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WYANDOTTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2023

VOLUME 4

This color advertisement appeared in the April 11, 1949 issue of LIFE Magazine.
Easter Sunday falls on April 9th in 2023.



Message from the Prez~

Did you know that Roosevelt high school turns 100 years old this year? Many memories have been made behind those walls and many amazing people have walked those hallways. Over the years thousands of students have graduated from RHS and have gone on to do great things. However, behind every great student was a great educator who pushed them to do their best, these educators have touched the lives and hearts of many and that is why we decided to honor ten former educators and purchase seats in the auditorium to honor their lives and legacies.

Katherine Woodward (1904-1988) was an English teacher at RHS for nearly fifty years. She was hired in at a time in history where women were not aloud to be married and be a teacher. She was passionate about her job and she loved what she did, so she never married and spent the majority of her life teaching her students about literature.

Milton Powell (1900-1984) taught history and coached the track and cross-country teams at RHS. He retired from RHS in 1965 and became an active member of the Historical society.

Earl W. Nellis (1908-2001) attended Roosevelt High school in the 1920s. He was the president of the aviation club, president of the rifle club, member of the rowing crew, and volunteered as a carpenter on the sets of school plays. After high school, Earl went on to become a shop teacher. He helped to build and install the original display cabinets at the museum.

Eleanore Bennick was the vocal music teacher at Roosevelt for more than thirty years. She was also the organist at the first Congregation Church. During programs, events and weddings at the MacNichol home; Eleanore would provide the music and entertainment.

Kenneth Hauer (1906-1999) was the chairman of the music department for nearly fifty years. He taught band, orchestra, and even swing music classes. Not only was Ken an active member of the historical society but at one point in time he held the position of WHS president.

Hervey Lyle Lyon (1906-1984) was a science teacher and counselor at Roosevelt. During his lifetime Lyle was a very active member of the historical society.

Billee Simmons (1905-1999) taught primary education within the Wyandotte Public Schools. Billee was also a very active member of the society who held the positions of officer and trustee.

Virginia Bufe (1911-2002) graduated from Michigan State in 1933. She went on to do her graduate work at Columbia University and Julliard school. She came to Wyandotte to teach in the public school system. Virginia taught elementary music in the district for thirty-two years.

Mary Elizabeth Nelson (1908-2011) not only taught in Wyandotte, but she was in one of the first graduation classes to come out of Roosevelt. Mary Adaiier graduated in class of 1927. She went on to get a degree in English. She worked as a third grade teacher at Jefferson elementary, and in her many years she touched many lives. Mary regularly attended services at the United Methodist Church of Wyandotte, she was an active and enthusiastic member of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), Wyandotte Historical Society, West Mound Cemetery Board, Michigan Retired School Personnel, and The Friends of Bacon Library.

George H. Gouth (1932-2022) of course, you know him...

Mary-Johna Wein

Hello lovely WHS Newsletter Readers!

It is bittersweet to announce that I am leaving my position at the Wyandotte Museums after two years as the Museums Assistant. I have accepted a full-time position at the Detroit Historical Society as the Digitization Collections Coordinator. In this new position, I will be cataloging and photographing (using new 3D technology) large items such as architectural pieces, agricultural equipment, furniture, etc. so that this information can be accessed digitally for users around the world. I am very excited to learn more about new database and technology practices in the museum field!



It has been my pleasure to be here the last two years: Wyandotte is my hometown and I am very grateful for all the friends and memories I have made because of this job. It's been very fulfilling to know that I contributed in preserving Wyandotte history in some way and I have learned a lot about this city through writing articles for this newsletter. I will not be gone permanently and I plan to volunteer as much as I can, especially for my favorite event: the Cemetery Walk. It's been a ride everyone, thank you! – **Audrey Wicklander**

WILD WYANDOTTE WEATHER!!!

It was quite a stormy month in the city, causing both beauty and destruction.



Feb. 22, 2023: An Ice Storm drapes Bishop Park in a mantle of crystal beauty, but many in Wyandotte lost power or tree limbs.



Mar. 3, 2023: Blizzard conditions as seen on Biddle. The heavy snow also came with sleet, rain, thunder, & lightning



Mar. 10, 2023: Snow thickly caked to everything, creating a winter wonderland as seen here at the corner of 2nd & Vinewood.

Pics by: Josh Halasy

Myerah: The Search for the Chief

Join us Friday May 12, 2023, at 7pm at the Marx Home for a presentation on Walk in the Water by Elizabeth Ann-Berton Reilly. Elizabeth is a Ph.D. candidate in the Language, Literacy, and Sociocultural Studies program at the University of New Mexico. She is working on her dissertation concerning the identity and meaning-making of tribal members of a non-federally recognized tribal community, the Wyandot of Anderdon Nation. She moved to Wyandotte in 2020 so she could work with them.

Come and uncover who was early nineteenth-century Chief Walk in the Water, and why is so little information about him? This talk will explore the mysteries behind Wyandot Chief Myerah, also known as Walk-In-The-Water, including what happened to his skull. 18th century Wyandot Chief Walk-In-The-Water died a hero to his people – but someone took his skull. Where is it? Delve into the mystery of the early nineteenth-century Wyandot Chief and learn about his impact on the downriver communities, and the mystery of his remains.

The Wyandotte Museum's Valentine's Open House, held Friday, February 10, 2023, was a huge success. People could not get enough of the gorgeous wedding dresses!



Also very popular was the Pisanki Class (Polish Easter Eggs), held at the Marx home on Friday, March 10, 2023. The class, hosted by WHS members Sue Halasy & Josh Halasy, drew rave reviews from those who attended. WHS members should be on the lookout for plenty more fun activities to come in 2023!!!



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Wyandotte Historical Society

Burns Home

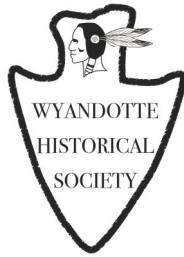
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