

A large bronze statue of a mammoth is the central focus. Four children are interacting with it: one is climbing the trunk, another is sitting on the trunk, a third is sitting on the side, and a fourth is sitting on the ground in front. The background shows a brick building and a yellow banner with the text 'FEB 11 2025'.

THE FUTURE OF HISTORY

SEPTEMBER • VOL. 25 • ISSUE 3 • 2025

Our mission is to tell the story of Muskegon County by collecting, preserving, and interpreting the history of its people and natural environment.



**LAKESHORE
MUSEUM CENTER**





MUSEUMS MAKE YOU.

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DIRECTOR'S REPORT

03

How Does a Museum Grow?

At the Lakeshore Museum Center, growth has always come from the dedication of those who believe in our mission and want to ensure it thrives far beyond their own time. Few people embodied that spirit more fully than Florence Kiskey.

Florence was a powerful advocate for natural history education throughout her time as a **Muskegon Public Schools teacher**. She generously donated to the museum's collection, served as a museum volunteer, and, in the early '90s, (at the age of 84!) as a board member. She gave her time, insight, and heart to the museum, championing exhibits that connected people to the wonders of the natural world.

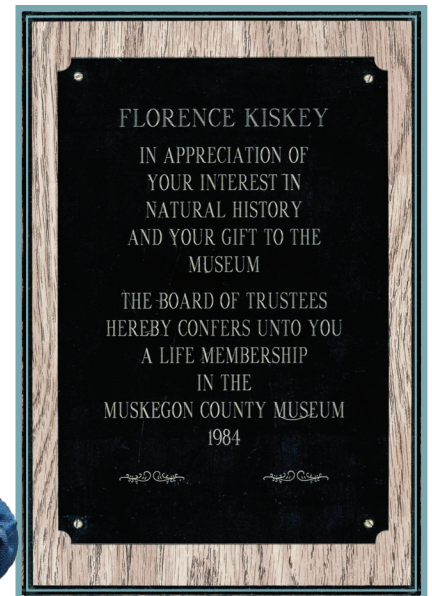
After her time on the board, Florence continued to nurture the museum's growth. As a final, deeply meaningful gesture, she left a **legacy gift through the Community Foundation for Muskegon County**, dedicated to the development and continuation of our natural history exhibits. This will enrich lives for years to come, ensuring that children and families will always have a place to discover mastodons, trilobites, native Michigan wildlife, and more.

We are humbled by Florence's foresight and generosity. By supporting Lakeshore Museum Center in a subject she was interested in, she helped to shape the museum experience and ensured that part of our mission could be sustained for generations to come.

To Florence, and to all those who plant seeds for tomorrow: **thank you**.



Florence Kiskey, 1989



Muskegon County Museum Lifetime Recognition plaque awarded to Florence, 1984.



Doll used by Florence to teach spinning and weaving at the museum.



Melissa Horton
Executive Director

ARCHIVE & COLLECTION

Contributing to the Collection

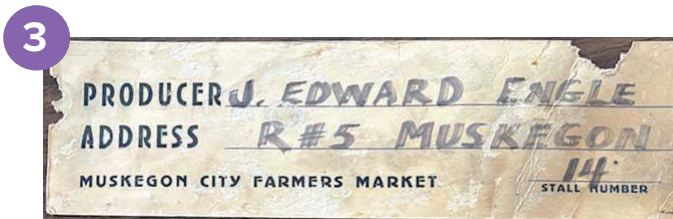
04

1. Fred Scharmer and Warren Strauser with coho salmon caught at Arcadia, MI. Photo taken in front of the Outdoorsman, 685 Ottawa St, Muskegon, MI, dated 1967.

2. Freye home, 3171 Lakeshore Dr, Muskegon, MI.

3. J. Edward Engle, R#5 Muskegon, Muskegon City Farmers Market stall sign.

4. Porcelain container possibly owned by Genevieve Emery.



Recent Acquisitions

The Lakeshore Museum Center actively collects objects and archival material relevant to Muskegon County's natural and cultural history. These items are reviewed by the Acquisitions Committee and the Board of Trustees for their condition, their relevance to Muskegon County, condition, and the LMC's ability to care for the objects. We are grateful to our donors for their ongoing contributions to the Muskegon County Archive & Collection.

