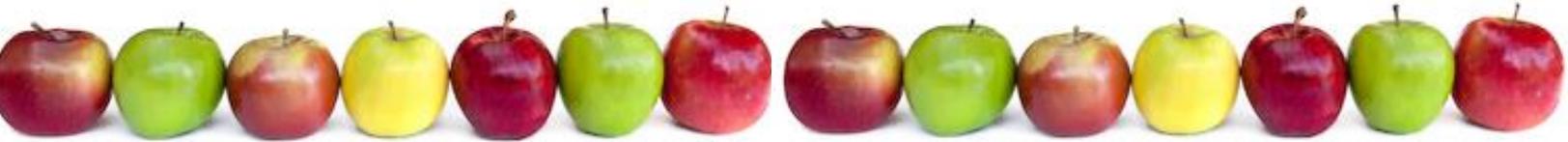


RAHS Goes Virtual!

Due to COVID-19, the Rochester-Avon Historical Society has suspended in-person programming for the foreseeable future. Regular programming will resume once we can safely meet at Rochester Hills Public Library or Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm. For now, RAHS is offering a variety of online programs. A list of online programs for September and October are in this newsletter. These programs do require a computer or mobile device and access to the Internet.

We encourage you to join our Facebook page and our private Facebook group. The group is a collection of local history enthusiasts who share stories and photos of our community's early days. You can ask to join this group by visiting this link: <https://bit.ly/3jdUcjm>. You must have a current Facebook account to join. It is a great way to stay connected with RAHS members and those who enjoy local history!

Finally, RAHS needs a program director. This is a fun board position (two-year post) for someone who likes to reach out to potential presenters and engage them for a fascinating community discussion. If you are interested in joining the board and assisting us with programming, please send us an email at rahsupdates@gmail.com. We'd love to have you onboard!



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President's Message:

These are uncertain times.

We hear this statement a lot. It's said on the nightly news, in the papers, on social media, between friends, and among family. It's true. We do live in uncertain times. While this statement is predominantly related to COVID-19 and the global pandemic, it's true elsewhere as well.

The fate of our community's fading historic resources is uncertain. Whether historical societies and museums will weather the loss of revenue and visitors is uncertain. What history will say about these times is uncertain.

So much uncertainty. What can we do?

Stay focused on your community and local needs. Find ways to donate time or financial assistance when possible. Volunteering your time, even virtually, can make a big difference in how we handle stress and uncertainty. Focusing attention on others' needs can help make uncertainty feel less scary.

We know you love local history. There are plenty of ways to volunteer to support your enthusiasm for our community's history, even in these uncertain times. RAHS needs help finding and supporting a new home for the Rochester Elevator building. We need programming assistance and new faces on our board of directors. Local history is never a lost cause, even as we continue to lose some historic character and resources. RAHS is here to educate and remember what was. To that end, the society will soon be publishing a new walking tour guide. This guide will also be posted online through the Clio app so that you can take a self-guided walking or driving tour using Google maps, audio assistance, and more.

Even in uncertain times, there are projects to finish and plans to make. We hope you will continue supporting local history with us and find a bit of time to help RAHS keep and preserve local history.

Kindly,

Tiffany Dziurman



Tiffany Dziurman
President

Rochester-Avon
Historical Society



UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Attend these great programs in the comfort of your home! These programs are available through Zoom. The Zoom experience is free and requires the use of a mobile device or computer. Register with a valid email address to receive instructions. You can download the Zoom app or you will be prompted to install Zoom when you click on the join link in your email confirmation.



SEPTEMBER 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

OCTOBER 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

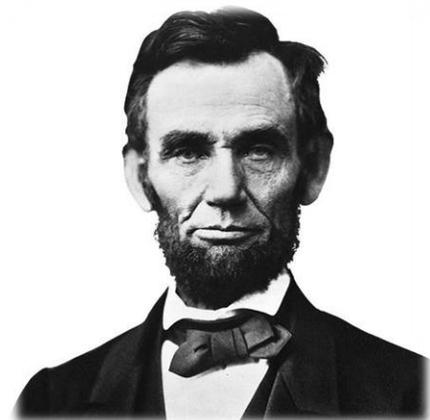


RAHS Brown Bag: A History of Avon Township 1817-1871
Tuesday, September 1, 12 p.m. Zoom Livestream.

