

REGISTER NOW FOR FOREST LAWN TOUR

This is a new version of our popular Forest Lawn Cemetery Tour. Forest Lawn Cemetery was developed in 1881 when Brady Hill Cemetery was nearing capacity. Presented jointly with the Local History and Genealogy Collection at Hoyt Library, this tour will explore the development of the cemetery and its buildings and will focus on the stories of several of the people buried in Forest Lawn.

Pre-registration is required. The tour is free for Castle Museum Members and Friends of the Public Library Members and \$10.00 per person for non-members. To register, please contact Tom Trombley at 989-752-2861 ext. 304 or by email at ttrombley@castlemuseum.org

Held rain or shine. The tour begins at 1:30 p.m. at the cemetery. It requires a substantial amount of walking and there are no restroom facilities available at the cemetery.

Non-Profit
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 70
Saginaw, MI

CASTLE COURIER
 Newsletter of the Historical Society of Saginaw County
 500 Federal Avenue
 Saginaw, MI 48607
 (989) 752-2861
www.castlemuseum.org


OCTOBER 2011



Paleo Joe Brings Fossils from the Michigan Basin to the Castle

Exhibit to Feature Real Dinosaur Bones

The Castle Museum presents
Paleo Joe's
FOSSILS OF THE GREAT LAKES BASIN!
 including his dinosaur prep lab



November 2011

Did you know that Michigan was once the bottom of a saltwater tropical sea?

Fossils of the Great Lakes Basin, a new exhibit by Paleo Joe, showcases the animals that once inhabited these ancient seas 350 million years ago.

The exhibit opens Sunday, November 6th to Historical Society members who are invited to the Museum to see this fascinating display. While you're here, enjoy a delicious brunch of pancakes, scrambled eggs and sausages during our Member Open House from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Paleo Joe will be here during the Brunch. For more information about the Open House turn to Page 2.

Additional components highlight the cities of Jackson, which has numerous exposures of Marshall sandstone containing carboniferous deposits of cephalopods and clams as well as St. Charles with its deposits of carboniferous ferns and plants.

In addition, you won't want to miss seeing Paleo Joe's *Dinosaur Prep Lab*. Paleo Joe will be here working in his lab on various dates throughout the duration of the exhibit, which closes Wednesday, January 25, 2012. Paleo Joe's appearance dates at the Castle Museum will be highlighted in the November newsletter and will be posted on the Museum website. His first appearance is set for Thursday, November 10th.

This is a wonderful exhibit for the entire family. Any teacher interested in bringing a class to the Museum should contact Education Coordinator Sheila Hempsted at 752-2861, Ext. 311 or by email: shempsted@castlemuseum.org

OCTOBER CALENDAR

- Tuesday, Oct. 4:** **LUNCH AND LEARN:** Freelance writer Sue White will relate the history of the Flying Melzoras, one of Saginaw's most famous circus families. Free with Museum admission. Dessert & beverage provided. **Noon.**
- Thursday, Oct. 6:** **MEETING:** Saginaw Valley Chapter of the Michigan Archaeological Society. **7:30 p.m.**
- Tuesday, Oct. 11:** **LUNCH AND LEARN:** Local Author Roberta Morey will discuss her latest book, "Saginaw" which focuses on the people of Saginaw. Free with Museum admission. Dessert & beverage provided. **Noon.**
- Sunday, Oct. 16:** **FOREST LAWN CEMETERY TOUR** - New version of this popular historical walking tour. Please see related story above. **1:30 p.m.**
- Tuesday, Oct. 18:** **PAGES OF HISTORY BOOK CLUB:** The group will discuss "Ghosts of Bay City, Saginaw, & Midland" by Lisa Hoskins. This event is co-sponsored by the Public Libraries of Saginaw. Free with Museum admission. Dessert and beverage provided. **Noon.**
- Tues., Oct. 25:** **LUNCH AND LEARN:** Educator John Cuthbertson has written a book called The Mighty Rifle River. He will be here to share his story. Free with Museum admission. Dessert and beverage provided. **Noon.**

Museum Hours	General Admission	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.
Tuesday - Saturday	Adults \$1.00	
Sunday	Children .50¢	
	Members FREE	

Pancakes on Tap for Membership Brunch Event Will Feature New Fossil Display



Thank you for being a member of the Historical Society of Saginaw County. Your support is critical to our success. 2011 is shaping up to be another great year at the Museum and the staff is hard at work planning new exhibits and programs for 2012.

On **Sunday, November 6th**, you are cordially invited to stop by the Castle anytime between **11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** to enjoy a **free** brunch of pancakes, sausages and scrambled eggs.

We also will be giving members a sneak peek of our newest exhibit, *Fossils of the Great Lakes Basin and Dinosaur Prep Lab*. Curator Paleo Joe will be here to give tours of the exhibits, so make plans to stop by that day.

