



HILLIARD STATION CHRONICLE

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HAPPY NEW YEAR - 2021

CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC SWEEPS - WORLDWIDE ALL ACTIVITIES ARE SHUT DOWN BY THE GOVERNMENTS

By the end of March 2020, the Federal, State and local Governments asked that many events or activities be postponed or cancelled that would result in congregating groups of people, to stop the spread of this contagious virus. Schools were closed, workers were sent home from their jobs, most retail stores and even churches were closed. However, things have changed and will be changing more, now that a vaccine has been developed by two drug companies. We will also see a gradual change in our historical society operations and plans.

A Special Message from our Historical Society President - Tim Woodruff

2020 has been a year like no other. We had compiled a list of events and activities to provide to the community throughout the year. A lot of detailed planning and formats were established for each event. We were about to finalize our planning for Membership Open House event in April, when the virus brought the whole country to a standstill. Like Every other organization, we were required to cancel our events one by one. This disturbing situation continued throughout the whole year. We went from a high with expectations of a very rewarding year to a low to see all our planning go down the drain. We did not just twiddle our thumbs, we have had to think through many different scenarios that would meet the new requirements to follow for Federal,

State and local guidelines. Guidelines as to when can we reopen, wearing masks, and social distancing. This shutdown has also allowed us to think of projects that needed completion and new projects to enhance the appeal of the Village to all prospective visitors. I have been extremely pleased that the City of Hilliard has reached out to our Society with an offer to work closely with us to increase our membership; increase the visitation of the public to our Village; how to rent our new Pavilion, Church and other venues; improve our existing facilities and when we are open to the public during our advertised open hours. I don't know if the Society members understand just how much the city already does for us in Weaver Park. Here are a few of the things they do for us:

1. Mow the grass, rake the leaves and remove snow when required.
2. Tidy our bushes, trim trees and summer landscaping
3. Install bags in our trash containers and empty them periodically
4. Repair the split rail fencing
5. They built a retaining wall and landscaped around our new monument
6. Repair and replace the fences, paint bridges and guard rails around the swale that cuts through the entire Village.
7. Put up Christmas tree lights and on the light posts around the Village
8. Paint and repair picnic tables.
9. They Installed WIFI hot spots around the Village for all to use.
10. They maintain the City and equip Restrooms in Weaver Park for all our events.
11. For the first time, the City gave us financial aid to help support our operations during these difficult times. For all these and many more we are extremely grateful to the City of Hilliard for this support.

We will be working on next year's events and activities throughout the winter. Please consider asking to be on some of our committees and offering your help, ideas, expertise and talents. We need current members involved. We also need additional new members to join our Historical society. So please ask your family, friends and anyone else to join a the Society. Actually it is a lot of fun to learn about your city and how it grew from a small frontier village to the city that it is today.

There is a list of officers and Board Members with phone numbers later in this newsletter. Contact anyone of them and they can give the whole Hilliard and surrounding towns story and how we have made this Village and Historical Library on Norwich Street a real center piece of our history for all to share. Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you in 2021.

Here are the **Planned Events for 2021** at the Hilliard Ohio Historical Society.
Remember, these too are subject to change while we are in this virus situation.

1. April 25th (Sunday) Open House and Membership Drive

Chair TBD

Cookout, Bratwurst, Village Tours etc.

General Summer Hours

Village to be open May through September

Every Thursday 6 -8 PM

Every Sunday 1 -4 PM

2. May 22 (Saturday} Walking Tours of Old Hilliard

Chair Tim woodruff

Starts at the Library on Norwich Street

3. May 31st (Monday) Hilliard Memorial Day Parade

Starts at the Historical Village near the Fairgrounds

4. June 12

(Saturday) Classic Car Show

Chair: Bob Peterson and Mark Whitmer
In Weaver Park and the Historical Village
Donated Door Prizes and a 50/50 Raffle
Plus Food drinks & a bake sale on the Museum Porch
Village tours with donation boxes at the entrances
Free parking to attend

Registration fee: \$10 to show your car

Car judging with Trophies presented for car categories.

We have had two very successful cars shows in the past with well over 100 car owners participating. Our Weaver Park is ideal to hold a car show.

5. July 3rd (Saturday) Hilliard 4th of July Parade

We will enter a Float in the Parade

We will hand out flyers and docents will ride on the float in costume

6. July 19 (Monday) to 25 (Sunday) Franklin County Fair

Chair TBD

Work with the Fair Board and Shirley and Don Russell

Donation boxes at Village entrances and in most venues

Village Tours

7. August 28th (Saturday) Heritage Day

- Usual Heritage day artisans and craftsmen in booths
- Village tours with Donations boxes
- Historical Bean Soup prepared on site, served by Tim Woodruff
- Kitchen Open for food and drinks for sale
- Bake sale with baked goods donated by Society members
- Possible dedication of new Monument (Hilliard soldier at Custer's Last Stand)

8. September 11th, (Saturday) Old Hilliard Fest

Chair Tim Woodruff

Coordinate with the City of Hilliard and Destination Hilliard

9. September 25th (Saturday) Bus Tour of Old Hilliard

Chair Tim Woodruff Coordinate with Tim Kaufman Destination Hilliard

10. October 10th - The Haunted Village

Leaders: Shirley and Don Russel with Jim Chandler

The Village is open and decorated for Halloween

Village Tours available

Donation boxes placed around entrances

11. November Indoor Events

Around the Village are being planned

12. December 5th (Saturday) - Tree Lighting Ceremony

Details to be determined

13. December 12 (Sunday) - Santa in the Red Caboose

We will need lots of member participation and volunteers at all these events. We will have a coordinator that will remind everyone with phone calls and Emails for volunteers and assignments for each Day. We have a very dedicated, experienced group of Officers & Board Members ready to serve you.

