

Monroe County History Center

Where the past and present meet.



News from the Library Online Edition

Dear Hillary,

Welcome to the fourth edition of the Monroe County History Center's online version of News from the Library.

This issue was postponed as the research library underwent a staffing transition and an extensive refurbishment in the past several months. Elizabeth Schlemmer accepted a teaching position, and I began work at the library in August. In September, we began installing new carpet, paint, shelving, blinds, and cabinetry.

I am pleased to be able to publish this edition at last and to share some photos from the process. Thank you to the volunteers who assisted with the renovation and another sincere "thank you" to all who have welcomed me to the library.

Comments to the newsletter are always welcome and may be emailed to mchclibrary@gmail.com. Thank you all for your support of the Monroe County Historical Society.

Best,

Nicole Bieganski
Research Library Manager
Monroe County History Center

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Research Library Refurbishment

On September 8, the library began a refurbishment and cleaning process that included the installation of new carpet, paint, shelving, cabinetry, and blinds.

We are extremely grateful to Lou Malcomb for her shelving donation and to Gary Wiggins for procuring a new fireproof file cabinet that helped us expand our vertical files.

Thank you also to all the volunteers who assisted with the refurbishment process. We could not have completed the project without you.

Please stop into the research library to view the changes!

Upcoming Events

*Genealogy Group

Thursday, November 7 at 7 p.m.
MONROE COUNTY'S POSTAL HISTORY

Lecture description:

During the past 200 years of Monroe County's existence, more than 45 post offices have come and gone including those at Lemons, Cortelyou, Mt. Tabor and Rose Creek. Seven, however, have been around nearly the whole time. Learn about Monroe County's postal history from Marge Faber, secretary treasurer of the Indiana Postal History Society on Thursday, November 7, at 7 PM, at the Monroe County History Center. This program is free and open to everyone.

*Research Library Closed

Thursday, November 28 and Friday, November 29
LIBRARY CLOSED ON THESE DATES

The research library will be closed on Thanksgiving Day as well as the following day, November 29.

*Canopy of Lights Event at the History Center

New Items in the Library

1955 Stinesville Quarrian Yearbook
Gift of Sue Bowman

Bloomington High School South Alumni Directory
Gift of Bob and Joann Dodd

Monroe County Marriage Application Books 7, 8, 9 Index 1882-1898
Compiled by Ron Burkhart

Monroe County, Indiana: Veterans' Grave Registration
Researched and compiled by Randi Richardson

Robert Karsell -- His Family
Gift of Philip R. Karsell

Marriage Record Books A and B (1818-1840, 1840-1852)
Transferred to the library by Linda Robbins, County Clerk

Our collection of **veterans' oral histories** also continues to grow.

Friday, November 29 at 5 p.m.

The Monroe County History Center will open its doors at 5 p.m. on the evening of the lighting of the courthouse square. Come enjoy hot cider and donuts, shop our Christmas sale, or tour the museum. *The research library will be closed during this event.*

Created by Ron Burkhart in memory of Bud Lynch. Transcribed by library intern Sean Ettinger.

Featured Resource

Monroe County Court Cases, ca. 1818-1950

The library holds Monroe County's court records for the years 1818-1950. Both civil and criminal court cases comprise this collection transferred from the clerk's office in the 1990s.

The cases are of four major types: divorce cases between two individuals, cases in which one individual offended another, offenses against the state, and cases in which the plaintiff offended another individual while also breaking a law.

The abbreviated Latin legal phrase "State ex. rel." always accompanies documentation on the cases of this last type. The phrase "ex relatione" essentially means

New Arrivals from the County Clerk!

Linda Robbins, County Clerk, has transferred custody of Monroe County Marriage Records A and B (1818-1840, 1840-1852) to the Monroe County History Center Research Library.

The library now holds original marriage records or applications for the years 1818-1954.

Marriage Book A is in extremely delicate condition, and future conservation grant proposals will focus on its restoration.

The research library is grateful to the clerk's office for this transfer.

Seeking Newspaper Project Volunteer

The research library is seeking new or experienced volunteers to assist with the continuation of its news clipping project.

In a portion of its card catalog cabinetry, the library holds indexed newspaper clippings dating to the beginning of the county. These documents are not only historically significant and interesting but also one-of-a-kind resources for our area. Many clippings are from out-of-print newspapers or newspapers that now charge fees for access to their online archives.

The library has a backlog of these newspaper clippings -- containing gossip blurbs, obituaries, etc. -- that need to be sorted, indexed, and placed on filing cards for patron use. If you are interested, know someone who may be interested, or would like to use part of your normal volunteer shift to work on this project, please email Nicole Bieganski at mchclibrary@gmail.com

Unique Indexes for the Genealogical Researcher

Genealogists often rely on indexes compiled by fellow researchers to lead them to original documents. The research library holds many common types of indexes -- such as county census and marriage indexes -- thanks to its volunteers' research and work. However, it also holds indexes that are somewhat unusual.

Unique indexes at the Monroe County History Center Research Library:

-- Index of Revolutionary War Patriots Buried in Indiana (With Pension Status). Compiled by Ron Burkhart and Margaret Waters.

- This index can lead the researcher to [pursue a photocopy of an original veteran's pension through the National Archives](#)

-- Monroe County, Indiana: Veterans' Grave Registration. Researched and compiled by Randi Richardson.

- Richardson's compilation consists, in part, of information compiled by select individuals during the Depression years (1939) as part of a government aid program. This information is available at the Indiana Archives.

-- Original index to Monroe County Commissioners' Records A and B (1818-1824)

- The research library holds original County Commissioners' Books A-J, as well as a 1940 transcription of these records sponsored by the Indiana Historical Survey

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"upon relation" (of the state) and indicates that the plaintiff not only offended an individual but also broke a law with his or her actions.

In other words, the state becomes involved on behalf of the plaintiff because the defendant's illegal action was an offense against the state, too.

[Search the library's 1818-1875 court records index.](#)

Become a member today!

The Monroe County Historical Society supports itself through members like you! Some of the benefits of membership include:

- free admission to the museum
- 10% discount in the museum store
- Bimonthly issues of *Monroe County Historian*
- Special members-only events

Levels:
Student/Teacher
\$20
Basic \$35
Family \$60
Sustaining \$100
Patron \$500

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