Solar Celebration

Thanks to generous anonymous donors we have solar panels installed on our new metal roof!

In celebration of our new solar panels, join us for a lawn party as part of National Clean Up the World Weekend.

We will have a portion of the new roof on display along with a digital exhibit of our solar energy usage in real time. We will also be making s’mores using solar ovens. Anyone interested may donate old pizza boxes and aluminum foil to contribute to the family fun.

Date: September 15th
Time: 10am to 4pm
Where: Monroe County History Center
202 East 6th Street
Bloomington, IN 47408

Contact Andrea Hadsell with any questions at education@monroehistory.org

Installation of energy saving LED lights

Thanks to the generous donations of Norman and Mary Lee Deckard, the Monroe County History Center has replaced all museum lights with energy saving LED lights.

We now have a year’s data for electricity use since last April when the LED lights were installed throughout the building. Here’s what it looks like:

Over the eight previous years, we used an annual average of 250,580 KwHr, costing a average of $21,505.

In the year since LED installation, we used 212,320 KwHr, costing $20,531.

Therefore, we saved 15.3% in usage, but only 4.5% in cost. The difference is due to the gradual rate increases by Duke.

Thank you, Norman and Mary Lee Deckard, for helping MCHC to go green!
**Rechter Gallery:**

**Breaking the Color Barrier: Bloomington’s Firsts**

Throughout the history of Bloomington, African Americans have struggled, endured, and overcome many forms of oppression. One of the biggest obstacles was trying to find a well-paying job in order to support a family. “Breaking the Color Barrier: Bloomington’s Firsts” tells the stories of the African Americans that helped break the color barrier in their respective field. Figures such as George Taliaferro, Mattie Jacobs Fuller, Bill Garrett, and many others are covered in our exhibition.

Open June 1 through October 12

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**Hill Gallery:**

**Bicentennial Art Contest Winners**

Join us on July 27, 2018 between 5:00 and 7:00 pm for a reception to honor the winners of the Bicentennial Art Contest. The Bloomington Commission on the Status of Children and Youth, in collaboration with other Bloomington commissions, challenged local school-aged youth to research an individual or an organization from the Bloomington area that is part of a minority or under-represented group (women, racial minority, sexual or gender identity minority, or a socio-economic status that is typically not represented) and then create some type of artwork to depict or represent that person or organization. Artwork was judged in age categories and the winners’ works will be on exhibit at the History Center until October 27, 2018.

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**Brown Gallery:** Closed, will reopen Fall 2018

**Community Voices:**

**Bloomington Meals on Wheels**

This organization provides meals to those in the community who are unable to purchase or prepare their own. BMOW service provides a sense of independence by allowing its clients to remain in their homes.

Open through September 29

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**News from the Museum Store**

**Two-Moon Journey: The Potawatomi Trail of Death**

*Two Moon Journey* tells the story of a young Potawatomi girl named Simu-quah and her family and friends who are forced from their village in Indiana, where they had lived for generations, to beyond the Mississippi River in Kansas. Historically the journey is known as the Potawatomi Trail of Death. Like the real Potawatomi, Simu-quah sees the soldiers set fire to part of her village as she takes her first steps to the distant and frightening westward land. She experiences the heat and exhaustion of endless days of walking; she helps nurse sick children and the elderly. She sleeps beside strange streams and caves and turns from hating the soldiers to seeing them as people. In Kansas, as she plants corn seeds she has saved from her Indiana home, she turns away from the bitterness of removal and finds forgiveness, the first step in the journey of her new life in Kansas.

—Available in paperback from the Museum Store for $8.95 plus tax.
From the President

There is so much good news to share with you as the Monroe County History Center staff and volunteers have been working very hard to deliver quality programs, exhibits, and events this summer!

The Garage Sale was a tremendous success and broke all previous records by raising well over $135,000!! The Garage Sale Committee led by Sue Ellen Bowman works all year long to collect, arrange, and price items. This year they were joined by more volunteers than ever! Many thanks to Sue Ellen and to all of the committee members, all of the additional volunteers who helped in May and June, all of the many donors who brought wonderful items to the sale, and to the many customers who made the grand total possible! The proceeds from the Garage Sale provide operating revenue for the MCHC and allow us to support our tremendous staff. Director Susan Dyar and the entire staff have had a very busy summer with exhibits, receptions, events, and visitors!

