

Wheeling Historical Society

① March 2001 - March 2003



Museum set to open

Linda Reading, left, and Patti Hancock of the Wheeling Historical Museum put the finishing touches on a new display Thursday. The museum opens for the first time of the season Sunday. See story on Page 5.

Daily Herald Photo/
Joe Lewnard

3-2-01

THURSDAY

3.4.01

Wheeling Museum ready

Volunteers put the finishing touches on a new display at the Wheeling Museum, which is set to open from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. The museum added a display about summertime fun in the "good ol' days." The museum will open each Sunday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. until October, except on holidays or holiday weekends. The museum's curator, Linda Reading, said she wants to start collecting more items from the recent past. "We really want to start collecting things from the 1950s forward to the 1980s," she said. A generation has grown up since then, she said. The museum is itself an artifact from Wheeling's earliest days. It housed the village government, police and fire department from 1897 to the 1960s, when it was at its previous Milwaukee Avenue location.

Summer not that far away at museum in Wheeling

By FRED WOODHAMS
Daily Herald Staff Writer

Our parents and grandparents may have walked 5 miles to school each day — uphill both ways, of course — but once classes let out, they enjoyed summer just as much as anyone today.

From the blue cotton shorts and tank top of a man's turn-of-the-century swimsuit to yellowed pictures of girls swimming in the Des Plaines River, a new display in the Wheeling Historical Museum shows how people who lived decades ago spent their summers.

The museum, located at Chamber Park on Wolf Road near Dundee Road, opens for the first time this year from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. The museum's operating hours will continue on Sunday until October, except for holidays and some holiday weekends.

The summer display as well as other displays at the museum will help people understand and appreciate Wheeling's past and how it compares to today, said the museum's curator, Linda Reading.

"You look at life (then)," she said. "It's not all that changed."

The museum itself is an artifact from Wheeling's early days — it housed the village government, police and fire departments from when it was built in 1897 on Milwaukee Avenue until a larger facility was built in the 1960s. The building was relocated to the Wheeling Park District property to preserve it.

Besides the display about summer fun, the museum also has displays about Wheeling's fire department, early communications equipment and various household items.

Reading said the museum owns many of the items and has the others on loan. Always welcoming donations, Reading said she and other members of the Wheeling Historical Society are looking especially for specific items, such as a butter churn or a 1950s radio, as well as more recent items.

"We really want to start collecting things from the 1950s forward to the 1990s," she said.

FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 2001



DAILY HERALD PHOTOS BY VERNER

Taking a look back

3-9-01

A display of antique cameras, below, awaits visitors to the Wheeling Historical Museum, open from 2 to 4 p.m. Sundays, except for holidays and holiday weekends. Some of Wheeling's longtime residents, at right, enjoy reliving the village's past history at opening day Sunday. The museum reopened after being closed for the winter.



1920s roar to life at Wheeling museum

BY EILEEN O. DADAY

Daily Herald Correspondent 3.5.01

Betty Gorski, 75, remembers growing up in Wheeling, where she and her friends looked forward to summer days spent jumping off Dam No. 1 along the Des Plaines River for a swim.

"There was a park there with a merry-go-round, pony rides and a beach house," Gorski said. "A child today wouldn't appreciate how much fun we had, but we lived to go to the creek. It was our own special place."

Memories like Gorski's fueled the opening of the Wheeling Historical Museum, which opened Sunday for its spring and summer season after being closed for the winter.

What sparked Gorski's memories was the museum's newest exhibit, fashioned around the lazy days of summer, circa the 1920s.

A display case features a Wheeling man's two-piece swimming outfit and old photographs of residents wading in the Des Plaines River.

A child riding outfit — complete with jodhpur breeches, a velvet riding helmet, cap and riding boots — add to the exhibit, which focuses on activities enjoyed at the old Clybourn Park along the river.

"We're just delighted, ecstatic to have this kind of turnout for our opening," said Historical Society



DAILY HERALD PHOTO/S. K. VEMMER

Eleanor Buerger, a Wheeling resident and member of the village's historical society board, said the military display at the Wheeling Historical Museum includes artifacts from residents who are veterans. The museum opened for the season Sunday.

