Celebrating 70 years

It was the most perfect day for an outdoor party, the weather fabulous and fun in the air.

Mike Skinner, past president, donned a white summer hat as he made Boston Coolers for the guests.

“There were wonderful volunteers who offered up hot dogs, with all the sides – chili, mustard, relish, ketchup and potato chips – all serving the public with smiles,” said Kay Burt-Willson, chair of the party.

The Society featured all Michigan products at this free public event on Saturday, July 11, in celebration of GPHS’ 70th Anniversary.

News of Grosse Pointe Past

News of Grosse Pointe Past is a series of vignettes focusing on events and people that form the tapestry of our lives in this community.

WGPH will broadcast this production live from the steps of the Provencal-Weir House, 376 Kercheval, at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 3 for this premiere event.

An audience-interactive show, News of Grosse Pointe Past is presented as a live radio program based stories from Tonnancour, by Arthur M. Woodford and used courtesy of Peter Ruffner at Omnigraphics, Inc.

The stories represent some fact, some mystery, some unbelievable events in the life and times of Grosse Pointe.

“The Musk-rat” based on a poem by William E Baubie and “The Wreck of the Julie Plante” based on a poem by William Henry Drummond, relate some amusing incidents in the life of French Canadian settlers. These two works are presented by Pat O’Brien.

In 1897 the Detroit News and the Detroit Tribune ran several stories about “Sea Serpent Sightings on the Great Lakes”. Mary Stelmark is the presenter.

The radio voice of Isabelle Donnelly is heard in the 1796 story, “Le Lutin” (Werewolf).

From 1897 to 1928, the interurban rail system connected Grosse Pointe to Detroit. Sue Lewandowski presents “A Streetcar Named Grosse Pointe”.

Richard Burt-Willson is the announcer.

The production is the work of the Grosse Pointe Historical Society.

The program is free to Grosse Pointe Historical Society members and $5 to non-members.

Cider and donuts will be available for purchase.
Author Romulus Army Air Field served the military during World War II by transporting B-24 Liberator bombers to the East Coast, and by transferring P-39 Aircobras and P-63 Kingcobras to the Soviet Union via Montana and Alaska. During the Cold War, the airport saw a presence of nuclear weapons and the National Guard.

The airport received its current name in 1958, and by 1971 the weapons and guard facilities were gone. During the past half century, Metro has constantly upgraded technology for safety and security, and has attempted to make the passenger experience as pleasant and exciting as possible.

Daniel W. Mason studied history at Lake Superior State College. He is currently employed by FedEx Express. And is working with the Wayne County Airport Authority to create archives and a museum at Metro.

In 1914, Detroit-based carriage builder August Fruehauf created one of the first semi-trailers. His concept would revolutionize the shipping industry. August went from being a hard-working blacksmith to the president of a multimillion-dollar company at his death in 1939. The company passed out of family hands in 1964, and was purchased by Wabash Trailers in 1997.

Ruth Ann Fruehauf, the youngest daughter of Roy and Ruth Horn Fruehauf, is a graduate of Cranbrook Schools in Bloomfield Hills and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the American University in Paris.

Christianity in Stained Glass, The Reverend Dr. Lynne Alcott Kogel

Christianity in Stained Glass examines the extensive stained glass windows of Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, a sublime marriage of color and light that seems to emanate the very notion of grace. Memorial Church contains an array of windows created by the Willet Stained Glass and Decorating Company from the 1920s to the '60s. Inspired by the storyboard windows of European churches, such as France’s Chartres Cathedral, the Willet firm led a revival of translucent stained glass, instead of using the opalescent glass that was popular at the time, and created narrative window pieces for many American churches.

The Reverend Dr. Lynne Alcott Kogel completed her undergraduate degree at UCLA and earned graduate degrees from Wayne State University, the University of Michigan, and McCormick Theological Seminary. Dr. Kogel is an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and a member of the Presbytery of Detroit.
RIBBON FARM DAYS:
Crafts, Field Trips, Stories

Ribbon Farms Days offered an exciting activity for young people this summer. Led by Isabelle Donnelly, director of education, each of the two-week sessions focused on themes that inspired creativity, local history and the love of learning.