Hilliard Ohio Historical Society

2021 Officers and Board Members

Officers 2021

Phone

President – Tim Woodruff	614-563-1606
Vice President – Kathy Chandler	614-620-1135
Treasurer – Rodney Garnett	614-395-6736
Secretary – Open	

Board Members -2021

3 Year Members

Phone

Bob Eggerichs	614-400-3599
Robin Brenneman	614-527-4407
Megan Martin	614-565-3210

2 year Members

Phone

Joann Hensley	614-562-1986
Stephanie Ledwith	614-530-7067
Ed Olenhouse	614-312-6263

One Year Members

Phone

Darryl Walters	614-657-3221
Bob Peterson	614-353-9330
Shirley Russell	614-746-2192

As you can see, we have a full schedule planned for 2021, but a lot depends on the Covid 19 Pandemic situation and the changes to the activities allowed by the federal, state and city governments to allow group activities. Tim Woodruff is in close contact with City of Hilliard Officials regarding what events and programs will be allowed in 2021.

Hilliard History Lives: Old jail-cell exhibit could be most wanted attraction

Tim Woodruff: Guest columnist

Hilliard's first bank robbery occurred in 1910. The perpetrators escaped with \$5,200 and never were captured. The money also was not recovered.

Thus began the thinking Hilliard might not be as safe as it should be, and official action followed, albeit gradually. In 1902, city administrators had decided Hilliard needed police protection. However, it took 14 years of discussions and official red tape before the city finally hired its first marshal. It took another 13 years before the official approval and construction of Hilliard's first jailhouse. This structure, which housed an office room and two jail cells, was on Norwich Street, one block north of Main Street. The building still exists, but it is not used as a police or jail facility. The old jailhouse mainly was used for misdemeanor cases. If a more serious crime was committed, such as a felony, the inmate was processed at the jail and then transported to the Franklin County jail in Columbus.

One memorable incident involving the jailhouse came in 1962. Members of the Hilliard High School football team, on the evening of winning the Mid-8 League championship for the fourth year in a row, unwisely decided to "paint the town." The crime scenes were at the intersections of Norwich Street and Cemetery Road and Norwich and Main streets. (On the advice of my lawyer, I will not admit to any participation in these acts). Only through extreme luck were the police able to capture a small group of the perpetrators. They were incarcerated, processed and later released into the custody of their parents because they were minors. Need I say that community service, in the form of removing the paint, was the sentence, and eventually, the juvenile records were expunged. This criminal action, along with the growth of the city of Hilliard, showed the need for a newer, larger and more secure facility. A new jail was approved and built on Water Works Drive, where the offices of U.S. Rep. Steve Stivers are today at 3790 Municipal Way.

Eventually, the police station and jail were moved to the Joint Safety Services Building at 5181 Northwest Parkway. The reason for writing this nonincriminating documentary is to let the public know that thanks to the Hilliard Ohio Historical Society and the Hilliard Division of Police, an original set of jail-cell bars and window have been saved and preserved for years – thanks to John Hall – and recently were donated to the historical society. They are being installed in a new display constructed as a jail cell on the porch of the museum at the Historical Village at Weaver Park.

At the time when the old jail cell was new, the state of Ohio required that a spare cell key be stored off-site in case of an emergency. Through some amazing detective work, no pun intended, the historical society was able to determine that one of Hilliard's finest retired police officers, Bob Parkey, had stored the spare cell key in his basement for years. He was gracious enough to donate the key, and to our amazement, it still works on the cell door. In addition, Hilliard officers Hyda Slone and John Higgins have donated a variety of other Hilliard police memorabilia for the display at the museum.

The Historical Village, which is adjacent to the Franklin County Fairgrounds at 4100 Columbia St., is closed for the winter season, but when it reopens in spring or for special occasions, the Hilliard Ohio Historical Society would like to invite all residents of the community and those beyond to visit for a picture taken behind the bars of the jail.

The rest of our amazing buildings and preserved historical artifacts also will be available for viewing. New attractions include the monument to a local soldier who served in the 7th Cavalry Regiment of the U.S. Army under the command of Lt. Col. George Armstrong Custer and died at the Battle of the Little Bighorn and an elevated model train in the historic train station. We also have an 1890 child's metal tricycle manufactured in Toledo and a very nice doll house with all the miniature items beautifully displayed.

Check our website, hilliardohiohistoricalsociety.com, for reopening information, or make a reservation or appointment by calling 614-876-5880.

Tim Woodruff is president of the Hilliard Ohio Historical Society. The historical society's Hilliard History Lives guest column is a periodic feature in the ThisWeek Hilliard Northwest News.

(BREAKING STORY)

CELEBRATION!

January 8, 2021 is Leon Boucher's 100th Birthday

Leon is the oldest living member of the Hilliard Ohio Historical Society. He joined the Society in 1980 and was a Co-Life Member with his wife Ginger, who passed away in 2013. They lived on Conklin Drive, here in Hilliard; adjacent to the park in the Conklin Addition. He taught Vocational Agriculture at Hilliard High School for many years. Then he became a professor at "The" Ohio State University in the "Ag" Department until he retired.

He and Ginger have been members of Hilliard United Methodist Church and many members of our Society also belong there as well.

He was an outstanding member of the Historical Society and had a brilliant understanding of the history of agriculture in general and more specifically, in the Hilliard area.

He presently is a resident of Friendship Village of Dublin, enjoying the good life of retirement in grand style.

Leon, have a wonderful 100th birthday from all your friends in the Hilliard Ohio Historical Society and thanks for being such an inspiration to all of us!