

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Sep 18—General Membership Meeting—6:30PM t  
the Milford United Methodist Church, 1200 Atlan-  
tic St in Milford—Pot Luck assignments—

Pot Luck Assignments - A—F—Desserts G—Q— Main Dish R—  
Z— Salads

Sep 20-21—Home Tour 10am –5pm both days

Oct 16—General Membership meeting—6:30—8  
PM -NOT a potluck and held at the Milford Public  
Library—speaker will talk about J.L. Hudson's

Oct 24—Bob Milne Concert at Milford Presbyteri-  
an Church

### Come One, Come All to the MHS

### 38<sup>th</sup> Home Tour

“Historic Charm with Modern Com-  
forts” is the perfect  
description for the  
five beautiful  
homes we have on  
the tour this year.  
They are located in  
the village and are  
in easy walking  
distance from each  
other so be sure to  
join us on Septem-  
ber 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> for  
another terrific  
Home Tour!

For a sneak peek  
look for the “See

Me in September” signs or drive past 633 Un-  
ion, 630 Union, 534 Union, 415 E. Commerce,  
1003 and 401 East.

Do you have a smart phone? This year’s tour  
will feature a QR code at the homes and muse-  
um. Our tech savvy visitors will be able to  
meet the home owners and hear in their own  
words how special it is to live in and renovate a  
historic home.

Need more to do? The 2014 Home Tour will  
also feature a special walking tour about the  
Women of Milford in Oak Grove Cemetery.  
The Log Cabin in South Side Park will be open  
and feature activities for the young and young  
at heart. The museum will be open and features

(Continued on page 2)

## From Your President, Norm Werner

There are so many great articles contributed for this issue that I had  
to cut back my remarks. Maybe that’s a good thing.

We are in a busy and exciting time of the year for the MHS, with  
Home Tour this month and lots of activity going on at the Museum,  
as the garden committee continues work on its plans for the Muse-  
um grounds. Thanks to Carole Watkins and Rena Valentine for their

efforts this year, along with all of the people  
who have given some time to help. Thanks also  
to new board member John Robinson, whom we  
have pressed into duty as our “maintenance  
guy”. John has done yeoman's duty at the Muse-  
um, replacing our rotted Museum Sign and a  
whole bunch of rotted boards on the Museum  
porch, plus responding to numerous other calls  
of “Hey, John this is (broken, rotted, burned  
out, or whatever).”



I also need to thank the local companies and organizations that stepped up to support the  
Milford Historical Society as sponsors for the 2014 Home Tour. At the Platinum Level  
again this year is the Milford Times, which has been supporting us since the beginning. At  
Gold level again this year are the Milford DDA and Veterinary Care Specialist/VCS Pets  
First, the area’s only 24-hour pet care facility and pet hospital. At the Silver level this year  
we welcome MediLodge of Milford our local rehabilitation and short-term care facility.

At the Bronze level we have 11 local companies that helped us make sure that we can keep  
the Museum open. Returning Bronze-level supporters include Anytime Fitness and Huron  
Valley State Bank. New Bronze level companies include Milford OB/GYN PC, Jeffery  
Stark of Edward Jones, The Digital Document Store, Milford House Bar & Grill, Main  
Street Art, The Clothing Cove, LPL Financial, Flagstar Bank and the Palate restaurant. I  
thank them all on behalf of the Milford Historical Society. We encourage our membership  
to patronize these local businesses.

## Annual Picnic Well Attended

Our July Annual Picnic had to be moved from the Power House due to construc-  
tion which did make things a little difficult for some. Instead we picnicked on the  
lawn of the Mary Jackson House. 27 members and guests attended the potluck  
dinner. I do remember we had a whole lot of cookies.

Carol Watkins, dressed in one of her many lovely vintage dresses complete with  
parasol, told tales of Milford's past. My favorite was the Milford Hobo. Thank you  
Carol for those enjoyable stories. We all love to hear about the village we live in.  
Also after a delicious dinner Sue Bullard gave her famous tour of the Mary Jack-  
son House to guests. I have heard the tour before and Sue knows her stuff when it  
comes to Mary Jackson. Again thank you Sue. We hope everyone had a great time  
and we also had members from long ago come back for the Picnic.

