Centennial Celebration Includes Fair, Parade

Activities Planned For 17-Day Period

Following is a list of the events in the Birmingham Centennial program, May 14 through May 30, as submitted by Mrs. G. Howard Willett, Jr., general chairman, Birmingham Centennial Committee, and Robert S. Kenning, Michigan Week chairman for Birmingham.

Thursday, May 14 - Sunday, May 17

Village Fair, rides, games, concession booths; Shain Park; sponsored by the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce; Vincent Secontine, general chairman; Thursday, 3:30-9:30 p.m.; Friday, 2-10:30 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m.-10:30 p.m.; Sunday, 1-9:30 p.m.

Monday, May 18 - Saturday, May 23

Utility exhibits, on theme of "Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow"; Detroit Edison building, 220 Merrill; Michigan Bell Telephone Co., 160 Martin; Harlan Ritze, general chairman.

New playground equipment for little children, Shain Park.

Farmyard with old woodshed and domestic animals, Shain Park; arranged by Oakland County Cooperative Extension Service and Seymour Lake 4-H Club.

Chuckwagon, flower carts, popcorn-balloon vendors, Shain Park.

Sunday, May 17—Spiritual Foundation Day

Special services, programs and exhibits of historical significance in local churches; open house in churches, 2-3 p.m.; Dr. Homer J. Armstrong, chairman.

Monday, May 18—Government Day

Tour of Birmingham by visiting mayor and party from Coldwater, including historical sites, old houses, and community points of interest; civic luncheon and dinner with city commissioners and their wives; city commission meeting, 8 p.m.; John Saefke, chairman.

Tuesday, May 19—Hospitality Day

Mall on Henrietta St. at Maple, with Newcomers Club members in heritage costumes serving free refreshments from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; music provided by Senior Men's Club and Newcomers. Balloons for children. Free literature available on special events and points of interest in Michigan. Jane Talbert, chairman.

Wednesday, May 20—Livelihood Day

Joint service club luncheon (men's service clubs), Community House; noted speaker; noon; William Yaw, chairman. Theme: "Birmingham Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow." Industrial Open House.

Thursday, May 21—Education Day

Special school programs and contests; Walt Piel, chairman.

Friday, May 22—Heritage Day

Tour of marked historic sites and old houses; morning. Heritage Day Recognition Luncheon, Community House, with Senior Men's Club and Senior Women's Club, noon; Mayor Charles W. Renfrew presenting awards. Recognition to: oldest resident, oldest native-born resident, representative of three generations in medical profession, oldest business in one family, oldest resident in legal profession, oldest resident in field of education, oldest church organization, oldest home. B of E awards.

Dedication ceremony of old grindstone at site of old grist mill, Maple at Baldwin, afternoon. Mayor Renfrew will officiate. James K. Flack, general chairman.

Saturday, May 23—Centennial Day, Youth Day

Carp fishing contest, Quarton Lake, 10 a.m.-noon.

Parade, downtown Birmingham, sponsored by Jaycees, 1:30 p.m.; bands, military and police units, floats, John Archangeli, chairman.

Address by Gov. George W. Romney, Shain Park, 2:15 p.m., introduced by Mayor Renfrew.

Fashion Show, Shain Park, sponsored by Birmingham Chamber of Commerce with Marianne Barnett as chairman, 2:30 p.m.

Concert, Michigan State University Band, Shain Park, 3:30 p.m. (tentative).

