

Brief History of 200 Years of Mount Clemens

The founder of our City, Christian Clemens, first came to this area in 1796 as part of a surveying venture. At the time the area was known as "High Banks" or "Big Springs" along the river, then known as the Huron. In 1801 Clemens bought some property along the river. He built a log house about where the County Court Building is today. In 1818, Clemens laid out lots and streets with names; plotting a village he named Mount Clemens. On January 15, 1818, Michigan Territory Governor, Lewis Cass, signed a proclamation establishing the County of Macomb, named after General Alexander Macomb, hero of the War of 1812. Three months later, Governor Cass named Mount Clemens the County seat and appointed Christian Clemens



Judge of the County Court. On January 26, 1837, the little settlement

was incorporated as a village, the same date that Michigan became the 26th state admitted to the Union. By 1879, the town had grown to over 3,000 souls and the people voted for the village to become a City.

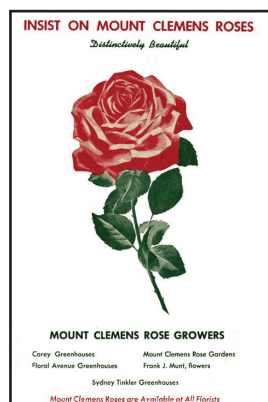


During the 1870's, attempts to develop salt wells had proved unsuccessful but resulted in the discovery of the famed

mineral waters. Soon a mineral bath industry flourished that made Mount Clemens famous throughout the world as a health spa. During

the heyday, 23 major hotels and bath houses along with many smaller hotels and rooming houses prospered. Around World War II, the industry began to decline, and fewer and fewer people came to obtain the curative powers of the baths. Reminders of the era can still be seen throughout the City, in the neighborhoods with the lovely old homes and in the downtown with its picturesque buildings.

As the mineral baths were bringing fame to the City, another industry was developing which brought national attention to Mount Clemens. Beginning in 1880, and for two decades after World War I, there were ten major rose growers with over 30 acres under glass. Mount Clemens was once known as the Rose Capital of the United States.



The Clinton River played a prominent role in the City's development. From the earliest settlement, through the 1800's and into the mid 1900's, our citizens fished, hunted and trapped along its banks. Boat building and repair establishments flourished along the river. Notable among the boat

continued on page 3

Bicentennial Ceremony Recap

On March 11, 2018, the City of Mount Clemens held its Bicentennial Celebration Ceremony at the historic Emerald Theatre. It was a special afternoon spent looking back on treasured memories and looking forward to a bright future.

In attendance at this event were the descendants of the City's founder, Christian Clemens; as well as owners of the City's oldest homes and businesses, the student and adult winners of the City essay contest, logo contest winners and Mount Clemens' oldest resident, Marion Nickelson. State and County dignitaries were also on hand to present the City with special awards of recognition on this momentous occasion.

When putting this program together, the Bicentennial Committee did not realize how difficult it would be to select and capture all the great things that make up our community. Though the City of Mount Clemens has certainly taken its place in the

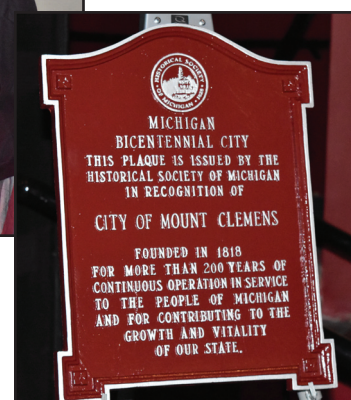


The historic Emerald Theatre on Walnut Street hosted the City of Mount Clemens during its recent Bicentennial Celebration.

history as "Bath City" and the "Rose Capital of the United States," among other notable achievements, the one thing that has always remained strong is its people. From Christian Clemens who believed that this piece of land by the Clinton River would someday be the County Seat, to all the people who came after and worked hard to make Mount Clemens the jewel that it is, we owe them a tremendous amount of thanks. Mount Clemens' strength truly is and always will be its people!



Mayor Barb Dempsey and Master of Ceremonies Patrick Linabury accept a plaque from Nancy Feldbush of the Michigan Historical Society designating Mount Clemens as a Michigan Bicentennial City.



Calendar of Events

We have many events we are excited to announce that commemorates the City's Bicentennial. For up to date information, please visit the special Bicentennial section of our website www.cityofmountclemens.com. Click on "About Us" and then "Bicentennial." You can also visit our Facebook page "City of Mount Clemens - Government."

