

The Washtenaw County Historical Society ● Spring 2021

Impressions

Breakfast on
Main Street

Excerpts from an
1890's Diary of an
Ann Arbor Nurse

Michigan Farm
Memories



washtenawhistory.org

WCHS 2021

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The Museum on Main Street

500 N. Main Street • Ann Arbor, MI 48104
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GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Spring is a season overflowing with optimism. The sun shines more brightly, animals emerge, and plants and flowers “spring” into bloom. Spring is truly a magical time of year at the corner of Beakes and Main. When Master Gardener Lilly Ferguson transforms the grounds at the Museum on Main Street, colorful and fragrant surprises are revealed every day. You are welcome to stop by, walk through, take photos and relax on the garden bench to enjoy the space. (See page 11.)



At this time of year, everything enters a state of renewal, including the 164-year old Washtenaw County Historical Society. What that meant for us was taking a fresh look at how we use the space within the walls at the Museum on Main Street. Starting from the basement, where the new high-density storage unit was installed and being filled, up to the second floor of this 186-year-old historic house. Creating more effective workspaces allowed us to identify other tasks and methods of operation that needed to be re-aligned with the new post-covid normal. This work will continue through the Summer. There is also a new exhibit, *Breakfast*, curated by the International Museum of Dinnerware Design that is open virtually at washtenawhistory.org and by appointment. (See the back page.)

Spring is also the time to apply for the Pauline Walters Memorial Award. This will be our 5th year of offering this prize and we invite all eligible organizations and individuals to apply. Details are on page 3. The 2020 winner was the Salem Area Historical Society and the Dickerson Barn which was named the 2021 Barn of the Year by the Michigan Barn Preservation Network. We created this award to offer financial and collaborative support for projects like this and are truly proud of all of the recipients.

We welcome our new members and thank our renewing members for your strong and continued support. This Historical Society has survived and thrived because keeping a community memory - a community record - is a responsibility we share. The Washtenaw County Historical Society embraces the opportunity to be the stewards of the County's past for the future generations.

Karen L. Jania – WCHS Board President

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Cover: Photographer Heather Douglass captures Spring in the Rentschler Farm Barn, Saline, MI

Five Years of Giving Back in Appreciation of Local History

Previous Winners



2019

Starkweather Memorial Chapel in Ypsilanti. The total restoration of the Chapel cost exceeded \$200,000. The deteriorating sandstone trim and the gorgeous Tiffany window required expert conservation. Getting the basic interior aspects done was their first priority. These interior efforts are what the Pauline Walters award was used for. Every dollar counts.

2018

Collections Project Intern Saskia Kuchnicki Saskia completed an inventory and updated records for the museum's collection of framed prints, photographs and paintings. This included relabeling and addressing storage needs in order to increase accessibility for use in display and research. These materials lend themselves well to themes often explored in the museum's exhibitions, such as family, architecture and geography.

2017

The Saline Area Historical Society was the inaugural recipient of the Pauline Walters Memorial Award in 2017. This financial award allowed them to hire an intern to carry on their interactive curriculum with elementary school children. Students learn about life in the farm house, chores on the farm and are given a tour of the farm which includes seeing pigs, chickens, sheep and cows.

2020 Winner – The Salem Area Historical Society

Last year's award supported work at Dickerson Barn, which was named the 2021 Barn of the Year! This is the Michigan Barn Preservation Network's (MBPN) top Award for honoring barns and their owners that preserve these iconic structures and our rich agricultural past.

The first American settlers of Salem were John Dickerson, Joseph Dickerson and Mrs. Amy Dickerson, all natives of New York, who left Seneca County in 1825, and located lands on sections 13 and 14, in the fall of that year. In 1827, Dickerson built the first log barn ever erected in the township, and three years later (1830) constructed the first frame barn to store his equipment and hay. This is the Dickerson Barn standing just south of Six Mile Road and east of Chubb Road. John Dickerson was the Supervisor in Salem Township in 1838 and 1849 and Township Assessor in 1834, 1835 and 1838.



Salem Area Historical Society partnered with the Eastern Michigan University Historic Preservation Department to have their grad student, Jonathon Bennett, research the farming families of Salem Township and create an exhibit plan. The project created the content for the displays to be in this exhibit on farmers and farming in Salem Township from 1825 to 1940. In September 2020, the Salem Area Historical Society was awarded the Washtenaw County Historical Society's Pauline Walters Memorial Award for its Farming Stories Project, as it supports the WCHS's mission to educate and inspire our community to engage in the preservation and presentation of area history. This award will be used to acquire and install the displays of the Salem Farming History Project into the Dickerson Barn.

