

December 2019

# CASTLE COURIER



**History Fact of the Month:** On December 6, 1830, Judge Samuel W. Dexter registered a plan for the City of "Saganaw" [sic.] in Oakland County - Saginaw County had not yet been formed. Nearly two centuries later, this plan continues to shape Saginaw's west side business district and the courthouse is located on the site he donated.



Join us at our final  
Lunch & Learn  
program of 2019!

Join us at Lunch & Learn, Tuesday, Dec. 3 at noon, with Alex Mixter as he shares the updates on the Lee Mansion Restoration Project.

Sunday: 1 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Monday - Wednesday: 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Thursday: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
Friday - Saturday: 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

The Historical Society of Saginaw County is committed to serving the community by telling the continuing story of the people of the Saginaw region through exploration, preservation and presentation of their historical and cultural heritage.

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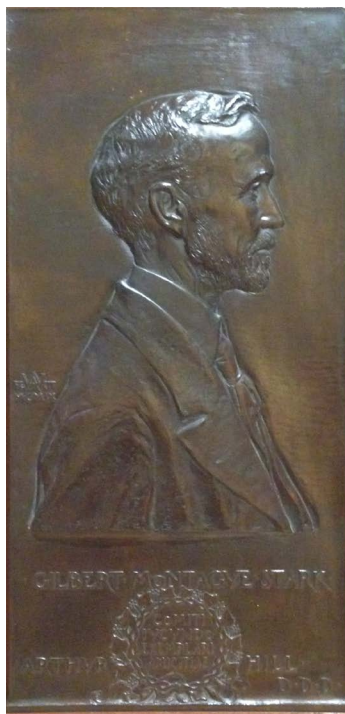
Leona Perry  
Reception

Barry Rindhage  
Reception

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Reception

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Reception

# THE ARTIFACT



## Prominent Sculptor's Plaque on Display

"In his legal practice, Mr. Stark never made compensation the basis of his services. He received several large fees, which were entirely voluntary. In another instance Mr. Stark was presented with a bronze relief of himself done by the well-known sculptor, A. Wienneman [sic.] and dedicated to "a choice companion and a perfect friend." "City Mourns G.M. Stark," *The Saginaw News*, February 2, 1938

Gilbert Montague Stark was a prominent attorney. While working toward the consolidation of the cities of Saginaw City and East Saginaw, he served as the last mayor of Saginaw City.

This plaque was presented to Gilbert Stark by Arthur Hill, a friend and client. Created by noted German-American sculptor Adolph Weinman, the plaque was dedicated to "a choice companion and a perfect friend." After Hill's death, his widow commissioned the same sculptor to create a memorial to her late husband that is displayed in the lobby of Hill Auditorium at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

Adolph Weinman immigrated from Germany to the United States in 1880. He lived in New York and is well-known for his architectural and memorial works. He designed the "Walking Liberty" on the 1916 half-dollar and ten-cent coins.

This plaque, featuring Gilbert M. Stark, is included in the Castle Museum's exhibit "A Portrait of a County" and will be on display until January 2020.

## Millage Informational Meetings

**Sun. Jan. 5 at 1 p.m. | Wed. Jan. 15 at 7 p.m. | Tue. Jan. 28 at 1 p.m.**

Join us for an informational meeting about the upcoming August 2020 Millage Vote that will decide the future of the Castle Museum of Saginaw County History, as well as the historical museums in Bridgeport, Chesaning, Frankenmuth, and St. Charles. Open to all members, guests, and anyone interested in preserving the stories and history of our local communities. Guests need only to attend one of the three meetings.



# Museum Supporter Receives Honor



Leo Romo, retired educator and supporter of the Castle Museum, received the Diversity Award from The Michigan Banner's *Heart of the City Awards Luncheon* at the Horizons Conference Center. Alexandria Jones, Castle Museum's marketing and events coordinator, presented the award to Leo.

## Story Time at the Castle Museum

Reading is one of the most fundamental experiences in early childhood. Our new Story Time program, starting January 2, 2020, offers children ages 3 to 5 this opportunity. Every first and third Thursday of the month, from 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., story time will be held in a different area of the museum along with some playtime.

Must RSVP with our education coordinator at 989-752-2861 ext. 311 or [kfurtaw@castlemuseum.org](mailto:kfurtaw@castlemuseum.org).

A Memorial Gift to the Castle Museum has been made in memory of  
**Eric T. Nelson**  
by  
*Elena Sanchez*

A Memorial Gift to the Castle Museum has been made in memory of  
**Bob Stroebel**  
by  
*Tish Stroebel*

*Please remember the Castle Museum endowment fund at the Saginaw Community Foundation in your will and estate plans.*

The Castle Museum received a donation in honor of  
**Dolores Salbenblatt's 90th birthday**  
from Ken & Jackie Willman



## Become a Speaker Today!

Have an interesting topic you would like to share?

Become a part of our long list of speakers who have shined a light on history, fostered learning, inspired, and provoked conversations at the Castle Museum. Our Lunch & Learn program is a staple for our membership and community at large.

Email [ajones@castlemuseum.org](mailto:ajones@castlemuseum.org) to sign up and learn more.



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## EVENT CALENDAR

**Tuesday, December 3 | Noon**

**Lunch & Learn - Saving the Lee Mansion**

Have you found yourself wondering what's going on at the Lee Mansion on Washington Ave? Join us for a Lunch & Learn hosted by Alex Mixter, the Project Manager for the Lee Mansion Restoration Project. You'll hear the story of how this house was saved from demolition by local activists, learn about the history of the home, and what the plans are for the future. Make a donation to the campaign today at [www.patronicity.com/Lee](http://www.patronicity.com/Lee)

**Thursday, December 5 | 4:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.**

**Make and Take an Ornament**

Make a Victorian-style scrap Christmas Tree ornament to take home with you. Simple and easy to make, these ornaments are based on actual period examples. No registration is required, feel free to come in anytime from 4:30 - 7 p.m. (Supplies are limited).

**Thursday, December 5 | 7 p.m.**

**Saginaw Valley Chapter of the Michigan Archaeological Society Meeting**

**Tuesday, December 10 | Noon**

**Pages of History Book Club**

This month's selection is "The Faygo Book," by Joe Grimm.

**The Castle Museum Holiday Hours:**

Christmas Eve - Close at Noon

Christmas Day - Closed

New Year's Eve - Close at Noon

New Year's Day - Closed

**Sunday, January 5 | 1 p.m.**

**Millage Informational Meeting**

**Tuesday, January 7 | Noon**

**Lunch & Learn - Gardner Williams: Saginaw's Man of Many Firsts**

**Wednesday, January 15 | 7 p.m.**

**Millage Informational Meeting**

**Saturday, January 25 | Noon**

**HSSC Annual Meeting**

**Tuesday, January 28 | 1 p.m.**

**Millage Informational Meeting**



The Castle Museum is supported in part by awards from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts.