

The Record

Valentine Potluck Dinner and Bingo **Thursday, February 9, 6:00 p.m.**

Upcoming



Saturday, January 14
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

History Center Open House
Free admission

Saturday, January 28
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

History Center Open House
Free admission

Thursday, February 9
6:00 p.m.

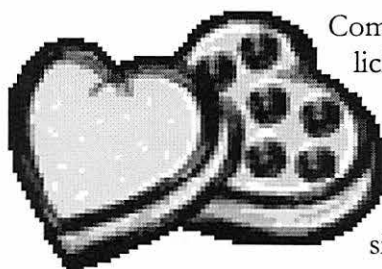
Valentine Potluck & Bingo
At the History Center

Saturday, February 11
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

History Center Open House
Free admission

Saturday, February 25
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

History Center Open House
Free admission



Come and enjoy good company and lots of delicious food at a potluck dinner at the History Center. If possible, please bring a dish to share. If you are not able to bring something, you will still be welcome, there is always plenty of food. Plates, cups, utensils and beverages will be provided.

After dinner we'll play bingo for prizes. If you have an unused gift you would like to re-gift or some handwork you've done, please contribute it for a prize. What you've been hiding away in a closet, may bring delight to someone else.



Have You Sent in Your Membership Form?

It's not too late to send in your membership form and dues. Please take advantage of the form on the back of this issue.

Here are some good reasons to be a member of the Fridley Historical Society:

- Our mission is to collect and preserve Fridley's history and the histories of its families, businesses, non-profit organizations, government and schools.
- We disseminate historical information about Fridley for the benefit of past and current citizens of Fridley, researchers and schools.
- We present AugustFest and the Fridley Hall of Fame and other events for the benefit of the community.
- It is a good way to get to know your community better and add to its vitality.

Fridley Historical Society

Board & Committees

The Board of Directors meets at the History Center on the first Thursday of every month at 6 p.m.

Officers

Vice President	Dorothy Gargaro
Secretary	Grace Norton
Treasurer	Judy Anderson

Other Board Members

Pete Bonesteel
Mary Ann Hoffman
Mary Sue Meyers
Allen Taylor

Committees & Chairpersons

Members interested in attending a committee meeting, please call the Chair to confirm time and date.

Archives

Pete Bonesteel — 763-572-1009

City & Family History

Dorothy Gargaro — 763-792-1080

Finance

Judy Anderson — 763-767-2566

Fundraising

Allen Taylor — 763-422-3878

Hall of Fame

Allen Taylor — 763-422-3878

Maintenance

Open Position

Membership

Mary Ann Hoffman — 763-780-5911

Newsletter & Public Relations

Grace Norton — 763-571-9286

Programs & Events

Mary Sue Meyers — 763-717-7987

Board Meeting of the Fridley Historical Society

Thursday, December 1, 2011

Anderson reported that we should have a larger balance this year than last year. The membership dues coming in now will be January income because they are 2012 dues.

Discussion:

Hoffman met with Jody Larson, from the Anoka County Historical Society. She is willing to do the fifteen interviews for the Post World War II Development of Fridley. She will be paid from the grant money received for the project. Anderson made a motion that we hire Jody Larson. The motion was seconded by Bonesteel and approved by the Board.

The interviews will be either video or audio interviews and will need to be transcribed and printed. The transcribing can be done as soon as an interview is done. Jody Larson will transcribe seven of the interviews. We need to do eight of them. Interviews will be done by mid May. Transcribing needs to be finished by November 1, 2012.

Committee Reports:

Hall of Fame: Gargaro reported that the Fridley VFW Hall has been remodeled and may be a good place for the Hall of Fame dinner. Broadway Pizza and the Middle School cafeteria are also possible options.

City History: Gargaro said one book has been sold at the city center. None have been sold at the senior center. She talked to the head of the senior center and urged her to display the books. For the books that are sold at the city center or the senior center we will be responsible for paying the sales tax.

Maintenance: Gargaro called the outdoor sign company, Sign Crafters, about the lights not working. It would cost between \$90 and \$500 to fix the lights.

Water heater problem: Anderson will try to find a reasonably priced plumber to do something about the foul smell when hot water is run.

Fundraising: Taylor is donating money from sales of his book, "The Night the Sirens Blew" about the May 6, 1965 tornado.

Finance: Anderson said Eleanor Anderson, CPA will audit our financial books early next year.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Grace Norton
Secretary

Thank You for Renewing Your Membership

As of January 5, the following had renewed their 2012 Fridley Historical Society Membership.

Robert Aldrich
Judy Anderson
Helga Bode Johnson
Pete & Mary Bonesteel
Barney & Ardella Buss
Dick & Lee Carlson
Adeline Christenson
David & Yvette Christenson
Dean & Carmen Coleman
Bud Dauphin & Marcia Schaaf
William DeCoursey
Suzanne Edinger
James Ehlert
Lyle & Elsie Elverud
Willis Erickson
Earl Fredrickson
John & Alice Ganter
Dorothy Gargaro
Mary Ann Haines
Carroll & Mavis Hauge
Chester Hayes
Chuck Hayes

Mary Ann Hoffman
Rosemarie Hofstad
Don & JoAnn Johnson
Sonja Granlund Johnson
Gary & Bev Larson
William & Hazel Linton
Audrey Mahr
Ron Malcom
Gerald & Margaret Maeckelbergh
Jerry & Marilyn Manley
Matt & Marilyn Manley
Bernadine Matushak
John & Lillian Meyer
Don & Mary Sue Meyers
Maynard Nielsen
Grace Norton
Jim Peterson
Wendy & Bill Plum
Gordon & Angela Sangster
Art & Norma Swanson
Carl & Adele Swanson
Glenn Theorin

Pat Vant
Gloria Vye
Patricia Whittlef
Lenny & Ann Witucki
Warren Woods
Miss Fridley Scholarship Ambassadors

Welcome back to the following after a membership hiatus:

Eleanor Anderson
Margaret Jewison
Kathleen Johnson
Minco Corporation
Mary Rozmark
Agnes Wolf

Welcome new members:

Gerrie Berg
Cindy Ruschy



We Thank Our Donors:

As of January 5, the following members have donated a total of \$1,004.00. We appreciate your continued generosity.

\$100 or more

Sonja Granlund Johnson

\$50 or \$99

William Beery
Kathleen Johnson
Grace Norton
Gordon & Angela Sangster
Minco Corporation

\$25 to \$49

Helga Bode Johnson
Bud Dauphin & Marcia Schaaf
Lyle & Elsie Elverud
Earl Fredrickson
Chuck Hayes

Don & JoAnn Johnson
Gary & Bev Larson
Matt & Sandy Manley
Bernadine Matushak
John & Lillian Meyer
Don & Mary Sue Meyers
Art & Norma Swanson
Carl & Adele Swanson
Glenn Theorin
Gloria Vye

\$5 to \$24

Gerrie Berg
Pete & Mary Bonesteel
Barney & Ardella Buss
Suzanne Edinger

James Ehlert
John & Alice Ganter
Carroll & Mavis Hauge
Rosemarie Hofstad
William & Hazel Linton
Ron Malcolm
Gerald & Margaret Maeckelbergh
Audrey Mahr
Jerry & Marilyn Manley
Wendy & Bill Plum
Cindy Ruschy
Pat Vant
Lenny & Ann Witucki
Warren Woods

A Dive into the Archive: Columbia Arena



A news photo of the newly completed Columbia Arena in 1969.

By Mary Ann Hoffman

Although Columbia Arena looks forlorn these days, no doubt many of you remember when it was a bustling site for hockey, open skating, and numerous other activities. The Fridley Historical Society archive holds a file containing numerous newspaper clippings that tell the story of how Anoka County planned and built the arena in the late 1960s. While piecing together the clippings and examining the news photos, I got caught up in the story of how the arena came to be. In fact, there is so much information in those sources that it will take three columns to adequately explain the twists and turns faced by the county while planning and building the arena.

Let me start by asking readers four questions to test your recollections of Fridley and Columbia Arena.

1. Although the Anoka County Ice Arena was eventually built in Locke Park in Fridley, what other location was strongly considered? A.. Bunker Hills County Park, B. the land that became Springbrook Nature Center, C. county land adjacent to Kordiak Park in Columbia Heights, D. the site where Blaine High School was eventually built. (Answer: A. Bunker Hills, at that time called Bunker Prairie County Park)
2. From what entity did the county acquire the land on which the arena was built? A. a power company, B. the Boy Scouts, C. a railroad company, D. Super Valu, Inc. (Answer: C. a railroad company)
3. What huge challenge was encountered by the county board during the planning and construction of the arena? A. construction bids were far higher than had been projected, B. union laborers went out on strike during construction, C. part of the roof collapsed during construction due to a winter storm, D. a large portion of the citizens of Fridley opposed the project. (Answer: A. the initial bids were so high there was talk of abandoning the project)
4. What unforeseen situation caused problems at the arena soon after it was built? A. flooding at Rice Creek, B. traffic jams, C. graffiti, D. insufficient business. (Answer: B. traffic jams – really!)

The following time line, based on FHS archival sources, chronicles the origins of Columbia Arena.

A January 4, 1967 newspaper article states that, at the most recent Anoka County Board meeting, Chairman Al Kordiak of Columbia Heights and Commissioner Mike O'Bannon of Fridley spoke about building a county ice arena in Fridley. O'Bannon stated that Fridley is "very much interested" and Kordiak made a motion to investigate Fridley as a possible site, which passed 5-0. Although there was talk about locating the ice arena in other areas, Kordiak and O'Bannon argued that Fridley was the center of population in the county and was more accessible than the Bunker Prairie site. The estimated cost of the arena was \$600,000.

A January 20, 1967 article in the *F.F.P.* states that a board-appointed committee had studied possible sites for a county ice arena., and had concluded that Bunker Prairie Park would be best because it was already owned by the county. After accepting the committee report, the board passed a resolution in which the City of Fridley was invited to provide a possible location. Committee member Curt Larson of Fridley explained that, "the Fridley high school hockey team must practice at Braemer in Edina," adding that they had been, "allocated the worst possible times for practice." At the same meeting, the board directed County Attorney Robert Johnson to draft a legislative bill that would allow the county to issue bonds to fund arena construction.

In the next issue of *The Record*, discordant views and condemnation proceedings will be chronicled.

Annual Kindergarten Art Fair

Saturday, December 10 kindergarten children from Hayes and Stevenson Schools came with their families to see their holiday art work displayed at the History Center. Cookies and cider were served in the lower level. A picture of each child was taken in front of one of the Christmas trees as they proudly displayed their artwork. They each received a copy of their picture when they returned to school after the holiday break. Below are some of the children who came with their parents.



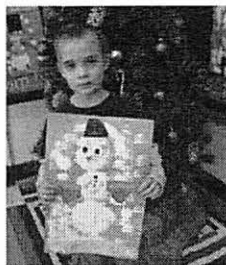
Murtesa Ami
Hayes



Gabriel Lepsch
Hayes



Samantha Ritter
Hayes



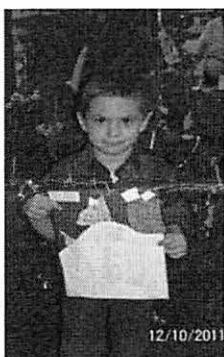
Jake Koehler
Hayes



Johanna Johnson
Hayes



Madison Ratliff
Stevenson



Chayse Bakke
Stevenson



Emily Duba
Stevenson



Sri Mylavarupa
Stevenson



Elizabeth Lindsey
Stevenson

Kids From Fridley Holiday Concert



Maggie Bergman and Lauren
Beckstrand on flutes and Kristen
Delt on piano accompanying the
choir

December 12 the Kids From Fridley Holiday concert was held in the Fridley High School Cafeteria. In past years the choral group has been only fifth and sixth graders. Last year they opened it to seventh and eighth graders so the group is too large to perform in the History Center. It was a lively group of about 55 young people led by Blair Berger. Cookies and Mary Sue Meyers' wassail were served after the concert.

The students putting their hearts into the grand finale of their theme song.



FRIDLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

611 Mississippi Street
Fridley, MN 55432
763-571-0120 phone
Grace Norton, Editor
Robert Christenson, Photographer

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*Celebrating Fridley's past
and securing its future*

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Reminder: It's Membership Renewal Time if You Haven't Done It Yet

I

Instead of finding your Fridley Historical Society 2012 renewal form in your mailbox as usual, please fill in the renewal form below and mail it to the address provided. We are an all-volunteer organization that relies on membership dues for our day-to-day operations, as well as to fulfill our mission of collecting, preserving and disseminating the history of the City of Fridley. Thank you to all who sent in their forms from the last issue.



-----clip here-----clip here-----clip here-----clip here-----clip here-----

Dues for 2012: One Senior is \$10.00, One Individual is \$12.50, Family (2 Adults or 2 Seniors, same household) is \$18.50. Please consider making an additional donation to help us reach our goals. Make checks payable to Fridley Historical Society.

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

Name(s) _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Mail to: Fridley Historical Society, 611 Mississippi Street NE, Fridley, MN 55432.

Thank you!



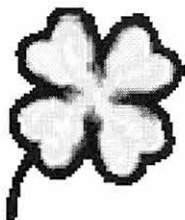
The Record

22nd Annual Lasagna Dinner, Sweepstakes and Live Auction



Plan to attend the 2012 Lasagna Dinner, our major fund raiser of the year. Mark your calendar for Saturday, April 28, 5 p.m. We are grateful for the hospitality of the American Legion Hall Post 303 who will again host the event. The Hall is located at 7365 Old Central Ave. Marino's will cater a delicious dinner of lasagna, salad, garlic bread, coffee and punch. Cake will be served for dessert. A cash bar will be available.

