

STRAIGHT FARMHOUSE CRIER

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Garden City Historical Museum

AT LAST!! The Garden City Historical Museum is in the process of moving to the Straight Farm House. Kim Marquette, who has created displays of artifacts, merchandise, etc., for the Henry Ford Museum and Heslops, has unbelievably volunteered to share her expertise with us, and redo the display of artifacts at "our house" by herself! She may decide she needs help in cleaning items, unpacking, etc. Please let us know if you would like to help with this job. We'll be happy to give Kim your information.

Garden Walk

We are pleased to announce that the Garden City Garden Club will be using our Straight Farm House as a "Stop on the Garden Walk" on July 22, 2006! Tickets (\$8.00) are available at the SFH and are actually the booklet which gives locations of the gardens on display.

You may remember that the Garden Club was the first group to volunteer their expertise for trimming bushes, clearing our property of weeds, etc., planting spring bulbs, and giving us a park bench to enjoy under our tree! We look forward to welcoming them back in July. Please visit on that day for rest and recuperation as you tour the Garden Walk!



Quilt Raffle

We are raffling off another beautiful quilt which is on display above the stairway at the entrance to the Straight Farm House just off the parking lot. Tickets cost \$3 each, or two for \$5, and can be purchased at the Lathers General Store.

Grande Parlour

Grande Parlour rentals are going well since we began this operation in March. We've had parties of guests from Garden City, Westland, Livonia, Dearborn Heights, Northville and Redford, and expect many more as word travels about the charm of our facility. Please think of recommending our facility first if you're asked for a referral for a nice place to rent for any occasion. And remember -- the Grande Parlour was created using volunteer help!



If you haven't renewed your membership, please consider doing so since we really need your support!



Volunteers Make the Difference



Have you noticed how beautifully groomed our grounds are? Jim Doddie of Garden City has volunteered to do all the mowing, trimming, weeding, and whatever he deems necessary this summer! What a FRIEND!!



Chuck Guisgand, Friends member, has been invaluable to all of us in renovating the Farm House and keeping things running smoothly. He even stops in with regularity to help in the Lathers General Store or with hosting rentals, when we're not asking for help with something else!! Now **that's** a Friend!



Mike Bingham, Friend, retiree, and all-around good guy has spent many hours removing unnecessary wiring for former offices and correcting electrical problems. Mike also helped close off a doorway to establish more room for the Research Room now in place at the SFH.



We found him here so frequently that he was accused of establishing a "Gentleman's Room" in the Michigan cellar!!

We have had some faithful volunteers in our Lathers General Store, too. Betty Mann and Roxanne Mueller have graciously accepted our requests to join us "behind the counter" when we've had to be elsewhere. Not only that - they've helped host rental parties in the Grande Parlour!



Do consider joining these generous and most pleasant ladies and gentlemen in our volunteer ranks.



Brick Paver Walkway Nearly Full

Our brick paver walkway now has all the bricks installed that have been

ordered to date. Landscaper "Michigan Pete" Dryovage managed to accomplish this on a very hot day recently and did his usual outstanding job. If you haven't purchased a brick yet honoring your family, etc., please stop in and get a brick order form. Do plan to visit the Farm House and "walk the walk".

You may not be aware yet that we do have a telephone number at the SFH: (734) 838-0650. We answer "LIVE!" every Wednesday and Saturday from noon to 3 P.M. (when the store is open).

Post Office

If you haven't seen the Post Office replication in our Lathers General Store yet, this is a "must see". John Shivnen, former Garden City Postmaster for 30 years, graciously gave this replica to the Friends.



It was planned and built by Master Carpenter, Al Fleis, of Westland, and stained by Bill Kelly of Livonia. This oak structure is truly beautiful.



A new floor will be installed soon by Wes, of W.E. Waite LLC, son-in-law of Friends member Betty Pummill Nilsson, in the adjoining room to become a postal display room. Wes is doing this work in honor of his mother-in-law, Betty. An honor, indeed!

John Shivnen has already procured and restored a 1928 street mail drop box which will be on display. Friends member, Bill Brooks, is planning to loan us his stamp collection for a time. We know you will want to see and admire our Post Office!

Room Sponsors

Did you know that we have rooms available for sponsorship at the Farm House? You can either sponsor an entire room or part of a room with someone else. Your name will be displayed in an appropriate place as a donor for each room you have sponsored. We are delighted to thank the following families and individuals for their sponsorship: the Mazzonis, Bolands, Santeius, Schildbergs, Jean Procter, and Muriel Grima. We are very grateful to these donors!

Resident Potter

Our in-house potter, Judy Buresh, has established her studio upstairs in the SFH and displays and sells her creations in the Lathers General Store. She is a National award-winning potter, having had one of her pieces chosen by the President as the winning sculpture in a competition. The tiles of the Straight Farm House she created are on sale in the Store. She plans to teach her craft to others in her studio upstairs. Interested?





Believe It Or Not

Can you believe that we bought the Straight Farm House just two years ago in July of 2004?? We have made phenomenal progress thanks to supporters like Accent Remodeling of Canton, Artman's Nursery and Canton Fence Supply of Westland, Horton's Tree Service, Sign A Rama, Sinclair America Sunoco, the Osteopathic Hospital of Garden City, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, Community Bank of Dearborn, and Philip M. Cavanagh, Wayne County Commissioner who had faith in us from the very beginning of our endeavors.

Our second year of ownership brought help from Horton's Tree Service again, Burton & Sons Plumbing and Heating, Kurth Agencies, Sheridan Construction and Barsamian Family Dentistry of Garden City, and again -- Thrivent Financial of Western Wayne County. We must remember Amber, Manager of Sherwin Williams Paint in Garden City who gave us all the paint used in our Grande Parlour and Annex. How can we forget Joe Dimichele, Garden City Building Inspector, who found willing workers to help us with some really heavy-duty cleaning chores, both inside and out?! Donations from Wade Trim of Taylor, Plante Moran of Ann Arbor, and McKenna Associates of Northville were most gratefully received!

We have been pursuing grants and must continue to do so, and have received one grant so far from

"Honoring Our Ancestors". Our next immediate grant goal is to obtain funding for an elevator for the SFH. Obtaining financial support will always be an ongoing project.

Many thanks to the local merchants and organizations who have helped us sell our Garden Cityopoly Games and/or our Straight Farmhouse Historical Calendars: Standard Federal/LaSalle Bank; BankOne/Chase; Misty's Gifts; Orin Jewelers; the Garden City Chamber of Commerce; and the Garden City Library.

We saved a really big "THANK YOU" to our Garden City Fire Department for helping us with smoke alarms and for their ongoing help whenever we ask for it. They are absolutely the nicest "team" in town!! Thank you, gentlemen!

Visit Us Online



If you haven't visited our website yet, please do, at: <http://www.sfhonline.org>. The web site was designed by our webmaster, Sue Bird, who manages to keep it as current as possible.

COMING SOON!!
Watch for a new sign in front of the Straight Farm House on Merriman Road.