In the second quarter of 2025, the LMC was offered 141 objects. The following objects were accepted into the collection:

Photographs

- Group photograph of workers from American Store Equipment Archives
- Michigan Spring & Stamping and American Coil Spring Co
- Fred Scharmer and Warren Strauser with coho salmon caught at Arcadia, MI. Photo taken in front of the Outdoorsman, 685 Ottawa St, Muskegon, MI, dated 1967.
- Freye home, 3171 Lakeshore Dr, Muskegon, MI

Archives

- J. Edward Engle, R#5 Muskegon, Muskegon City Farmers Market stall sign
- Scrapbooks and photographs from the Freye family
- Ravenna Independent News, 2024
- Fishing and hunting licenses and tags owned by Tom George from approximately 1949 to 2001
- No. 1. Certified Copies of Recorded Plats, Muskegon County, Michigan
- No. 2. Certified Copies of Recorded Plats Muskegon County, Michigan
- A map of the SD Warren side
- Programs from anniversaries of Michigan Spring & Stamping

- Letterhead from American Coil Spring Company
- A ledger of tools and jigs with drawings from 1948 to 1985 from Michigan Spring & Stamping
- Program from the 1940 Jubilee Ice Show
- William Dauser archive
- Ledgers from the Hackley Park fund, ca. 1880s
- Official Highway Map of Muskegon County, 1966

Objects

- Porcelain container possibly owned by Genevieve Emery
- Plaque from Michigan Spring & Stamping awarding a team for Statistical Process Control, 1985

WHAT'S ON VIEW?

Goodbye Body Works, Hello Mosaic Muskegon

05

After 40 years, the Muskegon Museum of History and Science said goodbye to *Body Works*, a hands-on exhibit originally developed by the Muskegon County Medical Society Auxiliary to teach young visitors about health sciences. It originally opened in 1984 and underwent several updates over the years. One of the most beloved elements that persevered through each update, Mr. Bones, has taken a well-earned retirement.

This gallery that was previously home to *Body Works* will reopen as Muskegon County History. This gallery will feature rotating content that highlights the history of our county and further our mission: to tell the story of Muskegon County by collecting, preserving, and interpreting the history of its people and natural environment. The Muskegon County History gallery creates a space for the museum to display more of its collections.

The first exhibition in the new gallery is *Mosaic Muskegon*. It is a photographic exploration of Muskegon County's landscapes, buildings, and landmarks. William Hansen captured more than 56,000 individual images to create over 2,650 highly detailed mosaic photographs of sites across Muskegon County. Hansen donated the digital images to the Archive & Collection, where they will document and preserve this moment in Muskegon County's visual history.



Mr. Bones enjoying his retirement.



Body Works exhibit



121-123 West Colby photograph by William Hansen

We are grateful for William Hansen capturing more than 56,000 individual images to create over 2,650 highly detailed mosaic photographs of sites across Muskegon County.

PRESERVING THE PAST

06

Hackley & Hume Historic Site Receives Grant for Window Restoration

The Lakeshore Museum Center is thrilled to announce that the Hackley & Hume Historic Site has been awarded a \$50,000 grant through the America250MI History Grant Program. The grant is part of a statewide initiative in honor of America's 250th anniversary. It will support the critical restoration of historic windows at the Hackley & Hume Historic Site.

The Hackley & Hume Historic Site is home to **172 windows**, not including the stained glass. Of those, 32 are in critical condition. Thanks to the America250MI grant, approximately 90% of these vulnerable windows will be restored, an essential step toward preserving the architectural integrity and historic charm of the homes.

The museum is partnering with Kevin Elzinga, owner of Heritage Window Restoration in Grand Rapids.

Restoration began the week of July 14, starting with the careful removal of five windows from the Hume House.

Once removed, the windows are transported to Grand Rapids for restoration. Each window will undergo a meticulous process, ensuring that every original wood and glass component is repaired and preserved. Reinstallation is scheduled to take place in six to eight weeks. During this time, temporary plywood coverings are placed in the openings to protect the buildings.

The entire restoration project is expected to be completed by the end of 2025. This effort is more than just a construction update; it is a reaffirmation of our community's commitment to historic preservation. Every window restored helps ensure that future generations can experience and appreciate the stories, craftsmanship, and legacy of the Hackley and Hume Houses.

Stay tuned for future updates as this exciting restoration progresses!



Windows are removed from the Hume House and taken to Grand Rapids for restoration.



We are deeply grateful to the America250MI Committee for their support and investment in this meaningful work!

To contribute to this project scan the QR code. Please type **H&H Window Project** in the comment section to direct your gift.



