May 2014
(Best viewed on-line)

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Summer Speaker Series

This summer, the Clarke will welcome three speakers to talk about a wide range of intriguing topics.

First, on Tuesday, June 3, Michigan Notable Book Award-winning author Michael Schumacher will join us to speak about his book November’s Fury: the Deadly Great Lakes Hurricane of 1913. The ultimate story of man versus nature, November’s Fury recounts the dramatic events that unfolded over four days in 1913, when a freshwater hurricane of epic proportions developed into a storm that was one of the deadliest in Great Lakes maritime history. Michael Schumacher brings this violent storm to terrifying life.

Then, on Tuesday, July 8, well-known local historian Jack Westbrook will draw upon his many books about Mt. Pleasant history and his rich knowledge of Michigan’s oil and gas industry, to explore Mt. Pleasant’s oil boom. While America struggled through the Depression, Mt. Pleasant found new wealth pouring into the community.

Finally, on Tuesday, June 22, Robert Knapp will discuss his new book, Mystery Man: Gangsters, Oil, and Murder in Michigan, the story of Isaiah Leebove, Jack Livingston, and a cast including gangsters and oil barons, set in the days of Michigan’s oil boom. A personal grudge led to Leebove’s murder—or was it the perfect gangland slaying?

All events begin at 7:00 pm in the Park Library Auditorium with receptions following in the Clarke.

Molson Art on Loan to the Mackinac Arts Council

A portion of the Francis and Mary Lois Molson Collection of Art will be on loan to the Mackinac Arts Council. The exhibit will be displayed at the Mission Point Resort on Mackinac Island, and will feature original artwork used as illustrations in numerous children’s books. These items will be on display during the month of June. A reception will be held for the Clarke on Saturday, June 28 from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm.

Clarke Summer Hours

Now that classes are finished at Central Michigan University, the Clarke will no longer be open on Saturdays. We will still be open Monday to Friday from 8 am to 5:00 pm. You can visit us in person, call the reference desk at 989-774-3864, or send an e-mail to clarke@cmich.edu.

Our Saturday hours will resume in September, when Central Michigan University fall classes are in session.

Michigan Digital Newspaper Grant Program Winner Announced

After a hard fought battle, the votes were tallied and Cheboygan won the inaugural Michigan Digital Newspaper Grant contest. The announcement was made via the @DigMichNews Twitter Handle. Follow the Michigan Digital Newspaper Program via Twitter and Facebook.

Recent News Posted on the Clarke Blog

Several new posts have been added to our News and Notes Blog. Frank Boles wrote about the presentation of the 2014 John Cumming Award to Tammy Prout. The Cumming Award recognizes those who contribute to the historic preservation of Isabella County. We also wrote about Central’s participation in Earth Day, from the first event on April 22, 1970 to the present. Stay tuned to the Clarke News and Notes blog for more interesting posts about the treasures of the Clarke.

Picture of the Week Program

Every week, the Clarke works with the CMU Libraries and the CMU Alumni Association to post a picture of week on the Libraries and Alumni Association’s Facebook pages. Our goal is to highlight a wide variety of interesting photos that tell interesting stories about the history of Central Michigan University. Recent “pictures of the week” have included fun CMU themes, such as Greek Week, students studying for finals, and this week’s featuring artistic appreciation of gardens. These can all be viewed on the Alumni Association and Libraries Facebook pages.

In addition to the Picture of the Week, the Clarke has teamed up with the CMU Alumni Association to create a Facebook page with historic images of commencements past. The Clarke supplied historic photos from 1954, 1964, 1974, and 1984. It is now time for former CMU grads to submit their photos to this site!