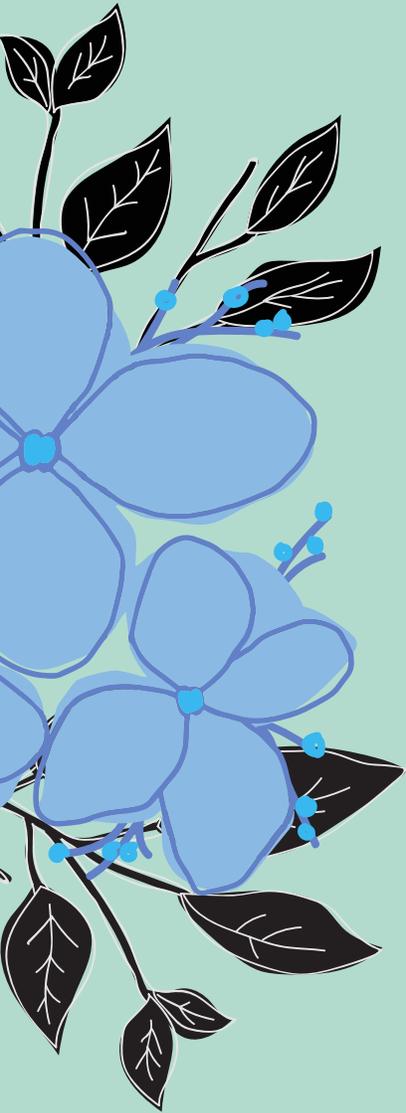


SUMMER 2021

the conductor

DURAND UNION STATION'S OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER



The DEPOTCAST



"The Depotcast", Durand Union Stations official podcast, will be taking a step in a different direction this summer. As one of our hosts, Mike, moves on to a wonderful opportunity in Albion, our DepotCast will be evolving to ensure that we create the best content for our listeners.

Although we may not be having weekly episode regularly, there will be special episodes released monthly to continue the legacy of the one and only (and best) Michigan Railroad History podcast! In the meantime, you can catch up on all of our past, latest, and greatest episodes on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, and more.

Stan Dungerow

Stan Dungerow was a trainmaster for the Grand Trunk and Canadian National for 27 years.

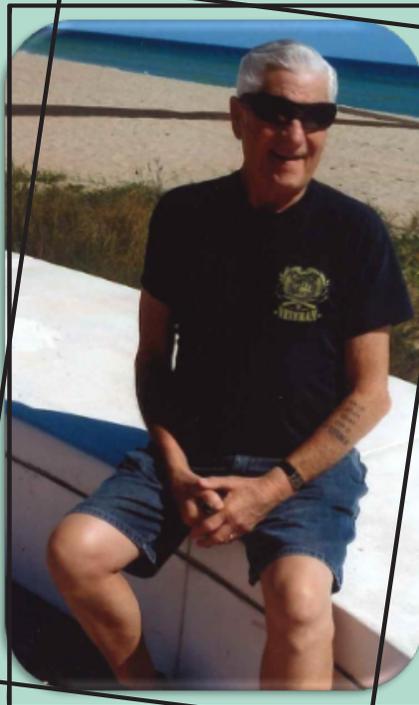
A Vietnam Veteran, Stan hired into the clerks' office on March 16, 1970. By his own recollection, he trained and worked in every clerical job the railroad had at the time, some of which he cannot even remember!

In the mid-seventies he began work as an "extra" yardmaster, supervising all the car switching at a terminal like Durand or another in the region.

He was then promoted to Relief Assistant Trainmaster, filling in as needed in the supervision of all operations at the Durand terminal. He did this work in addition to his clerical position, occasionally working 16 to 24 hour shifts!

In the mid eighties he was promoted to Assistant Trainmaster and became the de-facto trainmaster at Durand until 1987. Stan retired in 1997.

He received two letters of commendation during his time on the railroad: once for sealing a cap on a leaking tank car from Dow Chemical, and once for stopping a runaway freight car in Durand, climbing aboard and applying the hand brake just inches from traffic on Oak Street!



A Note from our Curator:

Hi everyone, it's me, the disembodied voice of the Depot, or as literally everyone knows, Mike.

I'm writing this to let you all know that after 9 and a half years at the Depot, I've been hired away and will be leaving Durand. We've had a good run here, haven't we?

This place is special. We joke a lot about how nobody ever truly leaves, but I think it's actually true. We joke about ghosts, but in a way I think we have them.

