

MOUNT PROSPECT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

KEEPING HOMETOWN MEMORIES ALIVE

MUSEUM JOURNAL

VOLUME VIII, ISSUE 2 SUMMER 2017

MCBRIDE BROS. ICE CREAM

A recent donation to the Historical Society has brought about a flurry of questions surrounding McBride Bros. Ice Cream that was located here in Mount Prospect. We received three photos via email from the Terry Taylor Family, the son of James B. "Bert" Taylor, who worked at McBride Bros. Ice Cream. According to the Taylor Family, James moved from Janesville, IL, to Mount Prospect in 1927 when he was only 16. Leaving his parents Clarence and Jessie behind, James left Janesville with the hopes of making it on his own, which is how he ended up in Mount Prospect. He is the man dressed in white in each of the pictures. Although we don't know much about the Taylor family, we do know for certain that McBride Bros. Ice Cream was located in Mount Prospect. We know this because:

- The building's recognizable chalet façade;
- Busse Ave. is visible in one of the photos;
- Wille Lumber and Coal can be seen in a reflection; and
- There is a Mt. Prospect Baseball ad posted in the window.

We know this building is the one along Busse Ave. because of its iconic chalet façade. You can see in the McBride Bros. Ice Cream picture in the upper right hand corner, the chalet matches perfectly to the façade on the building in the image above.



(SEE "MCBRIDE BROS.," PG. 3)

SAVE THESE DATES...!

Centennial Garden Party

Mount Prospect Historical Society
101 S. Maple St. and Arlene Prchal
Butterfly Garden, Mochling Park
10 S. Pine St.
Friday, July 14, 10 a.m.-noon
Free

Exploring Life as a Prairie Girl
9:30-11:30 a.m.

Exploring Life as a Centennial Girl
1:30-3:30 p.m.
For girls entering 2nd Grade and up
Central School
103 S. Maple St.
Thursday, July 20
Cost is \$25 per child, per session

Silent Movie Night

Mount Prospect Historical Society
101-103 S. Maple St.
Wednesday, July 26, 7:30 p.m.
Free

The Science of History!

For boys and girls entering
2nd to 5th grades
Mount Prospect Historical Society
101 S. Maple St.
Thursday, July 27, 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Cost is \$25 per child

History Day Bake Sale

Sunday, July 30

For more information contact the Historical Society, 847/392-9006.

IN THIS ISSUE:

MCBRIDE BROS.
ICE CREAM 1

FROM THE DESK
OF THE DIRECTOR 2

PRIDE ON
S. WA-PELLA AVE. 2

100TH ANNIV.
TIME CASPSULE 3

CENTENNIAL
CEMETERY WALK 4

SOCIETY INFO 4

FROM THE DESK OF THE DIRECTOR



*Lindsay Rice
Executive Director*

With our one-room schoolhouse finally renovated, the museum campus has been buzzing with activity. Starting the week of April 24th through the week of May 1st, we were visited by Lions Park Elementary 2nd graders, who



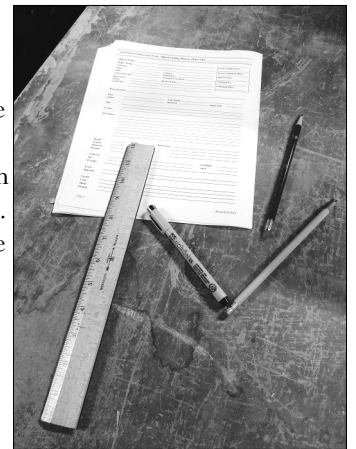
had been learning about local history throughout their school year. Retired Lions Park teacher, Julie Vowinkel, welcomed the children as they stepped off the bus and brought them into the schoolhouse to illustrate how classes were conducted over 100 years ago. In some instances, they even conducted a mock-spelling bee!

In addition to the scheduled visits from Lions Park, we have also given tours of the

Dietrich Friedrichs house and Central School to Girl Scout troops.

Now that the schoolhouse is open, we can host tours, programs, and we can finally utilize the basement of the schoolhouse to house our artifacts. Prior to the second week of May, about 50% of the museum's collection was stored at the Chase Bank building at Randhurst Village. With the schoolhouse basement finished, we were finally able to move the collection from Randhurst to its new home in the Central School basement. We would like to give a huge thank you to Public Works for helping in prepare the basement! With the help of our summer intern, Alicia Ortman, the artifacts that

came from Randhurst can be incorporated into the collection that is already stored here. Alicia has been interning at the Historical Society since May 24 and has helped tremendously with maintaining our collection. We are so excited for the new things that Central School will bring to our community.