“I want the children to feel they are using their talents and creativity to enhance their lives. And along the way it increases their sense of pride and well being,” said Donnelly.

The first session this summer focused on gardens. The children decorated glass votives and a flower vase, and adorned a terra cotta flowerpot with glass beads and tile glue. They also created original designs on cotton napkins using clear glue and acrylic paint. To complete the garden-themed table setting, the children decorated coasters using cotton jumping rope and paint. When the children were finished, they had created table decorations to brighten any family meal.

“Miss Izzy, my mom’s birthday is on July 7, and my dad and I are going to surprise her by setting the table with my RFD items. I am even going to pick flowers from the garden for her,” said Sarah, one of the children in this year’s Ribbon Farm Days.

Another session featured Life in Rural Grosse Pointe. What was life like for children more than one hundred years ago? In this session, children painted horses and built a barn for them. They also created a fox-hunter doll with red coat and black boots, and stuffed a toy red fox.

The final session, in partnership with the Edsel and Eleanor Ford House, highlighted Children’s Stories. The children created a fairy garden, a fairy door made of Fimo clay, and created little fairies using wooden shapes. The children read Thumbelina and engaged in discussions about the purpose of the story. A bus trip to the Edsel and Eleanor Ford house was scheduled to continue the conversations about “Things with Wings.”

Help Wanted

The Grosse Pointe Historical Society is looking for a few good people to volunteer for three very specific opportunities. None of the positions require more than 12 hours a month, but are essential for the smooth operation of the Society.

First, we need a House Manager who would coordinate the preservation and maintenance of the Provencal-Weir House.

Second, the LaBelle Country Store needs a manager who can evaluate the store and merchandise, investigate “unique” Grosse Pointe items, create a staffing schedule for Second Saturday.

Third, we would need an email coordinator who is familiar with Constant Contact. The position includes a monthly update of the email data base for Constant Contact and the posting of communications provided by the Administrator.

For any of the three positions indicate your interest with a brief statement about your qualifications in writing and send to info@gphistorical.org by Sept. 10.

From the Moran Resource Center

It began with an email from a former resident of Grosse Pointe who now lives in Portland, Oregon. Lornie McCormick Goodhart, wrote in the email that she had inherited an 1811 deed of Antoine Reneau’s farm that was signed by both James Madison and James Monroe. Lornie’s father purchased the deed at a White Elephant Sale several years ago.

Go to our website to view the deed. gphistorical.org
It was “Some Enchanted Evening”

It was a magical evening for all who attended the Summer Gala on June 18 at the former home of Nicole and Jim Rahaim.

The architectural jewel, designed and built by August Geiger for John B. Ford in 1929, proved a dramatic backdrop for the elegant evening.

Guests were invited to share the home and its restored and renovated interior spaces.

Jack McCormick and Jeanne Bourget provided music for patrons as they entered the home.

Out of doors, Scott Gwinnell and his band presented musical stylings of the 1940s and 50s.

In the garage and workshop, Richard Earl, grandson of Harley Earl, shared stories of his grandfather and talked about the vintage automobiles that were displayed in the motor court. An After Party in the motor court ended an incredible evening of food, beverage, automobiles and glamour.

Floral arrangements were created by Flowers for Any Event.

The party was catered and staged by Lakeland Banquet and Event Centre.

Photographers for Some Enchanted Evening were Robin Maghelsie and John Martin.

August Geiger used the fountain, outside the front entrance, to provide a visual and auditory transition from the bustle of the street to the tranquility of the home.

Richard Mueller, Jolo Hamo, Jane Fleckenstein, John Fleckenstein near the garden fountain.
For more than 70 years, the Grosse Pointe Historical Society has brought local history to life, through its collections, programs, activities and publications.

As a way to secure this piece of the past, The Grosse Pointe Historical Society Vice President for Development, Stuart Grigg, announced at the Summer Gala that a permanent endowment fund had been created at the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan, www.cfsem.org.

