

# THE STRAIGHT FARMHOUSE CRIER

SEPTEMBER 2017



## *In this issue:*

Intern	2
Romainian Quartet	3
Holiday Exhibit	4
Flea Markets	5
DDA Chili Cook-Off	7
SFH Rocks!	8

Visit us online at:  
[WWW.SFHONLINE.ORG](http://WWW.SFHONLINE.ORG)

The Garden City Historical Museum is offering a unique opportunity to make your mark in your City's history by purchasing an engraved brick paver in the Memorial Walkway (which now connects the City sidewalk in the front to the parking lot in the back of the Straight Farmhouse. Visit [www.sfhonline.org](http://www.sfhonline.org) for more information and to download a brick form.

If you would like to submit articles or announcements for consideration in the *Farmhouse Crier* please submit them via email to: [Straight.farmhouse@yahoo.com](mailto:Straight.farmhouse@yahoo.com)

## 6th Annual 2017 Skeletons on Review



The 2017 Skeletons on Review will run October 1st– 30th, 2017 during regular museum hours (noon-3pm Wed. & Sat.).

As in previous years, this is a family friendly event.

While it's true, our skeletons are afraid of the dark, they have agreed to open for four evenings this year.

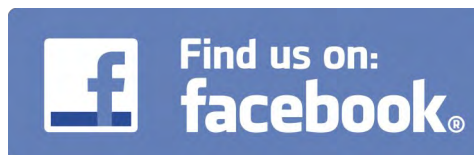
So...

Back by popular demand-**Evenings with the Skeletons!**  
Evenings we will be open- October 27, 28, 29, and 30 from 6:30p.m.-8pm.

No reservations required and this event is free to the public.

Tell your friends; spread the word on Facebook.  
Our Skeletons love the attention!

(we also welcome individual, family, and corporate sponsors, **only \$25!**  
Contact the Straight Farmhouse for more information)



## Meet Our Museum Intern



Dezaray Dunigan is a Senior at Garden City High School this fall. She is also the new intern at the Historical Museum! Dezaray is in the Garden City High School Marching Band and plays tuba,

sousaphone, trombone, french horn and E flat baritone. She is very excited about the band having new uniforms this year.

Here are some other activities Dezaray participates in: she has been a member of Key Club for 3 years, on Student Council for the past 2 years, and has been an Air Force Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (AFJROTC) Cadet for 2 years.

As a Freshman, Dezaray became a member of the National Honor Society (NHS). **Dezaray said, “The NHS is a wonderful organization that instills Leadership values, and is the reason I became an intern at the Garden City Historical Museum (GCHM). During my junior year, an announcement was made at a NHS meeting that internships were available to all interested students. On October 29, 2016, I completed the application and was selected to serve an internship at GCHM.”**

Since joining the Garden City Historical Museum almost a year ago, she has learned how volunteer organizations work. Dezaray also enjoys learning about history (that is one of her favorite subjects in high school). She considers it an honor to be a part of an organization dedicated to preserving the history of Garden City.

The FGCHM consider it an honor to have her using her talent volunteering with us!

## **American Romanian String Quartet Returns to the Straight Farmhouse for Musical Exhibit III**

We were honored once again to have the American Romanian Festival Strings, led by Romanian-born violinist Marian Tanau, perform to a welcoming and appreciative sold-out audience on Saturday, May 13, 2017.



Mr. Tanau and his quartet offered four eclectic musical selections for the audience and gave a brief synopsis of each piece.

In addition to the excellent musical presentations, guests were treated to a buffet of wine, cheese and fresh fruit and had an opportunity to chat with the musicians at the conclusion of their performance.



Many thanks to our wonderful sponsors who made this event possible:  
**Boland Florist, Kim and Jeff Dold, Beverly England, Rose Freeman, Garden City Business Alliance, Garden City Hospital Guild, Penny Klei, Michigan Legacy Credit Union, Orin Jewelers, Santeiu Family, Charles Skinner, Villa Amantea, and Diane Webb.**

And a special thank you to our group of dedicated volunteers who spent numerous hours making this event a success! A final tally for this event shows us raising over \$3,100.

