



CELEBRATE HAMLIN TOWNSHIP'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2011

HAMLIN TOWNSHIP, LUDINGTON, MI

150TH ANNIVERSARY

1861 – 2011

CELEBRATING THE PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

Organization of Hamlin Township: The MI State Legislature approved Act #78, on February 28, 1861 which created the Township of Hamlin. Hamlin Township was named after Hannibal Hamlin who was born 8-27-1809 in Paris, Maine. He was the 15th Vice-President of the United States serving under President Abraham Lincoln from 1861 – 1865. He was a lawyer, outspoken to his opposition to slavery, and urged Lincoln to announce his Emancipation Proclamation.



Hannibal Hamlin (1809- 1891); 15th Vice-President of the United States

NOTABLE: Hamlin Township was originally called Little Sauble in 1851 by Charles Mears who built sawmills in settlements near Ludington; In 1854, the area was called Big Sauble. These two settlements were later renamed by Mears to Lincoln and then to Hamlin in 1861 in honor of the successful Republican Presidential Ticket. Mears served in the Michigan senate and was a member of the Republic Party. He was a personal friend to Abraham Lincoln and had the town he lived in near Ludington renamed to "Lincoln".



Charles Mears (1814 – 1895)



Lincoln settlement in 1861 in Mason County near Ludington.



General Store – Upper Hamlin Lake

**Hamlin Township; 3775 N. Jebavy Drive, Ludington, MI 49431 (231) 845-7801 OR
<http://www.hamlintownship.org>**

PLEASE JOIN US AND CELEBRATE 150 YEARS

***HAMLIN TOWNSHIP SESQUICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE IS PLANNING EVENTS
FOR 2011 TO RECOGNIZE THE SIGNIFICANT ANNIVERSARY.***

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

*****February 28, 2011** is Hamlin Township's Official Birthday. Stop in to the Hamlin Township Hall for refreshments and memorabilia's from 8:00 AM – 4:30 P.M.

*****July 2011**; 150^{U.S.} **FLAGS** to be placed at various locations in Hamlin Township.

*****150th ANNIVERSARY BOAT REGATTA** on Hamlin Lake in July 2011. Prizes!! Details to Follow.
(Anyone wishing to donate prizes for the 150th Anniversary Boat Regatta, please contact Nancy Vandervest, Township Supervisor.)

*****July 4th, 2011**; COME SEE: Hamlin Township's 150th Anniversary Float in Ludington's 4th of July Parade. Any Township individual interested in marching or decorating, please contact Nancy Vandervest.

*****COMMUNITY TOWN HALL & FIRE STATION OPEN HOUSE** with refreshments, memorabilia's, and rich history. August 2011. Speaker: Professor Mike Nagle; Additional details to follow.

*****TIME CAPSULE**: A 150th birthday time capsule will preserve the essence of the community as it is today. Hamlin Twp. individuals or organizations are asked to donate items for the capsule. Items will be sealed in a ceremony at Hamlin Township Hall. The capsule will be buried at the Hamlin Town hall. It will be marked with a plaque instructing that it be opened in 2061. The community is invited to see the contents of the time capsule.

*Additional details to follow . . . 150th Anniversary Craft * Memorabilia's * Photos*

First Settlement: Charles Mears in 1858 in Section Two. **Second Settlement**: Mr. and Mrs. Louis Sladick. in Section 12. **First Wedding**: Miss Paulina Duquette and Mr. Gilson. **First Child**: Mr. Frank Sladick Sr. **Soldiers** in World War: Joe, George and Ambrose Barnhart; Oscar E. Johnson, Andrew Delbarker, Fred Peterson, Ernest Hirner, George Allard, Arthur Guerin, Norman Gilbert and Herbert Masten. Mr. John Swanson was a soldier in the Spanish American War. Before Hamlin had a cemetery they buried the dead on their farms and by the sawmill at Hamlin Dam. **First Cemetery** in Section 14. **First Townhall Meeting**: 1864. **First Clerk** was William Bickle. **First Supervisor** was W.H. Saxton. **First Sawmill** was at the Hamlin Dam. **First Feed Grinder** belonged to A. Cartier. **First Farmers**: Louis Sladick, Albert H. Nordhouse, Frank Egnor Sr., Mr. Mulick and Mr. Frank Williams. The most common crops raised were corn, potatoes, oats and wheat. They were 81 farms in Hamlin Township. Hamlin Lake, hotels and the large resort added much interest to Hamlin Township; **First Resort Hotel** on Hamlin Lake was built in 1894 by William G. Hudson. Known as Hudson's Bay Resort, it was located on the southwestern shore of the Lake. In 1902 the hotel was enlarged and renamed the Piney Ridge Hotel.

Schools: Hamlin Twp. had two school districts. **South Hamlin School** was opened in 1895 in Lincoln Village on Hamlin Lake. In **1914** a frame building was erected on the NE corner of Decker and Lincoln Roads. The acre of land was given to the district by Charles Mears. **1934** an additional acre of ground adjoining the original was given by Carrie E. Mears, daughter of Charles Mears.

The **Nordhouse or North Hamlin School** located on the NW corner of Fountain and Jebavy Roads included the northern half of the Twp. A frame building was built in **1847**. This building burned in **1893**, and was rebuilt in **1894**. Another fire in **1940** caused classes to be held in the Hamlin Townhall. A new brick building was erected on the same site in 1941. An addition was added in 1962 making the building a four room school.

1943 school census showed 84 children. 1953 school census showed 135 children.

1861 – 2011 HAMLIN TOWNSHIP'S SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION



3775 N. Jebavy Drive, Ludington, MI 49431

150 YEARS

Visit us on the Web <http://www.hamlintownship.org>

1861 Civil War – On the brink of bankruptcy and pressed to finance the Civil War, Congress authorized the United States Treasury to issue paper money for the first time in the form of non-interest bearing Treasury Notes call Demand Notes.