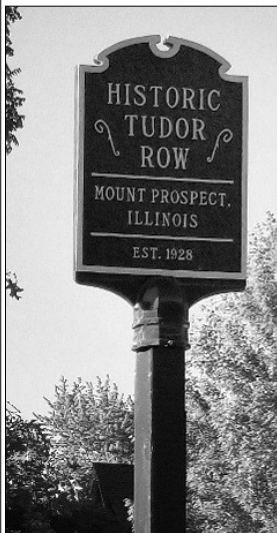


CENTENNIAL PRIDE ON SOUTH WA-PELLA AVENUE

In perfect time for the Centennial the 300 S. block of Wa-Pella Ave. pitched in together to dedicate and name their block as "Historic Tudor Row." This is comprised of many longtime Mount Prospect residents, most living on the street for over fifteen years. Dave Olsen was

behind the design, approval, ordering and setting up of the sign that commemorates the "Historic Tudor Row" of Wa-Pella Avenue. A few of the neighbors helped dig the hole for the sign, and they held a celebratory block-party to commemorate the sign and to celebrate the pride of their neighborhood.

Mount Prospect is home to many Tudor-style homes, which were built during the 1920s. So if you're in the neighborhood, feel free to drive past these magnificent homes!



(“MCBRIDE BROS”,
CON’T FROM PAGE 1)

We also know that McBride Bros. Ice Cream was located in Mount Prospect because Busse Avenue is visible in the picture below. If you look off to the right of James Taylor in the picture, you can clearly see Busse Avenue stretching past Main and Emerson Streets.

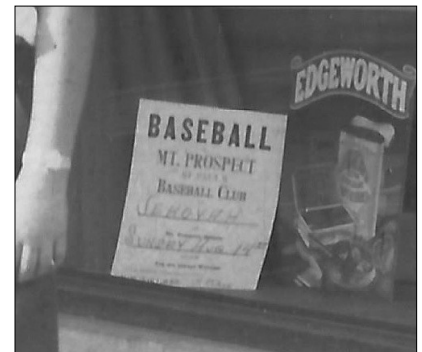
If we also look closely in the picture below, shown in the reflection of the storefront is Wille Coal and Lumber, a long time business that operated in Mount Prospect for many years.

Referring back to the picture on page 1, in the front window is a Mt. Prospect Baseball advertisement that is dated for Sunday, August 14th. After doing some research, I was able to determine that in 1927 and 1932, August 14th fell on a Sunday, so these photos were taken in one of



those two years. If it was taken in 1927, that means McBride Bros. Ice Cream was the first business in that store front, because the building itself was built in 1927.

We are seeking any additional information regarding McBride Bros. Ice Cream. If you have any stories or information, please pass it along!



MOUNT PROSPECT’S 100TH ANNIVERSARY TIME CAPSULE

Last July, the Village of Mount Prospect dug up its 50th and 75th Anniversary time capsules just in time to celebrate the Centennial year. At this year’s Oktoberfest on Saturday, October 14, the Village will be burying the 100th Anniversary time capsule.

In this issue of the newsletter, we are asking our members to either write us your ideas of what you feel should be included in the time capsule, or what you feel represents Mount Prospect in 2017. We would love to hear from you! You can also write a message to Mount Prospect residents 100 years into the future. If you have children, feel free to let them write their own messages or ideas!





MOUNT PROSPECT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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CEMETERY WALK RETURNS IN 2017

For the first time in eight years, the Mount Prospect Historical Society is resurrecting the Cemetery Walk in celebration of Mount Prospect's Centennial.

As in past years, the Cemetery Walk will feature local residents dressed up as specific men and women from Mount Prospect's history who helped shape the community. As visitors walk through St. Paul Lutheran Cemetery, actors will talk about the people they are portraying and converse in character with visitors.

The Cemetery Walk is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 23, time to be determined. Watch for details.



Admission to the Cemetery Walk will be \$10 per person. Look for tickets to go on sale at the beginning of September!

We are looking for actors! If you or someone you know would be interested in dressing up and playing a character from Mount Prospect's past, give us a call!

We can be reached on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Email or call at, info@mtphistory.org or 847/392-9006.

