

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sep 14—General Membership Meeting** at Milford United Methodist Church—6:30 PM POT LUCK—A—F— Salads or Sides Dishes' G—Q— Main Dish R—Z— Desserts

**Sep 16-17—The Home Tour**

**Oct 19— General Membership Meeting** at the United Methodist Church at 6:30 PM. POT LUCK—A—F— Main Dishes G—Q—Desserts R—Z— Side Dishes or Salads

## Picnic in the Park

July 20th annual Picnic was well attended. Thanks to all who came out for great weather, food and friendship. Thanks to Charlie Cardinale for grilling perfect hot dogs. Only one left. Also to John Robertson for bringing the buns and game and Rena Valentine for the hot dogs. Also to members for the great Potluck grub.

September Meeting is the SECOND Thursday of the month. September 14th Potluck Meeting will be at the United Methodist Church at 6:30. Due to Home Tour, it is a week earlier. Our Speaker will be Milford resident Judy Nelson. She will be telling us the story of Blanche VanLeuven Brown, A Milford resident who went on to found the VanLeuven Brown Hospital School for the Crippled Boys and Girls in Detroit in 1908.

Blanche is buried in Oak Grove Cemetery and you can visit her grave during the Home Tour.

Judy Nelson is in the process of writing a book about Blanche. It's always a plus when we get to hear about a historic figure from our hometown. Judy has graciously volunteered to speak due to the fact that our previously scheduled speaker on the Holocaust, Irene Miller, could not be here. She will be with us in 2018.



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## From Our President, *Rena Valentine*

Well, it certainly appears that fall is already in the air. The children are back in school and we have the Home Tour weekend on the horizon.

This year will be our 41<sup>st</sup> year of hosting this great event. We have five beautiful homes to show again and are very excited to show them to you. Two of them have already been on the tour a few times before, but we have one new one and the two in the old St. Mary's stone church that have been converted into condos.

We also have a tour of the Oak Grove Cemetery where our guide, Linda Degenhardt, will provide information on the histories of the families whose houses are featured on the Home Tour. Also included on the tour at the cemetery is information commemorating WW1 veterans interred there. Light refreshments and music are going to be provided at the cemetery.

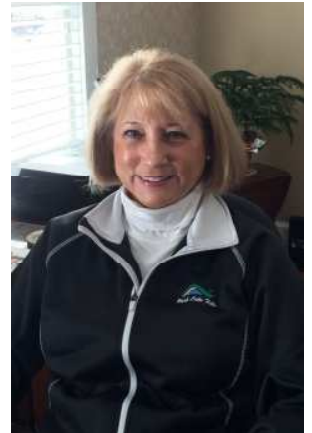
The Museum will be open both days with new displays oriented around the back to school theme from "the good ole days". See what the kids took to school or had to use in school back in the day. We are also featuring the log cabin at Southside Park where you will be able to see how early settlers lived and entertained themselves. It is a worthwhile visit for adults and children, as well. There's a schedule of events for the children at the Log Cabin on page 3.

On Sunday, we will still have our annual tractor show hosted by our own Bill Crawford. This has been an ongoing event that draws so much attention with the gentlemen in town. Along with that, the 33rd annual Milford Car Show will be held on Main St. all the way from Commerce to (and into) Central Park. Plan on spending the weekend in Milford for all of these events.

As you might already know, the Home Tour is one of our most lucrative fund raisers for our non-profit organization, 501c3. Without the help of our many generous sponsors and docents, this would not be possible. I want to especially mention and thank our Presenting Sponsor for this year—Veterinary Care Specialists /VCS Pets First. We also forged a new strategic relationship with The Spinal Column Newsweekly for the production and distribution of our Home Tour booklet.

Thank you all for your support and generosity!!! Please watch for the Home Tour booklet in the Spinal Column next week. Don't forget, you can get your tickets at the following venues which are Acorn Farms, Main Street Art, Your Nesting Place, and the Museum or at any one of the homes on the tour.

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



# MILFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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\* - denotes Museum Researchers



### Museum Director's Report -

School has started, the leaves are beginning to change color, there is a crispness in the air---I do believe Fall must be arriving. Along with Fall comes a new more school oriented display at the Historical Museum. Stop in or join us on the porch to "sit a bit" and talk about history.

We have many elementary school groups that visit at this time of

year in conjunction with the curriculum centering on community history. I would like to remind all elementary teachers, scout masters and any other groups that private/group tours of the museum are available by calling Elaine Hunter, Museum Director at 248 529-3393.

It has been a very successful season so far in 2017. We have had increased numbers of visitors and some wonderful donations of vintage clothing, toys and information from families.

We are still in need of volunteers to do a yard clean up-weeding and trimming bushes. We are also in need of an adult to be at the museum on a few Sundays from 1:00 – 4:00. The student docents cannot be at the museum without an adult. They are all very competent to do the tours, but we need someone over 18 to be there also. Please contact Elaine Hunter if you would consider helping.

As we prepare for the 2017 Home Tour remember that the museum is also available for a visit during the hours the homes are open. Tickets are also available at the museum before and during home tour.

