

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

HEIDI CHAPMAN

- "Great museum!"
- "Loved learning about your history, thank you!"
- "This museum doesn't look that big on the outside sure is great on the inside!"
- "My kids loved it! Fun museum!"
- "I have German heritage but never knew much about it. Thank you for teaching me!"

At the very end of our exhibit galleries, we have a comment book that we have available for our visitors to sign. While some sign and some do not, we receive about 130 entries per month from all over the world - Germany (no surprise there!), South Africa, Japan, India, and almost every U.S. state, plus several other countries that I don't have the space to mention. It is amazing that so many people are interested in Frankenmuth history. It is their words that help us to gauge our outlook on exhibits, help us gather feedback for planning, lighting, panel placement, etc. and gives us motivation when the days get long in the museum world.

I read through these comments often throughout 2021, thankful that we were again able to host these visitors, programs, events, and tours, after the events that 2020 threw at us. Not taking anything for granted throughout '21, we truly set some high goals for ourselves this year!

With a target to become more accessible and visible to the public after a quiet 2020, we worked hard throughout 2021 to meet that goal. Events such as our first-ever Pioneer Festival in Cross Park was a huge success thanks to businesses and volunteers in the community coming together. In addition, advertising the event was a blast as we hosted a float in the Bavarian Parade for the first time! The FHA was also featured on travel blogs, news and magazine articles (including a New York Times article featuring Frankenmuth!), and the PBS documentary "Mid Michigan Remembers". Our Walking Tour was made available to the public and is an activity that has received positive feedback from locals and visitors alike, and completely opens up our accessibility for those with both physical and financial burdens. Education programs and guided tours were also back in full swing and it was wonderful to be seeing the gift shop and galleries full once again!

A few other feathers in our cap included a scholarship created for Frankenmuth High School Seniors by the FHA, in conjunction with Keith Boesnecker, an amazing fundraising auction, and some very helpful grant awards received from the Michigan

Arts and Cultural Council, the Frankenmuth Community Foundation, 100 Women Who Care, and the Wickson-Link Memorial Foundation.

Of course, we cannot discuss 2021 without mentioning the retirement of Mary Nuechterlein, the FHA's Collection Manager for the last 44 years. Retiring this past June, Mary still thankfully comes back to volunteer with us once a week. We wish her the best in her new phase in life!

Another chapter that closed for us this year was the sale of the Lager Mill building that the FHA Membership voted on in early 2021. While the sale wasn't made official until the very start of 2022, I am thankful that it is financially off our books and am excited for its future as property of Zehnder's of Frankenmuth. I'd also like to thank our membership for doing your fiduciary duty and keeping in mind the best interest of the FHA.

As we roll into 2022, our work is never done! Just within the first few months alone, we have already hosted an intern from Germany, Sonja Friese, and started a Podcast that is producing bi-weekly presentations for listeners and lovers of all history eras. Our exhibit expansion, which will bring our "timeline" up from 1995 through 2022 is at the front of our minds as planning and fundraising are a daily discussion in our office. Please keep an eye out for details as the design process continues!

While reading through the guest book pages at the end of 2021, I came across one that I especially appreciated: Autumn from Las Vegas, NV wrote "Very interactive, informative, and entertaining. You can tell that hard work was put into make this a wonderful experience." Autumn was 100% right. Hard work, lots of thoughts and discussion, and hours go into creating an experience for our guests, not only in our tours and programs, but in our exhibits too. Throughout 2022 we hope you are able to visit our museum and see the efforts put in to preserving and sharing our history!

As we reach what I hope is the end of COVID and the restart of normalcy in our lives, I would like to thank each of you for the continued, unwavering support, and mission to "Preserve, Communicate, and Celebrate" Frankenmuth's history.

We hope to see you throughout 2022!

