



Program Promotes Area's Arts & Culture

Looking for fun things to do close to home during the summer? Then make sure to watch Channel 19 on June 4 at 4:00 p.m. or June 12 at 6:30 p.m. as the Saginaw Arts and Enrichment Commission and Hemlock Semiconductor, along with Verdoni Productions, present **Saginaw Celebrates Summer**. Taped during the three-month summer season, this program showcases our quality of life and highlights the plentiful cultural and educational activities that are readily available in our own backyard.

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CASTLE COURIER

Newsletter of the Historical Society of Saginaw County

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JUNE 2011

Jazz on Jefferson: An Evening of Art, Music, and Classic Cars

There is no better way to kick off the summer than by bringing the whole family to *Jazz on Jefferson*.

Set for Wednesday, June 8th, participants can enjoy great music, art and food on Saginaw's Historic South Jefferson Avenue. The Saginaw High Marching Band will get the party started at 4:45 p.m.

This year's festivities will include a classic car show in front of the Castle Museum, historic home tours,



JUNE CALENDAR

- Tuesday, June 7:** **Lunch and Learn:** *From Rags to Riches: The Costilla Family Story*. Saginaw business owner Jose Costilla will discuss his family's history working in the fields and how he went on to become a successful restaurant owner. Free with Museum admission. Dessert and beverage provided. **Noon.**
- Tuesday, June 14:** **THE CASTLE CELEBRATES CULTURE:** *The History of Saginaw's Greek Orthodox Church - Saint Demetrios*. Father Irenaeus Cox and Lou Economou will share the history of Greek migration to Saginaw and the establishment of the local church. Homemade baklava will be served. Free with Museum admission. Reservations are required. Please see Story on Page 3. **Noon.**
- Thursday, June 16:** **THE CASTLE CELEBRATES CULTURE:** *The Saint Demetrios Dance Group*. Enjoy traditional Greek dancing by area youth. Homemade honey puffs will be served. Free with Museum admission. Reservations are required. Please see Story on Page 3. **Noon.**
- Tuesday, June 21:** **THE CASTLE CELEBRATES CULTURE:** *A Taste of India*. Enjoy a sampling of Indian cuisine and learn which foods are from what region of India. Free with Museum admission. Reservations are required. Please see Story on Page 3. **Noon.**
- Pages of History Book Club.** The group will discuss "Extreme Michigan Weather" by Paul Gross. This event is co-sponsored by the Public Libraries of Saginaw. Free with Museum admission. Dessert and beverage provided. **11:00 a.m.**
- Thursday, June 23:** **THE CASTLE CELEBRATES CULTURE:** *Traditional Indian Dancing featuring dancers from the Sangeetayan Institute of Dance & Music of India*. Instructor Sangeeta Kar has trained hundreds of students and she herself has performed throughout the United States. In addition to the performance, Ms. Gar also will speak about Indian dancing and its history. Dessert and beverage provided. Free with Museum admission. Reservations are required. Please see Story on Page 3. **Noon.**
- Tuesday, June 28:** **THE CASTLE CELEBRATES CULTURE:** *The Scottish Bagpipe*. Hear one of the most unusual instruments as we welcome a representative (or two) from the Midland Pipe Band who will perform at the Castle Museum. Dessert and beverage provided. Free with Museum admission. Reservations are required. Please see story on Page 3. **Noon.**
- Thursday, June 30:** **THE CASTLE CELEBRATES CULTURE:** *Celtic Music by Jean Marie Learman*. A teacher at Saginaw Arts and Sciences Academy, Ms. Learman will sing several traditional Celtic songs. Enjoy a traditional Scottish dessert while listening to an incredible voice. Free with Museum admission. Reservations are required. Please see story on Page 3. **Noon.**



free admission to the Castle Museum, strawberry shortcake, musical performers at several locations, art displays, free horse-drawn carriage rides, food vendors and much more. A free architectural walking tour will begin at the Castle Museum at 7:15 p.m. At 8:00 p.m. the Robert Lee Revue will give a free performance at First Congregational Church. *Jazz on Jefferson* is sponsored by the Jefferson Avenue Events and Marketing Committee. It receives support by the Saginaw Arts and Enrichment Commission, Saginaw Celebrates Summer, Hemlock Semiconductor and Hausbeck Pickles and Peppers.

Museum Hours

Tuesday - Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

General Admission

Adults \$1.00
Children .50¢
Members FREE

The Historical Society of Saginaw County is committed to serving the community by telling the continuing story of the people of the Saginaw region through exploration, preservation and presentation of their historical and cultural heritage.

When the expanded and remodeled post office was dedicated, six custom made electric fixtures graced the main lobby. Less than twenty years later, on October 9, 1956, a Saginaw News headline reported that the Saginaw post office was to receive a "Real Face Lifting." The article noted that "new fluorescent lights will replace the inadequate hanging light fixtures." The postmaster was uncertain if "anything would be done with the lobby's dark wood paneled ceiling."

While we are fortunate that the ceiling remained untouched, the "new fluorescent" fixtures have been a less than welcome addition for more than half a century. Thanks to a recent donation, we are one step closer to correcting this alteration.

In the picture at right, Dr. Bill Scharffe, a HSSC Board Member, displays the light fixture that was donated to the Historical Society by the Gerald Vasold family, owners of Aaron's Flowers Designs and Consulting in Freeland.

