

Mayfield

Suspicious vehicle, SOM Center Road: Officers stopped a vehicle around 12:10 a.m. March 28 for not having illuminated headlights.

The driver was found to be a 17-year-old resident. She was in the vehicle with a woman, 19, and it was learned both only had temporary driving permits.

The girl's mother was contacted and said her daughter took the vehicle without permission.

The girl was cited for no headlights and no operator's license and will be filed on in juvenile court for unauthorized use of a vehicle.

Property damage, Aintree Park Drive: A Highland Heights girl, 16, lost control of her vehicle during a snowstorm around 11:30 p.m. March 30 and went off the roadway and struck a tree. Her parents were contacted and said they would agree to pay for the replacement of the tree, which was on private property.

Traffic stop, Interstate 271: A Cleveland man, 22, was found to have a loaded gun under his driver's seat after his vehicle was stopped March 28 for speeding. He did not have a CCW permit and was therefore arrested for improper handling of a firearm in a vehicle and cited for speeding and possession of marijuana.

Police Blotter

Sun 4/11/19

Suspicious person, SOM Center Road: Officers checked on a man lying on a brick wall in front of Smokin Q's BBQ March 28 and learned he had an active warrant out of Rocky River. He was advised of the warrant, but officers from that city were unable to pick him up. He told police he suffers from ADHD and is bipolar but is not on medication. The Geneva man, 29, was given a courtesy ride out of the area.

Hitchhiking, Interstate 271: A Tennessee man, 49, was found hitchhiking on the freeway entrance ramp March 27. He was advised not to hitchhike and was given a courtesy ride to his mother's home in Willoughby.

Mayfield

Historical society notes a special anniversary

Township's founding was 200 years ago

JEFF PIORKOWSKI
Special to Sun News

This year marks the 200th anniversary of the founding of Mayfield Township, and members of the local historical society are looking to spread the word.

The Mayfield Township Historical Society's Joan Gottschling recently attended council meetings in all four of the current communities that once made up the township, telling of planned events and the need for volunteers.

"A lot of people, when they think of Mayfield Township, just think of Mayfield Village," Gottschling said. "But it also includes [what is now] Mayfield Heights, Highland Heights and Gates Mills."

Gottschling, of Mayfield Heights, said historical society members now number about 100. They pay annual dues (\$10 per person, \$20 per family), and many of them are in their 80s and 90s. She said about 15 active docents give tours of the society's building, the Bennet-Van Curen House at 606 SOM Center Road in Mayfield.

The society plans to have members at events this summer such as Highland Heights Community Day on July 20 and Mayfield Heights Community Days from June 21 to 23. Volunteers will also be present for Family Day at The Grove amphitheater in Mayfield on Aug. 24.

"We'll have some before-and-after photos [of locations within the township], old-time games that kids played in the 19th and early 20th centuries, and anyone can write a question for our time capsule," Gottschling said.

She said the time capsule will be sealed this year and opened in 50 years, in 2069. It will be kept, in view, at the Bennett-Van Curen House.

ANNIVERSARY

FROM A1

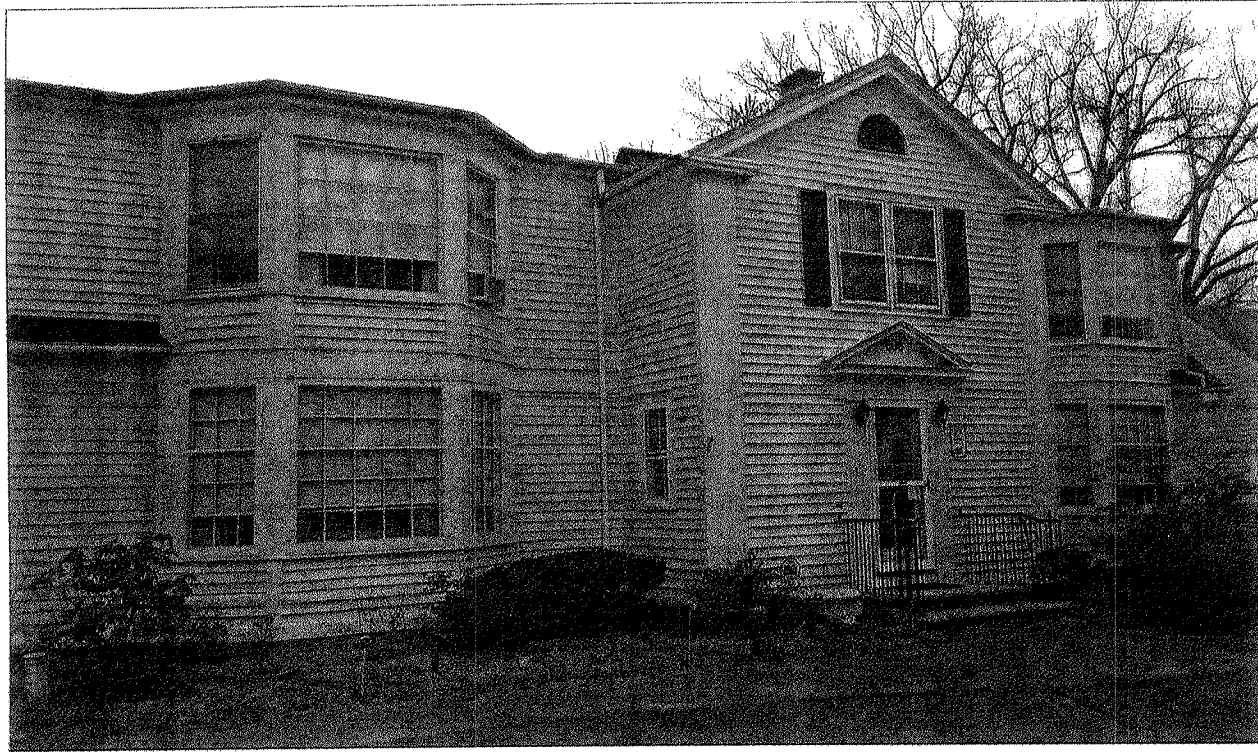
“You can ask questions like, ‘Are self-driving cars the big thing?’ ‘Do you still use cars?’ ‘Does education go year-round now?’” Gottschling said of the type of questions wanted for the time capsule. “We’re also going to put in the capsule the first papers of the months of The Plain Dealer and Sun Messenger, and ads from stores like Home Depot, so people can see what things cost now.