The Dickerson Barn Murals and the Salem Farming History Project are part of the effort by the Salem Area Historical Society to use the Dickerson Barn to accomplish its mission "to preserve, archive and inform others on the history of Salem Township Michigan" by "Preserving the Past for the Future."

How to Apply for the 2021 Pauline Walters Memorial Award

The Pauline Walters Memorial Award was established in 2016 to support the Washtenaw County Historical Society's mission: "to educate and inspire our community to engage in preservation and presentation of Washtenaw County history." **The award is \$500.**

Who is eligible? The award is open to any individual or organization with a project that furthers our mission.

To apply submit a maximum 2 page proposal outlining your project, how it supports the mission, how the money will be used and a time line. You can apply online at washtenawhistory.org. Or send your proposal to: Washtenaw County Historical Society, Attn: Award Committee, P.O. Box 3336, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-3336. Applications are due by June 30, 2021.

Questions? Email the Society: wchs-500@ameritech.net. Call 734-662-9092.

Reading About Michigan Farm Memories

Speaking of Memories...

J. Milton Barnes was an Ypsilanti newspaperman and local historian. He recorded 12 cassette tapes packed with his reminiscences of the life and culture of Ypsilanti in period of 1900-1910. He wrote Hazel Proctor, Washtenaw County Historian in January 1976 about the project:

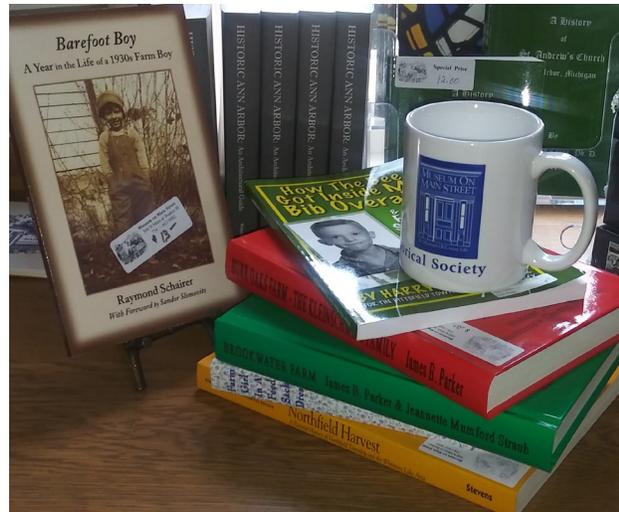
“ At first I thought, "Who am I to write the history of Downtown"? blind, rockin' chair folks, but then it occurred to me, "Who Else! "

Who can remember back that far and has the skill of arranging the adverbs and prepositions all in a row to tell the story of the Opera House and stores and trolley cars and horse and buggies and the first autos and the steam cars and house-to-house tramps and blacksmith shops and mud roads and the popular songs of the gay nineties?

Who else picked wild blackberries with Henry Ford and got regaled with funny stories by Bill Durant, president of GM. And who else about town can remember a President of the United States whispering a secret then laughing and winking at me not to tell a soul? That was Teddy Roosevelt!

I won't write a column for the Press unless I am personally involved and I've written 300. I thought the well would go dry at about fifty but they keep coming without effort. ”

The Bentley Historical Library has a set of the tapes and some were also donated to the Washtenaw County Historical Society.



These books are all about life on the farm. We have a few copies at the Museum on Main Street but they are also available online.

Readers experience first-hand memories of those whose families worked the land of Washtenaw County. If you would like to reserve one of the books, call 734-662-9092 and leave a message or email washtenawhistory-500@ameritech.net.

Farm Girl in a Feed Sack Dress- Memoirs of a 1940's Michigan Family Farm

Farm Girl In A Feed Sack Dress is a detailed recollection of growing up on a southeastern Michigan farm, just outside Ann Arbor, in the 1940s and 1950s. Dorothy Shear shares twenty-plus years of memories and provides an intimate look at farm life as agriculture was transitioning from manual labor and horses to greater mechanization and modern conveniences. The one-room schoolhouse, childhood games, farm chores and the farmstead, church and a rich community of friends and family are all vividly described in this memoir.

