

LOG MARKS

Sanford Historical Society

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Sanford Centennial Museum resides at 2222 Smith Street in Sanford. Mailing address: Sanford Historical Society, P.O. Box 243 Sanford, MI 48657
 Email: logmarks@tds.net Phone: 989 687-9048

Founders Day 2017

September 9th & 10th



The annual Founders Day celebration is almost here! This family focused community event has been bringing people, families, and especially children to the museum grounds for outdoor fun and an educational experience since the early 1970s. You can still help to make this the best Founders Day celebration ever.

Become a Founders Day sponsor by mailing your contribution to Sanford Historical Society, PO Box 243, Sanford, MI 48657. Please indicate on your check that it is for Founders Day.

There are still opportunities for volunteers to help on almost every day of the week before and during Founders Day. Please call Nick Kraemer at 989 687-7168 or the museum 989 687-9048, and leave a message.

Save These Dates	
Founders Day	Sept. 9 & 10 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Santa Express	Dec. 12, 13 & 14 3:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Free Vision Screenings



Coleman Lions Club will be offering FREE vision screenings for children ages 1-18 during Sanford's Founders Day celebration on Saturday, September 9. We will be using the special Project KidSight digital camera which can detect more than eight eye disorders, including near sightedness, far sightedness, astigmatism and lazy eye. Parents will receive immediate feedback in a printout of the results. Each child will be able to choose a free book to take home. The screening itself takes only a few seconds. Screening times will be from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. near the Olson General Store on the Sanford Centennial Museum grounds.

2017 Membership and Board Meeting Dates		
	Membership Meetings	Board Meetings
September	20th	5th
October	18th	10th
November	15th	8th
December	na	5th

Sanford Business Snapshot 1946

By Rick E. Goodwin
January 23, 2017

With the end of World War II the Sanford area started to experience growth. The Sanford Lake Improvement Association was removing stumps from the lake to improve the recreational opportunities. The Sanford Chamber of Commerce would soon be formed in 1947 and work on behalf of the area.

The pictures in this story were all taken from the photo archive collection of the Sanford Historical Society. The captions under each photo are by the author. The *Midland Daily News* article is presented here just as it ran in the paper on May 16, 1946. That article follows:

Sanford Is Expanding Business Area – Residents Plan To Incorporate Village

By Helen Hoenshell

Amazing and rapid growth in Sanford, destined soon to become an incorporated city, has caught the eyes of motorists passing through the village on US-10 these past few months.

Several new businesses have been opened by men from both the Sanford and Midland areas, many of them former Dow Chemical company employees.

Any loyal resident of the village will say that Sanford will grow even more rapidly as building materials are released to all civilians. "We already need every kind of business found in larger cities," according to Thomas Maticka, Jr., the contractor who is doing most of the construction work there.

"We need at least one doctor, dentist and lawyer, besides a theatre, bowling alleys and other recreation," he explained.

Pushing Incorporation

Ace Mitchell, an electrical contractor in the village, leads a group of men trying to get the town incorporated. A census, the first requisite for incorporation, will be taken under leadership of Mitchell, who now has all the applications necessary to make Sanford a city as soon as details are completed.

According to Michigan statutes the area to be incorporated must be at least three-quarters of a square mile with a resident population of not less than 250

persons.

Not less than 30 voters residing within the territory may then make application for the incorporation of the proposed village to the board of supervisors. Within 60 days before the application is submitted, however, an accurate census must be taken of the resident population of the area.

Began After V-J

Most enterprises within the village limits were begun after V-J Day last August. First building constructed was Archie Newman's log cabin lunch room, called Newman's Lunch.

A 18 by 20-foot, one story building, the restaurant was built almost entirely by its owner who started the project September 1 and opened



Newman's Lunch (with two customer cars out front) is on the left and Marden's Market is on the right in this photo. Newman's Lunch was bought by Bob Hildebrandt about 1948 and he renamed it the Sanford Grill (the building is no longer there). Marden's turned into the Sanford Meat Market (last run by Terry Howson) (the building is currently for sale). Photo from the Sanford Historical Society collection.

November 14, because, “we wanted it finished before the end of deer season.”

Newman decided to utilize his lot on the highway by serving food because after 10 years of shift work at the Dow Chemical company, he wanted a place for men to eat after the regular dinner time. “Working here is certainly a relief after 10 years shift work,” he commented.

At first Newman’s wife operated the establishment. But later he resigned his Dow job and devoted fulltime to feeding those who live in or travel through Sanford. He doesn’t live in town, however, but resides on his 40-acre farm in Jerome Township, approximately two and one half miles out of town.

“Of all things needed in Sanford, I would like to see a small dance hall built where the kids can dance. Most of the younger crowd of Sanford hangs out here, but they don’t have enough recreation,” Newman added.

New Market

The restaurant owner also had a lot beside his present one which he sold to John Marden who opened Marden’s Market, selling meats and groceries, November 16, only two days after Newman set the pace in new establishments in Sanford after the end of the war.

Marden’s Market is one of four groceries in the village, his being the latest addition.

The grocer-butcher said he had plans to extend his 20 by 32-foot store backwards, adding storage space and a smoke house in addition to more work benches.

Marden has already built his own cooler, a 10 by 10 foot walk-in refrigerator where he stores meat.

Maticka started a construction program last fall when he began work on buildings for three businesses, including his own contracting firm.

The Maticka Construction Company’s building, 30 by 70 feet, also houses the Sanford Plumbing and Heating Company which has been granted a one-year lease, this building adjoining the larger garage-gasoline station of Allen Cole.

William Schweitzer and Floyd Nilles, former Austin Construction workers, started the Sanford Plumbing and Heating organization last September and moved into the new location a few months ago.



