

Curator Report September 2021

Collections

- Our last report had a total of 9,841 items in Past Perfect. Since then, our total is now 10,017. Thus, we have added 176 more items into our catalog software.
- A large donation of 19th-century tax documents and certificates has been cleaned and some items humidified. Humidification is used on stable documents to uncurl them and get them to lay flat (better for exhibiting and storage).

Exhibits

- Next exhibit to open in January and will be "Her-Story: The Life and Times of Orland Park Women." In conjunction with the exhibit opening, a presentation about significant historic women in the U.S. will be given.
 - Research for the new exhibit will begin mid-October.
 - Advertisement for new exhibits will begin earlier so people will know about them longer and be enticed to come.
 - For future exhibits, there will always be a program/presentation to draw in a crowd.

Programs

- Winter/spring programs are done and in the draft book. Just had meeting to go over the programs September 15th.
- Upcoming Museum program is Mysteries of Orland on October 30th at 6:30pm. We then have five programs upcoming in October, including a cemetery tour and a program about zombies!
- People are signing up for Museum programs, including the luminary walk that is in December (I think it will be sold out!)

Stellwagen Farm

- The special event *1865* is taking place Saturday, September 25th from 11am to 4pm. The event will have Civil War actors, a Civil War weapon display, butter churning, crafts for kids, a food truck, blacksmith and more. This will be the last program/event at the farm until May 2022 (because of weather).
- At the end of August, a music program took place at the farm and was very successful! The Stellwagen family also hosted their annual farm tours the weekend of the 17th-19th.

Other

- No news about OHS. A list of assets (ie. artifacts inside the Humphrey House) was sent to the Village Manager and the attorney on September 1st.
- Two volunteers left and are back to college; they plan to come back during winter break. Both are history majors.
- A Museum member is interested in donating a large collection of genealogy sources, so Bev (Museum volunteer) will work with donor to determine what sources are best for the Museum's research collection.
- A researcher and donor visited the Museum, bringing with a vast collection of items pertaining to Orland Park, Alpine and Mokena history. He donated some items and many others he did not want to donate (alluded to possibly donating some in future). He also has a collection of items, including early Orland business advertisements dating to the 1930s, he bought on eBay. He said he would be willing to let them go if we paid him.
 - Do you think the Museum, or Foundation, should have an account that is meant for purchasing items that would be beneficial to the permanent collection?