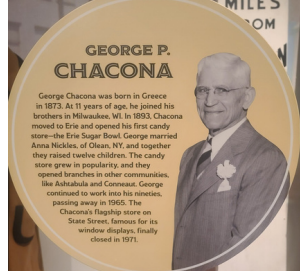


DISCOVER WHERE HISTORY INSPIRES



WHAT'S NEW?

Plenty! We have a new executive director who has some history with the museum. Welcome back to Cal Pifer, who returns to Erie as our executive director, a position he held from 2013 to 2016.

Cal hit the ground running with plenty of new ideas to support the mission of the museum. "We are going to become a tourist destination that appeals to visitors with local, regional and global connections," he said.

Our campus has been buzzing since Cal started in June with the opening of the Story of Us, our Millionaire's Row Historic Homes walking tour and two sold-out, farm-to-table dinners at the Battles Yellow House.

Cal also reopened the apartment on the second floor of the Battles Yellow House, and guests have been enjoying the country scenery nearly every weekend.

In October, Cal will host a Frank Lloyd Wright gathering with Wright site administrators, national architects and academic leaders. More is on the way, so stay tuned.

Welcome aboard, Cal.



Did you join in our Millionaire's Row Historic Mansion Walking Tour?

In our most successful walking tour ever, nearly 500 visitors enjoyed a self-guided tour of 12 fabulous mansions and buildings on West Sixth Street on a fabulous August evening.

The tour also included the impressive Diefenbach gardens and the interior of the First Presbyterian Church. The evening's grand finale featured a stop at the Flagship City Food Hall for discounted food and drinks.

Guests included people of all ages and families who enjoyed a stroll along the historic street where doctors and captains of industry, finance and business built their homes and walked along what was once a brick street.

More tours and events are coming. Make sure to check our [website](#) for updates.



The John Hill House, 230 West 6th Street, was on the tour for the first time. Photo by John Baker



The Alexander Jarecki House, 305 West 6th St., was on the tour.

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Connecting with people of all ages on and off campus



Middle school students enjoy History Detectives Camp

Imagine creating your own exhibit as an 11-year-old! That was the highlight for more than 40 kids who enjoyed our second year of free summer camp for middle-school students in July. Multiple family members attended this year, and they took field trips and participated in team-building events. The grand finale was creating their own exhibits and sharing them with each other and family members on the last day of camp. The camp, conducted by staff members, is just one example of the many educational and entertaining programs we offer to students free at the Hagen History Center.



Dr. Keith Taylor, president of Gannon University, provided a tour of the Strong Mansion, Gannon's Old Main, during the Hidden Erie Tour.

Discovering history on the Hidden Erie Bus Tour

In June, our curatorial staff members organized and conducted a sold-out bus tour for 40 visitors who walked through Old Main at Gannon University and six more locations including the Masonic Temple, the HBKS Wealth Advisors Building, the former Strong Mansion on Gannon University's campus, the Boston Store, St. Joseph's apartments, and a former speakeasy.

Lunch was provided and served at the Hagen History Center Erie campus.

The tour was sponsored by First Student Transportation and all the tour stop locations. We'll be revving up for another tour later this year. Watch our [website](#) for more news.

Would you like our staff to visit you?

Our staff regularly creates custom presentations for civic groups and organizations with audiences ranging from dozens to 200.

On a regular basis, we participate in community outreach events with schools, civic groups, residential facilities, Our West Bayfront, Gannon University, Erie Community Foundation, Downtown Erie Partnership, Erie Arts & Culture and other neighboring nonprofits, creating a collaborative atmosphere.

If you'd like to a presentation for your group at the History Center or onsite at your facility, contact Jeff Sherry at 814-454-1813, ext. 33 or jsherry@eriehistory.org.



Traveling trunk shows are a hit

Mercyhurst University Senior Abby Cullen presented a trunk show for St. Luke School's Mrs. Stormer's 4th grade class.

It was a hit and designed by our curatorial department. If you'd like to have a traveling trunk show, call Jeff Sherry at 814-454-1813, ext. 33.

MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS

Nick and Heidi Gianaris share why they became members

Nick and Heidi Gianaris have been members for more than a year, and said it was exciting to be a part of the growth of the area in which they formerly lived.