MUSEUM PROGRAMMING

Coding Robots

07

We would like to take a moment to thank the John Max Busard Trust of the Community Foundation for Muskegon County for the purchase of a new tablet from the Community Wish List. With it, we can bring back our coding robots to teach kids about inputting and combining simple lines of code with Dash and Kubo. Dash allows them to add lights and sounds into the mix to create even greater lines of code. These robots were a popular draw for visitors, but our old tablet was no longer able to support them, thus they had to be shelved. Thanks to this donation we can now have some fun with coding again.

If you would like to check them out yourself, visit us on Saturday, Sept. 20, for our Coding With Robots program anytime between noon to 2 p.m.

We would also like to thank Howmet Aerospace Foundation for an education grant that will help us run Saturday programs, such as Coding With Robots. This grant will assist in covering supplies, equipment, and staff costs for the next two years' worth of history, science, and STEAM-themed Saturday programs, and allow them to be free.



Kimberlynn Carlson, Program Assistant

When

October 4, 2025

6:00 - 9:00 PM

Where

Muskegon Museum
of History & Science
430 W. Clay Ave.
Muskegon, MI 49440

Tickets

\$50 in Advance
\$60 at the Door

Scan the QR code to get tickets online. To purchase by check or cash, visit the museum or mail your check made out to Lakeshore Museum Center.



Tickets & Registration



Travel Back to the 1940s!

Come celebrate the 80th Anniversary of WWII's victory at **Lumber Barons Ball Presents: Operation - Victory Bash** on October 4, 2025. This unforgettable evening features 1940s-era charm, big band music, wartime décor, and the enduring spirit of the Greatest Generation.

THE IMPACT OF COMMUNITY

Staying Cool

08

Thank you! In the past year, we have been lucky enough to have received contributions in many forms. Volunteers give the most precious commodity—their time. Financial donors provide funds that allow us to tackle important projects faster than other revenue streams would permit. In-kind donors share goods or services—whether it's lawn-and-garden implements, shop tools, or technical expertise—that help us maintain our facilities and collection.

One of our most significant donations of the season came through the **Community Foundation for Muskegon County's Wish List**. A donor stepped forward to help cover the cost of adding the fourth and final air conditioner to the heat plant at the Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry. As of July 18, the whole building can now be maintained at a steady temperature. It's good for the collection, the volunteers, and the visitors. Our 120-year-old building has entered the 21st century!

We are the latest in a long line of Muskegon buildings to have this modern convenience. One of the earliest local public accommodations to include AC was on Western Avenue. The state-of-the-art Michigan Theater, now known as the Frauenthal Center, opened on Sept. 16, 1930. It was the first local theater designed to incorporate two new features—sound projection and air conditioning.

The idea of cooling movie theaters got its start at the Central Park Theater in Chicago in 1917. They used large blocks of ice to chill air that was then blown into the auditorium. In 1925, the Rivoli Theater in New York boasted the first mechanical refrigeration system designed by Willis Carrier. Those two experiments drove the industry to cool air for their customers and helped drive summer movie-going.

Kirk Bunke, Site Manager



A crew from McKellips & Sons Heating & Cooling lifting the final AC condenser into place.



By 1930, Paul Shlossman's burgeoning Muskegon area theater empire included five movie houses: the Strand (in Muskegon Heights), the Rialto, the Majestic, the Regent, and the new Michigan Theater.

Thank you to our volunteers, financial donors, and in-kind donors. We could not maintain our quality of facilities and collections without you.

BECAUSE OF YOU

Celebrating the Heart of Our Mission: Our Volunteers

09

On June 24, we gathered at the Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry to honor the incredible volunteers who help make the Lakeshore Museum Center a vibrant, welcoming, and inspiring place for our community.

In 2024, 151 dedicated individuals gave their time, energy, and passion across a wide range of departments and initiatives. Together, they contributed an astounding 6,119.32 hours—hours spent preserving history, supporting education, enriching programs, and ensuring every visitor has a meaningful experience.

Here's a look at the remarkable impact of their efforts:

- **Board & Committee Volunteers:** 24 individuals provided 306.5 hours of leadership and guidance.
- **Muskegon Historic Sites Volunteers:** 21 volunteers brought history to life through 1,350.5 hours of service.
- **Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business and Industry Volunteers:** 56 volunteers contributed 2,712.75 hours, engaging visitors with business and industry history and assisting with winter renovation projects.
- **Archives & Collections Volunteers:** 9 volunteers dedicated over 827.82 hours to preserving and protecting our community's stories and artifacts.
- **Program Volunteers:** 19 individuals offered 240.75 hours supporting educational programs and events.
- **MAISD Transition Program:** 14 volunteers from Craig Campus contributed 224 hours of on-site job training. A special thanks to Helen Houston, job coach and mentor to these students, for her support and dedication.
- **Event Volunteers:** 5 volunteers gave 37 hours helping to plan and execute the Lumber Barons Ball.
- **Junior Museum Professionals:** 14 of our youngest volunteers donated 420 hours, learning, leading, and making a meaningful impact across the organization.