Mount Clemens Bicentennial Houses of Worship Open House

Saturday, May 5 11 AM – 4 PM

We have eleven participating HOUSES of WORSHIP in Mount Clemens which will be hosting an open house visitation. Each HOUSE of WORSHIP will be in charge of their own OPEN HOUSE. Maps and fliers describing each HOUSE of WORSHIP will be available at each location. Following these open houses there will be a concert at 4:30 P.M. at the CHRISTIAN LIGHTHOUSE located on Church Street. This HOUSES of WORSHIP OPEN HOUSE is free. Many locations will also be serving light refreshments.

The eleven participating Houses of Worship are listed at right. Special events are also highlighted.

Our HOUSES OF WORSHIP are planning many future events and plan to continue meeting together in 2019. Mount Clemens will benefit and become a stronger community as we come together to share our ideas and make plans for a great future for our city.

Bootleggers and Blind Pigs: Mount Clemens During Prohibition

Tuesday, May 8, 2018 7 PM – 9 PM

Join local history librarians Theresa Mann and Deborah Larsen for this intriguing look at life in Mount Clemens during the Prohibition era.

Made in Michigan Show

Friday, May 11 11 AM – 8 PM

Saturday, May 12 10 AM – 6 PM
Downtown on Macomb Place
586.469.4168

27th Annual Bud Light Classic Car Show & Cruise Night

Saturday, June 2 Noon – 10 PM

Presented by the Friends of Mount Clemens. Sponsored by Moran Chevrolet, Mount Clemens Downtown Development Authority, & Petitpren Inc.

Featuring Live Music Stage
596.469.4168

Bud Light Riversight & Sound Concert

Friday, June 22 8 PM

Fifty Amp Fuse
Mount Clemens Riverfront
Sponsored by Oakland University Macomb County
586.469.4168

Independence Day Celebration Fireworks

Friday, June 22 – Dusk

Mount Clemens Riverfront
Presented by Wayne & Joan Webber Foundation
586.469.4168

Bootleggers Ball

Saturday, June 23 7:30 PM - Midnight
Prohibition Themed Party – Costume

Contest, Entertainment
Emerald Theatre
586.469.4168
Nonrefundable tickets are available in advance - \$40 each or \$75 per couple. Make checks payable to the Mount Clemens Foundation.

Join us for a night to remember... The Bootleggers Ball is a 1920s prohibition themed party with classic cocktails, swinging tunes, and fabulous fare. Come as a flapper, or come as you are, dress as a gangster or a silent movie star. There will be a costume contest with prizes. Cocktails will be served in coffee cups just as they would have done during prohibition. There will be an exhibit of memorabilia from the prohibition era on display in the balcony mezzanine area of the theatre. A special appearance will be made by Mount Clemens own Mae McKenna. The entertainment scheduled for the evening will be right out of the 20s & 30s with a band called Speak Easy 7+1. Cash Bar.

CELEBRATE
DIVERSITY

WELCOME

MOUNT CLEMENS BICENTENNIAL
HOUSES OF WORSHIP

Saturday, May 5th, 2018 • 11:00A.M. - 4:00P.M.

1. St. Peter Catholic Church • 98 New Street
11 - 12PM Continental Breakfast

2. Zion United Church of Christ • 68 New Street
12 Noon Handbell Concert

3. North Broadway Church of Christ • 260 North Broadway St.
1PM Combined Chorus

4. First United Methodist Church • 57 SB Gratiot Ave.
Pipe Organ Demonstration

5. Grace Episcopal Church • 115 South Main
Historic Window Tour

6. First Presbyterian Church • 168 Cass Ave.
Historic Tour / Organ Music

7. The Salvation Army • 55 Church St.
Combined Brass Bands Every Hour

8. Calvary Mission Baptist Church • 67 SB Gratiot Ave.
History Display and Tour

9. American Lutheran Church • 38795 Mulberry St.
Family Fun Activities

10. Trinity Lutheran Church • 38900 Harper
History Display and Tour

11. Christian Lighthouse Church • 57 Church St.
4:30PM Concert

Bicentennial Garden Gala

Sunday, July 22 1 PM

Crocker House
586.465.2488
Tickets are limited, non-refundable and cost \$75 for members of the Macomb County Historical Society & \$80 for non-members.

This is an event not to miss! Join us in celebrating our 200th birthday of both our county and Mount Clemens as the county seat. Your attendance will be marked at this historical event with your signature and group photo to be placed in a time-capsule and buried during this memorable event.

Trois Bouffons will liven the atmosphere with their wonderful music while reenactors of our local ancestors mingle with our guests. Enjoy strolling through our gardens to learn more about our past 200 years and tastings at various food stations. The colors of our county flag, blue and white &/or period clothing encouraged.

Vintage Fashion Show

Saturday, July 28, 2018 1 PM

Emerald Theatre
586.469.6818 x315
Nonrefundable tickets must be purchased in advance - \$35 each.

Make checks payable to the Mount Clemens Foundation.

