

# Durand Railroad Days

Celebrating 48 years!



May 18-21, 2023

# Welcome to Durand Railroad Days 2023

Welcome to Durand Railroad Days! Join us as we celebrate our 48<sup>th</sup> year! It is with great pride that Railroad Days, Inc. in cooperation with the City of Durand, Durand Union Station, Inc., Durand Model Railroad Engineers, Inc., National Railroad Memorial, Inc and the Durand Area Lions Club can honor the men and women who have worked and contributed to the railroading heritage that has been such a vital part of our community. We are proud to present our city to our residents, neighbors, friends, and visitors.

Our festival is located at the end of the downtown area with the carnival being on Main Street between Hagel and Railroad Streets. Maps showing the different event sites are included in the booklet along with a map showing the parade route. Please note that not all side streets are included on the overall maps, only those that require reference.

These last couple of years have been very trying for everyone. This year's festival will include many of the events that have been part of past years.

There will be a parade, carnival, Rib Burn, Kids Que, chainsaw carver, kiddie tractor pedal pull, cow bingo, craft vendors, and car show to name a few. New this year will be bingo sponsored by the Bancroft Lioness Lions Club.

Be sure to visit Randy Wise Vendors Square for carnival treats and sweets as well as arts and crafts for you and your loved ones.

Elliott's Amusements will be providing the carnival rides this year. Old favorites and exciting new rides will be part of the amusement venue, including a new, larger Ferris wheel! Come see their colorful, brightly lit rides and games and see what they have to offer. See the article in the booklet for more information on rides, times, and prices.

Be sure to visit the display of railroad history by National Railroad Memorial, Inc. (NRMI) in Iron Horse Park and watch the chainsaw carver make beautiful creations from a block of wood. The Durand Union Station will also have displays in the depot. Information about these events and more can be found in this booklet.

Please note that the railroad crossing gate at the end of Railroad Street will be closed. **Please do not cross the tracks anywhere to get to the depot. Hefty fines could be incurred if you do. Shuttles will NOT be available as they have been in the past.** Access by car to the depot from the festival is east on Main Street to Russell Street then west on Ann Arbor Street. A reference map is included in the booklet.

Please visit our website [www.durandrailroaddays.com](http://www.durandrailroaddays.com) to keep updated of any changes, additions or cancellations to the schedule. **Remember that no pets are allowed downtown and in the carnival area during the festival for the safety and consideration of all our guests.** Be safe and enjoy!

*We are so glad you attended our festival!*



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# 2023 Railroad Person of the Year

Michael Amidon has been chosen as the 2023 Railroad Person of the Year. The award is sponsored by Durand Union Station, Inc. in conjunction with Durand Railroad Days.

Michael (Mike) Amidon is a second-generation Grand Trunk Railroad employee and 1967 Durand graduate.

Mike grew up south of town with railroad tracks running right behind his back porch on Hiller Street. As a young adult, Mike saved a high school student whose leg was run over while trying to hop on a train. He made a tourniquet and kept the young man company until medical personnel arrived.

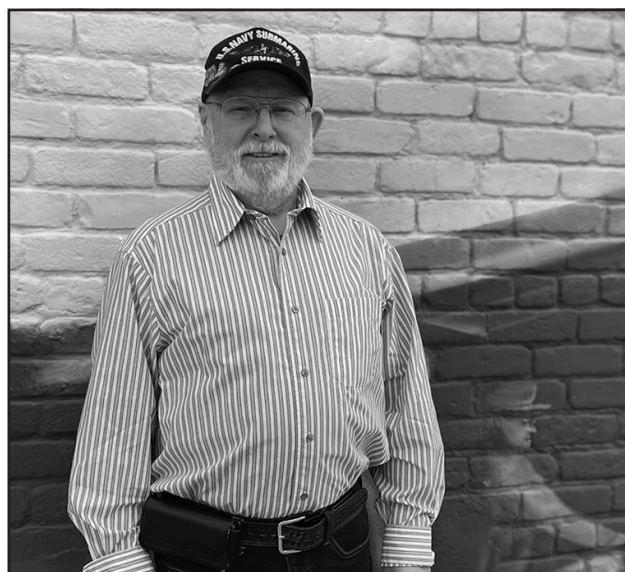
Mike started his career as a billing clerk at the Durand location his senior year of high school. After one year under his belt, he enlisted in the Navy where he served his country for four years. When he returned, his position on the railroad was waiting for him.

Mike worked in Durand for many years until that location shut down, moving him to Flint, Detroit, and Troy as a billing clerk, commercial motor vehicle payroll employee, and customer service yard clerk. After 42 years working for Grand Trunk Railroad/Canadian National Railroad, Mike retired in 2009. He was dedicated to his job, commuting daily from his Bancroft residence.

Mike is an active member of AMVETS Post 2273 where he volunteers for several community events and fundraisers such as the Special Olympics, Poker card dealer, Adopt-A-Highway, Participant in patriot guard, and funeral service honor guard with the AMVETS Riders.

Mike and his wife Mary (Gooding) Amidon still reside in the Durand area where they raised two daughters who were also Durand High School graduates.

Please congratulate Michael as he receives his award on Friday, May 19 at 6 p.m. at Durand Union Station and wave to him as he rides in the Railroad Days Parade!



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# 2023 Miss Railroad Days and Attendant



*Miss Railroad Days Queen*  
**Allison Zdunic**

The 2023 Miss Railroad Days Queen is Allison Zdunic and her Attendant is Ashlynn Duffey. They were announced and crowned at the 48th annual Durand Railroad Days Crowning Ceremony on Friday, March 17 at Durand Union Station.

**Allison Zdunic** is the daughter of Levi and Theresa Zdunic of Durand. She is 16 years old and a Junior at Durand Area High School. She has two siblings; Haley and Nick.

Allison enjoys participating in the Future Farmers of America (FFA) through Durand High School and has served as FFA Treasurer and Reporter. She is a member of the National Honor Society and Shiawassee County Fair

Junior Fair Board. She earned a Greenhand Degree through the FFA program, and outstanding Sophomore Award, and is on the honor roll. Allison dances on the Competition Team at Kathy's School of Dance.

She likes to find ways to be more involved in the Durand community and enjoys volunteering by teaching and cleaning at Kathy's School of Dance, participates in food drives, FFA events, Adopt a Family, and making blankets for the homeless. She also enjoys being able to help around the family farm, care for feeder cattle, and spend time with her family. Allison plans on attending Texas A&M after graduating from Durand to study Agribusiness and hopes to return to Durand to help run her family's farm.

Allison is sponsored by Freddie's Party Store of Owosso.

*Photo courtesy of Schutt Photography of Owosso.*



*Miss Railroad Days Attendant*  
**Ashlynn Duffey**

**Ashlynn Duffey** is the daughter of Christopher & Jennifer Duffey of Durand, and Nicole Brodeur & Thomas Brodeur of Wales. She is 17 years old and a Senior at Durand Area High School. She has three siblings; Ryan Hartzell, Emily Hartzell, and Kaitlynn Duffey.

She has two special pets named Mya and KC that she helps to care for. Ashlynn is involved in many school activities including Varsity Tennis, Madrigals, and the Teacher Cadet Program. She is a member of the National Honor Society, Student Government, Prom Committee & School Fundraising Committee. Ashlynn has earned academic and athletic varsity letters as well as scholarships from multiple colleges.