“Anyone with a business card or anything else they’d like to donate that says something about these times, maybe an old-flip phone, can donate them, too.

People who want to donate can call us at 440-461-0055 or bring their donation to the [Bennett-Van Curen] House,” she said.

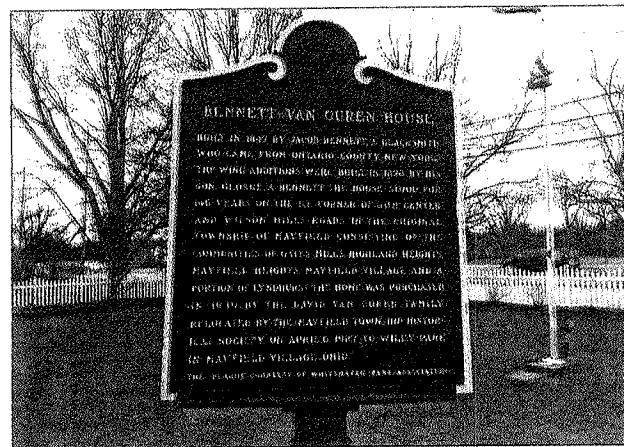
Gottschling said the society will also bring attention this year to its own history. The Mayfield Township Historical Society was founded on July 6, 1976, at a time when the nation’s bicentennial created a historical mind-set throughout the United States and projects to promote history were encouraged.

The Bennett-Van Curen House was built in 1847 by blacksmith Jacob Bennett after he moved his family here from New York. His son George took over the



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The Bennett-Van Curen House, home of the Mayfield Township Historical Society in Mayfield.



A marker at the Bennett-Van Curen House in Mayfield, home of the Mayfield Township Historical Society.

house at his father’s death. The house was acquired in the 1960s by the Van Curen family.

At the time, the house stood near the current location of Yours Truly restaurant, 6675 Wilson Mills Road.

Gottschling said that when the owner of the shopping strip of which Yours Truly is a part planned to expand the premises, the historical society looked into purchasing the historic house.

“The shopping strip owner said they [the so-

ciety] could have it [the house] if they moved it,” she said. “So they held bake sales and other fundraisers and came up with \$85,000 to buy the house. In 1987, it was moved to 606 SOM Center Road.”

The house’s 13 rooms each tell a story from a different decade in history, from 1805 to the 1930s. They include a school room, music parlor, 1930s kitchen and hearse room.

Gottschling said founding society members such as Richard and Pat Negrelli still attend functions, while

Al and Jan Muhle, Mayfield Village Councilwoman Patsy Mills and Nancy Fisher Oatess also still volunteer.

“What we really need are volunteers,” Gottschling said. “We would be really happy to get more.”

She said the historical society has regular presentations that are open to both members and non-members. Coming up at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 8, is a presentation on “Women Spies: The Revolutionary War to the World Wars.” The program will take place at the Mayfield Village Community Room, 6621 Wilson Mills Road.

A 1970 Mayfield High School graduate, Gottschling said the historical society is pleased to still have its longtime members, who can recall the names of past residents and key locations within the former township.

Gottschling said local history is important to all residents.

“If you don’t know where you’re going, you’ll end up somewhere else,” she said, speaking of history. “I always look and see where I’ve been so I know where I’m going in the future.

“It’s fascinating just to see what has happened in my lifetime, and when we look back 100 years, wow! My grandmother was born in 1887, and she went from the horse and buggy to man walking on the moon.”

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