How the Bee Got Inside my Bib Overalls & Other Farm Stories from the 1940's & 1950's

This book is written by Harry Macomber and is full of stories and recollections of growing up on a farm in Scio Township in the 1940s and 1950s. He "paints vivid pictures" using memories of all the activity, the sights, sounds and smells of farm life as well as the strong bond of a large family mutually dependant upon each other to perform the shared duties to cultivate the land to generate an abundant harvest, to herd and nurture the farm animals to supplement their food sources, and to respect and befriend all the elements of nature.

Barefoot Boy - A Year in the Life of a 1930s Farm Boy

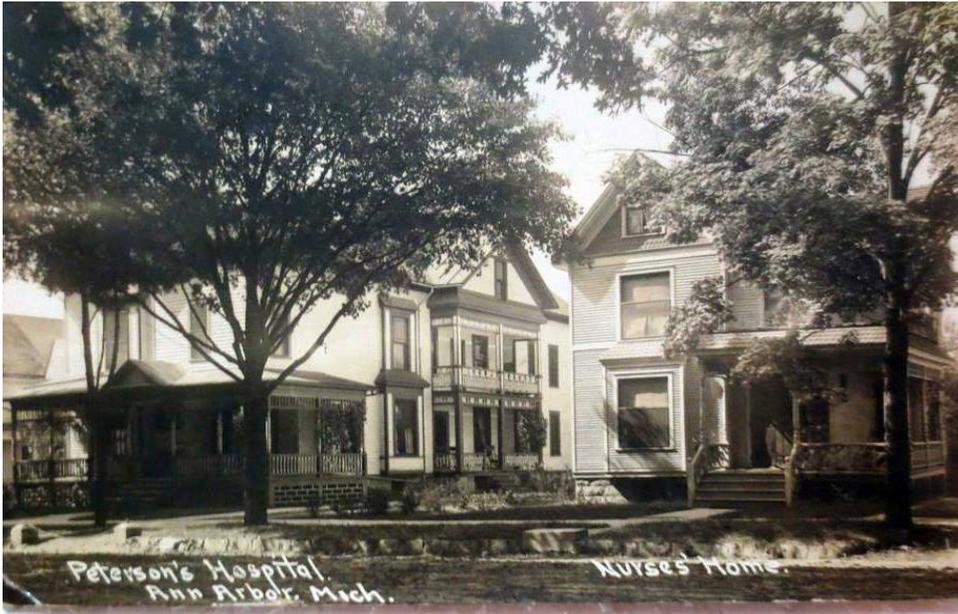
Author Raymond Schairer was born in 1922 and grew up on a farm just outside of Ann Arbor, near the one founded by his great-grandfather. Raymond's ancestors were part of the first wave of German immigrants who came to the United States in the late 1820s, and were among the first Germans to settle in Michigan. Raymond worked the eighty acre farm with his father, and later alone, until his retirement in 1990. In his childhood and young adulthood, all their farming tools, plows, cultivators, manure spreaders, were pulled by horses. *Barefoot Boy* is Raymond's recollections of one year of his childhood, the year he was ten years old.

Brookwater Farm of Webster Township - 184 Years of Agricultural Leadership

Authors James Baldwin Parker and Jeanette Mumford Straub tell the story of Brookwater Farm of Webster Township, Washtenaw County. Since 1826, this nationally renowned farm has been owned by the Boyden, Mumford and Zeeb families. The book includes a history of these families and the neighboring Alexander farms.

Dr. Peterson's Medical Empire

By Grace Shackman, Historian



Dr. Reuben Peterson served people who were willing to pay for better service than was available in the public hospitals of the time. Dr. Peterson's Private Hospital was greatly respected and well known. His patients were all women and children, some of whom came from other towns and even other states.

For most of its early years, Peterson's hospital was located in a former fraternity house at 620 South Forest. He was so successful that he expanded into surrounding buildings, until he had the capacity to treat forty patients and train sixteen nurses. His private medical empire eventually included an annex at 614 S. Forest; a maternity hospital at 610 S. Forest; five residences for employees and nursing students on Forest, Church, and South University; and two hospitals, run for him by other doctors, at 1216 and 1218 South University.

Peterson was born in Boston in 1862; he received both undergraduate and medical degrees from Harvard, graduating in 1889.

He set up the nurse's training program at St. Mark's Hospital in Grand Rapids and taught gynecology at Rush Medical School in Chicago before accepting an appointment to the U-M medical school in 1901. He started his hospital the next year. "The University of Michigan Hospital contains 225 beds," he wrote to explain the move. "It is full to overflowing the year around and many patients are compelled to board outside and wait for beds."