Enjoy an afternoon of vintage fashion, food and friendship. This is an entertaining and informative tour of fashion through the ages. Beautiful vintage gowns, day dresses, wedding gowns, wool bathing suits and more will take center stage during the Mount Clemens Vintage Fashion Show & Tea.

The program features the private collection of fashions from Ginny Curatolo of Mount Clemens and Harrison Township. This will be a great opportunity to view exquisite outfits modelled by local volunteers.

Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social

Sunday, August 11, 2018
On the riverfront at the Gazebo
More details to follow

USO Dance

Saturday, August 25, 2018
7:30 PM - Midnight
Emerald Theatre
586.469.6818 x315
Nonrefundable tickets must be purchased in advance - \$25 each. Make checks payable to the Mount Clemens Foundation.

continued on page 4

continued from page 1

builders was the Hacker Boat Company, originator of the famous “Hackercraft.”

On April 5, 1954, a new City Charter calling for a City Manager form of government was passed. It also called for an elected Mayor and six Commissioners, elected at large.



Extensive urban renewal projects began in the 1950's and

1960's that greatly transformed the appearance of the Old City. As the County Seat and one of the oldest cities in Michigan, it remains as a financial and judicial center. Mount Clemens continues as a fine residential city and its citizens and business people are proud of its elegant, famous past and enthusiastically plan for its bright future.



Hall of History

As part of this Bicentennial celebration, the City is hosting historical displays inside City Hall, located at One Crocker Boulevard, each month throughout the year. The “Hall of History” features the history of various organizations, businesses, and residents of the City including service organizations, schools, churches, businesses, hospitals, and homes by displaying photos and memorabilia that will tell the story of all those who have been instrumental in the making of Mount Clemens.



January

The City of Mount Clemens

February

Mount Clemens Schools

March

Christian Clemens
Mount Clemens Historical Society
Rose Gardens

April

Martha T. Berry
Bath Houses

May

Mount Clemens Rotary
Mount Clemens Lions

June

Axalta • Petittren
Miller Brothers Creamery

July

The Old Crowd
Daughters of Macomb

August

Selfridge Air National Guard
Vitl Waters

September

First Presbyterian
St. Peter's • Zion

October

Anton Art Center

November

Residents
(oldest resident, oldest home)

December

Future

Essay Contest Winners

Students who attend school in Mount Clemens were asked to participate in an Essay Contest in honor of the City's Bicentennial. The students were tasked with the instructions to “Describe what a typical day for someone your age was like in Mount Clemens in 1818.” The response was overwhelming! Over 100 essays were received from students from 4th grade through 8th grade. It was very apparent that all the students and their teachers did an excellent job teaching, researching and learning about the City's rich history. It was a very difficult decision to choose a winner, as all essays submitted were outstanding!

In the Fall edition of the Clementimes newsletter, residents were invited to submit “My Favorite Mount Clemens Memory.”

Student Essay Contest Winners

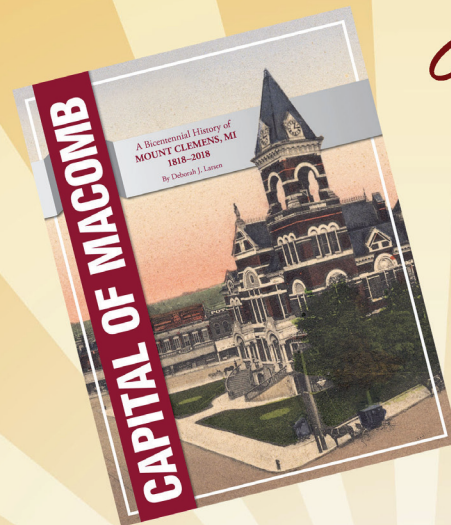
Gabrielle Dorsey, Seminole Academy; Cyndy Myers, Prevail Academy;
Gabiella Cardenas, St. Mary's 4th Grade; Thomas Simasko, St. Mary's 5th Grade; Emma Kreuger, St. Mary's 6th Grade; Nathan McGuire, St. Mary's 7th Grade; Connor Dobrzycki, St. Mary's 8th Grade.

Residents' Memories

Shirley Champion, Kathy Ebert, Mary Fields, Kasy Smith Fackler

Thank you to all students and residents who submitted essays and memories. All essays will be exhibited throughout the year on the City's website.

Mount Clemens Bicentennial



*Commemorative
Souvenir
History*

\$15

Available for purchase at the Mount Clemens Municipal Building and
Mount Clemens Public Library
Proceeds from the sale of this book will help to defray costs of
2018 Mount Clemens bicentennial events

Logo Contest Winners

The City of Mount Clemens Bicentennial Committee sought original logos from area students and artists to embrace Mount Clemens' rich heritage while celebrating the present and welcoming progress toward its future.

