

Electronic News Update from the
Michigan Council for History Education
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Dear Colleagues,

With the Lions showing promise for an “interesting” Thanksgiving Day game (See Mark Harveys article cited in #19), I knew you would prefer a slightly shorter MCHE E-Notes for December. Besides, I wanted to share the information on the Henry Ford program (See #3) before the Nov. 30th deadline. Our thanks to all who supported the 2009 MCHE 16th Annual Conference. Your suggestions for the 2010 gathering will be sought in a questionnaire to be distributed in a few weeks. The MCHE Executive Board will seek your thoughts on what day of the week is best for you, what time of day, and what type of program. As with many others, we need to “re-imagine” how we might best provide services to our members. Stay tuned.

Dr. Jim McConnell (jam1776@sbcglobal.net), Editor, MCHE E Notes

NOTE: The pdf attachment contains the same content as the message below. It is sent for those of you whose machines mess up the text of the E Notes. I hope this is helpful.

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1. 10 Things You Didn't Know About Thanksgiving

Check out the History News Network (HNN) Hot Topics: Thanksgivingarticle located at <http://hnn.us/articles/16808.html> Great Thanksgiving Trivia!

2. Can I win a Turkey with this quiz? No, but you might learn a little about Thanksgiving.

Want to learn some great Thanksgiving trivia to amaze family and friends while watching the Lions beat Green Bay? Visit www.michiganhistoryed.org and click on “Quizzes” and then “Thanksgiving.”

3. 2010 Teacher Fellow Opportunity at The Henry Ford--Applications Due Nov. 30th

Dear Educators: On behalf of America's Greatest History Attraction, The Henry Ford, I am delighted to announce our 2010 Teacher Fellow program that will allow us to work together in partnership, for the benefit of our students. We look forward to your active participation in this innovative museum-school partnership project. We are in the process of seeking 5.0 CEUs (pending approval)The application deadline is Monday, November 30. Details posted at www.thehenryford.org/education/development.aspx (From **Paula Gangopadhyay**, Director of Education, The Henry Ford, paulag@thehenryford.org)

4. 37th Annual Noel Night, Dec. 5: Detroit

The 37th Annual Noel Night will take place on Saturday, December 5th in Midtown Detroit's Cultural Center Area. Over 30 institutions, including the Detroit Institute of Arts, the Detroit Science Center, the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, the Detroit Historical Museum, and the Detroit Public Library, amongst many others, open their doors to the public free of charge during this Cultural Center-wide holiday "open house." Activities include horse-drawn carriage rides, holiday shopping, family craft activities and performances by over 70 area music, theatre, and dance groups. The evening's festivities culminate with a community sing-along on Woodward Avenue led by the Salvation Army Band - a long-standing Noel Night tradition. Free shuttle service is offered between participating venues. Convenient parking is available in area lots. Details at <http://detroitmidtown.com/05/>

5. The Michigan Women's Hall of Fame is on Facebook!

If you haven't already, check out the Hall of Fame on Facebook. Just go to the search engine box, type in Michigan Women's Hall of Fame, and become one of our fans. Look at upcoming events, notifications, discussion boards and photos. We would love to see just how many fans we have out there. Thanks for all the support! Michigan Women's Hall of Fame, 213 W Main Street, Lansing, MI 48933
517/484-1880 or info@michiganwomen.org or visit www.michiganwomenshalloffame.org

6. Twenty-First Century Skills

In his keynote address at the MCHE Conference, Mike Flanagan, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, stressed the need to prepare teachers for the 21st century. He suggested teachers read "21st Century Skills." The four skills in the report included:

1. Digital Age Literacy—Today's Basics! Basic, Scientific, and Technological Literacies
2. Inventive Thinking—Intellectual Capital! Adaptability/Managing Complexity and Self-Direction
3. Interactive Communication—Social and Personal Skills! Teaming and Collaboration
4. Quality, State-of-the-Art Results For more info, visit www.21stcenturyskills.org

7. Detroit Newspapers in Education Resources Available

Visit <http://nieonline.com/detroit/index.cfm> to see the resources available from DNIE. Take the weekly quiz, check out some lesson plans and learn about the supplements that might be most useful for your students.

8. Leavenworth Photo Collection in the Archives of Michigan

This week, I have two blog articles for you. Both concern the R. C. Leavenworth Photo Collection, a remarkable collection documenting many years of Lansing's history. First, Lisa Sparks spotlights an early color photo, used by Oldsmobile for promotional purposes (Oldsmobile was one of Leavenworth's biggest clients.). You can see that here: <http://seekingmichigan.org/look/2009/11/16/oldsmobile-in-pictures> Then, Laura Boyd and Kyle Grimm describe measures to preserve the Collection's valuable negatives. See what happens "when negatives go bad" and how cold storage can help! You can peruse this article by clicking

this link: <http://seekingmichigan.org/look/2009/11/17/leavenworth-preservation>

As always, comments are encouraged and can be left at the bottom of the page!

