
THE CURATOR

The Newsletter of the Brunswick Area Historical Society

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Dandelion Drive was spring highlight

On May 20, the Historical Council of Medina County held its third museum open house since its formation in 2015.

Now called the Dandelion Drive – A Journey in Time – and Brunswick was one of five museums/historical societies open to the public that day.

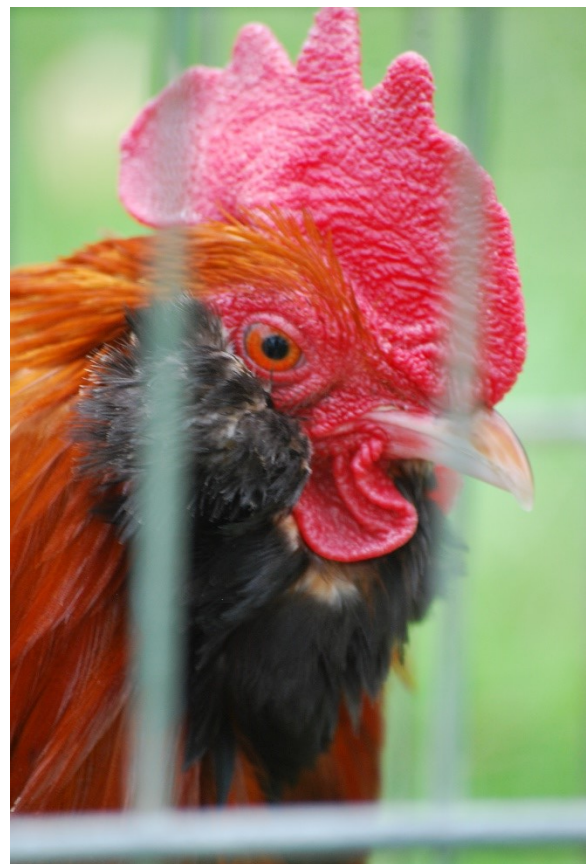
The day began with early rain and clouds but turned out to be beautiful – a great day to get out and see what our collections are all about.

With the help of Carol Foote, Dennis Wunn, Joyce Petchler, Kelly Ciphers with vendors Eli Hobe, Terry Hodges, April Barczyk, Rick Scheutzow and Nancy Page, all the buildings were open to the 50-plus people who came.

Nancy's spinning in the barn was a favorite with most of the adult visitors.

Most popular with the young people who arrived were the farm animals from Spring Mist Farms, like

this colorful rooster photographed by visitor, Deborah Katz.



Come for some ice cream and costume parade

On July 1, the Farmers Market will feature our second ice cream social and a children's costume/character parade. Kids 12 and younger will be invited to parade at noon. And there

will be make-your-own sundaes and root beer floats.

Farmers market time is ready to return June 10

Yes, it's that time of the year and the Heritage Farm's annual farmers markets are ready to begin. The markets are held each Sunday and are open to the public from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., so there's time to attend church services beforehand.

Most of our former vendors are back this year with several new people ready to sell their goods.

Crow Hill Farm, in its second year at the farm, will bring even more meats and cheese free of GMOs and hormones. The deliciousness will be expanded to include steaks and other cuts of meat plus bakery and produce in season.

April Barczyk will be back with homemade noodles, breads, garlic and veggies.

There will be flowers and plants, birdhouses, a variety of handmade wood products, Tupperware, handmade crochet, knit and sewn items and, of course, food.

The Historical Society will have its popular hot dogs, popcorn and drinks for sale and musicians will be back to provide entertainment.

As always, parking and admission are free and everyone is invited.

Remember, Heritage Farm is on Laurel Road west of Pearl.



Everything is growing

After the brutal winter, when we even had snow drifts inside the barn, the year-old children's garden was looking pretty sad. The Cub Scouts from Saint Ambrose Parish came to take over the "three sisters" pioneer garden and those families absolutely cleared out every weed. But the plants were looking pretty sad.