The selected design will be featured on commemorative

promotional items as well as various marketing and communications throughout the City's bicentennial year.

The top three designs are shown below. The winners were recognized at the City's Bicentennial Ceremony in March and awarded a monetary prize.



1st Place Kelly Gray



2nd Place Angel Delich



3rd Place Christopher Cole

continued from page 2

This World War II throwback event is a salute to our Armed Forces. Join the fun and bring your friends; dress in period attire – military are encouraged to wear uniforms.

Attendees will be treated to a cash bar, military memorabilia, snacks, music and dancing with the Skyliners Big Band.

Downtown Mount Clemens Oktoberfest

September 21st - 23rd
586.469.4168

Halloween Spooktacular

Saturday, October 27th 12 PM – 3PM
Fountain Stage and Macomb Place
586.469.4168

Downtown Christmas Open House

Christmas Tree Lighting & Take Your Own Photos with Santa

Friday, November 16th 5 PM – 9 PM
Fountain Stage, Downtown Mount Clemens
586.469.4168

Macomb County Santa Parade

Saturday, November 17th 10 AM
Main Street
586.469.6818 x 325

Tinsel Tour

December 2018

Thank you to all who have come before us
and to those who continue to work to better our community.

Together, we're still making history!

The Mayors of Mount Clemens

(Since being Incorporated in 1879)

1. Joshua Dickinson	Apr. 1879 – May 1879
2. George M. Crocker	Jun. 1879 – Apr. 1881
3. Spencer Booth Russell	Apr. 1881 – Apr. 1883
4. Colonel Judson S. Farrar	Apr. 1883 – Apr. 1885
5. John E. Van Eps	Apr. 1885 – Apr. 1887
6. George W. Robertson	Apr. 1887 – Apr. 1888
7. William J. Daley	Apr. 1888 – Apr. 1889
8. Thomas M. Crocker	Apr. 1889 – Apr. 1891
9. Dr. A. B. Chapin	Apr. 1891 – Apr. 1892
10. Dr. William C. Tennant	Apr. 1892 – Apr. 1894
11. Andrew True Donaldson	Apr. 1894 – Apr. 1898
12. Dr. W. D. Wilson	Apr. 1898 – Apr. 1899
13. Reuben C. Ullrich	Apr. 1899 – Apr. 1901
14. Dr. William F. Berry	Apr. 1901 – Apr. 1902
15. Martin Crocker	Apr. 1902 – Apr. 1903
16. Dr. Albert A. Parisot	Apr. 1903 – Apr. 1904
17. John H. Westendorf	Apr. 1904 – Apr. 1906
18. Varnum J. Bowers	Apr. 1906 – Apr. 1909
19. Paul J. Ullrich	Apr. 1909 – Apr. 1911
20. Varnum Bowers	Apr. 1911 – Apr. 1912
21. Duncan B. Hubbard	Apr. 1912 – Apr. 1913
22. William F. Nank	Apr. 1913 – Apr. 1916
23. Varnum J. Bowers	Apr. 1916 – Apr. 1917
24. Dr. Albert Parisot	Apr. 1917 – Apr. 1918
25. A. Frank Sarns	Apr. 1918 – Apr. 1923
26. William M. Streit	Apr. 1923 – Apr. 1931
27. Charles R. Ullrich	Apr. 1931 – Jan 1934
28. Donald R. Westendorf	Apr. 1934 – Apr. 1945
29. Albert A. Wagner	Apr. 1945 – Apr.1951
30. Philip T. Mulligan	Apr. 1951 – Apr. 1955
31. Harold "Bugs" Lindsey	Apr. 1955 – Apr. 1957
32. Harry T. Diehl	Apr. 1957 – Apr. 1961
33. Abraham S. Levine	Apr. 1961 – Nov.1973
34. Bert VandeVusse	Nov. 1973 – Nov. 1981
35. Ada (Davis) Eisenfeld	Nov. 1981 – Nov. 1985
36. Jeanne (Russo) Nelson	Nov. 1985 – Nov. 1987
37. Quinnie E. Cody	Nov. 1987 – Nov. 1999
38. Harry T. Diehl, Jr.	Nov. 1999 – Nov. 2003
39. Quinnie E. Cody	Nov. 2003 – Nov. 2005
40. Barb (Lohan) Dempsey	Nov. 2005 – present

Source: The Mayors of Mount Clemens presented by The Rotary Club of Mount Clemens and The 175th Anniversary Committee.

Bicentennial Bracelets

The Bicentennial Committee is selling these great bracelets, representing our past and future. Available for \$20.00 each at City Hall. They are hand made by a local artist.

Stop in and pick one up today!

