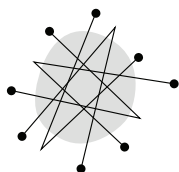


Upcoming Events

Open House

September 14
September 28
October 12
October 26
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.



Hall of Fame Lasagna Dinner

October 5
11:30 a.m.

Annual Meeting

October 7
6 p.m.

The Record

*17th Fridley Hall of Fame Induction
32nd Annual Lasagna Dinner and Sweepstakes*

Hall of Fame

October 5, 2024 ✦ 11:30 a.m.

**Fridley Community Center Fireside Room
6085 7th Street Fridley, MN**

<i>Schedule of Events</i>	✦	<i>Followed by</i>
Doors open at 11:30 am	✦	Hall of Fame Induction
Buffett dinner 12:15 pm	✦	Sweepstakes Raffle

The Fridley Hall of Fame was established to recognize those, who through dedication, work, and accomplishment have contributed significantly to the growth and success of the City of Fridley.

Need not be present to win Raffle prizes.

Raffle tickets may be purchased at the event for \$1 per ticket.

Dinner tickets must be reserved no later than
September 28th and will be returned to you by mail.

Dinner tickets can be purchased by sending your payment of \$22.00 per ticket to:
Fridley History Center, Attn. Mary Sue Meyers, 611 Mississippi Street, Fridley MN 55432.

No dinner tickets will be sold at the door.

For information call Mary Sue at (763) 571-0120 and leave a message.

Your call will be returned.

FridleyHistoricalSociety.org

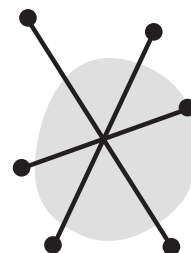
✉ FHS1949@outlook.com

Officers

President: Mark Bonesteel 763-331-1885
Vice President: Mary Ann Hoffman 763-780-5911
Past President: Dorothy Gargaro 712-709-2840
Secretary: Kathy Smith 763-432-5633
Treasurer: Open

Other Board Members

Archives Chair: Rob Zelenak robzelenak1993@gmail.com
Programs and Events Chair: Mary Sue Meyers 763-717-7987
Grants Chair: Mary Ann Hoffman 763-780-5911
Maintenance Chair: Al Taylor 763-422-3878
Membership Chair: Open
Newsletter Chair: Rachel Westhoff rachel.westhoff@gmail.com
Social Media Chair: Pat Barrett pat.barrett@fridley.k12.mn.us
Member at Large: Lori Greiner lorifridley2@outlook.com



Fridley Historical Society Board Meeting ~ June 10th, 2024

Attendance: Pat Barrett, Mark Bonesteel, Dorothy Gargaro, Mary Ann Hoffman, Mary Sue Meyers, Noreen Rickenbach, Kathy Smith, Al Taylor, Rachel Westhoff, Rob Zelenak.

Treasurer's Report: The financial summary report was given for the month of May. The motion was approved by Mary Sue Myers and seconded by Rob Zelenak. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report: Motion to approve May 2nd report was made by Al Taylor and seconded by Rob Zelenak. Motion carried.

Membership Report: Noreen Rickenbach reported that 33 new/renewed members have joined. We are now up to 128 members.

Maintenance Report: The AprilAire unit has been fixed and Adams Pest came out and sprayed. Al Taylor is working with a contractor to fix the cracks and siding as well as getting a handrail back in the middle of the steps in the front of the building.

Lasagna Dinner and Hall of Fame Update: The lasagna dinner is on schedule. Closing dates for the Hall of Fame entries was June 1st. Mary Sue Myers will be reaching out to the committee members to set up a time to review the entries.

Parade Discussion: Rob Zelenak stepped up and will drive his car in the parade.

Newsletter Discussion: Rob Zelenak suggested that we do an article on the top 10 events that happened in Fridley. This can be done differently than the top events listed on the FHS Facebook page.

