

Firefighting is dangerous even as a volunteer firefighter I almost died twice. In a house fire when there was a hole burnt the floor and a red-hot furnace below and another time on top of Joe's bike shop in the dark next to burning Handy Hardware with red-hot beams and turpentine and paint cans exploding and they accidentally pointed the water stream on us and we had to hang onto the shingles to keep from falling into the exploding inferno.



Firefighters and police were often risk their lives for people who don't even appreciate it. Sometimes firefighters and police get attacked while risking their lives for someone else.

It is very important to have more than one good quality working smoke detectors in several places in your home. Also have a good quality CO alarm. Avoid natural Christmas trees as they dry out and easily burn and the fumes will kill you not the fire because they explode in flame very fast with little time to escape.



1961 fire run to Sunburst Norm Smith by engine. Wesley Arnold photographer with brownie Hawkeye camera.



Left Mike Grobbel and Alton Grobbel 1926 American LaFrance



David & Kathy Hanselman

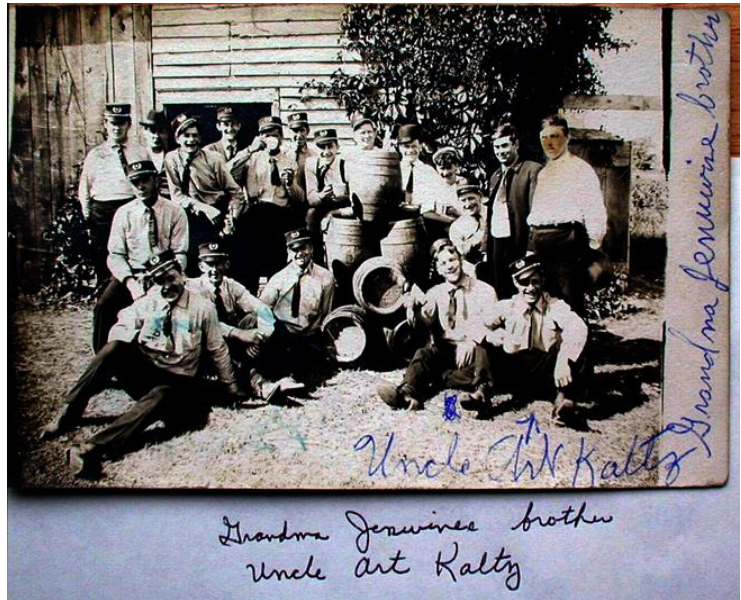


Above left. Chief Norman Smith, Andy Mowrey, R Hickson, Joe O'Lear, A Meduvsky, J Mainero, Art Anderson, H Gibson, A Kozlowski. Guv Swanson, W Desmone

QUALMAN BARN DESTROYED THERE WERE NO FIRE HYDRANTS OR 911 NO FAST TELEPHONE SERVICE, NO RADIOS. SOMETIMES JUST NEIGHBORS WITH BUCKETS



Wells in our area often get filled with natural gas which if not properly vented can lead to massive building explosions.



Modern times eventually caught up with Warren. The community even added state of the art firefighting equipment. That's Ernie Steffens with the fire department's 1935 edition of a fire truck.

There were no fire departments until the formed by villages. But they were next to useless until water mains with fire hydrants were activated. If the oil lamps or candles used for lighting caught the house or barn on fire all one could do was get out. Everything you had was destroyed. There were no phones. The Warren Volunteer Fire Dept was organized April 4, 1926, bought a Model T chassis and equipped it for firefighting. Later a second Model T was equipped with chemicals. Later a Ford V8 truck was added with a 350 gallon tank 2500 feet of hose, ladders, hand extinguishers, axes & suction pump. It was housed in an east addition to the township hall on Beebe Street. The Center Line Fire Dept began in Dec 1925 when the village approved the purchase of a 1926 American LaFrance fire engine. These engines had chemical tanks. Later pumps were added to pump water out of cisterns. Telephone service which went to Detroit and then to a small Warren telephone exchange not staffed at night. There was no dialing of numbers everything was done through operator on a party line system which may have 9 or more phones on one line. Often it took over an hour to get the call to the fire chief. Many homes and barns burnt to the ground in minutes before and after fire departments were started.

MARTIAL LAW AT 10 P.M. U.S. TROOPS MOVE IN

Gov. Kelly at 6 p. m. signed a proclamation declaring a state of martial law in Detroit. Military rule of the City will begin at 10 p. m. The streets were ordered cleared at that hour. The Governor's proclamation read:

I, Harry F. Kelly, governor of the State of Michigan and Commander in Chief of the military forces of the said State of Michigan, hereby declare a state of emergency and the necessity for the armed forces of the State of Michigan to aid and assist, but in no wise to interfere with the civil authorities in the execution of the law of the state.

The necessity for such aid and assistance is declared to extend to the following counties of the State of Michigan, namely: Wayne, Oakland and Macomb.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the great seal of the State of Michigan this Twenty-first Day of June, 1943.

HARRY F. KELLY,
 Governor

In addition Gov. Kelly prohibited the sale of all liquor until further notice. All places of amusement were ordered closed at 9 p. m. Monday.



**3 Years of Strife
 Behind Discards**

**Riot Foes
 Fraternize**

**Home-Front Slump
 Seen by Senators**

**Mobs Rove
 the City to
 Stir Trouble**

**11 Dead, 500 Hurt;
 Rioting Goes On**
 Looting and Violence Spread



Center Line Police Department
 See my archive for names



Need names will
 add when I get them



Chief Norman Smith



CONRAD J & GABRIEL
 WELSING



Sometimes mutual aid helped



Center Line City Hall Nativity Scene from
 Mike Grobbel



City of Center Line Fire Department 1970



Chief N. Smith



Sgt. W. Desmone



Sgt. J. O'Lear



Sgt. J. Mainero



A. Meduvsky



K. Garlow



A. Kozlowski



G. Swanson



R. Hickson



A. Anderson

— VOLUNTEERS —

Lt. V. Grobbel
Sgt. F. Rossio
Sgt. P. Gagne
W. Arnold me

J. Carbonneau
Sgt. N. Gregersen
J. Nawacki
T. Sullivan
A. Mowrey

L. Choike
B. Lambert
G. Schwartz
G. Verhulst
M. Labourier

J. Gafa
J. Mihelich
W. Clanton
M. Walters
J. Northrup

Here are a few pictures from my time as a volunteer fire fighter with the Center Line Fire Department and Center Line Goodfellow. I remember being woken up in the early morning hours by the alarm sounds on the fire radio. It had three loud tones. I got so used to responding quickly that I was usually half out of bed by the third tone. Then you had to listen for directions to the fire. We had lights and sirens on our cars but only used them when needed. Two fires stand out both of which I almost died in. The first was a house fire with a lot of smoke. We know that kids often hide in closets and under beds in a fire because they are frightened. Part of our job is to get them out before the smoke kills them. (Most people die from the smoke not the fire) Anyway I was inside the smoke filled house when my face mask fogged up. Now if you can't see anything you are blind. So I went back outside cleared the mask and reentered. I discovered that if I had taken one more step forward when my mask was fogged up that I would have fallen thru the burning floor onto the red hot oil furnace which was causing the house fire. Another time we were on top of Joe's Bike shop fighting the Big Handy Andy Hardware store fire. It was 3 AM in the morning. The sky was filled with smoke and it was dark. The roof beams just a few feet from me were red hot and twisting. Exploding paint and solvent cans were going off like bombs. The hoses at the top of three big ladder trucks were spraying towards the fire when one of them changed angle somehow and started spraying us and pushing us into the inferno. The operators couldn't see because of the smoke and darkness. We had to drop our hoses and hang on to the shingles for dear life for a few minutes to not get swept into the flames and red-hot twisting steel beams. The purpose here is not that I am pretending to be some kind of a hero and it is the same reason I wear my Veterans cap. I am not a hero but I had the honor of serving with some. I was just doing my job as a volunteer. My purpose is to say we should honor our firefighters and soldiers because they put their lives on the line. All gave some and some gave all. **Do have a 2 working smoke detectors and a CO detector and don't use natural Christmas trees** as they dry out easily and become fire bombs you cannot escape from. The fumes will kill you.



Left to Right Leo Grobbel, Nelson Zott, Dave Smith, Chief George Theut, Jacob Schneider, Mark Kunath, Harold Stilwell, Leo Schnoblen. Standing Joe Wiegand, Norbert Rinke, Tony Vohs, Edward Grobbel, Edw Schoenherr Jr, George Rinke, Paul Elwart, Nelson Giff Bert Grobbel. At Wheel Elmer Flechsigs and Clement Grobbel.