Currently she is working at Outback Steakhouse in Flint. In her spare time Ashlynn enjoys spending time painting and listening to music. She also likes to volunteer at Bertha Neal Elementary and go caroling downtown. After Ashlynn graduates, she plans on attending Central Michigan University where she will major in Elementary Education. Ashlynn is sponsored by Main Street Rocks of Durand.

Durand Railroad Days royalty are the ambassadors for the annual Railroad Days Festival. They represent the Railroad Days Festival and the greater Durand community by attending community events and traveling to other festival parades. The royalty are sponsored by Randy Wise of Durand and the Bancroft Lioness Lions Club.

*Photo courtesy of Schutt Photography of Owosso.*

## 2023 Durand Railroad Days Princess

The 2023 Railroad Days Princess is Aubriana Snyder, who was crowned by the 2022 Railroad Days Princess, Kelsie Plumb, at a crowning ceremony held at the Durand Union Station.

**Aubriana Snyder** is the daughter of Jeffery Snyder and Krista Witherell of Durand. She is 10 years old and in the 5th grade at Robert Kerr Elementary School. Aubriana enjoys spending time with her two little brothers and two sisters. She has two dogs, one cat, and a leopard gecko that she helps to take care of and loves to play with. Some of her hobbies and interests include Tik Tok, makeup, and fashion. Aubriana is sponsored by Riverside Market in Durand.



*Railroad Days Princess*  
**Aubriana Snyder**

The Bancroft Lioness Lions Club is the sponsor of the Princess Contest.

*Photo courtesy of Schutt Photography of Owosso.*

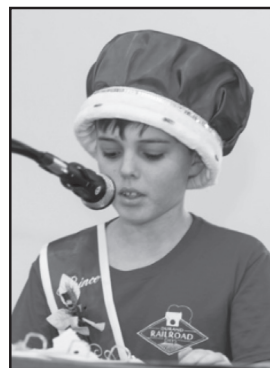
## 2023 Durand Railroad Days Prince

The 2023 Railroad Days Prince is Parker Owens, who retained the crown from 2022. Due to a lack of candidates from Railroad Days Prince this year, Parker graciously volunteered to continue on in this title for 2023. We thank him for volunteering and for the fine job he has done representing Durand Railroad Days at events over the past year.

**Parker Owens** is the son of Jenifer Littlefield and grandson of Bernie and Martha Owens. Parker is 11 years old and in the 6th grade at Robert Kerr Elementary School. Parker has two cousins he is very close with: Adyson and Jayce Chapman.

Parker enjoys participating in Scouts and has danced for nine years at Kathy's School of Dance. This year is Parker's first year in competitive tap. In his spare time, Parker likes playing nerf battles with his family, four wheeling, playing with remote control cars and mowing the lawn. Parker is sponsored by Coffield Oil/Marathon in Durand.

Randy Wise Chrysler Jeep Dodge & Ram is the sponsor of the Prince Contest.



*Railroad Days Prince*  
**Parker Owens**

*Photo courtesy of Schutt Photography of Owosso.*



## Carnival Rides by Elliott's Amusements Open Thursday!!!

(Thursday morning free rides are back!!!)

Railroad Days, Inc. is excited to bring back Elliott's Amusements to provide carnival rides, games, and delicious food for this year's festival. Based in Mason, Elliott's Amusements has provided a variety of bright, colorful and exciting rides to Michigan venues for over 20 years.

Experience that wonderful carnival atmosphere by touching the sky on the brand-new Ferris Wheel, riding the Twister Swing or exploring your pirate side on the Sea Ray Pirate Ship. Other rides that will be part of this year's carnival will be the Zipper, Rok N Roll, and Super Slide. Younger children will enjoy the Carousel, Bear Affair, and Pappy Love; just to name a few.

Also exciting news, Thursday morning free rides are back!! These are available to area middle school and high school students from **6 a.m. to 8 a.m.** on Thursday, May 18.

Complete your carnival experience by playing the games and savoring the food you can only get at a carnival midway.

Wristbands will be available for a cost of \$20 each on Thursday, Friday and Sunday. Saturday bracelets will be \$25 each for the entire session. Online presale tickets are available at the website [www.GoToTheCarnival.com](http://www.GoToTheCarnival.com). Session time periods are as follows:

Thursday, May 18	3 p.m.-11 p.m.*
Friday, May 19	3 p.m.-11 p.m.*
Saturday, May 20	11 a.m.-11 p.m.*
(the wristband cost is \$25 for Saturday)	
Sunday, May 21	Noon-6 p.m.*

\*Weather and participation permitting

**Come and enjoy!!!**

## Tie-Dye Your Own Pillowcase!!!

Personalize a provided pillowcase by tie-dye. Children are invited to try their hand at tie-dyeing a pillowcase to take home!

When:	Saturday, May 20
Time:	2:45 p.m.-4:45 p.m.
Where:	Rowe Professional Services Company Activity Tent
Cost:	Free!

Let your child impress you with their imagination and creativity!

*Railroad Days 2023 Queen Allison Zdunic, Attendant Ashlynn Duffey and Princess Aubriana Snyder.*  
Photo courtesy of Schutt Photography of Owosso.

## Library Bookmark Winners!

Aden Claspbell and Sophia Proctor



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**Durand Middle School** 6th-8th grade  
Principal Rebecca Shankster 989-288-3435

**Durand High School** 9th-12th grade  
Principal Shannon Knapp 989-288-2684

**DURAND.K12.MI.US**

## 2023 DURAND RAILROAD DAYS SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Be sure to visit [www.durandrailroaddays.com](http://www.durandrailroaddays.com) for any additions, changes or cancellations

### THURSDAY, May 18, 2023

- 6 a.m.-8 a.m. Thursday morning free rides for area middle school and high school students.
- 9:30 a.m.-8 p.m. Used book sale at the Durand Memorial Library.
- 1 p.m.-5 p.m. Depot-Open to visitors.
- 3 p.m.-11 p.m.\* Carnival rides by Elliott's Amusements. ***Sponsored by the Durand Area Lions Club.*** Wristband price for this session is \$20.
- 3 p.m.-11 p.m.\*\* Randy Wise Vendors Square-Food vendors only open for business.
- 5 p.m.-8 p.m. Free quick caricature sketches for children 14 years and under. Look for Caricatures by Corey in Randy Wise Vendors Square for this event. ***Sponsored by Coldwell Banker Professionals Joann Taljonik, REALTOR and Lloyd and Kathy Killbreath.***

### FRIDAY, May 19, 2023

- 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Used book sale at the Durand Memorial Library.
- 1 p.m.-5 p.m. Depot-Open to visitors.

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# 2023 DURAND RAILROAD DAYS SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 2 p.m.-11 p.m. **\*\*Randy Wise Vendors Square-Food and craft vendors open for business.**
- 3 p.m.-6 p.m. Chainsaw carver, Ken Buggia, demonstrating and selling carvings across from the Rowe Professional Services Company Activity Tent.
- 3 p.m.-11 p.m.\* Carnival rides by Elliott's Amusements. ***Sponsored by the Durand Area Lions Club. Wristband price for this session is \$20.***
- 3:30 p.m. Registration for the Fifth Annual Rick Taljonick III *Cars for Cancer* car show-on Clinton Street between Saginaw Street and the Water Tower-\$25 per entry.
- 4 p.m.-6 p.m. Treasures Along the Rail: Artwalk 2023. Starts with kickoff event "Artwalk in the Alley" in the alley next to the Durand Chamber of Commerce. It is highlighted in a self-guided walking tour which will be available all weekend.
- 5 p.m.-8 p.m. Fifth Annual Rick Taljonick III *Cars for Cancer* car show-on Clinton Street between Saginaw Street and the Water Tower begins.
- 6 p.m. Award Ceremony Honoring the 2023 Railroad Person of the Year, Michael Amidon-Durand Union Station Ballroom-Open to the Public.
- 6 p.m. Trivia Contest in the Graff Chevrolet of Durand Event Tent-doors open at 6 p.m.; contest begins at 7:30 p.m. Adult beverages from Burgdorf Winery and Right Brain Brewery will be available for purchase as well as soft drinks and bottled water (no outside beverages or coolers allowed). See the article in the booklet for more details. Cost is \$10 per person-see article for details.
- 6 p.m.-8 p.m. Kay the Stilt Walker will be performing in the Rowe Professional Services Company Activity Tent. ***Sponsored by Riverside Market of Durand.***
- 7:30 p.m. Trivia Contest begins.

