

Waterford Historical Society Newsbill

Volume 23, Number 2

June-July-August 2018

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Calendar

June-July-August

WHS is Open
Every Wednesday 10:30-2:00

June 6
Newsletter Mailing

June 13
Board Meeting 2:15

June 23
Log Cabin Workday 10:00

Sunday, June 24
Log Cabin Day 12-5

July 18
Board Meeting 2:15

Sunday, July 22
Summer Sunday
At the Village 1-4

August 15
Board Meeting 2:15

Sunday, August 19
Summer Sunday
At the Village 1-4

September 5
Newsletter Mailing

Sunday, September 16
Summer Sunday
At the Village 1-4

September 19
Board Meeting 2:15

September 26
Last Day to visit Village
for the season

President's Notes

School tours have been in full swing and our Hands on History area is getting a workout. Washboards are in use, mattresses are being stuffed, slates are filled with arithmetic and the second graders are learning about "long ago". We love it! And, we really love when they come back in the summer to "teach" their families about our history.

Log Cabin Day Festival 2018 is Sunday, June 24 from Noon to 5:00 p.m. Note the time change. How can you help? We set-up grounds on Saturday June 23 starting at 10:00 a.m. You can help take down at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday. You can bake cookies and put four in a bag for our cookie sale. BUT where you are really needed is ... *in the buildings*.

Here comes my plea. We are a Historical Society and a Historic Village. We need people to staff the buildings to make the history come alive to our visitors. You do not need to learn all the history of Waterford! You just need a few tidbits that we provide. It is easy and fun. Call me if you are interested or need any more info about this! We truly need you-anytime but especially for Log Cabin Day. 248-683-2697.

On the horizon, *Summer Sundays in the Village* was a hit and will continue this year. We will be open from 1-4 on the following Sundays: July 22, August 19, and September 16. No hoopla, just history! People can enjoy the Village at a leisurely pace.

I hope to see you soon.

Sally Strait



Board Members

President
Sally Strait 248-683-2697
sstrait649@comcast.net

Vice President
Bob Allen 248-623-0463

Recording Secretary
Becky Morgan 248-673-2689

Corresponding Secretary
Betty Seymour 248-666-4265

Treasurer
Betty Horn 248-673-9708

Bookkeeper
Cheryl Stoutenburg 248-623-0414

Members At Large
Grace Rockey 248-666-3673
Gary Wall 248-674-6201
Norman Watchpocket 248-673-5310
Tammie Wolfe 248-842-1664
Dorothy Webber 248-666-4907

Village Schedule

The Waterford Historic Village, Hatchery House, Log Cabin, research library and office are all open every Wednesday 10:30am to 2pm May through September.



Ways You Can Help : With Log Cabin Day



We are busy getting ready for Log Cabin Day 2018! We can use help from members at this time. Here are ways to help:

- **Help sort and price** White Elephant and Boutique items on Wednesdays. (June 6, 13, 20)
- **Spiff up a building any Wed. from 10:30 to 2.**
- **Help us set up Saturday, June 23 at 10 AM .**
- **Help us on Log Cabin Day (Sun. June 24th) by being in one of the buildings.**
(It is best to have one volunteer in each building.)

It is easy! Just push a button on the audio box & visitors will hear all about that building! **Stop in on a Wednesday (10:30-2)** or call Sally (248-683-2697) & sign up for a building.

- **Attend Log Cabin Day Sunday, June 24th.**
- **Tell a friend/family member or neighbor** about Log Cabin Day or bring them with you.
- **Help take down on Sunday, June 24 at 5 pm.**
- **Consider giving a monetary donation** to help with the cost of Log Cabin Day.

Cookies WANTED

Cookies baked for our popular cookie sale. Bake and put four cookies in a baggie. Bring them to us on Sunday, June 24th.