Join RAHS and Rochester Hills Museum director Pat McKay on a trip back in time to experience the history of Avon Township (now Rochester Hills) during the 1800s. This online presentation will be live and recorded for future viewing. Register online at rochesterhills.org/musprograms.

Abraham Lincoln: A New Birth of Freedom
Thursday, September 3, 7 p.m. Zoom Livestream.

Kevin Wood presents a first-person portrayal of President Abraham Lincoln in period dress. As Mr. Lincoln, Wood will discuss the president's life and the history of the United States from Independence through the Civil War. Participants will have an opportunity to ask questions at the end of this 60-minute program suitable for adults and children. This program is through the Rochester Hills Public Library. Register online at calendar.rhpl.org.



PROGRAMS CONTINUED

Smart Towns: The Flawed Victory of Women's Suffrage

Tuesday, September 8, 7 p.m. Zoom Livestream.

The passage of the Nineteenth Amendment gave the vote to adult women in the United States. Karen A.J. Miller of Oakland University's History Department will discuss and examine what women's suffrage accomplished and what it failed to achieve. This program is sponsored by the Smart Towns consortium and hosted by the Rochester Hills Public Library. Register online at calendar.rhpl.org.



RAHS Brown Bag: The History of Avon Township 1872-1952

Tuesday, October 6, 12 p.m. Zoom Livestream.

Join RAHS and Rochester Hills Museum director Pat McKay on a trip back in time to experience the history of Avon Township (now Rochester Hills) through the middle of the twentieth century. This online presentation will be live and recorded for future viewing. Register online at rochesterhills.org/musprograms.

Smart Towns: Michigan's Great Thumb Fires of 1871 & 1881

Wednesday, October 7, 7 p.m. Zoom Livestream.

The fires that burned in Michigan's Thumb in 1871 and 1881 resulted in catastrophic damage to property and wildlife – and remains among the most memorable historic fires in Michigan's history. One of the first official disaster relief efforts of the American Red Cross was in response to the Thumb fire of 1881. Some communities would never recover from the scorched trails of destruction. Author Alan Naldrett pieces together accounts of those who lived through the events and the aftermath. This program is sponsored by the Smart Towns consortium and hosted by the Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm. Register online at rochesterhills.org/musprograms.

Michigan History



To contact us, call 248-266-5440 or send an email to rahupdates@gmail.com.

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- Gail Kemler, Honorary Historian
- Deborah Larson, Research
- Media, **open position**

Join the Rochester-Avon Historical Society Today!

Membership Application

- New**
- Renewal**
- \$15 **Student** Open to person currently enrolled in a secondary or post-secondary educational institution.
- \$20 **Individual** Open to any person interested in local history.
- \$35 **Household** Includes immediate family members living in the same household.
- \$100 **Business/Sponsor** Designed for community businesses and individuals with a desire to promote the restoration and promotion of local history.
- \$250 **Lifetime** Perpetual membership for those who wish to make a long-term commitment to the preservation of local history.



RAHS is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization

- Annual Picnic
- Antique Appraisal Day
- Historic Research
- Fundraising
- Genealogy Research
- Heritage Days
- Oral History
- Publications
- Historic Walking Tour Guide/Assistant
- Photography/Videography
- Refreshments at Meetings
- Special Project Volunteer
- Website/Social Media
- Volunteer Interests/Other

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Mail Completed Form with check payable to: RAHS P.O.Box 80783 Rochester, MI 48308-0783 <http://rochesteravonhistoricalsociety.org/>



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160 W. Avon Rd.

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