

# THE STRAIGHT FARMHOUSE CRIER

OCTOBER 2012



## Michigan A to Z

Our new exhibit *Michigan A to Z* has been open since mid August and has been receiving rave reviews. From the pizza box signed by Mike and Marian Ilitch, to the first toy placed in a cereal box (by the Kellogg company in 1909) there is something for everyone to see.

Don't forget to stop at the map in the hallway and place a push pin on the Michigan map where your hometown is located, and if you are from Garden City, place a push pin on the Garden City map where you live. Also, for \$1 you can enter into a drawing for a cart full of Michigan made products and a \$100 Kroger Gift Card! Hurry! Exhibit ends 11/30/2012

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## Skeletons on Review

Have you ever seen skeletons holding a séance? How about a skeleton eating an apple or working at a switchboard? Well, now through October 31 you can see these and many more at the Straight Farmhouse in our limited time only exhibit, *Skeletons on Review*.



*A skeleton works the switchboard upstairs in the museum*



If you would like to submit articles or announcements for consideration in the *Farmhouse Crier* please submit them via email to: [Straight.farmhouse@yahoo.com](mailto:Straight.farmhouse@yahoo.com)

## Matching Grant Program

Our matching grant program only has a few weeks left. As of the writing of this newsletter our total stands at \$6,691! Thank you to all who have donated. Our goal is \$10,000; if you would like to donate you still have time. Donations will be accepted through October 31, 2012.

## Craftique Mall

The Craftique Mall at in the Garden City Towne Center at 5846 Middlebelt Road north of Ford Road has generously donated to the FGCHM a 3' x 3' booth to sell items. This is an excellent opportunity to bring in extra income and increase awareness of the museum and Straight Farmhouse. If you have an items you would like to donate for us to sell at the Craftique Mall, please bring them to the Farmhouse. The Craftique Mall is open Mon.-Thurs. 11-6, Fri. and Sat. 10-7, and Sun. 12-5. Stop in and check all there is to see!

['Like us now on Facebook!](#)



### A 'Bright' Volunteer

A special thank you to Marshall Hill for the time he volunteers keeping the lights in our facility lit! Marshall replaces everything from bulbs to fixtures (, and we appreciate his time.

### THANK YOU!

Ever notice how fantastic the grounds around the Straight Farmhouse consistently look? This is, once again, from the hard work of Jim Doddie. Thank you, Jim, for keeping us 'looking good'.

## Flea Markets Huge Success

Once again the summer season of flea markets was a tremendous success. Record crowds attended and snatched up great buys. Watch for them again in the Spring of 2013. Thank you to everyone that participated and or shopped. A special thank you to the flea market coordinator Diane Thurner for all of her hard work.

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## Michigan A to Z Members Only Preview

On August 10th, members of the Friends of the Garden City Historical Museum had the opportunity to preview the Michigan A to Z exhibit.

Members enjoyed Made in Michigan refreshments (Little Caesars Pizza, Vernors, Better Made Chips and homemade chocolates by Debbie Eleson) while strolling through the new display.



Door prizes included lottery tickets, Sanders Hot Fudge, Michigan History Magazine Subscriptions, Towne Club pop and Michigan wine, to name a few.

### Did You Know?

The Straight Farmhouse/Garden City Historical Museum had **2448** visitors in 2011.

## Improving Communication

In an effort to improve and increase communication with our members and the community, we will be creating an email distribution list. The advantages are cost, and speed of communication. Every time we communicate with our members via email as opposed to US Mail, we save the Straight Farmhouse 32 cents each. With our membership reaching over 95, that means if we could communicate some announcements by email, we would save \$30-\$40 per mailing!

If you would like to receive communications via email, please send an email to [straight.farmhouse@yahoo.com](mailto:straight.farmhouse@yahoo.com) and indicate so, and we will add you to the distribution list. This newsletter will continue to be mailed.

We have updated our website. We have added a 'Contact Us' where visitors to the site can fill out a form to submit. We have also added a Membership Page that allows visitors to our site to sign up for a membership online and submit to us. As a matter of fact, within 48 hours of our new site going live, we received our first membership submitted through the site.

When you have time, stop by the site and take a look. The website address is the same: [www.sfhonline.org](http://www.sfhonline.org). Thank you to Sue Bird for her years of service maintaining the website.



## Boy Scout Troup 1241

On August 30, 2012, Boy Scout Troup 1241 (Scout Master Bob Pyle) spent the day cleaning up the parking lot and grounds at the Straight Farmhouse.

The difference their hard work made is amazing! We applaud the dedication these young men exhibit in serving their community!

## Research Upgrade Close to Completion

Ever since the archives have been moved to the SFH Jack Kerstetter has been hard at work organization and filing them. Countless hours have gone into this endeavor. This nearly five year project is nearing completion. Two new research rooms have been added to the second floor of the farmhouse with plans for a third. And just when Jack thought he was getting caught up, the Library and Boy Scout donated their archives! Many visitors stop in looking for information and are amazed by the organization and volume of information available. We can't thank Jack enough for all of his hard work.

## On Sale Now at the Lathers General Store

It may seem early, but Christmas is a little over two months away! Stop by the Lathers General Store to see the Christmas items on sale now.



Also on sale are a variety of books. *The Early Days of Garden City, Michigan's Haunted Legends and Lore* by Kristy Robinett (this book includes a chapter on the Straight Farmhouse!), and a book by John Quinn, *Someone Like Me, An Unlikely Story of Challenge and Triumph over Cerebral Palsy*.

## High Praise from Historian

Steven J. Rauch, a professional Historian & Archivist for the U.S Army at Fort Gordon in Georgia recently visited the Garden City Historical Museum. Steven is a 1978 graduate of Garden City East High School.

Steven writes that he comes back 'up North' occasionally to visit family, and on this instance toured our Museum. Steven writes: " I was greatly impressed at how well displayed your artifacts were and your archives. Quite amazing for a museum of your size."

Steven also enclosed a check and became a member of the FGCHM.

We would like to thank Steven for the kind words, but more importantly for his service to our country.

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