Winter 2012
2012 Museum Hours
May through September
2:00 to 4:00 Saturday & Sunday

Albion Students receive historical coloring books

The Albion Historical Society has contributed to a new coloring book project coordinated by the Calhoun County Arts Council. The books have been given to third graders in Calhoun County as they study Michigan history during the 2012-2013 school year. Historical Society Board Member Denise Porter (in picture: Back Row second from left) was onhand as representatives from the Arts Council delivered the books to Harrington Elementary School in Albion on October 31, 2012.

The Albion Historical Society provided pictures and descriptions of people and places of historical significance from our area, including the Gardner House Museum, Bohm Theatre and Tuskegee Airmen. There are also pictures and descriptions from Homer, Marshall, Battle Creek, Athens and Tekonsha. The coloring books can be purchased at Books & More and Kids ‘N’ Stuff Children’s Museum in Albion.

Share your memories with the Albion Historical Society

Would you like to share your memories of Albion or thoughts on the way things used to be or should be? What do you remember about the early days of the Festival of the Forks? What are your memories of the Bohm Theatre, your school days, summer concerts or your favorite local stores? We would love to print them in our newsletter for all to read.

Mail your stories to: The Gardner House Museum, 509 South Superior Street, Albion, MI 49224. Please include your name, your contact information, as well as any pertinent pictures if you have them. Or call Andy Zblewski at 517-629-9974 or send them to azblewski@triton.net

Twelfth Night Festivities

The Albion Historical Society will once again hold 12th Night at the Gardner House Museum. It will be decorated for the holiday festivities. Guests say they love to see the museum “all dressed up.”

Entertainment, cookies and refreshment will be available between 3-7 p.m. on Sunday, January 6, 2013. This event is free and open to everyone. If you are interested in helping decorate or have questions please contact Andy Zblewski 517-629-9974

Enjoyable Season at the Museum

Tours at the Museum this year came from far and away and just down the street. Dozens of visitors enjoyed the Gardner House Museum this season, including people from Japan, Brazil, New York, Oregon, Alabama, California, Florida, Indiana, Battle Creek, Jackson, Ann Arbor, and, of course, Albion. Some recognized donations their families had given; some were amazed at all the details of the house; some were amazed at how life has changed in more than one hundred years and wondered what our town would look like a hundred years in the future.

Thank you to all of you who volunteered your time as tour guides. And thank you to Dolores Manthei for, once again, coordinating the tour guide schedules.

Former Burger Chef to house Bigby coffee

The building many older citizens of Albion remember as Burger Chef or if you are a little younger, Little Caesers Pizza. The building 215 East Michigan has been totally remodeled and will now house a Bigby Coffee shop. This building was constructed as Burger Chef in the Spring of 1967, it became Little Caesers after the Burger Chef franchise ceased to exist and later sat vacant for many years in a state of disrepair.

Stop in and wish the new franchise well and thank them for fixing up what had been an eyesore in Albion.
Annual meeting notes

Nearly 30 people attended the Albion Historical Society’s Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 14, at the Gardner House Museum, 509 S. Superior St. in downtown Albion.

They heard from Richard Lewin, a former Historical Society board member and current Friends of the Bohm Theatre board member. Lewin spoke about the theatre’s renovations, as well as its connection—and the rest of the city’s—to the Purple Gang.

Members also elected new board members. They are Nathaniel Arndt, David Bridgens, Michael Herman, Martha Prescott and Andrew Zblewski. They join the following who will continue to serve on the board: Beverly Bentley, Bill Blomquist, Shirley Claucherty, Celeste Connamacher, Debra Hadfield, Dolores Manthei, Barbara McAuliffe, Jessica Mitchell, Denise Porter, William Rafaill and James Seidl. They thanked those retiring from the board: Jean Devoe, Karen Yankie and Holly Zblewski. Also a special thank you to Brian Mitchell who served as the president. New officers will be elected before the year ends.

Treasurer Jim Seidl gave a financial update on the organization, as well as asked the membership to approve updating the Articles of Incorporation, which they did.

Reminder

Your last renewal date will be circled in red if we have not heard from you lately. If the date in the upper left corner of your label is not ‘11 or ‘12 we need to know if you wish to continue your support of the Albion Historical Society. If your label says “tr” in the top left corner of the label, you have received this newsletter as a special invitation to join the financial supporters of the Albion Historical Society and the Gardner House Museum.

Sponsorship Form - Mail to:
Albion Historical Society
509 S. Superior St.
Albion, Michigan 49224

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