Upcoming Events



Saturday, March 10
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

History Center Open House
Free admission

Saturday, March 24
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

History Center Open House
Free admission

Saturday, April 14
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

History Center Open House
Free Admission

Saturday April 28
5 p.m.

22nd Annual Lasagna Dinner
At American Legion Hall
Post 303
7365 Old Central Ave.
Fridley

There is parking in the rear of the building off of Onondaga St. Everyone is required to register as they come in. Seating will begin at 4:15 p.m. and dinner will be served at 5 p.m. The sweepstakes drawing and auction will begin at 5:45 p.m.

If you would like to make a donation of a sweepstakes prize or auction item, please call the History Center, 763-571-0120, and leave a message. Someone will get back to you. Your donation would be welcome. The prizes should be \$10 or more in value and in good condition.

The tickets and reservation forms with instructions were mailed March. 2. Dinner tickets are \$12 each and sweepstakes tickets are \$1 each. Be sure to send them in right away, before the dinner is sold out. If you did not get yours in the mail, or you need more tickets, call the History Center. Someone will return your call.



Minnesota State Flag Contribution

The Minnesota state flag is proudly flying beneath the United States flag at the Fridley History Center. Our thanks go to Bill Beery who donated the flag and had it hung on our flag pole.

Fridley Historical Society

Board & Committees

The Board of Directors meets at the History Center on the first Thursday of every month at 6 p.m.

Officers

Vice President	Dorothy Gargaro
Secretary	Grace Norton
Treasurer	Judy Anderson

Other Board Members

Pete Bonesteel
Mary Ann Hoffman
Mary Sue Meyers
Allen Taylor

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Mary Ann Hoffman—763-780-5911

Newsletter & Public Relations

Grace Norton—763-571-9286

Programs & Events

Mary Sue Meyers — 763-717-7987

Fridley Historical Society Board Meeting

Summary of Thursday, February 2, 2011 Meeting

Members Present: Pete Bonesteel, Dorothy Gargaro, Mary Ann Hoffman, Mary Sue Meyers, and Allen Taylor. Absent: Judy Anderson and Grace Norton

Vice President Gargaro called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

A change needed to be made in the January, 2012 minutes. Dues came to \$1,034 rather than \$1,004. Hoffman made a motion to approve the minutes. Taylor seconded the motion and it was passed by the board.

Discussion Items:

The Legacy Grant: A contract was signed with Jodi Larson who will begin interviews for the Development of Fridley as a Post World War II Suburb project, Friday, February 3 at the History Center.

Committee Reports:

Hall of Fame: Taylor reported he is looking for a site for the Hall of Fame dinner to be held Saturday, September 15.

Programs and Events: Meyers reported the Lasagna Dinner will be Saturday, April 28 at the Fridley American Legion Hall.

City and Family History: Gargaro reported that our book "Fridley—Its History and People" went into the library display she and the Bonesteels did for February. One book has been sold at the Fridley senior center.

Archives: Bonesteel and Hoffman reported that we had a successful Archive Day, January 14, 11:00-3:00 p.m. There will be another Archive Day February 25 to organize materials and prepare them for filing.

We would like to have a complete collection of Fridley High School and Totino Grace High School yearbooks. We are seeking donations of these yearbooks.

Membership: Hoffman reported that renewals are steadily coming in. Between January 5 and February 2 \$417 in dues and \$522 in donations have come in.

Maintenance: Gargaro reported that Sign Crafters, who installed the outdoor sign, has repaired it and the lights are working.

Minutes taken by Mary Ann Hoffman for Secretary, Grace Norton

Fridley Historical Society Board Meeting

Summary of Thursday, March 1, 2012 Meeting

Members Present: Judy Anderson, Pete Bonesteel, Dorothy Gargaro, Mary Ann Hoffman, Mary Sue Meyers and Grace Norton. Absent: Allen Taylor.

Chad Amborn, his wife Melody and father Robert Amborn were present as guests.

Vice President, Dorothy Gargaro called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. The pledge of allegiance to the flag was said.

Anderson passed out the December 31, 2011 Treasurer's report for the end of the year, the audit report and the January and February 2012 reports. The income for 2011 was \$13,563.03. Expenses were \$12,371.83. The net profit was \$1,191.20. Norton made a motion that the board approve the Treasure's report. The motion was seconded by Meyers and approved by the board.

Committee Reports:

Programs and Events: The Lasagna Dinner mailing was prepared at the meeting. Meyers said the returned envelopes and collected prizes should be put on a table in the kitchen. Board members should start collecting prizes as soon as possible and prizes donated by members would be welcome.

The Hall of Fame Dinner will be Saturday, September 15. A location has not been chosen yet.

Archives: Bonesteel said that he had applied for the Historical Society to do the February 2013 display at the Mississippi Branch Library.

Hoffman reported that the two archive events in January and February had accomplished a lot. There will be no more archive events until after the Lasagna Dinner.

Hoffman also reported that about half of the interviews for the Legacy Grant had been completed.

Membership: Hoffman reported that \$66 in dues and \$126.50 in donations have come in since the February board meeting. It was decided that the membership form should be run one more time in the newsletter.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Grace Norton
Secretary



Thank You for Renewing Your Membership

The following membership renewals were received between Jan. 5 & Feb. 26:

John Banholzer
 Bob and Jane Barnette
 Don Betzold
 Don and Susan Blakeslee
 Mark, Laura, and Nick Bonesteel
 Elaine Butorac
 Robert Christenson
 Drew and Peggy Flathmann
 Fridley Lions' Club
 Ed and Arlene Hamernik
 Earl Hatten
 Carol Hoiby
 Margaret and Bill Hunt
 Eric and Pat Jaakkola
 Corine Kirkham
 Jim Kordiak
 Martin Lueders
 Scott and Cindy Lund
 Sue and Al Madison
 Tom and Gloria Myhra
 Roger and Gwen Nawrocki
 Gene Ness

Ruth Ollila
 Donna Olson
 Warren Olson
 Andrea Oman and Pat Billig
 Sig and Marti Reckdahl
 Deb Roberge
 Midge Rotter
 Roy Scherer
 Virginia Steinmetz
 Cindy Torfin
 Mary Van Dan

Welcome back after a membership hiatus:

Julie Jones



Thank you to the following for their donations:

\$100 or more

Mark, Laura, and Nick Bonesteel

\$50 to \$99

Drew and Peggy Flathmann
 Robert Christenson
 Roger and Gwen Nawrocki
 Warren Olson
 Deb Roberge

\$25 to \$49

Elaine Butorac
 Fridley Lions' Club
 Ed and Arlene Hamernik
 Sue and Al Madison
 Tom and Gloria Myhra
 Mary Van Dan

\$5 to \$24

Bob and Jane Barnette
 Margaret and Bill Hunt
 Corine Kirkham
 Martin Lueders
 Donna Olson
 Andrea Oman and Pat Billig
 Sig and Marti Reckdahl
 Roy Scherer
 Cindy Torfin

~We Offer Our Condolences~

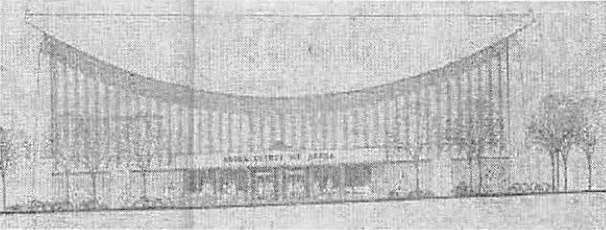
Geneva Duffy: We offer our condolences to the family of Geneva Duffy, a long time member of the Fridley Historical Society. Geneva passed away in January and services were held January 11 at the church of St. Timothy in Blaine.

Because there was no kindergarten in Fridley Schools, Geneva held a kindergarten class in her basement for a few years. Some years she had as many as 20 students. When Riverwood Elementary School opened in 1962 she closed her kindergarten

She and her husband, Jim, owned the A & W Drive Inn on the corner of Osborne and East River Road for a few years and also owned the Family Pizza Kitchen and the Steak Express which were also on East River Road.

Donald Vant: We offer our condolences to Pat Vant and her family. Pat's husband of 63 years, Donald, passed away in February. Services were held at St. Phillip's Lutheran Church.

Karen Sheldon, who grew up in Fridley and was a member of the Fridley Historical Society passed away in October. We offer our condolences to her family and loved ones.



Do you recognize this building? The sketch shows the original suggested design of the Anoka County Ice Arena by Pattee Architects in 1967.

A Dive into the Archive: Columbia Arena, Part Two

by Mary Ann Hoffman

In the last issue of The Record, the decision by Anoka County to build an ice arena was explained. At a 1967 County Board meeting, Al Kordiak and Mike O'Bannon initiated a discussion about building an ice arena in Fridley. Though there seemed to be much public support for an arena, and the board had directed the county attorney to draft legislation that would enable the issuing of bonds to pay for

it, the location of the future arena was a point of contention. The story, based on FHS archival material, continues.

A series of clippings from February, 1967 shows that, despite divided opinion about the future arena, the project was moving forward. One article states that the Fridley City Council agreed that Fridley was a logical location for the county ice arena. Another piece from the *Anoka County Union* states that an anonymous group of hockey boosters in Anoka was opposed to an ice arena in Fridley because Anokans had pioneered the project, laid the ground work, and had been working on it for six years. To that, Commissioner Kordiak pointed out that Fridley and Columbia Heights had supported the development of Bunker Prairie Park and the junior college, neither of which were in southern Anoka County. An article in the *Record* reports that Anoka County and Fridley officials met with the Minnesota Transfer Railroad Company to negotiate the purchase of 25 acres of land in Locke Park to be used for an ice arena. At the February 14 county board meeting, three locations in Fridley were considered, but Locke Park was seen as the most favorable. By then, the estimated cost of construction had increased to \$750,000.

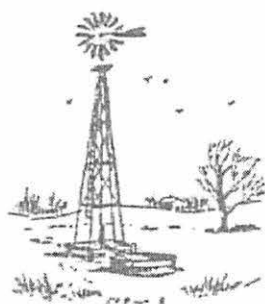
A news report dated June 21, 1967 describes how county negotiations with the Minnesota Transfer Railroad Company had led to an impasse over land cost, forcing the county to begin condemnation proceedings. The railroad company was asking \$8,500 an acre, though the appraised cost was a mere \$3,000 to \$5,000 per acre. County Commissioners defended the choice of Locke Park for the arena due to its "proximity to major highways, aesthetic beauty, completed improvements, population densities and promise of paying for itself."

Even though condemnation plans were proceeding, a July 19, 1967 article states that the County Board hired Frank Pattee Architects, Inc., Minneapolis, to draw up architectural plans for an ice arena to be located in Fridley. Pattee was chosen because of its experience in building ice arenas, including the new Metropolitan Stadium Ice Arena for the Minnesota North Stars. Construction of the Fridley arena was to begin by January 1, 1968, and be completed by August 1, 1968. That this project was being planned during the Cold War is evident in that the board planned to investigate the use of the arena as a civil defense fallout shelter.

A headline dated September 6, 1967 states "Board Okays Plans for County Ice Arena." Pattee Architects had submitted preliminary plans which called for a 216' x 180' arena to be built on two levels and seat 3,582. An architectural drawing accompanying the article shows an exterior view of the arena. Though handsome, it looks nothing like the one that was eventually built.

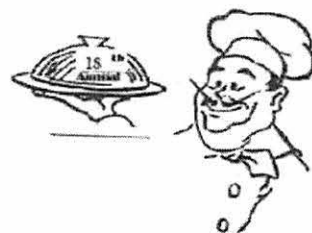
An October 18, 1967 article reports that a District Court Condemnation Commission awarded \$85,206 to Anoka County in its condemnation proceedings against the Minnesota Transfer Railroad Company. The county expressed satisfaction with the award, as it had offered \$3,000 an acre, and the settlement amounted to approximately \$2,500 per acre. Fridley had already agreed to split the cost of the land with the county, each paying \$42,603. Although land procurement was finally settled, a new challenge was reported in a December 29, 1967 news article: upon opening 12 general contract bids for the arena, the board was dismayed to see that they ranged from \$1,033,000 to \$1,188,075, which were, "considerably above prior unofficial estimates which varied from \$800,000 to \$1,000,000". Commissioner Kordiak expressed disappointment at the high figures and said he didn't know what the board would decide from there.

In the next issue, the story concludes with a solution for the high bidding costs, the completion of the arena, and a lavish dedication ceremony.



FRIDLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

22nd Annual Lasagna Dinner Sweepstakes & Live Auction



Prizes!

Date Saturday, April 28, 2012

Time Doors open at 4:15 p.m.
Dinner served at 5 p.m.
Catered by Marinos

Place American Legion Post 303
7365 Central Ave. N.E.
Fridley

Sweepstakes
Many great prizes

Live Auction
Many unique items starting at
\$50, including \$100 Eye Care
Center certificate

Tasty Food!

Fridley Friends!

**You do not
need to be
present to
win!**

Dinner tickets: \$12 each

Sweepstakes tickets: \$1 each

For information on how to order dinner or sweepstakes tickets, call 763-571-0120 leave a message and someone will return your call.

*Order early:
Limited
seating!*

Valentine's Potluck Dinner and Bingo

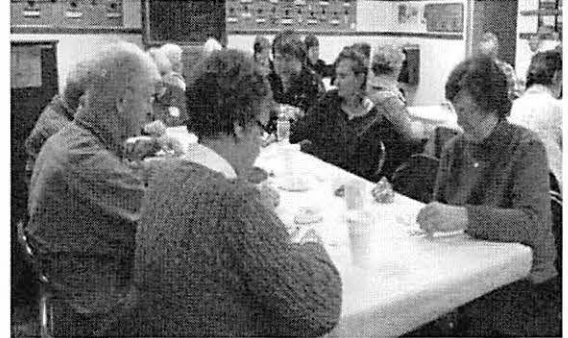
Thursday, February 9 was our Valentine's celebration with a potluck dinner and bingo at the History Center. There was plenty of delicious food and a lot of great donated prizes to win.