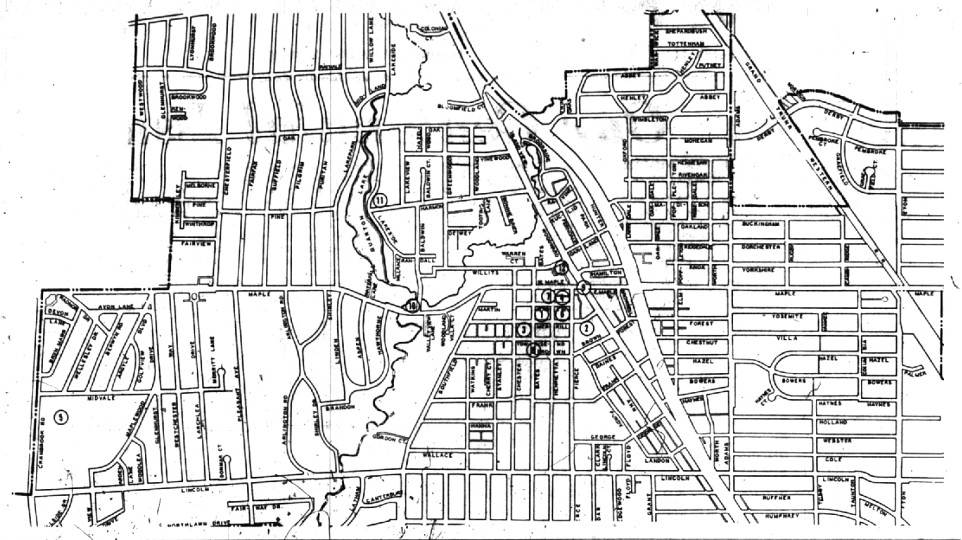
Crowning of Centennial King and Queen, Shain Park, immediately following concert.

Tuesday, May 26

'SUFFRAGETTE '64—The Role of Women in Politics," day-long symposium sponsored by the Birmingham League of Women Voters; Community House, 9:15 a.m.-3 p.m.; Mrs. George Romney, keynote speaker; Mrs. William T. Gossett, chairman.

Saturday, May 30—Centennial Memorial Day

Rededication of placement of Soldier's Monument, Birmingham Municipal Building, 151 Martin St.; Charles Edwards American Legion Post No. 14 to place Memorial Day wreath at rededicated monument; ceremony starts at 9 a.m.; James K. Flack, chairman.



Map Lists Locations Of Events

- Village Fair, Shain Park (1).
- Utility exhibits, Detroit Edison, 220 Merrill (2).
- Utility exhibits, Consumers Power, 189 Merrill (3).
- Utility exhibits, Michigan Bell, 160 Martin (4).
- New playground equipment, Shain Park (1).
- Farmyard—old woodshed domestic animals, Shain Park (1).
- Chuckwagon, flower carts, vendors Shain Park (1).
- Concert, Marine Corps Band, Seaholm Football field (5).
- Tour of B'ham by visiting mayor, begins at municipal building (6).
- Newcomers Club members, heritage costumes, Maple-Henrietta mall (7).
- Service club luncheon, The Community House (8).
- Tour of marked historic sites, old houses, Woodward-Maple (9).
- Heritage Day Recognition Luncheon, Community House (8).
- Dedication ceremony, old grindstone at old mill site, Maple, Baldwin (10).
- Carp fishing contest, Quarton Lake (11).
- Parade, downtown Birmingham (1).
- Bands, floats, Scouts, Gov. Romney, Shain Park (1).
- C of C fashion show, Shain Park (1).
- MSU band concert, Shain Park (1).
- Crowning of Centennial king, queen, Shain Park (1).
- 'SUFFRAGETTE '64 — League of Women Voters symposium, Community House (8).
- Rededication of placement of Soldier's Monument, Municipal Building (6).

PARADE

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as will an American Legion Drum and Bugle Corps and the Redford Highlander Bagpipe Band.

The War Between the States era will be represented by John Hooper's Civil War Cannon and a group of marchers dressed in the army uniforms of the day.

THE MODERN day soldier will be represented by the University of Detroit ROTC Drill Team, a contingent of the latest in military vehicles and the U.S. Army Mobility Command clown team.

Two equestrian units—the Oakland County Sheriff's Posse and a Ponies of America group—will also be appearing in the parade.

Other units include 1,000 Boy and Girl Scouts, the YMCA Indian Guides, Michigan State Police, Sheriff's Water Safety Patrol and the Birmingham DPW and Forestry departments.

The parade, which will be about 45 minutes in length, will assemble in the municipal parking lot on N. Woodward at 12:30 p.m.