These numbers are more than just statistics. They represent passion, dedication, and a shared commitment to our mission and community

We are deeply grateful for every volunteer who gives so generously of their time and talents. Your efforts power our mission, preserve our history, and shape our future.

Marci Dalm, Volunteer & Event Coordinator

Volunteer Appreciation Awards

Each year, we honor a select few volunteers who have gone above and beyond in their service with our annual Volunteer Appreciation Awards. Please join us in celebrating our 2025 honorees:

Roger Wiitanen

Winner of the 2025 Dake Award. With 154.5 hours of service to the Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry in 2024, Roger exemplifies the spirit of Anne and Allen Dake. His dedication has made a lasting impact and helped ensure the museum's continued success.

Jackie Engle

Winner of the 2025 Dorothy Hammer Award. This award honors Jackie's steadfast service and leadership.

Like Dorothy Hammer, Jackie is known for her calm presence, unwavering dedication, and ability to make everyone feel welcome and at home. Her impact is felt every time she walks through our doors.

Sandy Phillips

Winner of the 2025 Hume Award. Named for Margaret Hume, a passionate advocate for Muskegon County and model of civic engagement, this award recognizes Sandy's outstanding commitment as a Historic Sites volunteer. His leadership and community spirit reflect Margaret's enduring legacy.

Levi Dalm

Winner of the 2025 George Hilt Award. The George Hilt Award honors a Junior Museum Professional who demonstrates outstanding dedication. In his second season, Levi volunteered over 70 hours and stood out for his enthusiastic community engagement, appearing at multiple events in a dinosaur costume to share museum info and connect with visitors.



MEMBERSHIP & MORE

1,000 Thank Yous and More

10

I may say it often, but it is always true—we simply could not do what we do without your support. I am continually humbled and grateful for the role you play in our work. Below is a list of our members as of July 24, 2025.

As a member, you enjoy **ROAM benefits** all year long, plus 10% off every purchase in our museum gift shops. We are always bringing in new and exciting merchandise, so do not forget to stop by and see what's new during your next visit.

We are also very grateful to our reciprocal membership partners who help make our membership program even more valuable and exciting!

If you have any questions about your membership or need a replacement card, please contact me at **231-722-0278** or email me at graciela@lakeshoremuseum.org.

Graciela Alberino-Stidham, Guest Relations Manager

This September and October, you can enjoy free admission at the following organizations:

September Impression 5 Science Center Free Admission to the Museum impression5.org	September John Ball Zoo Free Admission to the Zoo jbzoo.org
October Sandcastles Children's Museum Free Admission to the Museum sandcastleschildrensmuseum.com	October Midwest Miniatures Museum Free Admission to the Museum midwestminiaturesmuseum.com

Following is a list of our members as of July 24, 2025.

Members Make a Museum

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Dan and Kendra Olsen
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Judith E. Rahrig
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 Toni Rae Gurn

DONORS BIG & SMALL

A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Muskegon Community

12

In my first few months on the job, I've had the privilege of listening, learning, and discovering just how deeply the Lakeshore Museum Center is woven into the fabric of Muskegon County. It has been an absolute joy to connect with our passionate staff, dedicated volunteers and board members, generous donors, and community partners.

Muskegon is a vibrant, fiercely loyal place, unique in its deep-rooted love for home. There's something special about a community so proud of its past and so committed to its future. We don't just live here. We **belong** here.

How fortunate we are, then, to have an organization like the Lakeshore Museum Center! An organization that exists to collect, preserve, and interpret the rich history and natural environment that define

this wonderful place. From the youngest program participants to the most seasoned volunteers, this is **your** museum.

That sense of ownership shines through every day in your generous donations and your enthusiastic participation. With your advocacy for the Muskegon Museum of History & Science, your support of educational programming, your commitment to the Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry, and your pride in our Archive, Collection, and Historic Sites, you continuously collaborate with us to say: Muskegon was important. Muskegon IS important. We belong here.

To all who support us: **thank you**. We truly could not do this work without you. Your passion, partnership, and pride fuel everything we do.