Above credit Mike Grobbel



Fire Department - 1961



When that screeching siren calls our fire-fighters to action, these are the men who will respond at any time of day or night. Standing in front of a most capable piece of equipment we find also capable regulars and volunteers flanking Chief Lyerla (white cap) left to right; Norman Desimone, John Radtke, James Mainero, Sgt. Richard Carney, Sgt. William Desmone, Lieut. Nelson Bruechaert, Chief Lyerla, Lieut. Ralph Reiterman, Sgt. Norman Smith, Sgt. Vincent Grobbel, Joseph O'Lear, Robert Widman, Gustino Sciotti, Guy Swanson; kneeling: Harold Helberg and Anthony Meduvsky.



The Warren Volunteer Fire Dept was organized April 4, 1926. It secured a Model T chassis and



equipped it for fire fighting. Later a second Model T was equipped with chemicals. Later a Ford V8 truck was added with a 350 gallon tank 2500 feet of hose, ladders, hand extinguishers, axes & suction pump. It



was housed in an east addition to the township hall on Beebe Street.

Thereafter individual pieces of equipment were added yearly.

Need information on people above. There is more on the DVD.

Warren FD Clowns do a lot of good.

Firemen risk their lives every day for us. Having been one I can say this job is risky and sometimes real tough. We owe them gratitude and respect.



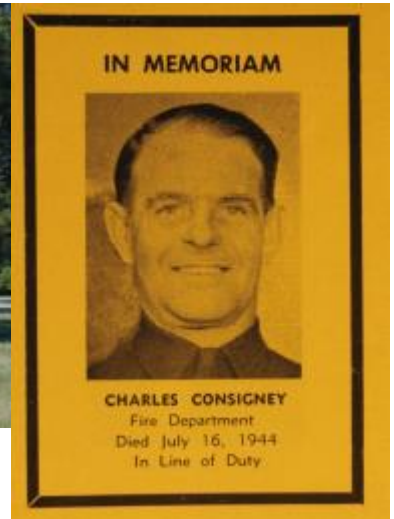
to Right: Joseph Sharp; Earl Hartsig; Chief, William Van Hulle; Supervisor, Earl Tallman; Chester Skarupski; Lawrence Dolsen; Charles Consigney.





Warren Fire Dept had 25 vehicles some shown here at Tech Plaza SS Kresge in background. 1961 Warren installed over 300 fire call boxes strategically located at schools, shopping centers and main intersections to provide direct communication to fire and police departments. The Green Acres shopping center and Pampa Lanes were two big fires. As more and more people got phones and because of a high volume of false alarms the boxes were discontinued in 1964. In the 1960s the WFD had about 109 employees.





Apparatus Building was built in 1929.

There was no fire department or police department for nearly all of the history of our area. Only since the forming of a village was there any fire protection and that was next to useless until water mains with fire hydrants were activated. Until that time if the oil lamps or candles used for lighting caught the house or barn on fire all one could do was get out and try to save a few valuables. Everything you had would be destroyed. And there was no insurance. There were no phones to call for help. There was a volunteer fire department in Warren of sorts since probably the 1850s. First it was just farmers who would bring buckets and rush to a fire by horseback when they saw smoke in the sky. The history of the Warren Volunteer Fire Department was not written down so is mostly lost. There may have been a portable pump which could pull water out of a well or pond and spray it on to a fire or compressed air tank with chemicals in the tank. The village hall was built in 1922 and a shed built next to it in 1925. The Official Warren Volunteer Fire Department was organized April 4, 1926. It secured a Model T chassis and equipped it for firefighting. Later a second Model T was equipped with chemicals. Later a Ford V8 truck was added with 350 gallon tank 2500 feet of hose, ladders, hand extinguishers, axes and suction pump. I am still looking for early records. In 1944 the Chief was George Shoop with Leo Roth, ND Eckstein, Floyd Rickabush, Peter Trombly, Ernie Steffens, Ray Lutz, Merton Lyons, Harold Squier, John Taylor, Don Cockerline and Howard Lyons. It was housed in an east addition to the township hall on Beebe Street in 1946. Where it was before is unclear, but in 1992 the fire department moved out of the Beebe Village hall. In 1938 Chrysler Corporation donated a truck chassis. This was taken to General Detroit Fire Truck Corporation at 2272 East Jefferson and fitted as a fire truck. It was delivered to Warren Township on February 25th, 1939 and stored at Charles Blazier's Service Station at 21708 Van Dyke. George Schimmel converted his old gas station at 22730 van Dyke into a fire station and leased it to Warren Township. On May 20th 1939 the fire truck was moved to this station and became fire station No 1. In 1939 Warren's first fire station was built. Vern Lumex and William Van Hulle were hired as fireman. They still had volunteer firefighters. The Warren Fire Department went from all volunteer to two full time firefighters to a high of 184 in 1980. On May 20th 1939 William Vanhulle was named Fire Chief and Vern Lumex was appointed Firefighter. Tenmen were assigned as volunteer firefighters by Township Supervisor William Strich. Training began on May 12st. On June 15th 1939 the fire station was officially open to serve all of Warren Township.

Two Warren firefighters have lost their lives. **CHARLES COGSIGNEY DIED 7/16/1944 Died in a barn fire.**

HENRY K MORAN 1942-1973 involved in a car accident. He suffered closed head injuries and had to be confined to a nursing home.

WARREN VILLAGE FIRE DEPARTMENT



Front Row, left to right: Leo W. Roth, John M. Taylor, George F. Shoop, Chief; Ernest J. Steffens, Don H. Cockerline, Floyd L. Rickabush.
Back Row, left to right: Clifford R. Cockerline, Merton A. Lyons, Raymond S. Lutz, Jack Eckstein.

In 1938 Chrysler Corporation donated a fire truck. In 1939 a fire hall was built next to the old township hall at Van Dyke and 11 Mile roads. Fire Station No 2 at 13360 Nine Mile Rd and Fire Station No 3 at 23630 Ryan were put in operation on September 7th, 1949. 1951 Van Dyke Fire Hall was built and two more fire halls were built. In 1955 the Nine Mile and Federal fire hall was built followed some time later by the fire hall on Twelve Mile Road by Common Road. The Ryan Station was built later.

William B. Burr was appointed the City of Warren's First fire Commissioner February 5th, 1957.





Standing from left to right: Walter Malan, Jim Ritchie, Lt. Larry Dolson, Chief William Van Hulle, Capt. Earl Hartig, Donald Cockerline and Adam Tengler. On truck from left to right: George Carls, Ray Brown, Oscar Behnke, Bob Wiley, and Melville Napper.

Below is young Ted Bates. Eleanor Bates remembers he got \$3.00 a call. The Village of Warren Volunteer Fire Department at 5961 Beebe St was put into operation as Station No 4 and 16 volunteer firefighters were given the position of regular paid firefighters On May 17th 1957. Station No 5 was dedicated On Oct 11th, 1958 in Honored memory of firefighter Charles Consigny of the Warren Township Fire Department who gave his life in the line of duty on July 16th, 1944. Station No 6 at 3090 Twelve Mile Rd was put in operation on February 1st, 1967. The new Fire Station No 3 on Ryan near Stevens replacing the earlier station at the same location, was put in operation on May 22nd, 1986. This was dedicated to the "First Chief William Van Hulle who served from 1939-1963. The new Station No 4. was put into operation in 1991 and dedicated to Assistant Chief Henry Moran (1942-1973). The new Station No 2 and Administration building at 23295 Schoenherr Rd were put into operation in 1991 and dedicated to Fire Chief William Vahhulle. Vern Lumex and William Van Hulle 1939 only two firemen. William Van Hulle was chief for a long time H Reineli Commissioner and C Cockerline Chief in 1967

Glenn E Thom was Fire Commissioner and Clifford Cockerline Chief 1972. James Ritchie Commissioner, Donald Soldenski Admin Chief, Harold Church Senior Asst Chief 1975 Tom Johnson. Bill Karpinski from Dec 26, 1985 - Dec 1, 1995. Frank Sucaet Chief 1985 - 1986 and William Karpinski Fire commissioner. Ray Shields from Feb 7, 1996 - Nov 23, 1998 Henry Gesing Dec 7, 1998- . Curtis Behnke Sep 23, 2000. Robert Vought Jan 14, 2004-Sept 11, 2008

Fire Commissioner Skip McAdams Oct 2008 - Present

Chiefs: Fire Chief David Frederick, Deputy Chief John Gary Wilkinson, Special Operations Chief Ken Sytefanski, EMS Chief Mark Schimanski, Battalion Chiefs, Unit 1 Donald Tharrett, Unit 2 Ken Meyer,

Unit 3 John Lovins, Fire Marshall Daniel Simpson.

Oh forgot to mention Young Ted eventually became a mayor of Warren.



