

August 2016 Historian Report
For September Town & Village Board Members, Supervisor, & Mayor
Marybelle Beigh, Westfield Historian

Historian Activities During August 2016:

- Attended Town Board Meeting August 3, 2016 & provided July 2016 historian report.
- Attended Village Board Meeting August 15, 2016 & provided July 2016 historian report.
- Prepared, with Nancy Nixon Ensign (Patterson Library), a “spectacular” display and wrote a small booklet (24 pages) about the Historic Fires that changed the face of Westfield Business District between 1872 and 1941, for the 2nd Chautauqua County History Fair held at Chautauqua Suites August 13-14, 2016. Nancy and I “manned” the booth from 10 AM to 8 PM on Saturday the 13th, and from 10 AM to 4 PM on Sunday the 14th. Afterwards we printed and provided hard copies of the booklets or email copies to about 20 persons including the Fire Department, the Westfield Mayor and the Westfield Supervisor. A copy is also archived at the Patterson Library and the display is available for presentations, for instance, at the WACS or other interested groups.
- BeeLines articles researched, written, and published with related photos in Westfield Republican in August 2016:
 1. 1st week of August - Old Fire Hall Cornerstone history (“Yes Jim, there really was a copper box [containing historic items] in the old [1873] cornerstone” plus 1890 photo of the first Fire Hall that became part of the Portage Inn building complex in 1924 after the first Grand Theater fire of 1923.
 2. 2nd week of August (no BeeLines – busy with History Fair
 3. 3rd week of August – history of Metropolitan Hall and some about Seward Guard (“Lots of questions and possibly some answers”) plus two historic photos - 1909 showing location of the building in which the Metropolitan Hall was located and 1880 showing the Westfield House from which a tight-rope was strung to the Metropolitan Hall in 1860.
 4. 4th week of August – “Memories of the Seward Guards” and two 1886 photos of the Grant memorial stature at the corner of Main & Portage in front of the Spencer Block, one of which shows Civil War Veterans some of whom were also in the Seward Guard between 1876 and 1881.
- Received a historic diner photo from a history fair attendee which was used for the first week of September BeeLines! WOW!