A table decoration



Left to right: Gene Ness and Pat Naegle



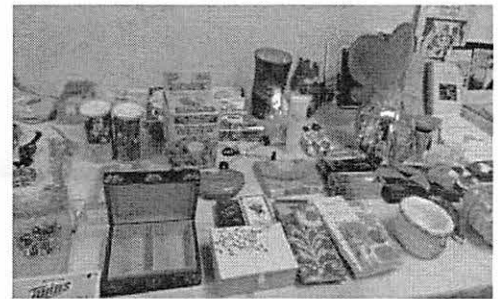
Concentrating on the game: Gwen and Roger Nawrocki with their backs to the camera, Allen Taylor, Kathy Taylor and Mary Ann Hoffman facing the camera.



Jack and Lillian Meyer



Maynard Nielsen and Dorothy Gargaro called the numbers



A few of the prizes.

Parkview Plaque Presented to Fridley Historical Society



Chad's wife Melody with the plaque, Chad holding the schedule chart and Chad's father Robert Amborn

Chad Amborn, his wife Melody and father, Robert Amborn came to the March board meeting to make a presentation to the Historical Society. They presented a plaque of Parkview Elementary School's chess and checker tournament championships from 1977. These tournaments were an important part of school life at Parkview. Dr. Lee Switzer the principal of Parkview gave it to the Amborn family in memory of Chad's brother, Curt, when Parkview School closed in 1978. Although he was very sick with cancer at the time of the tournament, Curt decided he wanted to enter it. He won the checker tournament and passed away just a month after winning it.

They also presented a schedule of the tournament which is a beautiful example of penmanship, which is almost a lost art.

FRIDLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

611 Mississippi Street
Fridley, MN 55432
763-571-0120 phone
Grace Norton, Editor
Robert Christenson, Photographer

RETURN SERVICE
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PERMIT NO 31193



*Celebrating Fridley's past
and securing its future*

Reminder: It's Membership Renewal Time if You Haven't Done It Yet.

If you haven't renewed your membership yet, please fill in the renewal form below and mail it to the address provided. We are an all-volunteer organization that relies on membership dues for our day-to-day operations, as well as to fulfill our mission of collecting, preserving and disseminating the history of the City of Fridley. Thank you to all who sent in their forms from the last issue.



-----clip here-----clip here-----clip here-----clip here-----clip here-----

Dues for 2012: One Senior is \$10.00, One Individual is \$12.50, Family (2 Adults or 2 Seniors, same household) is \$18.50. Please consider making an additional donation to help us reach our goals. Make checks payable to Fridley Historical Society.

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

Name(s) _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Mail to: Fridley Historical Society, 611 Mississippi Street NE, Fridley, MN 55432.

Thank you!



The Record

Nominations for 2012 Fridley Hall of Fame are due July 15

The 2012 Hall of Fame Dinner will be Saturday, September 15, 12 noon at the Broadway Pizza lower level. A ham and turkey dinner will be served. It was necessary to find a new location because the Knights of Columbus Hall has closed.



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Meet Mike Klosterman, Our newest Member of the Board



I have been a Fridley resident for over eight years. I grew up in maple Grove, Minnesota, but chose to live in Fridley because of its great location, beautiful parks and trails, friendly people and rich history.

I am a current student at Metropolitan State University and work part-time for the Fridley Fire Department. My interest in history started when I was very young, with sports history. I liked reading stories about the great players such as Mickey Mantle or Babe Ruth. As I grew older I became interested in how my grandparents were involved in World War II. My grandfather as a tail-gunner on the B-17 over Europe and the sacrifices my grandmother made at home by having to ration supplies and make due with less. With my position on the Fridley Historical Society Board I hope to gain a better understanding of how our city became what it is today and to learn more about the history of the Fire Department.

Upcoming Events

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11 a.m.—3 p.m.

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17th Annual AugustFest

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Mary Sue Meyers
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Maintenance

Open Position

Membership

Mary Ann Hoffman—763-780-5911

Newsletter & Public Relations

Grace Norton—763-571-9286

Programs & Events

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Fridley Historical Society Board Meeting

Summary of Thursday, April 5, 2012 Meeting

Members Present: Judy Anderson, Pete Bonesteel, Mary Ann Hoffman, Mary Sue Meyers, Grace Norton, Allen Taylor. Perspective Board member Mike Klosterman and Mary Bonesteel also attended. Absent: Dorothy Gargaro. Because of the absence of Gargaro, Hoffman chaired the meeting and called it to order at 6:05 p.m.

Action Items: Hoffman Introduced Mike Klosterman to the board. Mike has lived in Fridley for eight years, is an employee of the Fridley fire department. He has an interest in history and would like to be on the Fridley Historical Society Board. Anderson made a motion that we elect Mike to the board. The motion was seconded by Meyers and passed by the board. Mike was welcomed on to the board.

The Legacy Grant: Hoffman said that nine of the fifteen interviews for the Fridley as a “Post World War 2 Suburb” project have been done. We have purchased a start-stop transcriber with some of the grant money and we are ready to start transcribing the interviews.

Discussion Items: Hoffman handed out a list of traveling exhibits from the Minnesota Historical Society and the dates they would be available. It was decided she should see if we can get the “Minnesota on the Map” exhibit August 10, 2013 – September 29, 2013. She also said we could get the “Minnesota Disasters” exhibit April 4–May 21, 2015 which would coincide with the 50th anniversary of the Fridley tornadoes.

Committee Reports:

Programs and Events: Selling food and drink and our books from our front yard at the 49ers’ Day Parade was discussed. Meyers will check with the 49ers’ committee for approval and if we will need a license.

Hall of Fame: The Hall of Fame dinner will be at Broadway Pizza, September 15, 12 p.m. A ham and turkey dinner will be served.

Membership: Hoffman reported that March 5 – April 5 four members renewed their membership. \$51 in dues and \$240 in donations have come in.

Maintenance: The hot water is giving off a foul sewer smell. Anderson contacted Matt’s Plumbing. They took a water sample that they sent in to be analyzed to identify the problem.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Grace Norton
Secretary

Fridley Historical Society Board Meeting

Summary of Thursday, May 3, 2012 Meeting

Vice President Dorothy Gargaro called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. Members present: Judy Anderson, Dorothy Gargaro, Mary Ann Hoffman, Mike Klosterman, Mary Sue Meyers and Grace Norton. Absent: Pete Bonesteel and Allen Taylor

Treasurer's Report: Anderson reported that the Lasagna dinner was a successful fundraiser. The net income was \$2,437.37.

Legacy Grant Report: Hoffman reported that the interviews for the "Fridley as a Post World War 2 Suburb" project are going well. Approximately 11 of the 15 interviews have been completed and the transcription of the interviews has begun.

Committee Reports:

Hall of Fame: Applications for nominees for the 2012 Hall of Fame were put on the tables at the Lasagna Dinner. There has been one request for an application by phone. Nominations need to be in by July 15.

Programs and Events: Meyers reported that the Lasagna dinner went well and people had a good time. We are grateful to all of the merchants and individuals who donated and participated. We plan to sell bottled water at the Fridley 49ers' Day Parade for the people seated in front of the History Center.

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Hoffman has applied for the Minnesota Disaster display from the Minnesota Historical Society to be displayed at our history center October 18 – December 7, 2014. She will apply for the Minnesota on the Map exhibit for our use November 16, 2013 – January 25, 2014.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Grace Norton, Secretary

Membership and Donation Update

The following membership renewals were received in March and April:

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 Stephen and Mary Eggert
 Char Fitzpatrick
 Lynne Grigor
 Betty Hendrickson
 Byron and Eleanor Jensen
 Alice Johnson and Richard Jefferson
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 Leon Madsen
 Audrey Mahr
 Mel and Alicia Manley
 Melinda Manley
 Carole Miller
 Suzanne Miskowic
 Vicki Rockwell
 Carl and Adele Swanson
 Brian and Joanne Toews
 Craig and Terri Wolf

Welcome new member:

Mike Klosterman



Thank you to the following for their donations:

\$100 or more

Melinda Manley

\$50 to \$99

Stephen and Mary Eggert

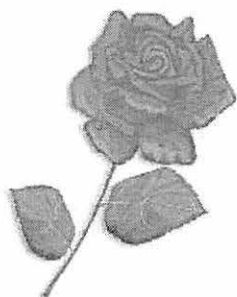
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We offer our condolences to the family and friends of Jeanne Petrangelo. She and her husband Tony were long time members of the Fridley Historical Society. Tony passed away last year. Jeanne passed away May 11. She is survived by four daughters and several grandchildren and great grandchildren. A service was held Wednesday, May 16 at St. William's Catholic Church.

A Dive into the Archive: Columbia Arena, Part Three

by Mary Ann Hoffman

The story so far: By the late 1960s, there was interest in building an Anoka County ice arena, and Fridley was eventually chosen as its site. Following condemnation proceedings against the Minnesota Transfer Railroad Company, land was purchased. The county hired Pattee Architects, Inc. to design the arena (a drawing of their design was shown in the last issue of The Record) but the 12 general contract bids that were submitted were far over budget, leaving the project in jeopardy. The story concludes here.

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An article from a July 24, 1968 newspaper begins with, "Anoka County will have its new ice arena after all..." This proclamation resulted from the opening of bids on July 16, which were significantly lower than ones received previously. The revised estimated cost for the arena was \$815,000. The county board expressed relief at this turn of events following a two-year effort to build the arena. Using laminated wood roof beams and wood instead of steel pilings accounted for the leaner cost estimate.

During construction the arena was given an official name: According to a news article dated November 13, 1968. Commissioner Al Kordiak suggested it be called Columbia Arena because the name "has not only local, but national and international significance as well." Kordiak announced that the arena was expected to be completed by early April and that two hockey schools had proposed renting the space during the summer, bringing in immediate revenue.

The dedication: In a June 25, 1969 issue of the *Sun*, plans were announced for the dedication of Columbia Arena., which were scheduled for Sunday, June 29, 10AM to 10PM. Marsh McGraw, the arena organist, was to provide the music for a long blade skating session, followed by a ribbon-cutting ceremony. After a bantam hockey game between Fridley and Coon Rapids, three Zamboni rides were scheduled, although the participants were left a mystery. An exhibition of precision skating and baton twirling would ensue, and then an Old Timer hockey game would be played, starring the "old versus the older." The event was to be capped by free public skating from 7:30 to 10, with the time being paid for by individual members of the Anoka County Board. The Master of Ceremonies for all events was to be Chuck Lilligren of WCCO radio.

Pages 21-26 of the September 17, 1969 *Sun* are devoted to the dedication of Columbia Arena.. It was reported that 500 people took part in the free public skating during the dedication, which was followed by a two-month trial operation of the arena before it was shut down to finish construction, culminating in a Grand Opening on Sunday, September 21. 20,000 people had used the arena during the initial two months of operation. Administrator John Rossi expressed astonishment at the demand for the arena and estimated that it would be utilized 80 to 90% of the time during the coming winter. Another article states that, "the schedule runs 16 hours a day, seven days a week for about 10 months of the year", adding that "already requests by colleges have been turned down because Anoka County schools have first choice."

(Continued on pg. 6)

(Columbia Arena, continued from pg. 5)

The archive file on Columbia Arena includes a copy of the January 19, 1970 Fridley City Council minutes. There weren't as yet traffic signals at the intersection of University and Mississippi Street and the city was facing the problem of traffic backups. The biggest problem was attempting to make a left turn in order to go north on University. The state had recommended using a patrolman at peak periods to control traffic. The City Engineer spoke of the need for left turn lanes. One council member stated that Sunday night was a peak period on 69th Avenue due to open skating at Columbia Arena., to which the City Engineer replied that the traffic signal on 73rd should help the situation. Another council member suggested that Anoka County provide a patrolman on 69th and University during peak periods. A voice vote on a motion to direct a letter to the county requesting a patrolman for peak periods at the ice arena was unanimous.

The 22nd Annual Lasagna Dinner Was a Success

The annual Lasagna Dinner was held Saturday, April 28 at the Fridley American Legions Hall. There were about 100 people there enjoying a delicious dinner, served by Marino's catering. We are grateful for all the merchants who provided prizes and auction items and individuals who participated.

Mary Sue Meyers organized the event and was in charge of the cheerful springtime decorations. Sweepstakes and auction items were collected from local merchants by the board members. There were 95 sweepstake items and 10 auction items.

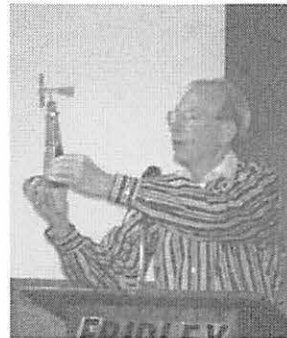
Don Meyers called the sweepstakes winners, Kathy Taylor pulled the numbers and Jacob Taylor got a workout as the prize runner. Robert Christenson was kept busy as emcee, auctioneer and photographer.



Kathy Taylor pulling numbers.



Don Meyers calling numbers.



Robert Christenson auctioneering.



Mel & Alicia Manley selling sweepstakes tickets.

Beginning at front left side of table: Mary Bonesteel, Wayne Frank, Jacob Taylor, Fernanda Gesch, Katy Johnson, Nancy Anderson, Margaret Taylor, Al Taylor, Kathy Taylor, and Pete Bonesteel.