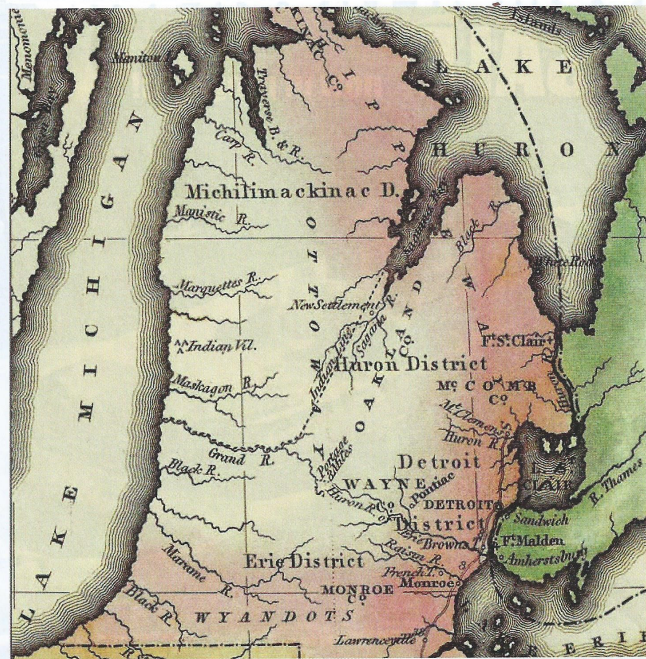


The cookies always sell!

Log Cabin Day Parking

- **General Parking :**
Parking Lot
2303 Crescent Lake Rd
Waterford MI 48329
(Just South of Waterford Fire Station 1)

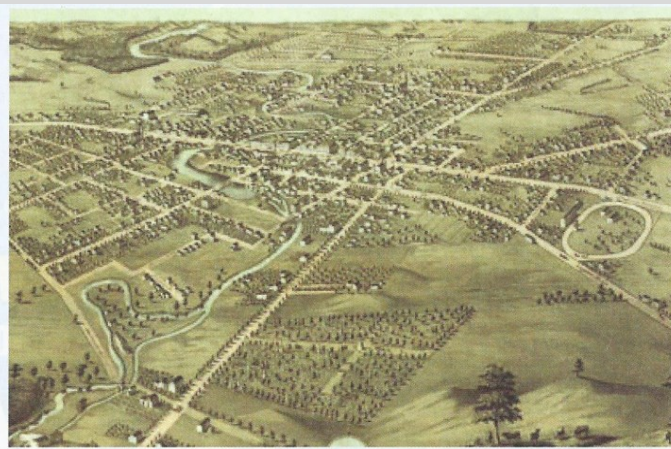
Free shuttle bus runs frequently
between there and the park.
- **Disability Parking in Fish Hatchery Park :**
4490 Hatchery Rd
Waterford, MI 48329



A bit of history

The first settlers arrived in what is now the City of Pontiac in 1818. Two years later there were enough people there to form a village named after the famous Indian Chief who had made his headquarters in the area only a few years before. As noted on this Michigan map from 1823, Pontiac was Michigan's first inland settlement. The village was officially recognized by the state legislature in 1837 and it incorporated as a city in 1861.

Pictured below, an aerial depiction of Pontiac from 1867.



From Oakland Lakefront Magazine
August 2015
Courtesy City of Pontiac



Waterford's Street Names



WATERFORD TWP - What's in a name?

Waterford's 740 street names - from Adamson to Zinnia - carry with them plenty of history.

There's a touch of eccentricity in some street names, a mixture of the common and bizarre and an accident or two.

Some of the planning for subdivision street names are carefully plotted by the builders and neighborhoods. Other streets got names haphazardly - with an assist from the county.

The county giveth the right to founders of subdivisions to name the roads (in good taste). But the county also taketh away when it comes across duplicates.

The county changed 545 street names in Waterford in 1950.

The names were changed to protect innocent postal authorities who discovered they were delivering Pontiac mail to Waterford on streets where the names matched.

To eliminate that duplication, most of Waterford's street names had to go.

Where once there were 28 Lakeview streets, there is but one.

First and Second streets became Fleet and Sarvis.



Main Street, plotted in several subdivisions, gave way to one - a street one block long with five houses on it.

The people who laid out subdivisions and named streets after themselves, their wives and children also suffered some from the massive 1950 effort.

Martin Gilbert may have thought it romantic to name a street in Elizabeth Park Acres Frances, after his wife. But in 1950 the road became Winding Drive.

It is doubtful too, that Grace Kerr changed her name to Graves in 1950; but the county changed the name of the street named in her honor, anyhow. At least Kerr Acres, laid out by Grace and her husband Robert, is still with us.

"We certainly didn't mean to deprive anyone of their

history," said Bob Grady of the road commission.

Grady was around in 1950 when the overhaul of the township's road names came about.

"We just had to eliminate duplication in the general area," he said. "It helps avoid confusion among ambulance drivers, police and postal authorities."

If Sherman Willson were looking for the streets named in his honor in 1929, chances are he would be lost on Springle and Wilse. That's what the roads are now.



Others had more luck, especially those who laid out some of Waterford's 366 subdivisions after 1950.

