones's May's Lick Market, U.S. 68 in May's Lick, 763-6823. Registration forms available at the Market, or online at www.mayslick.com.

May's Lick, Kentucky

**WHAT MAY'S LICK HISTORIC PROJECT
RECEIVED A NATIONAL RESTORATION
GRANT?
LOOK INSIDE!**

**GET READY FOR THE 12TH
ANNUAL ASPARAGUS FESTIVAL!**

**IS THE PRESIDENT REALLY COMING
TO MAY'S LICK?**

AND ELVIS TOO?

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