Jacob Taylor running prizes

Left to right:
Gerrie
Berg, Gwen
& Roger
Nawrocki



Doreen
Siedleck &
Deb
Roberge

Left to Right: Bernadine Matushak, Carol & Gordy Christenson, Gary & Beverly Larson, Jean Larson, Sonja Johnson & Gene Ness



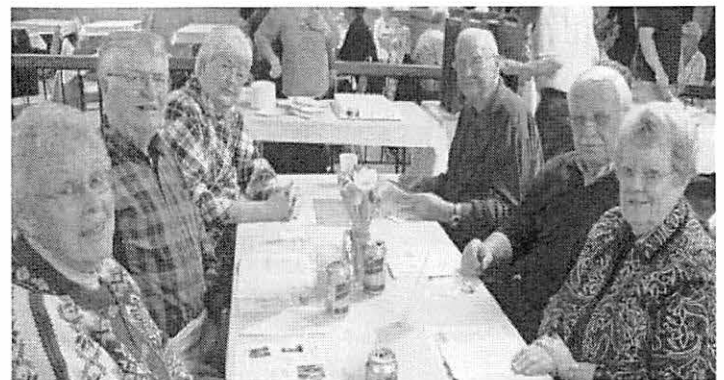
Left to right facing camera: Katy Johnson, Nancy Anderson, Fernanda Gesch & Mike Klostterman

Left to right: Alicia Manley, Jerry Blem, two unidentified guests, Melinda Manley & Mel Manley



Left to right: Margaret Tschackofski, Janice Hanson & Marty Lueders

Left to right: Mavis & Carrol Hauge, Betty & Bob Comer, Ed & Arlene Hamernik



Left to right: Bill Beery, Eileen Arnold Hohenessee, Craig Hohensee, Ron Malcom, Bob Barnette & Don Meyers

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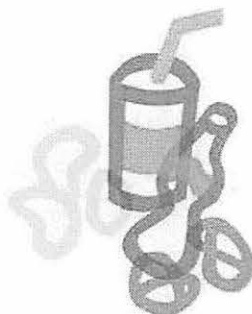


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Mark Your Calendars for AugustFest!



AugustFest will be Monday, August 13 at 6:00 p.m. in our parking lot. Enjoy entertainment and fun for everyone! AugustFest is for all members of the family. The Fridley band will perform on the Showmobile. Meet the new Fridley royalty. The kids can check out a fire truck and there will be an old fashioned ball game with the Quick Steps. Don't bother to cook supper before you come. Delicious Chicago hotdogs will be for sale on the menu.





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Summary of Thursday, April 5, 2012 Meeting

Members Present: Judy Anderson, Pete Bonesteel, Mary Ann Hoffman, Mary Sue Meyers, Grace Norton, Allen Taylor. Perspective Board member Mike Klosterman and Mary Bonesteel also attended. Absent: Dorothy Gargaro. Because of the absence of Gargaro, Hoffman chaired the meeting and called it to order at 6:05 p.m.

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Grace Norton
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Fridley Historical Society Board Meeting

Summary of Thursday, May 3, 2012 Meeting

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Treasurer's Report: Anderson reported that the Lasagna dinner was a successful fundraiser. The net income was \$2,437.37.

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 Carole Miller
 Suzanne Miskowic
 Vicki Rockwell
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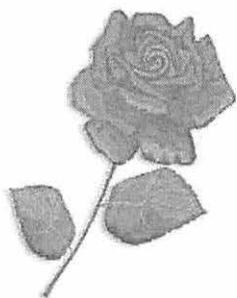
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Optimism was in the air: In a March 20, 1968 article, namely in a board decision to cancel its contract with Frank Pattee Architects (with a \$25,349.70 settlement) and hire the firm Patch and Erickson, which promised to keep the cost below \$1 million. A June 5, 1968 news piece reports that the county called for new bids.

An article from a July 24, 1968 newspaper begins with, "Anoka County will have its new ice arena after all..." This proclamation resulted from the opening of bids on July 16, which were significantly lower than ones received previously. The revised estimated cost for the arena was \$815,000. The county board expressed relief at this turn of events following a two-year effort to build the arena. Using laminated wood roof beams and wood instead of steel pilings accounted for the leaner cost estimate.

During construction the arena was given an official name: According to a news article dated November 13, 1968. Commissioner Al Kordiak suggested it be called Columbia Arena because the name "has not only local, but national and international significance as well." Kordiak announced that the arena was expected to be completed by early April and that two hockey schools had proposed renting the space during the summer, bringing in immediate revenue.

The dedication: In a June 25, 1969 issue of the *Sun*, plans were announced for the dedication of Columbia Arena., which were scheduled for Sunday, June 29, 10AM to 10PM. Marsh McGraw, the arena organist, was to provide the music for a long blade skating session, followed by a ribbon-cutting ceremony. After a bantam hockey game between Fridley and Coon Rapids, three Zamboni rides were scheduled, although the participants were left a mystery. An exhibition of precision skating and baton twirling would ensue, and then an Old Timer hockey game would be played, starring the "old versus the older." The event was to be capped by free public skating from 7:30 to 10, with the time being paid for by individual members of the Anoka County Board. The Master of Ceremonies for all events was to be Chuck Lilligren of WCCO radio.

Pages 21-26 of the September 17, 1969 *Sun* are devoted to the dedication of Columbia Arena.. It was reported that 500 people took part in the free public skating during the dedication, which was followed by a two-month trial operation of the arena before it was shut down to finish construction, culminating in a Grand Opening on Sunday, September 21. 20,000 people had used the arena during the initial two months of operation. Administrator John Rossi expressed astonishment at the demand for the arena and estimated that it would be utilized 80 to 90% of the time during the coming winter. Another article states that, "the schedule runs 16 hours a day, seven days a week for about 10 months of the year", adding that "already requests by colleges have been turned down because Anoka County schools have first choice."

(Continued on pg. 6)

(Columbia Arena, continued from pg. 5)

The archive file on Columbia Arena includes a copy of the January 19, 1970 Fridley City Council minutes. There weren't as yet traffic signals at the intersection of University and Mississippi Street and the city was facing the problem of traffic backups. The biggest problem was attempting to make a left turn in order to go north on University. The state had recommended using a patrolman at peak periods to control traffic. The City Engineer spoke of the need for left turn lanes. One council member stated that Sunday night was a peak period on 69th Avenue due to open skating at Columbia Arena., to which the City Engineer replied that the traffic signal on 73rd should help the situation. Another council member suggested that Anoka County provide a patrolman on 69th and University during peak periods. A voice vote on a motion to direct a letter to the county requesting a patrolman for peak periods at the ice arena was unanimous.

The 22nd Annual Lasagna Dinner Was a Success

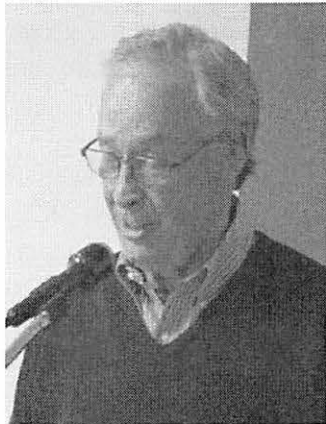
The annual Lasagna Dinner was held Saturday, April 28 at the Fridley American Legions Hall. There were about 100 people there enjoying a delicious dinner, served by Marino's catering. We are grateful for all the merchants who provided prizes and auction items and individuals who participated.

Mary Sue Meyers organized the event and was in charge of the cheerful springtime decorations. Sweepstakes and auction items were collected from local merchants by the board members. There were 95 sweepstake items and 10 auction items.

Don Meyers called the sweepstakes winners, Kathy Taylor pulled the numbers and Jacob Taylor got a workout as the prize runner. Robert Christenson was kept busy as emcee, auctioneer and photographer.



Kathy Taylor pulling numbers.



Don Meyers calling numbers.



Robert Christenson auctioneering.



Mel & Alicia Manley selling sweepstakes tickets.

Beginning at front left side of table: Mary Bonesteel, Wayne Frank, Jacob Taylor, Fernanda Gesch, Katy Johnson, Nancy Anderson, Margaret Taylor, Al Taylor, Kathy Taylor, and Pete Bonesteel.





Jacob Taylor running prizes

Left to right:
Gerrie
Berg, Gwen
& Roger
Nawrocki



Doreen
Siedleck &
Deb
Roberge

Left to Right: Bernadine Matushak, Carol & Gordy Christenson, Gary & Beverly Larson, Jean Larson, Sonja Johnson & Gene Ness



Left to right facing camera: Katy Johnson, Nancy Anderson, Fernanda Gesch & Mike Klostterman

Left to right: Alicia Manley, Jerry Blem, two unidentified guests, Melinda Manley & Mel Manley



Left to right: Margaret Tschackofski, Janice Hanson & Marty Lueders

Left to right: Mavis & Carrol Hauge, Betty & Bob Comer, Ed & Arlene Hamernik



Left to right: Bill Beery, Eileen Arnold Hohensee, Craig Hohensee, Ron Malcom, Bob Barnette & Don Meyers

FRIDLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

611 Mississippi Street
Fridley, MN 55432
763-571-0120 phone
Grace Norton, Editor
Robert Christenson, Photographer

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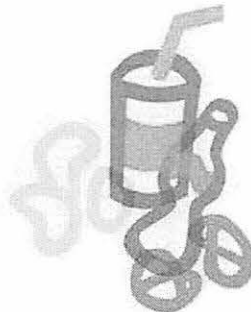


*Celebrating Fridley's past
and securing its future*

Mark Your Calendars for AugustFest!



AugustFest will be Monday, August 13 at 6:00 p.m. in our parking lot. Enjoy entertainment and fun for everyone! AugustFest is for all members of the family. The Fridley band will perform on the Showmobile. Meet the new Fridley royalty. The kids can check out a fire truck and there will be an old fashioned ball game with the Quick Steps. Don't bother to cook supper before you come. Delicious Chicago hotdogs will be for sale on the menu.





The Record

An Open Letter to Historical Society Members and Friends from the Board of Directors

Dear Members and Friends,

How proud we are of the Fridley Historical Society. Your response to our letter concerning the recent sewer bill has been just amazing. Thank you for the generous donations.

The Society has received \$6,225.00 to date. The total includes a \$2,000.00 donation from the Fridley Lions Club. These donations will cover our total plumbing repair bill and will enable us to pay off the loan we had just taken out to cover the bill. Any extra funds we receive will be earmarked for future maintenance expenses. A list of donors is included in this newsletter.

With the repairs completed on the sewer system we are safely open for business. Once again, we can host events and conduct tours. We are in the process of planning new exhibits for our museum space in the History Center. We will share information about these exhibits in this and future newsletters.

Again, thank you for your generosity. Your thoughtfulness warms our hearts to know that so many people in our community support the Fridley Historical Society.

Sincerely,
The Fridley Historical Society Board of Directors

See You at AugustFest!

Plan to come Monday, August 13, 6:00 p.m. Enjoy entertainment and fun for everyone. Hear the Fridley Band play toe tapping music, meet the new Fridley royalty and see an old style ball game with the Quick Steps. The kids can check out a fire truck and meet Mango the clown. Delicious Chicago hotdogs, chips, pop and water will be for sale.

Activities will be in our parking lot. Parking will be available at Hayes School. Bring a chair for a comfortable seat. Refreshments will be served in the History Center after the game.

Upcoming Events



Saturday, August 11
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

History Center Open House
Free Admission

Monday, August 13
6 p.m.

17th Annual AugustFest

Saturday, August 25
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

History Center Open House
Free Admission

Saturday, September 8
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

History Center Open House
Free Admission

Saturday, September 15
12 noon

Fridley Hall of Fame Dinner
Broadway Pizza, lower level
8298 University Ave. in Fridley



Fridley Historical Society**Board & Committees**

The Board of Directors meets at the History Center on the first Thursday of every month at 6 p.m.

Officers

Vice President	Dorothy Gargaro
Secretary	Grace Norton
Treasurer	Judy Anderson

Other Board Members

Pete Bonesteel
Mary Ann Hoffman
Mike Klosterman
Mary Sue Meyers
Allen Taylor

Committees & Chairpersons

Members interested in attending a committee meeting, please call the Chair to confirm time and date.

Archives

Pete Bonesteel — 763-572-1009

City & Family History

Dorothy Gargaro — 763-792-1080

Finance

Judy Anderson — 763-767-2566

Fundraising

Allen Taylor — 763-422-3878

Hall of Fame

Allen Taylor — 763-422-3878

Maintenance

Open Position

Membership

Mary Ann Hoffman—763-780-5911

Newsletter & Public Relations

Grace Norton—763-571-9286

Programs & Events

Mary Sue Meyers — 763-717-7987

Fridley Historical Society Board Minutes

Summary of Thursday, June 7, 2012 Meeting

Members present: Judy Anderson, Pete Bonesteel, Dorothy Gargaro, Mary Ann Hoffman, Mary Sue Meyers and Allen Taylor. Absent: Mike Klosterman and Grace Norton. Vice President Gargaro called the meeting to order at 5:25 p.m.

Discussion Item:

The problem with the clogged sewer line was discussed. According to our lease we are totally responsible for the plumbing bill which now consists of two extra cleanouts, not just one, which the original bid of \$3,000 from Matt's Plumbing covered. The problem with tree roots has been resolved, but at what cost? (The bill of \$5,920 arrived the day after the Board meeting.)

A letter will be sent to members concerning the cost of the repairs. Meyers said she and her husband, Don, will write it. Anderson will go to the bank and get the loan process started.

Grant update: The interviews are complete. Transcriptions need to be completed.

Committee Reports:

Programs and Events: We will sell water and chips to the people sitting near the History Center for the 49er Days' parade. We will also put out "Fridley—Its History and People" books to sell.

Archives: The record player in the east classroom upstairs is a mystery. No one knows who brought it or when. We would like to thank them.