"Your generous gift to the Endowment for the Grosse Pointe Historical Society at the Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan ensures that the history of Grosse Pointe lives on in the hearts of generations to come," said Grigg.

Learn more about the new relationship between the Society and CFSEM on Tuesday, Sept. 8, when Randy Ross, associate vice president, donor relations, meets with Trustees and members at 7 p.m. at the Provencal-Weir House.

The Community Foundation is dedicated to helping nonprofit partners grow endowment assets. Endowment provides a source of ongoing support and helps ensure stability in uncertain times. An endowment also provides a place where donors can establish lasting legacies with their support.

To make a current gift to the endowment fund, simply make a check payable to:

For information about support of the Grosse Pointe Historical Society, please contact:

Stuart Grigg, vice president, development
info@gphistorical.org
The Grosse Pointe Historical Society is grateful for the donations of members and friends. Generous gifts from donors provide the financial and moral support needed to continue our mission to preserve, protect and promote the history and legacy of Grosse Pointe.

Donations:
- Richard and Jane Manoogian Foundation
- Alice Kales Hartwick Foundation
- City of Grosse Pointe Farms
- Mr. and Mrs. Alfred R. Glancy III

In Memory (Warren Wilkinson):
- Mr. John L. Booth II
- Mrs. Sally P. Cuillip
- Mr. Peter A. Demczuk
- Ms. Valerie Gach
- Mrs. Lisa Gandelot
- Ms. Kay Burt-Willson
- Mr. Stuart W. Grigg
- Mrs. Susan D. King

Gifts:
- Grosse Pointe Lawn Sprinklers, Inc.
- Hohlfeldt Technologies
- Mr. and Mrs. John Kooki
- Rose Pest Solutions
- Mr. Michael Mengden
- Mr. John Miller

The Grosse Pointe Historical Society Endowment
- At the Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan

Donations – 70th Birthday Celebration:
- Metropolitan Bakery
- Village Food Market

Gala 70th Fundraiser Event Sponsors:
- EXHIBITION SPONSOR
  Anonymous
- VALET AND TENT SPONSORS
  Henry Ford Health System - Pierson/Cottage
  American House
- AFTER-PARTY SPONSOR
  Mr. and Mrs. Mark R. Valade
- MEDIA SPONSOR
  Grosse Pointe News
- MUSIC SPONSOR
  Talmer Bank and Trust
- DESSERT FEAST SPONSOR
  Mr. and Mrs. James Nicholson
- STROLLING SUPPER SPONSORS
  Anonymous
- IN KIND SPONSORS
  Grigg Graphic Services
  John F. Martin Photography Inc.
  Lakeland Banquet & Event Center
  John McCormick
Thank You Donors