**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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### MUSEUM STAFF/ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-

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## The Sep 18th Meeting will be here in a "JIFFY" - By Sandi Muirhead

Our Thursday, Sept 18th Potluck Meeting will be at the Methodist Church at 1200 Atlantic St at 6:30 P.M. (see front page for potluck assignments)

Our guest speaker Cynthia Furlough Reynolds, renowned journalist will be speaking on the Chelsea Jiffy Mix Company.

Cynthia has written many books which include children's books, chapter middle school books, and historic novels to name a few. She has been awarded many honors throughout the years for her talents.

The Chelsea Milling Co. was established in 1901 as a traditional flour mill. In 1930 owner Mary Whites Holmes expanded into the prepared baking mix market and today is the leader in prepared muffin mix.



Who doesn't like that blue and white box you can get for less than a dollar? My favorite is the corn muffins. So plan on me bringing

them to the Potluck. They have cake and frosting mixes if you have to bring a dessert.

Jiffy employs 350 workers and produces 1.6 million boxes a day. That's a whole lot of blue and white boxes going out the door in a jiffy.

Cynthia will be bringing Jiffy recipe books for all the guests.

## Waterford Fish Hatchery Park

The Waterford Historical Society has quite the Gem located next to the quiet moving Clinton River in Waterford. It was once a Hatchery that closed in the 1960's.

Their Society includes over 200 members and volunteers which keep this Village exactly the way we would want it to be.

The Village located at 4490 Hatchery Rd in Waterford has many unique buildings to explore. For example a Log Cabin from the 1930's was moved to the Park from Dixie Highway and Andersonville Rd in 1994. A 1957 Grand Trunk Caboose, Cobbler and Shoemaker Shop, Jacobes General Store and the Drayton Plains Railroad Depot. The Village is open year round on Wednesdays only from 10:30 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

Their early Christmas sale is Oct. 17th and 18th 2014 from 10-4 at the General Store.

This is a great way to spend a Wednesday walking through the Village and maybe buying a snack to take down to the Clinton River and just chill.

### 2014 Membership Dues

We still have a few members that haven't paid their membership dues for 2014. In order to continue your membership we encourage you to pay your dues. Remember your contributions helps maintain our Museum and the activities that the Historical Society participates in during the year.

Please check you're mailing labels and see if your label is noted that your dues are due.

## The MHS presents Bob Milne in Concert

Tickets are now on sale for the Bob Milne concert, presented by the Milford Historical Society. Bob is a world-class pianist recognized as a national treasure by the Library of Congress.



The Concert will be at 7 PM, October 24, 2014 at the Mil-

ford Presbyterian Church. For tickets, or for more information, visit/call the Museum (248-685-7308). Tickets will be \$20 or \$30 where the \$30 tickets are in limited supply and include preferred seating with an 'After Glow with Bob'.

For an additional \$5, regular attendees can purchase a ticket for the 'After Glow with Bob'. The 'After Glow with Bob' is a chance to attend an 'after performance party' featuring non-alcoholic drinks, light snacks and a chance to sit down and meet with Bob Milne.

This is a major fund raising event for the MHS and we hope that all members will support it

( Home Tour—Continued from page 1)

a new display that connects the Past and Present and new welcoming landscape. Visitors can also learn about what is new at the museum and hear presentations about items found in previous privy digs and family history searches. The Privy Dig will take place on Sunday this year. Watch for signs to direct you to the dig sites.



On Sunday be sure to visit the antique Tractor Show located in the Huron Valley State Bank parking lot at 130 South Milford Road and the Car Show on Main Street.

The Home Tour begins at 11:00 am and goes 5:00 pm both days. Home Tour tickets are \$15.00 for adults and \$13.00 for seniors. The tickets will be available before September 20<sup>th</sup> at Main Street Art (432 N. Main), Acorn Farm (367 N. Main), Your Nesting Place (322 N. Main), the Township Offices and the Milford Historical Museum (124 E. Commerce, open Wednesdays and Saturdays 1 to 4 p.m.).