After all, Percy King Road still exists, and the potato farmer did get by with David K. and Grace K. honoring his son and wife.



And for every Jones Road changed to Jonquil, with no slight intended to Charles and Abigail Jones, there is still a Linabury, Frembes and Denby calling to mind the original landholders of the area.



Former Supervisor Carlos Richardson lives in a subdivision he planned - on Carlos Drive, no less. The adjacent street - Evadna - he named after his wife.

And the tradition of naming streets after kin continues in one of the newest township subdivisions which developer Walter Jackson called Priscilla Meadows, after his wife.

The only street in the neighborhood, Jennifer Agnes is also the name of Jackson's daughter.

But the only rhyme or reason to many of the name changes by the county appears to be that the new name begins with the same letter of the alphabet.

Every street - save one - in Huntoon Lake subdivision was changed in 1950 along that patters.

Roosevelt begat Rowley; Clifton begat Cutler; Oak Ridge begat Oak Beach; Ardmore begat Ardreth and Normandy begat Norris. As the exception to the rule, Guilford begat Clayton.



Street names with historical connotations also suffered at the hands of the county



Daniel **Windiate**, who built the mill at Drayton Plains, had named a major road after himself in the 1840s.

But most of Windiate's road became Andersonville Road in 1950.

Yet another Windiate Street, named after Cass Windiate, was changed to Novara.

And Mill St., leading to the mill on the Clinton River, is now Milo.

Some historical figures remain, though Isaac Voorheis, an early supervisor, has a road named in his honor. So does a later supervisor, Alfred Gale. The Whitfields, Van Zandts, and Van Syckles, pioneering families, are represented. So is Jayno Adams, with an Adams street and Jayno Heights subdivision.

Of course, in the water-logged township, roads named after lakes stuck.

The likes of Pontiac Lake, Cass Lake, Scott Lake, Watkins Lake, Williams Lake, **Silver Lake**, Cooley Lake and Cass-Elizabeth Lake roads make travel about the township an easy matter. Find the lake, find the road. Find the road, find the lake.



Gen. Cass was perhaps smarter than most for naming lakes after himself and his wife, Elizabeth. The road names weren't among those considered for changes in 1950.

Also among Waterford's streets are as many Indian names as there once were tribes roaming the woods and waters.



Waterford has **Wigwam**, Mocassin, Totem, Cheyenne, Ute, Arapaho, Kewadin, Miami, Oregon, Nokomis, Chocktaw, Manitou, Navaho,

Muskingum and Iriquois.

But the township did lose Hiawatha in 1950, long after Henry Wadsworth Longfellow found him under a waterfall in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

Other Indian names disappeared from township sign posts just as the tribes vanished with the woods. Once Waterford boasted Paw Paw, Seneca, Delare, Owosso and a gathering spot in Cherokee Hills known as Indian Punch Bowl Parkway.

While losing trees during the period when the township converted from a resort area to a population center, streets named after trees disappeared.

In Huron Gardens subdivision, Hickory became Tilden, Maple became part of Telegraph and Beach became Josephine.

Old Orchard is the solitary street remaining from 14 Orchard streets.

But flowers remain on the street signs with **Iris**, Crocus, Daffodil and Zinnia.



The eccentricities of some subdivision planners becomes obvious from the street names.

Have Jack and Marion Rothberg ever been to Spain?

Well Cortez himself might be tempted to come looking for gold if he heard the street names in Lake Angles Heights.

There's no El Dorado, but there are Costa Mesta, Montebello, Reseda, Escondido, San Mateo, Segundo and Redundo.

Another developer apparently spun the globe to the British Isles.

Highland Estates subdivision streets are named Argyll, Sunderland, Dundee, Strathdon, Shetland and Loch Levin.

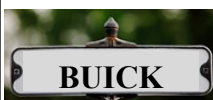
Perhaps a sailor planned Lake Oakland Heights. The streets are Breaker, Shoals, Mariner, Aquarina and Embarcadaro.

Mahlon and Mary Benson had plumbing in mind when they named the streets of the neighborhood build in their old peach orchard.

The streets of Benson's Old Orchard are all named after nationally-known plumbing companies --- Universal, Crane, Briggs, Standard and Kohler.



A car buff may have had a lot to do with naming the roads in LaSalle Park.



There one will find Mott, Chrysler, Paige, Nash, Chevrolet, Peerless, Buick and Oldsmobile.

written by Dennis Foley
for The Oakland Press
circa 1970's

Thanks to the Village Workers!

Thanks to everyone who helped getting the Village ready for the season.