THEODORE BATES

Warren Fire Chiefs



Fire Chief 1 William Vanhulle
May 20 1939 - Oct 24 1963



Fire Chief 2 Clifford Cockerline
10/24/63 02/10/75



Fire Chief 3 Donald Soldenski
2/10/75 - 4/16/82



Fire Chief 4 Harold Church
1/16/82 - 6/11/84



Fire Chief 5 Frank Sucaet
5/11/84 - 7/7/86



Fire Chief 6 John Smilnak
7/7/89 - 1/2/88



Fire Chief 7 George Reidt
1/16/88 - 8/8/93



Fire Chief 8 Ronald Malecki
8/8/93 - 8/18/96



Fire Chief 9 Douglas Knoblauch
8/18/96 - 8/17/98

Warren Fire Chiefs



Fire Chief 10 Louis Kingsley
Jr. 8/17/98 - 11/7/98



Fire Chief 11 John Getts
7/15/66 - 11/6/99



Fire Chief 12 Al Kane



Fire Chief 13 Richard Lessnau



Fire Chief 14 Casimir Koptek



Fire Chief 15 Ronald Kibzey

James Ritchie Commissioner, Donald Soldenski Admin Chief, Harold Church Senior Asst Chief 1975

Tom Johnson, Bill Karpinski from Dec 26, 1985 - Dec 1, 1995

Frank Sucaet Chief 1985 - 1986 and William Karpinski Fire commissioner

Ray Shields from Feb 7, 1996 - Nov 23, 1998

Henry Gesing Dec 7, 1998-? Curtis Behnke Sept 23, 2000

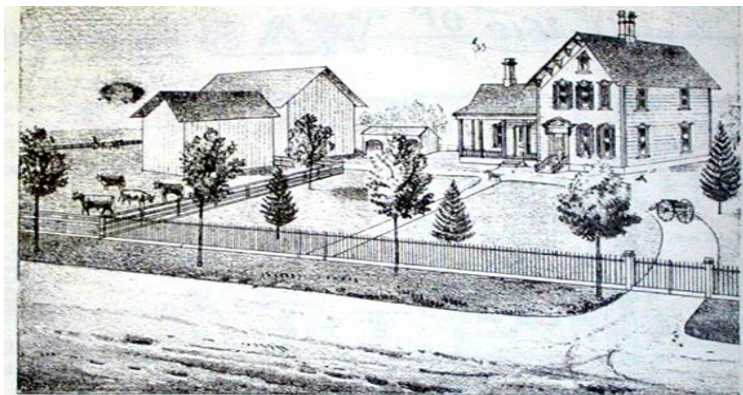
Fire Commissioner Robert Vought Jan 14, 2004 - Sept 11, 2008

Fire Commissioner Wilbert "Skip" McAdams Oct 2008

David Frederick Chief

Lawrence R. Speck Deputy Fire Chief

See Index for page numbers for later years.



RES. OF JOHN BEHRNS.
WARREN TWP. MACOMB CO. MICH.

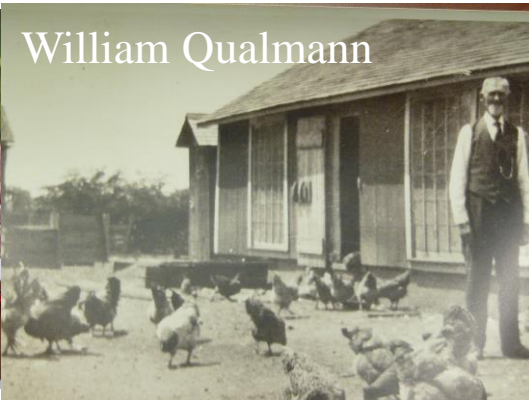


THE BEHRNS-QUALMANN FARMHOUSE

German immigrant Joachim Behrns (1808-1888) settled here in 1854. The one-story portion pre-dates 1856, with additions in 1861 and c. 1900. In 1902 son Henry Behrns (1849-1930) sold the farm to the family of his farmhand William Qualmann (1885-1983) who married Catherine Kutchey in 1908. Qualmann, a Justice of the Peace and Township Treasurer, later sold real estate. The 60-acre dairy farm reached north a half mile; produce was sold roadside and at Detroit's Eastern Market. The barns and silo burned, winter 1940. Chicken coop, smoke house and garage still stand.

Warren Historical Commission, 2009

William Qualmann



Bill, Katie, Ed & Rose



Tom Turmel
past owner,
Sandy, Ray
Stilwell present
owners



The first official land buyer was Charles Groesbeck in 1830 followed by Charles Rivard in 1831. Then Charles Rivard bought more land in 1833 and 1835. Fabian Rivard bought land in 1833 followed by Victoire Rivard in 1837. That is as far back as one can go unless you were an Indian tribe member. The Rivards were prominent in Center Line history as early settlers, farmers and operators of several businesses including a General Store, hardware store and Ford dealership. What you see here is just a little bit. Credit to Mike Grobbel for everything here except Buechel store. Credit Harold Stilwell for that.. He has much more on Rivards see his website at grobbel.org



This old building was once the 'trading post' over at Kunrod's Corner, State and Ten Mile Roads. Owned and run by John Buechel, it was moved to Van Dyke when the business section was growing along Van Dyke. It received a new outer coating of red bricks, and provided living quarters for the Buechel's family upstairs. Later purchased by Aurelius Rivard. He ran the grocery store, rented the upstairs until purchased by St. Clement Church. It was demolished in 1959 and with it went one of Center Line early buildings.



Rivards from Mike Grobbel collection



Pictures from Mike
Grobbel collection.
Visit grobbel.org for
more



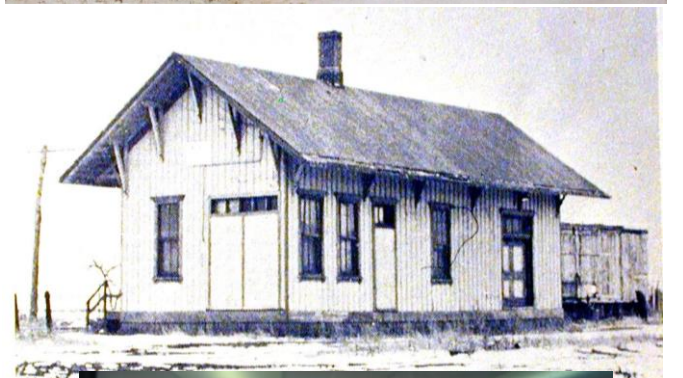
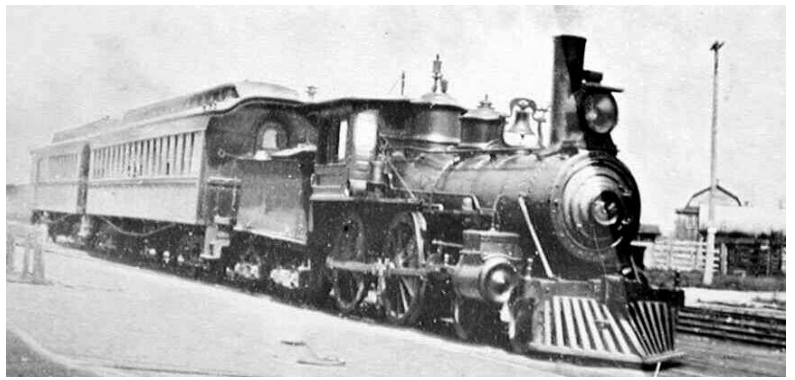
Leviathan

In 1868 the Central Pacific Railroad purchased four locomotives from the Schenectady Locomotive Works. They were; The Jupiter #60, The Storm #61, The Whirlwind #62 and the Leviathan #63.



This was a typical wood burning locomotive used in the 1800s before the supply lines for coal was set up. Years later diesel oil fueled locomotives were found to be more efficient and less labor intensive. This particular engine is shown as an example of a wood burner and did not regularly run here. It did visit our area a few years ago.

The state road (now Sherwood) was dirt which became at times seas of mud or axle breaking holes. So businessmen in Detroit built a wood rail, railroad in the 1840s. Later the wood rails were covered with iron strips. The first cars were horse drawn. The Detroit to Bay City railroad opened for traffic in Oct 1872. The Warren Station was at 10 Mile road, was first called Groesbeck, The Spinnings Station was at 14 mile road. Oakwood Station was at Chicago Road. The Grand Trunk on the east from Detroit to Port Huron went thru Warren in 1859. Thomas Edison was a newsboy and candy seller on this line. Steam tractors had wide use from 1880-1918.



Trains went to thousands of places.
Relaxing ride, rest rooms, food served.