If you would like to volunteer to be a docent during the Home Tour, give Sue Gumper a call at 248-685-2691. Our Home Tour docents receive a complimentary ticket as a thank you for donating their time.

Be sure to mark your calendars and join us!



# The Milford Historian

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**Special Insert: The History of Milford**—These special inserts contain stories that have been researched and composed from the historical copies of the Milford Times that the Milford Historical Society maintains at the Museum for research purposes. They are offered for the enjoyment of our newsletter readers only and are subject to copywrite. They may not be republished or re-used without permission of the Milford Historical Society.

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## 1922 Events from the Milford Times files

One of the houses on Home Tour this year was built in 1922 – what was happening then in Milford?

### FEBRUARY 22

A pigeon found dead near the Ten Cent Barn last Saturday carried a lead band containing a number and address said to be somewhere in Ontario. We were told notice has been sent to the address.

White Mule ruins radiator – A Washtenaw County official had an unfortunate experience with a bottle of “White Mule” or some similar concoction which he found and confiscated in one of the shacks of the community at Four Mile Lake recently, and one that has cost him dearly. The officer took a smell only, a small one mind you, of the contents of the bottle, and being the owner of a large and expensive motor car, and decided it smelled like denatured alcohol and would be perfectly good anti-freeze solution for the radiator of his car. No sooner said than done – the contents of the bottle were poured into the radiator and the thrifty officer smiled happily as he expressed the opinion that such dope should keep the old boat from freezing and sure put a crimp in the plans of Old Jack Frost. He returned home and put the car in the garage. Next time he wanted to drive, he found the radiator empty. Upon attempting to refill it, he found it leaked like a sieve. It seems the entire radiator was peppered with fine holes, almost invisible, the assumption being that the alleged “White Mule” was too strong for the radiator!

### MARCH 24

Fifteen cattle died within four days on the C.J. Lane farm. Veterinarians think that poison from the silage maybe the cause.

### APRIL 14

Radio Club Meeting – Another meeting of the Radio Club will be held in the school house this Thursday evening. There are now about thirty-five members and they hope to have the number doubled.

A pike was caught in White Lake last week that weighed nearly eighteen pounds if reports are true. A Holly man was the proud fisherman.

### APRIL 28

J. Frank Davies has a new Magnavox attachment which he has installed in the second story window over the Davis Drug Store and is giving LeRoy street and pedestrians much free music. The Magnavox magnifies the tone sounds so an ordinary record can be heard distinctly a long way off and on a quiet day can entertain the whole town.

### JUNE 6

Reduced fares to Detroit - \$2.08 round trip from Milford. On sale daily. Good for four days – via Pere Marquette.

### JUNE 16

A class of 24 this year will take their diplomas from the Milford High School and be added to the long list of alumni.

To Water Users – The hours for using water for lawns and garden purposes are from 6 to 8 a.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. All water users are kindly asked to refrain from using water for these purposes at other times – John T. Murphy, Village Marshall.

Main Street is process of being marked off into stalls for parking cars. Some criticism is made that those marks so far are too perpendicular with the curb for long cars to take them easily, especially if there is a car to pass around. When the road building work underway is completed Oakland County will have 500 miles of improved highways of concrete and gravel.

### JUNE 30

The next meeting of the Milford Girls’ Canning Club will be held Thursday, July 7 at the home of Mrs. Keyes. The members are requested to be on hand at 9 o’clock.

### JULY 7

Don’t Leave Your Wife Out in the Kitchen – sizzling over a hot stove. Let this be a vacation time for her as well as you. Enjoy our Special Sunday Dinner, 75 cents. Home Restaurant-J.J. Jacobs, Prop.

## Looking back 100 years and 50 years

This special look back in time for each issue is researched in our Milford Times archives by Tracy Abraham .

### September 5, 1914 from The Milford Times

#### Auto Tour helping to 'boom' Milford Fair

An Auto advertising tour/ auto parade at the Milford Fair will take place September 10, 1914.