Peterson's hospital opened in June 1902 in an old house at 1215 South University. Peterson's partners, Fantine Pemberton, an early graduate of the new U-M nursing school, and her widowed mother, Laura Pemberton, rented and furnished the hospital building. Besides serving for many years as Peterson's superintendent of nursing and matron respectively, the two women also provided household goods, equipment, and tableware of their own for use in the hospital. A few months later, the hospital moved to the larger house at 620 S. Forest.

Peterson ran his own nurse's training program at his hospital. He awarded the first degrees in 1907, the same year he incorporated the school and bought out the Pembertons' interest. (Both women continued to work for him.) By 1909, he had six nurses in training. In 1912 Peterson set up the hospital annex and the next year the maternity hospital.

Peterson did not strictly separate his private life from the hospital. In 1910, he installed a "laundry appliance and mangle" in the basement of the hospital and hired Mary Simons and her husband for laundry work, with the understanding that they also would do his wife's laundry. (He had married the former Josephine Davis of Elk Rapids in 1890.) When he used 614 S. Forest as a home for nurses, he and Mrs. Peterson furnished it with a piano from their home.

In 1920 Peterson decided to discontinue the nurse's training school, "because of the difficulties in maintaining a high standard of training under present conditions." Nursing historian Linda Strodman explains that "as nursing standards developed, it was not sufficient to just offer women's care." After 1920, Peterson confined his work to one building, keeping 620 S. Forest as the hospital and the house next door at 614 for a nurses' home, and selling or renting the rest of his property. Shortly after, in 1922, he was promoted to head the ob-gyn department at the U-M medical school.

Clara Schnierle worked at Peterson's hospital from 1928 to 1932 as a cook's helper. She remembers Peterson as a good man and a good doctor--reserved, but still someone you felt comfortable around. "He was strict, like everyone in those days,"

Continued on page 6

Schnierle recalls. "You did your duties as he wanted; if you didn't like it, you moved on." Schnierle lived on the third floor of the hospital, which also contained the operating room. On the second floor there were eight private rooms and a nursery where the newborns slept in little baskets.

As a boy, book manufacturer Joe Edwards had his tonsils out at Peterson's. Many women were there for childbirth, but some came with illnesses. According to Schnierle, the patients generally chose Peterson's so they could have a private room and avoid the medical students at University Hospital. Maternity patients stayed two weeks, sitting up only after ten days. If they had twins, they stayed three weeks. Some of the patients hired their own personal nurses. Schnierle remembers a preemie, born three months early, who was tended by two nurses in twelve-hour shifts. The mother was cared for by two other private nurses.

After three months in the hospital, the baby and mother went home, accompanied by all four nurses.

Schnierle recalls that Dr. Peterson came by every day, usually in the afternoon, after attending to his work at the university. He spent every summer, when the university was in recess, at his summer home in Duxbury, Massachusetts, arranging with other doctors to take care of emergencies and putting off elective surgery until he returned in the fall.

In 1931, Peterson retired from the university. When Schnierle left to get married in 1932, she was not replaced because Peterson's hospital was shrinking again. It closed for good the next year and Peterson moved permanently to Duxbury, where he died on November 25, 1942, at age eighty. His hospital became a rooming house and later was torn down to make room for the Forest Avenue parking structure.



Dr. Peterson was also Bates Professor of Diseases of Women and Children in the Department of Medicine and Surgery (Medical School), 1901-1922; Medical Director of the UM Hospital, 1912-1918; Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, 1922-1930; and historian of the University of Michigan Medical School.

Learning Capacity for Endurance at UM



With Ann Arbor's African-American population beginning to boom, Dr. Katherine Crawford, sets up her medical practice on Fuller Street, one of about 150 licensed Black female physicians in the country.

Katherine Crawford (1859-1943) was born and educated in Ann Arbor, graduating from the University of Michigan Medical School in 1898. Dr. Crawford hung out her shingle at her home at 1116 Fuller, Ann Arbor. The following is a quote from a UM survey she completed more than 25 years after graduation.

"Most striking, decidedly unexpected, yet never to be forgotten was the genuine friendship manifested by so many of my own class as well as by other college women." Sadly, not all Katharine Crawford's experiences were at this level of acceptance. She expressed her realistic philosophy concerning those aspects which were painful. "Some experiences were exceedingly bitter. Immeasurably so, even as I view them after more than a quarter of a century. But they taught me my capacity for endurance."

Photo: Katherine Crawford, UM Medical School Class, 1898,
Quote: "Women's Voices: Early Years at the UM", Bentley Historical Library

THE CALLING OF

Emily Jane Green Hollister

It is now October 23rd, 1955. For some 40 years I have had in the silence of my files the record that my mother made from day to day of her experiences as a practical nurse in and about Ann Arbor from the years 1888 to 1911.