Heidi Chapman

Director, Frankenmuth Historical Association



Staff

Executive Director: Heidi Chapman

Director of Education, Exhibits, & Events: Nathan Seeley

Collection Manager: Malcolm Cottle

Gift Shop Manager & Fischer Hall Coordinator: Jenna Swanson

Research Assistant: Chad Hitchcock

Maintenance Manager: Ron Greenia

Gift Shop Staff: Larry Bernthal, Vicki McClure, Ethan Baumgardner

Maintenance Staff: Ben Robertson

Board of Trustees

President: Christie Bierlein

Treasurer: Tricia Peyok

Secretary: Jerry Kabat

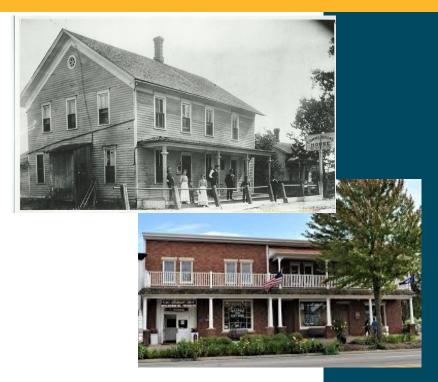
Margaret Johnston

Matt Curtis

Jasmine Southgate

Jim Engel

Patrick Burris



STAFF & BUARD

FINANCIALS*

Current Assets		
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$	316,553
Accounts Receivable	·	12,739
Gift shop Inventory		<u>29,605</u>
Total Current Assets		358,897
Non-Current Assets		
Property and Equipment - Net		666,991
Beneficial Interest in Assets Held by C	Others	
		<u>280,658</u>
Total Non-Current Assets		
Tatal Assats		<u>947,649</u>
Total Assets	.	4 206 5 46
Liabilities and Not Assats	\$	<u>1,306,546</u>
<u>Liabilities and Net Assets</u> Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$	12 715
Accrued Payroll & Taxes	Φ	13,745 5,234
Total Current Liabilities		<u> </u>
rotat Garrotti Elabititios		18,979
Net Assets		10,575
Without Donor Restrictions		
		1,287,567
Total Net Assets		
		<u>1,287,567</u>
Total Liabilities & Net Assets		
	\$	1,306,546

^{*}Please note, comparisons of 2020 are not included this year due to the closing of Frankenmuth Historical Association Sales & Service. It will be listed again next year!

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Support, Revenue, & Gains Membership Dues Admissions Gifts & Grants County Millage Gift Shop Special Events Educational Programs Endowment Funds & Intel Income Fischer Hall Rent	72,436 16,852	With Donor Restrictions \$	Total \$ 3,329 47,184 79,685 50,956 26,279 77,200 2,456 72,436 16,852
Other Rent Changes in Market Value Beneficial Interest PPP Loan Forgiveness Miscellaneous	26,893 38,675 3,894	- - -	3,695 26,893 38,675 3,894
Net Assets Related for Restrictions Total Support, Revenue, & Gair	<u>10,000</u> ns <u>459,534</u>	(10,000)	- 449,534
Expenses Program Services Management & General Fundraising Museum Gift Shop	\$ 267,010 55,137 65,355 <u>65,175</u>	- - - -	\$ 267,010 55,137 65,355 65,175
Total Expenses	<u>452,677</u>	-	452,677
Change in Net Assets	6,857	(10,000)	(3,143)
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	<u>1,280,710</u>	<u>10,000</u>	1,290,710
Net Assets - End of Year	1,287,567	-	<u>1,287,567</u>

NATHAN SEELEY

2021 provided a chance for a fresh start in many areas, including exhibits and programming! We launched several new programs, including our 1st Annual Pioneer Fest, All-Access Tours, and our virtual History at Home program. Through these efforts, our staff provided safe and socially-distanced programming for over 1,500 visitors!

Our temporary exhibits featured fascinating aspects of the Franken-colonies history. Our "We Survived This" exhibit explored the 1996 tornado, flooding, fires, and child safety. The "Great Lakes State Goes to War" exhibit investigated how WWII impacted Frankenmuth and their contributions to the war effort. And finally, "Surviving the Cold War" expanded on our understandings of the atomic age, and how it impacted life at home. We received some great feedback for these exhibits, and some artifacts are now displayed in our permanent galleries. An example of just one way that research enhances our understanding of the past.

We are setting our sights on much higher numbers in 2022 and planning some ambitious projects! We hope to grow our Pioneer Fest (August 20 at Cross Park) and make it a staple event that ends the summer.

We are also kicking off fundraising and planning for an exhibit renovation and expansion! Museum standards have evolved since the construction of our initial exhibits in 1995 and a major renovation will help make our museum more accessible, interactive, and be a better instrument to "preserve, communicate, and celebrate" our history! We want this to be a community project as well, so we are asking for your feedback! Please join us on June 7 @ 6:00pm in Fischer Hall for our "Town Hall," to discuss ideas and initial plans for the renovation.

With your support, 2022 will be the best year ever for the FHA!



