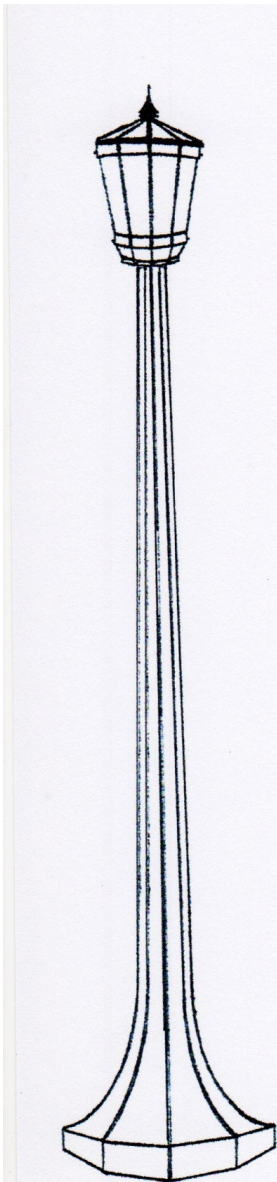


# Chesaning Area Historical Society & Museum

602 W Broad St - Chesaning MI

April 2022 Newsletter



## Museum Members Annual SPRING POTLUCK & Election of Officers

### Meets

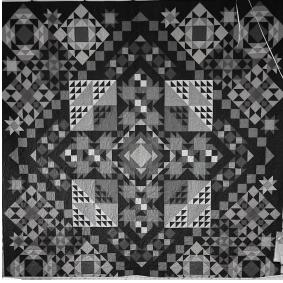
MONDAY, APRIL 11th — 6:00p.m.

Dinner will be catered - so we ask that you RSVP by April 4th by calling 845-6918 to let us know the number of people attending & your phone number so we can return your call, if needed. If no answer, Please leave a message with your information.

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting  
Being held at The LIONS CLUB on Corunna Rd.



## What's Happening In Our Town



The New Quilt Shop, located on the corner of Broad & Wood Streets, is busy as folks from town are making pillows & book bags for ALL the school children from Kindergarten thru 4th grade in Chesaning. The gift of a Book bag will contain a small pillow & a book for each child.

A big THANK YOU to everyone involved in this project -

## HISTORY OF CHESANING

### Saginaw News Report

Nov. 19, 1965

### Chesaning Hotel Destroyed

As Reported by Fred Garrett  
News Staff Writer

**CHESANING:** Twenty persons escaped from the Hotel Central, 102 W. Broad, early this morning when flames engulfed the two-story 81-year-old structure. The loss has been put at \$75,000.

One volunteer fireman, Robert Muirhead, 24, suffered bruises when he slipped from a roof and fell 20 feet while fighting the fire.

About 50 volunteer firemen from four communities—Chesaning, Owosso, St. Charles, and Saginaw Township—fought the four-alarm blaze.

Chesaning Fire Chief Fordney Volkmer said the first alarm was sounded at 4:45a.m. The next three alarms, calling the departments from the other communities, followed quickly.

The old pine timber frame building burned fiercely, Volkmer said flames at one time shot a hundred feet into the air. The red glow from the fire glistened eerily on the Christmas decorations strung along Chesaning's main street.

The hotel, owned by Henry A. Moldenhauer, was reported a total loss. Stock in Jane's Village Shop, on the lower floor of the hotel, was also lost.

Volkmer said smoke damage probably was heavy in the Arthur Ramsdill barber shop, separated from the hotel proper by a heavy wall which kept the flames from it. Other buildings near the hotel also were expected to have some smoke damage.

The blaze was difficult to fight. The hotel had a brick facing over a wood frame. The firemen brought the blaze under control but flames still were visible as late as 8:30a.m.

Hotel Fire cont:

The out of town units were able to leave the scene at 9:15a.m. Chesaning firemen stood by to guard against further outbreaks.

Moldenhauer said he had gone to bed, about 3:50a.m., when somebody ran down the hall shouting, "FIRE" !!

He said he rushed to the rear of the hotel and could see smoke and flames erupting from a rear apartment occupied by two construction workers from Grand Rapids. One of them Curtis Kaolin; ran onto the street, stopped a car and asked the occupants to get help.

Another hotel guest, Sidney Klenkosky of Bay City said, he was sleeping when all the running and yelling woke me up. There was no trouble getting out, most of the people saved their clothes and suitcases.

Moouldenhauer, who purchased the hotel in 1953, said the loss was partly covered by insurance. Those who escaped included Moldenhauer's wife, grandson and a friend of the grandson.

"This is the first time we had a fire here", he said. "Look's like it'll be the last and the only one for Hotel Central. Dressed in pajamas and covered in a coat - he sat dejectedly in an automobile as the hotel burned.

# Memorials

In Memory of  
Laura & Mary Martin  
From  
Dan Martin

In Memory of  
Leonard Schmiege  
From  
Ken & Erma Thomas

In Memory of  
Jim Weigold  
From  
Lois Harris  
Pauline Wentz  
Jim & Frances Young

In Memory of  
Leonard Schmiege  
Michael Snider  
James L. Miller  
Jim Weigold  
Marcia Boetcher  
Louis Shipper  
From  
Doyle & Janice Smith

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Once again we are not asking for annual dues, but would appreciate any donation. You can help meet expenses by making a donation of \$20 as we do need your support to help keep our museum open.

THANK YOU

**Chesaning Area Historical Society  
And Museum  
PO Box 52  
Chesaning MI 48616**



**Chesaning Area Historical Society & Museum  
Hours:**

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday  
Work sessions 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

**“Museum is closed”**

**\*If there are NO volunteers available\***

**\*\*\*MUSEUM IS CLOSED AT THIS TIME - 2020 - 2022\*\*\*  
EXCEPT BY APPOINTMENT  
PLEASE call ahead 989-845-3155**

Officers:

President: Bonnie Ruff  
V. President: Diane Stanuszak  
Treasurer: Nancy Rowe  
Secretary: Frances Young

E-mail: [cahs@chesaningmuseum.net](mailto:cahs@chesaningmuseum.net)

Web site: [www.cahs.chesaning.com](http://www.cahs.chesaning.com)

Trustees: Connie Murdock  
Monte Lawton

Facebook: Chesaning Area Historical Society