Called the Daylight 4449
American Freedom Train

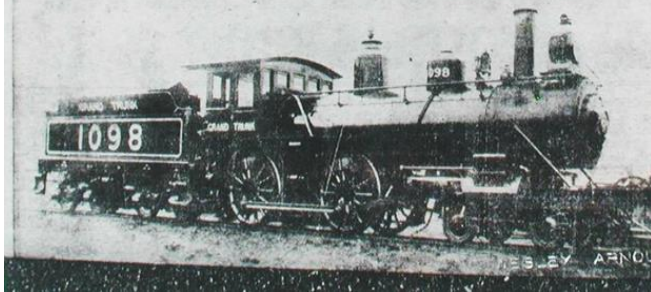


Sight Seeing
Dome Car



Diesel Locomotive

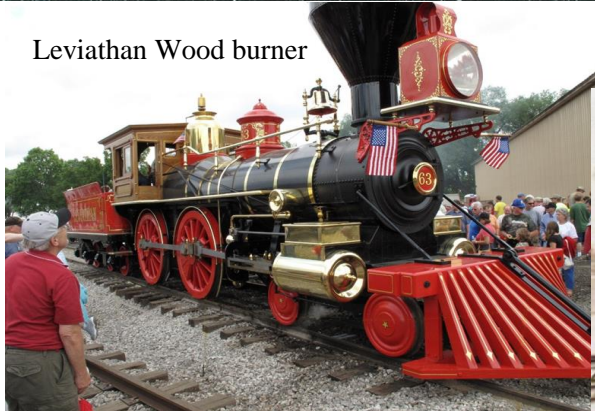
Coal burner



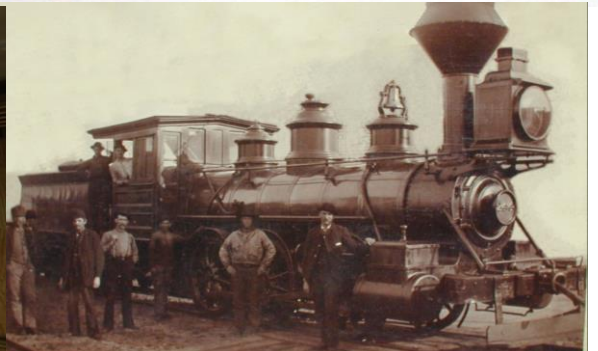
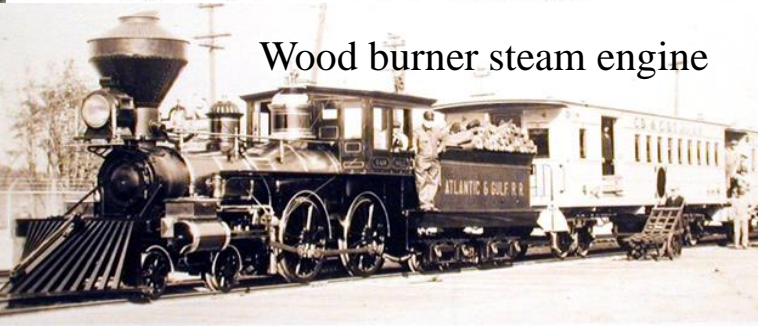
Train travel is best.
Walk to dining,
lounge, sleeping,
dome, snack cars
Enjoy beautiful
changing scenery



Leviathan Wood burner



Wood burner steam engine



Much historic travel was done by what is still considered the best and most relaxing travel vehicle the train. It is still the best because a person can relax and enjoy the scenery, use the restroom anytime, walk around, visit the sight seeing dome car or snack car or dining car Or even go to sleep in his own bed in a private room. There are no long security lines to go thru to board the train and trips are seldom canceled due to weather. Just lay back and enjoy the scenery or read or watch a video.





Train travel is the relaxing way to go. Nice ever-changing scenery, Dining Cars, Lounge Cars, snacks, Dome Cars, Private Bedroom Lounge Cars with private rest rooms, Good company.

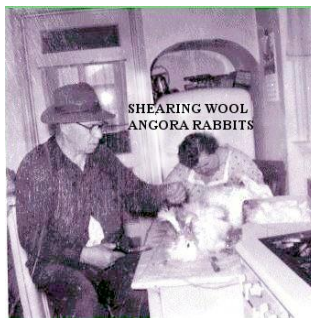
1920s-1940s

For several years after the WWI things were hard to get. Building slowed down. This war was followed by a great depression from 1929-41. Some sources say the bankers actually caused the depression. The average family was hard hit by this. Families had trouble buying necessities such as food because of lack of income which was not their fault. Warren had 60% unemployment per Harold Stilwell. People were glad to get \$5 a week. People sold apples on street corners. People had to do without. People did what they had to do to survive. Many were homeless. President Roosevelt instituted programs like Work Projects Administration WPA providing public jobs. Many people benefited from these. In 1930 Birdseye marketed frozen foods. Movie industry peaked 1930-45. The Liberty^[75] Theater opened in Center Line with a \$8,000 organ. Some families raised chickens, turkeys and rabbits (chickens and rabbits eat most anything including insects, table scraps, weeds). Families had their own small crops of corn, beans, onions, berries, vegetables also fruit and nut trees. Most farms had windmills to pump water. Many people had their own wells. Water quality was good, but with^[76] increasing crowded conditions it was safer to use water from the village water system. Local grown food is better and safer and costs less than imported food. Fish can be grown in small ponds. People learned to be self sufficient. Wood stoves were labor intensive with free cooking, heating if there was source for free wood. It has been said that a more country environment was better for kids to grow up in rather than urban as hostile urban cement, smog, traffic, overcrowding and the increased artificiality of life away from nature and the reality of where food comes from, is not as friendly and nourishing as life in the country.

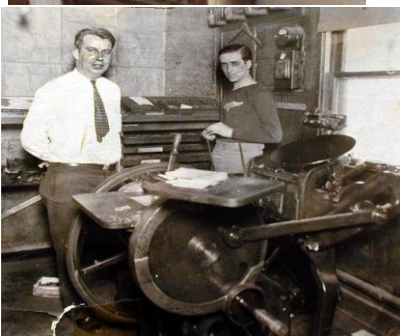
The ice man would come by every couple of days. The kids loved him as he would offer little pieces of ice to them. (Great in the summer). In Center Line our guy just had a wagon and a canvas tarp over the ice. In the country people had ice houses which was usually a slightly underground hut insulated with sawdust. In the winter people would go to lakes and cut ice to fill an ice hut. This was necessary as there were no refrigerators until the 1940s. A lot of children and even adults died of summer complaint a condition causing diarrhea caused by spoiled milk. There was no trash pickup. You burned or buried what you did not use. Below Cutting Ice, Tongs, Ice man.



Cutting ice on lake, ice tools, saws tongs, ice horse shoes. Ice box, Ice man.



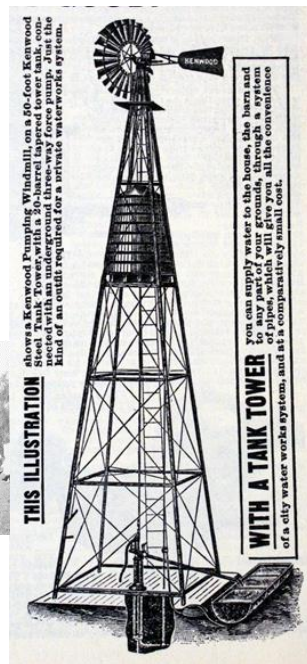
Before electric lights the oil lantern was the portable light of choice as it was safer than most other lights.



Harold Stilwell was a printer and publisher



Published
Warren Review



Our Victrola was a wind up record player using no electricity. It played loud enough to be well heard. Kids had extra fun adjusting the speed making voices higher or lower. ^[77]





Center Line Soldier Captures Nazi Tank

CENTER LINE—For courage and bravery exemplified during combat in Germany when he single-handedly captured a German Mark V tank, Sgt. Donald R. Wilson of 8176 Central Avenue has been awarded the Silver Star.

Serving with the 83rd Armored division, Sgt. Wilson who was attacking with a small group of soldiers saw the German tank advancing on another column of Yanks.

Out of view of the Mark V tank, Sgt. Wilson sprang forward, jumped up on the tank and threw open the hatch. He grabbed the commander of the tank and pulled him from the Mark V and his comrades who had followed him soon had the situation well under control.



'You go to help the wounded and you don't stop to think about it'

[80]

Warren man served as a medic on the battlefields of Europe.

By Tom Watts Staff Writer

George Schultz admits he never had time to think about it. If you did, you probably died. "They needed medical doctors on the front line, not medics. It was one or the other."

Schultz remembers the Japanese trainees he trained before being shipped to the main beach with the 28th Division Group.

"The army would teach you how to wrap a wound with some bandages and splints," Schultz said. "But the wounds I encountered were more serious than that. They needed medical doctors on the front line, not medics. It was one or the other."

A mortar shell had just landed between the legs of an American soldier. The soldier's legs and arms were blown off, but he was still breathing.

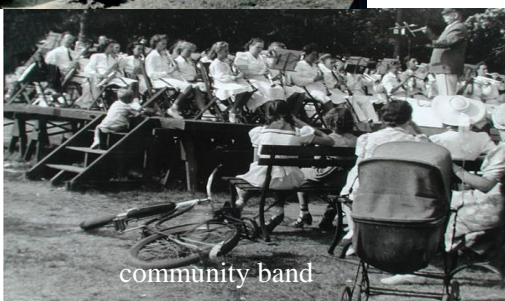
"I checked his leg and there was a hole. I had known from the back behind me where I grew up in Detroit," Schultz said. "I grew up with the leg. The player together. He was alive."



[78]

Is this photo: With many very best wishes for you. 4/4/4.

