The Historic Village is bursting with beauty as our perennials emerge and our annuals are planted. Weaving their way around the buildings and brick walkway, these gardens are full of life and a sight to behold! Take a walk through the village to experience the beauty that abounds anytime between 1:00 and 3:00 on Saturday, July 23. Our gardener, Marsha Phillips will be available to offer garden information, advice, and answer any questions you may have. Experience the garden’s vibrant colors, enjoy a cool beverage, a snack, and of course garden chat.

The Village buildings will also be open for viewing. The Historic Village is located at 36045 Park St. Richmond
We have begun collecting items for our “STUFF SALE” that will be held during Good Old Days weekend. Last year this sale generated over $1500.00, thanks to the generosity and hard work of our membership. Please bring your donations to the Village on Thursday mornings during the work bee, or call me and I will meet you there at a time that is convenient for you. We especially like kitchen and household items, knick knacks, gardening items, tools, craft projects, and toys. Please do not donate clothes or electronics.

Historic Village Science Explorers—the class that Carol Lippman created and teaches - is underway at the Village. The class explores how science helped early settlers improve their lives and how it led to many of the conveniences and technology that we enjoy today. I recently asked one of the students what they did during class, and this is what she told me:

Ms. Carol told us that a plane cannot fly if the front of it is dented. I am glad to know that. Then we pretended we were gears. Gears are used for making things go and stop. Ms. Carol divided us into 2 circles. One circle moved to the left. We put our hands out. The other circle moved to the right. They had their hand out too. We pushed the other person’s hand as we moved. That is how gears work. It was fun! Isabella, age 8

Way to go, Carol! What a great program this is for RAHGS.

One last thing: RAHGS is proud to have this year’s Alexander Macomb Award recipients in our membership! Norm and Dianne Gibson were recognized at the Macomb County Heritage Alliance Annual Meeting for the many contributions they have made to our extended community. The work they do to preserve the history of our area is invaluable, and we are very proud to celebrate with them. The full story is printed in this newsletter.

Christine
From Vice President Mary Ellen:

**Smile, We’re on Amazon!**

You can now support Richmond Area Historical and Genealogical Society just by shopping! When you shop smile.amazon.com, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases directly to RAHGS! This link will take you directly to smile.amazon.com in support of Richmond Area Historical and Genealogical Society. https://smile.amazon.com/ch/02-0661717. Remember, for all future amazon shopping, always start at smile.amazon.com instead of amazon.com.

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**RAHGS 2016 RAFFLE**

**Grand Hotel**

One room for two persons for two nights. Includes 4 meals and a $150.00 Pre-paid Visa Card

Value: $1,750

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**Civil War Era Quilt**

Gorgeous Rail Fence Quilt machine quilted with the feather stitch using Civil War Era fabric. Made and donated by Marsha Phillips. Measures 72” x 82.”

Value: $500.00.

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Drawing to be held during Good Old Days
September 11, 2016 at The Historic Village, Richmond, MI

**Tickets:** $10.00 each OR 3 for $25.00

Available from any RAHGS Board Member or at the Historic Village on Thursday mornings. Need not be present to win! Proceeds will be used to keep Richmond Area History alive!

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**Donations:**

- **Paul and Charlene Ostby:** Microwave Oven (in memory of JW Smith)
- **Richmond Lions Club:** For building use
- **Tom Hebel:** Tru Green Lawn Care
- **Richmond 5th Graders:** One room Schoolhouse visit
- **Armada Schools:** One room Schoolhouse visit
- **Richmond Kroger:** Kroger Rewards: $212.37

**Acquisitions:**

- **Sybil Kirkham Marshall dresses:** Lucia Marshall
- **Jesse Buroughs’ drums and band uniform, c. 1955:** Dale and Donna Quick
- **State Bank Water Fountain:** Jeffrey Rhyshek
- **Mathan Boss and Jane Carnell Marriage certificate:** Gene Rupprecht
Alexander Macomb Historical Award

Individual

Year Award Given: 2016
Awarded to: Norm and Dianne Gibson – Richmond, Macomb, MI
Nominated by: Lori Nye
Presented By: Macomb County Heritage Alliance

If you love history and have not had a chance to visit the Richmond Area Historical & Genealogical Society (RAHGS) Village, please put it on your bucket list. It is a very special place! A big reason it is so special is due to the amazing efforts of two extraordinary people – Norm and Dianne Gibson.

Norm is a retired teacher from the Lakeshore Public Schools in St. Clair Shores, MI, where he taught shop, history and a number of other courses over his career. Norm’s craftsmanship talents have been of great assistance to the RAHGS village where he has been instrumental in the preservation, conservation and maintenance of the buildings, grounds and accessories that make up the village. Within the last few years, Norm was made significant contributions in the repainting of the Columbus Train Depot (located in RAHGS' Historic Village), the installation of train tracks, a crossing signal and additional train-related artifacts for inclusion in the village. With the assistance of other volunteers, Norm also serves as the developer/creator of many museum displays. Using his wonderful carpentry skills, Norm has designed/built most of the display cases utilized in the RAHGS museum. Norm co-authored the book: Images of America: Richmond Area with Lori Nye and Dianne provided superb editing skills for the project. Norm has also served as a long-term director (2009-Present) of the historical society.