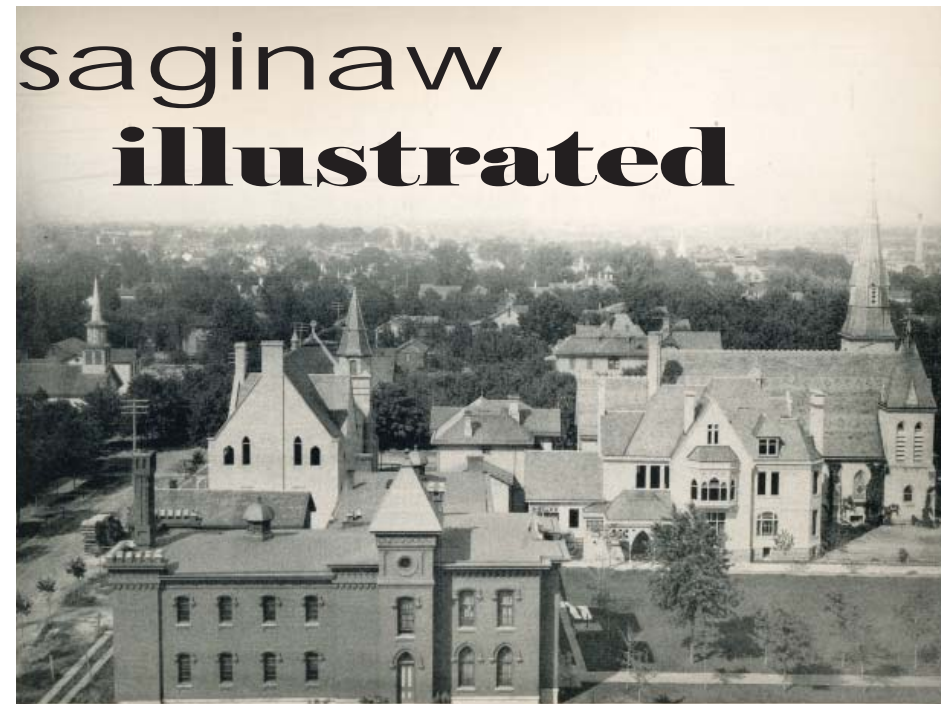
The Museum would like to find all of the original lights with the goal of restoring them to the lobby. If you know where one is, please contact Ken Santa at 752-2861, Ext. 301. Thank you Dr. Scharffe for your efforts on this project. Our thanks to the Vasold family for its generosity and support of the Historical Society.



The Artifact

1888 Saginaw Focus of New Exhibit

saginaw illustrated



BIRDSEYE FROM COURT HOUSE, LOOKING NORTH EAST. SAGINAW CITY.

The photograph above is from the book, *Saginaw Illustrated*. Images from the book are highlighted in a new exhibit opening Wednesday, June 8th.

The book "Saginaw Illustrated" was published in 1888 and features a series of photographs that form a unique document of the cities of East Saginaw and Saginaw City. Published a year before the two communities were consolidated, it captures them basking in the glow of wealth generated through lumbering.

The publication features images of tree-lined streets, wharfs piled with lumber and thriving businesses.

The photo at left, which is identified as "Birdseye from Court House Looking Northeast, Saginaw City" was taken from the clock tower of the Saginaw County Courthouse. Visible from left to right are: The Saginaw County Jail, Saint John's Episcopal Church and the parish's new rectory – still waiting for windows to be installed, and the Town Commons.

A year later, an 1889 Saginaw Evening News article described this location: "There is not in the Saginaw Valley such a splendid sight to be seen as is presented

The Artifact (Continued on Page 3)

The Castle Celebrates Culture

Don't let high gas prices keep you from traveling around the world. Just come to the Castle Museum on most Tuesdays and Thursdays this summer and you will be transported to another culture.

The programs, which all begin at Noon, are for all ages. All of the events are free with Museum admission. Pre-registration is required to ensure we have enough supplies. A registration form will be on the Castle's website (www.castlemuseum.org) by June 1st, or you can call Ruth Mancina at 752-2861, Ext. 315. You can also email her at rmancina@castlemuseum.org

In June we will visit Greece, India and Scotland as we celebrate those cultures with traditional music and dancing. Please see the back of this newsletter for a complete list of events.

In July our culture celebrations will include an ice cream social and old-fashioned American games, a lecture about Saginaw and its involvement in the Revolutionary War, and a demonstration on how to create Wycinanki. Wycinanki (vee-chee-nan-kee) is a Polish version of the art form of papercutting.



A big thank you to Saginaw Celebrates Summer and Hemlock Semiconductor for its support of this program.



Sangeeta Kar, one of this summer's Cultural Celebration presenters.

Memorials

A Memorial Gift has been made by *Marilyn Dust* in memory of **Richard Sullivan**

A Gift has been made by *Margaret Clark* in honor of **the 80th Birthdays of John and Joan Bintz**

A Memorial Gift has been made by *John and Martha Mahar* in memory of **Beverly Brethauer**

The Artifact (Continued from Page 2)

to the pedestrian who chances to stroll in the corner of Court and Washington [Washington became Michigan Avenue in 1889] streets in Saginaw City. The magnificent court house, the somber [sic] jail, the four stately churches in the immediate vicinity and the wide paved street, the stone walks and the spacious lawns combine to make the sight a striking one indicative of the wealth and taste of a progressive people."

This summer's exhibit, "Saginaw Illustrated: A Portrait of Saginaw in 1888," will transport visitors back in time. The exhibit features 12 images from the book which was published in 1888 by the International Publishing Company. These lush illustrations provide a rare window into the yet-to-be consolidated cities.

Also on display will be objects from our collection related to the buildings depicted in the images including a window from the Flint Pere Marquette Depot [Potter Street Depot] and a chair from the Academy of Music.

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