



SAUGATUCK-DOUGLAS
HISTORY MUSEUM

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BACK-IN-TIME IS BACK IN BLOOM

MAY 3, 2013 -- One thousand "Dutch Master" daffodils planted along the Old School House History Center "Back-In -Time" pathway last fall have awakened to the call of spring, creating the "Daffodil Trail" envisioned at that time.

Late in October, community volunteers and Saugatuck/Douglas Historical Society members gathered at History Center in Douglas to plant bulbs intended to establish a perennial spring downtown attraction. Funded by 34 local donors who responded to the S/D Historical Society's new "Bulb Boosters" program, the plantings were clustered along the "Back-In-Time Pathway" that meanders through the Old School House's 1.16-acre wooded site at 130 Center Street, among other sections already planted with rhododendrons and various flowering shrubs.

"We plan to continue adding hundreds of bulbs every fall to make the Trail grow even bigger and more beautiful in years ahead", said S/DHS Garden Committee Chair Ruthann Johnson at the planting.

Those inspired to become official Bulb Boosters in support of this program are invited to donate \$25 for future bulb purchases as well as on-going garden maintenance. Donations may be made by phone call to 269.857.5751

The Back-In-Time Pathway offers visitors a series of topical "learning areas" that explore various facets of our area's history, including a peach orchard, a Mt. Baldhead viewing station, children's garden and schoolyard games, and a rhododendron garden, among others. Its crown jewel is a permanent exhibit "Rowing Them Safely Home," housed in a special "Boatbarn" built to showcase the Society's rare, restored 1850s Francis Lifesaving Boat "Gallinipper" The exhibit offers historical displays recalling major shipwrecks, giving visitors a unique window into Lake Michigan maritime history and its impact on our area.

The Historical Society was founded in 1986 with the mission to help the Saugatuck/Douglas community connect with and understand its past, preserve the quality of community life and draw upon the area's history to shape its future. As a volunteer-based, not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization with membership open to all, the Society relies on funding from contributions by members and friends, grants, and the proceeds of special Society events. For more information about the Historical Society, its award-winning Pump House Museum, its Old School House History Center and its many volunteer opportunities, visit www.sdhistoricalsociety.org.