The museum will close for the season on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. During the winter months the mice are busy moving things around, trying to get donations cataloged and planning for new displays. It is still possible to schedule a private/group tour even though the museum is closed. Vintage photos and our book "10 Minutes Ahead of the Rest of the World" are also always available by appointment.

We look forward to your visit soon.

### It's Time for Fall Tea at the Mary Jackson House

Spend an enjoyable afternoon as the Milford Historical Society will once again host a Fall Tea at the childhood home of Mary Jackson. Ms. Jackson was born and raised in

Milford. A graduate of Milford High School class of 1927, Ms. Jackson went on to star in theater productions, television programs and several motion pictures. Her most prominent role was of Ms. Emily Baldwin of the 1970's program The Walton's.



Mary Jackson loved the fall season in Milford and often brought her Hollywood friends back to enjoy the fall season. The date of this year's Fall Tea is Saturday, November 11, 2017. Two tea seating times will be offered, the first from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and the second from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Each guest will enjoy savories and sandwiches, scones and assorted desserts along with tea, coffee and punch. Guests will

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### The Milford Historian

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Milford Historical Society

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Editor: Norm Werner

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*(Programs—Continued from page 1)*

Our October 19th, Thursday Potluck Meeting at 6:30 at the Methodist Church will be on what else....Halloween. Speaking will be a Member of the Hamburg Historical Society. Halloween is the evening before the Christian holy days of All Hallows' Day (also known as All Saints' or Hallowmas) on November 1st. November 2nd is considered All Souls Day thus giving the holiday on October 31st the full name of All Hallows' Eve ( meaning the evening before All Hallows' Day). Ok... Did you all get that??? Wear something Halloweeny.

I am finishing up the 2018 Speaker Calendar. As of January 2018 I will no longer be Program Director. Just a Minion after that...The 2018 Programs of course will be complete. I will assist in finding Speakers after that but the MHS will be in need of a new Program Director starting in 2018. If anyone is interested, please contact me at 248-310-4286. I would be happy to answer any questions for you. It is a fun, interesting and challenging role. You get to meet people who are passionate about their topics.

Sandi Muirhead  
MHS Program Director



Oak Grove Cemetery

By Joyce M. Clark

Cemeteries, especially older ones like Milford's Oak Grove Cemetery, provide a wealth of rich history from which the community can learn. Oak Grove Cemetery was established in 1845 and formally named in 1871 when it was designated as the township's cemetery. It originally included 12.76 acres of land, but through some additions, it has grown to 15.6 acres. Back in 1845, graves that rested at the corner of Mill and Washington were moved to the new established Oak Grove

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## Southside Park Log Cabin



### Schedule of events

From 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, September 16th and 17th:

#### **TRADITIONAL CRAFT DEMONSTRATIONS:**

Woodworking, spinning, candle making, cooking and more.

#### **OLD-FASHIONED TOY AREA:**

Play with 19th century toys, learn schoolyard games or make a corn husk doll.

#### **CHILDREN'S CHORES AREA:**

Pitch in and help with chores that children did in the early 1800s. Learn how to shell corn, stuff a mattress, clean rugs and more.

#### **OLD-TIME HARVEST ACTIVITIES:**

Join in a hay bale toss or corn-shelling competition.

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*(Fall Tea—Continued from page 2)*

also enjoy a fashion show of vintage clothing modeled by local High School Students.

Tickets for the Fall Tea are \$25.00 and may be purchased at the Milford Historical Museum, 124 E. Commerce Street beginning Home Tour Weekend. Beginning September 19th tickets can be purchased at Acorn Farms located at 367 N. Main Street and Main Street Art located at 432 N. Main Street. Seating is limited for this popular event, so reserve your space now. For more information, please call 248-685-7308 or visit [www.milfordhistory.org](http://www.milfordhistory.org) or visit our facebook page.

# Milford Historical Society

124 East Commerce

Milford, Michigan 48381

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*(Oak Grove Cemetery—Continued from page 3)*

Cemetery. Currently there are over 7000 people buried in Oak Grove, and there is still room for more. The cemetery was added to the Michigan State Register of Historic Sites in 1981.

Oak Grove Cemetery also contains a Potters Field, whose location was recently identified. A Potters Field is an area in a cemetery designated for the burial of unknown or indigent people. Grave stones and markers are not usually located in a Potters Field as the people buried there have little if any money, and no known relatives.

Oak Grove Cemetery is a featured stop on this year's Home Tour. While visiting the cemetery, you will receive information on the histories of the families whose houses are featured on the Home Tour. Also included on the tour this year is information commemorating World War I veterans interred in Oak Grove Cemetery. One hundred years ago, April 6, 1917, the United States declared war on Germany, thus entering World War I.

Local historian Linda Dagenhardt will provide a continual guided tour so people can join the tour at any time and leave off where they started. Light refreshments and music are also available.

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**P**lease 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:			
Student	\$5	Family	\$25
Senior	\$10	Lifetime	\$250
Individual	\$15	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.