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Village News



Village of Osceola (715) 294-3498 info@myosceola.com www.myosceola.com

LOCAL HISTORIANS, by Deb Rose

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History happens to all of us all the time. Local history brings history home.

After graduating from Osceola High School, I attended St. Cloud State University. Like many, I had no idea what I wanted to study when I started college. I did know I wanted to run track and to stay eligible to compete at some point I had to declare a major. Having grown up in a family that passed along stories of our past I grew to have a love of history. So, a major in history it was! To me history is great stories based on what happened in the past. Often a story is only as good as the person telling it. In my studies I got to meet a lot of folks who gathered, preserved, and shared the stories of history. I also realized that local historians are some of the most important historians. Growing up in Osceola I was lucky enough to have met so many residents with a love for our town and its history and the gift of recording our stories.

Over the years I have gathered a number of stories, some written down some simply told, from many of these local historians. John Schillberg told stories of moving from a neighborhood in the cities to a farm on the north end of town. He also had a love of the railroad and spent many hours regaling those who rode the tourist train in Osceola with his knowledge of the rails and its impact on Osceola. A chemist through education, historian by passion, Millie Addy kept the memory of Osceola Historical Society benefactor Emily Olson alive through her tales of Olson's time as a librarian at Stanford. Beloved elementary school teacher Ward Moberg was integral in the purchase of the Osceola Depot building, paving the way for the tourist train to come to our town. He also penned a down-to-earth, nitty-gritty account of who did what, when, and how during Prohibition in the St Croix valley. Canadian transplant Kathy Grant gathered extensive information and documentation on the steamboat building and river travel in Osceola. She also owned an accordion, which as a kid I thought was pretty darn cool! One of the most prolific writers of our history was Grace Pilgrim Bloom. In 1975 she wrote a series of 86 articles about our earliest local history for the local newspaper. At 82 years old she returned to college to pursue her master's degree writing her thesis on "Osceola: Yesterday and Today". You can still find many pieces of her writing at the public library in town.

I think back to my youth and realize now that just through my day-to-day life as a kid I started my love of our history just by listening to those around me. After mowing her lawn I'd sit in the kitchen with my neighbor Edna Kuske and over a glass of orange pop she talked about life at home during World War II. I learned about how the houses came to be on Geiger Street when I ran into Linda Gordon in the library. I'd hop off my bike as I rode past Jess Thomas' house and chat him about the interesting people who are buried in Mount Hope. He gave me my first job mowing that cemetery! I wish I had taken more time to write down these anecdotes. I only recently started trying to get some of my own family's stories on paper for the next generations. My advice to you: Become your own local historian! Write your story, write your parents', neighbors', and friends' stories.



ELECTION INFORMATION



If you registered to vote on or before December 16, 2016, and have not voted in any election after December 31, 2016, you may have recently received a Notice of Suspension of Registration postcard from the Wisconsin Elections Commission. If you wish to stay registered, please sign, date, and return the card to the Village Clerk as addressed on the other side of the card. If your address has changed, please contact the Village Clerk or visit myvote.wi.gov to update your voter information. If you do nothing, your voter registration will be inactivated, and you will need to re-register before you can vote in the future. If you have any questions about this process, please contact the Village Clerk at:

Frances Duncanson, MMC-WCPC
Village Clerk
(715) 294-3498
villageclerk@vil.osceola.wi.us

UPCOMING EVENTS



Wheels & Wings ~ September 11, 2021 ~ www.wheelsandwings.org

Osceola Community Fair ~ September 10th, 11th, and 12th, 2021

St. Croix ArtBarn ~ www.stcroixartbarn.org

Music on Mainstreet ~ Saturdays beginning 06/19/21 through 10/09/21 from 2-5 pm at 202 N. Cascade Street.

Farmers Market ~ Fridays beginning in June going through October from 2-6 pm.