From: Bob Garrett, Archives of Michigan, Communications Division, DNR, garrettr1@michigan.gov

9. Watch History of Hudson's on Film Dec. 12 & 13 at Detroit Historical Museum

The Detroit Historical Society continues its monthly film series with "A History of Hudson's," showing Dec. 12 & 13 at 1 p.m. at the Detroit Historical Museum. Each screening is free with regular admission to the Museum. This 30-minute film, produced by Dayton-Hudson Corp in 1990 and never released publicly, documents the history of J.L. Hudson's from 1865 through the 1980s and the changes each decade brought to the company. Hudson's was founded in 1881 by Joseph Lowthian Hudson with the first store located at the old Detroit Opera House. The store then had a number of locations along Woodward and Farmer. In 1911, the store encompassing the entire block of Woodward between Grand River and Gratiot opened. This 25-story building was once the world's tallest department store. On Armistice Day in 1923, the store made history when it unfurled the world's largest flag. A year later, they hosted Detroit's first Thanksgiving Day Parade, an event marking the arrival Santa Claus. After the film, guests can visit the Detroit Historical Museum Store and make every gift count! This holiday season, pick up the 2010 Days of Detroit Calendar, which features wonderful photographs of the region's past and an historic item for every days of the year. We're also offering a variety of items at special holiday prices! The Detroit Historical Museum is located at 5401 Woodward Ave. (NW corner of Kirby) in Detroit's Cultural Center area. For more info, call the Museum at (313) 833-1805 or visit www.detroithistorical.org.

(from Bob Sadler, Director of Public & External Relations, Detroit Historical Society)

10. Correct MI Graphics

The Governor. signed into law PA147-2009 with immediate effect requiring the UP and LP be displayed in all State graphics. Progress, but the next step is to get the rest of the state area in the maps (the actual boundaries in the Great Lakes). Sen.Tom George has SB 687 in the mill which would put into the Michigan Manual a description of the state border and a correct boundary map with the lake area and islands appropriate to size. Thanks for your interest and help. Dr. Rich Santer, Ferris State University Geography Prof. (ret.)

11. Gilder Lehrman Institute Summer Seminars; Apply by Feb. 15th

The Gilder Lehrman Summer Seminars are designed to support and enhance participants' commitment to high quality history teaching. Public, parochial, and independent school teachers as well as National Park Service rangers are eligible. These week-long seminars, offered at colleges and universities nationwide and in the United Kingdom, provide intellectual stimulation and a collaborative context for developing practical resources and strategies to take back to the classroom. Participants will have the opportunity to receive three hours of graduate credit in American history. They will also receive books, room and board, and a stipend to offset travel costs to the host institution. The application deadline is February 15, 2010. For details, visit www.gilderlehrman.org/education/seminar_overview.php

12. Time to 'visit' online or in Philadelphia The National Constitution Center?

The National Constitution Center in historic Philadelphia is America's most interactive history museum. Located just two blocks from the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall, it is the only museum devoted to the U.S. Constitution and the story of we, the people. The Center's permanent exhibition, The Story of We the People, tells the story of the Constitution, its history, and its contemporary relevance through more than 100 multimedia exhibits, film, photographs, text, sculpture, and artifacts. It also features a powerful, award-winning theatrical performance, "Freedom Rising", and Signers' Hall. To learn more, visit www.constitutioncenter.org (From National History Club E-newsletter)

13. National History Club honors Student Essay Winners

The National History Club introduced a contest for NHC members asking them to write an essay on why they are passionate about history and why the study of it is necessary. Over 150 submissions later NHC judges were finally able to choose a first prize winner and two runners up. First prize goes to Kelly Schmidt from McAuley High School in Cincinnati, Ohio. The runners up are Dan Atchue from Saint John's High School in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, and Jane Pritchard from Clayton Bouton High School in Voorheesville, New York. Congratulations to all three. The National History Club Inc. (NHC) inspires students and teachers to start history club chapters at high schools, middle schools, and within other student and community programs. Members of local history club chapters participate in local and national programs, and create their own projects and activities. To date, the NHC has founded history club chapters at more than 375 high schools and middle schools in 43 states. For more info, visit www.nationalhistoryclub.org

14. Changes in state can start with you

Figuring out what and how Michigan needs to change in this bad economy is prompting a rash of forums, community meetings and Internet sites set up to collect opinions and help the state move forward. Thousands have shown up for community conversations sponsored by the Ann Arbor-based Center for Michigan. Here's a list of places to go to find forums, ideas and discussions on how to fix Michigan:

