

# Brownstone

WASHBURN  
LEGACY CONSORTIUM

ISSUE 8  
JULY 2020

## An Update

By Steve Cotherman

Life at the **Washburn Cultural Center** over the last few months has been strange, to say the least. All of our meetings had to be cancelled and the gallery and shop closed. We've had to reshuffle our art exhibit schedule in anticipation of a late opening. After much deliberation the WCC Board decided to open the Center by appointment only, beginning July 1, with the Superior Artists Group graciously agreeing to go ahead with their original plan to show their artwork. We've taken opportunity of the "down time" to reinvent our shop by reducing our inventory, rearranging the space and displays, and creating an on-line Ebay store. Call or e-mail us to set up an appointment to visit the Center. We are hopeful that the museum will be open, meetings and gatherings will once again take place, and our art exhibit program will be back on schedule by this fall. Until then, you can call or e-mail us to set up an appointment to visit the Center. Appointment hours are **Wednesday through Saturday, between 1:00 and 5:00 p.m.**

Our **Legacy Consortium** member organizations have been busy as well, despite staying at home and social distancing.

**Washburn Area Historical Society** curator Susan Mackreth told us that, as is true of most museums, the WAHS has more objects than are on display. The Center basement houses all sorts of treasures. Sorting through these stored boxes and evaluating the contents' condition is part of good museum practice, often put off while attending to more immediate concerns. One bright spot in the current situation is that there is now time to undertake this task. The result will be more answers to the many questions we're asked about Washburn's past. If you have such questions, we are still here to try to answer them. Contact us at [washburnculturalcenter@gmail.com](mailto:washburnculturalcenter@gmail.com).

**Historic Civic Center Foundation** vice president Arianna Auston reports that in spite of the current pandemic, progress has been mov-

ing forward at The Club. If you've driven by or follow us on Facebook, you've likely noticed the fresh paint on the front facade. We'll continue our painting efforts throughout the summer and hope that you like the changes so far! We've also made strides toward completing all of the state requirements for an occupancy permit. Once this permit is obtained and the pandemic loosens its grip we'll be able to host events on the main floor. Volunteers have contributed extensively by donating flowers, cleaning, painting, landscaping, plastering the new ADA bathroom, and even decorating for the local graduation parade.

This is a true community project. Additionally, we were recently awarded a grant to continue our outdoor youth programming with a Gardening Club. We hope to have more information on ways to get involved soon. And lastly, the postponement of Homecoming has not deterred The Club from launching a fun new initiative. If you are a Washburn grad or a new friend of The Club, you may have already been invited to participate in our "Class Challenge." This challenge includes categories for everyone, whether you were born here or just moved here last week. The "class" that donates the most money by July 26, 2021 will be honored at next summer's Homecoming, as part of the grand reopening celebration of The Club. We are excited about the progress that's been made and are eager to share what's to come. Find more details at [WashburnClub.org](http://WashburnClub.org) or on Facebook at Washburn Club – The Old DuPont Club.

Kitty Catalano and the **Washburn Beautification Foundation** would like everyone to know that this is a good time in history to live in Washburn. We are able to enjoy our outdoor spaces despite the pandemic. The clean air and water can surely soothe worry and anxiety. The WBF canceled our annual Garden Tour held during Brownstone/Homecoming. We had some wonderful yards and gardens on our list, but sincerely hope to share these spaces with you next year. We are, however, still discovering and awarding yards and gardens of the month. These spaces are chosen by our committee members. Sometimes they take a walk or a drive, receive

a phone call, or see a photo of a lovely space. There is no written criteria to be awarded a yard of the month, just a wink and a nod that your effort is noticed and you are making our community a more pleasing place. We thank everyone that takes the time to make Washburn beautiful.

**Washburn Heritage Association** president Carla Bremner reports that even though we are dealing with and living through an unprecedented time, the WHA is still very busy with a couple of noteworthy projects. We are excited about the installation of a kiosk in Wikdal Park on Bayfield Street which will highlight the history of our area and provide information about current events. And we are looking forward to the Bayview History Committee's restoration of the Houghton Train Depot at Bayview Park on Hwy. 13. Stop by the park to see their progress. For more information go to [washburnheritage.org](http://washburnheritage.org).

For the health and safety of its users, the **Washburn Public Library** remains closed, but came up with a couple of creative solutions to continue providing services for Washburnites. For starters there's the very popular, kids-of-all-ages-love-it "WPL Story Time Show" on Facebook live, hosted by librarian Darrell Pendergrass. You can also call the Library to check out a book or order a book through interlibrary loan and arrange for touch free outside pick up; your book(s) will be waiting for you on the folding chair next to the handicap accessible side door, Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Saturday from 10:00 until 2:00. Most recently, the Library upgraded its WIFI signal so that patrons can access the internet without entering the building. And the City of Washburn provided picnic tables on the Library lawn for your use. For more information on the library go to [washburnpubliclibrary.org](http://washburnpubliclibrary.org). To check out a book call Darrell at 715-373-6172.

We're all still here, up and running to the best of our abilities, and your continued support is greatly appreciated and critical to the well-being of our Legacy Consortium member organizations and the Washburn community. Stay well and be safe. ■

### WASHBURN LEGACY CONSORTIUM MEMBERS:

WASHBURN CULTURAL CENTER (WCC) + WASHBURN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY (WAHS)  
WASHBURN HERITAGE ASSOCIATION (WHA) + WASHBURN BEAUTIFICATION FOUNDATION (WBF)  
HISTORIC CIVIC CENTER FOUNDATION (HCCF) + WASHBURN PUBLIC LIBRARY (WPL)



**WASHBURN LEGACY CONSORTIUM**

Washburn Cultural Center  
P. O. Box 725  
Washburn, WI 54891

**Visit WCC's new website and...**

- Become a WCC member online
- Read about the "Antique of the Week"
- Get news and info about WCC's programs

**washburnculturalcenter.com**

**Like us on Facebook** 

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<https://www.instagram.com/washburnculturalcenter1283/>

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CURRENT RESIDENT OR

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**Washburn Area Historical Society**

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washburnhistorical@yahoo.com

**Washburn Heritage Association**

P.O. Box 814, Washburn, WI 54891  
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(715) 373-5212

**Washburn Beautification Foundation**

Washburn Beautification Foundation  
PO Box 334  
Washburn, Wisconsin 54891  
Facebook, Washburn Beautification Foundation

**Historic Civic Center Foundation**

3 West Bayfield Street, P.O. Box 144  
Washburn, WI 548891  
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**Washburn Public Library**

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Washburn, WI 54891  
(715) 373-6172  
dpendergass@washburn.wislib.org  
washburnlibrary.org

**Calendar—June 1 to November 1**

**Washburn Cultural Center**

**July 3-August 1**—Superior Artists  
Group: Works by Sara Balbin, Royanne  
Goossen, Dora Kling, Karen Maki,  
Wendy Deerly Reese, Jason Terry, and  
Jonathan Walburg

**August 5-29**—Recent Works by  
Wei Lan & Milt Lorber and Steve  
Cotherman

**September 2-26**—WCC Permanent  
Collection of Art

**October 3-31**—"The Gathering,"  
CBAC Fall Member Show