

Historic Home Tour Held During Homecoming Weekend

The second annual historic home tour will be held this summer during Homecoming on Saturday, July 25 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Six homes in the Third Avenue East vicinity will be open for the tour.

Some Washburn neighborhoods today look much as they did 50 - 75 years ago. For many people, the homes on this year's tour represent icons from their youth. Whether you are a current resident or if "Love Brought You Home" you will appreciate the opportunity to enter these historic buildings.

Tickets are \$10 and can be bought the day of the tour at the Heritage Association booth on the corner of Bayfield Street and 1st Avenue West or at Jackie's Field on the corner of 3rd Street and 3rd Avenue East.



Historic Tours on the Trolley During Homecoming!

The Heritage Association will provide guided historic tours of Washburn on Saturday, July 26th during Homecoming. The BART trolley will provide transportation for the tours through the generosity of WHA members Ron and Kay Maassen.

The tours highlight twelve historic sites in the city limits, and feature live commentary by WHA members who can make these historic places come to life. Participants will learn many surprising facts about Washburn's history from the comfort of the trolley. The tours are perfect for all ages - children through seniors. And, of course, they are free!

The trolley loading area will be located outside City Hall. Tours depart at 9am, 10am, and 11am.

Washburn Historic Buildings Notecards

The WHA has produced notecards that feature historic Washburn buildings. The following images were chosen:

DuPont Center at Christmastime; Walker High School; Washburn Public Library; Bayfield County Court House

The cards are being sold in packs of four or as singles. Outlets are Washburn Cultural Center, Chequamegon Book and Coffee, Dick's Clipper, Shop, Karlyn's Gallery, Washburn Library and Lake Superior Drifting Stone Jewelry. Prices are \$10.00 for a four-pack and \$3.00 for singles. Proceeds go to future WHA projects.

President's Letter

Many people inquire about Washburn's historic preservation organizations – why are there so many? What is the difference between them? Which groups should we support?

The four groups in question are the Washburn Area Historical Society, the Washburn Cultural Center, the Historic Preservation Commission and the Washburn Heritage Association. These groups share common goals related to preservation and education, and currently collaborate on some projects such as the Tony Woiak History Festival. Below is an explanation of what differentiates us from each other.

The Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) is a state mandated, city commission with five-seven members appointed by city council. It was organized in 2003 as a part of our historic preservation ordinance. The commission reviews and studies Washburn buildings for local historic designation and approves exterior modifications of buildings on the register. It is not a nonprofit, and operates with a small budget provided by the city.

The Washburn Area Historical Society (WAHS) was started in 1980 by Ruth Harnois and others interested in preserving Washburn's history. The primary mission of WHAS is to collect and preserve artifacts, documents, photos and other historic memorabilia. They now run an excellent museum located on the second floor of the Cultural Center. Members are currently revamping all the exhibits. The WAHS is a separate organization from the Cultural Center, the only affiliation being that the organization rents space from WCC.

The Washburn Cultural Center (WCC) came into being in the early 1990's, when Skip Ungrodt restored the old bank building. WCC is a hub for Washburn's cultural life, a gathering place for people of all ages for many types of artistic and cultural events. It also serves as a meeting headquarters for many nonprofit groups.

The Washburn Heritage Association (WHA) was founded by a group of citizens in 2009 to stop demolition of the DuPont Club/Civic Center. Now a primary focus is the built environment: protecting, preserving and promoting Washburn's historic buildings. To this end, the WHA worked with the HPC to establish the historic district, consults with building owners on restorations, conducts an annual home tour, provides historic city tours during Brownstone Days, publishes historic maps, books and notecards and collaborates with WAHS to present the Tony Woiak History Festivals.

Because these groups have so many common interests, we are working to form a consortium of the non-profits: WAHS, WHA and WCC. The consortium plans to meet regularly - perhaps quarterly - to review goals for project activities, explore collaboration opportunities, discuss mutual working relationships, set calendars, etc. We expect our individual groups will gain strength from this consortium and we will provide more information as we move along.

Carla Bremner, President

WHA Pledges Funds to the Historic Civic Center Foundation

The WHA recently donated \$10,000 to the HCCF for the building project. In addition, they hope to provide some on-going support for operating expenses. WHA was originally formed to save this historic building, which has played such an important architectural and cultural role in the history of Washburn. Portions of the building will be open for Homecoming in July.



Visit Our New Website! www.washburnheritage.org

The WHA has an all new website with many features. The site includes information on the East Third Street Residential Historic District, Facade Improvement Awards, a map that locates historic structures in the city, a bicycle route map that includes the new historic district, videos, past newsletters, brochures, membership information and much more. Visit it *soon!*

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