Dianne is a retired registered nurse. Using her exceptional organizational talents, and with the assistance of their son, Dianne has been influential in developing a museum collection management system where all artifacts (donated and loaned to RAGHS) are documented and tracked – a monumental task! Dianne also serves as the RAHGS Treasurer which includes being responsible for all aspects of the treasury, including banking and reports. She also serves on the RAHGS Genealogical Committee and has been very active in many other aspects of the society.

Norm and Dianne are also active members of the American Civil War Shooters Association. The ACWSA is dedicated to preserving Civil War history through the sport of Civil War firearm marksmanship competitions. Competitors dress in authentic Civil War era uniforms and use original or reproduction Civil War firearms.

Because they both do and give so much to RAHGS and the preservation of history in Macomb County, it is with great regard that they receive the 2016 Alexander Macomb Historical Award for Individuals.

Information Resources: Lori Nye / March 2016, Norm and Dianne Gibson / May 2016
Obituaries

Ruth Eberhardt, 91, of Wisconsin passed away on March 26, 2016 after an extended illness. She was born to Pauline and Fred Eberhardt, Sr., and graduated from Richmond High School in 1942. She was predeceased by her brother Fred Eberhardt, Jr. and is survived by her sister Mary (Tom) Thiele of Oconomowoc, Wisconsin.

Douglas Pentzien, 1952-2016. RAHGS is saddened to hear of Doug’s passing. He was a long time member who always was ready to tell stories of the past. He will be missed by everyone who knew him. His obituary can be found at the Rewalt-Peshek Funeral Home website.
WHAT’S HAPPENING ACROSS THE STREET?
From the desk of LTP Chair, Rich Weinert:

Good news! The Richmond City Council has awarded the demolition bid for the 3 houses to International Construction from Shelby Township. The grant The City received for the project from the Michigan Land Bank required the lowest bid. The demolition work should start soon and is required to be completed by October.

More exciting news!! The 2-car garage is being saved. We’ve cleaned out the inside. For the short term we will be using it for storage for the Good Old Days Stuff Sale and other things. In the near future we will be repairing the roof and shoring up some structural work around the doors.

Long-term plans are to make it into a replica of an early gas station. See picture example. Hopefully we can preserve some automobile history and host some classic car shows there.
In the Village Gardens, the month of June has been spent STAKING and SKIBBLING!!!! If you look around the gardens you will see stakes on plants. If you look closer you will see green twine that I use to support the plants! It is very important to watch how the plants are growing and to stake and tie them before they get broken from watering, storms etc.

Skibbling is a word I use to hoe and work up the soil in the beds around all the plants. It loosens the weeds and makes the beds and borders look great! I use a three prong hoe and I call it my Skibbler. This will be done all summer long to maintain the beds.

If you are wondering where the Dahlia’s came from thank Tom Hebel. I call them Tom’s Dahlia’s. He faithfully over winters the tubers. This year, Van Thommes Greenhouse let me divide and plant them all up in their pots so we could have a headstart with flowering. They put them in one of their greenhouses and grew them for about a month. Out of about 24 tubers we had 78 dahlias!!! Thank you to Tom and Van Thommes!

We can always use more help maintaining the beds at the Village. Every Thursday I am there and would love for you to come out and help. I am very HAPPY with all of the workers who have done excellent jobs helping maintain the beds. We have had several new people show up and help on certain days and I really appreciate it! The gardens wouldn’t look as beautiful as they do without all of their help.

There is a NEW bed that has been donated, designed and planted by Marguerite Little. It is the HERB Bed! It is located along the brick paver path with the perennial grasses. She did a great job! She also is the new waterer on Tuesdays. Chris Hensch faithfully waters on Sunday, and I do Thursdays.

We have the beds on a watering schedule of 3 times a week. To keep the flowers looking their best it is important to faithfully water and fertilize them. I fertilize the potted flowers every 2 weeks at the village. The bedded plants I fertilize once a month. So far that seems to be working.

In July we will be having a Garden Walk so if you can possibly work it in your schedule, come out and enjoy our Gardens at the Village!

Marsha
Our mission statement:

- To share with others the legacy left us by our forefathers, the migrants from the East and the immigrants from Europe, who with foresight and conviction built a better future for themselves and their children, and for the generations that followed.
- To honor and remember those who cleared the land, grew the crops, educated the young, and to pay homage to those who fought in the wars and sacrificed their lives for something they believed in.
- To encourage our community leaders to preserve the few historical building remaining today.
- To provide assistance to those who turn to us for help in finding their roots.

The general membership meetings/programs, which are open to the public, are held throughout the year. The Historic Village is open during Winter Festival, on Log Cain Day, during Good Old Days, Thursday morning work bees, special events, and by special appointment. Watch the newsletter, the website, and Facebook for dates, times, and program information.

Richmond Area Historical and Genealogical Society
36045 Park Street
P.O. Box 68
Richmond, Michigan 48062
Website: www.richmondhistoricalsociety.org
Email: richmondareahistoricalsociety@gmail.com
Facebook.com