Archives and Exhibits/YouTube Channel Update: Rob Zelenak reported that 20 more Minnesota History magazines were donated. The YouTube channel has 12 videos and 47 subscribers. Six more videos are in the hopper. The time capsule opening will be posted on the channel.

Other Business: The train display in the lower level of the building will be removed and stored. This will provide a space to interview long-time Fridley residents. The plan is to have a display like the Embers' display for Buzz's haircutting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM. ~Kathy Smith

Fridley Historical Society Board Meeting ~ July 11th, 2024

Attendance: Pat Barrett, Mark Bonesteel, Dorothy Gargaro, Mary Ann Hoffman, Mary Sue Meyers, Noreen Rickenbach, Kathy Smith, Al Taylor, Rob Zelenak.

Treasurer's Report: The financial summary report was given for the month of June. The motion was approved by Rob Zelenak and seconded by Pat Barrett. Motion carried. Judy Anderson, who has been a long-term treasurer would like to retire from the position. A job description will be written and posted in the next newsletter.

Secretary's Report: Motion to approve the June 10th report was made by Mary Sue Myers and seconded by Rob Zelenak. Motion carried.

Membership Report: Noreen Rickenbach reported that we now have 137 registered members. For the month of June there were 9 new/returning members.

Events: Lasagna Dinner and Hall of Fame events are on track. The price of the Lasagna dinner was discussed. In the past FHS charged \$18.00, but costs have risen. It was agreed that the price per dinner would be \$22.00. The staging of events was also discussed. It has not been decided if the Hall of Fame Awards would be before or after the raffle.

Maintenance Report: The handy person who was going to fix the hand rail had his tools stolen so there will be a delay in getting this fixed.

Social Media / YouTube Channel Update: Good comments have been received on the FHS Facebook page. Rob Zelenak reported that there are now 15 videos on the channel. The tornado video narrated by Bob Aldrich has been viewed over 1,000 times.

Museum Lease and Superintendent Tour: The new lease was received, signed, and dollars paid to the Fridley School District. The lease is good until 2029. The Fridley Superintendent requested a tour of the museum. Details are being worked out.

Early Fridley – Farming to Suburbia Exhibit Grant(s): The exhibit concept for the first grant is finished. Mary Ann Hoffman will be submitting it to the Minnesota Historical Society in July. She is working on the 2nd grant which is a large grant (\$50,000). Being awarded this type of grant is extremely competitive.

Time Capsule: There is a written document of all contents to the time capsule opened on June 13, 2024. Collection of the items for the next capsule is in process with the collection ending in September 2024.

continued on next page...

Board Meeting minutes continued...

Other Business: It was confirmed that only members who have joined FHS in the last 12 months are receiving newsletters. A camera was purchased to interview longtime residents of Fridley. The Basement Sale was a success receiving \$1,007.85. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM. ~Kathy Smith

Fridley Historical Society Board Meeting ~ August 1st, 2024

Attendance: Pat Barrett, Mark Bonesteel, Dorothy Gargaro, Mary Ann Hoffman, Mary Sue Meyers, Kathy Smith, Rachel Westhoff, and Rob Zelenak.

Treasurer’s Report: The financial summary report was given for the month of July. The motion was approved by Mary Ann Hoffman and seconded by Mary Sue Myers. Motion carried.

Secretary’s Report: Motion to approve the July 11th report was made by Rob Zelenak and seconded by Pat Barrett. Motion carried.

Membership Report: Noreen Rickenbach has had to step down as membership committee chair but will still be helping when she can. Mark Bonesteel said that she had made a significant impact on increasing membership. Her goal was to reach 150 and she came close to doing so. Kathy Smith will temporarily take over this work until a replacement is found.

Events: Lasagna Dinner and Hall of Fame events are on track. The price of the dinner will be \$22.00 as costs have gone up.

Maintenance Report: Nothing to report.

