

Time Lines



October 2022 Edition

HEAVY LIFTING SOMETIMES REQUIRED



As the weather has cooled off, numerous outdoor projects are taking center stage at the Museum. You may have driven past in early September to see the columns of the Taylor House appearing to dangle in the wind, but fear not — the staff has it under control!

In all seriousness, the exterior repair work on the Taylor House is moving along. Besides the front porch repairs, some of the window hood trim and soffits are being replaced and repairs are being made to sills and porch posts. Once the

work is complete, the house will get a new coat of paint which has already commenced with the painting of the summer kitchen over the summer. Preserving one of the oldest homes in Sheboygan takes a team effort; we are proud to be working with Sheboygan County and A. Chappa Construction on this project. We all value the history of the David Taylor House and we look forward to the completed project. We believe Mr. Taylor would be proud.



Our mission ... to collect, preserve, and educate about the history of Sheboygan County.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Hi There,

One of the hardest things to do is say goodbye, and we have been saying it a lot lately. As most of you know, the staff at the museum is more than co-workers, we have become like family. We know each other's pleasures and displeasures. We know each other's families, including pets. We always care about the well-being of each other and our loved ones. We have watched children grow and grieved the loss of loved ones. So when the time comes for members of the staff to move forward with their lives we are both sad and happy.

I first met Angie in 2010 when I began volunteering in the education programs. She had been on the job about two years at that point but it seemed to me she had been involved longer than that. Her professionalism and care for the programs were a large reason I continued to volunteer. She always made sure the students and teachers were welcome and prepared for their day at the museum, greeting them with a warm smile and friendly hello. She continuously made improvements to our programs, with the updated Indigenous Peoples program a great example of her abilities. We are sad to say goodbye, but we are happy for her as she now gets to share more time with her husband and sons.

Chloe walked in the front door one morning four years ago inquiring about any open positions. Sometimes timing is everything. The Program Coordinator position was open at that time and after reading her resume and having an interview I believed she would fit right in. She did. Her skills and professionalism showed immediately. She jumped in fully supporting the new programs we were offering as well as developing her own. Movie Nights will not be the same. Her attention to detail made our programming top-notch and also made it easy for our volunteers and guests to feel welcome. We are sad to say goodbye, but we are happy for her as she now focuses on her new family.

Lori was with for a short amount of time, but she blended in immediately. I will miss those early morning conversations that usually included a fair amount of laughter and stories about working in restaurants. Her attention to detail kept the museum and historic buildings looking stellar. We are sad to say goodbye, but we are happy for her as she returns to her roots in western Wisconsin.

Earlier this summer we said goodbye to Susan, our Office Administrator. She really moved things forward in her year with us, but she longed for the western mountains. When the opportunity presented itself, she moved her life forward. Many of her ideas will remain for a long time, including the upgrades to our webpage. We were sad to say goodbye, but we are happy for her as she returns to the art world and the Rocky Mountains.

History never really says goodbye. History says, 'See you later.' - Eduardo Galeano

Travis

MORE BEST WISHES!!

As many have heard, there have been a number of staff departures over the last several months. Lori, our Museum Custodian, who joined us earlier this year, has



returned to Western Wisconsin. Both Angie, who has been the Education Program Developer at the Museum since Fall 2008, and Chloe, who joined the Museum in 2019 as Programming Coordinator, are still in the area, but have stepped away to focus more on family.

We are thankful to all of them for their time and work here at the Museum! We look forward to adding a few more smiling, familiar faces to our volunteer corps as well.

Stay tuned over the next few months as we introduce the newest members of the Museum team!



BACK TO SCHOOL — AT THE MUSEUM



Just like that summer is over and it's suddenly that time of year again around the museum! The staff and volunteers are anxiously awaiting the return of area students for the Education Programs. So far this fall we are expecting around 250 students to join us for fun-filled days of learning before the Christmas elves take over for the holidays. The fall semester will focus on two of the four programs offered. Students will be joining us for *Journey to Sheboygan County*

and *Historic Jobs of Sheboygan County*.

One of the highlights that the Education staff is looking most forward to this year is the launch of a new-and-improved *First Peoples of Wisconsin* program. After much consideration and talks with some of Wisconsin's First Nations, it was decided that the program could use some much needed updating to better tell the story of the indigenous people of Wisconsin and Sheboygan County. This summer, the final touches were put into place and area fourth graders will have lots of fun and exciting experiences waiting for them when they arrive. The staff also hopes that the changes will not only be exciting and fun for the students, but for the teachers as well!



