

NOW
ONLINE:

View full versions of our
weekly print editions



candgnews.com

The Online Home of C & G Newspapers
13650 11 Mile Road | Warren, MI 48090 | Main: (586) 498-6000

Saturday, August 30th, 2014

Warren, MI: 84°F



Macomb County Oakland County Wayne County Features Sports Shop Classifieds Obituaries Advertising Contact

Home

ROCHESTER

August 20, 2014

Historical society releases book on bygone Rochester businesses

By Mary Beth Almond
C & G Staff Writer

ROCHESTER — The Rochester Avon Historical Society recently released a third book in a collection of stories from member Deborah Larsen's local history blog, "Remembering Rochester."

Larsen, a third-generation Rochester resident and local history librarian, began blogging about the history of Rochester and Rochester Hills in 2008 after doing research for her first book, "Hometown Rochester." In 2011, she started a series of books from the Rochester Avon Historical Society called "Remembering Rochester," each with a different theme. Her first book in the series, "Remembering Rochester: Main Street Stories," was released in 2011. The following year, she released "Remembering Rochester: Vanished Rochester." The third book in the series, "Remembering Rochester: Bygone Business," focuses on well-known and fondly remembered Rochester businesses that operated primarily from the 1940s to the 1960s. It was released over the summer.

"It's an absolutely fascinating look at businesses that once flourished, mainly in the downtown area, that are no longer there," said Brian Dunphy, president of Rochester-Avon Historical Society. "It gives real insight into many businesses that old-timers and long-time residents in the area might be familiar with, as well as a look at the kinds of businesses that really helped to build the economy here in the greater Rochester area."

Larsen said those who remember places like Case's Hardware, Crissman Pharmacy and the 406 Bar will enjoy this nostalgic look back at the community's downtown business district.

"It's a good walk through memory lane for the people that remember these businesses, and for those who are newer residents but are interested in the local history of Rochester, it will give you a good glimpse of where we've come from and where we've been," she said.

The book highlights who founded each business and when, includes any interesting little anecdotes or facts that she was able to uncover, and also when each business closed.

One of Larsen's favorite topics in the book is the 406 Bar, a local watering hole that she says was down on Main Street for decades.

"When it was first established, it was opened in the building at 406 Main, hence the name, but after a while, the landlord of that building decided he wanted to do something else with it, so the bar moved up the street to 434 Main. So we had a local joke, 'What's the address of the 406 Bar?' And there was always a little explanation about that. That bar lasted until the early 1970s, so it was kind of a local institution, a little bit like the Point



US
Immigrant
Ship Records

ancestry.com

Discover your
ancestry by searching
immigrant ship
records. Free trial.



Search C & G Website



NOW ONLINE



Weekly Print
Editions

WEBSITE LOGIN

Username: *

Password: *

Log in

[Create new account](#)
[Request new password](#)

tasted until the early 1970s, so it was kind of a local institution, a little bit like the Farm Creek Tavern is today," she said.

Other businesses included in the book are: A & P, Bebout's Restaurant, Behm's Dairy, Burr's B-Z Bootery, Gebert Hardware, Lake Jewelers, Lucille Shoppe, Mitzelfeld's, Purdy's Drug Store, Rochester Packing, South End Garage, Sutton's Market and Yates Machine Shop.

All of the proceeds from the book benefit the Rochester Avon Historical Society, to help fund its local history education and historic preservation activities.

"Buying this book isn't putting a penny in my pocket. It is all for the historical society," Larsen said.

The book is on sale for \$9 at Lytle's Pharmacy and at the RAHS's online store at <http://www.rochesteravonhistoricalsociety.org>.

You can reach C & G Staff Writer Mary Beth Almond at malmond@candgnews.com or at (586)498-1060.

[Facebook Share](#) 0 [Twitter Tweet](#) 0 [Google +](#) 0 [LinkedIn Share](#) 0 [Pinterest](#) 0

[Printer-friendly version](#) [Send by email](#)



Add a comment...

[Comment](#)

Facebook social plugin



Rochester Post



461 people like this. [Sign Up](#) to see what your friends like.

NEWS

[Home Page](#)
[Macomb County](#)
[Wayne County](#)
[Oakland County](#)
[Sports](#)

FEATURES

[Homes](#)
[C & G Extra](#)
[Neighbors in the News](#)
[Community Calendar](#)
[Class Reunions](#)
[Letters to the Editor](#)

ADVERTISING

[Advertising Information](#)
[C & G Info Movie](#)
[Demographics](#)
[Place Classified Ad](#)
[FTP Login](#)
[Legal Notices](#)

SHOP

[Auto](#)
[Apartments](#)
[Dining](#)
[Jobs](#)
[Real Estate](#)
[Retail](#)

CONTACT INFO.

[About C & G](#)
[Link to C & G](#)
[Business Links](#)
[Employment](#)

[Employee Resources](#) [Site map](#)



Copyright © C & G Publishing.
All Rights Reserved.