

THE LINCOLN PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

NEWSLETTER

Established 1955

November, December 2015, January 2016

Hours: 1:00pm-6:00pm, Wednesday & Saturday

1335 Southfield Rd, Lincoln Park, MI 48146

313-386-3137

lpmuseum@gmail.com

www.lphistorical.org

November 7th ~ 90th Anniversary Event

Two classic silent films from 1925 will be shown to the public to help the City of Lincoln Park celebrate its 90th anniversary. On Saturday, November 7, the Historical Society and the Lincoln Park Public Schools join together to present an afternoon of recognitions and honors at the Lincoln Park High School Auditorium. The event will begin at 1:00 p.m. with the showing of Charlie Chaplin's comedy masterpiece, "The Gold Rush". (90 minutes).

The ceremony attended by civic leaders, led by **Mayor Tom Karnes**, will feature recognition of those Lincoln Parkers who are sharing their 90th year with the city. The Historical Society will bestow two "Legends of Lincoln Park" honors: to the **LP Exchange Club**, which celebrates its 90th anniversary also this year; and to the **Mixer family law practice**, which began in 1925 when young attorney Frank Mixer moved from Detroit to Lincoln Park with his family. The elder Mixer and son Kenneth Mixer both practiced law in the community, and both men served as city attorneys during their distinguished careers.

Following the ceremony, the afternoon will close with a showing of the classic horror film "The Phantom of the Opera" starring Lon Chaney. (90 minutes) Both silent films will be shown with musical scores written for the film.

The auditorium doors will open at 12:30pm, accessible from the west side parking lot. Those with special needs may access the building from the main entrance circle drive. The school is located at 1701 Champaign Rd.

[The Historical Museum will be closed on the 7th.]



"Adventures in Genealogy" on Nov. 4th

LP Historical Commission secretary **Sherry Huntington**, who also serves as President of the Downriver Genealogical Society, will be giving a program on genealogy for our November meeting, Wednesday November 4th at 7:00 P.M. Sherry will speak on how to conduct research as well as share stories from her personal family searches. Genealogy forms will also be available.

Heritage Plaza and School Bricks

Following the recent Heritage Plaza dedication in September of the engraved bricks for each of the public schools in LP, the Historical Society Board voted to purchase two new bricks, for the Cleophus Goodell School and the Frederick Strowig School, the two earliest schools in Lincoln Park. Both had started out as one room schools in the 1800s. A brick structure replaced the old wooden Strowig School in 1921, at the corner of Fort Street and Pepper Road (now Outer Drive) only to be razed 5 years later with the widening of Fort Street. The Goodell School's brick structure was built in 1918, and after educating several generations of LP children - and adding a couple of wings - was finally taken down in 1976. The original school bell from Goodell is housed today on the grounds of the historical museum (thanks to the quick thinking of school board member Charlie Higgins).



VETERANS DAY

The Annual Veterans Day Commemoration and bell ringing ceremony will be held on Wednesday, November 11 at 11:00 am on the grounds of the museum, with a reception following indoors. All veterans and families are invited to attend.

IN MEMORIAM



Mary (Opincar) Muresan Sept 24, 2015
Frank Nagy Oct 16, 2015

The Historical Society will hang another crystal dove on the holiday memorial tree this year in memory of both of these Life Members and dear friends of many years.

Join us for the Annual
Holiday Open House on
Sunday, December 13th
From 2:00pm to 5:00pm



The Historical Museum will be CLOSED for the month of January, re-opening to the public on Wednesday, February 3rd, with our regular hours of 1pm-6pm, Wednesday and Saturday.

CALENDAR of EVENTS

Wednesday, November 4, 7:00 PM
Meeting & Program Topic: **“Adventures in Genealogy”** with Sherry Huntington, President of the Downriver Genealogical Society

Saturday, November 7, 1:00 PM, City of LP 90th Anniversary Ceremony & Silent Films, Lincoln Park High School Auditorium: honoring those 90 year old residents and our “Legends of Lincoln Park” honorees. (see front page article).

Wednesday, November 11 at 11:00AM
Veterans Day commemoration and bell-ringing ceremony, on museum grounds; indoor reception.

Wednesday, November 18 & Saturday November 21
– **HOLIDAY DECORATING** of museum; **Volunteers needed!** Call for times if you can lend a helping hand, 313-386-3137

Saturday, December 5, 5:30 PM L.P./D.D.A.
Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony, with refreshments following inside the Historical Museum

Sunday, December 13, 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM,
Historical Society’s ANNUAL HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE with refreshments & festive music.

Friday, December 31, 11:45 P.M. **Lincoln Park’s first annual “Lincoln Penny Drop”** (‘ala New York’s Times Square’) sponsored by City Councilman Chris Dardzinski will be held on the museum grounds just before midnight with refreshments following indoors--check local media for info upcoming.