2014 Annual Appeal:

Mrs. Clayton A. Alandt
Mr. and Mrs. Paul A. Alandt
Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Allsopp
Mr. and Mrs. John R. Axe
Mrs. Jean L. Azar
Ms. Suzanne Basile
Ms. Alesia Bicknell
in honor of Dr. Frank Bicknell
Mr. and Mrs. James H. Bierbusse
Mr. and Mrs. J. Lewis Cooper, Jr.
Mrs. Ralph Cooper
Mr. and Mrs. James D. Conway
Ms. Sheila Carey Connolly
Mr. and Mrs. Gary A. Colett
Mr. and Mrs. Edward K. Christian
Mr. and Mrs. William A. Chope
Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin G. Chapman
Mr. and Mrs. Mary W. Chope
Mr. and Mrs. Edward K. Christian
Mr. and Mrs. Gary A. Colett
Ms. Sheila Carey Connolly
Mr. and Mrs. James D. Conway
Mrs. Ralph Cooper
Mr. and Mrs. J. Lewis Cooper, Jr.
Thomas and Carol Cracchiolo Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Keith Crain
Dr. and Mrs. Anthony F. De Luca in memory of Virginia Madison
Mr. and Mrs. Paul F. Decker, Jr. in honor of Lisa Gandelot
Mr. Michael M. Dixon
Mr. and Mrs. J. McGregor Dodds
Dr. and Mrs. Peter Dodenhoff
Ms. Isabelle D. Donnelly
Mrs. William L. Drennen
Ms. Christine Clark Drummond
Ms. Mary Kathryn DuCharme
Mr. and Mrs. Dale Ehresman
Mrs. Charles Endicott
Mrs. Emmajean Evans
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Farley
Mr. and Mrs. Mason Ferry
Mr. and Mrs. James E. Fisk
Mr. and Mrs. James A. Fitzgerald
Mrs. William C. Ford
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald G. Forster
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Frizell
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Fruehaufer
Mrs. William R. Fulgenzi in memory of Dr. William Fulgenzi
Mr. and Mrs. Jon B. Gandelot in memory of Olivia and Leon Mandel
in memory of Lucy Hamilton
Mrs. Max Gardner
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Gargaro
Mrs. Regina H. Gersh
Mr. and Mrs. William D. Gilbreth, Jr.
Ms. Anne Ginn
Ms. Susan Goulette
Grand Marius Que, in honor of 50th Anniversary
Mr. Stuart W. Grigg
Mr. Frederick E. Haas
Mr. and Mrs. George A. Haggarty
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Harle
Mr. and Mrs. James E. Hinkins
Mr. and Mrs. T. Denny Hoag
Mr. and Mrs. Michael D. Hollerbach
Mr. Donald P. Howard
Mr. Jay F. Hunter
Ms. Barbara Huntley
Mrs. Mary E. Jensen
Mr. and Mrs. George G. Jerome
Mr. Thomas G. Jordan
Ms. Shirley J. Kennedy
Mrs. F. John Keogh III in honor of Ruth A. Keogh
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kingston
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Kucyk
Mr. and Mrs. Richard W. Lambrecht, Jr.
Mrs. John D. Langston
Mr. Paul Lavins
Ms. Susan M. Lewandowski
Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph J. Lucin
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Lindow
Mr. Tim Lindow
Mr. and Mrs. George Mager
Mr. and Mrs. Gordon R. Maitland, Jr.
Ms. Mary L. McLeod, President
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mathews
Mr. and Mrs. John McCormick
Ms. Mary Christa McKinley in memory of John and Leatrice McKinley
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Lindow
Mr. and Mrs. George E. McLaughlin
Ms. Mary McLeod
Mr. George R. McRae, Jr.
Ms. Cheryllann L. Meyer in memory of Mrs. Martha Nyboer
Mrs. James Millies
Mr. M. J. Moran
Mr. and Mrs. William Moseley
Mr. and Mrs. James Motschall, Jr.
Mr. Herman E. Mozer
Dr. Kathleen S., and James L. Mullins
Mr. and Mrs. George A. Nicholson III
Dr. Patricia E. O’Brien in honor of Mary Stelmark
Ms. Belene Obeid
Mrs. Frederick Ollison III
Mr. and Mrs. Russell H. Peebles
Mr. and Mrs. Dale Pegg
Mr. and Mrs. C. Kenneth Perry, Jr. in honor of Lisa and Jon Gandelot
Ms. Sara J. Phillips
Mr. and Mrs. Michel Pillorge
Mr. and Mrs. Shane Reeside
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Reilly
Dr. William J. And Virginia Rice
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Riehl
Mrs. Douglas F. Roby, Jr.
Mrs. Richard D. Rohr
Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Roney
Mrs. George Roumell
Mr. Donald Wray and Ms. Arlene Rozelle - Wray
Dr. and Mrs. John Schneider
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Lee Schoenith
Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Schroeder
Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Schuetze
Dr. and Mrs. Lloyd A. Semple
Mrs. Nancy Silveri
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Singelyn, DDS in honor of Herman Mozer
Mr. and Mrs. Michael W. Skinner in honor of Dr. Tom Singelyn
Ms. Elizabeth Soby
Mr. and Mrs. Richard G. Solak
Mr. S. Gary Spicer, Sr.
Mr. and Mrs. F. Robert Steiger
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph C. Stelmark
Dr. and Mrs. Larry Stephenson
Mr. and Mrs. Terrence Stocker
Mrs. Gail Strehl Marentette in memory of Lloyd R. Marentette
Mrs. Charles C. Sullivan III
Mrs. Robert Swanson
Mr. and Mrs. Randall Tallferico
Mrs. Anton F. Tewes
Mr. and Mrs. Louis Theris
Mr. and Mrs. James Turnbull III
Mrs. Robert C. Valade
Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Van Dusen II in honor of Lisa Gandelot
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen P. Vella
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald E. Warren
Ms. Susan Wehmeier
Dr. and Mrs. B. Thomas Weyhing III
Dr. and Mrs. Fred W. Whitehouse
Mr. and Mrs. Warren S. Wilkinson
Dr. and Mrs. Francis M. Wilson
Mr. and Mrs. Peter S. Ziebich
Mr. Fred R. Zosel