Social Media / YouTube Channel Update: Pat Barrett has been posting about memories and is asking people to post what their top games were in their youth. Rob Zelenak reported that we now have 66 YouTube subscribers with 17 videos. This fall Rob Zelenak and Mark Bonesteel will begin the “Forgotten Fridley” series.

Fridley Early Grant Update: The grant was submitted and accepted by the Minnesota History Center. Mary Ann Hoffman will be leading the effort to obtain a large grant to continue this work next year.

Other Business: FHS is working on updating the Mission Statement – more discussions are forthcoming. The ’49ers purchased two medallions this year – one specifically for the next time capsule. The downstairs of the center is being reorganized to make room for new exhibits and to display the Buzz’s Barber Shop exhibit. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM. ~Kathy Smith

Basement Sale by Mark Bonesteel, President

Our recent basement sale was a huge success! Our three day sale was held in conjunction with the city wide sale which took place June 7, 8, and 9th . Hundreds of people attended our basement sale and the final net total for FHS was \$1,007.85. Items sold included items from our collection that were not Fridley specific or no longer used for display. Some old display cases were sold along with several mannequins and lots of old household items. About a dozen Santa Bears were donated to the museum for our sale and most of those sold. Books, old camera’s, Christmas items, 8 mm movies, and some old dresses made up a majority of the other items sold. Unfortunately, several old traveling trunk chests, Christmas Trees, desk and tables did not sell. The society will be donating some of these items to a charity thrift store and looking at other options for placement. FHS is planning on having another sale in June, 2025, when the city again has their city wide sale. We will update you with more information as that time approaches. A huge thank you to everyone that stopped by to check out our sale!



Fridley's 75th Anniversary Time Capsule Opening

by Mark Bonesteel, President

To celebrate Fridley's 75th Anniversary, a special open house was held at the museum on June 13th. At 1 p.m., Mayor Lund opened the time capsule which had been sealed in 1999 during Fridley's 50th Anniversary celebration.

Approximately twenty people were present for the time capsule opening and the event was broadcast live on Facebook and recorded and placed on the Fridley Historical Society YouTube channel page and our Facebook page.

The time capsule was packed with many interesting items. Some of the items included a Texas Instruments Laptop, Medtronic Pacemaker, a fox skeleton, hats from Onan and Joe DiMaggio's Bar, Fridley '49er Day buttons, Fridley Tigers mascot animal, and an Old Country Buffet button. Newspapers, along with an old phone book, Fridley history books, a VHS tape, and many essays written by Fridley students were also found in the time capsule. All items are on display at the museum in the basement meeting room. The Historical Society is currently collecting items to be placed in a new time capsule. That time capsule will be sealed in September and stored until June, 2049 when Fridley celebrates its 100th Anniversary. If you have something you would like to place in our new time capsule, please drop the item off at our museum during one of our upcoming open houses or email us at FHS1949@outlook.com. You can also leave a message on our answering machine at 763-571-0120.



Mayor Scott Lund opening the capsule

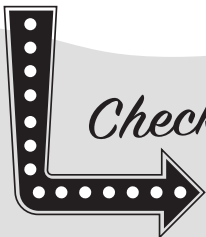


Tidbits from the past...

~Do you remember burning your paper trash outside in a burn barrel?

~Who remembers listening to WDGY AM in the 60s – the one and only rock-n-roll station?

Post your thoughts on the Fridley Historical Society's Facebook page.



Check us out on our socials



Fridley Historical Society



YouTube

Fridley Historical Society Videos

Grant Update

by Mary Ann Hoffman, VP and Grants Chair

We received word on July 30 that the work completed for the grant issued through the Minnesota Historical Society has been accepted; thereby the grant is closed. This was welcome news, as it culminated several months' work which completed Phase 1 of our 3-phase project.

The finished product from the grant is an Exhibit Concept that will help prepare the way for a permanent exhibit in our museum that will interpret the post-World War II suburban development of Fridley.