Many kudos to Exhibits Manager A. J. Gianopoulos, Collections Manager Hilary Fleck, and to Liz Mitchell and the African American Committee, for the exhibit “Breaking the Color Barrier: Bloomington’s Firsts” in the Rechter Gallery at the History Center! The exhibit recognizes and celebrates the many accomplishments of African American citizens in our community and runs until October 12th. You won’t want to miss it!

Education Manager Andrea Hadsell and the Education Committee have been very busy with programs and events including hosting summer camp groups, and an ice cream social, and they have plans for more this Fall. Two extraordinary donors (who have chosen to remain anonymous) have made this investment possible. The MCHC is so fortunate to have such wonderful friends, volunteers, and donors!

Please visit the MCHC often and thank you so much for all of your support!

Linda Williamson, President
MCHC Board of Trustees

Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>August</th>
<th>September</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2nd, 5:30pm, Carnegie Library Lecture at MCHC</td>
<td>3rd CLOSED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th, 11am, WFHB Saturday’s Child at MCHC</td>
<td>6th, 5:30pm, Members only behind-the-scenes tour at MCHC</td>
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<tr>
<td>16th, 4:30pm, Board Meeting at MCHC</td>
<td>8th, 11am, WFHB Saturday’s Child at MCHC</td>
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<tr>
<td>21st, 4pm, VetGuard Community Outreach at MCHC</td>
<td>11th, 7pm, Civil War Round Table at MCHC</td>
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<td>25th, 1pm, HiStory Book Club at MCHC</td>
<td>10th, 10am, MCHC Solar Celebration at MCHC</td>
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<tr>
<td>25th, 8am, Makevention at the Bloomington Convention Center</td>
<td>20th, 4:30pm, Board Meeting at MCHC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29th, 4pm, Teacher’s Night Out at MCHC</td>
<td>29th, 1pm, HiStory Book Club at MCHC</td>
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As the summer comes to a close, the “Museums for America” grant we received from the Institute of Museum and Library Services is wrapping up. The grant helped fund 13 shelving units for collections storage, artifact rehousing materials, and two semesters of a paid student internship. This project has allowed us to rehouse all of the small and medium-sized artifacts in our collection in safe, archival quality shelving, which will protect them for years to come. The artifacts that were temporarily housed in the Brown Gallery have rejoined the collection in storage, and we are working on preparing the gallery for exhibits soon. If you would like to check out our new shelving and collections storage updates, there will be a special members only behind-the-scenes tour on September 6th, time 5:30pm. We hope to see you there!

**Education Desk**

By Andrea Hadsell

This summer has been bustling with activity at the History Center! We have updated our Gayle Cook Junior summer camp series to bring specialized workshops to the summer camps in Monroe County. Campers across the county are learning about Indiana pioneers, prehistoric animals, and the fish on top of the courthouse for the bicentennial. We are also offering lots of programming for families during the summer, like our Sundaes on Saturday. On July 21, we had families enjoy ice cream courtesy of Hartzell’s Ice Cream while playing games and spending time on our front lawn.

Coming up soon, librarian and previous Education Manager for MCHC, Dana Duffy, will give a talk on Carnegie Libraries on August 2 at 5:30 pm. From Carnegie’s fortune in its early days to the beginning of the American public libraries, Dana will share the history of Carnegie Libraries as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of our building. This is also a perfect opportunity to get excited for our August HiStory Book Club, *To the Stars through Difficulties* by Romalyn Tilghman!

Last but not least, we will have our first ever Teachers’ Night Out! On August 29, teachers from Monroe County, Eastern Greene, and surrounding school districts are invited to come to the History Center to explore our exhibits, see our field trip offerings, and relax with a glass of wine. Many thanks to the new owners of the Trojan Horse for donating fantastic food for the event!
Volunteer Spotlight

Thank you to the many volunteers who assisted with this year’s Garage Sale fundraiser. Your assistance helped us surpass last year’s sales total. We couldn’t have done it without your help.

Welcome to some new volunteers:

Randy Williamson, Linda’s husband, came on board after his retirement from his second career as IU President McRobbie’s special assistant. His first career was with the Bloomington Police Department where he retired as Deputy Chief in 2007. Randy’s first tasks at the History Center included helping Linda paint over the graffiti that appears on our alley wall and volunteering at the warehouse preparing for this year’s garage sale.

Kristen Matthen started volunteering in May and has filled many needs during her short time here. She has filled in at the Greeter desk, answered the phone, folded brochures, created several mailing lists for membership invitation letters, and was a life saver creating most of the tags needed by the Garage Sale Committee for furniture and linens. We will miss Kristen when she leaves in mid-August to study museums and collections in London, England.