FISCHER HALL JENNA SWANSON

Theodore Fischer came from Germany in 1876 and established himself by building the fourth hotel in Frankenmuth. In 1894 Fischer added a hall to the premises for guests and entertainers to perform and as a meeting place for Frankenmuth residents. He painted the Masonic slogan "Einigkeit Macht Stark" (Strength Through Unity) on the arch over the hall's stage. Today, Fischer Hall continues to serve its original purpose of hosting local events, weddings, performances, and small gatherings.

There were very few rentals in the first few months of 2021, due to the Department of Health and Human Services' gathering restrictions. Once the restrictions were lifted, we saw numbers start to return to pre-COVID numbers. There were a total of 59 bookings, and an income of \$14,533, more than double that of 2020. Private events booked this year included meetings, album release parties, birthday parties, retirement parties, Girl Scout bridging ceremonies, weddings, bridal showers, workshops, baby showers, video filming sessions, artifact cataloging, conferences, rehearsal dinners, conventions, banquets, retreats, customer appreciation nights, holiday parties, caroling, field trips, and other various types of events

The Hall hosted 50 public events in 2021, including book club meetings, movie nights, comedy shows, crafting sessions, trivia nights, blood drives, garage sales, lectures, painting classes, concerts, Christmas events, and magic shows. Look for even more fun and educational public events from the FHA in 2022!

Don't forget, we have a wonderful sound system with Blu-Ray and HDMI connectivity, an overhead projector and a large screen, so Fischer Hall is ideal for meetings that require presentation facilities. It's great for "movie night" parties too! And remember, your FHA membership gives you a discount off your rental fee and a discount on an extra day for setting up the day before or cleaning up the day after (pending availability of the extra day)!

2022 will include some minor updates to the Hall kitchen, as the frequent use does take its toll. Overall, we are thankful to preserve this piece of Frankenmuth history and utilize it as a source of income for the Association.

Here's to 2022 being the best year for Fischer Hall yet!

2021 was a time of transition for the collections department at the FHA. We said a fond farewell and thank you to Mary Nuechterlein as the Collections Manager, and welcomed Malcolm Cottle to the team. But, we are lucky enough to have Mary returning as a volunteer once a week to answer questions and help maintain important institutional knowledge!

In 2021, we prioritized improving collection storage spaces and creating systems for improved accessibility. We started by renovating one of our basement storage areas which had a water leak. The construction project included installing a new draining system for the room which now moves ground water away from the basement before it can get into our storage areas. In addition, we purchased a variety of new steel storage units to house larger artifacts and make more use of our vertical space. This allowed us to create more overall space and configure more secure locations for artifact storage. We also rearranged the locations and storage of our valuable photographic and archival collection to make them more accessible and free up much needed office space. We have also implemented a new storage location hierarchy system for easily locating artifacts.

We successfully upgraded our collections management system to a new web-based version! The data transfer process was time consumer, but well worth the effort! This new system allows us to access our database from anywhere and easily update locations and other information related to artifacts. This upgrade was only made possible with support from the 100+ Women Who Care - Mid-Michigan and we thank them for their support!

Along with these major projects, business as usual continued with multiple research requests, genealogy requests, artifact acquisitions and cataloguing, and more.

We are very excited for 2022 where the Collections Department plans to take an active role in further implementing museum standards, increasing digitization and accessibility, and playing a key role in the mission of the FHA.





2021 was a year of exciting changes in the gift shop. The main change was the rebranding of the gift shop to be called the Frankenmuth Trading Post. This name was inspired by a sign that is in our collection from a store that was actually called the Frankenmuth Trading Post, and we felt it encompassed the spirit of what we were trying to accomplish with the gift shop moving forward. We have had some new signage made by Premier Promotions and Sebald Signs, with a new logo, all inspired by the sign in the collection. The lettering on the front window has been removed, and a sign hangs there instead, giving the front of the building a fresh look.

The most exciting change, however, was the purchase of Square register and point of sale system! A much quicker and easier way to ring customers up and track inventory, we are very thankful for the 100+ Women Who Care - Mid Michigan for the funding for this much-needed upgrade.

A memorial for Greg Rummel was also placed inside the Trading Post in late 2021. A group of his college friends from MSU generously donated money to the FHA for the purpose of creating a memorial for him, since he was such an active supporter of the FHA and a lover of Frankenmuth history. Local artist and Saginaw Castle Museum employee Geoffrey Pelkey created the beautiful piece which now stands as a maple tree/bookshelf which holds some of Greg's most-favorite Frankenmuth books. We are honored this long-standing memorial is at the FHA!