## The Straight Farmhouse Hosts



**The Garden City Business Alliance**  
*Supporting our community as we grow our business*

We are pleased to announce that the Straight Farmhouse has been selected as the host of the monthly meetings of the Garden City Business Alliance (GCBA), a Non Profit organization whose objective is to create an extended support network for fellow business owners.

Meetings are held every second Friday of each month beginning at 9:00 am and most meetings last approximately one hour. A coffee service is offered and, by hosting local business professionals each month, an opportunity for future rentals of the Grande Parlour Banquet Room by those attending the GCBA meeting presents itself. In return, GCBA has made a financial donation to the Friends of the Garden City Historical Museum, as well as a \$100 sponsorship of Musical Exhibit III.

### 2017 Holiday Exhibit

For the month of December, the Straight Farmhouse will feature our collection of Santas. This fabulous collection was generously donated by former Garden City resident, Mr. Dan Dare. Mr. Dare has been collecting for decades and has generously donated this rare collection to the Farmhouse. His collection includes Santas from artists Lynn Haney, Thomas Kinkade, Kurt Adler, Richard Simmons, and Boyds to name a few. Santas on display will range from a few inches tall, to over three feet tall. Some are wearing elegant costumes.



Be sure to include a visit to this exhibit into your plans this Holiday Season. If you cannot stop by during regular Museum Hours (noon– 3pm Wednesdays and Saturdays) please contact Kim or Jerry Marquette at (734) 522-1226 to schedule a private tour. There is no cost to tour this exhibit.





## **Straight Farmhouse Outdoor Flea Markets Brings Buyers & Sellers June through September**

It was another successful season for one of the Friends most popular fundraising events held every 2nd and 3rd Saturday this summer during the months of June through September on the grounds of the Straight Farmhouse and the adjacent open lot south of the museum.

Thanks to the coordination of Market Manager Diane Thurner, numerous vendors paid \$15 for a 10' x 10' space to set up their wares, giving the public a variety of merchandise from which to choose.



*Diane*



Straight Farmhouse volunteers also set up a table with all items just \$1, which added to the income from the vendor table rentals. Early figures showed an average income of \$550 per month from the Outdoor Flea Markets.

## **Know Someone Looking for a Banquet Facility??**

Why not the Grande Parlour at the Straight Farmhouse? In addition to a beautiful setting, the rental includes use of the kitchen, the serving room that can be closed off from guests during food preparation, enough seating for up to 70 people, and so much more. All of this at VERY reasonable rates.

Visit our website for more information: [www.sfhonline.org](http://www.sfhonline.org)

## FGCHM Files Documents to Maintain 501(c)(3) Status for 2017

As a 501(c)(3) Non Profit Corporation, the Friends of the Garden City Historical Museum (FGCHM) is required to file four (4) documents with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the State of Michigan in order to maintain our tax exempt status in good standing each year.

By the deadline of **February 28th** of each year, the Friends must file a Sales, Use & Withholding (SUW) return with the State of Michigan Treasury Department. This return reflects sales transactions from the Lathers General Store.

No later than **May 5th** of each year, FGCHM must submit a 990 EZ tax return to the IRS. This return lists revenues and expenses for the previous tax year and reveals the overall financial health of the organization.

In order to solicit funds from the general public, the Friends must complete and submit to the State of Michigan Attorney General a Charitable Solicitation Registration form no later than **July 1st** of each year. Any individual can search the AG website to determine if a charity is registered with the State of MI in good standing.

By the deadline of **October 1st** of each year, FGCHM must prepare and submit the MI Non-Profit Corporation Annual Report which lists the achievements of the organization during the previous year and provides the State with a list of directors and officers of the corporation.