In 1913 she made a copy of the notes she had made through these years. She gave me this copy sometime before she died in the spring of 1918. As I remember, she just gave this to me without any expression of her wishes concerning it.

To me it is a simple human record from the life of a brave woman whose sympathies were very active and whose love of home and family was very deep. Like a multitude of courageous women, she seemed to find a natural goodness and a spontaneous contentment in administering to the needs of others.

Her diary seems to suggest something of the high calling of nursing when it is a calling even though it may sometimes be a profession, and something of the tireless administration of the calling of medicine. The diary also suggests changes in the practice of nursing and of the doctor's work that time has made.

Some of the bare facts in my mother's life were there. She was born in Ann Arbor on September 14th, 1839, in a house that stood on the Southwest corner of Main and Jefferson streets. In June 1856 she was married to my father Edward Teal Hollister, and went to live on an 80-acre farm 3 miles North of Whitmore Lake. There in a small room in a log and frame house she gave birth to 11 children,



Nurse Emily Jane Green Hollister (1839-1918), wife of Edward Teall Hollister with a young patient

three boys and eight girls. All but one grew to adulthood on this farm. Now all but one, and that one myself, are dead. My mother saw one of these children die of tuberculosis, one of typhoid fever, one in the perils of child-birth, one from the after-effects of an early use of ether for the extraction of a tooth. She knew directly the living presence of joy and sorrow in the home and among relatives and neighbors.

I, myself was the tenth of her eleven children. I was born October 26, 1878, and was thus ten years old when she faced the need to go nursing in order to hold her family together. As I have since learned, there was a growing panic that came to a head in 1891. Eggs sold at 8 cents a dozen. Farm mortgages bearing seven and eight per cent interest were foreclosed, even by Ann Arbor bankers and money lenders. *(Continued on page 8)*

The Hollister Farm was sold, and the family moved to Ann Arbor sometime in the summer of 1895. There the money need was always pressing, but the earnings from my mother's nursing, from the renting of rooms in a rented house, and from the various jobs that the family could find, held the family together.

Here is what she wrote on the title page "It was in November of the year 1887 that we were visited with sickness and death and misfortune. I was compelled to leave my dear family/ and to go out into the world to seek employment to keep my home. There I found many friends, and anyone who reads the following diary will see how The Lord helped me. He will always help those who help themselves".

As time went by and my mother was seventy-two the nursing faded out. My father was then seventy-seven and no longer much of an income earner. Old age was putting down on the vigors that life had once known. Mother went to live for a time with their daughter in Highland Park, Michigan, and later moved into a little home in Hamburg, Michigan, three miles from their old farm home, and right next to St. Stephen's Episcopal church that my father's father, the Rev. Algernon Sidney Hollister, had built and preached in some seventy years before. There they died, and in Hamburg cemetery their ashes rest while time has ticked off nearly forty years, and many changes have come to ease the needs of those who grow old.

In editing this diary of my mother's nursing experience it is my thought to offer it to the Historical Society, especially for the use of those who may be interested in the history of Ann Arbor things and of the older days of nursing in old Ann Arbor town, but more especially for those who may find in it a little bit of human experience that is deeper than history and makes history such an alluring thing. Perhaps some of my Mother's great-grandchildren or

of my Mother's great-grandchildren or their children will wonder what life was like for some of their ancestors.

I am retaining this diary practically as it stands in the manuscript that I have, although parts of it seem repetitious and monotonous, like life itself. In places the spelling of names may not be correct, and in some places parenthetical notes are added to make clearer references that may not be readily understood.

Parts of a complete diary were missing. They were probably lost before my mother made the copy in 1913. My mother's father was William Henry Green, and her mother was Elizabeth Curtis Green. They came to Ann Arbor from England in 1834. They are buried in Forest Hill Cemetery. Grandfather Green lived to be 92.

Feb. 18, 1888

I come to Ann Arbor and go to see Dr. Breakey to ask for nursing. The Doctor was acquainted with me and he said, "You are Just the woman we want here. He gave me a case the next day. It was to care for six typhoid fever patients in one house, the children of a Mrs. Kuster in the south part of the City. They were Michael, Rose, Carrie, Anna, Emanuel and Charlie. I stayed with them twenty-one nights. They were members of the Baptist Church. Dr. Haskell and some of the members of the church used to take me to and from the house. The weather was very severe and snow deep. The kindness and sympathy of Dr. Haskell to me in my time of my grief will never be forgotten. Well my patients all recovered. That was the first of my nursing. I was paid thirty dollars by the city.



