

LOG MARKS

Sanford Historical Society

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Founders Day Celebration 2017 is Another Community Hit!



The 2017 Founders Day Celebration is another community festival for the record books as the Saturday attendance reached an estimated 2,000 visitors. Mother Nature cooperated by providing beautiful sunny, cool, and mild weather for the entire two-day event. All museum buildings were open and many people marveled at the impressive displays.

This year's Founders Day Committee co-chaired by Mary Herkner, John Billingsley and Ruth Ann Nagle,

provided the able leadership for the months of necessary preparations by the various committees and volunteers. The Sites Committee led by Charles Dinsmore orchestrated the meticulous preparations of the museum's buildings and grounds. Everything was ready, painted, polished and in its place to welcome visitors this past September 9th and 10th.



Saturday kicked off with a delicious all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast. As you walked around the grounds it was impossible to ignore the various and wondrous aromas of the menu items being prepared at various times such as barbecue pork, hot dogs, sloppy Joes and the famous bean soup. The food was so good this year that several items sold out before the end of the day.





Sanford resident Mildred Snow was the 2017 Founders Day Grand Marshall and rode at the front of Saturday's parade. Music penetrated the air from the Meridian Mustangs Marching Band and the Tittabawassee Valley Fife and Drum Corps. Both groups entertained the



crowd with concerts on the museum's grounds following the parade.



The youngest visitors were rewarded with a plethora of activities that they will carry as cherished memories for the rest of their lives.



Home Depot hosted a Free Kids Workshop booth where parents and children built projects to take home with them.



The free face painting booth was busy both days with an enormous selection of designs to choose from.



And who could resist the temptation of tossing a bean bag? Not many could pass by without taking a turn! Other kid-friendly activities included the treasure hunt,



a visit to the petting zoo, and watching free souvenir wood plaques being branded by Jeff Bowen in “Jeff’s Corner.”



The Coleman Lions Club was on hand Saturday to offer free vision screening for area children with their special Project KidSight digital camera that could detect more than eight eye disorders in just a few seconds. Parents were provided immediate feedback in a printed report of the results. Each child was able to choose a free book to take home with them.



Educational opportunities were in abundance as the participating vendors, artisans and crafts persons freely shared their collective expertise with all who stopped by their booths. Old friends reconnected and new friendships were formed.



Sunday began with free coffee and doughnuts for early risers. Ruth Ann Nagle offered a morning service in the Clare Bailey Chapel that highlighted the history of the chapel. It was inspirational and well received!

The day’s activities continued with demonstrations of wood carving, corn milling, weaving, model trains and blacksmithing. Ernie Hahn provided free barrel train rides on both days.

Founders Day celebration is a Sanford tradition that has operated in some fashion since 1974.



Ruth Ann Nagle speaking in the Clare Bailey Chapel on Sunday morning. Article and Founders Day photos by Ron Hughes.

The Sanford Historical Society would like to thank all of the donors, volunteers, vendors, and the larger Sanford community for another successful Founders Day Celebration.

October Membership Meeting

The October membership meeting of the Sanford Historical Society is scheduled for Wednesday, October 18, 2017 at 7 p.m. You don't need to be a member of the SHS—everyone is welcome! The meeting will be held in our historic railroad depot on the museum grounds. Please plan to attend and bring a friend!

2017 Membership and Board Meeting Dates		
	Membership Meetings	Board Meetings
October	18th	10th
November	15th	8th
December	na	5th

Save These Dates	
Santa Express	Dec. 12, 13 & 14 3:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Local Newspaper Correspondents

By Rick E. Goodwin
August 22, 2017

To a history buff like me the local newspaper correspondents of their era are my heroes. They are the ones that put to paper the events of the time and made sure it got in the local paper.

Sometimes their reporting was as mundane as who visited who that week or that a dog was loose in town. Maybe it was a full-length feature about a local topic or individual.

The Sanford area has had locally based newspaper correspondents reporting as far back as the 1880s. In the early days the correspondents did not sign their real name to the column in the Midland paper (Sanford did not have a paper) but rather a catchy nickname. You could read reports by Mossback and Brick in the 1880s.

In the late 1800s and early 1900s Mrs. L. J. Utter was the local correspondent for the *Midland Republican*. After her death in 1911 you see a void in local news in the paper for a time.

You see Mrs. Ross Archer (1947), Mrs. Ann Weir (1948) and Mrs. Carl Randall (1950) contributing as

local correspondents to the paper. Also in the 1950s you see Mrs. Mitchell reporting on Sanford area events and Mrs. Hazen Briggs filing reports about the Averill area. They all listed their home phone numbers in the paper in case you wanted to give them a call with the latest “scoop”.