The end of 2021 wrapped up Trading Post manager Colin Bernreuter's work at the FHA. He will be replaced by FHA's Fischer Hall Coordinator, Jenna Swanson, who will be adding the Trading Post to her responsibilities. We wish Colin all the best in his endeavors!

As always, none of this would be possible without the assistance of our workers, Chad Hitchcock, Larry Bernthal, and new to the 2022 staff, Vicki McClure and Ethan Baumgartner, as well as our dedicated volunteer, Chris Budnik. As we turn to 2022, be sure to stop into the store to see all the exciting changes and to take advantage of your Members Only discount. Our retail space will continue to transform and we hope you'll like the design updates and variety of items for sale.



Harry Zells & Mary Anne Ackerman Patricia Arvilla Ervin & Marilyn Banes Harold Bernthal James & Sharon Bickel Steve & Connie Bierlein Irene Bronner Wayne & Lorene Bronner Lowell & Moody Butman Bonnie Campbell Kim & Sue Cederberg Morrall & Nancy Claramunt Dal Crary Matt & Abby Curtis Tony & Geri D'Anna Marjorie Deck Kurt Eischer **Roy** & Lois **Eischer** Ila Ezop

Ann Frank
Frankenmuth Credit Union
Frankenmuth Insurance
Frankenmuth News
Betty Goyings
Teresa Herzog
Ron Hildner
David Honold
Kay Sue Johanson
John & Martha Zehnder Kaczynski

Margaret Keeler

Don & Judy Keller
Frank & Loretta Kern
Harvey Kern
Ruth Knoll
Gladys Knoll
Leone Koester
Eleanor Krafft
Dorothy Kuck
Phil List

Ruth List

Frank & Sally Lopez David & Pauline Luhring Donald & Caroline Maurer Carol McClellan Jeff & Sharril McNally Randall Norton Mary Anne Princing Jene & Joan Quirin William Rau Patrick & Lisa Reece Robert & Elizabeth Reid Remer Plumbing & Heating Gary & Kathy Rummel Karen Rummel William & Mary Anne Rummel lames & Louann Scherzer Viola Schian Vernon Schiefer Ronald & Kathryn Laethem Schoen lames Schreiner Marianne Seguin Dr. & Mrs. James Shetlar **Bob & Carla Spletzer** Stephanie Stanton Chris & Maria Sutorik Jerry & Karen Thompson Sally Van Ness lames & Doreen Weber Tracy Weber William Bronner & Sons Contractors Mike & Wendy Young Dorothy Zehnder Drew & Tracy Zehnder Martin & Norma Zehnder Michael & Kimberly Zehnder William & Karen Zehnder William Zehnder-Keller