Membership: Since the May Board meeting \$76 in dues and \$131.50 in donations has come in.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Judy Anderson for Grace Norton, Secretary

Summary of Thursday, July 12, 2012 Meeting

All Board members were present. Vice President Gargaro called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

Action item:

Hoffman reported that all of the interviews and the transcriptions are completed for the Fridley as a Post World War 2 suburb project.

Committee Reports:

Hall of Fame: Taylor reported that the Hall of Fame committee will
(Continued on next page.).



(July 12 Board Minutes continued from previous page.)

meet soon to consider the nominees from this year and previous years.

Fund Raising: Taylor suggested we put out a calendar.

It was decided we would not sell water and chips at the 49er's parade next year because it did not bring in a profit. The remaining water and chips will be sold at AugustFest.

Maintenance: We will have a cleaning day Saturday, July 28, 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Gargaro will find people to do the exterior work. Klosterman volunteered to trim the bushes.

Craig Hohensee is donating his services to maintain the irrigation system.

City & Family History: Bob's Produce sold three "Fridley—Its History and People" books recently. The books were advertised during the 49er Days' parade broadcast. A 49er Days display was done at the Mississippi Branch Library.

Membership: Hoffman handed out an updated membership list. We have 160 members.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Grace Norton, Secretary

Two New Exhibits Coming to the History Center

By Mary Ann Hoffman

The Board of the Fridley Historical Society is excited to announce that we will be presenting two exhibits this winter. The first, Christmas in the 1970's, will be on display this coming November and December. Do you remember the era of disco, pet rocks, and 8-track tapes? Or when leisure suits, platform shoes, and polyester double knit dresses passed for fashion? You can relive this era by visiting the Fridley History Center and checking out our 70's vignette. We already have a number of artifacts on hand for the display, including a leisure suit, but we are in need of some additional items. What's in your basement, attic, or closets that we might be able to borrow? We are particularly interested in shag carpeting (especially if it is avocado or orange), sheet paneling that was so popular for rec room walls, furniture, tableware, toys, Christmas decorations, etc. Please leave a message at the History Center (763-571-0120) if you can help us out.

In conjunction with this exhibit, the Fridley Historical Society will be hosting a 1970's trivia contest at our history center sometime in November. You will be able to enter as an individual or as a team – all the details will be in the next issue of *The Record*. It's not too soon to start brushing up on the "Me Decade."

A Minnesota Historical Society traveling exhibit, Minnesota on the Map, will be on display January 19—March 9, 2013. You will have an opportunity to see maps of Minnesota from the late 1600's to the early 2000's; the exhibit also includes a video station and an interactive giant jigsaw puzzle map. To make the exhibit even more interesting, we will be supplementing it with a series of local maps from our own collection.

A new committee is being formed to plan and prepare these and future exhibits. Our first meeting will be Thursday, August 9 at 6:00 p.m. at the History Center. Every informal discussion that has come up about the 70's exhibit has elicited laughter and enthusiasm, so if you think you might be interested in being on the committee, come to the meeting, check us out, and join the fun.

A Heartfelt Thank You to These Generous Donors who Helped Pay Off the History Center Plumbing Bill

All Temp Distribution	Betty Hendrickson	Miller Funeral Home
John Banholzer	Pearl Hicks	Tom & Gloria Myhra
Bob Barnette	Mary Ann Hoffman	Lloyd Nietling
Geraldine Berg	William Hofstad	Wally & Gene Ness
C. Bernardy	Craig & Eileen Hohensee	Grace Norton
Donald Betzold	William & Margaret Hunt	Ruth Ollila
Dr. Donald & Susan Blakeslee	Lary Johnson	Donna Olson
Bob's Produce Ranch	Helga Bode Johnson	Warren Olson
Barney & Ardella Buss	Dr. Donald Johnson	Andrea Oman
Elaine Butorac	Sonja Johnson	James Peterson
Richard & Lee Carlson	Corine Kirkham	Wendy Plum
Robert Christenson	Jim Kordiak	Gordon & Angela Sangster
Dean & Carmen Coleman	Martin Lueders	Roy Scherer
Stephen & Mary Eggert	Bill & Hazel Linton	Art & Norma Swanson
Lyle & Elsie Elverud	The Lions Club	Cindy Torfin
Willis Erickson	Scott & Cindy Lund	Pat Vant
Earl Fredrickson	Gerald & Margaret Maeckelbergh	Lenny & Ann Witucki
Cathy Fritz	Audrey Mahr	
John & Alice Ganter	Ron Malcolm	
Dorothy Gargaro	Mary Martin	
Mary Ann Haines	Bernadine Matushak	
David Harris	Jack & Lillian Meyer	
Carroll & Mavis Hauge	Don & Sue Meyers	
Charles Hayes	Donald Miller	

~We Offer Our Condolences~



Char Fitzpatrick, who was a founding member of the Fridley Historical Society, passed away on July 5. She served as president in the early years of the Society and was always an active member.

Char and her husband Ed moved to Fridley in 1956 and she became involved in school events, Cub Scouts and local politics. Ed, who was also active in civic affairs, served on the City Fridley City Council and passed away some years ago

She was a member of Central Lutheran Church where she helped found the Clothes Closet, which provides clothes for people in need. She was a tireless volunteer and advocate for those in need; through Project Homeless, Nucleus Clinic, Minnesota Senior Federation, White House Council on Aging, Thrivent Foundation Board, and Simpson's Women's Shelter.

She is survived by her sons, Charles (Natalie), James (Carol), Richard (Esme) and John (Annie). A memorial service will be held at Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, Saturday, August 4 at 10:00 a.m. Memorials are preferred to the Central Lutheran Church Clothes Closet.

Membership and Donation Update

The following Membership renewals were received in June and July:

Connie Bernardy
Jeff & Jacqueline Hed
Joseph & Irene Maertens
Agnes Shaw

Thank you for the following donations:

\$50 to \$99

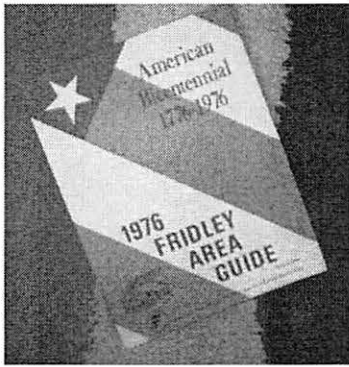
Joseph & Irene Maertens

\$5 to \$24

Connie Bernardy
Jeff & Jacqueline Hed
Agnes Shaw

A Dive into the Archive: 1976 Fridley Area Guide

by Mary Ann Hoffman



One of the standout events of 1976 was the Bicentennial celebration in which the United States commemorated the 200th anniversary of our nation's independence. The Bicentennial was recognized in an almost endless variety of ways—there might be Bicentennial objects in your attic or basement because your family surely had some in 1976. One example of Bicentennial recognition is the cover of the 1976 Fridley Area Guide, published by the Fridley Chamber of Commerce, which features a colorful United States flag along with the dates 1776 - 1976. Having this guide in the Fridley Historical Society archive provides a lasting record of area businesses in 1976. Do you remember the Powdour Pouf Beauty Salon, Fridley Our Own Hardware, Robert Hall Clothes, Population Research, Inc., Thrift Bakery, Torgeson Trucking, or Muggli Manufacturing? They're all in there, plus hundreds of others.

The guide also includes lists of area organizations, such as the Fridley Dancers; area schools (there were eight in Fridley in 1976); and 14 area churches. Dozens of businesses placed ads in the guide, including Totino's Pizza, Brunkow's Music Company, Berntson Gun Shop, and Wickes Furniture.

Following is the list of businesses under the heading, "Restaurants, Bars, and Drive-Ins." I have included addresses for those that no longer exist, at least in their 1976 location. Time for reminiscing: Big B's Pizza (Osborne & University), Chanticlear Pizza (then at 6304 Highway 65), Country Kitchen (57th & University), Dairy Queen (then at 280 Mississippi St.), Embers Restaurant, Fireside Rice Bowl Café (1160 Fireside Drive), A & W (7429 East River Rd.), Town Crier (7730 University Ave.) Frostop Drive-In (7699 Highway 65), George Is In Fridley (3720 East River Rd.), Ground Round (5277 Central Ave.), Jimbo's Pizza (248 Mississippi St.), Kentucky Fried Chicken (7510 University Ave.), McDonalds (then at 5851 University Ave.), Moon Plaza Restaurant (6215 University Ave.), Mr. Steak (5895 University Ave.), Phoenix Chow Mein (242 Mississippi St.), Pollies Place (6225 Highway 65), Sandee's Café and Bar (6490 Central Ave.), Shorewood Inn, and Zapata Mexican American Restaurant (5905 University Ave.) Notice that by 1976, fast food establishments had entered Fridley while both of the drive-ins have since closed.

If anyone has any artifacts that pertain to these or any other Fridley businesses, we at the Historical Society would love to see them and perhaps borrow them for future exhibits. For instance, I have a menu from a Wisconsin drive-in for which I carhopped while in high school that shows hamburgers cost 40 cents and malts 35 cents. Considering that the 1970s isn't that long ago—it isn't, is it?—notice that the majority of the restaurants here in 1976 are gone. I guess that's the nature of business, though; particularly the restaurant business. And it is already 36 years since we celebrated our Bicentennial.

FRIDLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

611 Mississippi Street
Fridley, MN 55432
763-571-0120 phone
Grace Norton, Editor
Robert Christenson, Photographer

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*Celebrating Fridley's past
and securing its future*

Make Plans to Attend the 2012 Hall of Fame Dinner

The 2012 Hall of Fame Dinner will be held at noon, Saturday, September 15. Fridley citizens who have contributed to the growth and development of our community will be inducted into our ninth annual Hall of Fame.

It will be held at Broadway Pizza, in the lower level, 8289 University, just west of the Orthopedic Partners Building. The doors will open at 11:30 a.m. We can no longer have it at the Knights of Columbus, because they are closed. A ham and turkey dinner will be served; the price will be the same as last year, \$25.

Watch for more information in the September Record.



The Record

Four People to be Honored at the Ninth Annual Fridley Hall of Fame

Upcoming Events



Saturday, September 8
11 a.m.—3p.m.

History Center Open House
Free Admission

Saturday, September 15
12 noon

Fridley Hall of Fame Dinner
Broadway Pizza, lower level
8289 University Ave. in Fridley

Saturday, September 22
11 a.m.—3p.m.

History Center Open House
Free Admission

Saturday, October 13
11 a.m.—3p.m.

History Center Open House
Free Admission

Tuesday, October 16
6:00 p.m.

Harvest Potluck Dinner
7:00 p.m.
Annual Business Meeting

Make plans to attend the Fridley Hall of Fame Dinner Saturday, September 15, noon at Broadway Pizza in the lower level, 8289 University Ave. Service Road, just west of the Orthopedics Partner's building. There is parking in the rear of the building.

A ham and turkey dinner will be served. Seating will begin at 11:30 a.m. For tickets call the Fridley History Center, 763-571-0120. The cost of the tickets is \$25 per person.

The 2012 Fridley Hall of Fame honorees are:

William Flanery: William's family purchased a parcel of land in the early 1900's that they worked on and developed a crop farm. On the property they had a small shelter where they spent the summers. In 1917, at the age of 18, William joined the Minneapolis Fire Department. After serving in World War II, he returned home in 1945, resumed firefighting, returned to his beloved Fridley farm and started his homestead on Onondaga Road. Mayor Carl Hartman appointed him as Fridley's first Fire Chief that same year. Before he passed away in 1962 the City of Fridley and William reached an agreement for the Flanery family land to be used as a city park.

Gloria Hayes: Gloria gave of herself to the community for over 40 years. She was a leader of the 4H Rick-O-Shaye Club and helped members with their fair exhibits and talent competitions, and made an impact on the lives of many children who kept in touch with her until her death in 2003. She was appointed to the Independent School District 14 Community Education Board from its inception. When there was a proposal to raze the Hayes Annex, she was an advocate to save it. After the Fridley Historical Society was formed and the building became a museum, she served on the first board of the Society and every board thereafter until her death. She was the main fundraiser, organizing casino trips and the Lasagna Dinner fundraiser.

DeWayne Schleiss: Fridley and its people captured his heart when he and his wife, Shirley, moved to Fridley after the 1965 tornadoes. The neighborly concerns, the rescue team work and willingness to rebuild so impressed him that he decided to become part of the community. A public accountant until his death in 2001, he was founder and president of the accounting firm of DeWayne R. Schleiss, Ltd., Schleiss, Hage & Gish, LLC. He was mentor, business confidant, fund raiser, membership chairman and keeper of the books for the Fridley Chamber of Commerce. He was active in the Boy Scouts

(Continued on pg. 3)

Fridley Historical Society

Board & Committees

The Board of Directors meets at the History Center on the first Thursday of every month at 6 p.m.

Officers

Vice President	Dorothy Gargaro
Secretary	Grace Norton
Treasurer	Judy Anderson

Other Board Members

Pete Bonesteel
Mary Ann Hoffman
Mike Klosterman
Mary Sue Meyers
Allen Taylor

Committees & Chairpersons

Members interested in attending a committee meeting, please call the Chair to confirm time and date.

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Pete Bonesteel — 763-572-1009

City & Family History

Dorothy Gargaro — 763-792-1080

Finance

Judy Anderson — 763-767-2566

Fundraising

Allen Taylor — 763-422-3878

Hall of Fame

Allen Taylor — 763-422-3878

Maintenance

Mike Klosterman—612-325-1242

Membership

Mary Ann Hoffman—763-780-5911

Newsletter & Public Relations

Grace Norton—763-571-9286

Programs & Events

Mary Sue Meyers — 763-717-7987

Summary of Thursday, August 2, 2012

Board meeting of the Fridley Historical Society

All Board members were present: Judy Anderson, Pete Bonesteel, Dorothy Gargaro, Mary Ann Hoffman, Mike Klosterman, Mary Sue Meyers, Grace Norton and Al Taylor. Gargaro called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. and the pledge of allegiance to the flag was said.