"I'm a big history enthusiast and I really like Erie Civil War history. Strong Vincent is my alma mater," Nick said. He added that seeing the new campus was another incentive to join the Hagen History Center after the grand reopening in 2021.

"The quality of the buildings blew us away," Nick said. "It's really a quality institution and it should help drive Erie tourism. It's on par with national museums and it's really cool to see this level of investment and be some small part of that."

Heidi agreed and said she enjoyed the social events like Gallery Night. "Those events make it exciting for me to go there," she said. "And the gift shop is super professional and well appointed."



Meet one of our amazing volunteers



Teacher Greg Henning is a volunteer and military veteran whose uniform was on display in 2021 in the Wood-Morrison House. Greg often brings his students from North East High School through the museum, and he regularly participates in activities, speaking engagements and more.

Greg and dozens of dedicated behind-the-scenes students, interns and volunteers participate in research, archives, programming and curatorial support on both our Erie and Girard campuses.

We are inspired by everything our volunteers do to help guests of all ages have the best visitor experience possible. If you would like to become a volunteer, contact Jeff Sherry at 814-454-1813 Ext 33, or jsherry@eriehistory.org



If you feel like you've run out of gardening space at home, please let us know. We are looking for volunteers who love to garden, and we have plenty of room for you to adopt and maintain a section of the the beloved and historic landscape of **Charlotte Battles'** home in Girard.

The **Jensen family** has been taking care of the gardens for several years. They hope to create groups who adopt spaces in the gardens.

To become a gardener or a volunteer on any level, please contact Jeff Sherry at jsherry@eriehistory.org or 814-454-1813, Ext. 33.



Want to become a volunteer gardener? The gardens at the Battles White House in Girard are in need of amateur horticulturists to adopt and care for sections of the historic gardens.

NEW EXHIBIT HIGHLIGHTS

NOW OPEN: The Story of Us

Our newest exhibit tells our story. It's the story of families who built Erie County. It's all about our history, our people and our businesses.

We share the story of how immigrants built our community and founded neighborhoods, churches, and ethnic clubs.

We also explore how these settlers made a living at farming, fishing, lumbering, industry, service professions, healthcare, education and retail.

Visitors recognize names, businesses and artifacts throughout the 3,000 square feet of exhibit space that features hundreds of photographs and dozens of stories about people who came before us.



CURATORIAL, LIBRARY & ARCHIVES

Research shines in Erie videos

WQLN PBS and the Hagen History Center have collaborated on numerous projects this year.

Landmark: Erie's Bicentennial Tower is just one of the programs. It takes viewers back through more than 25 years of interesting history of the idea to plan, construct and open the landmark that was completed in 1996. Lou Richards and the Erie Community Foundation had a part in the effort.

Theresa Gamble and Pauline Stanton received kudos and thanks in the credits. Producer Lou Richards announced he would donate the video to the Hagen History Center for preservation.

Our Library & Archive staff also supplied plenty of research, photography, prints and more for the new **Chronicles** series that premieres on Oct. 6 on WQLN.



If you have a research project you need to discuss, please make an appointment with Theresa at tgamble@eriehistory.org or 814-453-1813 Ext. 30.



Donations preserve history for families and companies

Lin Pomeroy of Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, recently donated a wringer produced by the Lovell Manufacturing Company of Erie to the Hagen History Center.

The company manufactured bed springs, mouse and rat traps, wringers, dryers, step ladders and sports equipment from the late 1800s to mid-1900s. The buildings still stand and proudly house apartments and business offices in **Lovell Place** on the corner of 13th and French Streets. If you have an item to donate, contact Becky Weiser at bweiser@eriehistory.org or 814-454-1813 Ext. 21.

FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT BRINGS IN NATIONAL TOURISM

The Frank Lloyd Wright exhibit continues to bring in hundreds of visitors from across the country to see the original field office that Aaron Green and Wright designed in a rented office building in San Francisco.

Green's son, Allan Wright Green, visited the office where he had worked with his dad on occasion. Allan and his girlfriend, Lisa, were also fans of the Watson-Curtze Mansion and enjoyed sight-seeing in Erie.