President Lorraine Haben. "We're always looking to teach the younger people of the village about our history."

The museum itself is a landmark. It's housed in the former village hall,

built in 1897, and prominently features a replica of one of two jails contained in the original building.

Other exhibits include a typical turn-of-the-century kitchen and dining area, an exhibit on Wheel-

ing's early fire department and railroad station as well as a display on Wheeling residents in the armed services.

Esther Murov of Prairie View was especially struck by the display of early communication devices.

She worked in Wheeling as a telephone operator for Illinois Bell until 1950.

"I was a telephone operator before it went dial," Murov said. "That was my termination."

A sampling of bottles from a local 1880s brewery caught Gorski's eye.

Her family donated some of the bottles from the Perilot Brothers & Co. Brewery, located on Milwaukee Avenue until 1906.

The restored museum building and its adjacent carriage house make up one portion of Wheeling's Chamber Park, located just north of Wolf and Dundee roads.

There also is a nearby walking path and children's playground, making it an interesting destination for residents wanting to discover more about Wheeling's past.

"Wheeling developed because of its location. It was a natural resting area for people traveling from Chicago to Milwaukee," said Paul Philipp, a Wheeling Park District commissioner.

"This helps keep our village's history alive and lets residents know where the village came from."



Invitation to

Wheeling Historical Society
Board 2001-2002

President...Lorraine Haben
Vice Pres...Elaine Simpson
Treasurer...Dolly Hein
Secretary...Pat Hancock

Director...Barb Forke
Director...F. Schnaitmann
Director...Marilyn Chromy

Curator....Linda Reading
Historian..Shirley McConnell









2000-2001 WHEELING HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD INDUCTION





Wheeling Historical Banquet
 May 23, 2001

DINNER MENU

ENTREE

Please limit to one choice only

\$17.00

GRILLED SALMON

Alaskan salmon filet, brushed with olive oil and roasted garlic; charcoal-grilled and served with a warm tomato, cucumber relish

