Clinton County Historical Society
CELEBRATING
50 Years
CCHS 50th Anniversary News

Volume 1 Issue 3 April 2024

Anniversary Events Planned

Time Capsule

We will be creating a 50th anniversary time capsule filled with items from 2024 as part of the CCHS 50th anniversary celebration. Glenn Ernst is looking for a copy of the *Meridian Weekly,* dated Feb. 28, 2024, for inclusion in the time capsule. He would also welcome ideas for other things to add to the capsule. Email him at: gmernst@hotmail.com

We have been busy planning special events to celebrate our 50th anniversary. We will be hosting archives and museum tours, cemetery and history walks, special programs, and more. Mark your calendars so you don't' miss out on any of these opportunities to learn more about our county's history.

The save the date event for May 1 mentioned in the March newsletter has been cancelled.



Join Our Journey...

Questions: text Julie Peters, 989-501-0599
or Kelly at 503-459-7220. More TBA

CELEBRATING
50 Years
Clinton County
Historical Society
CCHS
Est. 1974

CCHS ARCHIVES

16101 Brook Road, Lansing 48906
https://opennet.us/cchs

Are you interested in your family's history? The Archives provides many resources, which are not readily found on the internet: plat maps, Bible records, newspapers, school records, cemetery records, and endless other local items. You can access an index to many of these on the Archives website.

Wayne Summers recorded two interviews in March: On March 4th, the subject was Donna Stephens, the first female corrections officer in Michigan. On March 7th, Jan Seperic recalled her activities on the Bicentennial Commission and as an antiques dealer. Both interviews are posted on the Archives oral history web page.

Did you know there are free lesson plans for teachers on Clinton County history available on our website? Most are designed for 3rd and 4th graders, but some are appropriate for other grades. If you know any teachers be sure to let them know.

Clinton County Newspapers

Many early Clinton County newspapers have been digitized and are available to be searched by keyword and viewed online without cost at https://www.clinton-county.org/Archive.aspx

This year an additional 10 years of the *Clinton County News* (1978-1987) have been added. Coming later this year newspapers from Ovid and DeWitt will be digitized.

Centennial and Sesquicentennial Farmers Wanted

As part of our 50th anniversary celebration, we would like to honor these special Clinton Co. farmers. Although we know most of the original owners, we need the current owner's name and mailing address. If you are such a farmer or know of one, please help us out so that we do not miss a single one. Email us at ccgensoc@yahoo.com

CCHS MUSEUM

106 Maple St., St. Johns 48879
CCHistoricalMuseum.org

Carriage House Restoration

In May of 2023, while in the process of removing the old concrete slab to install a new garage door, the carriage house settled, and the southeast corner of the building slipped and sank into the ground. As a result, the stucco-like façade cracked, and windows moved from their placement because of the movement. The Carriage House was deemed unsafe and closed immediately.



Carriage House being restored

An Advisory Board member reached out to Ken Harris, a local developer, who is experienced in building restoration and a friend of the Museum. Ken kindly offered to volunteer his time to manage the project including materials, labor, and timelines. Due to the historical significance of the building and the property, the Advisory Board agreed that stabilizing the building, restoring the interior, replacing windows, and removing the stucco was the only thing to do to ensure that the Carriage House remains a vital piece of history within in the city.

In October, Museum volunteers submitted a grant application to the SJACF (St. Johns Area Community Fund) to assist in the cost of the project. In December the SJACF granted $2500 towards the restoration project. Additionally, the William E and Rosemary McCarthy Living Trust donated $10,000 towards the handcrafting of historically accurate doors to adorn the Carriage House. Volunteers hope to re-open the Carriage House to the public sometime this 2024 season.

For Sale

Celebrate the CCHS 50th Anniversary with a commemorative cup or tumbler. All proceeds go to support the Clinton County Historical Society. **Please text Julie at 989-501-0599** to order or to receive additional information. Shipping is available.

10 oz COFFEE CUP

Hot drinks stay hot over 2 hours while outside remains cold.

20 oz TUMBLER with Straw

Double walled, vacuum insulated, stainless steel with sliding lid.

BPA free.

COST EA: $20 cash $21 credit card

Eastern Sky Designs

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PH: 906-630-5009



MONTHLY REPORT OF ACQUISITIONS & RESEARCH

JANUARY – MARCH 2024

Meeting: April 3, 2024

This year started out with some good news for the Archives. The Archives office is located in the DeWitt Area Recreational Center. Thanks to the township, and their great maintenance guys, Kevin, Tony and Joe, we now have a newly painted and freshened up office to do our research in. We were closed for the month of January to reach this goal.

In February we had an Open-House for CCHS volunteers and DeWitt Township officials, to see the results. Twenty attended to check it out, share cookies and cider. Thanks to everyone who brought cookies. We had a nice variety and they tasted so good.

GENEALOGIES:

- Acre, Shellenbarger; Tim Stine; 3 ring white binder; 8 1/2 x 11"; approx 150pp [G 884]
- Kimball, Weaver; Tim Stine; 3 ring white binder; 8 1/2 x 11" [G 580]

MILITARY:

- Infantry Drill Regulations 1911; US Army; 4 1/2 x 5 1/2"; Soft cover
- "The Kolynos" "Parley Voo Booklet" Practical French & German Phrases; 5 x 3 1/2"; pamphlet
- History and Rhymes of the Lost Battalion"; by "Buck Private" McCollum; 1922; 5x7"; soft cover
- Combat Divisions of World War II; 1946; Publ by Army Times, Wash. DC; 5 1/2 x 7" soft cover

SCHOOLS:

- Bath High School yearbook, "Shadows", 1971 [S 185A]
- Bath High School yearbook, "Shadows", 1972 [S 185B]
- Bath High School yearbook, "Shadows", 1973 [S 185C]
- Fowler High School yearbook, "Hi-Lights", 1960 [S 282H]
- Fowler High School yearbook, "Eagle's Nest", 1962 [S 282J]
- Fowler High School yearbook, "Eagle's Nest", 1964 [S 282L]
- Fowler High School yearbook, "Eagle's Nest", 1965 [S 282M]
- Fowler High School yearbook, "Eagle's Nest", 1968 [S282P]
- Fowler High School yearbook, "Eagle Flight", 1989 [S282T]

NAMES RESEARCHED:

Ernst, Diller, Hatch, Pline, Swagart

TOPICS RESEARCHED:

Fowler train wreck, Wilson Center interior photos, Sawmill by Eagle

Respectfully submitted:
Julie Peters, Director
CCHS Archives