



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 3, 2009

Midland County Historical Society presents:

What: Midland County Historical Society's November Fireside Chat and "What Can a Woman Do?" Book Signing Tea Party

When: November 12, 2009, 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

**Where: Whitman Room, Herbert D. Doan Midland County History Center
3417 W. Main St., Midland, MI 48640**

Cost: FREE

Information: Call Ticket Office at (989) 631-8250 or (800) 523-7649 or www.mcfta.org

MIDLAND - Gather round the hearth to feel the warmth of memories shared. Once a month, a group of longtime residents join to share their recollections at the Whitman Room of the Herbert D. Doan Midland County History Center, 3417 W. Main St., Midland. Floyd Andrick and Sally Sutton will moderate the topic "**Holiday Memories of Thanksgiving and Christmas.**" The Fireside Chat is from **2:00 to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, November 12.** Admission to the presentation is **FREE.** The public is invited to listen, learn and join in with questions or memories of their own. This wonderful series of talks also serves to preserve our past by recording sessions for the oral history collection. For further information, contact Floyd Andrick at (989) 837-0870.

The MCHS has a very special event planned concurrently with the November 12 Fireside Chat. Local authors and historians EllaMarie Schroeder and Dorothy Langdon Yates will hold a book-signing party in the Atrium of the Doan History Center to celebrate their recently published book, "**What Can a Woman Do?: A Young Abolitionist in the Michigan Territory.**" Based on a collection of 1830s letters discovered over 30 years ago by Dorothy Langdon Yates, "What Can a Woman Do?" is the tale of a young female abolitionist in the Michigan Territory before statehood. The authors collaborated to weave the letters of Elizabeth Margaret Chandler into a fascinating story which captures the spirit, challenges, and dedication of the women who strived to bring justice and awareness to others during a most unjust era of our national heritage. Chandler and her friends often discussed and promoted abolitionism at ladies' tea parties and other veiled, socially acceptable gatherings. To honor that tradition, an informal tea will be held during the book-signing, serving tea cakes using Chandler's own 1830s recipe. After a brief discussion, both Ellie and Dorothy will greet and visit guests, sign copies of their book, and answer questions. Copies of the book will be available for purchase during the event, as well as at *Intermission*, the MCFTA gift shop.

The Midland County Historical Society maintains Heritage Park, which includes the Herbert D. Doan Midland County History Center, 1874 Bradley Home Museum and Carriage House and the Herbert H. Dow Historical Museum. The Historical Society was founded in 1952 and is dedicated to fostering the understanding, appreciation and preservation of Midland County's heritage.

Midland Center for the Arts, Inc. is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation formed under the laws of the State of Michigan incorporating six groups: Alden B. Dow Museum of Science and Art, MATRIX:MIDLAND, Midland County Historical Society, Midland Symphony Orchestra, Music Society and Theatre Guild. Activities at Midland Center for the Arts are supported in part by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. For the latest Center news, visit our web site at www.mcfta.org.

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