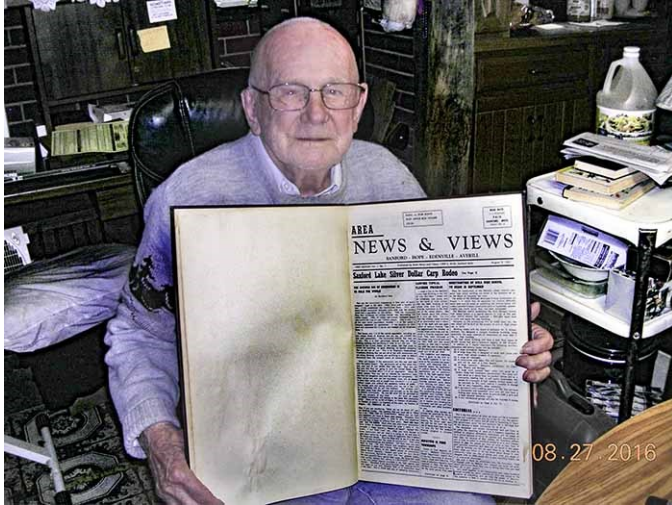
MRS. JOSEPH C. Maynard, Sr., Sanford correspondent for the Midland Daily News, receives an award trophy from John Boyle, president of the ESM (Edenville-Sanford-Midland) All-Sports Club, sponsors of the 1963 East-West National Championship boat races at Sanford. The award was in recognition and appreciation of Mrs. Maynard's news articles on the boat races held on Sanford Lake. The award was given at the Michigan Outboard Racing Association's annual banquet held at Frankenmuth.

Betty Maynard receiving an award for her correspondent work. Midland Daily News circa 1963.

Mrs. Joseph Maynard (Betty) begins her reporting in the late 1950s and is going strong into the 1970s. Betty wrote some wonderful feature stories for the *Midland Daily News* newspaper as well as covering local news, including news from the Meridian Public Schools. Betty also found time (along with Ruth Dancer) to coauthor the Sanford Area Centennial Souvenir Program in 1970.

Bill and June Murray established the *Area News & Views* newspaper in Sanford in 1961 and provided local

news. The Murray's sold their newspaper to the Key family of Coleman and then the local Sanford news was found inside the ***Coleman Tribune*** with Sanford resident Mrs. Doris (Ginger) Seelhoff serving as the local correspondent (circa 1962 – 1964).



Area News & Views founder **Bill Murray**; at age 94 in 2016, with an edition of the newspaper he founded in Sanford in 1961. Photo by Rick E. Goodwin.

Beginning in 1969 with the birth of the ***Sanford Express*** newspaper, Don Marquardt and his correspondents (like Betty Davis) contributed numerous stories which today help paint the historical picture of the Sanford area.

Any way you look at it we owe a debt of gratitude to these individuals who over the years bird-dogged the stories, wrote them down, and made sure they got in the paper. It's because of their efforts that we today can read about the history of our area.

Library Museum Committee Happenings

By Mary Hughes

Have you driven by the Museum on a Wednesday between noon and 4:00 and wondered why there were cars in the lot? Library Museum Committee members Linda Conklin, Ruth Ann Nagle, Mary Herkner and Mary Hughes have been meeting Wednesday afternoons working on inventory in the Olson Store. Items are cataloged, described, researched, cleaned, and displayed with new signage, refreshing the look of the



store. The work continues until it gets too cold to be in the Olson Store. Members Kendra Anderson, Linda Fisher and Sue Muto have been working on scanning, numbering, identifying and uploading photos for the website during the Wednesday sessions. Kendra and Theron Anderson relocated the portraits from the Communications Room to the new display in the Main Street Room during this summer's work sessions too!



There are hundreds of artifacts on display in the Olson General Store. Photos by Mary Hughes



Sanford Historical Society
P.O. Box 243
Sanford, MI 48657

The Sanford Historical Society meets on the third Wednesday of the month from April through November at 7:00 PM at the Sanford Village Hall, 106 Lincoln Street or in the Historic Depot on the grounds of the Museum. Members and visitors are always welcome.

Annual membership dues are \$10 for an individual and \$15 for a family. Dues may be paid on our web site, by mail, or in person at the museum during the season, at any meeting, or at Founders Day.

MEMBERSHIP — DONATION — VOLUNTEER

Please review your mailing label on this newsletter. The number in the corner represents the last year that you paid dues. If you owe dues, please clip this coupon, fill it out, and mail in your membership dues so you may continue to maintain your membership. Email addresses are greatly appreciated, it helps to keep costs down and we only use emails for newsletters and special announcements.

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