

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 10, 2010

Midland County Historical Society presents:

What: On My Honor: Celebrating 100 Years of Boy Scouts of America, 1910-2010

When: March 18 through November 13

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

Cost: \$5 Adults; \$3 Children; FREE to MCHS members

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



MIDLAND – Beginning in March, the Midland County Historical Society celebrates the centennial of an organization that has impacted millions worldwide: The Boy Scouts of America. “On My Honor: Celebrating 100 Years of Boy Scouts of America, 1910-2010” opens March 18 and runs through November 13 at the Herbert D. Doan Midland County History Center, 3417 W. Main St., Midland. Admission is \$5 for adults; \$3 for children; FREE for MCHS members. Admission includes access to all Heritage Park facilities: Michigan County History Gallery, H. H. Dow Museum, and 1874 Bradley Home.

A few short years after Lord Baden-Powell founded Boy Scouts in 1908, the organization had grown to hundreds of troops located around the world. The Boy Scout of America was organized in 1910, and included in this number was Midland’s first Boy Scout troop, organized in 1913. Today there are dozens of troops in Midland County, continuing the Scouting tradition of solid values and community service.

Partnering with the Lake Huron Area Council of The Boy Scouts of America, MCHS presents an exhibit that displays local and regional scouting artifacts, describes the unique contributions of the local scouting movement, and highlights area scouts throughout time. This exhibit is made possible with support from Kiwassee Kiwanis and Kiwanis Club of Midland.

The exhibit is open during MCHS operating hours: Thursday – Saturday: 11 am to 4 pm. Hands-on elements include a rope-making station, knot-tying, and a Pinewood Derby track with cars that visitors can race against each other.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

FREE OPENING RECEPTION

Thursday, March 25 – 7 pm to 9 pm

Herbert D. Doan Midland County History Center

Join your friends for an evening of fun, games and traditional camping treats: bug juice, popcorn & of course – S’mores! FREE & open to the public!

BOY SCOUT TROOP TOURS

Special tours for Boy Scout troops are available. Scouts will participate in an orienteering course around Heritage Park (available starting April 15), and will tour the exhibit and try the hands-on

rope-making, knot-tying and Pinewood Derby stations. Tours must be prearranged and are available for right after school or on Saturdays. Limited Thursday evening tours will be offered. For information or to arrange a Scout tour, please contact Bagnall@mcfta.org or call 989-631-5930 X-1311.

"BADGAPALOOZA"

June 14 – 18 and August 23 – 27

Heritage Park

Cost: \$80

Boy Scouts ages 11 to 18 can earn a badge (or more!) a day at Badgapalooza camp! We will help you fulfill the requirements for hard-to-get badges, like Metalwork and those offered this year only in honor of the 100th anniversary of scouting. Scouts will get to work with a variety of experts for hands-on experience. To register, call Ticket Office at (989) 631-8250 or (800) 523-7649 or www.mcfta.org

HERITAGE SERIES: "The Life and Times of Lord Baden-Powell"

Thursday, August 19 – 7:30 pm to 9 pm

Whitman Room, Herbert D. Doan Midland County History Center

Admission: \$5; MCHS Members Free

In August 1907, Robert Baden-Powell, British war hero and author, held a camp for 22 boys on Brownsea Island off the south coast of England. Less than a year later, he published *Scouting for Boys* and Boy Scouting was born. Scouting quickly spread across the world and his book, emphasizing outdoor skills and good citizenship, became one of the top-selling books of the 20th century. Join Kyle Bagnall, Eagle Scout and Manager of Historical Programs at Chippewa Nature Center, for a fascinating look at the life and times of Baden-Powell and even try out some scouting skills for yourself!

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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