\$19.75

\$17.50

WHITEFISH

Tender Lake Superior filet served with lemon herbal

\$19.75

\$18.75

ORANGE ROUGH

Atlantic coast filet, served with garlic bread crumbs

Fish



CHAMPAGNE CREAM
 GRAPES



4th of July 2007

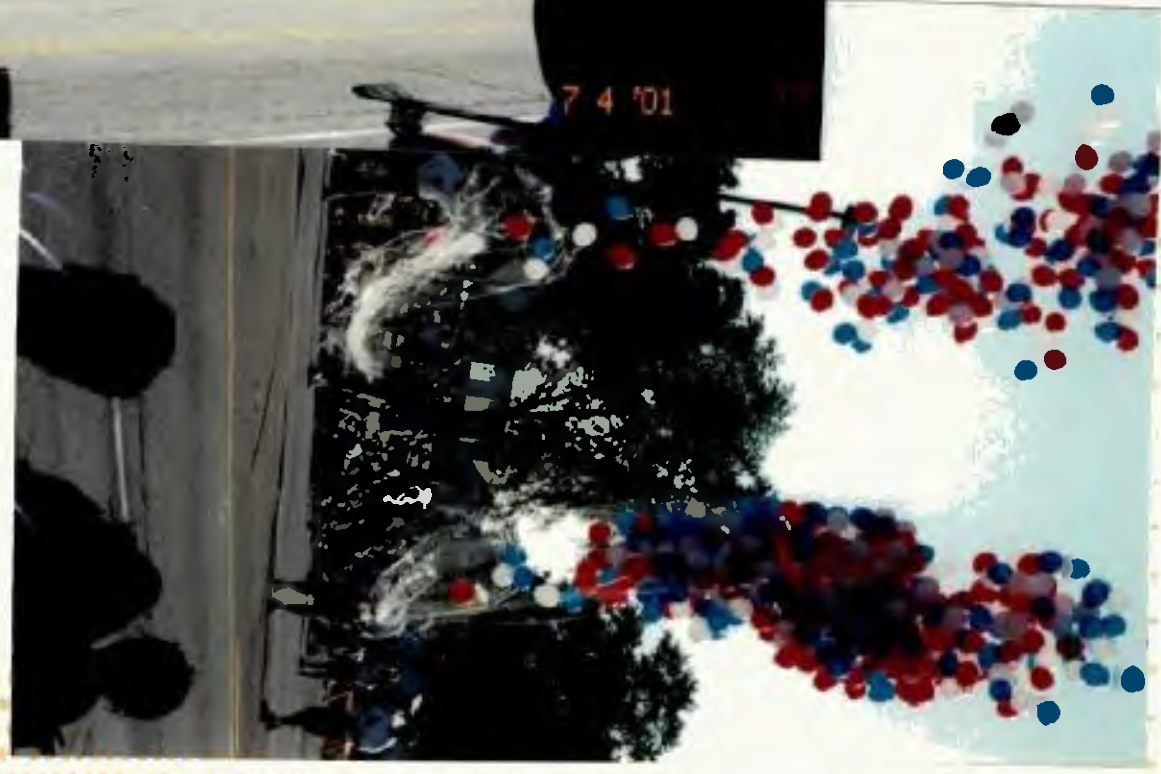


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7-4 '01

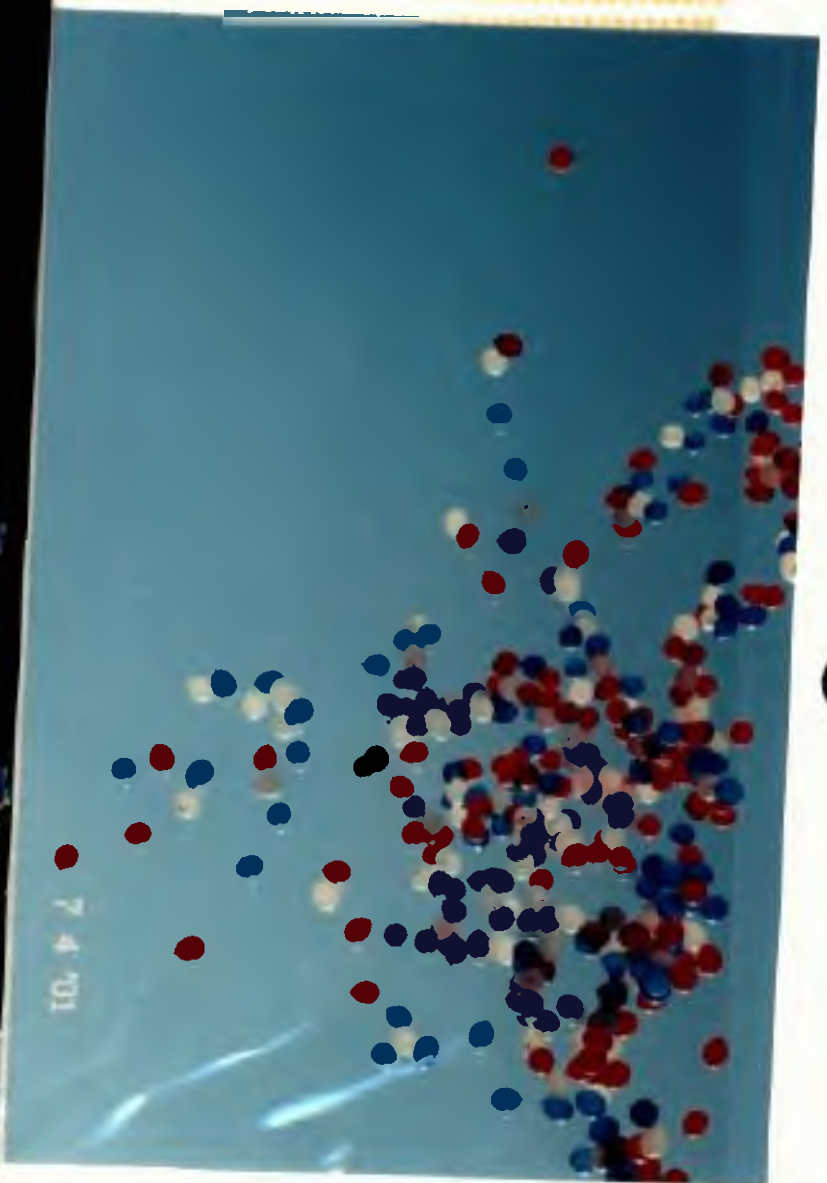








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WHEELING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Cordially invites you to attend

