

Vintage News

MUNSTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- 4th of July Parade prize awarded to MHS
- Porch Replacement Resolution Approved
- New "vintage" refrigerator
- Summer Concert Concession Stand Big Success
- Old Courthouse Celebrates 135th Birthday
- Munster Library history displays

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1931 MODEL A FORD WINS PRIZE!

If you missed Konnie Kuiper's Classic Auto Museum Tour in May, you had another opportunity to see one of Konnie's mint antique cars featured at Munster's 4th of July parade.

Only this time, the 1931 Model A Ford touring car, one of the favorites of many who attended the May tour, was "decorated" with vintage ladies dressed to the nines! Past President Cindy Watson Badten, Vice President September Alexander, and Co-founder Norma Benoit are pictured on the right.

Walking behind the car, The Michelle Roberts Family and Rachel Dawson (photo on page 2) pulled a Radio Flyer wagon and handed out



approximately 100 pounds of candy and 200 flag fans to the appreciative crowd.

We are pleased to report that the Munster Historical Society was awarded a prize in the decorated truck/car category!

Thank you to the following:

Carole Cornelison, MHS 2013 Parade Chairman

Konnie Kuiper, 1931 auto
Bill Messman, driver

Crowd Pleasers:
Michelle, Grace and April Roberts and Rachel Dawson

Donations:
Flag Fans & Radio Flyer Wagon, Dave & JoAnne Shafer

(Parade Prize cont'd page 2)

OLD COURTHOUSE BIRTHDAY PLANNED

Edited Excerpt from Susan Erler, The Times, 09/02/2013

Veteran astronaut Jerry Ross will make a hometown landing in September to help celebrate a milestone in Crown Point history. Ross, along with renowned artist James Paul Brown, are two of the celebrities who will be on hand to commemorate the 135th birth-

day of the downtown square's Old Lake County Courthouse.

The community is invited to **the party at the courthouse from 2 to 5 p.m. September 22.** Visitors can enjoy a slice of specially designed birthday cake and mingle with Civil War

re-enactors, historical impersonators and Lake County Historical Museum President Bruce Woods, among others.

No stranger to celebrities, the courthouse in its earlier days was where silent film stars, (Old Courthouse cont'd page 3)

PARADE PRIZE

Continued from front page

Vintage Auto Ladies:
September Alexander
Norma Benoit
Cindy Watson Badten

Costume Accessories:
Kelly Benoit

MHS Signs & Patriotic Bows:
Beth Palmer & JoAnne Shafer

The Society's vinyl signs were expediently prepared by Economy Signs, Hammond.

Following is a list of this year's winning entries:

Decorated Truck/Auto:

1st Walgreens
2nd Orak Shrine
3rd Munster Historical Society

Decorated Float:

1st Strack & Van Til
2nd Ridge United Methodist Church
3rd South Side Christian Church

Congratulations to all above and to all the individuals, businesses and organizations who participated!

Special thanks to Munster Lions Club for our parade entry recognition award. A letter of thanks was sent to the Munster Lions Club. A cash prize is forthcoming from the Munster Lions Club.

Congratulations to all our parade volunteers! Great job!!



Michelle, Grace and April Roberts and Rachel Dawson distribute a Radio Flyer wagon load of candy and flag fans to the parade crowd.



Since Munster Parks put a new roof on the Kaske House last December, representatives of the MHS Board met twice at the museum with the Munster Park Board, diligently attended Park Board meetings, with many MHS members in attendance, and spoke in favor that further critical renovations were needed.

At the September 17 Munster Park Board meeting, Carole Cornelison and JoAnne Shafer thanked Parks staff and spoke in support of the Kaske House porch renovations on behalf of the Society. During the meeting, a resolution to remove and replace the front porch and ramp was discussed, and it was approved by the Munster Park Board. Hopefully, contractor Scheeringa & DeVries can finish the porch in time for our holiday open house this December.