They're just the spirits of Norma, and Margaret, and Jean, and Karen Carsten, and the Semples, and so many other people that put everything they had into that building to keep it alive. Those people never left, even if they're not physically around anymore.

This building, as much as I have touched just about every square inch of it, was not mine. It was only briefly mine, when I was a child and Norma told me she was holding onto it until I became old enough to hold onto it for the next generation.

That is the truth. I am handing this museum off to people like Axel, Lexa, Jensen, Avery, Porter, Grady, Melora, Barrett, Demi, Jace, Atlas, Ivy, Shia, and too many other wonderful children to count. It was theirs to begin with.

I am extremely proud of what we've done together in the Depot. Mary is a wonderful director and has done unbelievable things over the last decade to steer this massive ship the right way. As a non-profit, I would say that it has never been healthier.

But it still needs your help. It will ALWAYS need your help. So come in, or call us, or email us, and find out how you can be a part of it. I'm still going to volunteer when I can, because I believe in the project. Please join me.

The lessons I've learned at the Depot are numerous and hard to keep track of, so I want to thank some people on my way out the door.

- Mary, who has never once dissuaded me from sharing my opinion, or pitching an idea that was even too crazy for me.

- Tim, who turned my crazy ideas into actual physical things that people can touch and see and enjoy.

- Curtis and Jerry (and Jan), who are as instrumental as it gets in keeping the three headed monster of our Library/Archives/Museum moving in a direction that is interesting and most importantly: accurate.

- Dan, who is the living, walking definition of dedication to the mission. Did you know he is a founding member of the organization and has NEVER LEFT? He doesn't just cook hot dogs at Railroad Days, you guys. He's been whatever the Depot needed, whenever it needed it.

- My amazing former interns: Autumn, Daniel, Sophie, Mallory, Cameron, and Maria, all of whom signed up knowing we were all going to learn how to run an internship program together at the same time, and all of whom performed amazingly. I am so, so, so proud of everything you did at the Depot and everything you have done since.



- Mackenzie, who never says no to any harebrained scheme, even "want to do a podcast during Covid?" and "want to keep doing this podcast indefinitely?" and "do you still want to work on inventory and children's programming remotely, even if you are at college in the Upper Peninsula?" Mackenzie is the future of the museum.

- Ralph, Lucas, Stu, Logan, and the rest of the railfans outside: Sorry the screen only works like half the time. But thank you for caring as much about the outside of the building as we do inside. This place is a wind tunnel and it makes me smile every time I see someone chase down a Wendy's bag to put it in one of our 6 trash cans outside.

- Every volunteer who has come in willing to do whatever, even if that means learning things they're uncomfortable on, such as modern computers and iPads. We have always needed people willing to step up, and you have.

-and You, the person reading this. First, because you've made it this far into my manifesto/dissertation without falling asleep. Second, because you care enough about Durand Union Station to read manifestos about it. You have been an amazing audience, and it was the joy of my life to create things for you.

So this isn't goodbye. It's "see you around." I will still be there to help the Depot as needed. What I'd like from any of you reading this is not a Good Luck or a Congrats or, God forbid, a party. No parties. What I want most is more people inside the Depot doing what that building needs to stay beautiful, so all of our kids and their kids have it to visit in the future.

We've made it 116 years. 42 of which as a community-operated thing. Why couldn't we make it another 116? And then another 116 after that?

Anyway, thank you all for the opportunity to work with you for so long. Thank you for tolerating my sense of humor or even participating in it. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

-Mike





SUMMER 2021

*We need
volunteers!*

ARCHIVAL HELP: SORTING, FILING, RESEARCH
GROUNDS HELP: MOWING, WEEDING, FLOWER GARDEN
OFFICE HELP: PHONE CALLS, EVENTS, RENTALS
BUILDING HELP: MAINTENANCE, REPAIRS, PAINTING
GIFTSHOP HELP: CASH REGISTER, INFORMATION DESK

WE CAN TRAIN YOU!
WE WILL WORK AROUND YOUR SCHEDULE!

CONTACT US THROUGH FACEBOOK @ DURANDUNIONSTATION
CALL US AT (989) 288-3561
OR VISIT US AT 200 S RAILROAD STREET
DURAND, MI 48429





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Keith Hoshal
Connie Lake
Steven Cook
Tom Weir
Berner Gorden
Ruth Harding
Betty Benson
Francine Rowell
Marilyn Schneider



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PAINT THE CABOOSE!

