



October 2022

HCHS Helps Welcome Halloween to Hales Corners

After several days of unseasonable cold, the weather on October 21st and 22nd was beautifully summerlike, providing only treats (no tricks) as Hales Corners residents and others



Poster developed by library director Stephanie Lewin-Lane and her staff to promote the event

welcomed Halloween to our Village. Playing key roles in the family-oriented festivities were several HCHS members. On Friday night, two of our Ben Hunt Cabin docents, **Celine Kashishian** and **Katy Galewski**, read spooktacular tales in the Cabin to children and the adults who accompanied

them. Both women are former elementary school teachers and, as such, knew exactly how to capture and hold their audience's attention. The event was sponsored by the Hales Corners Library and HCHS.

And on Friday and Saturday, HCHS members **Jim Bain** and **Dan Besson** were among the volunteers who helped organize and successfully stage Pumpkin Fest at the Hales Corners Park & Pool. Presented by the Hales Corners Lions Club, the event gave attendees the opportunity to carve a pre-cleaned pumpkin for free and participate in a carving contest. **Happy Halloween, everyone!**



Story-tellers Katy Galewski and Celine Kashishian



Dan Besson removes slimy pumpkin innards while Jim Bain lines up the next candidates for surgery.



Pumpkins carved into jack-o-lanterns bright

Anita Pietrykowski Profiles Notable Milwaukee Women at October Program

The accomplishments of women in Milwaukee was the focus of an outstanding program on October 19th by **Anita Pietrykowski**, a volunteer historical educator at Forest Home Cemetery and Arboretum. Costumed as the late **Gertrude Puelicher** (complete with strands of pearls, a mink boa, and a silver wig), Anita recounted the lives and achievements of 16 Milwaukee women from the 19th and 20th centuries. Included in her handout materials were brief descriptions of another 20 notable women, including several from the current century, all of whom are buried at Forest Home.

Four of the women she profiled (**Dr. Laura Ross Wolcott**, **Susan Frackelton**, **Elizabeth Plankinton**, and **Dickey Chapelle**) were highlighted in our September newsletter. In addition, Anita spoke in detail about the accomplishments, briefly summarized below, of 12 additional women:

Mathilde F. Anneke, 1817-1884: One of Milwaukee's leading suffragists and an advocate of equal rights for women, she launched the first German-language newspaper that focused on women's issues. She also developed the city's first school for girls.

Anna Maria Krug Schlitz, 1819-1887: As the widow of two Milwaukee brewers (August Krug and Joseph Schlitz), she herself became a beer baroness when she convinced five of Krug's nephews, all of whom were members of the Uihlein family, to run Schlitz Brewery with her.

Lydia D. Ely, 1833-1914: In 1865, as President of West Side Soldiers Aid Society, she and a group of women raised more than \$100,000 to fund construction of the Soldier's Home for Civil War veterans. She also was the patroness of *The Victorious Charge* Civil War monument at 10th Street and Wisconsin Avenue in Milwaukee.

Harriet L. Barker Cramer, 1848-1922: Hired at age 16 as a typesetter/proofreader for the *Evening Wisconsin* newspaper, she married the editor and became the paper's owner and president after his death. During the infamous



Title slide from Milwaukee's Women in History

Newhall House fire in 1883, she picked up her handicapped husband and carried him through the hallways to the street.

Lutie E. Stearns, 1866-1943: Called the "Johnny Appleseed of Free Libraries in Wisconsin," she traveled for 24 years throughout the state while transporting large boxes of books to be made available for free. She established more than 150 libraries, 1,400 traveling libraries, and 14 county library systems throughout Wisconsin.

Lenore Harrison Cawker, 1873-1932: After noticing how dogs and cats were mistreated when caught by dogcatchers, she founded Milwaukee's first animal shelter at her home on 20th Street and Wisconsin Avenue. From 1906 to 1930, she invested more than \$5.1 million in helping more than 100,000 dogs, cats, horses, birds, goats, and rabbits at her shelter, but she died penniless.

Meta Schlichtling Berger, 1873-1944: A committed suffragist, she was the wife of Victor Berger, Wisconsin's "Sewer Socialist" U.S. Congressman during the early 20th century. She was an education reformer and member of the Milwaukee School Board for 30 years, serving as its first woman president.

Alice Miller Chester, 1893-1972: The granddaughter of department store owner T.A. Chap-



Anita Pietrykowski, costumed as Gertrude Puelicher

man, she founded the Girl Scouts of Milwaukee County. In 1921, when the Girl Scouts wanted a permanent campsite, she donated \$16,400 to purchase the property on which the camp was built, which was named Camp Alice Chester in her honor.