We've also welcomed a bus tour from Frank Lloyd Wright's Martin House in Buffalo and guests from Graycliff and other Frank Lloyd Wright sites including the Frank Lloyd Wright Conservancy and the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation.



Allan Wright Green and his girlfriend, Lisa, visited the Frank Lloyd Wright exhibit. Allan's father Aaron Green, designed the office along with Frank Lloyd Wright. Allan's middle name honors Wright.

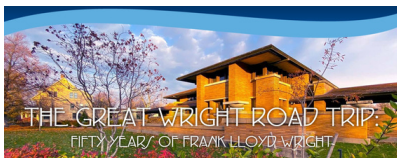


A bus tour group of 40 people from Frank Lloyd Wright's Martin House visited in June.

The exhibit has been a hot spot for national travel writers sharing our story in Forbes, the Cleveland Plain Dealer and newspaper networks throughout the country.

We participated in a live radio show in Michigan, a Facebook Live program with additional Wright sites and one-tank travel shows in Pittsburgh and Cleveland. A national Triple AAA story is on the way.

We are also on the Great Wright Road Trip, a self-guided tour that takes visitors to Frank Lloyd Wright sites and tourist spots throughout western New York and western Pennsylvania.



Our participation in the Great Wright Road Trip, a self-guided tour that takes visitors to Frank Lloyd Wright sites and tourist spots throughout western New York and western Pennsylvania, brings in many tourists. Travel writer Dave LeBlanc and his wife, Shauntelle, (at right) visited in August as part of the Great Wright Road Trip.

Dave writes about architecture and travel for the Toronto Globe and Mail. He is known as the Architourist. Read about his visit [here](#).



ADVANCEMENT

It's been a busy summer of successful fundraising! Here are a few of the events that enabled us to gather together to support the History Center:

Women Creating a Legacy set some new records with its summer event. Held on June 14, the event had nearly 80 women in attendance. The women enjoyed great food and music by Tennessee Back Porch.

Thanks to our honorary chair **Leah Murphy** and to all the attendees.



Some of the women who participated in Women Creating a Legacy include: Lisa Graff, Christine Eddy, Alyssa Kanonczyk, Cheryl Ward, Kirsten McCain, Susan Kanonczyk and Lynne Miller.

Thanks to your generosity during **Erie Gives**, a record 123 donors helped the Erie County Historical Society-Hagen History Center continue education programs for people of all ages.



The gifts help us welcome more than 11,000 people per year to our Erie campus with thousands more visiting our Girard campus.



During our second **A Night at the Museum Gala**, nearly 600 guests celebrated with us as we honored **Teresa and the late Leo Brugger** for their long-term support of Erie and the Hagen History Center.

Thanks to our **Chair Couple Mike and Susan McCormick** for being a part of our annual signature event.

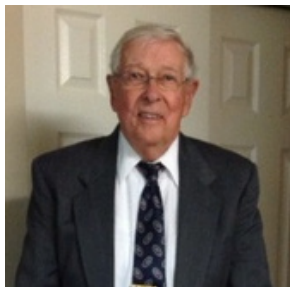
To view 277 photos, visit <https://bit.ly/3RqDyOa>



Our first ever **Men at the Museum** event was a successful evening, thanks to honorary chair **Matt Clark**.

The event included artifacts from beer exhibits, a hunting gun exhibit and a look at an antique vehicle.

Matt Clark, left, and Jeff Bevacqua participated in Men at the Museum.



Dr. Barrett C. Walker planned a generous legacy

Dr. Barrett C. Walker began his career in the Air Force assigned to a hospital as a dentist, attaining the rank of Captain.

In 1958, this Pittsburgh native moved to Erie to begin a private dental practice, but he wanted to do more.

He changed career paths in the 1960s to become a financial manager, and he was extremely successful in managing investments. He used his skills to benefit his family and to make Erie a better place to live.

During his 94 years, Dr. Walker became a generous philanthropist donating millions of dollars to local

organizations, including the Hagen History Center.

Upon his death in January of 2022, and after providing for his family, Dr. Walker left his remaining \$32 million estate to the the Walker Family Fund, which he had established at the Erie Community Foundation.