Robert Zeilinger

Lois Bergdolt

Herb & Frances Bernthal

Larry & Bernadette Bernthal

Marilyn Bernthal

Mary K. Bernthal

Tim & Sheri Bernthal

Carol & Lyle Beyerlein

Harry Bierlein

Sue & Dennis Bierlein

Ken & Sharon Block

Ken Boesnecker

Dan & Deborah Boyse

Dorothy Brenner

Dietrich Bronner

Garrett Bronner

Randy Bronner

Ron & Anne Bronner

David & Christine Budnik

Eleanor Chall

Tom & Judie Conzelmann

Tom & Brenda Coughlin

Jack Craemer

John & Celeste Craemer

Marie Creger

Addie Eckert

Rev. Joel & Miriam Ehlert

Michael Galsterer

Michael Galsterer

Charlotte Gilmour

Mike & Amy Grossi

Dan Haubenstricker

Ralph & Irene Haubenstricker

Scott & Mara Hetzner

Ross & Linda Howard

James & Gale Howe

Ron & Kathleen Huber

Dennis & Sue Isken

Edie Judd

Mary Lou Mahlmeister

David Maves

Lois Metzger

Pat Meyer

Alvin Ortner

Melissa Rau

Ray Rau

Wayne Reif

Beth Bernthal Reindel

Dee & John Ruggirello

Greg & Stephanie **Rummel**

Willy & Annie Rummel

Gary & Barbara Rupprecht

Linda Schlageter

Wallace & Helga Schluckebier

Vickie & Jeff Schmitzer

John & Martha Shelton

Robert Stearns

Doris Stoner

Glen & Susan Traubenkraut

Loraine Veitengruber

Louie Weiss

David & Alice Wigley

Linda Metzger Woodle

Lois Wylie

Albert Zehnder

L. Susan Zehnder

W. Don & Rosemary Zehnder

Herb Zeilinger

Joelle Abke
Harold & Esther Bergdolt
Hugh & Michele Bernreuter
Jennifer & Jerry Blehm
Don & Fran Bruns
Joann Crary
Virgil & Barbara Diamond
Maynard & Dora Haubenstricker
Philip & Adele Martin
David & Lori Pendleton
Frank & Sandy Piesko
Gene & Peggy Reinhardt
Kris & Monica Worley

COUPLE MEMBERS

Don & Cheryl Beythan
Gary & Debra Ell
William & Janette Hart
Larry & Martha Huber
Mark & Margaret Johnston
Jerry & Beverly Kabat
Tom & Beth Keller
Doug & Judith Ketchum
Bob & Linda Kwapis
Robert & Sally Loesel
Tim & Ann Meyer
Wesley & Carol Reinbold

Gerald & Ruth Reinert
Walter & Joanne Rupprecht
Robert & Kathleen Schollmeyer
Ronald & Mary Schury
Scott & Amy Smock
Jeff & Eilene Still
Mike & Lisa Trombley
Jim & Verna VanDevelde
Mike & Debbie Varley
Jon & Anne Webb

Sincerest condolences for those members who have passed in 2021.

Memberships listed renewable annually and can be updated for 2022 by contacting the FHA at (989) 652-9701 ext. 1.

Sharon Bark

Brett Blegen

Ray Clinard

Louise Davis

Ellen Duff

Marilyn Frahm

Alan Hall

Suzanne Hall

Ray Hecht

Margaret Higgins

Judy Hiles

Edward Kern

Wallace Kern

Carolyn Kleb

Alan Klco

Joan Kuhne

Thomas Learmont

Robert Loesel

Elaine Makas, Ph.D.

Brian McLeod

Dorothy Nuechterlein

Gary Palmreuter

Christine Pfeffer

Jack M. Schluckebier, Ph.D.

Janice H. Schury

Jeannette Stange

Robert Steward

Carole Steinbauer

Karen Uebler

Gladys Utter

Marlene VanOoteghem

Patricia Wearmouth

Mary J. Weiss

Memberships listed renewable annually and can be updated for 2022 by contacting the FHA at (989) 652-9701 ext. 1.

2021 Volunteers

Event Volunteers

Rachael Ramirez
Nicola Danks
Brent Weiss
Amanda Weiss
Samantha Seeley
Jody Cormier
Wayne Cormier
Jessica Haynes
Mike Chapman
Hannah Solomon
Garret Lewis
Katie Snell
Christie Bierlein
Raymond Cadotte

Matt Curtis
Margie Johnston
Jasmine Southgate
Tricia Peyok
Jim Engel
Jerry Kabat
Renee Saba
Cathy Schoenknecht
Erika Squanda
Jeff Titsworth
Kristin Titsworth
Rochelle Dula
Trevor Norman
Elaine Makas

Office & Gift Shop Volunteers

Christine Budnik
Mary Nuechterlein
Garret Lewis
Jeff Gilbert
Autumn Rivard

Maintenance, Improvements & Decoration Volunteers

Larry Allen
Ruth Allen
Barbara Robertson
Ben Robertson
Dan Haubenstricker

We thank those who helped us make 2021 a successful year for the FHA! If interested in volunteering with the Museum, please reach out to Heidi Chapman at (989) 652-9701. We have several available positions, ranging from gift shop, artifact cataloging, landscaping, and exhibit design! Aren't sure if you can dedicate volunteer times in your busy schedule? We also have lots of one-time volunteer opportunities available!

Programming Volunteers

Rachael Ramirez Nicola Danks Garret Lewis





HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

The mission of the Frankenmuth Historical
Association is to preserve, communicate, and
celebrate the heritage of the Franconian
communities and to promote a greater
appreciation for local, regional, national, and
world history among the residents of and visitors
to Frankenmuth.