Action Items:

Hoffman reported that 99% of the work for the grant to finance the interviews and transcriptions for the Fridley as a World War 2 Suburb project is done.

The Exhibit Committee will meet to plan the first exhibit, Christmas in the 1970's, to be displayed beginning in November.

A member offered to donate the funds to buy a new copier. It has been purchased and installed.

Committee Reports:

Hall of Fame: Taylor reported that the committee has met and chosen four people and the nominators and nominees have been contacted.

Maintenance: Gargaro nominated Mike Klosterman to serve as Maintenance Chairperson. He accepted and it was agreed on by the Board.

Anderson reported that new light fixtures have been installed on the east end of the basement. These lights require a different size bulb than the old fixtures.

Gargaro reported that the school district will take care of replacing the grass that was dug up for the plumbing repairs.

The building was cleaned and the bushes trimmed on Saturday, July 28. Klosterman mentioned that the bushes on the east and west sides of buildings should be removed and perhaps replaced.

We are grateful for the volunteers that came to help. There will be another cleaning day November 3, 9:00-12:00.

Membership: Hoffman reported that \$90.50 in dues and \$126.50 in donations had come in the month of July. We now have 165 members.

Newsletter and Public Relations: Hoffman and Norton agreed to put the membership renewal form in the Nov./Dec. Record.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Grace Norton
Secretary

(2012 Honorees continued from pg. 1.)

and St. William's Church. He helped new businesses get established and kept the secure businesses flourishing. His goal was to promote Fridley, which he always did.

Dr. Lee Switzer: Lee came to Fridley in 1959 and retired in 1992. During those years of dedicated service to the education and growth of Fridley children he demonstrated leadership as a teacher and elementary principal. His wisdom and commitment to learning has impacted thousands of individuals. The National Association of Elementary Schools of Pepperdine University named him one of the Top Ten Principals in 1990. He has contributed to the betterment of the community in many different organizations. He is a lifetime member of the Fridley American Legion and Fridley VFW where he teaches defensive driving. He belongs to the Korean Veterans Association and served his country during the Korean war. He is on the Board of Directors of the Horatio Alger Society, a national literacy group. Lee delivers Meals on Wheels to Fridley, Columbia Heights and other area communities.

A Heartfelt Thank You to These Generous Donors who Donated to the History Center Plumbing Bill

The American Legion, Chester Hayes, Barbara Hughes, Alf & Dorothy Lee and Carl & Adele Swanson. These donations bring the total to \$6,480.00

Membership and Donation Update

The following membership renewal was received in August:
Katherine Simon-Dastych, with a donation between \$10 and \$24

Remembering Fridley's First Church

By 1848 the Manomin Mission had been opened by the Episcopal Church., where non-denominational services were held. The building was located just east of what is now East River Road and north of the current Mississippi Street. By 1858, the Mission was torn down and a new chapel built. It was dedicated as Holy Trinity Chapel by Bishop Jackson Kemper.

For four years, from 1868 to 1871 the chapel was used as a public school building. The building was renamed Holy Trinity Episcopal Church and the adjoining cemetery was dedicated on April 23, 1887. On June 6, 1925 the church was overturned by a tornado. The altar area, floor and a support beam were left standing. Members rebuilt the church using what remained of the church and many of the same materials. The church sat on a high hill. In 1952 the hill was excavated and the church was moved to lower area of the lot onto a full, finished basement.

In 1959 the membership of almost 100 people merged with St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Minneapolis. The building remained and was bought by the Michael Servetus Unitarian Society and moved to a new location in Fridley in 1970.

(Material for this article was taken from "Fridley—Its History and People," pages 95 and 98)

AugustFest Photos

AugustFest was Monday, August 13 outdoors at the History Center. The Fridley band played lively toe-tapping music, the Fridley Ambassadors were introduced and an old fashioned 1860's ball game was played by The Huckleberry Finns (the Fridley home team), made up of five Fridley Police Officers and three young volunteers, and the Quick Steps. The outcome of the game was Fridley 6, Quick Steps 5. The crowd enjoyed good entertainment and beautiful weather.



Dorothy Gargaro, Fridley Historical Society Vice President welcomes the crowd.



Mel Manley tending the grill.



Phil Raaen, Fridley City Band Director



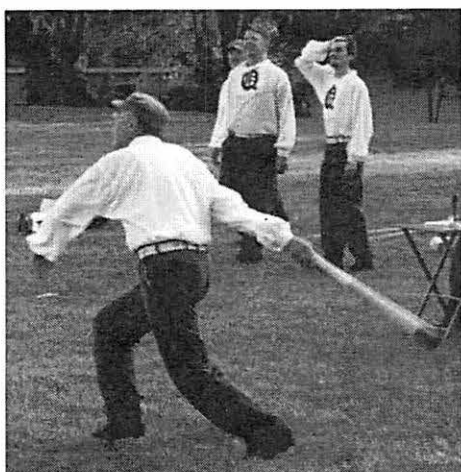
Alicia Manley with daughter Abby and son Grant purchasing food from Judy Anderson



Left to right: Fire fighter, Tom Svehil; Ambassador, Lindsay Trappen; State Representative, Connie Bernardy; Mary Sue Meyers, Ambassador, Alida Fowler and fire fighter Brian George.



Fridley home team player, Josh Bryant, takes a swing.



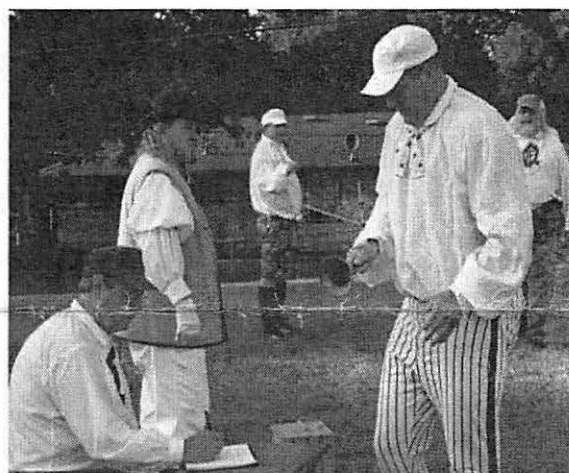
Robert Tholkes of Quick Steps hitting for the fence.



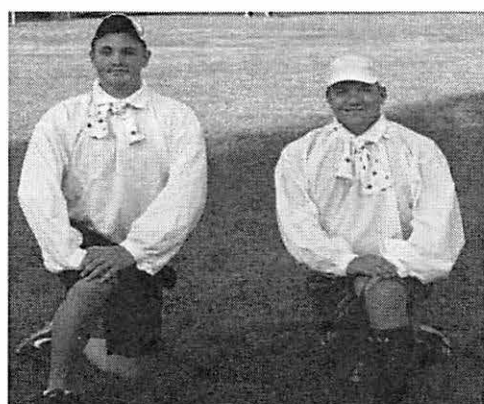
The Quick Steps (Names in alphabetical order) Michael Andregg, Rich Arpi, Doug Ernst, Arnie Hymanson, Jerry Janzen, Howard Luloff, Christopher Nelson, Paul Ostrow, Cary Smith, Bruce Stone, Mary Tholkes & Robert Tholkes.



Home team player, Tom Roddy, safe at third base



Home team player, Steve Monsrud, rings the bell after scoring.



Officers John Kotchen & Kevin Titus



The Huckleberry Finns, left to right: front row; Noah Taylor, Josh Bryant, Officers Kevin Titus & Tom Roddy. Back row: Josh Taylor, Officers John Kotchen, Steve Monsrud and Nick Knaeble

FRIDLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

611 Mississippi Street
Fridley, MN 55432
763-571-0120 phone
Grace Norton, Editor
Robert Christenson, Photographer

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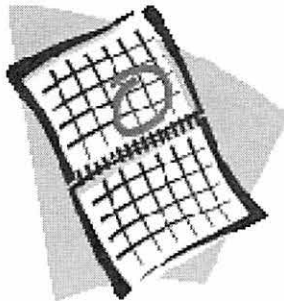


*Celebrating Fridley's past
and securing its future*

5543285314 CO20



Mark your calendar for Tuesday, Oct. 16



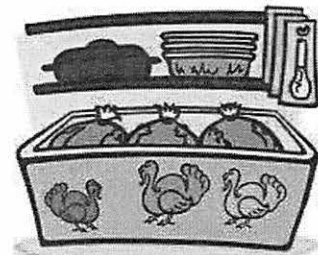
Make plans now to share your favorite dish at the Harvest Potluck Dinner and then to stay for the annual business meeting. The dinner starts at 6:00 p.m. and the business meeting at 7:00 p.m.

If you aren't able to bring a dish to share, that's okay, there is always plenty of delicious food.

The business meeting is an opportunity for members to share ideas and ask questions.

Each member of the Board will bring a report, including a financial report by our Treasurer, Judy Anderson.

See you there!





The Record

"Christmas in the 1970's" At the History Center

By Mary Ann Hoffman

The Fridley Historical Society has a treat in store for visitors in November and December when we present the exhibit, "Christmas in the 1970s" in the lower level of our museum. Yes, there will be plenty of harvest gold and avocado on display, as well as a caftan or two, a copy of *Jonathan Livingston Seagull*, several 70s Christmas ornaments, and many additional objects in our 70s vignette that are sure to jar your memories of the "Me Decade." Details of the exhibit follow.



Upcoming Events



Saturday, October 13
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

History Center Open House
Free Admission

Tuesday, October 16
6:00 p.m.

Harvest Potluck Dinner
7:00 p.m.
Annual Business Meeting

Saturday, October 27
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

History Center Open House
Free Admission

Saturday, November 3
9 a.m.—12 Noon

**Cleaning Day at the
History Center**

Saturday, November 10
11 a.m.—3p.m.

History Center Open House
Christmas in the 1970's
Exhibit begins
Free Admission

When: Our museum will be open for visitors 12 times before Christmas: Each **Saturday** afternoon November 10—December 15 from 11:00 to 3:00 and each **Tuesday** afternoon November 13—December 18 from 2:00 to 4:00.

There will be interactive activities for children and adults. Visitors can play 70's board games, listen to 70's records (requests taken!), and answer trivia questions. Be prepared for a surprise or two.

The **Grand Opening** will be Saturday, November 10 from 11:00 to 3:00. Come and enjoy refreshments and take part in a 70's Christmas craft activity.



Each Tuesday, 2:00 to 4:00, we will be serving Russian tea (so popular in the 1970's) and Christmas treats.

Note: The exhibit will be open the Saturday of Thanksgiving weekend. If the kids and grandkids are in town for the holiday, bring them over. They'll love it!

There is no admission charge for this exhibit and the Fridley History Center is handicap accessible, so come and relive the 1970's. If you wear your platform shoes, we promise there will be someone there to help you get back up!

Fridley Historical Society

Board & Committees

The Board of Directors meets at the History Center on the first Thursday of every month at 6 p.m.

Officers

Vice President	Dorothy Gargaro
Secretary	Grace Norton
Treasurer	Judy Anderson

Other Board Members

Pete Bonesteel
Mary Ann Hoffman
Mike Klosterman
Mary Sue Meyers
Allen Taylor

Committees & Chairpersons

Members interested in attending a committee meeting, please call the Chair to confirm time and date.

Archives

Pete Bonesteel — 763-572-1009

City & Family History

Dorothy Gargaro — 763-792-1080

Finance

Judy Anderson — 763-767-2566

Fundraising

Allen Taylor — 763-422-3878

Hall of Fame

Allen Taylor — 763-422-3878

Maintenance

Mike Klosterman—612-325-1242

Membership

Mary Ann Hoffman—763-780-5911

Newsletter & Public Relations

Grace Norton—763-571-9286

Programs & Events

Mary Sue Meyers — 763-717-7987

Summary of the September 6, 2012 Board Meeting of the Fridley Historical Society

Vice President, Dorothy Gargaro, called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was said.

Members present: Judy Anderson, Pete Bonesteel, Dorothy Gargaro, Mary Ann Hoffman, Sue Meyers, Grace Norton and Allen Taylor. Absent: Mike Klosterman.

Discussion Items:

Future Exhibits: The Christmas in the 1970's exhibit will open Saturday Nov. 10, 2012 and be open every Saturday, 11:00 a.m. – to 3:00 p.m. through Dec. 22, and every Tuesday afternoon beginning Nov. 13 through Dec. 18. The exhibit committee has met once. The committee members will be the docents for the exhibit.

Updating our website: Hoffman has located a webmaster to update our website at the cost of \$50 per month. Taylor made a motion that we hire the webmaster; the motion was seconded by Gargaro and passed by the Board.

Terms of Office: Gargaro had a document from 2007 stating terms of office. According to that document the terms of Board members expire: October of 2012: Judy Anderson & Pete Bonesteel
October of 2013: Dorothy Gargaro, Mary Ann Hoffman & Allen Taylor

October of 2014: Mary Sue Meyers & Grace Norton
Elected 2012: Mike Klosterman

Committee Reports:

Programs & Events: The Harvest Dinner Potluck and Annual Meeting will be Oct. 16.

Archives and City & Family History: The Bonesteels and Gargaro did the September display at the Mississippi Branch Library.

Gift given: Meyers reported that Susan Melton, a former Fridley resident, graciously sent a gift of \$300 and a note of appreciation to the Historical Society saying she especially enjoyed the exhibits. It was the consensus of the Board that most of the money should go toward exhibits. Hoffman will write a thank you note to her.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Grace Norton
Secretary

Congratulations to Fridley Mayor Scott Lund, Winner of the 2012 Ludwig Award

The Ludwig Award for "vision, statesmanship and unwavering commitment to the public good" goes to two Minnesota mayors each year. A panel of three judges, representing the League of Minnesota Cities, chose Lund from the mayors of all cities in the state with a population of 10,000 or more. Another award goes to a mayor of a city with a population of fewer than 10,000. That winner was Tim Geraghty of Newport.