Early next year we will begin work on writing a grant to get funding for Phase 2 of the project. This will enable us to complete fabrication by designing the exhibit and creating scripts for any media pieces.

Below is another synopsis from the interviews that were collected in 2012. These interviews will serve as a basis for the permanent exhibit.

Pat Sibert

by Mary Ann Hoffman, VP and Grants Chair

Following years of privation during the Great Depression and World War II, many Americans hoped to one day own their own home. Pat Sibert's parents must have felt they had, at least in part, fulfilled the American Dream when they bought a new house on Madison Street in 1958.

Built by prolific homebuilder Vern Donnay and costing \$14,500, Pat described their house as a "three-bedroom rambler", and then laughingly added, "They were all built the same. They were colored different, but the layout -- you walked in one house, you'd walked in them all." The postwar method of building houses in an almost assembly line fashion helped make them affordable for the middle class.

Pat was in 8th grade when her family moved to Fridley. When she graduated from Fridley High School in 1962, Pat stated that there were 52 in her class, while when her sister graduated three years later, her class was composed of about 200 students, reflecting the quick rise in Fridley's school-age population. Like most women in her neighborhood, Pat's mother didn't work outside the home, allowing the neighbor ladies to visit back and forth for afternoon coffee.

Pat was just one of the interviewees to talk about sand burrs, which she referred to as stickers. She described them as an annoying "bunch of little, tiny cactuses all on a stem [that] you can pick the stem off and throw them at people and they stick. They stuck to anything that touched them, your feet, your clothes, anything," and added that Fridley was "awash" in them. Along with sand burrs came sand, with Pat saying, "our whole back yard was sand, everybody's lots were sand and ... when the wind blew



continued on next page...

Pat Sibert continued...

from the south it all came right down our back yard."

She also recalled that when she was a teenager, "University was still two lanes, Highway 100 was still two lanes. Bob's Produce Ranch used to be over on East River Road....Osborne south....on the west side of University was all oak trees. It was beautiful and they used to have horses running around in there.... It just made you sick when they came in and bulldozed down everything."

Pat got married in 1964 and she and her husband had one child. To support her son following her divorce, she went to work at Burger King and enrolled in a 6-week course in Key punching School. (Key punching is a method of data entry and was a precursor to computers). She landed a job in downtown Minneapolis for which she earned \$1.75 an hour, which she said was pretty good for a woman's job at that time. Her salary allowed her to move out of her parents' house into an apartment on 7th Street, which she considered exotic living.

When asked to come up with a few words to describe Fridley, Pat responded, "Sand. Walking in the sand. Walking wherever we wanted to go and playing in the woods from Mississippi to Osborne. We spent a lot of time in the woods, just walking." Earlier in the interview, she had stated that, "...back then you either had a bicycle or you walked. None of the folks were into taking us here or there."

Today, Pat once again lives in the house on Madison Street that her parents bought in 1958.

WANTED

Fridley High School Yearbooks

(The Bangalian) specifically years 2003 to 2024

Also accepting: Columbia Heights, Spring Lake Park, and Coon Rapids yearbooks

Treasurer Position

The Fridley Historical Society is looking for a volunteer to be the Treasurer. This is a great opportunity if you want to give back to the community and have fun at the same time. Duties are as follows:

- ☞ Become a member of FHS if you are not already one.
- ☞ Attend a monthly board meeting and provide a report on the year-to-date and month's financial activities.
- ☞ Be a docent at least four times a year.
- ☞ Deposit member dues and other gifts received.
- ☞ Keep a running as well as monthly record of incoming and outgoing funds.
- ☞ Write checks as required.
- ☞ Help lead the annual audit.

If you're interested, please call or email Mark Bonesteel (763-331-1885 or FHS1949@outlook.com)

Membership Update

by Kathy Smith, Secretary

Listed below are the names of the people who have sent in their membership since the last newsletter. We welcome new and renewing members. A special thanks to **Noreen Rickenbach** who had to step down as the Membership Chair. She helped spearhead a new interest in being a member.