## **SATURDAY, May 20, 2023**

- 8 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Knights of Columbus breakfast in the lower level of St. Mary's Catholic Church-see article for details.
- 9 a.m. Rib Burn-check in and meat inspection. ***Sponsored by Graff Chevrolet of Durand and the Mid-Michigan Chevrolet Dealers.*** See article for details.
- 9:30 a.m. Rib Burn mandatory cooks meeting.
- 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Used book sale at the Durand Memorial Library (closed for the parade).
- 10 a.m.-11 p.m. \*Randy Wise Vendors Square-Food and craft vendors open for business.
- 11 a.m. Parade line up at Durand High School
- 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Queen's reception for Miss Railroad Days and visiting royalty-Graff Chevrolet of Durand Event Tent (invitation only).
- 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Grand Trunk & Ann Arbor Galleries open on the second floor of the Depot.
- 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Depot-Open to visitors.

- 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Treasures Along the Rail: Iron Horse Park. Celebration of Railroading including railroad exhibits in the Pullman Baggage Car; tour Steam Locomotive Engine 5632; see the new look of the Gate Tower; the caricature artist and balloon sculptor return; there will be many surprises and refreshments. All events are FREE-see article for more details.
- 11 a.m.-5 p.m. ArtWalk 2023-Self-guided tour packets and voting ballots available in the Pullman Baggage Car.
- 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Chainsaw carver, Ken Buggia, demonstrating and selling carvings across from the Rowe Professional Services Company Activity Tent.
- 11 a.m.-11 p.m.\* Carnival rides by Elliott's Amusements. ***Sponsored by the Durand Area Lions Club. Wristband price for the entire session is \$25.***
- 1 p.m. **2023 ANNUAL RAILROAD DAYS PARADE**  
Line up at 11 a.m. at the Durand High School parking lot.
- 2:45 p.m.-4:45 p.m. Pillowcase Tie Dye-Rowe Professional Services Company Event Tent for children -FREE.
- 3 p.m. Kids Que-check in. ***Sponsored by Graff Chevrolet of Durand, the Mid-Michigan Chevrolet Dealers, and Durand Meat Processing.*** See article for details.
- 3:30 p.m. Mandatory Kids Que cooks meeting (adult must be present).
- 4 p.m. Cow Bingo-southeast corner of Main and Railroad Streets-see article for details.
- 4 p.m. Kids Que grilling begins.
- 4 p.m. Railroad Days Annual Sawdust Pile Treasure Hunt. Main Street east of Choo Choo Square (in front of the Rowe Professional Services Company Activity Tent). FREE. ***Sponsored by Acker Agency Insurance and XYZ Landscape Supply.***
- 4:30 p.m. Rib Burn turn-in time.
- 5 p.m. Kids Que turn-in time.
- 6 p.m.-8 p.m. Kay the Stilt Walker will be performing in the Rowe Professional Services Company Activity Tent. ***Sponsored by Riverside Market of Durand.***
- 6 p.m.-10 p.m. Bingo in the Graff Chevrolet of Durand Event Tent. Adult beverages from Burgdorf Winery and Right Brain Brewery will be available for purchase as well as soft drinks and bottled water (no outside beverages or coolers allowed). See the article in the booklet for more details. Cost is \$.25 per card-see article for details. ***Sponsored by Graff Chevrolet of Durand***

## **SUNDAY, May 21, 2023**

- 9 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Registration for the Beautiful Baby Contest-\$15/child in the Rowe Professional Services Company Activity Tent. ***Sponsored by PFCU and Honey Hive Photography.***



# 2023 DURAND RAILROAD DAYS SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

11 a.m.	Beautiful Baby Contest begins.
11 a.m.-3 p.m.	Model Train Show at the Middle School-see article for details.
11 a.m.-5 p.m.	Treasures Along the Rail: Iron Horse Park. Celebration of Railroad including railroad exhibits in the Pullman Baggage Car; tour Steam Locomotive Engine 5632; see the new look of the Gate Tower; there will be activities and refreshments. All events are FREE-see article for more details.
11 a.m.-5 p.m.	ArtWalk 2023-Self guided tour packets and voting ballots available in the Pullman Baggage Car.
11 a.m.-5 p.m.	Chainsaw carver, Ken Buggia, demonstrating and selling carvings across from the Rowe Professional Services Company Activity Tent.
11 a.m.-5 p.m.**	Randy Wise Vendors Square-Food and craft

	vendors open for business.
Noon-5 p.m.	Depot-Open to visitors.
Noon-6 p.m.*	Carnival rides by Elliott's Amusements. <b>Sponsored by the Durand Area Lions Club.</b> Wristband price for this session is \$20.
1 p.m.	KIDDIE TRACTOR PEDAL PULL in the Graff Chevrolet of Durand Event Tent. <b>Sponsored by local area businesses and civic groups</b> beginning with Class 1 (ages 3& 4) and Class 2 (ages 5&6). Class 3 (ages 7&8) and Class 4 (ages 9&10) will start after Classes 1 and 2 are finished. Class 5 (ages 11&12) will start after Classes 1-4 are finished. <b>Organized by the Durand Area Lions Club, Acker Agency Insurance and the Iron Horse Pub.</b> FREE!!!

\*Weather and participation permitting

\*\*Some vendors close at dark due to lighting constraints while others will be open until the carnival closes.

## DURAND RAILROAD DAYS SCHEDULE OF FREE EVENTS

Be sure to visit [www.durandrailroaddays.com](http://www.durandrailroaddays.com) for any additions, changes or cancellations

### THURSDAY, May 18, 2023

6 a.m.-8 a.m.	Thursday morning free rides for area middle school and high school students.
1 p.m.-5 p.m.	Depot-Open to visitors.
5 p.m.-8 p.m.	Free quick caricature sketches for children 14 years and under. Look for Caricatures by Corey in Randy Wise Vendors Square for this event. <b>Sponsored by Coldwell Banker Professionals Joann Taljonik, REALTOR and Lloyd and Kathy Killbreath.</b>

### FRIDAY, May 19, 2023

1 p.m.-5 p.m.	Depot-Open to visitors.
3 p.m.-6 p.m.	Chainsaw carver, Ken Buggia, demonstrating and selling carvings across from the Activity Tent.
4 p.m.-6 p.m.	Treasures Along the Rail: Artwalk 2023. Starts with kickoff event "Artwalk in the Alley" in the alley next to the Durand Chamber of Commerce.
6 p.m.	Award Ceremony Honoring the 2023 Railroad Person of the Year, Michael Amidon-Durand Union Station Ballroom-Open to the Public.
6 p.m.-8 p.m.	Kay the Stilt Walker will be performing in the Rowe Professional Services Company Activity Tent. <b>Sponsored by Riverside Market of Durand.</b>

### SATURDAY, May 20, 2023

11 a.m.-5 p.m.	Depot-Open to visitors.
11 a.m.-5 p.m.	Celebration of Railroad in Iron Horse Park by National Railroad Memorial, Inc. (NRMI). Caricature artist and a balloon sculptor on site.
11 a.m.-5 p.m.	ArtWalk 2023-Self-guided tour packets and voting ballots available in the Pullman Baggage Car and Nick's Hometown Grill.