Due to years fading in the sun our beloved GTW Caboose is in need of painting. At the April board meeting the DUSI board of directors choose local painter/contractor Cleveland Construction to do the work. Work will begin in August of this year and costs \$4,250. We have raised \$2,039 from all the generous donations we received through the Farmer's Market and Snow Melt challenge. To make a donation to this project contact the office at 989-288-3561



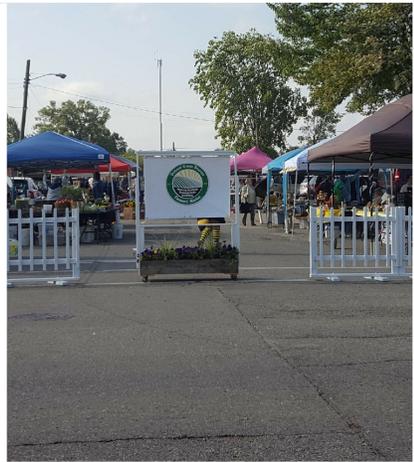
Durand Farmers Market

May 19th through October 13th

2pm to 7pm

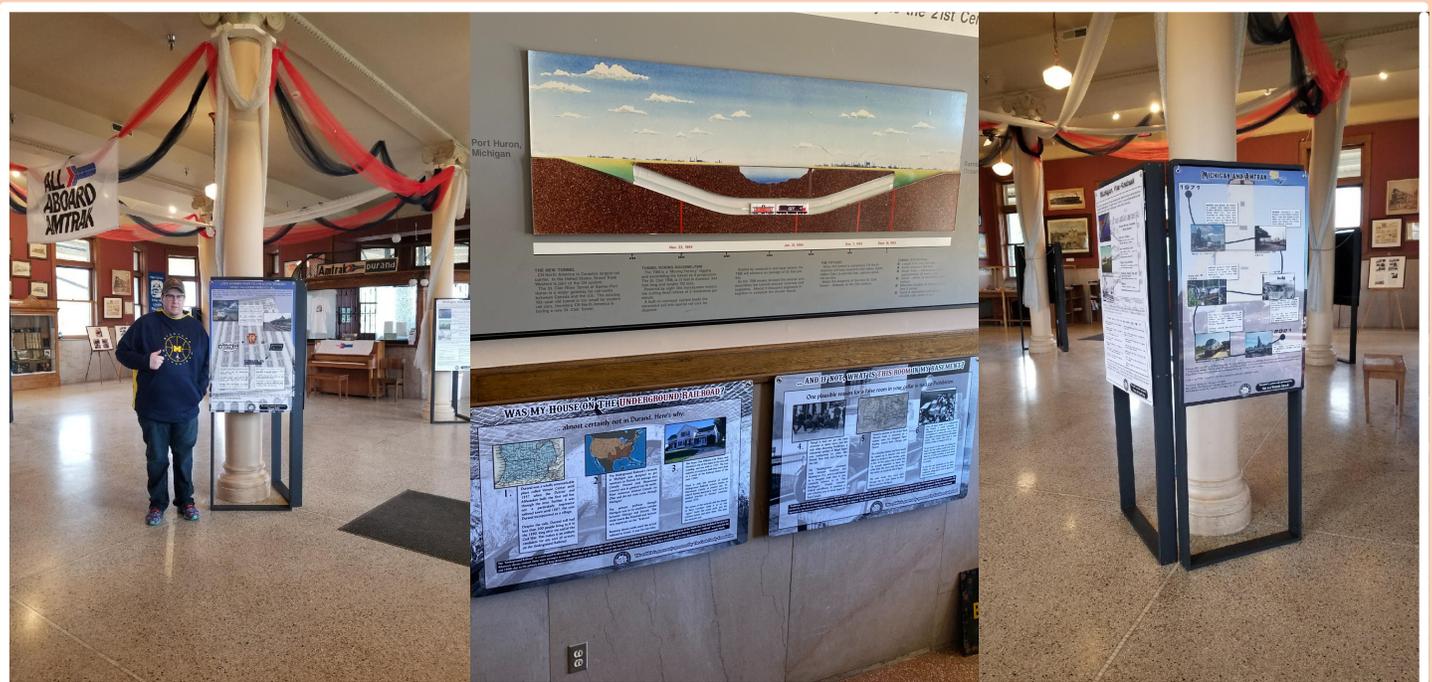
Local produce, hand crafted items, weekly kids programs