Lawrence Chubb*

William Decoursey*

Mary Erickson

John Fitzpatrick*

Joe & Therese Frederick*

Cathy Fritz*

Barbara & Elizabeth Hughes/Hitomi*

Mary Huss

Julian & Sharon Jensen*

Jerry Johnson*

Katy Johnson

Peggy & Mike Kalm*

Bruce & Brenda Kivi*

Barbara Kovacic*

Beverly Larson*

Audrey Mahr*

Ron Malcolm*

Katherine Mrozek*

Susan Murzyn

Carolyn Nolan*

Andrea Oman*

Margaret Pitts*

Sig & Marti Reckdahl*

Katie Simon-Dastych

Piny Smith*

Russ Cyndi Skillings*

Bernie Stawski

Norma Swanson*

Susan Thompson

Nick Gina Watercott/Carlson*

Lenny Ann Witucki*

Agnes Wolf*



A name followed by
an * indicates
that the renewal was
accompanied by
an extra donation.



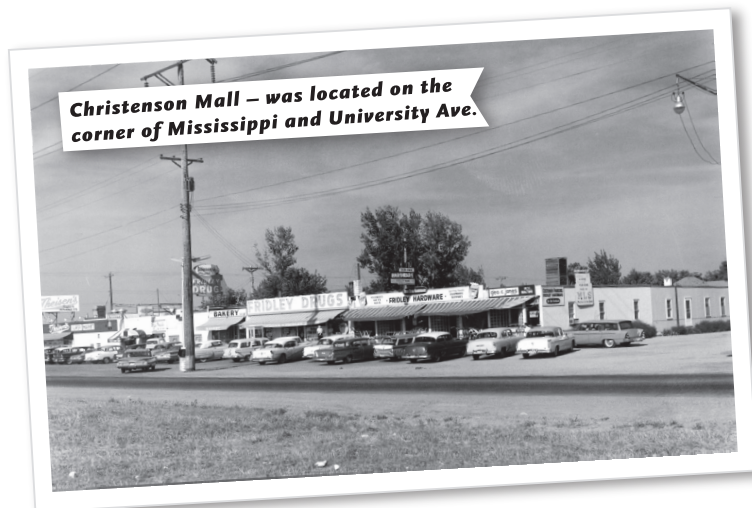
*As always, we thank you for your generosity, and we invite
you to include us in your will or estate planning.*

**Membership Renewal Form
on other side**



Help Preserve Our history

Fridley has changed. Keeping history local is what the Fridley Historical Society is about. We need your support. If you haven't joined or renewed your membership, consider doing so now. Donations are always welcomed. Please tell your friends and neighbors to visit us and join. We have not raised our membership fees in over 20 years. We welcome your visits and appreciate your membership.



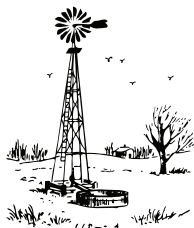
*Preserving this history is important. We need your support.
If you haven't joined or renewed your membership,
consider doing so now. Donations are also welcomed.*

FRIDLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

.....

611 Mississippi Street
Fridley, MN 55432
Phone 763.571.0120

RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED



*Celebrating Fridley's past
and securing its future*

Membership Renewal Form

✂----- clip here ----- clip here -----✂

Dues for the year **2024**: senior dues \$10 < individual dues \$12.50 < family dues (2 adults, same household) \$18.50 <

Please consider making an additional donation to help us reach our goals.

**** Corporate sponsorships available ****

Dues \$ _____ Additional tax-deductible donation \$ _____

☐

Check the box to request an IRS donation receipt

Name(s) _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

— MAIL TO —

Fridley Historical Society, 611 Mississippi Street, Fridley MN 55432

Thank you for your support!