11 a.m.-6 p.m.	Chainsaw carver, Ken Buggia, demonstrating and selling carvings across from the Rowe Professional Services Activity Tent.
1 p.m.	<b>2023 ANNUAL RAILROAD DAYS PARADE</b> Line up at 11 a.m. at the Durand High School parking lot.
1 p.m.-4 p.m.	Grand Trunk & Ann Arbor Galleries open on the second floor of the Depot.
2:45 p.m.-4:45 p.m.	Pillowcase Tie Dye-Rowe Professional Services Company Activity Tent-children only-FREE.
4 p.m.	Railroad Days Annual Sawdust Pile Treasure Hunt. Main Street east of Choo Choo Square (in front of the Rowe Professional Services Company Activity Tent). <b>Sponsored by Acker Insurance Agency of Durand and XYZ Landscape Supply.</b>
6 p.m.-8 p.m.	Kay the Stilt Walker will be performing in the Rowe Professional Services Company Activity Tent. <b>Sponsored by Riverside Market of Durand.</b>

### SUNDAY, May 21, 2023

11 a.m.-5 p.m.	Celebration of Railroad in Iron Horse Park by NRMI.
11 a.m.-5 p.m.	ArtWalk 2023-Self-guided tour packets and voting ballots available in the Pullman Baggage Car and Nick's Hometown Grill.
11 a.m.-5 p.m.	Chainsaw carver, Ken Buggia, demonstrating and selling carvings across from the Rowe Professional Services Company Activity Tent.
Noon-5 p.m.	Depot-Open to visitors.
1 p.m.	KIDDIE TRACTOR PEDAL PULL in the Graff Chevrolet of Durand Event Tent. <b>Sponsored by local area businesses and civic groups and organized by the Durand Area Lions Club, Acker Agency Insurance and the Iron Horse Pub.</b>

# MEET KAY THE STILT WALKER

*Sponsored by Riverside Market of Durand*

Join Kay from KJ Art, a stilt walker from the Detroit area, for an amazing show on Friday and Saturday of Railroad Days. Watch as she interacts with the crowd during the Railroad Days parade. Kay will be on stilts in costumes that she not only designed, but also handmade!

After the parade, find Kay downtown as she walks around the carnival; be sure to join her in the Rowe Professional Services Company Activity Tent for a colorful show where she will do circus tricks using poi, levitation wands, spinning plates, a sun wheel, balloons, and more!

When: Friday, May 19 and Saturday, May 20  
Time: 6 p.m.-8 p.m. each night  
Where: Rowe Professional Services Activity Tent  
Cost: FREE!

*This is a great entertainment for the entire family-come and enjoy!*



# Free Kids Caricatures by Corey

*Sponsored by Joann Taljonick of Coldwell Banker Professionals and Lloyd and Kathy Kilbreath*

Caricatures by Corey is a nationally touring fair and carnival caricaturist based out of Grand Rapids, Michigan who specializes in exaggeration and humor. His "quick sketches for kids" will be offered for free to children 14 years and under. These simplified speed sketches in black and white will be offered for the ages above at the following place and time:

When: Thursday, May 18  
Time: 5 p.m. – 8 p.m.  
Where: Randy Wise Vendors Square

*Take your children and have fun seeing what humorous sketch Corey can make!!!*



# Treasures Along the Rail: ArtWalk 2023 Kickoff and ArtWalk



To kick off the part that National Railroad Museum, Inc. (NRM) plays in Railroad Days, NRM is sponsoring "Treasures Along the Rail: ArtWalk 2023", a self-guided walking art and architecture tour in downtown Durand.

The kickoff for the ArtWalk will be "Art in the Alley" beginning on Friday. It will be more than some art displays in an alley-it will also include music and refreshments. Guests may even meet a real artist or two and have some creative fun! More importantly, tour packets with ballots (to vote on your favorites) will be available for the ArtWalk.

The official ArtWalk begins on Saturday and is a self-guided walking tour celebrating the creative work of our greatest treasures, Durand Area High School students. Local businesses will display artwork created by the students in a variety of mediums. Along the walk, guests will also see and learn about unique pieces of Durand's railroad heritage located throughout the downtown area.

Guests will receive tour packets and ballots for their journey at the "Art in the Alley" kickoff event. Tour packets will also be available for the ArtWalk on Saturday, May 20 and Sunday, May 21 at the Baggage Car in Iron Park and at Nick's Hometown Grill, downtown (northeast corner of Saginaw and Main Streets).

The artwork will remain on display throughout Railroad Days. Persons attending Railroad Days will be able to vote for their favorite art pieces in several categories until the end of Railroad Days on Sunday, May 21 at 5 p.m.

The information on the ArtWalk is as follows:

## "Art in the Alley" (ArtWalk Kickoff)

When: Friday, May 19  
Time: 4 p.m.-6 p.m.  
Where: Patty Matejewski Alley (located next to the Greater Durand Area Chamber of Commerce)

## Artwalk 2023

When: Saturday, May 20 and Sunday May 21  
Time: 11 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Where: Self guided per the Tour Packet mentioned above

So, start your Railroad Days with "Art in the Alley" and then make it a point to stroll through the sights, enjoying the unique art and the architecture of this all-American railroad city.

Do not forget to vote inside the door of Nick's Hometown Grill for your favorite work of art!

*Voting Ends: Sunday, May 21 at 5 p.m. All votes must be cast in the ballot box located in Nick's Hometown Grill, downtown.*

# Eighth Annual Rib Burn

*Sponsored by Graff Chevrolet of Durand and the Mid-Michigan Chevrolet Dealers*

If you have a special way to prepare ribs, be sure to sign up for the Eighth Annual Durand Railroad Days Rib Burn. Hosted by Railroad Days, Inc., this is a contest for adult BBQ teams and is a qualifier for the 2023 Great Lakes BBQ Association (GLBBQA) Competitors Series Team of the Year for Rib Burns in Michigan.

When: Saturday, May 20  
Where: Parking lot west of the businesses on Saginaw Street between Main and Clinton Streets  
Check in & meat inspection: 9 a.m.-Meat must be in original, unopened packaging  
Cooks meeting: 9:30 a.m. (mandatory)  
Turn in time: 4:30 p.m.  
Entry fee: \$50 per team  
Registration: Pre-registration is required. Registration forms and rules are available on the website [www.durandrailroaddays.com](http://www.durandrailroaddays.com) Forms must be received by Thursday, May 18. Please allow plenty of time for mail delivery.  
Limit: 30 teams-first come basis

The entries will be judged on presentation, tenderness, flavor, etc. Any heat source, is allowed and turn in boxes will be furnished. Participants provide their own ribs, heat source and all items necessary for their burn. Plan on presenting at least six bones. NO garnish allowed. NO food will be served to the public!