Gertrude Puelicher, 1894-1993: She was originally a Milwaukee Public Schools teacher whose love for high school students led her to host the WISN-TV program *The Other 98*, which focused on the positive contributions of teenagers in their communities. She also wrote the "God's Corner" column for *Exclusively Yours* magazine, which still reprints her essays today.

Susanna C. Watson, 1798-1883: An African-American seamstress and laundress during Milwaukee's earliest years, she and her husband, Sully, are depicted in their home in the Milwaukee Public Museum's "Streets of Old Milwaukee" exhibit.

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TALES OF THE CORNERS - OCTOBER

From the files of the *Tri-Town News and Hub*

90 YEARS AGO (1932)

- Music and political speeches are broadcast from the Hales Corners Triangle on fair day.
- The State Bank Hales Corners reports \$456,718 in assets.
- Ross service station on Hwy. 100 and Grange Ave., advertises eight gallons of gas for \$1.00.
- Local Socialists and low tariff Democrats are loudly berated by Republican U.S. Congressman John Schafer at a meeting of the Hales Corners Advancement Association in the school hall. Schafer loses his bid for reelection in the fall election.
- Fairview Cleaners opens in the Fairview building (the Bosch Tavern).
- James Godsell, past commander of the Freede-Eckel American Legion Post, is awarded a watch fob to commemorate his service to the one-year-old post.
- The Ladies Aid Society of the Evangelical Emanuel Church schedules a social to auction baskets.

80 YEARS AGO (1942)

- The Hales Corners Special Club announces plans to hold a dance. Proceeds will be used to send Christmas gifts to local servicemen.
- Religion classes are offered to high school youth in the post office basement by the Rev. Joseph McQuestion, pastor of St. Mary's Catholic Church.
- State Bank Hales Corners suggests that customers bank by mail to save on tires, gas, and time.

70 YEARS AGO (1952)

- Drew's advertises Halloween costumes for \$1.59 - \$1.98. Plastic pumpkins cost 29-49 cents.
- The Hales Corners Post Office announces plans to begin a third mail route.
- The Hales Corners Village Board approves a schedule of salaries for Village officers. The president's salary is set at \$150, the justice of the peace at \$50, and the constable at \$1,800.

60 YEARS AGO (1962)

- Hales Corners Lions sell more than 5,000 light bulbs in their "Light for Sight" campaign.
- The Hales Corners Community Theatre is slated to present *Harvey*.
- Plans are made to distribute the first issue of *Whitnall World*, the new Whitnall High School newspaper.
- Lester Lundi and Hales Corners Police Chief Michael Wolke, candidates for Milwaukee County sheriff, speak at a meeting of the Hales Corners Business and Professional Men.

50 YEARS AGO (1972)

- Martha Webb and Rob Sutherland reign over Whitnall High School's Homecoming.

Research by Katy Galewski

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Mabel Watson Raimey, 1895-1986: She was the great-granddaughter of Susanna and Sully Watson. She began her career as a teacher for Milwaukee Public Schools but was dismissed after three days because she was African-American. Undeterred, she became the first African-American woman to graduate from Marquette Law School and, in 1927, to be admitted to the Wisconsin Bar.

Mary Louise Nohl, 1914-2001: A contemporary artist, painter, sculptress, and arts benefactress, she began her career as an art teacher for Milwaukee Public Schools and subsequently branched out into creating her own art, much of which was not well understood by the public. Following her death, the Kohler Art Museum took ownership of her home in Fox Point, and plans eventually to open it to the public.

Badger Carvers at Work in the Ben Hunt Cabin

On Tuesday afternoon, October 18th, the Badger Carvers met once again at the Cabin to continue this autumn tradition. Catching up on their daily lives and sharing their carvings with one another has always been the focus of these meetings, which have been taking place for years. In the photo are (l to r): **Kathy, Richard, Jean, Jim, Klaus, and Steve.**



The Ben Hunt Cabin will be open to the public from 1 - 3 p.m. on Saturday, November 5th

Pat Laughlin Honored for Her Service as Hales Corners Library Director

The Friends of the Hales Corners Library held an event to honor **Pat Laughlin**, former library director, on October 11th. Pat was the director from 1988 until she retired in 2021. As a memorial to her many years of service, the Friends group had a bench designed and installed at the main entrance to the library. A crowd of about 40 people gathered that evening to celebrate with Pat. Her husband, **Robert Burnham**, was put to work as the official photographer. Ceremonies took place around the bench, despite the light rain, and were followed by dessert and coffee inside the library. **Congratulations, Pat!**



Pat Laughlin is kept out of the rain by Judy Skinner.



Pat Laughlin's Memorial Bench

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