Membership renewals are due

Historical Society Members: If you haven’t yet renewed your membership for 2016, please remit your payment now. Annual membership dues are still: \$5 for students; \$10 for individual; \$15 for a couple; \$25 for patrons; or \$200 for a single payment Life Membership. For information on Life Memberships, please contact us at 313-386-3137. Thank you for remembering us.

Street Clock Update II

The Verdin Clock Company sent a service representative on October 9; it was discovered that an integral part of the mechanism – the gears and bearings – needs to be serviced or, if needed, replaced. We are waiting to hear on their evaluation and expect to have it in working order before too long. Wouldn’t it be nice to have the clock back in service by Christmas? Let’s hope.

HELP!

Our antique buck board bench on the back porch (shown below) needs some “TLC”, restoration work – if you or someone you may know can help with this, please contact us. 313-386-3137. The bench has been very useful over the years but time and elements have done their work. Thank you.



Lincoln Park Historical Society Board 2015-16

President	Dolores Walker
Vice President	(vacant)
Secretary	Grace Wangbickler
Treasurer	Jim Nelson
Membership Chair	Alyce Riggs
Trustee	Muriel Lobb
Trustee	Mary Meyer
Trustee	Bea Partridge

The Newsletter is published quarterly. To be added to our emailing list and receive a color version of the newsletter and up to date notifications - and to help us save on postage costs – please send email to lpmuseum@gmail.com.

Museum Curator: Jeff Day



Opincar children: George, Elizabeth, Anne and Mary at the family home on Chestnut St in Detroit in 1925. John and Elizabeth Opincar moved the family to LP and opened a grocers in 1927, located at 734 (State Street)Southfield Rd, where they lived above the store. The store remained in business, run by three generations of Opincars, until 1993. [from museum archives]

“The Spirit of Lafayette”

Mary Opincar Muresan taught in the LP School system for nearly 40 years. What some folks know - and everyone should know - is that during the second world war, as a young teacher, Mary’s class at Lafayette School made headlines. At her suggestion, the class of students sold War Bonds to purchase a “Flying Jeep” (L5) for the war effort. Enthusiastically taking on the project, the students raised over 5,000 dollars – the cost of one plane – in just three days! *“The children, going from door to door in Lincoln Park, raised not only their quota for one plane, but sold enough War Bonds to buy three.” -Detroit News March 19, 1944*

In presenting the plane to the Army Air Forces on March 17, 1944, first grade student **Robert Piazza**, 6 years old, said, *“Major [Gordon C.] Curtis, the sight of an airplane always thrills us children, but shortly when our own L5 soars above us it will thrill us more than any other plane we have ever seen. We, the boys and girls of Lafayette School, present the “Spirit of Lafayette” to the United States Army in hopes that in our little way we are bringing our brothers and fathers closer to home.”*

Meet.... Kevin Kapalla, one of our newer volunteers at the museum this past year. Kevin proved particularly valuable with preparations for the MC5 50 year Exhibit and related events, including managing the social media for that event. Kevin is a native of Lincoln Park and graduate of Lincoln Park High School. He graduated Cum Laude from the University of Michigan – Dearborn studying Psychology and Sociology. He is currently pursuing a Master of Library and Information Science degree at Wayne State University. His plan is to specialize in Archives while at WSU, as well as becoming a member of the Society of American Archivists and the National Digital Stewardship Alliance. In addition to his work here, Kevin volunteers with the Detroit Sound Conservancy. He is passionate about preservation and music with a personal interest in digital and physical format devices and media.

In his free time, Kevin is a recording artist for the Paris-based record label “zero = petit interieur”. He is happy to be working with the Lincoln Park Historical Museum and looks forward to new challenges ahead. *We’re very happy to have you with us, Kevin!*



Kevin Kapalla, shown here in the permanent MC5 exhibit room (former postmaster’s office), wearing the T shirt created for the MC-50th Exhibit – the shirt is available exclusively at the Museum.

Our need for volunteers is a continuous one; there is a wide range of opportunities available. We’d love to hear from those who might have a couple of hours a week to contribute.

Holiday Shopping – MC5 and More!

Volunteer **Lucille Stroh** has been updating the museum gift shop with new jewelry pieces. With the holiday approaching, stop by and take a look at. The gift shop also features items from the MC5 50 Year exhibit – including MC-50thT-shirts (reduced in price to \$20) as well as posters, post cards and pins; we also have MC5 concert posters designed by artists Gary Grimshaw and Carl Lundgren, and classic band photos taken by photographers Emil Bacilla and Leni Sinclair. These could make your favorite MC5 fan very happy at the holiday.

Lincoln Park Historical Society
1335 Southfield Rd
Lincoln Park, MI 48146

Your name here

City of LP 90th Anniversary Celebration Saturday November 7, 2015 1:00 P.M.
Lincoln Park High School Auditorium 1701 Champaign Rd

Two Classic Silent Film showings (from 1925) & Ceremony for the city's 90th Anniversary