In announcing the award the League of Minnesota Cities said Lund worked with the Fridley City Council and city staff "...to provide very high quality local government services and capital projects that are not only responsive to community needs but are affordable to Fridley residents."

The award was to be given to Lund at the league's annual conference in Duluth in July, but that was prevented by the floods in that area. The event was rescheduled and held September 11 at Springbrook Nature Center.

Membership and Donation Update

The following new members were welcomed:

Gordon & Linda Backlund
Bob Cook

The following membership renewals were received in September:

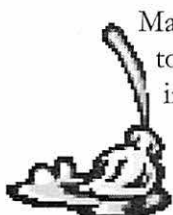
Darryl & Diane Sannes
Carol Schaaf
Allen & Kathy Taylor
Ann Teskey

Thank you to the following who have made donations:

Chuck Lindberg
Susan Melton
Carole Schaaf
Al & Kathy Taylor

2013 Membership Renewal: Check the November/December "Fridley Historical Society Record" for the renewal sign-up form and be sure to send it in right away.

Cleaning Day Saturday, November 3



Mark your calendar for Saturday, November 3, 9 a.m.—12 noon. Come and help clean the History Center to get it ready for our Christmas exhibit and the holidays. Most of the work will be indoors. We will be vacuuming, dusting and using our "elbow grease" doing some scrubbing and mopping. The more people who come the more we can make the History Center shine. If you can bring some cleaning materials that would be great!

The 2012 Hall of Fame Dinner

The Fridley Hall of Fame ninth annual dinner was held Saturday, September 15, at Broadway Pizza in the lower level. Vice President Dorothy Gargaro gave the welcome and opening remarks. Hall of Fame Chairman Allen Taylor spoke about the significance of the Hall of Fame in honoring the contributions individuals have made to the growth and quality of life in our community. He introduced Hall of Fame inductees from former years who were able to attend. Mayor Scott Lund was the emcee of the event and introduced the four 2012 inductees. Each inductee or their representative was presented with an acrylic award to keep. Their plaques were shown and will be displayed at the Fridley History Center. Violin music was provided by Jacob Taylor and Nick Luciw.

The 2012 Fridley Hall of Fame Honorees are:

William Flanery retired from the Minneapolis Fire Department and the position of Assistant Chief in 1944 after 27 years of service. After his retirement he moved to the family farm on Onondaga Road where he had spent summers as a child. Carl Hartman appointed him as Fridley's first fire chief in 1951, a position he held until 1956. Before he passed away in 1962 he and the city of Fridley reached an agreement for the Flanery family land to be used as a city park, which is now Flanery Park. Bill passed away at home unexpectedly October 21, 1962. His great niece Dawn Cordes accepted his award.

Gloria Hayes was the beloved leader of the Rick-O-Shaye 4H club and made an impact on the lives of many children who kept in touch with her until her death in 2003. She was on the Independent School District 14 Community Education Board from its inception. When there was a proposal to raze the Hayes Annex, she was an advocate to save it. She was a founding member of the Fridley Historical Society and served on the first board of the Society and every board thereafter until her death. She was the main fundraiser, organizing casino trips and the Lasagna Dinner fundraiser. Her daughter, Melinda, accepted her award.

DeWayne Schleiss was the founder and president of the accounting firm of Schleiss, Hage & Gish, LLC. An active member of the Fridley Chamber of Commerce, he was mentor, business confidant, fundraiser, membership chairman and keeper of the books. He was active in the Boy Scouts and a member of St. William's Church. He helped new businesses get established and helped keep the secure businesses flourishing. Dewayne passed away August 2, 2001 at the age of 61. His son Eric accepted his award.

Dr. Lee Switzer came to Fridley in 1959 and retired in 1992. During those years of dedicated service to the education and growth of Fridley children he demonstrated leadership as a teacher and elementary principal. His wisdom and commitment to learning have impacted thousands of individuals. The National association of Elementary Schools of Pepperdine University named him one of the Top Ten Principals in 1990. He has contributed to the betterment of the community in many different organizations.



Mayor Scott Lund, Emcee



Allen Taylor, Hall of Fame Chairman



Left to right: Jacob Taylor and Nick Luciw provided the music.



Left to right: Mary Sue Meyers and Dorothy Gargaro greeted guests as they arrived



Left to right: Nieces of William Flanery, Marilyn Finnerty & Dawn Cordes; Chuck Hayes and daughter Melinda, Dr. Lee Switzer, Shirley Schleiss and son, Eric.



Left to right: Dawn Cordes accepting for William Flanery, Dorothy Gargaro, Allen Taylor and Mayor Scott Lund



Left to right: Mayor Scott Lund, Dorothy Gargaro, Allen Taylor and Melinda Hayes accepting for her mother, Gloria Hayes.



Left to right: Eric Schleiss accepting for DeWayne SCheiss, Dorothy Gargaro, Allen Taylor and Mayor Scott Lund



Left to right: Dr. Lee Switzer, Dorothy Gargaro, Allen Taylor and Mayor Scott Lund.



Left to right: Mary Ann Hoffman, Dorothy Gargaro, Scott Lund, Kathy and Al Taylor at the head table.



Left to right around table: John Yamamoto, Charlie Yamamoto, Nick Yamamoto, Melinda Hayes, Chuck Hayes, Ruth Frogh, Agnes Shaw and Lyle Elverud.

Left to right: Marilyn Finnertyt, Theresa Carter, June Snyder, Terri Lia, Grace Norton, Nancy Johnson and Dawn Cordes



Left to right: Merritt Hage, Ethel Brennan, Shirley Schleiss, Cindee Geach, Liam Schleiss, Jen Schleiss, Eric Schleiss, June Schleiss, and Ron Schleiss

Left to right: Jerry Manley, Mel Manley, Alicia Manley, Helga Bode Johnson, Helen Sampson, Suzanne Miskowic, Marilyn Manley and Margaret Jewison



Left to right: Matt Lanier, Cassie Lanier, Gaylene Switzer, Lee Switzer, Fred Switzer, Joanne Switzer, Jari Lanier and Jerry Lanier



Left to right: Richard Bailly, Kari Switzer, Sharon Bailly, Lorraine Buchwald, Linda Backlund, Gordon Backlund, Melody Amborn and Chad Amborn

Left to right: Mary Sue Meyers, Don Meyers, Karen Jacobson, Elaine Butorac, Bob Barnette, Connie Samuelson, Bill Beery



Left to right: Marty Lueders, Janice Hanson, Barbara Hughes, Elizabeth Hughes Hitomi, Gordon Bixel, Connie Metcalf, Ardella Buss and Barney Buss



Left to right: Colleen Higgins, Pat Genosky, Jeanne Johnson, Erv Johnson, Jacob Taylor, Nick Luciow and Kendall Cenaiko

Right to left: Joanne Gammelin, Pat Siedlecki, Dorothy Rochlke, Walter Rochlke, Lynn Phillips and Renee' Johnson



Left to right: John Banholzer, Phyllis Banholzer, Stan Mack and Margaret Leibfried



FRIDLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Grace Norton, Editor
Robert Christenson, Photographer

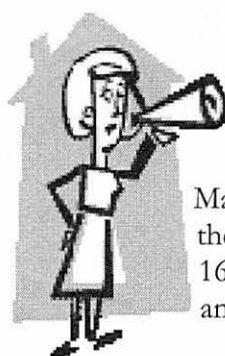
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Calling all members Harvest Potluck Dinner and Annual Business Meeting

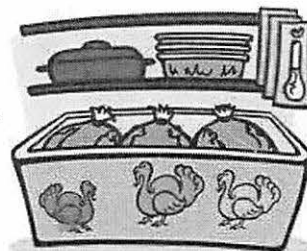
Make plans now to prepare your favorite dish to share at the Harvest Potluck Dinner and then to stay for the annual business meeting at the History Center on Tuesday, October 16. The dinner starts at 6:00 p.m. and the business meeting at 7:00 p.m. Table settings and beverages will be provided.

If you aren't able to bring a dish to share, that's okay, there is always plenty of delicious food.

The business meeting is an opportunity for members to share ideas and ask questions.

Each member of the Board will bring a report, including a financial report by our Treasurer, Judy Anderson.

See you there!





The Record

Hurry, Make Your Way to "Christmas in the 1970's" Exhibit At the History Center Before it Closes!

Upcoming Events



Tuesday, Dec. 4, 11 & 18
2:00—4:00 p.m.

History Center Open House Christmas in the 1970's

Exhibit

Free admission

Saturday, Dec. 8
11:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Kindergarten Holiday Art Fair

In the upper level

Christmas in the 1970s Ex- hibit

In the lower lever
Free admission

Saturday, Dec. 15
11:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

History Center Open House Christmas in the 1970's

Exhibit

Free admission

Saturdays, Jan. 19—March 9
11 a.m.—3 p.m.

MN on the Map Exhibit

Free admission



Visitors Paige & Logan
Goodorchin

The "Christmas in the 1970s" exhibit has been a great success, with a tremendous response from the public. If you haven't seen it yet, there is still time. The museum is open **Saturday** afternoons December 8 and December 15 from 11:00 to 3:00 and each **Tuesday** afternoon December 4—December 18 from 2:00 to 4:00.

It occupies most of the lower level. Enjoy 70's Christmas music played on a portable record player and see some interesting videos. See several Christmas ornaments, and many additional objects in our 70s vignette that are sure to jar your memories of the "Me Decade."

There are interactive activities for children and adults including crafts for children. Visitors can play 70's board games, listen to 70's records (requests taken!), and answer trivia questions. Coffee and cookies are served and on Tuesdays there is Russian tea (so popular in the 70s).

Minnesota Historical Society Map Exhibit Coming to Fridley History Center

The Fridley Historical Society is hosting the Minnesota Historical Society traveling exhibit, *Minnesota on the Map* every **Saturday, January 19—March 9, 11 a.m.—3 p.m.** Based on Macalester College Geography Professor David Lanegren's book, *Minnesota on the Map: A Historical Atlas*, this exhibit features a dozen maps from the Minnesota Historical Society's collections, including a 1683 Louis Hennepin map of the upper Mississippi River Valley, which is sure to include the area we now call Fridley. The exhibit also includes a video station with map commentary, a selection of laminated maps available for browsing, and an oversized jigsaw puzzle map for our younger visitors. Besides the materials provided by the MinnHS, the Fridley Historical Society will supplement the exhibit with a selection of maps and other items from its own collection that are not ordinarily on public display.

Come, have a cup of coffee, and take this opportunity to examine a rich collection of historic maps.

Fridley Historical Society

Board & Committees

The Board of Directors meets at the History Center on the first Thursday of every month at 6 p.m.

Officers

Vice President	Dorothy Gargaro
Secretary	Grace Norton
Treasurer	Judy Anderson

Other Board Members

Pete Bonesteel
Mary Ann Hoffman
Mike Klosterman
Mary Sue Meyers
Allen Taylor

Committees & Chairpersons

Members interested in attending a committee meeting, please call the Chair to confirm time and date.

Archives

Pete Bonesteel — 763-572-1009

City & Family History

Dorothy Gargaro — 763-792-1080

Finance

Judy Anderson — 763-767-2566

Fundraising

Allen Taylor — 763-422-3878

Hall of Fame

Allen Taylor — 763-422-3878

Maintenance

Mike Klosterman—612-325-1242

Membership

Mary Ann Hoffman—763-780-5911

Newsletter & Public Relations

Grace Norton—763-571-9286

Programs & Events

Mary Sue Meyers — 763-717-7987

Fridley Historical Society 2012 Annual Business Meeting

Tuesday, October 16, 2012 at the Fridley History Center

Vice President Dorothy Gargaro called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was said.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Judy Anderson reported that January through September 2012 our income has been \$23,768.48 and expenses have been \$22,256.54 leaving a net income of \$1,511.94. She addressed the problem of our plumbing bill, which was \$5,920 and the generous response to a letter that was sent out to the membership, which covered the bill.

Our books were audited in January by Eleanor Anderson, C.P.A. A balance sheet and report on the Templeton Account are available to members.

Robert Christenson made a motion that we accept the treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Allen Taylor and approved by the members present.

Committee Reports:

Hall of Fame: Chairperson Allen Taylor reported that a new venue had to be found for the 2012 Annual Hall of Fame dinner because the Knights of Columbus Hall has been closed. The dinner was held Saturday, September 15 in the lower level of Broadway Pizza. It will be held at the same place in 2013, but later in the year. He stated that comments and ideas are welcome.

Fund Raising: Chairperson Allen Taylor reported that fund raising is going well, but more volunteers are needed to get prizes for the Lasagna Dinner, Sweepstakes and Auction.

Programs and Events: Chairperson Mary Sue Meyers reported that our first event in 2012 was a potluck dinner and white elephant bingo in February. In April we held our 22nd annual Lasagna Dinner, Sweepstakes and Auction at the American Legion Hall. It was catered by Marino's. This is our major fundraiser of the year. 101 people attended. We had 95 sweepstakes prizes and 10 auction items. We had a profit of \$2500. During Fridley 49er Days we entered a float in the parade with the Fridley City Band playing on a Northeast towing truck. AugustFest was held August 13. Four new members were inducted into the 9th Annual Fridley Hall of Fame. Last year we hosted the Holiday Kindergarten Art Fair in December and held the Kids from Fridley Middle School concert, which was at the high school because of the large number of students in the choir.

This year we will present the exhibit "Christmas in the 1970s" beginning November 10. The History Center will be open Tuesday afternoons and Saturdays through December 18 with this exhibit.

