

UPCOMING PROGRAMS/EVENTS

Heritage Park 30-Year Anniversary Celebrated

Honoring Heritage Park's 30th year as a public park, the Munster Historical Society will host a presentation by local historian and author Kenneth J. Schoon at 7 p.m. Thursday, September 27, in the parlor of the 1910 Kaske House at the Munster History Museum. Schoon will speak about his book "City Trees" and copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing. Admission is free, light refreshments will be served. Visitors are encouraged to explore and enjoy the park's grounds, trails, and gardens during daylight hours. New members and volunteers are always welcome!



City Trees

by local author/historian
Kenneth J. Schoon

September 27
Thursday @ 7:00 P.M.
Kaske House at the
Munster History Museum
1154 Ridge Road
Southeast Corner of Ridge
Road & Columbia Avenue
Munster, Indiana
*Limited Parking along
brick driveway (entrance
on Columbia Avenue)*

Program honoring Heritage
Park's 30th Anniversary as a
public park hosted by
Munster Historical Society

Holiday Candlelight Open House, Saturday, December 1, 4-7 pm at the Kaske House

Visit Santa, Mrs Claus and the Elves. Cookies, hot cocoa and coffee served. Open to all free of charge.

Mary Todd Lincoln Program & Lunch

Thursday, December 13 at Community Park Social Center

Lunch at 11:00 am, Program at noon to 1:00 pm (doors open at 10:45 am)

Cost: \$45 Keenager Members, \$50 Non-Keenager Member

Tickets available at Munster Parks & Recreation

Lynn Rymarz returns to portray Mary Todd Lincoln.

Program sponsored by Hartsfield Village. Note: No Bingo will be held on December 13.

CONGRATULATIONS

At the celebration of her 80th birthday, our Society's Co-founder, Norma Benoit, was presented with a plaque honoring her dedicated service to the Munster Historical Society. Norma continues to volunteer in the office, serves as a docent, and graces our board with her knowledge and enthusiasm.

IN MEMORY OF

Dr. Norman Lance Trusty

Condolences to Jan Trusty for the loss of her husband who passed away on February 3, 2018. Lance Trusty was a professor at Purdue University Calumet and author of "Town on the Ridge"; "Munster, Indiana A Centennial History"; and other local history books.

Bernie Mashura

Condolences to Kaaren Mashura for the loss of her husband on July 3, 2018. Bernie Mashura was a veteran who served in the U.S. Army and he retired from LTV Steel after 44 years of service.

Marion "Red" Fulte

Condolences to Dolores Fulte for the loss of her husband on August 31, 2018. Red Fulte was the owner of Calumet Electric Supply Corporation and received many awards for his community service.

2018 HIGHLIGHTS

Indiana State Museum Project

Docent Laura Eller of the Indiana State Museum, Indianapolis, requested assistance in contributing an ornament to represent Lake County on their 2018 County Tree Ornament Project that represents Indiana's 92 counties. In cooperation with Phil Potempa, Theatre at the Center marketing director, MHS submitted an "It's a Wonderful Life" ornament along with a story of how it represents Lake County. We are pleased that our ornament was chosen for this project! Additionally, Phil Potempa kindly donated extra ornaments for a special Christmas tree that will be displayed during our holiday open house at the Kaske House along with the interesting story about its Northwest Indiana/Kaske House connection.

Website/Mobile Access/Social Media

If you Google munsterhistory.org on your Smartphone, you should see a shortened, mobile version of our full website. We will be working on some updates this winter so please be patient of any glitches. Because we get a lot of interesting questions, we will be adding those to our FAQ. We will also be revising our "Links" page, having received compliments and suggestions for it as a useful resource. Please be sure to email munsterhistory@sbcglobal.net with any changes in your contact information.

Town Hall Office & Displays

Thanks to Town Maintenance personnel for replacing a missing ceiling tile with a much-needed recessed light. Thanks to September Alexander, Carole Cornelison, and Judy Peters for continuing to change and enhance our display cases in the Town Hall lobby and museum. Thanks to Beth Palmer and Judy Peters for signage and the interesting museum display of Helen Bieker's personal items.