Many people have asked why the Society closed the museum this year while the Town continued its use for weddings. The Society's usage, responsibilities, resources, liabilities, and policies as an all volunteer non-profit organization are quite different from Munster Parks. The rotted, unstable porch made it necessary to close the museum to the general public due to lack of handicap accessibility and a dependable second emergency exit. Your MHS

Board made the best decision possible to assure the safety of our volunteers and visitors. Munster Parks honored its contractual obligations, allowing limited use of the first floor for bridal party only. In order to protect our artifacts, museum docents were provided for a total of 16 weekend weddings. Discussions with Munster Parks are ongoing to reach an agreement to eliminate the option to use the museum from the Heritage Park wedding package.

MEMBER NEWS

Happy Birthday

June 5 Lorée Suda
June 10 Judy Peters
June 16 Dolores Fulte
July 1 Eloise Cashman
July 9 Michael Suda
July 16 September Alexander
Aug 15 April Roberts
Aug 14 Norma Benoit
Sept 7 JoAnne Shafer
Sept 24 Wallace Peters
Sept 1989 St. Paul Episcopal Church
Oct 10 Grace Roberts

Welcome New Members

Kaaren & Bernard Mashura

Congratulations

Kenneth J. Schoon, new book, "Dreams of Duneland"
Munster Clerk-Treasurer Dave Shafer, President (2012-2013), National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) — First time a Hoosier was elected president in 46-year NARC history.

Condolences

Tom Alexander's step-mother
Family of Hugh Brauer, former Munster Town Councilman
Carole Cornelison's friend
Debra Ellison's sister & Cindy Watson Badten's niece
JoAnne Shafer's mother
Family of Pat Tatousek (Pat was a member of the original Museum Committee)

Personal Loss

Julie & Steve Pals Family, house lost to fire

Get Well Wishes

Jim & Susan Schmidt
Debbie Schmuesser
Raleigh Wolfe

Please email updated member information, news or historical articles to: info@munsterhistory.org.

MUNSTER LIBRARY HISTORY DISPLAYS



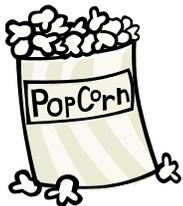
Can you find the historic artifacts?

Retired elementary school teacher and new board member Judy Peters arranged with Linda Dunn, Munster

Librarian, for display space to showcase some of the Munster History Museum's interesting artifacts and a 1910 farm life exhibit. Judy met with President Carole Cornelison to choose items such as the Munster family coffee grinder and received setup assistance from semi-retired elementary school teacher and Board Secretary Beth Palmer. Through the end of September, the items will be on display inside the library in the large display case and the farm life exhibit is on the left as you enter the building.

Judy distributed info work sheets to the Munster elementary schools. Elliott teacher and MHS VP September Alexander reported that all the Elliott Elementary second graders will make visits to the library to see our displays.

Be sure to stop by to test your knowledge!



*“They rock,
they roll,
they dance,
they float,
they pop,
they sizzle!”*

CONCESSION STAND ROCKS!
HEARTLAND REFRIGERATOR ROLLS!

We are pleased to report that our Heritage Park Summer Concert Concession Stand beat its own record with a grand sales total of \$1675.00!

Co-Chairs' September Alexander and Carole Cornelison once again orchestrated a fine-tuned group of volunteers.

At the last concert featuring the Hotts, they sold 35 sizzling hot dogs. Michelle Roberts made and sold 53 root beer floats and 7 sundaes. April and Grace Roberts were a hit with the audience, who never had to leave their seats for Tom Alexander's hot buttered popcorn,

a sellout at every concert. Lorée Suda even sold a cookbook, quite an accomplishment at a free concert!

With a generous donation from Munster Lions Club and the outstanding efforts of our concession stand volunteers, we were able to purchase and pay off a new vintage-style refrigerator. Great news for those who had been cleaning out the exploded pop and melted ice cream mess of our old refrigerator (note: 1930s GE relocated to the back porch). Thanks to Blink Appliance, Lynwood, Illinois, for their assistance and prompt, professional delivery service.



Heartland Vintage-Style Refrigerator

OLD COURTHOUSE

Continued from Page 1



Photo donated by Munster Town Councilman Joe Simonetto

famed athletes, celebrities such as Rudolph Valentino, and many others obtained marriage licenses to take advantage of Lake County not having a waiting period.