Anyone who renews his or her membership on or before November 6th will be entered in a prize drawing. Hope to see you then!

Coal in the Saginaw Valley is Subject of Newest Exhibit

It was "A New Morn" proclaimed the 1898 booklet *The Coal Fields of Saginaw, Michigan*. Coal deposits had been discovered in the Saginaw Valley in 1859; however, it was not until the demise of the lumber industry that efforts were made to mine it. The Verne, the first Saginaw County mine, opened in 1894. Coal Mining in the Saginaw Valley is a new exhibit at the Castle Museum opening October 7th, 2011.

More mines would be dug in Saginaw County than any other county in Michigan. At its peak, more than a million tons of coal would be extracted from deep underground. However, it would be a boom with a short life. In the early teens production was starting to slow and in 1918 it was noted that the industry was surviving on the strength of the local market and "that Saginaw coal lands have only slight value over and above their value for agricultural purposes."

Although the last mine would not close until 1952, by the early 1930s the boom was over.



The Artifact

A New England Queen Sewing Machine

While not made in Saginaw, this sewing machine has clear ties to Saginaw's famed Morley Brothers hardware store. An almost identical machine is listed in its 1910 catalogue. The description proclaims that "There is nothing in the line of family sewing that the New England Queen will not take care of promptly, satisfactorily and with efficiency." Its price is listed as \$37.00.



While the catalogue entry was clear to state that the machine was modern, it described the elegant quarter-sawn oak case as being Colonial in design. Of course for the Museum, the best part of the machine is the name Morley Brothers, which is cast in the sides of the base.

New England Queen is a nameplate that is attributed to A.G. Mason Company. They manufactured identical machines for other retailers.

The New England Queen sewing machine was donated by Edward B. "Ted" Morley, Jr. Although retailed by his family's hardware store, he purchased it used and later donated it to the Museum.

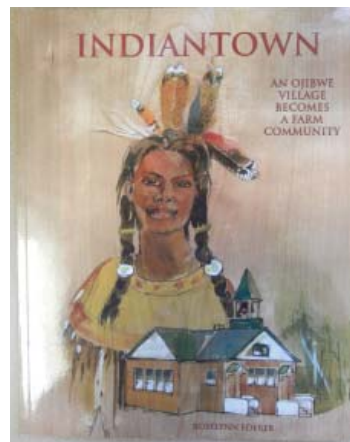
Memorials/Gifts

A Memorial Gift to the Castle Museum
has been made by
Mary Johnson
in memory of
Samuel Collier
&
Doris Monsees Robinson

A Memorial Gift to the Castle Museum
has been made by
Margaret Clark
in memory of
Robert Ruhlig

A Gift to the Castle Museum
has been made by
Bob & Tish Stroebel
in memory of
Henry Marsh & Lloyd Fairbanks

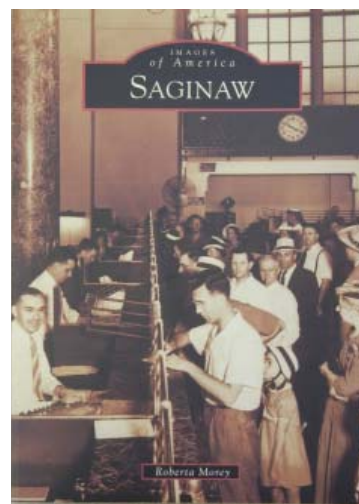
A Gift to the Castle Museum
has been made by
The Iaderosa Family
&
Cynthia Stroebel
in honor of
Robert Stroebel



New Books on Local History Make Great Holiday Gifts

It's hard to believe that Christmas is only a few months away. Why not get a jump start on your holiday shopping and stop

by the Museum Store? We have several new books for sale, including one by Roselynn Ederer on Indiantown and another by Roberta Morey focusing on the people of Saginaw. In addition to our wonderful book selections, our Store features many unique gift items that cannot be found anywhere else, including Saginaw merchandise such as teddy bears, jewelry, ornaments and magnets.



HSSC Board of Directors & Staff

Chairperson
Vice Chairperson
Treasurer
Secretary
Executive Committee

David M. Hall
Michael Emmenecker
Sarah Jury
William Crane
Robert Stroebel
Ken Willman

Directors-At-Large
Fred L. Borchard
Gerald Enszer
Larry Rodarte
Robert Thaler
Jonathan Webb

Margaret E. Clark
Anne Marks-Gaertner
Dr. William Scharffe
Larry Toft

Staff: Ken Santa, Tom Trombley, Sherri Greene, Sandy Schwan, Jeff Cottrell, Geoff Pelkey, Jeff Sommer, Ruth Mancina, Sheila Hempsted, Barb Dewey, Dick Henning, Herman Rindhage, Morgan Robinson and Gene Ayotte