It will provide financial assistance to a variety of nonprofits, including the Hagen History Center, in perpetuity.

He believed he had a civic responsibility to share his success, and we thank Dr. Walker for his vision and generous spirit. To discuss planning your legacy and leaving a bequest, contact Geri Cicchetti at the Hagen History Center at 814-454-1813 Ext. 34.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



Victorian Halloween takes place in candlelit rooms during our **free admission day**. Hear the legend of 1790s General Mad Anthony Wayne's death and the grisly use of the pot on display. Be mesmerized by spiritualist beliefs, funeral traditions and Victorian Halloween celebrations. Bronze sponsors: Erie Community Foundation Erie Insurance



Need a gift?

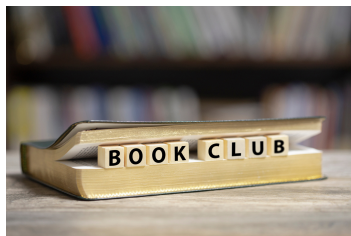
Stop into the **Carriage House Gift Shop** for seasonal finds for yourself, friends or the house! We have something for everyone. Check out our books, Frank Lloyd Wright paraphernalia, socks, artwork, home decor, jewelry, crafts, clothing and much more!



Join **Justin Dombrowski**, local author of "**Murder and Mayhem in Erie, Pennsylvania**," as he guides you on a tour of seven locations throughout downtown Erie and accounts tales of grave robbing, bizarre deaths and terror. Highlights include: The Phantom Burglar's Reign of Terror, the strange death of Virginia Gibney and the 1911 extortion of the Strong family. The events take place Oct. 14, 15, 21, 22, 28 and 29. Cost is \$20 for members, \$25 for nonmembers. To order tickets, click [here](#).

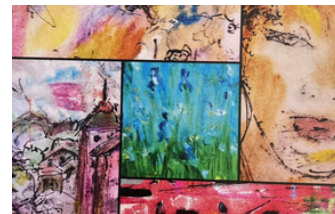
NOVEMBER

We're starting a book club!



Do you love history as much as we do? Join B. J. Lechner and Mark Squeglia for some reading and discussion of history-themed books. We start Wednesday, Nov. 9th at 5:30 p.m. More information will be available on our website later this month.

Joey Grego art show at Watson-Curtze Mansion



A fundraiser will be held at the Watson-Curtze Mansion featuring the artwork of Joey Grego on Nov. 17 to Nov. 18. Proceeds of his sales benefit the Hagen History Center. Additional activities are also planned. Visit our [website](#) for details.

Where History Inspires

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www.eriehistory.org
814-454-1813

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**Hagen History Center
Hours:**

We are open year round
Monday: Closed
Tuesday through
Saturday: 10 a.m. to 5
p.m.
Sunday: Noon to 5 p.m.

**Join the Hagen History
Center!**
**Hover over the QR code
below to join online**



Thanks to all our board members! Several members' terms have ended, and we would like to thank them for their service:

Randy Shapira Chris Sorce Bill Steger Mark Steg
Roy Strausbaugh Doug Vicary

We would also like to welcome our new and returning board members:

Mark Squeglia, president
Kelly Montefiori, vice president
Peter Burton Kelly Connole Emily Fessler
George Lyons Paul Gambill Mike Glass
Mark Murphy Margaret Pett Jeff Scibetta
Kristin Talarico Gwen White Grant Yochim

NOW OPEN

The Curtze Family Legacy exhibit opened Sept. 16 in the Watson-Curtze Mansion.

It tells the story of Frederick Felix Curtze (1858-1941), his wife, Caroline Johanna Stohlman (1856-1943), who purchased the mansion in 1923, and their family.

Special thanks to Curtze family descendants who donated items for the display.



Victorian Holidays returns

The Watson-Curtze Mansion will be dressed up for the holidays starting December 1, and it's free admission through Dec. 4, thanks to our gold sponsor Erie Federal Credit Union and bronze sponsors Erie Community Foundation and Erie Insurance.

The decorations will stay up until January 8. Visit our [website](#) for details.