Board/Officer/Volunteer Positions

If you are a member in good standing and interested in a leadership position in the Munster Historical Society, please email your contact info and the position of interest to munsterhistory@sbcglobal.net by October 15, 2018. Volunteering is a great way to become actively involved. We will begin decorating the museum in October for the December 1 holiday open house and help is always appreciated.

Museum & Wedding Docents/Concession Stand Volunteers

Thanks to wedding docents Carole Cornelison and Ashley Suda for providing access to the museum as required by Munster Parks. Thank you to Ed Lebryk for continuing to serve as our World War II docent during the summer concert series and for loaning his personal WWII items for display. Thank you to Munster Parks Superintendent Barb Holajter for announcing our concession stand at the concerts. Thank you to all museum or concession stand volunteers: September & Tom Alexander, Norma Benoit, Carole Cornelison, Darlene Jurkowski, Diane Kitchell, Judy Millspaugh, Beth and Perry Palmer, Judy and Wally Peters, JoAnne Shafer, Zachary Smith, Lorée Suda, Ben and Marina Rangel, and Donnie Vandyken.

Young Historians

Munster Junior Historical Society members attended a spring training session/farm tour conducted by JoAnne Shafer, Carole Cornelison, September Alexander, and Beth Palmer. This experience enabled them to serve as docents for the June Garden Walk at the Koester Farm. Girl Scout Troop 10102, led by Lisa Hodges, completed some farm chores and provided refreshments to garden walk visitors and volunteers. We received many compliments about these youngsters on the great job they all did! New members of the Munster Junior Historical Society (MJHS) were welcomed with a Munster history presentation at the Munster History Museum by Beth Palmer on September 12. Thank you to Munster Historical Society board members Beth Palmer, Carole Cornelison, September Alexander, and JoAnne Shafer for hosting and to Dr. Louise Chickie-Wolfe for leading these young future historians.

Donations/Grants

- MHS applied for and received a \$500 grant from Lake County Master Gardeners Association that was used for the purchase of native plants and seasonal flowers to enhance the garden walk at Heritage Park.
- Five-zone RainMaker sprinkler system from anonymous donor
- A. Jeannine Campbell's Norman Rockwell village collection and a large oak mirrored display cabinet donated by Diane & John Kitchell, who generously arranged for professional movers to deliver it
- 49-star American flag donated by Ann Carter
- Kerosene lamp with green glass base donated by Monica Corradin
- Antique oak telephone, spinning wheel, coaster wagon, milking stool, kitchen artifacts donated by Becky Pinney
- Vintage-style teddy bears for coaster wagon display by Kelly Benoit (Erna & Company)
- Mary Pellar (1875-1951) pickle crock & ice tongs, circa 1900s, donated by granddaughter Maxine Conway, Munster
- Century Gardens informational park sign and a bird house/post donated by JoAnne Shafer

Munster Historical Society is featured in September Senior Life front page news!
See below article, pick up the free newspaper at a local business, and/or visit:
<http://seniorlifeneewspapers.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/sw-09-05-18.pdf>

Living Life After 50

Free

September
2018

Nun's White Sox First
Pitch Goes Viral
See Page 8



Senior Life™



NORTHWEST EDITION REACHING SENIORS IN ILLIANA: COOK, LAKE & PORTER COUNTIES
 Vol. 23, No. 11 26,000 Circulation

A STEP BACK IN TIME — September Alexander, co-vice president of the Munster Historical Society, stands in front of a display with bits of history on display at the Munster Town Hall. Alexander's parents were also heavily involved in the Munster Historical Society and her mother was a co-founder. (Photo by Carrie Steinweg)



By **CARRIE STEINWEG**
 Feature Writer

It's always nice to take a trip down memory lane and fun to see young ones fascinated when learning about the past. Munster Historical Society makes both possible through its preservation of Munster's history.

"We hope, as a society, to keep the history of Munster alive and well, and we've done a lot to accomplish that," said Beth Palmer, treasurer and board member.

Among those efforts are the establishment of a Munster Junior Historical Society and tours for scout and school groups, the maintaining of a museum within the historic Kaske house and through various programs and events.