Nurse Emily Jane Green Hollister with a young patient

August 23, 1889

Come to nurse Mrs. Lou Clements on Packard Street. Baby girl, the second girl, and normal birth, I had no trouble, so mother and baby are improving fast. Dr. Lynds attending. Came home on Sept. 7 and stayed with my family until the 21st.

April 6, 1890

I came to nurse Mrs. Toop on State Street. Girl, baby born at 6 Easter morning. A sweet Easter Lily, fair blue eyes, weighs 9 pounds. Mrs. Toop is very sick. Doctor Walker is here. We sent for Doctor Fitzgerald as she is Mrs. Toop's physician. Baby is unwell for three days but it's alright again and the mother is doing well. Everything is fine. Mr. Toop is the Baker on State Street and a very nice man. Mabel the daughter is 12 years old. I enjoyed my case of nursing once more.

*We will share more entries from this diary
in the next issue of Impressions*

Virtual Argus Events

(who again served as tech support) shared his Argus collection, which includes an impressive assortment of rare lenses. A presentation of the Argus 40 Twin Lens Reflex camera was a collaborative and informative effort led by Richard Chiriboga.

However, I think the highlight for most participants was the "Box Lot Auction" organized by Bob Kelly. Ten "box lots" of items donated by ACG members were auctioned off with the proceeds going towards the Argus Museum. It was a generous crowd. Even those who didn't win an auction have contributed to Argus Museum funds afterwards. Thank you! We wouldn't be what we are today without your support.

We plan to host another virtual event sometime this spring. So, please stay connected. Follow us on Facebook and consider joining the Argus Collectors Group. They're an informative, helpful and fun group of people! You can find them at: <https://www.arguscg.org/>. We created a website that we hope to keep current for our members and those who want to stay connected to us. [Click here.](#)

A few more notes... Recently the Washtenaw County Historical Society Board appointed Cynthia Yao to be the liaison. Thank you, Cynthia. Also, [click here](#) for the Argus Museum Amazon Wish-list. We are looking forward and are optimistic about what 2021 brings!



The Argus Museum is Open by Appointment

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We've been busy (as usual) here at the Argus museum. Work has continued on the Argus Museum Digitization and Online Accessibility project. The archives, photos and library collections now available at <https://argusmuseum.pastperfectonline.com/> are complete enough that we now moving to the objects collections.

We plan to apply for grants to continue this work with funding going towards equipment, supplies and hours dedicated to the project. Most of the funds will be put towards intern stipends. This will not only assist in moving the project and our mission forward, which includes to "...insure these collections are available for others to research..." but also provide experience to students and entry level museum professionals during a time when it is difficult to find work in the museum world. Current Argus Museum interns, Ashley Wimbrough Holsomback and Nat Coryell have been dedicated to this worthwhile project.

We've also been working with an Eastern Michigan University graduate student, Abby Ayers, who is in the

Historic Preservation program, who chose the Argus Museum for her grant writing class assignment. She is writing a proposal to digitize formats such as microfilm and small audio cassette recordings.

More good news! The Argus Museum is now open by appointment. Guests will need to follow recommended restrictions and protocol. Please submit your request by email to either cchidester@onealconstruction.com or theargusmuseum@gmail.com. A message can also be left at: 734-769-0770 or on our Facebook Page. We hope to host an opening event in the mid-to-late summer.

We co-hosted still another (our fourth) Argus Museum/Argus Collectors Group Virtual Gathering and believe that it was a success! We had almost 60 people from over 20 states as well as Canada, Saudi Arabia and Australia. Also among the attendees was a former Argus employee – Bob Mayer. Participants were given a virtual tour of the Argus Museum storage space and Argus Museum and Argus Collectors Group (ACG) member, Wesley Furr

Some Interesting



Our readers, members and website visitors have kept the WCHS Historian, Susan Wineberg, busier than ever fielding requests for information and answers. When you read her answers you can see why the questions are rolling in. Email your question regarding a local family or the history of the Washtenaw County area, with the subject line "history question" to wchs-500@ameritech.net.

Or go to washtenawhistory.org and click on the "Ask a Historian" button to submit your questions.