Wells: Received upon little requesting a photo. She said I have in this little note is not very long but hope it serves the purpose. The best to you. Sincerely, Peggy Alford



RYAN RIDING STABLES

Under New Management
Erwin and Ruth, Proprietors

Horse Back Riding, \$1.00 an hour on week days, \$1.50 an hour on Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays.

Horses Rented and Boarded
Hay and Sleigh Rides
RYAN and 9 MILE ROAD



Celebrating the USO

Join the Blue Star Mothers at One of The Last 6 Original, Historical USO Buildings in the United States for a Night of USO Memories.

Dust off those uniforms, polish up those shoes and join us. Dance to the music from the 40's 50's and 60's. Featuring the sounds of the Rhythms Band



A BASIC MILEAGE RATION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
OFFICE OF PRICE ADMINISTRATION

NAME OF REGISTERED OWNER: Marion Halmsick

CITY AND STATE: 60603 Chicago, Ill.

LICENSE NO. AND STATE: 41529 HI

YEAR MODEL AND MAKE: 1954 Ford

Holder must fill in any blank spaces above before the first purchase of gasoline.

The USA was attacked. Thousands died. The Japanese killed and tortured POWs and innocent civilians needlessly. The Japanese forced over 200,000 into cruel slavery. There were shortages in the US. Peacetime production shifted to war production. We went from producing cars to tanks. After the war riding stables were popular but because of the rise of attorneys pushing lawsuits, riding stables were put out of business by the high cost of insurance. We suffer today by the high cost of attorneys especially in our auto insurance, and unnecessary legation.



We were
attacked
thousands
died.
Many
suffered.^[81]



World War II 1937-1946. 404,997 Americans were killed, 15,000 from Michigan (John Kern 57) The Detroit Arsenal in Warren built 36,000 tanks. Hydromatic built ship guns. There was great need for workers at these plants and a big shortage of housing and schools. The Germans and Japanese abused & killed innocent people and our POWs. They would starve^[82] prisoners to death while making them work. They would cut people open in the abdomen and leave them for days to die a slow death. They used innocent civilians for bayonet practice. There is no excuse for humans to treat others with cruelty. We must have a code of human conduct. Humans must be Humane and cause no harm by their actions or inaction.

Warren became urbanized by the tremendous population growth and industry. We built schools, roads water mains and drains and a sewage treatment plant. There were so many people brought in and moving here that there was no place for them to be housed. The government took over land, created jobs, put in temporary housing and built schools then paid the people to work in the tank plant. Many males went to war & many women went to work in the factories and did outstanding work. Prisoners of war were seriously over-abused and^[83] 300,000 civilians were murdered by the Japanese. Read about the 200,000 Rapes in Nanking by the Japanese.

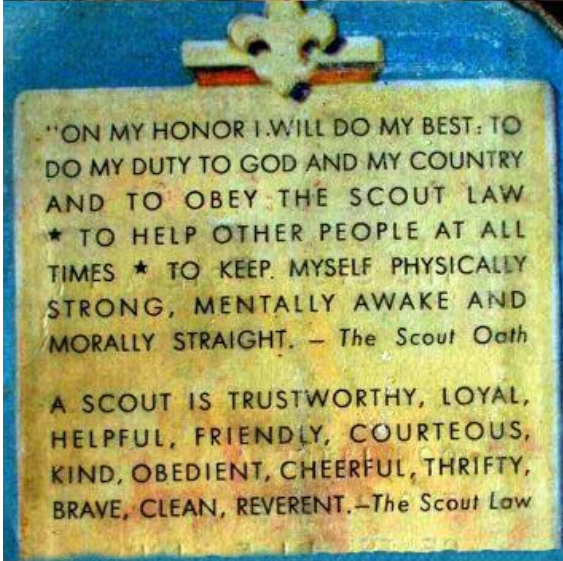
Victory school built of block with tile walls near the beautiful Ellis school. Kramer school was added to the redwood Kramer homes housing project. Later residents bought out the government homes and formed Kramer Homes Cooperative.^[84]

The GM Tech Center began in the late 1940s and many industries were started. Television broadcasting began March 4, 1947 by WWDT TV to the 2500 TV sets in Detroit area.^[85] Almost every family worked and easily bought a car. With TV social and community alienation began. The number of bars surpassed the number of churches. Crime was low because most everyone worked, pulled their own weight and were raised to be responsible for their actions and they were. In 1950 **Warren** became a charter township. Population was about 43,000. It **became a City on Jan 1, 1957**. Garbage collection started in 1953. Gerald Neil stated about Warren "During the early 1950's it became known as the largest, most heavily^[86] populated, and **wealthiest township in the United States.**" The farmer's fields were almost all gone. Horses gone. Livestock was banned. But the automotive industry and related sub industries like Tool and Die shops sprung up all over.^[87]



Blimps called rubber cows protected the locks in Sault Ste Marie with chains.





Scouting

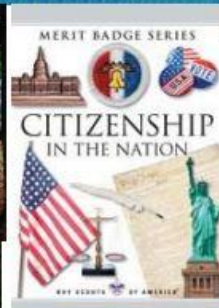
Teaches Good Morals
Leadership
Success
Survival

something that is missing
in many families today.

And there are many
scholarships
for Eagle Scouts.

We need civic groups and churches to sponsor scout
troops in your area so boys and girls get this
wonderful opportunity to learn and grow.

Scouts are trained to save lives. Do your children
know what to do if the little one gets into poison, or
is choking.



Scouts learn to cook,
Make bread on a stick.



Make fire without matches
Find directions by stars.
They learn to survive.

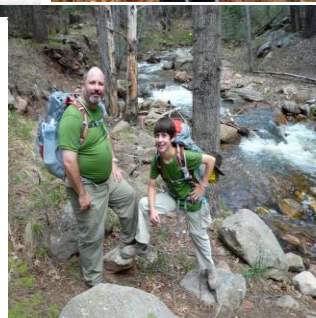
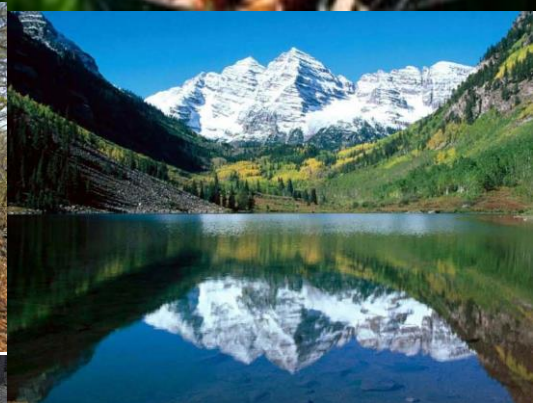
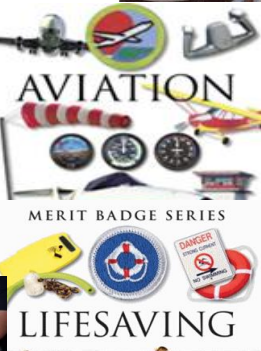
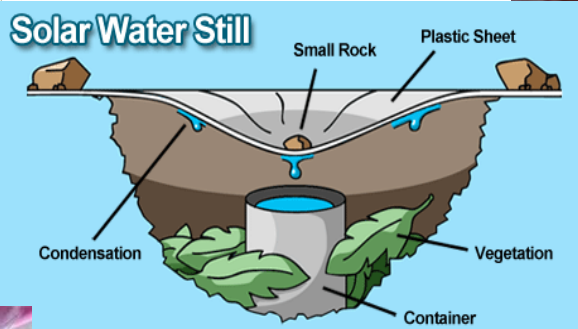
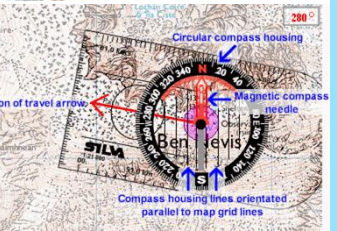


Scouting Teaches
Good Morals, Leadership
Success, Survival
something that is missing
in many families today.
And there are many
scholarships

for Eagle Scouts.



We need civic groups and churches to
sponsor scout troops in your area so
boys and girls get this wonderful
opportunity to learn and grow.
Scouts are trained to save lives.
Use map and compass, build fire
Get water from a bag and pop bottle
learn to cook and survive outdoors



**We have the resources to
provide everyone with
ample clothing, food,
shelter, medical care and
education so do it now.
Quit the excuses.**

**HUMANS MUST BE HUMANE
CAUSE NO HARM BY ACTIONS OR INACTION
HURTING OTHERS IS NO LONGER
ACCEPTABLE TODAY
DEMAND RESPONSIBLE
BEHAVIOR FROM EVERYONE
MAKE IT THE HUMAN WAY and LAW
Enforce law to protect all**

Kindness is like ice cream...
it's basically the solution to all
the world's problems.