Quilt made by members of the Women's Division Chamber of Commerce for their 70th anniversary. As a fundraiser, people purchased raffle tickets to win the quilt. The quilt winner donated the quilt to the museum.



Fundraiser quilt made by the North Muskegon Ladies Aid Society. People could donate money to have their names embroidered on the quilt. To see the list of names, visit the museum's online collection database.

Morgan Witmer, Development & Office Administrator

Following is a list of donors from July 21, 2024-July 20, 2025.

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museum's
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PLAN YOUR VISIT

Upcoming Events

14

Muskegon Museum of History & Science



September 4

WWII Walking Tour
6:00pm–7:30pm

September 11

Play and Learn
Fall Session - FREE
10:00am–11:00am

September 23

WWII Walking Tour
6:00pm–7:30pm

September 25

Play and Learn
Fall Session - FREE
10:00am–11:00am

September 27

Day of Play
Life-Size Battleship
11:00am–3:00pm

October 4

Closed for
Lumber Baron's Ball

October 4

Lumber Baron's Ball
Operation Victory Bash
6:00pm–9:00pm

October 8

Shaping the Landscape:
History Lecture at
Dalton Library
5:30pm

October 9

Play and Learn
Fall Session - FREE
10:00am–11:00am

October 11

Chemistry Society
Open House
11:00am–3:00pm

October 15

Story Time with Hackley
Public Library
10:30am–11:30am

October 17

FFFN: Smashing Pumpkins
5:30pm–7:30pm

October 23

Play and Learn
Fall Session - FREE
10:00am–11:00am

November 1

Museum Closed for private event

November 3

From Pelts to Plows
Lecture at Dalton Library
5:30pm

November 4

The Wreck of the Muskegon
Lecture at Hackley Public Library
5:30pm

November 12

From Pelts to Plows
Lecture at Dalton Library
5:30pm

November 13

Play and Learn
Fall Session - FREE
10:00am–11:00am

November 19

Shaping the Landscape:
History Lecture at
Montague Library
5:30pm

November 21

FFFN: Flashlights
5:30pm–7:30pm

December 11

Play and Learn
Fall Session - FREE
10:00am–11:00am

All-Sites Closed

November 27–28
December 12

PLAN YOUR VISIT

Upcoming Events

15

Hackley & Hume Historic Site



September 5

Clue LIVE!

Session 1: 6:00pm

Session 2: 7:30pm

September 6

Clue LIVE!

Session 1: 6:00pm

Session 2: 7:30pm

September 5

After Dark Tour

9:00pm–10:00pm

September 12

All Access Tours

7:00pm–8:30pm

September 19

Hackley Attic Escape Room

5:00pm–6:30pm

September 20

Hackley Attic Escape Room

5:00pm–6:30pm

October

Historic Sites FREE

on the weekends

for Muskegon

County Residents

October 3

After Dark Tour

9:00pm–10:00pm

October 10

Flashlight Tour

Session 1: 8:00pm

Session 2: 9:30pm

October 10

Flashlight Tour

Session 1: 8:00pm

Session 2: 9:30pm

October 17-18

Obituary Tour

Session 1: 7:00–8:00pm

Session 2: 8:30–9:30pm

October 24-25

Hackley Attic Escape Room

5:00–6:30pm

October 31

Last Open Day for the

Classic Touring Season

November 29

Holiday Tours & Kickoff Event

3:00pm–7:00pm

December 6

Holiday Tea

11:00am–2:00pm

December 6, 13, 20, 27, 28

Holiday Tours

3:00pm–7:00pm

Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry



October 4

Free Community Day:

Muskegon's Post War Economy

11:00am–4:00pm

October 11

FREE for Muskegon

Co. Residents

October 18

FREE for Muskegon

Co. Residents

October 25

FREE for Muskegon

Co. Residents

October 25

Tiny Tots

Trick-or-Treat

11:00am–4:00pm

October 31

Last Open Day for the

2025 Season

November 6

Business & Industry Book Club:

Discussion, Snacks, Social Time

6:00pm–7:00pm



See all of our upcoming
programs and events online at
lakeshoremuseum.org/calendar

Muskegon Museum of History & Science

430 W. Clay Ave., Muskegon

231.722.0278

Hackley & Hume Historic Site

484 W. Webster Ave., Muskegon

231.722.7578

Fire Barn Museum

484 W. Webster Ave., Muskegon

231.722.7578

Scolnik House of the Depression Era

484 W. Webster Ave., Muskegon

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Muskegon Heritage Museum of Business & Industry

561 W. Western Ave., Muskegon

231.722.1363

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