Webster Township

Nancy L. lives in Webster Township near Independence Lake. She wanted to know more about the history of the lake and how it got its name. I referred her to Grace Shackman's book called *Webster, A time, A Place, a People*. I also copied Grace, who was happy to give her a copy of the book. But she went online immediately and bought the book and was very happy with the outcome! Grace has copies on hand in case anyone would like a copy.

Lima Township

Betsy M. wanted to know if the 1860 date on a piece of property was correct. I contacted Ina Hanel Gerdenich, who is a wealth of information on county farmsteads, and she answered with a fairly detailed description of the original owners, dating it to around 1874-1895, although she thought it could be younger than 1860 (it was sold in 1833 from the US govt.).

1837 Marriage Records

William M. wanted to find a church record of a marriage between Carolyn Geddes and James Barber, c. 1837. I immediately gave him a link to the Genealogical Society—this is their forte. washtenawgenealogy.org

Forest Hill Civil War Statue - UPDATE

Margaret G. was interested in the Civil War statue at Forest Hill Cemetery. She wanted to know if it was erected there in 1914 and who was the figure on top. This question led me down into a rabbit hole which was lots of fun. First of all, the statue sat on the Courthouse lawn at Huron and Main until 1953 and was re-erected at the cemetery in 1954.

I couldn't find out who paid for the original until I contacted Amy Cantu at the AADL, who got me into some newspaper files that Old News doesn't have. It turns out that Col. Henry S. Dean (father of Elizabeth, who gave us the Dean Fund money for trees) spearheaded the effort to raise money for it, along with the GAR Welch Post.

It was unveiled on May 29, 1915 with much pomp, speechifying and parades from Fairview (where another Civil War monument is) to the Courthouse. I was under the impression, because of an email that Wystan Stevens sent me, that Col. Ambrose Clarkson Pack had been the model for the figure on the statue. This turned out not to be true.

So, thanks to Amy, I learned a little about how the money was raised and when it was officially unveiled. But I still do not know who the artist was or who the model was. If any of you know, please tell me!

AND THEY DID!: One of our sharp-eyed readers, Al Gallup, called to set me straight. He was married to Janet, the granddaughter of Ambrose, and heard first hand ---"from the horse's mouth" as he put it---that he was indeed the model for the statue. The statue was also in honor of the lives lost in the Spanish American War and Pack had fought in that war, and later served as the leader of the veterans group of that war.

Coal Men of Ann Arbor

Daniel W. contacted us to learn the age of his ruler marked "Staebler & Son, 424 S. Main, phone 4195 - Coal Men of Ann Arbor for 53 Years." I was able to discover the business started in 1888, and doing a little simple math (just about my speed), I came up with the date of 1941. Daniel, born and raised in Ann Arbor and now living in southern New England, was thrilled. I sent him some links about this company because it was quite well known, plus pictures of the building at 424 S. Main.

Allmendinger Connection

Scott J. contacted us to learn about the history of his house. The house sits on land on Dexter Ave just west of the split with Jackson Road. The first time the address appeared was in the 1925 City directory as the home and business of Lewis E. Allmendinger who ran a typewriter business from here. Digging deeper, I discovered the plat that was created from the farmland, Westwood Hills, had been an Allmendinger farm since the 1830s. I copied maps from the plat books of 1874, 1898, and 1915, and sent lots of information to him about the Allmendinger Family (which I researched a long time ago for the display at the former organ factory at 120-130 S. First). He was very happy!

In the Neighborhood

Anna R. inquired of us about a building at 802 E. Kingsley that her parents lived in as students. She wanted to know if the building is still standing and if anyone special lived there. It was built in 1899 by John Smith, and later occupied by Charles Gallup from 1908 through the 1930s. It was converted to apartments in 1940. I'm always happy to find out more about buildings in the Old Fourth Ward!

2021 Washtenaw County Historical Society Membership

Membership Categories

Membership runs the calendar year, **January 1-December 31.**

Check one.

- \$15** Individual
- \$10** Senior (age 60+)
- \$19** Couple (one 60+)
- \$25** Family (adult/child)
- \$25** Library/Organization
- \$100** Patron
- \$150** Business
- \$250** Sponsor
- \$500** Sustaining

Your Name(s) _____

Organization /Business _____

Address _____

City _____ ST _____ Zip (9 digits) _____

Phone (_____) _____ Email _____

NEWSLETTER PREFERENCE Send WCHS newsletter, *Impressions* by:
 Email (color) Mail (black & white)
 Both

RECEIPT PREFERENCE Send WCHS receipt by:
 Email Mail

Was Your 2021 WCHS Renewal Returned?