AN OLD-FASHION PICNIC

JULY 22, 2001

11:30AM - 4PM

CHAMBER COMMUNITY CENTER & PARK
251 N. WOLF ROAD
WHEELING, IL.

- Bring a picnic lunch; beverage and dessert will be provided by Historical Society



The Park















WEDGE & PAT HANCOCK

Bobbie & Paul Philipp

2001

LOLLIPOP LANE



2011

BARB WEDER & GRANDSON



BOBBIE & PAUL PHILIPPE





BOARD MEETING 2002
BOOK SIGNING
Syke Horcher



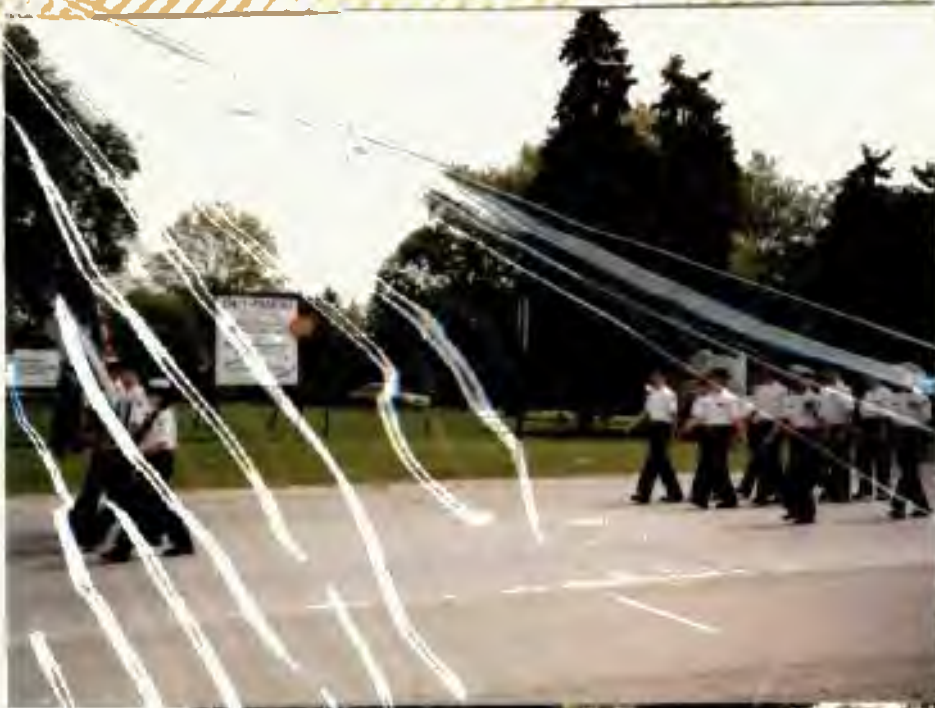
CHERI KLUMPP, LINDA READING
SHIRLEY MCCONNELL SYKE & ELLIE HORCHER





MEMORIAL DAY PARADE
2002









INSTALLATION DINNER
MAY 29, 2002



















4th of July
2002









Return to
Fire Pump
to Fire Dept
July 2001









Clay Park
Picnic
July 28, 2002







*Thanks to
Carmel*



NILES HIST. SOCIETY
"Roaring 20's Tea"
11/2002





Sallypop Lane
2002



Wheeling Historical Society
Presents a Showing of
Marshall Balling's Artwork



Wheeling artist found

beauty in everything

Everyone is
Invited
Admission
Free

March 23rd and 30th, 2003
Sundays 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
In 3 historical buildings
Chamber Community Park
251 N. Wolf Road







WHEELING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