Cash prizes and plaques will be awarded: 1<sup>st</sup> place-\$500; 2<sup>nd</sup> place-\$250; 3<sup>rd</sup> place-\$100; 4<sup>th</sup> place-\$75; 5<sup>th</sup> place-\$25. For more information call the Railroad Days phone at (989) 288-4080.

*A special thank you to this year's contest sponsors: Graff Chevrolet of Durand and The Mid-Michigan Chevrolet Dealers*  
**Good luck and good cooking!**



## Trivia Contest

### Sponsored by Graff Chevrolet of Durand

The annual Railroad Days Trivia Contest will once again be a part of the many activities during this year's festival. The contest is sponsored by Graff Chevrolet of Durand and is facilitated by the Durand Education Foundation (DEF). Below are the particulars regarding the contest:

When: Friday, May 19  
 Time: Tent door opens at 6 p.m.; Contest starts at 7:30 p.m.  
 Where: Graff Chevrolet of Durand Event Tent  
 (near the clocktower)  
 Entry fee: \$10/person will be taken at the door (entry fees go to the DEF)

Contestants may bring food into the event but **no outside beverages**. Adult beverages from Burgdorf Winery of Haslett and Right Brain Brewery of Traverse City as well as soft drinks and bottle-d water will be available to purchase on site.

So put your team together (up to 8 members per table) and call or text (989) 277-2926 or send an email to [durandeducationfdn@gmail.com](mailto:durandeducationfdn@gmail.com) to reserve your table. Reserve your table early as there are only 15 tables available. This will be on a first come basis.

**Good luck and good thinking!**

## Model Train Show

Join us for the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Model Train Show. If you are a model train fan, Durand is the place to be in mid-May. Hosting as many as 50 model train vendors, the annual Model Train Show is sponsored by Durand Union Station, Inc. The event will showcase operating layouts, rows and rows of model trains and rail items for sale as well as food and drinks.



When: Sunday, May 21  
 Time: 11 a.m.-3 p.m.  
 Where: Durand Middle School  
 9550 E. Lansing Road  
 Cost: \$5 per person; children 10 and under are free

Model railroad cars and structures will be available along with other railroad collectibles. There will be vendors from across the state and the Capital Area Railway Society will also be featured.

Come and see what model railroading has to offer!

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## Eighth Annual Kids Que

*Sponsored by Graff Chevrolet of Durand, The Mid-Michigan Chevrolet Dealers, and Durand Meat Processing*

Love the smell of hamburgers cooking on the grill? Be sure to sign your child up for the Eighth Annual Durand Railroad Days Kids Que barbeque contest. Hosted by Railroad Days, Inc., this is a grilling contest for youths 8-12 years old.

When:	Saturday, May 20
Where:	Graff Chevrolet of Durand Event Tent (near the clocktower)
Check in:	3 p.m.
Mandatory meeting:	3:30 p.m. (adult must be present)
Start your grills:	4 p.m.
Turn in time:	5 p.m.
Entry fee:	\$10 per contestant
Limit:	20 participants-first come
Registration:	Pre-registration is required. Registration forms and rules are available on the Railroad Days website <a href="http://www.durandrailroaddays.com">www.durandrailroaddays.com</a> Forms must be received by Friday, May 19. Please allow plenty of time for mail delivery.



The entries will be judged on presentation, tenderness, flavor, etc. Grills, charcoal, ground chuck (provided by Durand Meat Processing), and turn in boxes will be furnished. Participants provide their own spices, pre-prepared condiments (such as onions, pickles, etc.), buns (if desired), and cooking utensils. **No knives will be allowed on site.** Plan for three hamburgers.

**IMPORTANT:** Adult supervision is required, however, only the contestants are allowed to cook, prepare, and handle their entries.

Cash prizes and plaques will be awarded: 1<sup>st</sup> place-\$200; 2<sup>nd</sup> place-\$100; 3<sup>rd</sup> place-\$50; 4<sup>th</sup> place-\$25. For more information call the Railroad Days phone at (989) 288-4080.

*A special thank you to this year's contest sponsors: Graff Chevrolet of Durand, The Mid-Michigan Chevrolet Dealers, and Durand Meat Processing. Good luck and good cooking!*

## Chainsaw Carving Returns to Railroad Days

See the magic of the chainsaw as Ken Buggia of Shields displays his skills in chainsaw carving. Ken learned this fascinating art in the state of Washington from Master Carver Don Colp. He has continued carving for the enjoyment of the craft and has been carving at events and making custom pieces for many years. Mr. Buggia brings his skills to Railroad Days once again for the enjoyment of all.

Come watch as carvings come to life across from the Rowe Professional Services Company Activity Tent during the following time slots:

Friday, May 19	3 p.m.-6 p.m.
Saturday, May 20	11 a.m.-6 p.m.
Sunday, May 21	11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Carvings will be available for purchase. Come, watch and see what incredible creations come from a single, shapeless piece of wood!



## Knights of Columbus Breakfast

Mmmmm!!! Smell those sizzling sausages, golden pancakes, and hot coffee. For the breakfast lover in all of us, be sure to join the St. Mary Knights of Columbus during Railroad Days. The breakfast menu includes pancakes, eggs, sausage, hash browns, coffee, juice, and milk.

When:	Saturday, May 20
Time:	8 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.
Where:	St. Mary Catholic Church 700 E. Columbia Dr., Durand
Cost:	Children under the age of 5, Free Children 5-12 years old, \$7 Adults-\$10 Families-\$25

Join us for a friendly atmosphere, good food, and great conversation. Watch for the Knights of Columbus in this year's Railroad Days Parade. Hope to see you there!!!



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# 2023 Railroad Days Parade

(Saturday, May 20 at 1 p.m.)

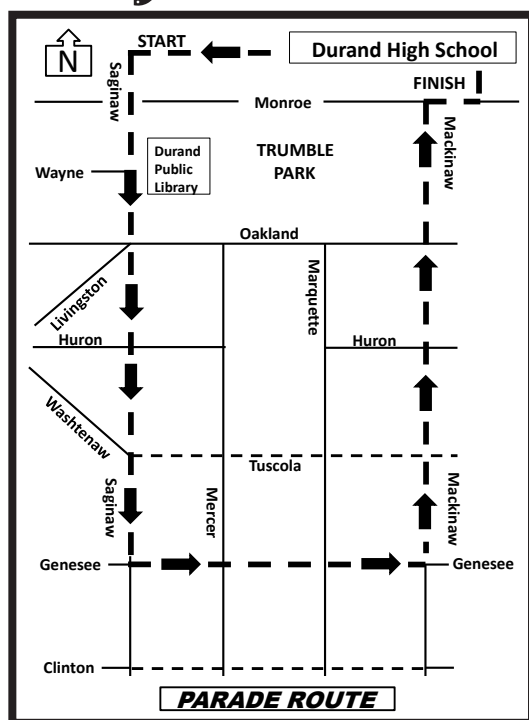
## Everyone Loves a Parade!

Come and enjoy the 48<sup>th</sup> annual Railroad Days Parade. Watch as the procession marches toward the downtown area from the high school access road.

The parade lineup includes veterans, royalty, clowns, bands, horses and much more. Be sure to wave to Miss Railroad Days 2023, Allison Zdunic, and her Attendant, Ashlynn Duffey, as well as the Railroad Days Princess, Aubriana Snyder and the Railroad Days Prince, Parker Owens.

This year's Railroad Person of the Year, Michael Amidon, will also be among the parade participants. Watch Stilt Walker, Kay from KJ Art, as she walks tall down the parade route, in her awesome costume and as she walks the carnival after the parade. Enjoy her show in the Rowe Professional Services Company Activity Tent on Friday and Saturday evening. She will do some circus tricks using poi, leviwands, spinning plates, a sun wheel, balloons and more. This is a great FREE activity for your whole family. Have fun and enjoy!