The society's museum is housed in the 1910 Kaske house, built by the Kooy brothers, who constructed many of the homes in Munster in that era.

"We try to keep it to that time period," said JoAnne Schafer, museum curator. "Probably the most interesting thing to Munster and local people would be the love seat and chair from the Jacob Munster family."

The society also has a photo in its collection of the Munster family seated on the furniture.

Other interesting pieces are a coffee grinder from the Munster family, a wooden wicker wheel-chair and the upright piano that belonged to the Kaske family. The piano was saved from a 1909 fire at the Brass Tavern, along with a slightly charred bookcase that is also on display. The museum also houses a World War II exhibit. A local World War II veteran often sits in the home, while it is open for tours, to answer questions and offer insight into the war.

Shafer said in the spring they do school tours and give children a treasure hunt. There are a lot of laughs as children try to locate items, such as a radio.

"They're expecting an iPod and it's actually a large standing 1930s radio," said Shafer. "They find out that things like that are Munster artifacts."

Visitors can tour the kitchen and pantry, dining room, bathroom, living room and three upstairs bedrooms. One is a children's bedroom full of antique toys Shafer said children enjoy viewing.

The home is on the National Register of Historic Places. The home was renovated in 1997



SUMMER CONCERT — Beth Palmer and Loree Duda serve refreshments during a summer concert at Heritage Park. At summer concerts, the Munster Historical Society sells popcorn and hot dogs served from this vintage popcorn cart. (Photo provided)

by the town and later taken over by the historical society.

"We were very fortunate to be able to furnish it with a lot of things that members had in their basements; over the years we've gotten lots of

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Munster —

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 donations," said Shafer. "We try to change exhibits and move things around a little as much as we can. It's not a big house, but I think most people would find it interesting. We like to refer to Heritage Park with the Kaske house as a step back in time in the heart of town."

Heritage Park includes the grounds of the Kaske House; an adjacent gazebo is where summer concerts are held. Sponsored by a local bank, bands perform usually twice a month. Historical society members open the Kaske house for viewing and sell refreshments; nostalgic root beer floats, hot dogs and popcorn are served out of a vintage-looking popcorn cart.

The Kaske house is also open the first Saturday in December. This is when families can visit with Mr. and Mrs. Claus, take photos, tour the home and enjoy cookies and hot cocoa. The grounds were also part of this year's Munster Garden Walk. The society also holds periodic programs with guest speakers.

The society produced a "Brass Tavern" cookbook that can be purchased at events and at the society's office in Munster Town Hall Wednesday afternoons.

For more information, visit MunsterHistory.org or visit its Facebook page.

Garden Walk & Park Improvements

We hope you all took the opportunity to visit the Munster History Museum this summer during the June garden walk. Approximately 300 people toured Heritage Park and the Kaske House during the two-day event. We received wonderful positive comments about our gardens, museum, and our garden-themed refreshments. Thank you to the Munster Garden Club for inviting us to participate, to Co-Chairs Rita Powell and Tamara Simonetto for their gracious coordination, to Mark Kenney for his expert help with flower selections and for managing the Munster Garden Club ticket tent with volunteers Laura Mannion and Rose Domsic. Our gardens still look beautiful due to the hard work of our volunteers, Parks personnel, and our new Century Gardens 5-zone sprinkler system. Munster Parks recently renovated the brick driveway, enhancing the natural beauty of the park while making it a safe walkway surface. Thank you to the Director of Munster Parks and Recreation Greg Vitale and Parks Superintendent Jerry Rosco. Thank you to their hardworking Heritage Park staff Kevin Dark and Linda Dillon, who are always knowledgeable and helpful. Thanks to our members, board members, and supporters:

Munster Historical Society



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munsterhistory@sbcglobal.net

www.munsterhistory.org

2018 Officers & Board Members

President, Carole L. Cornelison

Vice President, September & Tom Alexander

Treasurer, Beth Palmer

Secretary, JoAnne Shafer

Director, Norma Benoit

Director, Judy Peters

Director, Lorée Suda