WELCOME TO THE MUSEUM!

We are thrilled to welcome Matthew Bayens as the Education Program Coordinator and Tom Wiegand as our new Custodian!

I am excited to start this next chapter in my career as part of the Sheboygan County Museum and Historical Society. I have been involved with education for over 30 years in the Sheboygan area, teaching all subjects, with my passion being in history and social studies. Recently retired from Kohler Middle School, I have been involved with the National History Day program for the past 17 years as a teacher, mentor and judge at all levels. I continue to coach basketball at Kohler high school and play drums with several local groups. My wife Mary and I have 2 grown children, Hannah and Fletcher.

We also are animal lovers with two dogs and two new kittens. I love to travel, and go on new adventures as well reading and golfing in my spare time. Being a Christmas nut, I'm also excited to be part of Holiday Memories here at the Museum. Looking forward to meeting many new faces and working with the incredible staff. ~ Matt



Though I was born in Plymouth, Sheboygan has always been my home base. Both sides of my family lived here and we eventually moved to Sheboygan, where I graduated from Sheboygan South. My first job was right next door at Sunny Ridge, where I met my wife of 47 years, Linda. We have three children, Lindsay, Kasey and Jared, along with three grandchildren. I spent much of my career at Kohler Company, along with working at several local grocery stores in the meat department. When I "retired" in 2018, I began volunteering at Meals on Wheels and with the Museum's Full Day Student Education programs. I also moonlight as everyone's favorite magical evergreen tree, Bruce the Spruce! The opportunity to become the Custodian was perfect for me, as I love history and Sheboygan, and am excited to be an even bigger part of the Museum family!



COLLECTIONS SPOTLIGHT

Our September 2022 “What’s Old is New!” Collection Spotlight takes us back to the 19th century, a time when women were encouraged to become competent in a variety of fine handicrafts and not just practical items. Many are still common today, such as embroidery and knitting, but one such handicraft that was highly popular has become an obscure curiosity since falling out of favor in the early 1900’s.

Hair work was used to create objects, such as jewelry, through the intricate braiding and manipulation of human hair. The most impressive example is the hair wreath, an art piece that is an arch of hair with intricate recreations of flowers and leaves. The size of these creations means they typically contain the hair of multiple people. The purposes of these wreaths were numerous. Some served as memorials with hair gathered from a group, church, school, or family, and were a symbolic representation of their connection. Others were simply meant to be works of art, hung on the wall to be appreciated.



The Taylor House has multiple hair wreaths on display. The wreath downstairs is unique as it is not framed and allowed us to get a closer look at the details and construction during the IMLS Inventory project. The view from the back of the wreath shows how the structure of the wreath is created by the tight bundling of hair, likely around a wire or horsehair for support. The flowers and leaves were created with multiple hair colors and accented with beads and even metal springs. Donated by Mrs. John Nelson in 1956, this wreath is a great example of the patient skill required to make such art.

This wreath is 13 inches long and 11 inches wide and is noticeably heavy. Gathering the amount of hair needed for such an endeavor would be challenging. While hair could be patiently saved from brushing and haircuts, it was also possible to purchase hair from suppliers. It is estimated that in 1859, 200,000 pounds of hair was imported to the United States from Europe. While we cannot confirm how the hair in this particular wreath was acquired or the purpose it once served, it is undeniable that the skill, dedication, and thoughtfulness put into it by its creator was significant, much like pieces made today.

DON'T MISS OUT!

If you haven't stopped by, there are only a few more weeks left to see our temporary exhibit *Say It-We Made It: A Century of Buy Local!* The exhibit features an example of just about everything needed to outfit a home, finish chores, and serve a delicious meal — all with Sheboygan



County roots, while exploring the ways Buy Local has changed over the generations!

This great walk through some of Sheboygan County's best known local products will only be on display thru October 22!

It's that time of year—

Fall back and renew your membership!



Renewal information will be arriving in mid-October. Remember, memberships run from January 1—December 31.

