

Looking Back – Looking Forward

This Update looks back on a major event in 1975 – the Otsego County Centennial AND looks forward to our county’s Sesquicentennial in 2025. We will celebrate our 150th birthday seven years from now.

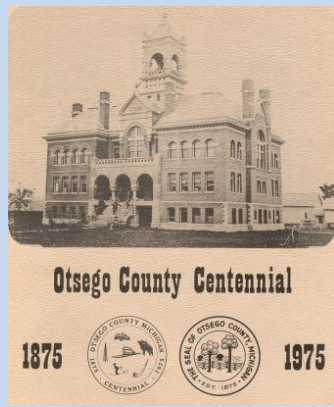
Did you live in Otsego County in 1975? Do you remember the centennial celebration? Did you keep souvenirs like the tie to the right donated by Lori Gregory? How about photographs?

Share your memories.



Discover ♦ Learn ♦ Share

1. The book “Otsego County – The Heritage Years 1875-1975” provides an overview of our county’s history. Brief descriptions of early settlers, communities, ghost towns, townships, churches, education, industries, and medical history give a glimpse into our past. The many photos add interest and details of our first 100 years. Copies of this 70 page book are available at the Museum, Library and on our [web site](#). A great way to **learn** about our county’s history.
2. The Otsego County Herald Times produced a 44 page commemorative centennial edition on August 21, 1975. You can read it on-line by accessing the [local newspaper archives](#) or view individual pages on our [web site](#).



Discover ♦ Learn ♦ Share

1. . **Share** your thoughts and ideas for our upcoming Sesquicentennial – what activities should we have? How can we get kids involved? When should we start planning?
2. If we publish a book for the Sesquicentennial, what topics should be featured? A lot has happened since 1975. The population of Otsego County was less than 15,000. Mc Donald’s had recently opened the first fast food restaurant in the county. The first “big box” chain store K-Mart was 6 years in the future. What are the major stories of the past 50 years? What changes in our communities and businesses should we include? Who should we interview now so their stories are recorded and ready to be shared with future generations?



Discover ♦ Learn ♦ Share

The photo above is only shows a portion of the cast in the production “Reflections of Otsego County” It was a 2 hour pageant held at the Gaylord High School football field. Do you recognize any of the actors? Here’s the [link](#) to the photo. We have a [list](#) of the more than 100 cast and crew members. Can you match the names with faces?