Tiffany Willingham learned of our volunteer positions through her association with the Ellettsville History Museum Collection. She serves as a greeter on Saturdays when her schedule permits and in addition, she also works on office projects or tasks for other History Center departments. Tiffany said she hopes to make her volunteer career with us a very long partnership and we hope that as well.

Announcements

● Gift certificates available for purchase in the Museum Store make a wonderful gift when you aren’t sure what to choose for a special occasion. These can be used for anything we have for sale at the History Center including memberships and genealogy publications. Ask the greeter on duty or someone in the office about purchasing a History Center Museum Store gift certificate.

● All flowers and botanicals framed artwork on sale at the History Center is now HALF PRICE. Stop by and look it over and we’re sure you will find a beautiful piece of art to enjoy.

● We want to be sure our messages reach you, so please let us know if you change your address. We also need to know if you stop using email or if you have unsubscribed from our Constant Contact emailing list.

● Starting this month new membership cards will come to you laminated. This will protect cards that get used often at Time Travelers or NARM institutions. You’re welcome to bring in your current membership card to have it laminated, anytime Tuesday - Saturday, 10am to 4pm. If for any reason you’d prefer that your card not be laminated, be sure to let us know.

● Newsletter: We will continue to provide the Monroe County Historian newsletter in printed form. However, you can receive your copy by email if you prefer that format. To change your newsletter to the digital version, email volunteers@monroehistory.org. You can always change back to the printed copy if you find you don’t like the digital version.

● You are now able to renew your membership online! Check out our website for more details. You also have the option now of becoming a Sustaining Member of the History Center, which means you’ll never struggle to remember when you last gave or when your membership expires. Your membership fee can be divided into monthly payments, and your monthly contribution is automatically billed to your credit card and will continue until changed or cancelled by you. A History Center Sustaining Membership can begin at just $10 a month – you can choose any amount that works within your budget.
Contributors
May and June 2018

The History Center wishes to acknowledge and recognize those who provided financial gifts to support our operations in May and June 2018:

Supporter Membership
Allen Dunn

Contributor Memberships
Catherine M. Hoff
Susan and David Jones
Miles and Marjorie Kanne
Charles Meiser
Kerma Murray
Ron Pennington
Steve and Debby Reed
Larry and Ellie Rink
Gary and Mia Wiggins
Charlotte Zietlow

Donations:
Clare Grumbling
Beverly Watkins
Bloomington Garden Club
Tom and Penny Mathiesen
Joanne Passet and Deb Wehman
Lana Eads
The Woman’s Club

New Members
Patricia Coleman
Adi Brooks
Lauren and Peter Cowan

Remembering

Pat Haley was a member of the History Center for many years. During that time she served on the Board of Trustees and donated often in support of the History Center’s mission. In the 1960s, Pat owned The Flower Bowl and worked as a florist before entering politics. She served multiple terms as County Clerk and Recorder and was very proud to be a civil servant.

Until Betty Marquardt’s death in January 2018, she and her husband Ronald enjoyed traveling around the country in their RV, and their dogs enjoyed riding along with them. During their vacations and retirement they visited many U.S. historic sites. Ronald and Betty joined the History Center after they retired and moved back to Indiana from Corbin, Kentucky.

Laura J. Mills was a member and friend of the History Center for many years. Laura attended Copeland High School and Dodge City Junior College in Kansas. Laura was 93 years old when she died.

Barbara Minett, mother of Cathy Murphy (and mother-in-law to Jim Murphy) died July 8 at the age of 84. Before Barbara’s marriage to Russell Minett, she worked at various businesses in Bloomington including the King Shop, J. C. Penney, and her father’s Westside Fruit Market. She is remembered as a nurturing mother, grandmother and great-grandmother and a true family matriarch. Her husband, Russell, was minister at Bridge Church of Christ, where Barbara taught Bible classes for more than 40 years.
The annual June garage sale was again a huge success thanks to our corps of long-time and first-time volunteers, our generous donors of merchandise, and the crowds of customers who shopped on sale days.

Special thanks goes to Cletus Cook, Rick Naftzger, and Larry Newell, who provide expert repair work, moving, and pick-up. We couldn’t do it without them. A big thanks also goes to Catalent, now owners of the former Cook Pharmaca Warehouse where our sale takes place. We are especially grateful to the generous members and friends who donated merchandise all year to make this our biggest sale ever, bringing in over $135,000 from the sale of merchandise, including a beautiful automobile donated by Cook. THANK YOU DONORS!