40
Events Offered with
1,801
Attendees

\$50,375.45

Received in Support from the Saginaw County Millage

1,093
Cataloged Artifacts Added to our Collection

Over \$32,600
Received in Grant Funding

855 Local Students
Served

\$71,000 generously donated by supporters

964.5
hours spent
by our
dedicated
volunteers

13,693 Museum Admissions

59 Fischer Hall Rentals bringing in over \$14,000 of income



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT

ARTS

arts.gov



613 S. Main St. Frankenmuth, MI 48734 (989) 652-9701 frankenmuthmuseum.org



Save the Date!

As a member, you are invited to all of these upcoming events! Keep an eye on our Facebook page or website for updated information and more upcoming events!

All Access Tours - May 13, June 10, July 8, August 12, September 9 at 7pm, Frankenmuth Historical Museum

Go where no visitor has gone before! Check out the behind the scenes of a working museum, including artifact storage, exhibit cases, and more! A great adventure for the whole family!

Reservations are required.

\$10 for members, \$15 for non members

Town Hall Meeting - June 7 at 6pm, Fischer Hall

Come and sit in at an informative meeting that will detail our upcoming exhibit expansion. Help us sort through stories and artifacts and give your opinion on what we should share throughout our galleries!

FHA Member-Only Cook Out - July 9,12 - 2pm, Cross Park

For FHA Members, join us for a summertime cookout, fun, and fellowship at Cross Park. Keep an eye out for more information in your mailbox!

Pioneer Festival - August 20, Cross Park

Plan to attend our 2nd Annual Pioneer Festival! Games, tours, presentations, vendors, food, and fun!

You won't want to miss it!

\$10 per adult and \$5 per student

Paranormal Investigation - October 29, Frankenmuth Historical Museum

A question we get asked often - "Is the Museum haunted?" Come find out for yourself! Join in on a paranormal investigation with a professional group of ghost hunters and discover if the building is haunted and if artifacts speak to us. This event was sold out in 2021 so book your spot early!

38th Annual Auction - November 4 at 5pm, Bavarian Inn Lodge

Join us for the FHA's biggest fundraiser of the year! An amazing meal, drinks, games, silent, and live auction will make a night not easy to forget!

\$50 per person or \$300 for a table of 10

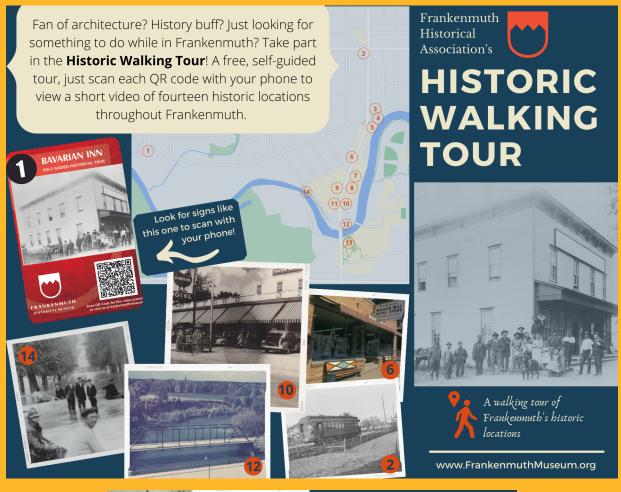
FHA Member-Only Christmas Cookie Exchange - December 15 at 5:30pm,

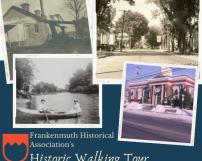
Fischer Hall

Back by popular demand! Bring a plate of homemade Christmas cookies and take a plate of new cookies home! Enjoy Christmas music and fellowship in our historic Fischer Hall.

As always, the Frankenmuth Historic Walking Tour is free & ongoing! Join in on the fun!

Released in 2021, the Frankenmuth Walking Tour is a free and accessible way for all to enjoy and learn about Frankenmuth history. Take a walk with your phone and learn about your hometown today!





Historic Walking Tour

- 1030 W. Tuscola St.
- The Station 100 100 S Main Street
- Frankenmuth Bank Building 335 S. Main Street
- Star of the West Milling Co. 121 E. Tuscola Street
- The Frankenmuth Brewery
- Frankenmuth Woolen Mill 570 S. Main Street
- Frankenmuth Chamber of Commerce

Frequently Asked Questions How much does this cost? NOTHING! This

Is there a guide or someone to talk to if I have a question along the way? The tour is self-guided, but if you have questions, please

Do the stops have to be done in order? No, feel free to visit them in whatever order you'd

Where can I get more information on the history of Frankenmuth? Visit the