FIRST UNITS will leave the parking lot at 1:30 p.m., march through the downtown area and disband at Shain Park.

Romney and other state, county and local officials will be seated on a stage in the park.

The parade will be followed by the annual chamber of commerce fashion show.

The peak year in the history of U. S. immigration was 1907. In that one year, 1,285,349 newcomers established residence in the United States.

TO CAPTURE CITY'S PAST

Merchants Plan Window Displays

By DICK ZEMMIN
Staff Writer

A first-hand glance of early Birmingham will be offered to strollers in the city's downtown area during Centennial-Michigan Week.

Birmingham business places have been asked to display antique items in their store windows in honor of the city's centennial celebration.

The Pilot Club of Birmingham, sponsors of the request, has urged local merchants to show furniture, clothing and other merchandise that is at least 100 years old. Many stores have fulfilled the request.

DISPLAYS WILL feature segments of Michigan history, Birmingham's early days and beginnings of merchant trade in the city.

Shain's Drug Store will feature a display of old prescriptions, showing the change in format through the years. Wilson's Drug Store will show an old medical bag and artifacts of the three generations of Dr. Raynale and his family in the area.

Grinnell's has announced that they will display song sheets that date back 100 years, along with an old gramophone of yesteryear.

Himelhoch's will display a window of old dolls, while McClellan-Ball Garden Supplies and Huston's Hardware will have old seed catalogues.

NUMEROUS AUTO dealers in the city have announced that they will show the Centennial Seal and try to obtain an exhibit of old vintage cars.

Hawthorne Electric, with the help of the citizens of Birmingham, will assemble a contingent of antique lamps from homes in the area.

Many merchants will feature articles from the Detroit Historical Museum, who has expressed a willingness to loan out objects.

Young's of Birmingham will have one of the most interesting windows. A cradle used by Rutherford B. Hayes, 19th President of the United States, will be on display. The cradle is donated by Mr. and Mrs. Rutherford P. Hayes of Birmingham. Hayes is a great-grandson of the President.

Young's will also have a bell used by Thomas Edison when he was a news butcher on the Detroit-Pt. Huron train.

Also on display will be several 100-year-old dresses from France worn by the late Mrs. George Booth, cofounder of Cranbrook, and an old Pennsylvania rocker.

HANSEL 'n' Gretel Shoppe and The Peacock Room will have old children's shoes, while Sherman Shoes will feature high-topped boots.

Another exhibit headlining the list of window displays will be Jacobson's which will show for the first time in a display, the photo collection of Manley Bailey, Birmingham funeral director.

The well-known and prized collection includes pictures of the downtown area 100 years ago. Jacobson's entire window will be filled with the photos.

Siegel's, Kay Baum and the Bloomfield Fashion Shop will present collections of old dresses, while John Moss Florist will have early flower decorations.

LaBELLE'S will display antique glasses and glass objects. Peck Tailors and Men's Wear will have pictures of Birmingham in its early days.

Smith's Early American Furniture will have early American furniture donated by the Detroit Historical Museum.

The Village Sport and Hobby Shop will display ancient fire-arms, while Birmingham Federal Savings and Loan Association will exhibit old furniture loaned by Birmingham residents.

Gwynn Custom Tailoring will feature a progress of the store since its Birmingham founding and Birmingham Bike Shop will have several old bikes.

OLD TYPEWRITERS will be on display at Birmingham Printing and Office Equipment, while Detroit Bank and Trust will display the Centennial poster.

Other stores such as Chudik's and Englander's have plans for displays but had not announced them at press time.

Centennial Being Financed By a Cooperative Effort

How will Birmingham's Centennial celebration be financed?

The city gave the centennial fund a big boost with an appropriation of $2,350, part of which will be used to prepare Shain Park for the celebration.

Over $400 will go to the fund from proceeds of the sale of historical documents by The Eccentric over the last several years.

The Village Fair, sponsored by the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, will donate half of the net proceeds to the centennial fund and the remainder will be shared by the participating groups.

THE FAIR will consist of 11 fun rides and a midway of some 30 concessions operated by men's and women's service clubs and church and youth groups.