Railroad Days, Inc. would like to thank ALL the businesses, civic organizations, and the City of Durand and its employees for their contributions to the 2023 parade and festival.



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## GRAFF CHEVROLET OF DURAND EVENT TENT

*Sponsored by Graff Chevrolet of Durand*

**Friday, May 19**

**6 p.m.**

**Trivia Contest "Doors open"**

Contest benefits the Durand Education Foundation. \$10/Person Entry. Beverages from Right Brain Brewery and Burgdorf Winery will be available for purchase. Limit 15 tables. See article for details. *Sponsored by Graff Chevrolet of Durand and The Mid-Michigan Chevrolet Dealers.*

**7:30 p.m.**

**Trivia Contest** Trivia Contest begins.

**Saturday, May 20**

**3 p.m.**

**Kids Que**

Check in-registration must be received by Friday, \$10 Entry *Sponsored by Graff Chevrolet of Durand, The Mid-Michigan Chevrolet Dealers & Durand Meat Processing.*

**3:30 p.m.**

**Kids Que Mandatory meeting.**

**4 p.m.**

**Kids Que Cooking begins.**

**6 p.m.-10 p.m.**

**Bingo Night**

Bingo Night organized by the Bancroft Lioness Lions Club. \$.25/card. Beer and Wine by Right Brain Brewery and Burgdorf Winery will be available for purchase. See article for details. *Sponsored by Graff Chevrolet of Durand and The Mid-Michigan Chevrolet Dealers.*

**Sunday, May 21**

**1 p.m.**

**Kiddie Tractor Pull**

Pull will take place in the tent-see article for FREE age groups and details.

*Each child receives a T-shirts listing sponsors of this event.*

*Organized by the Durand Area Lions Club, Todd Acker of Acker Agency Insurance and Betty Fuller of the Iron Horse Pub.*

## ROWE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES COMPANY ACTIVITY TENT

*Sponsored by Rowe Professional Services Company*

**Friday, May 19**

**6 p.m. -8 p.m.**

**Stilt Walker**

Kay from KJ Art-watch as she performs FREE circus tricks on stilts!

*Sponsored by Riverside Market of Durand*

**Saturday, May 20**

**6 p.m.-8 p.m.**

**Stilt Walker**

Kay from KJ Art-watch as she performs FREE circus tricks on stilts!

*Sponsored by Riverside Market of Durand.*

**2:45 p.m.-4:45 p.m. Pillowcase Tie-Dye**

Pillowcase Tie-Dye-children FREE

**4 p.m.**

**Sawdust Pile Treasure Hunt**

In the street in front of the Rowe Professional FREE Services Company Activity Tent. See article for ages and details.

*Sponsored by Acker Agency Insurance of Durand and XYZ Landscape Supply.*

**Sunday, May 21**

**9 a.m.-10:30 a.m.**

**Beautiful Baby Contest** Registration begins. \$15.00 Entry (Newborn to 5yrs old)

*Sponsored by PFCU and Honey Hive Photography.*

**11 a.m.**

**Beautiful Baby Contest** Contest begins.

## RANDY WISE OF DURAND

### VENDORS SQUARE

*Sponsored by Coffield Oil Company*

**Thursday, May 18**

**3 p.m. -11 p.m.\***

Food vendors only will be open

**Friday, May 19**

**2 p.m. -11 p.m.\***

Food vendors and vendors selling a variety of clothing, jewelry, handbags and other crafts

**Saturday, May 20**

**10 p.m. -11 p.m.\***

Food vendors and vendors selling a variety of clothing, jewelry, handbags and other crafts

**Sunday, May 21**

**11 p.m. -5 p.m.\***

Vendors Food vendors and vendors selling a variety of clothing, jewelry, handbags and other crafts

\*Some vendors may close at dark due to lighting constraints while others will be open until the carnival closes



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Main Street Rocks

National Railroad Memorial, Inc. (NRMI)

Schutt Photography of Owosso

Stomping Grounds Cafe

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## Durand Library Events

The Durand Memorial Branch of the Shiawassee District Library will hold a used book sale during Railroad Days. The library is located at 700 N. Saginaw St. just north of downtown on the edge of Trumble Park.

Hours for the sale are:

Thursday, May 18 9:30 a.m.-8 p.m.

Friday, May 19 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

Saturday, May 20 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. (closed for parade)

Sunday, May 21 Closed

Monday, May 22 9:30 a.m.-8 p.m.



A variety of books for all ages will be available and sorted for sale including hardcover, paperback, fiction, and nonfiction. Proceeds from the book sale will help fund projects of the Friends of the Library.

Last year, the Friends of Durand Memorial Library sponsored a bookmark design contest for 5<sup>th</sup> grade students at Robert Kerr Elementary for Railroad Days 2022. The theme for the bookmarks had to show Durand or the Railroad Days Festival. The bookmarks chosen were submitted by Aden Claspbell and Sophia Proctor. These bookmarks were given to students at Robert Kerr and are available at the library. Look for more events to come to the library in the future!

More information can be found on the library's website [mysdl.org](http://mysdl.org), on the Shiawassee District Library Durand Memorial Branch Facebook page or by calling the library at (989) 288-3743.



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# NRMI's Annual Railroad Celebration At Iron Horse Park Continues

For the tenth year, National Railroad Memorial, Inc. (NRMI) will be hosting a ***"Celebration of Railroading"*** in Iron Horse Park (next to the Durand fire hall). This will be on Saturday, May 20 and Sunday, May 21 from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Yes, it has been a decade since NRMI first brought attention to the existence and condition of Treasures Along the Rail in Iron Horse Park. NRMI wanted to create a space during Railroad Days where there was fun, entertainment and yes, even some learning, to celebrate railroading without any charge! NRMI will, however, accept donations to help renovate the Gate Tower, Baggage Car, and Steam Locomotive that are on static display in the park.

Through the years, NRMI and countless visitors have had fun, learned new things, and celebrated the meaning of railroading in our lives.

Some of the events and activities include:

**Saturday, May 20 and Sunday, May 21; 11 a.m.-5 p.m.**

In the 1919 Pullman Baggage Car there will be:

- Railroad related exhibits with the main exhibit being ***"Signal This!"*** This will be a fun glimpse at the importance of signals in railroad with a focus on signals in the era of steam.
- Information about ***"Treasures Along the Rails,"*** which is a self-guided walking tour featuring Durand's rail treasures, will be available.
- Durand's Grand Trunk Western Steam Locomotive 5632 will be on static display. It is one of only seven such steam locomotives in the United States so please check it out.
- Gate Tower No. 25, Thanks to the donations of rail fans who have visited NRMI through the nine previous years, NRMI will be highlighting the restored, beloved Gate Tower No. 25 which is located in Iron Horse Park. It has a unique place in Durand history. You won't want to miss this structure with a newly restored look to show off and a story to tell.
- There will be many other surprises to entertain you.
- Refreshments will be available

**Saturday, May 20 only: 11 a.m.-5 p.m.**

- A caricature artist and a balloon sculptor on site will compete to give our guests a unique memory of Railroad Days.

Find out about more interesting facts including the answers to: Do you know what the two signals are that proudly reside in Iron Horse Park? Do you know what the purpose of Gate Tower No. 25 was? These questions and more will be answered in the exhibits in the Pullman Baggage Car.