Early this year the United States Postal Service mistakenly closed our post office box for three peak days when memberships were coming in. Those were returned to the sender.

We appreciate those of you who re-sent your memberships and donations. We apologize for any inconvenience and confusion that may have caused.

This is the final issue of *Impressions* for 2020 members

Having a membership with the Washtenaw County Historical Society is a great way to support your community and local history.

Membership includes four issues of the newsletter and this is the 4th issue for 2020 members. We hope you will renew and re-join today. Your past and continued support has carried us through to this point. Memberships matter because these are the funds that support our mission to engage the community in preserving and presenting local history.

Exploring the Different Gardens

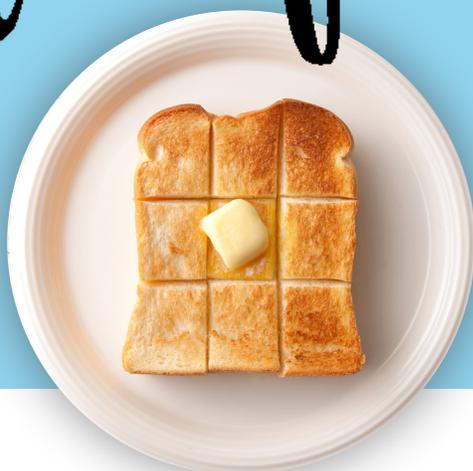
In addition to bringing along as many of the native plants surrounding the house when it was moved as possible, other era-appropriate bulbs, plants, bushes and trees were planted. Master Gardener Lilly Ferguson gets the credit for upkeep and beautification. When you are near the corners of N. Main, E. Kingsley and Beakes streets - stop by, sit on the bench and enjoy the beauty of the gardens. Each one of them brings surprises to enjoy all season long. Through spring, summer and fall you can watch for the emergence of colors and hues, vines and flowers and the fragrant scents of lilac and a variety of roses. Look for tulips, daffodils, forsythia, honeysuckle, bright red poppies, hydrangea, a variety of iris and lilies including lilies of the valley, climbing clematis and more.



INTERURBAN RAIL HISTORY Ann Arbor's first streetcar track was laid in the summer of 1890. With the help of Andy Chapman of O'Neal Construction and Latvala Brothers, two six-foot sections from Huron and Main Street were recovered for our museum and placed in the garden.

THE SUNDIAL The UM Alva Sink Alumnae Group donated a sundial in memory of Pauline Walters. It is placed in the garden on the south side of the house

Breakfast



**National
Juried Exhibition
International Museum
of Dinnerware Design**

Now Being Served on Main Street

The International Museum of Dinnerware Design's fourth Biennial Invitational and Juried Exhibition, *Breakfast*, is all about celebrating the first meal of the day. This exhibit is both a virtual and physical installation, an artful and historic feast for the eyes and soul. It showcases the best in contemporary dinnerware as it relates to the theme Breakfast, either functional cereal bowls, toast racks, batter bowls, syrups, toasters, egg cups, shirred egg servers, juicers, butter dishes, coffee pots, tea pots, or related breakfast surprises.

Due to the pandemic, the exhibition opened virtually on April 10th and visitors are welcome to view the exhibition catalogue, photographs, and videos of the exhibition on line at dinnerwaremuseum.org. Artist prizes were announced at the virtual opening and are part of the online exhibit. Guests can plan to view the exhibition in person when it is safe to do so following state guidelines and safe procedures. However you attend, Breakfast is the perfect way to celebrate spring. When the Open flag is out at the Museum on Main Street stop in! A closing reception is being planned on August 21st, the exhibit ends on August 28th.

The International Museum of Dinnerware Design is the only museum in the world devoted to the celebration of dinnerware and dining, international in scope, no material limitations, including functional ware, ancient to futuristic, and fine art referencing dinnerware. www.dinnerwaremuseum.org

Museum Re-Opening

We have been closed since March of 2020 in response to the Coronavirus Pandemic. Over a year later we have seen the benefits of following health and safety requirements of social distancing, wearing masks, frequent hand washing and hand sanitizers. The availability of a variety of vaccines to further prevent the spread have helped open up the world a little more.

Here, at the Museum on Main Street we are being extra cautious. "Breakfast" opened virtually in April. Our goal is to open to the public with regular hours in June. Updates will be posted online at washtenawhistory.org and on the voicemail at 734-662-9092.

Museum Hours: Saturday and Sunday, 12-4pm. Groups and private tours can be happily accommodated by emailing the exhibit curator at director@dinnerwaremuseum.org