S. M. Liddell and T. C. Bartholomew will distribute pennants and banners. Report on Main Street at 8am to start in good season. All of those having machines are invited to go and all auto owners making the trip will have their dinner furnished by the Fair Association. 5 gallons of gasoline donated by T. H. Padley or H. C. Potts garages, stop in to secure your ration.

If you do not have a machine and want to go along, be on hand and there will probably be a place for you!

### September 17, 1964 from The Milford Times

#### Initial Steps To Improve Memorial Cemetery Taken

At their regular September meeting the Milford Board of Directors 'let' a contract to R. W. Bills and Associates, landscape architects from Orchard Lake, for initial steps toward the beautification of the Milford Memorial Cemetery on Wixom Road. To include the 34 acre master plan complete with a new entrance, road alignment, grading, lot layout, and planting design. Supervisor W. L. Mainland commenced a vote for a special fund of \$2,500.00 which was set aside, to get this program underway.

At the regular meeting of the Milford Council a grant to finance part of the \$440,000.00 addition to the village sewerage treatment plant was approved. The application to cover 30 percent of the costs was submitted to the State Water Resources Commission on Tuesday. Upon the recommendation of the State for the expansion a Federal grant is always in the works. To finance the village's share of the costs, some \$308,000.00- general obligation bonds could be issued to be paid by increasing the general property tax rate and or an increase in sewer and water rates.

### School Days of the Past in Milford by Tracey Abraham

The idea for this article was inspired by browsing through the "autographs" in the Class of 1924 memorabilia book made by student Virginia Rowe which is being preserved at the Milford Public Library. I was entertained by what her fellow students wrote to her in that scrapbook.

Virginia Rowe herself made an entry stating " she was in school plays." Her 'chums' were Beatrice Knapp and Margaret Van Leuvan.

Beatrice Knapp entered a poem- "think of me now, think of me ever, think of the fun we've had together."

Colon Charlick wrote that he was " a well behaved senior."

Margaret Sanders said she was " a happy go lucky young lady."

Leo Wessinger noted "like to think of you riding horseback."

And, Edwin Field says he "likes to be in tight places with a tall slim person."?



The 1924 Milford Basketball Team

In researching for this article I learned a lot about how schools evolved from their simple, driven beginnings to our complex modern systems. Much of what I found seemed logical and not without challenges.

Students learned from books that were in the family home, which they brought to school and the teacher taught each individually based on the contents of the book.

The Bible was used as a 'reader', in the 1800's school readers were 90% religious. By 1926 only 6% of religious matters were taught.

The first schools were built from logs by the local pioneers and the log schools served as schools, churches and places where public meetings were held.

Ink was made at home of maple bark and copperas. The students wrote on slate and blackboards mostly, sometimes using the homemade ink with quill pens on paper.

Cast iron 'box' stoves with pipes in the center of the room were used to heat the school with wood donated by the families of students. One student claimed he did not remember ever feeling warm enough. Male students wore homemade coonskin caps and gloves derived from nighttime coon hunts. In the winter more older boys attended class as farmwork was limited due to weather. Male teachers were hired for those months. Female teachers taught the mostly girl attendees in spring and summer.

From the mid 1800's until 1916 the North and South students did NOT attend school together. The North side went to the Red Schoolhouse on Main Street, with the South going to the new school at Detroit and East Street. The Little Red Schoolhouse at 104 Second Street opened on September 17, 1881 until 1916. Palmer and Coe built it of red brick thus the nickname Red Schoolhouse/ Old Ward 1. Harry Wheeler was the first teacher at this school. There were 2 rooms, however, the 2nd room was an activity room which had a sandbox in it, it never was converted to a second classroom. In 1926 this school was sold as a private home as it exists to this day.

Schools were first financed by monies from a newly formed primary school fund- the state gave back a percentage they collected on the sale/rents of lands in District 16. Teachers were paid \$280 per year and the parents paid 7 cents per student per day under the newly implemented Rate Bill so most students went only 2 days a week for an average of 10 months total school in a lifetime!

