



NEWS From
Saugatuck-Douglas Historical Society
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ON-LINE HERITAGE RESEARCH CENTER PROGRESS
TO HIGHLIGHT FEB. 13 HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING

A computerized presentation and demonstration of work being done to create a virtual Heritage Research Center will highlight the Saugatuck-Douglas Historical Society meeting on Wednesday, February 13, at 7:00 p.m. in the Media Room of Saugatuck High School (Elizabeth & Main Sts.) Admission is free, public attendance is invited and audience questions are welcomed.

Historical Society Technical Center volunteers Jack Sheridan and Chris Yoder will explain efforts to make local history and genealogy information and materials accessible through the Society's recently redesigned web site (www.sdhhistory.com). Their presentation will show how some 35,000 news pages of The Commercial Record published from 1868 through 1959 have been digitally imaged over the past three years at the Tech Center for on-line review. Saugatuck author/historian Kit Lane will demonstrate how interested volunteers can participate in the next step of indexing these pages for easier subject retrieval in their spare time using home computers.

In addition, Sheridan and Yoder will discuss progress in making the Historical Society's growing digital archive of old photos, home movies, property and census records, birth/death certificates and other documents available on-line, as well as adding hundreds of local obituaries and tombstone photos to a nationwide grave research web site linked to the Society's web site. Helpful advice also will be offered to those researching their own family histories or involved in similar data gathering projects, and those who have old photos, movies and documents to share.

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PHOTO SEPARATELY ATTACHED

Caption:

Historical Society volunteer Chris Yoder demonstrates computer retrieval of 1953 front-page news at the Society's Tech Center in Douglas.