Wisdom



Be
happy



IN MEMORY OF
THE VICTIMS OF
SEPTEMBER 11, 2001
FOR THEY ARE
VETERANS OF WAR

Lessons of History
**TOO MANY PEOPLE HAVE BEEN KILLED
NEEDLESSLY**
**HUMANS BEING HUMANE AND SCIENCE
GIVE THE MOST BENEFITS TO MANKIND**
**WISE PLANNING & MANAGEMENT PROVIDES
BENEFITS FOR ALL**
**THE WISEST ACTION IS TO DO THE MOST
GOOD FOR ALL,
BUT DO NOT CAUSE HARM BY YOUR
ACTIONS OR INACTION.**



**ONE PERSON
CAN MAKE A
DIFFERENCE,
AND EVERYONE
SHOULD TRY**
-JOHN F. KENNEDY-

“The noblest
question in
the world is
What Good
may I do
in it?”
~
Benjamin Franklin



THIS IS THE
BEGINNING OF A NEW DAY.
GOD HAS GIVEN ME
THIS DAY TO USE AS I WILL.
I CAN WASTE IT OR USE IT
FOR SOME GOOD PURPOSE
BUT WHAT I DO WITH THIS DAY
IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE
I HAVE EXCHANGED ONE DAY
OF MY LIFE FOR IT.
WHEN TOMORROW COMES,
TODAY WILL BE GONE FOREVER
I HOPE I WILL NOT REGRET THE
PRICE I PAID FOR IT

**44 Completely New
DELUXE UNITS**

AIR CONDITIONED
RADIANT HEATED FLOORS
ALL TILE SHOWERS & TUBS
COLOR TV & RADIO
KITCHENETTES WITH
REFRIGERATORS AVAILABLE
UNSURPASSED SERVICE

**MOTEL
BELLA**
AIR CONDITIONED
VACANCY
TELEPHONES

AAA

17 0. M. TECH
CENTER

13 MILE

CHRYSLER
TANK ARSENAL

12 MILE

CHRYSLER
TRAINING CENTER

11 MILE

BELLA

10 MILE

26251 Van Dyke

Call: **SL 8-1681**

Police Station N.W. Corner of Dodge & Memphis c.1952



L-R front row:

Albert Carrier, Clyde Mooneyham, Vincent Romano, Michael Helmlinger, Vincent Wojciechowski, Robert Wilson, Raymond Uritescu, Frederick Maletta, Howerd Galeener, Alvin Akers, Gordon Rabideau

L-R back row:

Irvin Little Jr., John Spence, Ronald Pattison, Richard Fewer, Leonard Sikorski, Robert Galvin, Anthony Lipski, Walter O'Bee, John Connors, Anthony Winters, Charlie Rains, Irvan Welch, Alex Lupan, Gordon Tullock, William Hawes, Louis Buckner

Warren first station 2nd right 2nd, 3rd station 3rd, 4th & 5th below



The New York Times accurately proclaimed that Detroit was the "Rum Capital of the Nation" and that liquor trafficking was Michigan's second leading industry. (Lawrence E. Ziewacz 228)

Warren and Center Line often had more bars than churches. We need our police officers. Having been one I can tell you it is not easy or for cowards. We owe them our gratitude and respect as they put their lives on the line daily. When you call that can be for you





Warren's Oldest Indian and Pioneer Cemetery was used for fill dirt.

In the 1800s there were no grave stone makers in Warren There were no funeral homes. The body was laid out at the family home for friends to see. Sometimes a coffin was constructed but that depended if there were planks available and someone who had a saw and was skilled enough to make one. Many were buried without a casket or marker on the farm as there were few cemeteries around. Families often did not have money to pay for a cemetery lot. Often several family members died within a short time due to diseases we now have cures for such as scarlet fever, cholera, diphtheria, typhoid fever, small pox, etc. Both the 1854 St Clement and 1845 Warren Union cemeteries appear to be preceded by the Bidell-GreenWeier Indian Cemetery but no one knows and it is not important. This was located west of Bunert and North of Martin. Here is a foto. During construction of Briarwood School a skull and other human bones were discovered. (Per Tri City Progress 4 14-1967) In May of 1969 children playing in the school playground discovered more human remains. Imagine the look of shock on the teachers face when they brought the remains into the classroom. One contractor dug a load of dirt for fill dirt and dropped it off on someone's property. **The homeowner receiving the fill dirt saw human remains** and called the police who contacted the contractor. Imagine asking for fill dirt and getting human remains dropped off in your driveway. The funeral director William Duross told historian Wesley Arnold that Theuts, Greens, Hessels, and Schoenhers were probably buried there. So it was for sure a pioneer cemetery. He removed around 40 remains which were placed in three cement vaults and buried in the Mt Clemens Clinton Grove Cemetery.

Mt Olivet (opened in 1888) down Van Dyke, Mt. Elliott opened in 1841 but to farmers in Warren village that was a long trek with wagons especially if the weather was bad or in the Winter. The St Clement Cemetery is located on Engleman east of Van Dyke. The first known recorded burial was in 1854. Staff members of many cemeteries have stated and records show 451 child and 299 adult burials before 1898 of which only 28 markers now show a child burial. That gives a ratio of 1.5 child burials for each adult. There were 17 scattered years when there were about twice the children buried than adults. 5 years had about three times the child burials. One year had 12 times and one year 4 times. This is from their records and is verifiable. The biggest problem was that records were not kept.

Warren Township had four cemeteries Warren Union, St Clement and Bidel-Green-Bunert-Indian near Bunert and Martin. Bidel ended up in a school yard with children digging up remains and human remains being dumped as fill dirt. Wesley Arnold has written 16 books about above three cemeteries. Detroit Memorial Cemetery with mostly Detroit residents came later. The old cemeteries have some interesting epitaphs: **Behold and see as you pass by, As you are now so once was I, As I am now you soon will be, Prepare thyself to follow me. Use time wisely waste it not, As soon this to Will be your lot.** This could be at Brookside Cemetery. I have indexed 7 cemeteries.

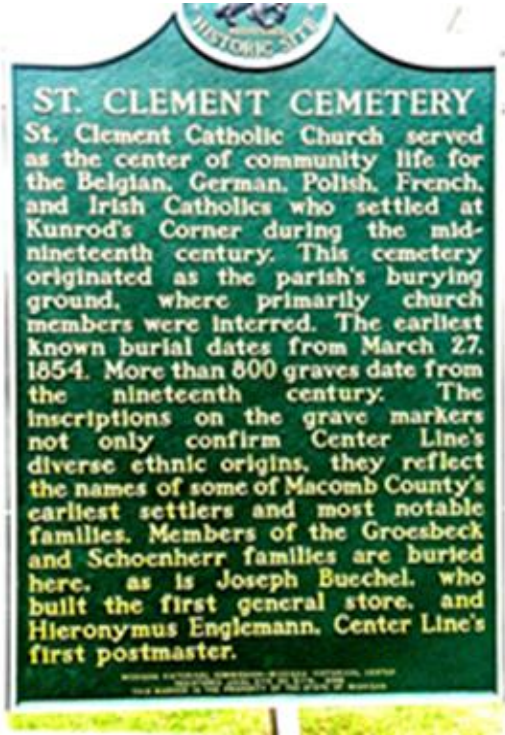
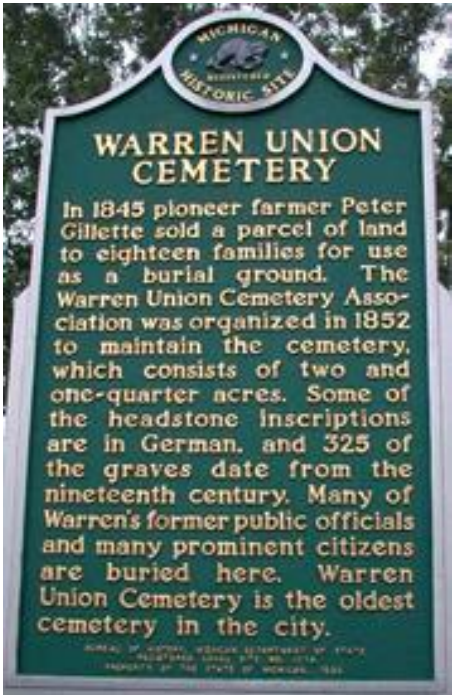
Morehead Charles Adair 1865 age 24 inscription unreadable now, but it may have said **Do good while there is still time before it is too late.**

Denison David A W 8m **GONE SO SOON**
Hope is the guiding star, that lights the path of all.

Be thankful for what you got “Life”
Died from creating a text message while driving.

Tomorrow is the most important thing in life It puts itself in our hands and hopes we've learned something from yesterday.
See the archive for more.