As many as 170,000 marriages were said to have been performed in Crown Point between 1915-1940, with demand for county-based licenses from the courthouse

peaking in the late 1930s.

The red brick building combining Romanesque and Georgian architectural styles was built in 1878 with additions completed in 1928. The courthouse outlasted a fruitless effort in the 1970s to have it razed for a parking lot. Home to shops, businesses and a vintage court room occupied by the Crown Point City Court, the old court

house building was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1978.

Please support preservation of the "Grand Old Lady of Lake County" by sending a donation to Lake Court House Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 556, Crown Point, IN 46307-0556.

For more information, visit lakecourthousefoundation.org.

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.MUNSTERHISTORY.ORG



Moving forward to preserve the past....

The Munster Historical Society collects, preserves, and promotes the history of the Town of Munster, located in Northwest Indiana. Members of the Society also serve as preservation advocates for the 1910 Kaske House (listed on the National Register of Historic Places) and Heritage Park (the site of David Gibson's 1837 log cabin and the 1845 Brass Tavern, a stagecoach inn that served as a gathering place for local residents, a respite for weary travelers, and the first permanent settlement in Munster, Indiana).

Visit www.munsterhistory.org for detailed history, event calendar, services, membership info, brochures, newsletter archives, books for sale, and more!

Munster Historical Society
1005 Ridge Road
Munster, IN 46321

Phone: 219-836-6530
E-mail: info@munsterhistory.org

Munster History Museum

Southwest corner of Ridge Road & Columbia Avenue
Munster, Indiana

2013 Munster Historical Society Officers/Board

Carole L. Cornelison, President
September Alexander, Vice President
Beth Palmer, Secretary
Tom Alexander, Treasurer
Kelly Benoit, Past President
Norma Benoit, Program Director
Judy Peters, Director
JoAnne Shafer, Curator

Munster Historical Society Staff

Office Staff:
Shirley Schmueser & Susan Schmidt
Newsletter Team:
Jim Schmidt, Shirley Schmueser &
Cindy Watson Badten

BENCH ARBOR NEEDS TLC!

In 2010, the Society purchased a bench arbor that is the entryway to Century Gardens, a quiet garden retreat behind the historic Kaske House. This has been a favorite spot for wedding, prom, and other romantic photos.

But now, the arbor needs a little tender loving care itself! We are looking for a volunteer with wrought iron maintenance expertise. The bench arbor needs to be scraped, primed and painted. This will be a time-consuming project. Fall is the perfect time to tackle this job.

If you are willing and able, the Society will provide the primer and paint.
Please call the office at 219 836-6530 or email curator@munsterhistory.org.

T H A N K Y O U !

Thank you to Munster Parks Maintenance Superintendent Jerry Rosko and his staff for stemming a spruce and pruning the overgrown landscaping in front of the 1910 Kaske House aka Munster History Museum. What a difference it has made!

Thank you to Officer James Ghrist for conducting a much-needed, thorough security survey of the Munster History Museum.

Thank you to Judy and Wally Peters for planting mums and maintaining the beautiful Girl Scout Garden in front of the museum!

Thank you to Dr. Naida Lehmann for managing the native, woodland plants. She cultivates the natural beauty of Heritage Park.

Thank you to all the Heritage Park volunteers who help pick up litter, plant flowers, and perform a variety of garden chores.

Thank you to this year's concession stand volunteers: September & Tom Alexander; Norma Benoit; Carole Cornelison; Beth Palmer; Judy Peters; Steve, Kyle, & Emily Pals; Michelle, April & Grace Roberts, Lorée Suda; Cindy Watson Badten.

Thank you to Munster Parks Barb Holojter and Donna Chant for an outstanding job announcing our concession stand.

Thank you to this year's wedding docent volunteers: September & Tom Alexander, Kelly Benoit, Norma Benoit; Carole Cornelison, Beth Palmer, Michelle, April & Grace Roberts, and JoAnne Shafer.

Thank you to our office staff, Shirley Schmueser and Susan Schmidt, who work steadfastly every week to keep our office open and our organization running smoothly.