Preparations are underway for next year’s sale – Save those donations!

Remember: we collect donations all year long.

Next: HOLIDAY SALE

We are now accepting donated items for the annual Holiday Shop at the History Center. Please bring good quality holiday decorations and like-new gift items any time. Gift-type donations could include jewelry, small antiques, decorator items, and new and used items like gloves, scarves, games, and puzzles. The holiday boutique will open November 1, so we need donations before then if possible. Re-gifting of those never used or gently used items is encouraged!

2018 Garage Sale Update
By Gayle Cook

Scanathon

Help us turn private history into public history! With help from a $2,900 grant from SCI REMC, the History Center will conduct two bicentennial community “scanathons” later this fall in which any member of the community can provide material for scanning. This will enable us to create a digital archive of historical photos, letters, and other two-dimensional objects relevant to local history. One event will be scheduled at the History Center and a second at The Old Town Hall in Ellettsville. Check our website for dates for each community.
News from the Library

Library@monroehistory.org
Compiled by Megan MacDonald and Penelope Mathiesen

New Probate and Will Indexes Available

Probate Index

All 8,713 Monroe County probate files have been indexed and are now stored in 384 boxes in the Research Library. The project has followed best preservation practices by flattening all records and using acid-free file folders and boxes.

“Probate” refers to the legal process by which a will is found legal (proved), and the assets of a deceased person’s estate are properly declared, assessed for value, and distributed, either by the will, or if there is no will, by local law. For most of the period covered by these records (c. 1818–1921), Indiana law provided that if the estate’s worth was less than $500, the full probate process was not needed, and therefore not all deceased persons have probate records.

Estates Files: Family researchers find probate records useful in identifying family members of the deceased, which are often listed in the will, or if there is no will, in other probate documents, particularly in the “application for letters of administration,” which name the estate’s administrator and other family members who have an interest in the estate. The records within the files vary, with most nineteenth-century ones not containing forms, like the letter of administration. The records have been stored so that the will and the application for administration, if they exist, are the first records found in the file. The records also contain detailed descriptions and values for real (land) and personal property (such as money, household goods, and farm goods) in the estate. Legal descriptions of land, and sometimes deeds and mortgages, are found.

Heirs Files: Besides “Estates” files, there are “Heirs” files, which record guardianships. Many of these are for children of the deceased, who are supported as minors by the estate. Other guardianships are established by the court for persons described variously in the records as “of unsound mind,” “incompetent,” “old and infirm,” and other descriptors. These are noted in the index.

Wills Index

If a probate file for a particular person is not found in the Probate Index, a researcher should consult the new Wills Index (c. 1818–1960). There are several places besides the probate records where wills are found, and the Wills Index incorporates all these held in the Research Library.

Both Indexes are available online at: www.monroehistory.org under Library—Research—Indexes and Resources, and in hard copy format in the library.

—Submitted by Lee Ehman

New in the Library


Bloomington’s “Panhandle” Becomes Miller-Showers Park
By Penelope Mathiesen

In 1929, “The Panhandle”—a wedge of land north of 17th Street between College Avenue and Walnut Street—was deeded to the City of Bloomington. The northern section of the property was conveyed by Jacob W. and Loretta Miller on 27 July 1929 “for One Dollar for the purpose of being used for a public park only.” The Showers Brothers Company conveyed the southern portion on 24 October 1929 for the same amount and purpose. The Showers deed further stipulated that the city “shall not sell or assign said land.” Both deeds stated that the land would revert to the grantor if not used as intended.

The city attorney at the time of the transfer was Q. Austin East, who lived across the street on the east side of Walnut just north of 19th Street. In 1949, Showers “announced that it was suing to reclaim its property, since the City had not lived up to stipulations in the original deed.” Despite the provision that the property not be sold, East (the former city attorney, later a judge) and others had acquired the land at a tax sale. “It was disclosed that through an error the land had never been removed from the tax lists after it had been deeded to the City, 20 years before.” Furthermore, Showers claimed that the city had not properly maintained the land as a park. The city’s claim to the land was therefore subject to legal challenges from both Showers and Judge East.

While the legal entanglements wound their way through the courts, “the City went to work on the property, cut the weeds, sowed grass, planted trees and installed park tables to make it comply with the original deed by Showers.” The various parties eventually resolved the issue. In 1953, Mayor Emmett Kelly announced: “The City of Bloomington appreciates the action taken by the Showers Brothers Company and Judge East, and will endeavor to maintain the land as a park and an attractive entrance way to the city.”

