

# 'Hidden Treasures' on display at Station Museum

**By Rebecca D. Richardson**  
of Mainline Newspapers

The spring 2006 exhibit at the Station Museum in Portage will open April 1. Irene Huschak, the corresponding secretary for the Portage Area Historical Society, said, "The title is 'Hidden Treasures' — selected because we have the neatest things stored in the back rooms."

The items on display are donations from the community. According to Huschak, "Donations come to us in many ways including, local residents, businesses and former residents." While all the items have been available for use in programs for school groups, and by those conducting research, many people do not realize the size of the collection owned by the museum. The goal with this exhibit was to display all items in the collection at one time in one place (or at least as many items as possible).

Huschak noted some of the most interesting items in the collection. They include curtains and drapery from the Mountain House; signs, ads and displays used for Schenfeld's famous 20 percent off sale; numerous old glass bottles, all from a former Portage business, with the name, "Portage Coca-Cola," on them; the original wooden Bar Ann drive-in sign; a copy of, "the Game of Portage," and five huge boxes of plates and page forms from the original Dispatch when it was owned by Sedloff Publishing. Huschak explained that there are many more items on display and that this list is just a sampling of the collection.

The exhibit will be on display on the main floor of the Station Museum on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 12 to 4 p.m. There is no fee to view the exhibit. The research library is open the same hours as the exhibit.