As we look toward our 100th Anniversary and the next century of “collect, preserve, and educate” we thank everyone for their support. Memberships are vital revenue source that allows us to continue telling the story of Sheboygan County.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL HISTORY HILL MUSIC FEST

As the weather this year went from warm to cool throughout the day, the entertainment stayed hot. We started the day with the cool, jazzy sounds of d'Fusion. Next was Doc Mock sharing his renditions of traditional Americana tunes and we concluded the day with Jim Ohlschmidt and his chill sound. Although the crowd thinned due to the temperature decline, we still were able to enjoy the day with a few hundred people. We had guests from the Fox Cities, Racine and Madison joining us to "chill on the hill." The sandwiches and drinks were top-notch and kept our guests fueled for the day. The old timey games were enjoyed by not only the kids but adults as well. We would like to thank Legend Larry's for their long running support for the music fest.



COMING SOON!!

The Elves are back in town!

The Elves of SantaLand are back with a North Pole Extravaganza for *Holiday Memories 2022!*

Many of the holiday favorites are back in full force this year, including *Holiday Memories Happy Hour— Behind the Scenes* (Nov 22), *Children's Craft Night* (Monday evenings), *Storytime with Santa & Mead Public Library* (Wednesday afternoons), and *Christmas at the Taylor House* (Dec 15).



The weekends will bring much of our regular entertainment including the O-Gauge Model Railroaders Display opening weekend, along with live holiday music on select Saturdays and Sundays during December! Of course the big man himself will be stopping by for chats, Monday & Tuesday, 3:30—7:00 p.m., Wednesday, 4:00—5:00 p.m. and weekends, Noon—5 p.m.

Remember, membership has it's perks! A free **Members Reception** will be held on Sunday, November 22 from 3 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. There will also be extended **MEMBERS ONLY HOURS** on Saturday, December 17 from 10 a.m. to Noon.

Behind the Scenes Work Day

Bring your curiosity and questions as the IMLS Collection Inventory moves into Loft Storage, home to the Prange's mechanical animation collection, Sheboygan County made furniture, and Garton Toy artifacts. A sneak peak of the Holiday Memories display might even be in store!

Stop by anytime from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on October 8, or plan to be there for Collections Assistant Becca's mini-presentations sharing the good, the bad, and the wrangling so far at 11 a.m. or 1:30 p.m.



2023 Celebrating 100 Years!

100 Years is something to celebrate and we are kicking off the festivities by combining two VERY popular programs from the Museum's past! Mark your calendars now for **February 18th, 2023** as we revisit the *History Fair at Memorial Mall* and *Third Saturdays with Collectors & Collections!* Plan to spend the day to experience some great local collections, check out some of the Museum's collection areas, and celebrate the opening of our 100th Anniversary exhibit. More 100th programming news coming soon!

Sheboygan County Historical Society & Museum

3110 Erie Avenue
Sheboygan, WI 53081
(920) 458-1103
sheboyganmuseum.org

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Mark Your Calendars!



Museum Hours

Feb 1 thru Oct 31

Monday–Friday,
10 a.m.—5 p.m.
Saturday, 10 a.m.—3 p.m.

Closed New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day,
Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day,
and New Year's Eve.

Admission

- Members – Free
- Adult (18 – 61) – \$9
- Seniors (62+), Active Military – \$7
- Youth (6-17) \$5
- Child (5-) Free

Memberships and other financial contributions support our mission, “to collect, preserve, and educate about the history of Sheboygan County.” Memberships support preservation, educational programs, maintenance, exhibits, events, and other necessary expenses.

Holiday Memories (Nov 25-Dec 30, 2022)

Monday–Tuesday,
Noon—7 p.m.
Wednesday–Sunday,
Noon—5 p.m.

Say It, We Made It: A Century of Buy Local, Feature Exhibit, Now thru October 22

Behind the Scenes Work Day, IMLS Inspire Grant, October 8, 10:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.

Members Preview Party, *Holiday Memories 2022*, November 20, 3 p.m.—5:30 p.m.

Holiday Memories Happy Hour, November 22, 4:30—6:30 p.m.

Holiday Memories 2022: A North Pole Extravaganza, Feature Exhibit, November 25—December 30

Children’s Craft Night, November 28, December 5, 12, 19, 5 p.m.—6 p.m. or 6 p.m.—7 p.m.

Storytime with Santa & Mead Public Library, November 30, December 7, 14, 21, 3:30 p.m.

Christmas at the Taylor House, December 15, 5:30—7:30 p.m.

MUSEUM STAFF

Travis Gross, *Executive Director*; Matthew Bayens; Nathan Chisholm; Tamara Lange;
Dale Robson; Becca Schnabel; Tom Wiegand; Rick Wojnarowicz