

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Historical Museum remains closed due to restrictions imposed by the Coronavirus pandemic. Watch for upcoming porch displays. Call and leave a message concerning any research questions— 248-685-7308

From The Collection

As I sit before my computer trying to compose an article for this issue of the Milford Historian I am having trouble coming up with a place to start.

What was happening 100 or 200 years ago in Milford? I went to the Central Michigan University Newspaper archives to access copies of the Milford Times. Well, the Times first edition wasn't published until March of 1871. It makes fun reading, I spend a couple of hours flipping through the early issues and marveling at the stories, pictures, advertising and words used.

I then wondered about how Milford fared with the 1902 pandemic. The digital copies of the Milford Times don't go past 1913. So then I remembered that we had found some copies of the **Centennial Section** of the 100th anniversary insert to the Milford Times. This insert is also interesting as it has photos of all the Editors for the first 100 years of publication. It has photos of Union Street, the Mill Pond and other views of the Village. This includes a photo of the Historical Museum when it was used as the Village and Township offices.

We also have some copies of another Milford Times Insert **Remember When. Remember When** is a collection of photos and stories of 17 Milford family histories by Susan Kauppila written about 1979.

(Continued on page 3)

From Our President, Sue Bullard

Greetings and Happy New Year!

As we begin this new year, I hope that you and your family enjoyed the Holiday season. It certainly wasn't the normal celebration that we are used to, but when one approach to celebrating doesn't work out, you come up with a different plan. Keeping everyone safe is the new normal.

It has been eleven months since we closed the Museum doors to keep everyone safe. I hope that we will be able to open our Museum soon, but until then we will continue to come up with new ideas to share the history of our community.

Last summer we began exhibits called Pop Up Porch exhibits. This allowed us to share our history while still following the guidelines set by CDC. Some of the displays were on the porch while other exhibits were displayed in the windows of the museum. This was a successful way for us to share our community's history. We will continue to brainstorm on ideas new ideas of sharing history. Our museum committee is busy planning exciting new ideas for the new year. We will keep you posted. Check out our website, facebook page and our bi-monthly newsletters.

I look forward to the day when we can re-open the museum. Because we miss you. We miss those guests that came into the museum to do research. We miss those guests that are looking for the history of their house. We miss those guests that just come in to say hi. Soon our doors will be open and the laughter and camaraderie, friendship and support will be back. Until then, stay safe, stay healthy. Let's count our blessings and remain vigilant during this last stretch.

MHS Board of Directors

In accordance to our by-laws, we are required to hold an election of our Board of Directors. Those members volunteering to continue to serve on the Board are Jackie Swenson and Emma Michnicwicz. Because we are still observing safe guidelines, we will not be having a January meeting. Instead we will be mailing out ballots to our members. We ask that you complete the ballot and return to the Historical Society Museum.

We also still have two vacancies on our Board, if you are interested in history and would like to join our Board, please contact any Board Member.

***Our Mission Statement:** We are organized exclusively for educational purposes. We bring together people who are interested in history, especially the history of the*

MILFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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Museum Director



Museum Director's Report -
January 2021

Happy New Year! Hoping and praying for a safe, happy, and healthy 2021!

I hope you were able to take the time to drive by and enjoy the beautiful lights and decorations and the Holiday Porch Exhibit at the Museum. Thank you to Sue

Bullard, Michelle Avallone, Sue Griffor, Sue Gumpfer, Jackie and Harold Swenson, and anyone I may have left out, for putting everything together. It helped to lift spirits during this unusual Holiday season.

The Museum Committee has penciled in May as our target month for reopening the Museum in some fashion. It will likely be primarily outdoor events and activities for a while. Of course, local, state and CDC guidelines will determine how much reopening we are able to do.

Your input is needed and appreciated as we work towards opening. There will be surveys coming out with questions regarding our Society members', Docents', and the community's thoughts on what we should be doing to ensure everyone is feeling comfortable and safe when working at or visiting the museum. Your input is essential in guiding the decisions that we will be making as we move forward. When these surveys are ready, we will make them available by mail and online. Please take the time to share your thoughts and ideas.

Looking forward to everyone getting together again in, hopefully, the not-too-distant future - even if it may be in new and different ways!

Tami Averill
Museum Director

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2021 Membership Dues



It is that time again, time to renew your membership with the Milford Historical Society. Membership is the very foundation of the Milford Historical Society. By far, our greatest asset is our members. As a member your dues make everything we do possible. By participating in the Historical Society your dues will continue our commitment to bringing the history of our commitment through exhibits and programs.

As members you will receive bi-monthly newsletters with information about upcoming events, programs and volunteer openings. So, please when you receive your membership envelope; return it with your dues and continue to support the Historical Society.

Milford Historical Society

124 East Commerce

Milford, Michigan 48381

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(Who is Hiram Lowell—Continued from page 3)

his first building renovation by removing the west end of the tavern and moving it to the northwest corner of Summit St. and Union St., now 117 E. Summit St. This renovation allowed him rental income or money from a sale. The family continued to live at 115 E. Summit St., where their second daughter, Charlotte was born in April of 1870. He was a Village Trustee from 1872 until 1886, formed partnerships with Mr. Phipps and Mr. Grieg. He was a very industrious man, a caring father to his daughters and cared for his invalid wife until her death in 1892. Hiram A. Lowell died on Jul 15, 1913.

This is the perfect time to take a warm car ride around Milford to view and appreciate the quality of building and design of a few of the residences and public places that Mr. Lowell left as his legacy.

117 E. Summit St. - Moved to this location in 1869

624 N. Main St. - This home was built by Mr. Lowell for his family in 1882

339 N. Main St. - Ferguson's Opera House built in 1875

212 Union St. - Methodist Church built in 1875/76

414 Union St. - Northeast corner of Union & Centre built in 1896 for Dr. Black

124 E. Commerce - Mr. Hubbell contracted Mr. Lowell to renovate and add a second story to the house in 1874 (Now the Milford Historical Society)

229 E. Commerce - St. Mary's Catholic Church, completed in 1907.

335 W. Huron - The Lingham house built in 1874

 Please enroll me/us as a member (s) of the Milford Historical Society:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Mail to: Milford Historical Society, 124 East Commerce, Milford MI 48381

Phone: 248-685-7308

Annual Member Dues:

Individual	\$25	Family	\$50
Senior	\$10	Lifetime	\$250
Small Business	\$50		
Corporation	\$250+		

Please let us know if you would prefer to receive your copy of the bi-monthly Historian via email. It saves us the postage and will get it to you sooner.