Follow us on Facebook @ Durand Farmers Market



NEW DISPLAYS

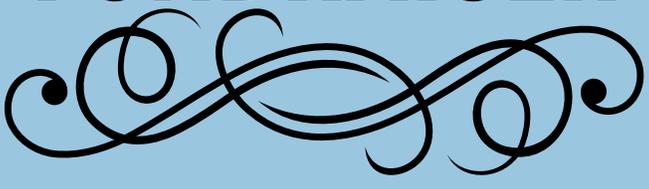
Durand Union Station and the Michigan Railroad History Museum are celebrating Railroad Days by celebrating AMTRAK's 50th Birthday! The new exhibit this spring takes museum guests through the history of passenger rail in Michigan, from the 1840s through present day. Other exhibits newly on display this year discuss how Durand did (or did not) participate in the Underground Railroad, and also Durand's past in the illicit liquor trade during Prohibition.



Thank you to Kathleen Sutherland and The Cook Family Foundation for sponsoring our Underground Railroad display as well as Dawson Wolff, Sally Libby, Porter + Grady Shay, Kip + Brenda Stroub, Tim Colton, Dustin Libby, The Wilson Family, and Wade Arnold for sponsoring our 50th Anniversary Amtrak exhibit.



ARCHIVES RENOVATION FUNDRAISER



Help us create more space!

The Depot, as wonderful as it is, was not built to house an archive. As a result, we sometimes need to raise funds to help us maximize our space.

Our downstairs archive could really use some space efficient rolling shelves. If we were able to get them, we could quadruple our capacity in there.

Also, we have an attic archive that is a real challenge to keep cool in the summer and warm in the winter. We'd like to add a split system AC/Heating Unit to keep the climate controlled.

The cost for these two projects is somewhere around \$4,500. \$2,000 is what we'd need for just the rolling shelves.

If you think you can help us out with this, contact the office.



Durand Union Station, Inc. Membership Application

Membership Benefits Include:

A membership card entitling the holder to a 10% discount on Museum Gift Shop purchases (excludes food items); voting privileges in the election of Durand Union Station Inc. Board of Directors; advance notice of special depot events, a periodic newsletter, and satisfaction in knowing that you are actively involved in preserving a beautiful historic building, the library & archives, and the Michigan Railroad History Museum.

Title: Mr. Mrs. Ms. Dr. _____ Date: _____

Name _____ Spouse: _____

Address _____ Phone: (____) _____ - _____

City, State & Zip: _____ Email: _____

(Providing your email will add you to our email alerts of upcoming events)

Please make all Checks or Money Orders payable to: Durand Union Station, Inc

You may pay with a **Credit Card** by calling 989-288-3561

Individual Membership Options: 12 Month Membership (Check All That Apply)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Railroad Employee or Railroad Retiree	\$15
<input type="checkbox"/> Spouse of Railroad Employee or Railroad Retiree	\$15
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership	\$25
<input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership	\$40
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining / Business Membership	\$125
<input type="checkbox"/> Donation to Durand Union Station Foundation (Endowment Fund) Amount: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Special Project Donation: (Window Restoration, Library & Archives, etc.) Project Name: _____ Amount: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Undesignated Donations	Amount: _____

Office Use Only
Received on: _____
Received By: _____
Amount Enclosed: _____
Form of Payment: _____
Credit Card Number: _____
Exp Date: _____
Membership Expires: _____
Sent Member Card: _____
PP ID# _____

Name to be engraved if applicable: _____

Remember, Donations are Tax Deductible.

There are a variety of opportunities for you to share your special interests or talents by volunteering at Durand Union Station.
PLEASE CHECK ONE OR MORE OF THE AREAS BELOW IF YOU HAVE AN INTEREST IN VOLUNTEERING TO HELP US.

<input type="checkbox"/> Gift Shop	<input type="checkbox"/> Railroad Days	<input type="checkbox"/> Food Preparation	<input type="checkbox"/> Office/ Computer Work	<input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance/ Construction
<input type="checkbox"/> Christmas	<input type="checkbox"/> Farmers Market	<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum/Library	<input type="checkbox"/> "Whatever you need!"

REV DATE: 1/31/2019

NEW MEMBER _____ SPECIAL GIFT _____



Durand Union Station
200 Railroad Street
Durand, Michigan 48429

(989) 288-3561

www.durandstation.org

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