Then came a warm up and some rain and it was like magic. The rain garden with prairie plants came to life and everything in the other three gardens are even blooming.

Anyone interested in helping to maintain the raised/sensory garden and more formal English garden is welcome to contact 'Sam' Boyer, secretary at

brunswickareahistory@gmail.com.

Members of the National Junior Honor Society of Visintainer Middle School are maintaining the prairie garden and the scout troop is hoping for a big harvest of corn, beans and squash.

Moving ahead with plans

The Brunswick Area Historical Society is moving ahead with plans to add a building to the farm to house a wide variety of artifacts we have been unable to display.

Thanks to the work of State Reps. Steve Hambley, Darrell Kick and Sen. Larry Obhof, a cultural facilities grant of \$70,000 is available to us, with the Society having to match with \$1 for each \$2 from the state budget.

Pending city approval, we hope to construct a building north of the existing parking lot, but it would extend beyond our 4.5 acre lease into the rest of what is known as South Park. Hopefully we will be able to work out a plan that the city will approve and we can get building.

In 2020, Edwards Middle School, the first central school in the community, will be torn down. It is our hope to save a portion of the oldest building – putting a façade on our constructed building and recreating a classroom inside.

The building would also house our offices, freeing up space in the farmhouse to turn the upstairs rooms into display areas again.

We are hoping the grant and matching funds will pay for the initial construction. We will have to launch a capital campaign, however, to recreate the Edwards plans (and maybe some souvenir of Visintainer, which is also coming down).

If you think you can help, we'd appreciate hearing from you. We're hoping former students and teachers will want to get involved.

The society has a huge array of items related to schools in the community and would love to have them on display.



An unusual 'school' donation from Bilski

Society President, Carl Bilski, recently donated this hand-made machete to the society. He actually made the very sharp object in shop class. Imagine doing that in today's school environment?

Bilski said his family was clearing land at his father's place and encountered lots of poison ivy. He came up with the design to cut the poisonous plants down, and using the hook at the end to bring down vines that had grown into the trees. Because it was made in shop class, it would be perfect to display with school items.

Wishes are coming true

Something we had wished for has been an old telephone and along came new resident, John Dombrowski, who grew up on a farm in Michigan, with one of the heaviest black dial phones we had ever lifted. Now we can show kids what we mean when you "dial the phone." It's something they've never had to do.

We were also able to find a great deal on a new refrigerator for the barn for all of our farmers markets, meetings and other events there. Hooray!!! No more taping the door shut. Thanks to Joyce Petchler for bargain hunting.

Thanks to our growing list of sponsors, patrons

Thanks so much to all of members and to those who not only paid their dues but added funds as sponsors and patrons.

They include: Darlene and Richard Beeching Ann M. Benninger, Ken Chamers, Ernie and Cathryn Daiber, Jody Hunter, Sally and Bill Hunter, Homestead Insurance, Rick and Barb John, Rosalie Kappeler, Dave LeHotan, Bernice Miller, Roy and Cindy Montonaro, Jane Garson Reed and Kevin M. Reed, Todd Jay Photography and Tom Rounds.

Dues are just \$10 a year for students and seniors; \$20 for adults or \$25 for families. Patron donations start at \$50. Thanks to all

They're busy bees

Thanks to Brunswick residents Mike and Laura Cantrell, we have a new, very busy beehive.

The couple suited up to transplant a new hive to Heritage Farm.

They set up the box – clearly bright enough so no one will inadvertently walk into it – near the community gardens so the pollinators will help all the gardens around the farm.



NJHS had a field trip

The Visintainer Middle School National Junior Honor Society paid a visit to the farm right before the end of school. More than 50 students and teachers Cheryl Carlisle and Ellyn Likens walked to the farm, did a tour, had lunch and even took a test. They will be helping us throughout the year volunteering.

Volunteers are always welcome. Call 330-441-0292 and leave a message. We'll call back.