

URBANDALE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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Get Ready for Fall

Activities for the Urbandale Historical Society start in September. All program meetings are held at the Olmsted Urban House and everyone is welcome! You do not have to be a member or an Urbandale resident to attend. Members are welcome to attend Board Meetings where business is discussed.

September Meeting

Monday, September 8th

6:00 Pot Luck

7:00 Program



Laura Wenman, Vice President of Missions Intergration for Mercy Medical Center, will present the program Monday, September 8th. A small group of Sisters of Mercy first came from Davenport to Des Moines in 1893. The first hospital built was a four-story structure that was 50 feet by 100 feet with accommodations for 50 beds.

Through the decades wings were built, financial crisis were faced, and services grew through the war years and the Depression. Nursing training was added and a number of firsts in technology were achieved. Learn about the history of Mercy Hospital through the years. This interesting program will begin at 7pm. Invite your friends. Continuing a Historical Society tradition a potluck will start at 6pm. Please bring some food to share and your own table service. Join us for the meeting at 7pm if you don't attend the pot luck.

October Meeting

Monday, October 6th

Most area residents are aware that Fort Des Moines was located in Southeast Des Moines along Army Post Road. Fort Des Moines No.3 held national prominence as the first training camp in the nation for African American officers in 1917.

In 1942 the Fort became the first training center for the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps. [WAAC] A total of 72,141 women trained there between 1942 and 1946.

The Fort Des Moines Museum and Education Center is recognized as the largest memorial to black and female soldiers.

Jack Lufkin will present the program on the museum at the meeting October 6th at 7pm. Please bring any information you personally may have about the Fort. Refreshment will be served following the meeting!

A Big Thanks for the Ice Cream Social Volunteers

Sunday, June 29th was the date of the Urbandale Historical Society Ice Cream Social. It was a very successful event and well attended. A special thanks to all who volunteered and helped in so many ways. The house and barn tour guides reported a great response to the open house and answered numerous questions during the two hours.

Special thanks to Hiland Dairy for donations of milk and cream. Also thanks to Quik Trip, HyVee, and Fareway for their generous donations.