These exhibits will continue to focus on our railroad family ties with ***"The Wall of Honor."*** The Wall of Honor which will feature stories of railroad employees and their families with ties to Durand including our Railroad Person of the year, Mike Amidon. NRMI may touch on stories such as that of Charles Melvin Hayes, President of the Grand Trunk Railway, who died in 1912 and oversaw the construction of the Durand Roundhouse or the story of a unique railroad man, Johannes Peter Olaf Jensen who worked for the Grand Trunk Western Railroad for 37 years from 1917 to 1954. He had a uniquely beautiful connection to Durand's rail station and helped start a local Durand business. If you have a story to tell, find out how your story can join the Wall of Honor.

With respect to the present, learn about the status of the repair and renovation project of the rail treasures in Iron Horse Park, and learn about the newest rail treasure coming soon to join the locomotive and baggage car in the park, (a GTW Reefer). NRMI volunteers and exhibits will walk you through the next steps to be done by who, how it is going to be done and exactly how much money is needed to make the rest of the park shine like the Gate Tower. NRMI volunteers will let guests know how they can be involved and any help they can give. Finally, NRMI will update guests on the status of the National Railroad Memorial and Diamond District Park Project. The Exhibits of the Pullman Baggage Car are brought to visitors by the Wyllie Project, an initiative of NRMI to preserve and honor the stories of the men and women of the Railroad Industry as told by the families who love them. See you in Iron Horse Park on Saturday and Sunday of Railroad Days!



**REMEMBER-PLEASE COME TO IRON HORSE PARK  
DURING RAILROAD DAYS TO HAVE SOME FUN. BEST  
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*The National Railroad Memorial, Inc. (NRMI) is a nonprofit corporation organized as a 501 (C) (3). Its mission is to honor the men and women of the railroad industry by educating the public as to the importance of their roles in our nation's past, present and future. NRMI is partnering with the City of Durand to honor these individuals by building the National Railroad Memorial as the centerpiece of Diamond District Park, downtown Durand.*



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**Mike Amidon**  
2023 Railroad Person of the Year



2023 Railroad Days Queen Allison Zdunec  
(top left) next to Attendant Ashlynn Duffey  
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## ***Durand Railroad Days Annual BEAUTIFUL BABY CONTEST***



***Join us Sunday, May 21 at 11 am in the Rowe Professional Services  
Company Activity Tent***

Early registration entry forms can be found on our website at [www.durandrailroaddays.com](http://www.durandrailroaddays.com)

- 8 age divisions from newborn to 5 Years old.
- Early registration forms may be mailed in to Beautiful Baby Contest c/o Kristy Wagner, 808 N. Saginaw St., Durand, MI 48429
- Registration is available in the Rowe Professional Services Company Activity Tent from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Entries will not be accepted after 10:30 a.m. the day of.
- The entry fee is \$15 per child and must be included with the entry form.
- Please make checks payable to Railroad Days, Inc.

The overall runner up winner will receive a personalized pictured 30 x 40 blanket. The overall winner will receive a personalized sketched crystal lamp. Both prizes are sponsored by Honey Hive Photography.

Each Participant will receive an official Durand Railroad Days Beautiful Baby Contest ribbon, a free digital stage picture and goodie bag from Honey Hive Photography, and a gift from PFCU.

Honey Hive Photography will be in the Rowe Professional Services Company Activity Tent prior to and after the baby contest taking professional backdrop photographs. Package prices and order forms will be available at registration.

For more information, please contact Kristy Wagner at [babycontest@durandrailroaddays.com](mailto:babycontest@durandrailroaddays.com)

*All proceeds go the Railroad Days organization in order to continue this tradition.*

## **BOXCAR SUMMER CARE**



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## Buy a Chance at Cow Bingo!!!

Everyone's favorite game of chance, Cow Bingo, will be back again at the 2023 Railroad Days Celebration. Try your luck at guessing which patch of grass Rosie will choose to grace with her "presence".

One hundred squares will be marked off on the southeast corner of Main and Railroad Street. There will be 400 chances sold (4 chances per square). Tickets can be purchased for \$5 per square in advance from Durand FFA Alumni members, XYZ Landscape Supply, Matt and Sandy Blight, and Torey Birchmeier at Durand Area High School. Tickets may also be purchased on the day of the event at the Cow Bingo area from 3 p.m.-3:45 p.m. while tickets last.

When: Saturday, May 20

Time: 4 p.m.-the watch begins

Where: Southeast corner of Main and Railroad Streets

There will be 4 winners for the "chosen" square and each winner will receive a \$100 cash prize. Proceeds from the Cow Bingo will go to the Jeffrey Cole Memorial Fund.

Come and encourage Rosie to choose just the right spot as you "watch and wait". In the event that Rosie has stage fright and does not "perform" by 6 p.m., she must return to the farm to be milked. At that time, a number will be drawn to determine the winner(s) of the event. Good luck!!!

## Railroad Days 23rd Annual Sawdust Pile Treasure Hunt *Sponsored by Acker Agency Insurance and XYZ Landscape Supply*

Don't forget to bring your children (up to age 10) to the Annual Sawdust Pile Treasure Hunt!!!

Prizes, which will consist of a total of \$300 in quarters and trinkets, will be hidden in a sawdust pile. Children will be given specific time intervals to dig through the sawdust with other children in their age group (youngest first) in search of prizes.

When: Saturday, May 20

Time: 4 p.m.

Where: On Main Street, East of Choo-Choo Square

Cost: FREE!!

Sponsor: Acker Agency Insurance  
(Prizes) XYZ Landscape Supply  
(Sawdust)

*Come and enjoy the fun!*

Dr. Rajiva Tirtha D.D.S.

Dr. Randall Lewis D.D.S.



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# Events at the Depot

Railroad Days isn't complete unless you visit historic Durand Union Station, the 120-year-old landmark that brings railroading history to life. New museum displays will be unveiled and popular exhibits from years past will be on display as well, including the telegraph table. All of these exhibits and more are located in the Michigan Railroad History Museum inside the Depot.

Small-gauge train displays will be set up inside the Depot. Along with the extensive H-O scale display maintained at the station by the Durand Union Station Model Railroad Engineers, visitors will get to see the handiwork of the Mid-Michigan Railway Historical Society and Saginaw River Valley Model Railroad Club.

The Grand Trunk and Ann Arbor Railroad museum rooms will be staffed with members who will share the history of the two railroad lines that played such important roles in Durand's past and Michigan's history.

Food will be served from the Freight Room Café on Saturday and Sunday.

## Friday, May 19

1 p.m.-5 p.m.  
6 p.m.

Depot opens to visitors-Events include: Model train displays

Award Ceremony honoring the 2023 Railroad Person of the Year, Michael Amidon, in the Durand Union Station Ballroom-open to the public

## Saturday, May 20

11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Depot opens to visitors-Events include:

Freight Room Food Café open-selling food and snacks

Operation Life Saver display

Model Train displays

11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Grand Trunk & Ann Arbor galleries open on the second floor of the depot.

## Sunday, May 21

Noon-5 p.m.

Depot opens to visitors-Events include:

Freight Room Food Café open-selling food and snacks

Operation Life Saver display

Model Train displays



*Come and enjoy these activities and view one of the most photographed depots in the nation!!*

## KIDDIE TRACTOR PEDAL PULL on Sunday

*Organized by the Durand Area Lions Club, Acker Agency Insurance and the Iron Horse Pub*

The Kiddie Tractor Pedal Pull will be held Sunday, May 21 in the Graff Chevrolet of Durand Event Tent. It is free for children ages 3 through 12.