Osceola Braves ~ www.osceolabraves.com

July 2nd – vs. River Falls Fighting Fish @ 7:30 pm

July 9th – vs. Prescott Pirates @ 7:30 pm

July 10th – vs. Ellsworth Hubbers @ 7:00 pm

July 14th – vs. St. Paul Hops @ 7:30 pm

July 16th – vs. Hudson River Rats @ 7:30 pm

July 18th – vs. St. Paul Capitals @ 2:00 pm

July 23rd - @ New Richmond Millers @ 7:30 pm

July 24th – vs. Bay City Bombers @ 7:00 pm

July 28th – vs. TBD @ 7:30 pm

July 30th – Aug. 1st - @ SCRVL League Tourney @ TBD



PUBLIC WORKS REMINDERS



Storm Damage – In the event of a storm, a Storm Event will be declared and posted on the Village Website. Residents will have 7 days to place brush by the curb. Brush must be stacked neatly parallel to the curb or road surface and be less than 3” in diameter and 6’ in length. If a storm event is not declared, it is up to the homeowner to dispose of the debris. Otherwise, the Village only collects brush and leaf bags on designated dates in the spring and fall. Items placed curbside outside of those designated dates is considered a nuisance and the owner of the property will be contacted and any costs incurred by the Public Works Department will be billed appropriately.

Street Lights - If you notice a streetlight that is out or not functioning correctly please contact the Village Office at 715-294-3498 or email us at info@myosceola.com. Please provide us with the nearest address to the affected street light, which will allow us to locate the street light and see that it is repaired.

Grass Nuisances- Any grass and weeds that exceed 12 inches in height will receive a warning notice. Failure to comply with the notice will result in the village abating the condition and any cost incurred will be billed to the home owner.

Cutting Grass into the Village Street and onto sidewalks- Please pick up any grass that has been cut into the street or on the sidewalk to comply with Village Ordances. If grass is left on the street or sidewalk it can enter into the storm water that runs to the Lakes and Rivers which will pollute them.

Park Shelter Rentals- The large gazebo at Millpond Park is available to rent for \$25.00 and the shelter at Oakey Park can be rented for \$50.00. If you do not reserve the Gazebo or the Shelter it is first come, first serve.

Use of Village Street- No person shall place upon the street any construction dumpsters or moving containers. Please contact the Village office if you have any questions regarding this matter.

DOG LICENSES



Village Ordinances states all dogs over the age of 5 months must be licensed annually. Proof of a current rabies vaccination is required to obtain a license. A license can be purchased at Village Hall or by mail.

Go to our Website below for an application:

www.myosceola.com

OSCEOLA SENIOR CENTER, Article by Sabrina Naglosky



Are you looking to start an exercise program that is not intimidating? Are you struggling with stress and anxiety? Do you feel as though you are at a risk to fall?

Roger Mussell and the Osceola Discovery Center has the perfect exercise for you. Roger has been teaching and practicing in the art of Tai Chi for many years. Tai Chi is an ancient Chinese tradition that, today, is practiced as a graceful form of exercise. It involves a series of movements performed in a slow, focused manner and is accompanied by deep breathing. Each posture/movement flows into the next without pause ensuring that your body is in constant motion.

Tai Chi is low impact and puts minimal stress on muscles and joints, making it generally safe for all ages and fitness levels. The exercise activities can be done sitting or standing, and folks with special needs are welcome. This exercise when performed correctly and regularly can improve your health through decreased stress, anxiety, and depression. It also helps to improve mood, energy, stamina, flexibility, balance, and agility.

Roger Mussell has done a great job of continuing the regularly held Tai Chi classes through the Osceola Discovery Center throughout the Safer at Home order by doing it on Zoom. Roger currently is holding the classes in person with the option of attending via Zoom. He will always hold the class as long as there is one other person in attendance.

Tai Chi is held on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:00 – 10:00 AM. If you are interested in joining the exercise group, you're welcome to show up at the Senior Center inside the Osceola Discovery Center or connect via the Zoom information below. Roger would love to answer your questions about Tai Chi. He is a very kind, informed teacher with a passion for Tai Chi and its ability to give people comfort and flexibility in their own lives. Check it out. This program is here to help you, help yourself!



Contact Roger Mussell at 312-524-3934

Join Tai Chi via Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4609676990?pwd=M0xjQmNnd3VHdkd5anRPL3JnR00wQT09>

Meeting ID: 460 967 6990 Passcode: 353231

OSCEOLA PUBLIC LIBRARY



The library is now open! Monday-Wednesday & Friday 10am-5pm, Thursday 12pm-7pm, Saturdays (Drive-Thru Only) 10am-1pm. Sign up for the Summer Learning Program in-person or on our website at www.osceolapubliclibrary.org and follow our Facebook page for updates on new programs!