Neither deed specified a name for the park. Over the years, it was known as both “Showers Miller” and “Miller Showers,” with and without a hyphen. The sign in the park today reads: “Miller-Showers.”

In 2003, a major redesign project mandated the removal of 66 older trees from Miller-Showers Park, the planting of 250 new trees, and the creation of two ponds to capture rainwater, thus eliminating the problems created by an open drainage ditch whose uncontrolled flow caused erosion downstream in Cascades Park. The removal of so many trees sparked a public outcry. Nevertheless, the plan was carried out, including the construction of the ponds, viewing platforms, and sidewalks.

The park retained its most significant feature, a large sculpture designed by noted artist and Indiana University professor Jean-Paul Darriau. “Carved on the two 11-ton limestone slabs are four faces—Asiatic, Nordic, African and Indian.” Viewed from one side, “an Asiatic woman and African woman stare at each other. An Indian man and Nordic man are face-to-face on the other side. The piece is meant to promote and celebrate communication across racial lines.” The sculpture was executed by Bloomington stone carver Harold “Dugan” Elgar and placed in the park in the summer of 1980. Originally situated in an open meadow, it now stands on a concrete plaza near the northern end of the park.

Notes
1. Monroe County Deed Book 84, p. 219.
2. Monroe County Deed Book 84, p. 98.
5. “Threat to City’s Panhandle.”
6. Ibid.
11. “Symbolic.”
Today we celebrate generating part of the History Center’s electricity needs with our new solar panels. But what was Monroe County like when electricity first entered the lives of its citizens, in the decade of the 1880s? Monroe County at the beginning of the 1880s was far different than today. There were no electric lights, televisions, or computers, things we now take for granted. There were not yet telephones, only the telegraph. Walking, horses, and early railroads provided transportation, not automobiles and airplanes. Let’s look at some specific details of life back then.

The 1880 census showed that Monroe County had a population of 15,874. Bloomington had 2,756 residents, Ellettsville 586, Harrodsburg 262, and Smithville 112.1 The 1881 county school report showed a total of 3,766 students enrolled, with 602 of school age not enrolled. The largest enrollment, 480, was in Clear Creek Township, with Indian Creek, Bean Blossom, Van Buren, and Polk following. The city of Bloomington, reporting separately, had 755 students.2

The Monroe County Library, located in the old courthouse, contained 2,200 volumes, and was open on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Patrons were charged $1 a year for borrowing privileges.3

Roads throughout the county were unpaved, and the newspapers carried articles describing depth of mud and difficulties in traveling.4 Main streets in Bloomington were just starting to be paved, or “McAdamized.”5

In prior years independent fire-fighting companies were formed, and subscriptions charged for protection. But by the 1880s the city of Bloomington had its own fire department with three fire engines, a hook and ladder wagon, and a system of 10 fire cisterns.6 In 1883 the City Council reminded citizens of their duty, upon hearing the fire alarm, to go to the fire station and help convey the fire engines to the fire.7 Outlying villages did not enjoy such protection. On 2 August 1886, half of Ellettsville’s businesses were demolished by a fire. A telegraph message for assistance was sent to Bloomington, which dispatched its fire equipment on the train, arriving in time only to help control the fire from spreading.8

Water was provided by wells and cisterns, but Bloomington had a history of shortages. In 1881 there was an attempt to drill an “artesian well” near the courthouse square, and subscriptions were collected to support it financially. By 1886 the well had attained a depth of 2,800 feet, and had passed through a six-foot bed of coal, but eventually the effort was given up as a failure.9

There were a range of businesses in the county, and they reflected the different times. The limestone industry dominated the scene with several quarries and mills. There were two spoke and hub factories for manufacturing wooden parts for wagon wheels, including the Bollenbacher spoke factory in Smithville; the Showers Brothers furniture, chair, and bedstead factories, and McCalla’s furniture and planing mill, all in Bloomington; a plow factory; grist mills; three barrel stave factories; woolen factories in Harrodsburg and Bloomington; and a tannery. Businesses in Bloomington included several serving horses: three saddle shops, two livery stables, and six blacksmiths. There were wood and coal dealers to provide fuel for heating and cooking, since there was no electricity or gas.10

The Showers Brothers bedstead factory (located on Grant Street) burned on 8 August 1884. Only 20 percent of its $90,000 value was covered by insurance. It had become important enough to the economy that when Evansville offered incentives to have it moved there, the Bloomington City Council came up with nearly half the cost of rebuilding. Other citizens also contributed. The Showers Family fundraiser quilt, presently displayed on the History Center’s first floor, also raised money. The new plant, at Madison and Eighth Streets, was in operation only two months after the fire.11