### Age Classes and Times:

Class 1:	Ages 3 & 4	Starting at 1 p.m.
Class 2:	Ages 5 & 6	Starting at 1 p.m.
Class 3:	Ages 7 & 8	Starting after Classes 1 & 2 finish
Class 4:	Ages 9 & 10	Starting after Classes 1 & 2 finish
Class 5:	Ages 11 & 12	Starting after Classes 1, 2, 3 & 4 finish

Children must be registered for the event and will receive a t-shirt for participating. The sponsors that make this event possible are listed on the t-shirt.

Kiddie tractor pulling is just like big tractor pulls; the kids drive tractors with big weight sleds behind them while family and friends cheer them on. The tractors used are modified versions of the tot-driven pedal tractors that can be seen in many driveways.

Modifications include getting both rear wheels to pull and a stronger chain added to the tractor's drive train. A gear ratio-change and heavy-duty tires also add some muscle to the pedal-powered tractor.

The event is sponsored by local area businesses and civic groups which are listed on each t-shirt. The event is organized by the Durand Area Lions Club, Todd Acker of Acker Agency Insurance and Betty Fuller of the Iron Horse Pub. Please call (989) 288-2537 for more information.

## Fifth Annual Rick Taljonick III Cars for Cancer Car Show

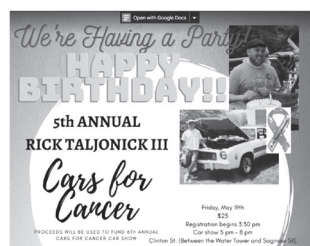
*We're having a party!* The Fifth Annual Rick Taljonick III Cars for Cancer Car Show will be celebrating Rick's birthday weekend during Railroad Days 2023. This is an event to honor the memory of Richard Taljonick III who battled brain cancer (Glioblastoma) for over two years. We are also recognizing May as Brain Cancer Awareness Month, and celebrating the fifth year of this car show.

Monies raised from the car show will be used to fund this annual Cars for Cancer Car Show.

When:	Friday, May 19
Where:	Clinton St. between Saginaw Street and the Water Tower
Registration:	3:30 p.m.
Entry Fee:	\$25 per entry
Car Show:	5 p.m.-8 p.m.

There will be three Best in Show trophies, two Son's Choice trophies and the first 50 cars will get a swag bag and a birthday cupcake.

Forms are available on the Railroad Days website at [www.durandrailroaddays.com](http://www.durandrailroaddays.com).



# Vendors! Vendors! Vendors!

**Sponsored by Coffield Oil Company**

## Food vendors include:

Paradise Concessions to get your delicious corn dogs, elephant ears or a confectioner's delight (made to delight on-site)  
Shuck 'N' Ladder where you can enjoy Mexican street corn, loaded potatoes and walking tacos  
Mike Brew will be on site with items such as cotton candy and lemonade  
Razzy's Food Factory will be serving polish and italian sausage, hamburgers, hot dogs, and french fries

## Merchandise vendors

*A variety of vendors will be on-site selling an assortment of clothing, jewelry, handbags, crafts, and other treasures.*

So come one and all and make the "Wise Choice" to visit Randy Wise Vendors Square to find the right treat, a gift for your sweet or yourself all weekend long during Railroad Days.

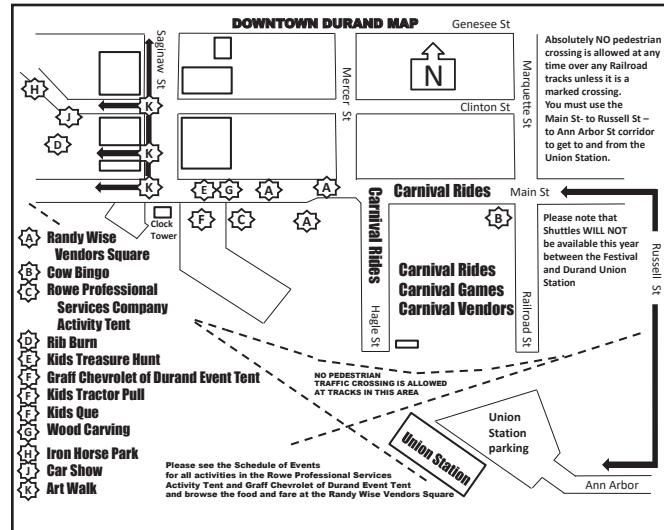
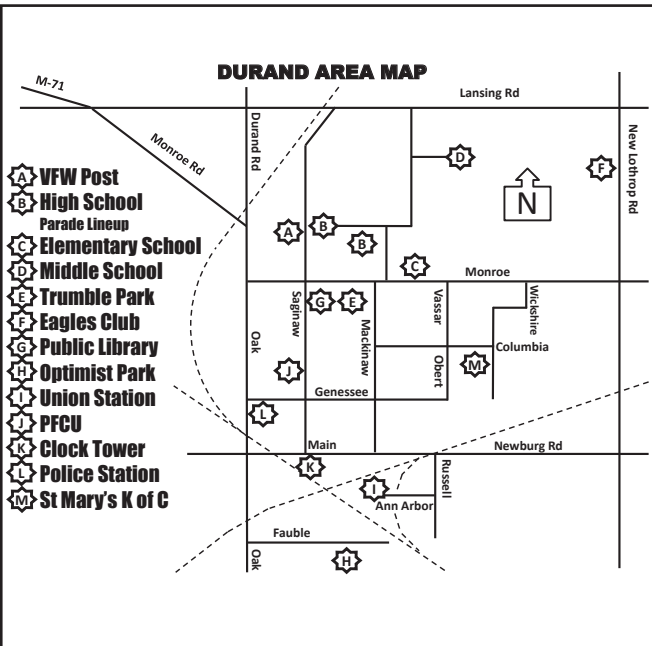
Railroad Days would like to express special appreciation to Coffield Oil Company for their cooperation with making the fuel price affordable to power the generator for these vendors.

**Food vendors** only are open for business on Thursday, May 18 from 3 p.m.-11 p.m.;

**Food and craft vendors** are open Friday, May 19 from 2 p.m.-11 p.m.; Saturday, May 20 from 10 a.m.-11 p.m.; and Sunday, May 21 from 11 a.m.-5 p.m.\*

**Be sure to visit the food and merchandise vendors located in Randy Wise Vendors square.**

*\*Some vendors close at dark due to lighting constraints, but some will be open until the carnival closes\**



## Bingo Night Joins Railroad Days

**Sponsored by Graff Chevrolet of Durand**

New to Railroad Days; Bingo will join the list of fun activities at Railroad Days 2023. Located in the Graff Chevrolet of Durand Event Tent, enjoy a spirited night of Bingo hosted by the Bancroft Lioness Lions Club. Below are the particulars for the contest:

When: Saturday, May 20  
Time: Games begin at 6 p.m. and run until 10 p.m.  
Where: Guests may come and go as they please  
Graff Chevrolet of Durand Event Tent (near the clocktower)  
Cost: \$.25 per card; payout will be one-half of the proceeds from each game

Contestants may bring food into the event but **no outside beverages**. Adult beverages from Burgdorf Winery of Haslett and Right Brain Brewery of Traverse City will be available to purchase as well as soft drinks and bottled water.

So bring yourself and your friends for a fun filled night of Bingo. Good Luck and Good Playing!!

Jeremy Hart

James Hart

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