Eventually there were several types of specialized private schools such as Business and Penmanship, Agriculture, Singing and Spelling, and Religious.



Milford High graduated 170 seniors.

In 1877 just 4 young ladies were graduates of Milford Schools. In 1883 the 'modern' 2 story brick Milford High School was built on the property at Detroit and Hickory Streets. Graduation ceremonies were first held at the Ferguson Opera House on Main Street. In 1964 Mil-

## Who's that bearded young man at the Museum?

If you have been at the museum for any event in the past year and a half you probably noticed a rather unconventional looking young man. In case you were not introduced, his name is Jared Clouse.

Jared was born and raised in south eastern Michigan, growing up primarily in the village of Clyde. He attended Huron Valley schools. Because of the freedom to explore that he was given during his self-described, "unique and offbeat" childhood Jared developed a fascination with history very early. His imagination and talking with "older folks" allowed him to visualize their stories and then search for the areas they had talked about. As he grew older his travels took him farther afield, interviewing seniors, hobos, anyone willing to talk and taking pictures all across the state.

As an adult Jared has chosen to live a simple life, believing that "money is not the measure of a man." In his travels he has visited historical societies, looked in archives, taken and collected pictures all in his commitment to history. He firmly believes: "History is a link to the past that when examined in hindsight provides knowledge of who we are. How can you know where you are going if you don't know where you have been?"

Jared came to the Milford Historical Society to do research on the Village of Clyde. He has been collecting information, postcards and photos of this area and its small part in the Shiawassee Indian trail. His book: **Clyde Remembered - a Forgotten Village** is a work in progress. As a compliment to the Milford Historical Society Jared found the majority of its members warm and welcoming. Prompting him to give generously of his time and enthusiasm to help whenever and however he is needed. Jared gives tours to visitors, responds to research requests and does odd jobs and everything else around the Museum that needs doing, most of the time without being asked.

When asked what he would like people to know about him he replied: "my love of history is not about me. It is about preserving the past to present to the future and being a part of a community to accomplish that goal." The next time you come across this bearded, multifaceted young man introduce yourself-you will be glad you did.

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## Granny's Attic Update by Sue Bullard

Each year during the annual Sidewalk Sales, the Historical Society conducts a yard sale from items that have been donated to our organization. The Granny's Attic Sale has developed into a fundraiser over the years that has brought extra funds that help maintain our museum and our Society. We are so fortunate to have Duane Freitag coordinate this event for the last several years. Duane is a long time member of the society; and conducts several estate sales throughout the year. His expertise has helped develop this fundraiser into a profitable event for our group. Our profit from our July sale was \$2,533.47.

This year we has several items that didn't sell in July, so the Board decided to hold another sale during Milford Memories. The proceeds from the August sale were \$680.00 and those proceeds will go towards the Mary Jackson House.

A special Thank you goes to Duane Freitag and all his faithful helpers. These volunteers help pick up items from the individuals making a donation, they help price each item and help set up before the sale and help during the sale. To everyone that helps out for this sale, we send out a special thank you for your help on this special event.

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## Update on Mary Jackson House and Caretakers House—Sue B

This has been a busy summer at the Mary Jackson House. During the month of June we partnered with the Village Fine Arts and held an Art show featuring art from the local High School and College Students. During the month of June and July the house was rented for a couple of bridal showers and one baby shower. We are now preparing for the Fall Tea which will take place on November 15<sup>th</sup>.

As you may remember, when we were given the Mary Jackson House, we also received the House next door, which Mary affectively called the "Caretakers house". We recently had some major repairs that were needed to the house. The results of the repairs were that we needed a new sewer line in the house as well as the line going out to the street. Due to the age of the lines and tree roots, the old lines were damaged. While replacing the Sewer line, a decision was made based on the condition of the water line that the water line should also be replaced. Another repair that was necessary was replacing the old water heater. Fortunately the historical society had a water heater that had been donated to us and we were able to use that one. When all was done the bill for all the repairs came to approximately \$4,700.00. We are fortunate to have the house rented and the income that is received was used to pay for these expenses.