The Friends are pleased to inform our membership that all four of these documents have been submitted and accepted by the State of MI and the IRS for the calendar year 2017.



### Straight Farmhouse Capital Improvements List Established by FGCHM Board for 2017

The FGCHM Board of Directors compiled a list of capital improvements for the Straight Farmhouse in 2017 in an effort to preserve and maintain the building by dedicating funds specifically for this purpose. The following list was a result of discussions based on immediate need as well as cost of each improvement. As stewards of the 1866 farmhouse, the Board feels strongly that annual maintenance must be a priority to avoid more costly expenditures in the future. Several FGCHM Board members donated both time and money to undertake many of these capital improvements.

- ◆ *Power wash/seal/paint cinder block wall on the west and north side of parking lot. \$1,700*
- ◆ *Hot rubber crack seal & seal coat asphalt approach off Merriman Rd. for handicap parking. Provide handicap parking symbol on pavement. \$250*
- ◆ *Prep/paint the Grande Parlour kitchen and serving room. \$110*
- ◆ *Replace standard toilet in main restroom with ADA-Compliant toilet for handicap accessibility. \$625*
- ◆ *Prep/paint stairwell between 1st and 2nd floors and stain handrails. \$110*
- ◆ *Clean carpet on both floors of the SFH. \$500*
- ◆ *Replace fluorescent light fixtures with LED fixtures. \$3600*
- ◆ *Power wash memorial brick walkway and replenish sand in joints. \$1000*
- ◆ *Install solar film on windows to avoid UV rays damage to exhibits. \$2,200*
- ◆ *Paint ceiling tiles with KILZ stain killer around light fixtures. \$25*

## Masonry Wall in SFH Parking Lot Gets a Facelift

The FGCHM Board had targeted the cinder block wall on the west and north sides of the SFH parking lot for painting.

Former FGCHM President Jerry Marquette made some repairs to the wall, then produced a set of specifications for



the required work to be done and the Board obtained two quotes from local painting contractors. Celtic Custom Painting of Dearborn Heights was the low qualified bidder at \$1,700 to power wash, caulk, seal and apply two coats of Sherwin Williams white paint to the masonry wall. Work was completed in three days and the Board was pleased with the outcome of the project.

## Call for Volunteers for the Chili Cook-off To Support the Straight Farmhouse

As you may know, the Straight Farmhouse has been the very fortunate recipient of a share of the proceeds from the Garden City Downtown Development Authority (GCDDA) Annual Chili Cook-off for the past four years.



In 2016, the Friends received a check for \$3,795, a portion of which included volunteer hours worked by individuals at the Chili Cook-off in support of The Straight Farmhouse.

The DDA has again selected the Straight Farmhouse organization as one of four local charities to share in proceeds from the 2017 Chili Cook-off. We are in need of persons who would like to support the Friends by donating as little as two hours assisting with the Chili Cook-off in downtown Garden City on **Saturday, October 14th** between the hours of 9 am and 5 pm. The FGCHM receives credit for every hour worked. Please contact Kim Dold at the GCDDA office at (734) 261-2830 if you would like to volunteer and in turn, help support the Friends of the Garden City Historical Museum.

## The SFH Rocks!

Have you been looking for painted rocks? It's the latest craze sweeping the Country!  
If you find a rock that looks like this:



Follow the instructions for your prize!  
(watch for more on this in the next edition of the Farmhouse Crier!)

## Reminder-2017 Skeletons on Review

The 6th annual Skeletons on Review will run October 1st– 30th, 2017 during regular museum hours.  
A family friendly event!



AND– Evenings with the Skeletons!  
Evenings with the skeletons will be open October 27, 28, 29, and 30 from  
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No reservations required and this event is free to the public.  
Tell your family and Friends-Our Skeletons love the attention!

FGCHM  
6221 Merriman Rd.  
Garden City, MI 48135

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