For the most part, individual events during the Centennial-Michigan Week celebration will be self-sustaining and will be paid for by the groups which sponsor them.

For example, the Jaycees will foot the bill for the parade and Birmingham merchants will share the cost of the fashion show.

Historic Tour To Visit Old Homes, Sites

An ambitious tour of historic sites and old horses is planned for Friday, May 22, by the History and Heritage Committee as part of Birmingham's Centennial celebration.

A total of 49 sites and houses will be visited during the tour which will begin at the site of the first village offices at Woodward and Maple and end at the Old Mill Pond.

EACH HISTORIC site will be marked with signs that indicate the order in the tour and the name of the site or house.

The route has been planned to be the most convenient for drivers, according to James Flack, chairman of the History and Heritage Committee.

Some of the sites to be visited are the Presbyterian Church, E. Maple; blacksmith shop, E. Maple; National Hotel, Woodward and Hamilton; slaughter house, Willits St.; waterworks, W. Maple at Baldwin; first library and first church, Merrill at Bates; and site of trolley car barns, Woodward at Harmon.

SEVERAL OF the homes will be Old Watkins Farmhouse (1860), 140 Puritan at Maple; Old Wooster House (1860), 1876 Northlawn; Old Trollop House (1850), 536 Southfield; Old Dewey House (1850), 288 Townsend; Old Hunter House (1822), 264 W. Brown; and Old Quarton Homestead (1840), 1155 Quarton Road.

Some of the present occupants of the old houses have volunteered to open their homes to visitors during the tour. These will be marked by appropriate signs.

9 Companies to Host Industry Open House

In recognition of the manufacturing and service industries of Birmingham proper for their contribution to the community, representative industries are holding open house for visitors on Livelihood Day, Wednesday, May 20, during Birmingham's observance of Centennal-Michigan Week.

The following companies have the facilities to participate and have invited Birmingham area residents to visit them during the open house hours.

Automotive Conversion Co., 2191 Cole, which specializes in the conversion of standard automobiles into special models, will be open from 10 a.m. to noon.

BECKER Orthopedic Appliance Co., 1776 S. Woodward, manufacturers of orthopedic and surgical appliances, will also be open from 10 a.m. to noon.

Others participating are Berry Industries, Inc., manufacturers of steel garage doors and radio-control garage door openers, 10 a.m. to noon and 2 to 4 p.m.; The Birmingham Eccentric, 1225 Bowers, a weekly newspaper, 10 a.m. to noon, 2 to 4 p.m.; and Averill Press, 1225 Bowers, printing, 10 a.m. to noon, 2 to 4 p.m.

Birmingham Plastics, Inc., 2295 E. Lincoln, manufacturer of automotive parts, 10 a.m. to noon; Detroit Stamping Co., 2121 Cole, manufacturer of toggle clamps, 2 to 4 p.m.; Torrence Oil Co., 2205 Holland, fuel oil, bulk plant and distributor, 10 a.m. to noon; Schauer Tool & Die Co., 2099 Cole, make of tools, dies, jigs and fixtures, 2 to 4 p.m.

M. M. ROSENBERGER, industrial director-at-large of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and William Yaw, Livelihood Day Chairman for Centennial-Michigan Week, made the arrangements for the open house.

Special invitations have been sent out by the committee to the Birmingham Public Schools and city service organizations and others, to participate in the event.

Selection

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through Thursday celebration.

Kenning and Mrs. Willett have been working closely on the combined observance.

"When it was decided to plan the two events together, things just seemed to fall naturally into place," he smiled.

THE FATHER of three sons, Kenning is active in church work and the Boy Scouts of America.

Being a former Marine, he is especially happy that one of the Corps' famed bands is going to be an important part of the centennial celebration.

In fact, usually reliable sources report, Kenning has been trying to get into his old dress blues.

An Interesting Home

The Hugh Martins Jr. live in an interesting stone farmhouse at 4601 Echo Road.

It is believed to be very old, but its history had not been traced. It was a Vernor farm at one time, and it is known that Mr. and Mrs. John Greer celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary here in 1885.

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