Most prices in 1881 were modest: lard, 11 cents/lb.; eggs, 25 cents/dozen; ham, 12.5 cents/lb.; butter, 20 cents/lb.; beeswax (for making candles), 20 cents/lb.; live chickens, $2.40/dozen; cord of wood, $3; hay, $10/ton.12

There was one railroad at the beginning of the 1880s, the Louisville, New Albany & Chicago, but during the decade the Indianapolis, Evansville & New Orleans Straight Line was constructed. At mid-decade, there were five passenger and from four to six freight trains passing through Bloomington each day.13
Diseases in these times included some very familiar today: stroke, heart disease, and cancer. But major killers then, nearly unknown today, included smallpox, scarlet fever, typhoid fever, cholera, diphtheria, consumption (tuberculosis), spotted fever, and yellow fever. Germ theory was not yet generally accepted, and there were few vaccines or cures. Bloomington had 13 physicians and three dentists. The rest of Monroe County had 18 doctors.\textsuperscript{14}

Feral dogs posed a problem in the 1880s. Newspapers carried many reports of dogs killing sheep. Dog licenses were required, and county court records show citizens fined for not having them. Constables were paid 50 cents for killing non-licensed dogs.\textsuperscript{15}

The 1880s saw the advent of electricity in Monroe County. In October 1881, the \textit{Republican Progress} announced that an electric light would be placed on the courthouse steeple, the power being furnished by a steam engine at Seward’s foundry.\textsuperscript{16} But “the electric light is not quite a success. It is unsteady—flares up, sinks down, and makes an uneven light. Time will develop needed improvements, however.”\textsuperscript{17} It was not until five years later that improvements were realized. By May 1886, the Jenney Electric Light Company of Indianapolis organized a stock company for bringing lights to streets and businesses, and in June the City Council awarded them a three-year contract. The city agreed to pay for nine lights at a cost of $600 a year. They would be operated until midnight (except when there was “good moonlight”).\textsuperscript{18} Three lights were placed on the courthouse tower, three on the school house, and one each at the corners of Seventh and Washington, Kirkwood and Lincoln, and one near the United Presbyterian Church.\textsuperscript{19} Demand for other lights led to the light company to contract for a “dynamo” for 40 lights, which was located in Ryor’s factory.

The lights were first turned on during the evening before the Fourth of July 1886 celebration, with people coming in from all around the county to witness the event.\textsuperscript{20} More lights were installed during that fall. In the summer of 1887, a separate building, near the railroad depot, was constructed to house the dynamo and “Atlas engine” (a steam engine manufactured in Indianapolis). By January of 1889, the company was running 42 lights, of which 16 were used by the city. Each light cost $60 a year.\textsuperscript{21} In 1890 plans were announced to furnish 720 lights, with two larger dynamos required.\textsuperscript{22} The coming of electricity to Monroe County had a dramatic impact, and foreshadowed many of the changes that would transform citizens’ lives. Although it would be many years before its general use, the nine lights turned on in 1886 signaled a crucial advance that helped usher in the modern world.

Notes
1. \textit{Bloomington Telephone}, January 12, 1881, p. 5 c. 3.
2. \textit{Republican Progress}, June 1, 1881, p. 2 c. 3.
4. \textit{Republican Progress}, February 4, 1880, p. 3 c. 3.
5. \textit{Republican Progress}, September 9, 1882, p. 3 c. 7 and June 10, 1885, p. 3 c. 2.
6. \textit{Republican Progress}, November 28, 1883, p. 3 c. 5.
13. \textit{Republican Progress}, June 10, 1885, p. 3 c. 3.
15. \textit{Republican Progress}, March 22, 1882, p. 3 c. 5.
16. \textit{Republican Progress}, October 19, 1881, p. 3 c. 4.
17. \textit{Republican Progress}, October 12, 1881, p. 3 c. 6.
**Membership Form**

**Annual Membership Levels**
- Student $10
- Teacher $20
- Individual $35
- Household $50
- Contributor $100
- Supporter $250
- Patron $500
- Sponsor $1000
- Underwriter $2000
- Benefactor $5000

**Check if you are interested in:**
- Volunteer Information

Renew online or donate online at: [http://monroehistory.org/money](http://monroehistory.org/money)

**Send to:**
Monroe County History Center
202 East Sixth Street
Bloomington, IN 47408