Center for Michigan: www.thecenterformichigan.net

Great Ideas for Michigan: www.greatideasformichigan.org

Michigan's Next Governor Project: <http://michigansnextgovernor.wordpress.com>

Michigan Future: www.michiganfuture.org

Business Leaders for Michigan: www.businessleadersformichigan.com

Michigan League for Human Services: www.milhs.org

A Better Michigan Future: <http://abettermichiganfuture.org>

-- Compiled from Detroit Free Press News Services, Nov. 8, 2009, p. 22-A

15. Celebrate the Bill of Rights (Dec. 15th) with Colonial Williamsburg Resources

(A) Primary Source of the Month "Debating the Bill of Rights"

Learn more at <http://www.history.org/Foundation/journal/Winter09/rights.cfm>

(B) Primary Source of the Month: The Bill of Rights

Learn more at <http://www.history.org/History/teaching/enewsletter/volume8/nov09/primsource.cfm>

(C) Teaching Strategy: The Bill of Rights

Learn more at <http://www.history.org/History/teaching/enewsletter/volume8/nov09/teachstrategy.cfm>

(D) Teaching News: New! Colonial Williamsburg for Teachers Facebook Page

We have joined Facebook! Visit our page to get updates on educational materials and programs such as Electronic Field Trips, Teacher Institute, conferences, and other classroom resources. You can also share photographs and video with us about projects in your classroom, discuss ideas with other teachers, or ask us questions. Even if you are not on Facebook, you can see our page! For more info, visit www.history.org

16. Web site wants candidates to answer tough questions

By Chris Christoff, Detroit Free Press Staff Writer

LANSING — An interactive Web site launched recently asks Michigan's candidates for governor: What's a tax expenditure? Is directional oil drilling in the Great Lakes a good idea? How many school districts are there? How will you address K-12 school funding? Should police and firefighters have binding arbitration?

Those are a few of 200 questions posed by the blog for candidates, and the general public, about basic state issues and facts. Its creators are a bipartisan mix of veteran policy, legal and public relations experts who want the 2010 gubernatorial campaign to go beyond slogans and rhetoric.

The blog is called "Michigan's Next Governor Project" (michigansnextgovernor.wordpress.com/) and it invites candidates and the public to comment — but only if they're willing to sign their real names.

"Jobs, jobs, jobs isn't a policy," said Richard Mc Lellan, a retired attorney and among Lansing's most knowledgeable about the workings of state government. "Candidates should be prepared to put forward serious

policy proposals.”Mc Lellan was a confidant of former Republican Gov. John Engler and among 11 people who created the blog. Another is Richard Cole, former chief of staff of Democratic Gov. Jim Blanchard and current chairman of the advertising and public relations department at Michigan State University. Mc Lellan said the Web site is not a questionnaire for candidates to fill out, but rather a way to spark public debate over the complex issues. Too many candidates, he said, figure out a political campaign strategy first, and choose a few policy issues to fit it, rather than learning how government really works. Added Cole: “The goal is to get people engaged in these issues.”

17. Michigan Gears Up for 2010 Census

U.S. Deputy Secretary of Commerce Dennis F. Hightower and Lieutenant Governor John D. Cherry, Jr. recently kicked off Michigan’s 2010 census campaign, “It’s in Our Hands, Michigan.” Cherry was named Michigan’s complete count chair earlier this year to oversee the state’s census efforts.

Quick facts regarding the 2010 Michigan Census:

- In Michigan, for every person NOT counted, our state loses \$10,000 (\$40,000 for a family of four) to other states over the course of 10 years.
- The census also determines reapportionment and redistricting of congressional, state and local representation.
- Michigan would not have lost a congressional seat after the 2000 census if its snowbirds had been counted in the right place.
- Because so many of Michigan’s snowbirds were counted in the wrong place by the 2000 census, roughly \$200 million of federal funds are spent in other states each year instead of in Michigan, which adds up to \$2 billion over the course of a decade.

For more info on the 2010 Michigan census, visit www.michigan.gov/census2010.

(From State Senaator Glenn Anderson’s Constituent E-Newsletter)

18. Museum Adventure Pass is a Great Bargain!

Reminder that the Museum Adventure Pass program has been renewed for another year. This program is wonderful! By checking out an adventure pass for a local museum or other cultural institution from your local library, you and one to three others receive free admission (you must use the pass within a week of checking it out, so plan carefully!). For a list of participating institutions and more information:

<http://www.detroitadventurepass.org/>

(This item was ‘stolen’ from Kathleen Marcaccio’s Weekly eCalendar of Detroit History and Cultural Heritage Events 11/25/09 To get your own FREE subscription to this informative weekly E-newsletter, send an email to Kathleen at dkosh@msn.com (Just ask to be added to her email group.)

19. New Look!: The Detroit Lions & Thanksgiving

Why do the Lions always play on Thanksgiving Day? State Archivist Mark Harvey examines this long-running tradition. Click here for more details: <http://seekingmichigan.org/look/2009/11/24/gobblers-and-the-gridiron> As always, comments are encouraged and can be left at the bottom of the page.

(from Bob Garrett, Archives of Michigan, <GarrettR1@michigan.gov>)