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## Fall Tea at the Mary Jackson House—Sue Bullard

Spend an enjoyable afternoon with friends and family at the Mary Jackson Fall Tea. This year's fall tea will take place on Saturday, November 15, 2014 at the childhood home of Mary Jackson. Guests will enjoy a scrumptious variety of tea sandwiches, savories (appetizers) scones with jam and an assorted array of deserts and beverages. Guests can chose from either the 11 am to 1 p.m. or the 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. seating. Tickets are limited so advance ticket purchase is recommended. Tickets for the tea are \$25.00 with all the proceeds going directly to the preservation of the Mary Jackson Home.

A vintage fashion show will take place showcasing Victorian reproduction clothing modeled by the young ladies from our Student Docent program.

Tickets are available at Acorn Farms, Main Street Art and the Milford Historical Museum and will become available September 20, 2014. Seating is limited, advance ticket purchase is recommended. For more information, please visit our web site at [www.milfordhistory.org](http://www.milfordhistory.org) or email [milfordhistory@hotmail.com](mailto:milfordhistory@hotmail.com)

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## Fourth Floor...Lingerie by Sandi Muirhead

**Our October 16th Thursday Meeting will NOT be at the Methodist Church and NOT a Potluck.** Instead we are partnering up again with our **Milford Public Library** for a Program on the Detroit J.L. Hudson's Eateries. The Program will be from 6:30 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.



Our guest Speaker will be Phyllis Barkley and she will bring back a whole lot of wonderful memories of the beautiful downtown J. L. Hudson's.

Do you remember having lunch and how formal it was? Women dressed in dresses, hats, gloves and heels to do their shopping on all those enchanting floors. There were Doormen and Elevator Doormen who would let you know what floor you were on and what Department it was.

Me, I just remember the Beach Bucket lunches complete with pail and shovel. Or having a Mickey Mouse ice cream face complete with two chocolate wafers for ears.

No other store is more talked about (ok...maybe the Milford D & C) than the old Hudson's store.. At Christmas the windows were decorated like a winter wonderland. And who didn't watch the J.L.Hudson's Parade on Thanksgiving morning? It is still a Michigan tradition.

So if you love Hudson's like so many of us please join us October 16th Thursday at 6:30 and reminisce of food gone bye. The Library is located on Carls Family Drive off West Commerce Rd. Milford.. Oh Yeah....eat dinner before you come. This Program will no doubt make you hungry.

# Milford Historical Society

124 East Commerce

Milford, Michigan 48381

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## Museum Grounds Projects—by Carol Watkins


Last year we added reproduction storm windows where they were missing at the museum and rebuilt the handicapped deck. A new tree was added in front. This year, we removed two overgrown yews from the front of the porch and much of the overgrown ground cover around the building. This revealed one area of rotten boards and several chinks missing from the river stone. All of which will be repaired. The basement entrance was rotted and leaking – that has been repaired. The Village kindly trimmed our trees and smoothed out the handicapped ramp.

Pavers and gravel were placed along the front walk on each side to solve a drainage problem and give a brighter, wider appearance to the museum. The old bricks hiding behind the high school stone sign were made into pavers around the sign and a paved area was started on the west side of the building.

It is our plan to expand that area and, when money permits, to add a pergola over the area, attached to the museum, and provide signage to memorialize the many people who recognized a former member with memorial gifts to the historical society in the past and in the future... a Memorial Garden to our departed friends. More paving work is planned to create display areas for the museum to work outdoors with exhibits in good weather. In time, we hope to have several permanent historical exhibits with signage on the grounds.

Flowers of differing colors and sizes will be added – already we have added hydrangea, Shasta daisies, weigela bushes, roses, iris and more have been planted. Chimes, new rocking chairs, two park benches and one tree bench have been put in place to invite the community to sit and visit.

Many members of the community have stopped by and talked to the workers – complimenting the changes and excited to see all the activity at the museum. Thank you, Museum Garden Team!

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 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

Be sure to visit us on the web: [www.milfordhistory.org](http://www.milfordhistory.org) and “like” us on Facebook.

### 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.