More volunteers are always needed for our committees. Please contact Mary Sue Meyers if you have an interest in the Programs and Events Committee. Volunteers are also needed to serve as docents when the museum is open the second and fourth Saturdays each month from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Volunteers are also needed to serve as docents when the museum is open the second and fourth Saturdays each month from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Archives: Chairperson Pete Bonesteel reported that the Archive Committee set up April and September displays at the Mississippi Branch Library. Also several members met at the History Center on two Saturdays to sort through archive materials.

Membership: Chairperson Mary Ann Hoffman reported that the Fridley Historical Society currently has 172 individual members, four business members and two nonprofit members. In 2012 there have been six new members and an additional 10 people who updated their dues after not doing so for at least two years. Welcome back!

Last year we had 167 members, two years ago we had 174, so we are holding our own with 172.

Dues from individuals totaled \$1,666.50 for the year and an additional \$2,170.50 was sent in as donations with the dues. 65% of the renewals included a donation.

The one change last year was putting the renewal form into the newsletter, which saved us a separate mailing. This worked out very well and we will use the same process this year.

Thank you for being a faithful member of the Fridley Historical Society!

Maintenance: Chairperson Mike Klosterman has volunteered to paint the kitchen floor.

Family and History: Chairperson Dorothy Gargaro reported that 14 "Fridley—Its History and People" books have been sold this year. Most of the books have been sold at Bob's Produce. We wish to express our gratitude to them for their willingness to sell our books. The books were displayed at the library the two months we did displays.

Newsletter and Public Relations: Chairperson Grace Norton reported that nine newsletters have been sent out since the last annual business meeting. When there is a month without an event we send out an issue that combines two months.

Thank you to Mary Ann Hoffman for contributing "Dive into the Archive" articles and to Bernadine Matushak who helps mail the newsletters.

Nominating: Mary Ann Hoffman made a motion that Judy Anderson be appointed to the Board as Treasurer for another three-year term. Bernadine Matushak seconded the motion and it was passed by the members.

Allen Taylor made a motion that Pete Bonesteel be appointed to the Board for another three-year term. It was seconded by Judy Anderson and passed by the members.

Judy Anderson made a motion that Mike Klosterman be appointed to the Board for a three-year term. It was seconded by Carol Christenson and passed by the members present.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.
Grace Norton, Secretary

Don't miss the 2013 Membership Renewal form on the back page. Be sure to send it in.

Legacy Grant Project is Complete

By Mary Ann Hoffman

In October 2011, the Fridley Historical Society was awarded a Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grant in the amount \$5,114 for a project entitled "The Post World War II Suburban Development of Fridley, Minnesota," with the stipulation that the project and submission of the final reports be completed by December 1, 2012.

On November 5, we were notified by the Minnesota Historical Society that the project and final reports are complete and that they meet the grant program standards. What does this mean to our society? We now have in our archive recordings and transcriptions of 15 oral interviews of people who lived in Fridley at some point between 1945 and 1970 and who were able to provide information about the postwar development of Fridley. The grant enabled us to pay an interviewer to conduct the oral histories, to purchase a transcription program and to pay the interviewer to transcribe seven of the interviews.

Volunteers from the Fridley Historical Society transcribed the remaining eight. The board members of the FHS donated nearly 150 hours of time to plan the project, transcribe the eight interviews and analyze them. If volunteers had been paid minimum wage, the total would have come to over \$1,000, which was recorded in the Donated Labor form as part of the final report.

On September 24, the 21 interviewees recorded in the 15 interviews were officially thanked at a reception at the History Center. The information they provided enriches our knowledge of the postwar period during which Fridley experienced its greatest growth. It is hoped that these interviews will help us create a series of exhibits in the coming years. Because recording the memories of this era is so important, we are planning to conduct additional interviews on a voluntary basis in the future.

A Dive Into the Archive: *The Fridley Free Press*

By Mary Ann Hoffman

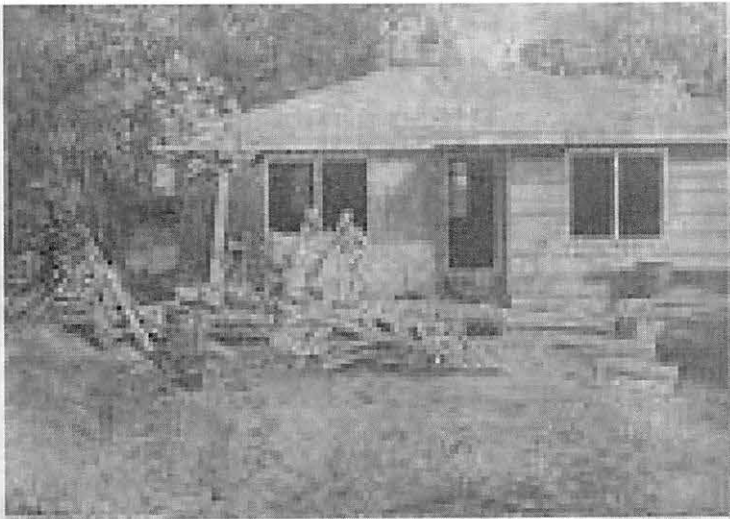
If I were to tell you that the Historical Society has two copies of *The Fridley Free Press*, both serving Fridley Village and Fridley Township, would you be able to narrow down the date of the publication? Would it be 1947, 1950, 1959 or 1962? Since Fridley was a village only from 1949 to 1957, the answer has to be 1950. Indeed, the two papers, fragile but in fairly good condition, are dated September 22 and 29, 1950. Each is so interesting that I am concentrating on the September 22 copy, which is addressed to Mr. and Mrs. Wyman Smith at 957 Gould, and saving the other for a future column.

The front page alone holds a wealth of information about Fridley at that time. One example is an article:

"New Highway Coming In," made necessary because the present Highway 65 "has too much traffic and no room for expansion." The new highway was to be built on undeveloped land to avoid the cost of removing homes bordering Central Avenue and was slated to have four lanes and be far straighter than the present road.

Also on the front page is an article, "New Subdivision Starts in Fridley." Located south of Osborne Road near the District Six school, it was called Shaffer Subdivision number one. The 79 homes were to be built on "beautifully wooded" lots costing \$450 to \$800 with homes ranging from \$8,000 to \$10,000. Included are photos of two homes under construction and the names of the contractors: 7513 Van Buren Street, contractor Richard Gottwaldt and 7514 Van Buren Street, contractor Glenn Haug. (see photos.)

Continued on next page



F. M. SHAFFER AND RICHARD GOTTHALDT, sponsor and shown in front of one of the newly completed houses in the Shaffer Subdivision number one. This house is at Hill View Station.



GLENN HAID, contractor, hopes to have the home at Hill View Station ready for occupancy within the next few weeks. He is shown working on the garage.

had driven to Red Wing to buy pottery; a bridal shower had been held for Lillian Emerson, fiancée of Philip Johanson; a canasta party had been hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Noyes; the Sunny Sewing Circle had held their monthly meeting. Raymond Johanson had just turned five, and a surprise birthday party had been given in honor of Mrs. Leonard Croteau, a noon wiener roast.

I believe it is worth noting that the fall of 1950 was a pivotal period in the growth of Fridley; the new Highway 65 was being planned, two new schools were up and running, and the 100 Twin Drive-In had just opened, all documented in one edition of the local newspaper.

That Fridley was growing rapidly is demonstrated by the news that the construction of two schools had been completed: the District 6 school (now called Woodcrest) near the new Shaffer subdivision and the District 23 school which was apparently the Hayes school that was destroyed in the 1965 tornado. The Fridley Booster club had set up a committee to make plans to sponsor a dance to dedicate the new school building in District 23 with its first meeting to be held at Sandee's Bar and Café.

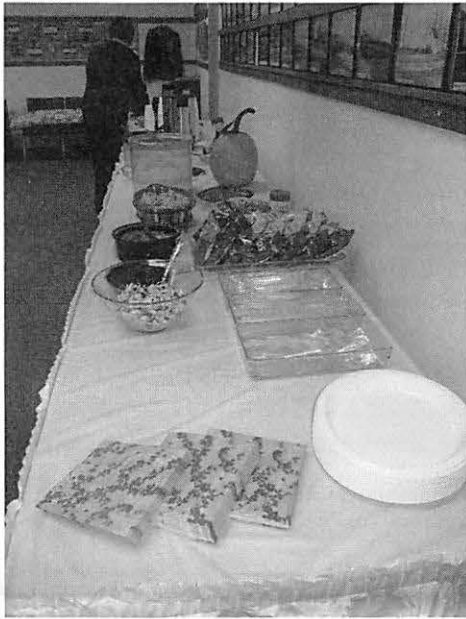
The front page also carries an announcement that "this is the last free edition of the *Free Press*," encouraging kids to sell subscriptions in order to win prizes, including items such as a jackknife, roller skates, cowboy boots, a Hopalong Cassidy holster set, dressing table lamps, a two-toned satin jacket, and a portable radio. Don't you love how this list speaks to life in the early 50s? The grand prize, reserved for the girl and boy who sold the most subscriptions, was a Special DeLuxe Monarch bike.

Inside the paper are several ads, the largest for the Grand Opening of the 100 Twin Drive-In Theatre with "two complete shows every night starting at 7:15 and 9:15." Do you have any idea what movie was first played there? Likely not because it was the inauspicious "County Faire," a racetrack drama starring Rory Calhoun.

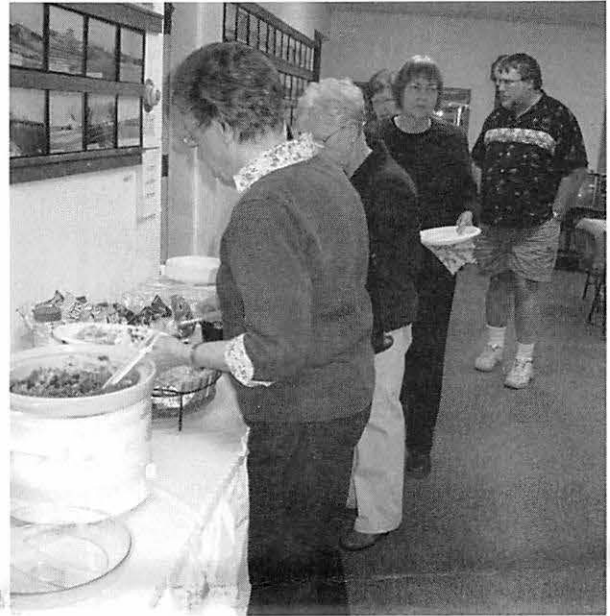
That Fridley was still a small-town is indicated by the "Locals and Personals" column. Friends and neighbors could learn that a Stanley Brush waffle breakfast had been hosted by Mrs. Gust Dusoske; Jen Peterson, Evelyn Lindbloom and Betty Bacon

Harvest Potluck Dinner and 2012 Annual Meeting Pictures

The Harvest Potluck Dinner and 2012 Annual meeting were held October 16. The turnout was disappointing, but the food and company were very enjoyable. It was the night of the last presidential debate, so we thought that may have been the reason for the poor attendance.



The spread of delicious food.



Front to back: Gwen Nawrocki, Grace Norton, Mary Sue Meyers and Allen Taylor



Allen Taylor, Chairperson of Hall of Fame and Fundraising Committee giving report.



Dorothy Gargaro, chairperson of City & Family History Committee giving report.



Mary Sue Meyers, chairperson of Program and Events Committee



Mary Ann Hoffman, chairperson of Membership Committee

Grace Norton, chairperson of Newsletter and Public Relations Committee



The First Day at the "Christmas in the 1970s" Exhibit

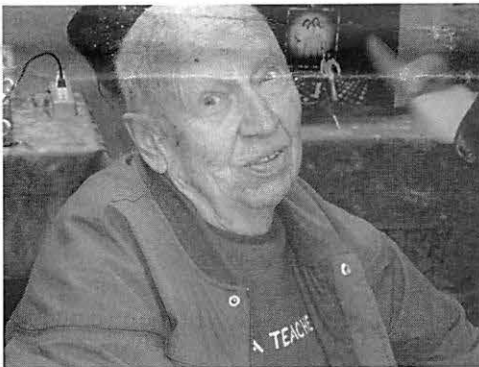
The response to the exhibit has been tremendous. There were 85 visitors on the first day, November 10, and 101 on November 24. You have never seen our History Center so festive.



Sammi Keintop on the left and Angie Norman on the right helping Sonja and Will Nawrocki with crafts



Gerry and Ron Burnham taking the trivia quiz and enjoying a cup of coffee.



Earl Fredrickson attended school in the History Center Building in 1931, the year it was built, through 1933. He became a teacher and had Allen Taylor as one of his students



Some of the 1970s style cookies with their recipes, for you to take home, along side.

Reasons to be a Member of the Fridley Historical Society

- ◆ Your membership helps to gather, preserve and disseminate the history and heritage of our community.
- ◆ You help in the maintenance and the upkeep of the Fridley History Center, an historic building.
- ◆ You have a part in celebrating our past and encouraging our future growth.

Remember to fill out the form on the back page of this newsletter, cut it out and mail it with your dues to the address at the bottom of the form. Thank you!

FRIDLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Robert Christenson, Photographer

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It's Membership Renewal Time

Please fill in the 2013 renewal form below and mail it to the address provided. We are an all-volunteer organization that relies on membership dues for our day-to-day operations, as well as to fulfill our mission of collecting, preserving and disseminating the history of the City of Fridley. We appreciate your continued support and generosity.



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Dues for 2013: One Senior is \$10.00, One Individual is \$12.50, Family (2 Adults or 2 Seniors, same household) is \$18.50. Please consider making an additional donation to help us reach our goals. Make checks payable to Fridley Historical Society.

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

Name(s) _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Mail to: Fridley Historical Society, 611 Mississippi Street NE, Fridley, MN 55432.

Thank you!