There were no Police officers for most of the history of this area. It was rule by brute force. In 1818 when Macomb County was formed an office of sheriff was created. He had under him depute justices of the peace and locally elected constables who assisted the Sheriff. In the early 1920s the Sheriff established a Warren branch office with one and sometimes two regular officers and a few special deputies. In April 1927 the Town board appointed Ray Bush as Township Officer to work with the Sheriff's deputies. In 1937 Max Bookout and George Collins were appointed as our first Policemen at \$175 per month. Collins was appointed as Warren's first Police Chief. At first they did not even have an office or station. A shed was used as a jail. Detroit Edison began putting in electricity in the early 1900s. By 1922 there was a Radio in most homes and 7 Michigan stations. Telephone service began around 1920 but was not in all areas. Sewers were put in. Natural gas service arrived in the late 1920's. In 1928 water service from Detroit was started in Warren. Most of the growth area was in southern Warren south of Eleven Mile road. **Center Line wanting a fire department, water and sewers voted to become a village in 1925 and a city in 1936.** The area went from rural to urban with a huge growth in population.



Historic marker dedication and honor guard St Clement Cemetery entrance view



UNKNOWN SOLDIER

Actual words that were on the granite stone as it was stolen from his grave before I could get a picture of it. He was known at time of death but the name is lost but could have been preserved if the historical societies had been more diligent in preserving history. Warren Union Cemetery is one of many older cemeteries which have many unmarked graves. Many of the old stones have crumbled. There are actually hundreds of stillborn, and other children buried here. Child & infant mortality rates were high. Before 1917 there were many more child burials than adult burials. Our sister cemetery shows almost 2 child burials per adult burial. Only a small percentage of pre-WWII child deaths were even recorded. Pioneers were farmers and did not have money to buy markers and there were no local stone cutters. This cemetery was mostly filed up before WWII. At least 10 memorials have been stolen by grave robbers including: the beautiful Unknown Soldier Memorial, and also the only memorial which named Warren area soldiers buried here, a Children's and Pioneer memorial and even an epitaph stone ripped off of a grave. We veterans feel our soldiers have been disrespected. The grave robbers have stolen the only stone with our soldier's names, legacy and history needed to educate our young people (who are no longer taught our history in school) and the grave robbers dishonored hundreds of children who died painful deaths when they stole the Children's Memorial. Soldiers fought and died.(some were only 19) Don't they at least deserve to have their name on a stone in their hometown. That was the only stone that had their names on it for future generations to see. We veterans feel it is wrong to steal gravestones they don't own from a grave they don't own from a cemetery they don't own. We veterans feel it is wrong to steal the legacy of our boys who gave their lives for us. WWJ News, police reports indicated vigilantes were behind the grave robberies not the Historical Society, Village or Historic Commissions) None of those groups stood up to the vigilantes. Only one old Veteran had the courage to stand up against these grave robbers in public meetings and in books that was Professor Wesley E. Arnold.



Historian Professor Wesley Arnold spent years doing research on Warren Union Cemetery, St Clement Cemetery and others writing books on them all available to you for free.

He created a Free Comprehensive Educational Historic Archive which now has estimated 30,000 pictures and 30,000 pages and is growing and already has been accepted with high praises in several University libraries, local libraries and State Archives, by Library of Congress. All published and given out for free. Visit

<http://warrenhistory.fyi>
or <http://wiseuseful.fyi>

Below is St Clement Cemetery





Spring at Warren Union Cemetery and some of the 100s of plants/trees that Tom Turmel has planted and nursed along over thirty years are blooming. I will be giving free walking tours, but first I have to fill multiple big groundhog holes, so people do not get hurt. I am also planting clover in effort to eliminate need for mowing as stones keep being damaged by mowers. Also am doing minor fence repair. I was a long-time caretaker for St Paul, thought city would maintain decently but they have failed for years causing severe damage by huge overgrown grape vines which pulled down fence in several areas. They failed to cut trees damaging fence. 180 years of neglect stones down on ground allowed to disintegrate instead of being maintained. Volunteers are discouraged, valuable trees and plants butchered by blight squad but they refuse to cut the big dead tree crushing the back fence. Incompetence and neglect by city leaders inexcusable and disrespectful to our pioneers and veterans. Shameful. Not being negative just stating the sad facts. So this 82 year old veteran has cut all of the big grape vines and cleared all fences over many days. The directors of Parks and recreation and Public Works should cooperate to maintain this Cemetery and make necessary repairs. Just the facts.

The Unknown Soldier of Warren Union Cemetery

Back in 1938 The Detroit Society for Genealogical Research did a detailed walk thru of Warren Union Cemetery. They noted that a flag indicating a soldier's grave was located in strip 20 and in the fifth plot. This is now located to the North of the Davy plot and to the West of the Heartsig plot of strip 21. As a historian researcher I had been told by several, that there was an unknown soldier at Warren Union Cemetery.

The soldier buried there was not an unknown soldier at the time of burial. He certainly, is now because no one alive knows. Even the record of the entire family was destroyed in a flood that wiped out the records held in the church basement. Because the family was too poor no stone with a name was made. We should honor our soldiers because: First we soldiers had the guts to stand up and defend our freedoms for ourselves and our children and you. If we had not come forth and risked our lives you would be speaking German now and not enjoying the freedom we now have. Have those gutless cowards who don't think soldiers should be honored ever saw one of their friends killed by an enemy, or had to pick up his body parts and put them into a body bag, or accompany his casket home and be there with his family, or been shot at, or suffered the pain, suffering and horror and hell of war? Then how lucky you are and it is because of us soldiers who fought for you.







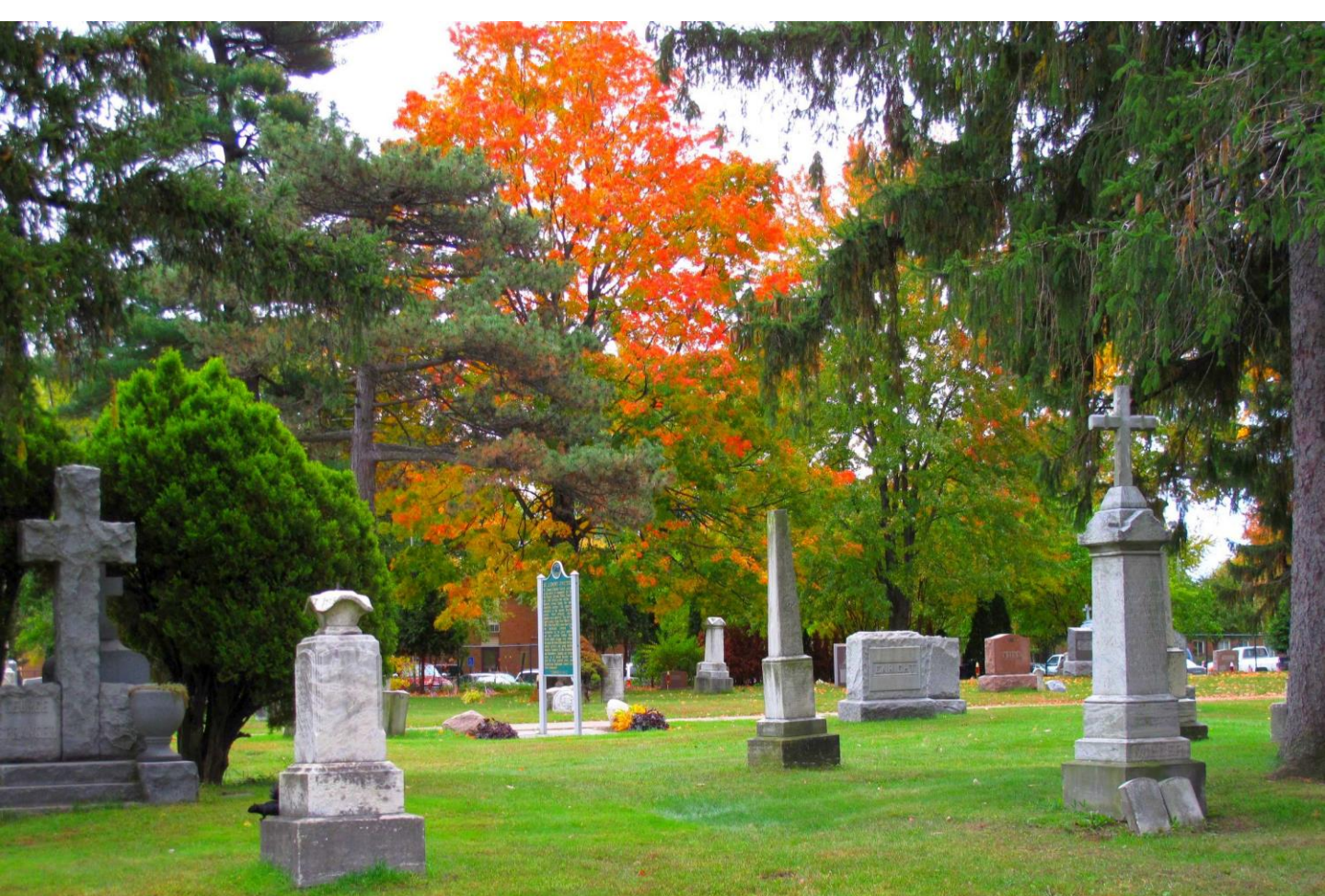
There is an outstanding volunteer who has labored here since about 1997. He is Tom Turmel. He took weed covered grounds with very few trees and planted grass, added colorful trees, shrubs and flowers. The beauty you see is his work. Many pioneer, pauper, baby and child graves were never marked with an engraved stone. Older cemeteries in Michigan have many unmarked graves often more than surviving stones indicate. Even today stillborn and day old baby graves are seldom marked. The child and infant mortality rate was high. Before 1917 there were many more child burials than adult burials. Our sister cemetery shows almost 2 child burials per adult burial. Only a small percentage of child deaths were even recorded back then. Also our pioneers did not have money to buy markers and there were no monument makers nearby. Most of the adult pioneer graves are unmarked. The older part of Warren Union Cemetery was considered full before WWII. Families had and buy plots elsewhere. At least eight memorials have been stolen by grave robbers Including: the only memorial which named Warren area soldiers buried here; and the beautiful Unknown Soldier memorial; and the memorial honoring all veterans and victims killed in attacks on our country; and The Children's and Pioneer Memorial honoring the many who have no marker: and an epitaph stone ripped off of a grave; and also one telling what our flag stood for. We veterans feel our soldiers and victims of attacks have been disrespected. The grave robbers have stolen our soldiers and country's history needed to educate our young people who are no longer taught our history in school and dishonored hundreds of children who died painful deaths.