Thomas Maticka, Jr. building next to the Allen J. Cole building both built at about the same time in Sanford in 1946. Sanford Plumbing & Heating was also in the Maticka building. Later Dick Marcy’s Barber Shop and Dr. Bernier’s office were in the Maticka building. Photo from the Sanford Historical Society collection.

Plumbing, heating, and bottle gas equipment are dealt in by the embryo business whose owners think Sanford has a lot over their former home town, Midland.

He Can Walk

“Many people live out here because of the fishing at Sanford Lake,” Schweitzer declared. “And in Midland whenever one wants to do anything he has to ride. Here in Sanford we can walk.”

The Maticka buildings are all made of cement block with carrara glass on order to finish off the front of the edifices in a buff color with black border, making a sleek modern appearance.

To be completed soon will be the adjacent service station, a 50 by 80-foot block building which will also house an auto sales agency with one large display room.

“Sanford needs about every kind of store because the stores we have now have about all the business they can handle,” Maticka said.

The contractor, who supervises five construction crews operating in Sanford and Midland, is now building a pool room under the Sanford Café, 26 by 40 feet, all in one room. Three pool tables and one billiard table will comprise the recreation facilities. The restaurant is owned by Robert Myers who moved to Sanford from

Saginaw last fall.

Lots About All Gone

“The people have been building a lot around the lake,” Maticka commented, “but now the lots are almost all bought up.”

“Among businesses contemplated have been a welding shop, clothing stores prohibited now, because of lack of clothing, a theatre, bowling alleys and many other enterprises,” he explained.

A veteran scouting around Sanford recently decided to begin work on a theatre for the community, but was unable to raise the money. Other persons who want to build cannot do so because they have no veterans’ priorities, it was pointed out.



Sanford Post Office under construction in 1946. Edwin O. Hess was postmaster. This was the first “stand alone” building built to house the Sanford Post Office. In this building today is the business of The Beach Tanning Salon. Photo from the Sanford Historical Society collection.

The post office building completed in January was also built by Maticka. The 28 by 36-foot building is owned by Edwin O. Hess who has been Sanford postmaster since 1942, assisted by Mrs. Hess.

Hess also worked at the Dow for 17 years prior to 1942 when he moved to Sanford. “The office became third class in July, 1945, based upon business done in the sale of stamps.

“We could use at least two dozen more boxes added to our 103 at present,” Mrs. Hess, who works behind the postal window, said. “Mail coming through our office goes into boxes or, general delivery or is sent out in the rural delivery. We do not deliver to homes within the village.”

The Hesses are planning to add another floor to their present building to be used as living quarters, as soon as building restrictions are lifted.



This bank building was built in 1912 by C. J. Walker. It was the first home of Dancer’s Department Store in 1947. Mr. Finney had a feed store here in the 1950s. Clarence Tigner also owned the building at one time. This picture dates from the 1970s and that is Lanny’s Restaurant on the right hand side of the picture. In the 1940s the restaurant would have been Ender’s Grocery store. The bank building was torn down in the 1970s by Gary Briggs. Photo from the Sanford Historical Society collection.

And Sanfordites now feel that they need another bank. Closed by its owner, Clarence M. Macomber, Jan. 9, 1939, the bank at that time accommodated approximately 100 depositors and total deposits stood at \$94,000.

The organization had closed once before that time, in January of 1924, when it had about \$66,000 in deposits.

Macomber then was appointed temporary receiver. All depositors were paid in full by February, 1944.

Several other persons have also started in business in Sanford within the past six months, although they have not built.



Mitchell Electric was located in what is today the J & D Plumbing building. The building originally was owned by Frank Allswede in the early 1900s where he ran his store and the post office. In the 1940s Budge's Drug Store was next door to this building and can just be seen on the left in this photo. Photo from the Sanford Historical Society collection.

Mr. and Mrs. Ace Mitchell, who operate the Mitchell Electric shop, opened their place of business in November. Mrs. Mitchell operates the store while her husband concentrates on the electrical contracting.

Another recently changed ownership is in the only Sanford hardware store, operated by Judd Keppel who purchased the business March 1. Keppel attached his name to the business. Although he works in Sanford, he commutes daily from Midland where he was employed in a local hardware before acquiring his own business.

September Membership Meeting

The September membership meeting of the Sanford Historical Society is scheduled for Wednesday, September 20, 2017 at 7 p.m. You don't need to be a member of the SHS—everyone is welcome! The meeting will be held in our historic railroad depot on the museum grounds. Please plan to attend and bring a friend!

Sanford Historical Society
P.O. Box 243
Sanford, MI 48657

The Sanford Historical Society meets on the third Wednesday of the month from April through November at 7:00 PM at the Sanford Village Hall, 106 Lincoln Street or in the Historic Depot on the grounds of the Museum. Members and visitors are always welcome.

Annual membership dues are \$10 for an individual and \$15 for a family. Dues may be paid on our web site, by mail, or in person at the museum during the season, at any meeting, or at Founders Day.

MEMBERSHIP — DONATION — VOLUNTEER

Please review your mailing label on this newsletter. The number in the corner represents the last year that you paid dues. If you owe dues, please clip this coupon, fill it out, and mail in your membership dues so you may continue to maintain your membership. Email addresses are greatly appreciated, it helps to keep costs down and we only use emails for newsletters and special announcements.

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ / _____ / _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Check Box or Boxes: \$10/year — Individual \$15/year — Family \$_____ Donation

Founders Day Sponsorship I would like to volunteer Enclosed \$_____

Please mail new or renewal memberships to: Sanford Historical Society, P.O. Box 243, Sanford, MI 48657