1823 Society Members

Chip Borschback, Attorney At Law
chipberlaw@yahoo.com
Breckels Massage Therapy Inc.
www.breckelsmassagetherapy.com
Cathy Champion, Realtor
www.ccampion.com
Corbett Consulting
www.juliecorbett.com
Edsel & Eleanor Ford House
www.fordhouse.org
James R. Fikany Real Estate Co.
www.fikany.com
Fortuna Piano
www.fortunapiano.com
Grigg Graphic Services, Inc.
www.grigg.com
Grosse Pointe Florists, Inc.
www.grossepointeflorists.com
Grosse Pointe Rotary
www.grossepointerotary.org
Grosse Pointe War Memorial
www.warmemorial.org
Higbie Maxon Agney Agency
www.higbiemaxon.com
KM Financial
www.kmfinancialonline.com
Lakeland Manor
www.lakelandmanor.com
Ed Lazar Insurance Agency, Inc.
www.edlazarinsurance.com
Beline Obeid Realty
www.beline.com
The Little Blue Book
www.bluebooklocal.com
Pointe Magazine
www.grossepointemagazine.com
Rose Pest Solutions
www.rosepestsolutions.com
Cathy Walker, Interior Design
arkay01@aol.com
Wayne County Comm. College District
www.wcccd.edu.com
Windmill Pointe Brewing Co.
www.windmillpointebrewing.com
Second Saturday programming at the Grosse Pointe Historical Society features an expanded offering for visitors.

For the first time, the community will have access to The Alfred B. and Ruth S. Moran Resource Center during the Second Saturday Open House from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Displays will be set up and research volunteers will be available to help.

Some of the items available include: Abstracts - Plat Books - Subdivision Records; Native American Artifacts; Art Works; Building Plans - Renderings – Models; Decorative Arts; Manuscripts and Documents; Historic Maps – Atlases; Pamphlets; Periodicals; Photographs; Postcards; Oral Histories; Slides; Textiles and Videos.

Right across the street, the Provencal-Weir House is open for tours. Docents will walk visitors through the nearly 200-year-old home, highlighting the history of the families who lived there and the significance of the home to the community.

The LaBelle Country Store is open for business, offering merchandise that features Grosse Pointe.

The Second Saturday Children’s Workshops are especially designed for children in grades 2 through 6. By crafting seasonally based take-home projects, the children create beautiful objects for their homes.

Each month’s Children’s Workshop begins at 1 p.m. and ends at 3 p.m. The cost is $20 per session for GPHS members, $25 for non-members. Scheduled so far:

- **September 12**: Make a “Back to School” garland for the fireplace mantel or dining table from Fimo clay.
- **October 10**: Make a ‘no sew’ fleece pillow using special Halloween items.
- **November 14**: Create two “Turkey Votives” for the Thanksgiving table.
- **December 12**: Make angel ornament for the Christmas tree.

Workshop reservations must be made by the Thursday before each event. Call 313-884-7010 to reserve a place for the youngster in your life.