At right Wonderful Master Gardener Tom Turmel
Who without any pay changed the weed infested
Warren Union Cemetery into a place of great beauty.





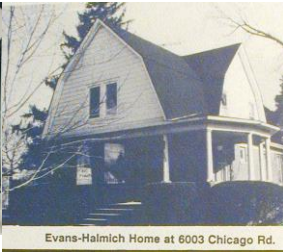




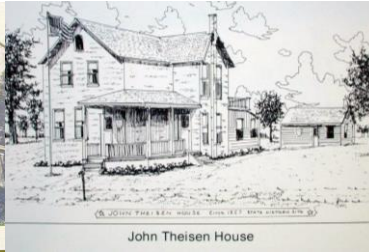
Many historic buildings are shown previous pages. Here are a few of the oldest homes..



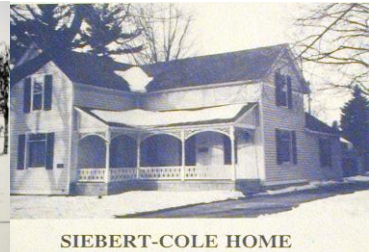
Hord House was Elliot
Funeral home



Evans-Halmich Home at 6003 Chicago Rd.



John Theisen House



SIEBERT-COLE HOME
31671 SEVENTH STREET
WARREN VILLAGE

Theisen House



Gillett House



Dr. Flynn House



Joiner House



Theisen Homestead

I need help on these.

I requested help on these from Warren Historical Society a year ago still no help from them.



Village View Peck Farm





Some of what first pioneers saw is visible around Bear Creek today. The best use of this wilderness is to make it into our nature center for our children as it is already useless unsellable “wetland” and it has Warren’s biggest most historic mansion which would be the perfect nature center building.

Welcome to what could be Warren's magnificent walkable Health and Nature Center surrounded by small shops and affordable housing.









Photo by Erin Rosta

The Osowski Estate, at Mound Road and 12 Mile in Warren, was built in 1935 by Dr. Felix A. Osowski.

Efforts being made to save historic home

By JENNIFER SAKEY
C & G Staff Writer

Barely visible behind a line of trees at Mound Road and 12 Mile sits a piece of local history that may be destroyed.

The Osowski Estate, a 3,300-square-foot Tudor mansion built in 1936, may be torn down if a buyer is not found who can renovate it and use it commercially. Local

said preservationist Patricia Hallman of Shelby Township.

Hallman first became aware of the house when her friend, Tom Turmel of Warren, saw a rezoning sign on the house's property and began attending Planning Commission meetings to learn more about the future of the site. He found that the property was the

light industrial use.

Hallman then decided to do research on the house and became fascinated with its history.

She learned that the home's original owner, Dr. Felix A. Osowski, was from a successful Polish-American family. He was a doctor and surgeon for 34 years in Detroit and had a wife and three





**Bear Creek at left goes thru GM Tech Center
above**



Young's Garden Mart & Christmas Fantasy 27825 Ryan Rd. The Young family began farming in Warren in 1923. They grew crops and trucked them out to farmers markets. They were ahead of their time when they built a greenhouse in 1924. This enabled them to offer more plants earlier and later. They built a retail store here in 1957. There was a man in Warren who was raising the ire of neighbors due to his desire to make big Christmas decorations causing much traffic in his neighborhood. Youngs solved that problem and benefited from the increased traffic at their business on Ryan in 1985. They^[108] expanded the Christmas decorations adding a Santa Castle making their store into a Christmas Fantasy land complete with Santa hearing children's requests. Over the years it became quite an attraction. Young's Santa Castle was displayed 1985c2007.at Young's Garden Mart and Christmas Fantasy on Ryan N of 11 Mile. The work of installing the heavy plywood castle parts was quite a burden and with the recession was not worth the time and effort so it was discontinued. With 3 ½ acres under glass Young's offers year-round plant bargains and a wonderful place to visit especially for children. They have hundreds of plants in season, garden supplies, hardware, lawnmowers, snow blowers and during the Christmas season they had a huge selection of everything Christmas. Then they had a fire which put them back quite a bit, but the competition with the big box stores did them in. Now Kutchy's produce has moved in. ^[109]



We saw the USA in our van bought on a clerk's pay.



ELLIS 1925



VICTORY SCHOOL



Kaltz House



Hometown Heroes Coffee and More our best ever Pub and Internet Café where Dad's Place was.



Our old Post Office



See the deer



Gietzen House



Our new Nautical Museum



Center Line's oldest Protestant Church



A & P first Super Market



Theisen



Center Line Baptist

Baptist

**SINCE THE 1950s RELIABLE OLD FASHIONED STORE
HAS GOOD VARIETY OF ITEMS**



YES
THEY
HAVE
5 cent
CANDY



These are oldest
businesses in
Warren./Center
Line. Archive

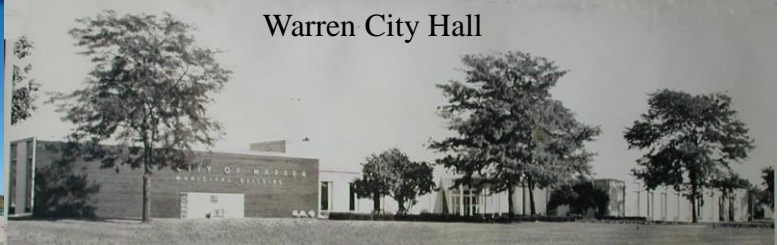
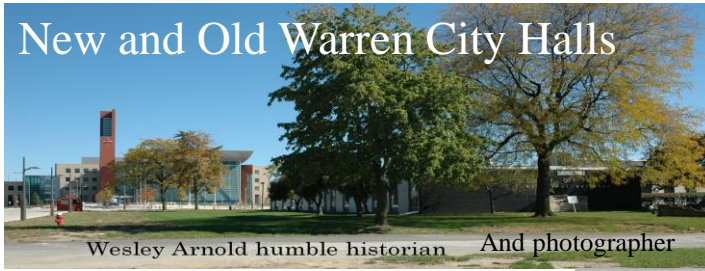
lists hundreds of old businesses including: Amber House,
Baseline Hay & Feed, Louie's, Alibi, Center, Chets, Cole,
Claeys, Clems, DQ, Ed & Lils, Lees, Grimes, Rinke, Victory,
Village Book Exchange, Youngs Garden Mart, K-9,

TasteFreeze, Ulrich, 20th Century, Churches, Funeral Homes, and others.

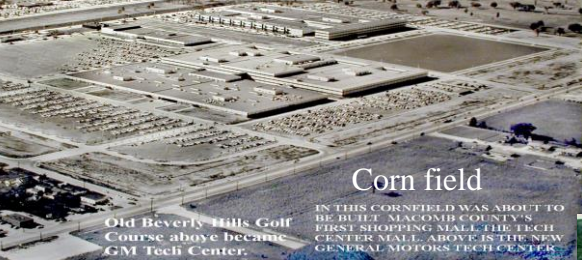


Cole Ind building has been taken over is now the 4th large Islamic center in the Warren area.

New and Old Warren City Halls



Warren City Hall



GMTC

Corn field

IN THIS CORNFIELD WAS ABOUT TO BE BUILT MACOMB COUNTY'S FIRST SHOPPING MALL THE TECH CENTER MALL. ABOVE IS THE NEW GENERAL MOTORS TECH CENTER.

General Motors Technical Center



scouting



10 Mile and Van Dyke



Universal Mall



Diplomat David Hanselman, wife Kathy, Alton Grobbel



War on America



Bird cage



9-11