The volunteers worked hard in fixing, building, and cleaning things. They all know who they are!!! Nothing would have been done without them.

Because of the long, cold winter it was not possible to work in the Village until the middle of April. Believe it or not, the Village was ready in time for the first visitors.



Help Us By Shopping



We appreciate everyone who participates in the **Kroger** community savings program.

Make sure to register the number (82795) on the **Kroger** card and use it every time you shop.



Kroger donates a percentage of your purchases to the Waterford Historical Society.

Thanks for your help!

Thank you also to Kroger for their generosity!

Enjoy Summer Sundays in the Village

Join us on the following Sundays:

from 1:00 pm-4:00 pm,

July 22, August 19 and September 16.

Pack a lunch and enjoy the Village & the grounds at Fish Hatchery Park.

No hoopla just history!

4490 Hatchery Road

Waterford MI 48329

(between Frembes Rd & Dixie Hwy)



Renew Your Membership... Or Become a Member of the Waterford Historical Society

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Waterford Historical Society or renewing their membership may clip and fill out the form below. Bring it in on a Wednesday (10:30-2) or mail it to:

Waterford Historical Society

P.O. Box 300491

Waterford MI 48330-0491

All memberships coming in now will be good until December of 2018. This entitles members to receive the WHS newsletters.



Join us...

Help keep history alive.

There is much going on. Don't miss out!

Newsletter Sponsors



This newsletter is brought to you by Stu and Arlen Magy. Thank you !!!

Like to help sponsor our next newsletter?

Send a check for \$25 to:
Waterford Historical Society
PO Box 300491, Waterford MI 48330-0491
(Write 'Newsletter' on the memo line.)

Waterford Township Historical Society Membership Application - New Address? Check Here:

- \$15.00 Individual
- \$25.00 Family
- \$100.00 Patron
- \$50.00 Organizations/Businesses
- \$150.00 Lifetime per family
- \$100.00 Lifetime per person
- \$125.00 Lifetime per couple
- \$250.00 Lifetime Org./Businesses
- \$500.00 Lifetime Patron

Date

Phone

Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Mail payment to:
Waterford Historical Society

Make Check Payable To:

Waterford Township Historical Society

P.O. Box 300491
Waterford, MI 48330-0491

Waterford Historical Society

We are open every Wednesday from 10:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

We are located in Fish Hatchery Park at:
4490 Hatchery Rd
Waterford, MI 48329

Our Mailing Address is:
P.O. Box 300491
Waterford, MI 48330-0491

Contact us at:
Sally Strait 248-683-2697

www.waterfordhistoricalsociety.org
Non-profit 501(c)3 organization

SAVE THE DATE!

Waterford Parks and Recreation
50+ Recreation Program

APPLE PIE SALE

OCTOBER 15-19, 2018

Upcoming Local Events:

- ◆ **Concert at the Park:**
FREE Summer Concert in the Park Thursday, June 7, 6-8 pm at Hess Hathaway Park (www.waterfordchamber.com)
- ◆ **Peace Fest Art & Music Festival:**
Sat/Sun, June 9 & 10 at L.A. Café
5815 Dixie Highway, Waterford MI 48329 (248-623-1610)
- ◆ **Waterford New Horizons Concert Band:**
Sunday, June 10, 3:00 pm at Mott Performing Arts Center
- ◆ **10th Annual Movies Under the Moonlight:**
Friday, June 22, 6:30 pm. at Pierce Middle School
Movie begins at dusk. (www.waterfordchamber.com)
- ◆ **Log Cabin Day:** Sunday, June 24 from 12 noon - 5 pm at Fish Hatchery Park, 4490 Hatchery Road, Waterford MI 48329
- ◆ **Oakland County Fair:** Fri, July 6 thru Sun, July 15
Springfield Oaks County Park
12451 Andersonville Rd, Davisburg MI 48350
www.oakfair.org (248-634-8830)
- ◆ **Oakland Uncorked Wine & Food Tasting:**
Fri, August 3, 7-10 pm at Oakland County Farmers Market
www.waterfordchamber.org or 248-666-8600 for tickets
- ◆ **Summer Sundays at the Village:**
July 22, August 19 & Sept. 16 from 1 - 4 p.m.
at Fish Hatchery Park, 4490 Hatchery Road, Waterford MI 48329

Our Mission Statement:
Collecting, protecting and preserving the history of
Waterford Township for the interest and education
of present and future generations.

Waterford Township Historical Society

P.O. Box 300491
Waterford, Michigan
48330-0491

