



Update # 55  
March 2, 2019

Phil Alexander  
History Detective

**Discover ♦ Learn ♦ Share**

History Matters has a blizzard of activities planned for 2019. A Scavenger Hunt in Historic Downtown Gaylord will take place during the month of May. **Discover** some of our local points of interest with this family-friendly event. Prizes will be provided by the Downtown Merchants Association. Contest forms will be available at the Museum and the Gaylord Information Center. More details soon.

**Discover ♦ Learn ♦ Share**

“Polish Immigration To Michigan” is the topic for our workshop on May 11 from 9:30 am – noon. Ms. Kamila Mazurek from Alpena will be the presenter. This program is open to the public and is scheduled to take place in the newly constructed community room at the Library.



Our window display at the southwest corner of Main and Otsego in downtown Gaylord features items and photos depicting “Winters Past”. Special thanks to Carla Parkes and John Jenkins for highlighting memorable events that occurred during this important season.

The theme for March and April is “Women Making History”. Among those being showcased from our past are long-time businessperson Rae Kramer, physician and registered pharmacist Dr. Ruey Ford, civil engineer Hazel Quick, and high school principal Mabel Wolf Shannon.

Representing contemporary women who made their mark in their chosen career are librarian Maureen Derenzy, business entrepreneur Jill Miner, pediatrician Dr. Karen Koby-Olson, and teacher & business owner Betsy Hogan Sanders.

**Discover ♦ Learn ♦ Share**

New this year: The Gaylord Herald Times publishes a History Matters article on the last Friday of the month. “Waters Today and Yesterday” was the story in January and “Whatever Happened To Logan” in February.

**Discover ♦ Learn ♦ Share**

**Mystery Relatives**

Our history detectives try to answer all sorts of questions. Here’s one from Margaret. She sent the photo to the right.

Margaret is the granddaughter of Frank and Martha (Graffa) Merkel /Merkiel. She thinks the lady in the photo might be her grandmother’s sister, Mariana Kobylczak, who was born in 1860 and lived in Gaylord.

Please **share** any information you have about this couple.



Remember to write the names on the back of your pictures so future generations will know who their ancestors were!

**History Mystery**

Casey wants to know what the wooden structure is next to the railroad tracks – see red & yellow arrow. Two people said it was a cattle gate. **Share** your knowledge on how it worked.

