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## History Center Exhibit Commemorates Suffrage Centennial

BLOOMINGTON, IN - To commemorate the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage, the Monroe County History Center hosts its newest exhibit, *VOTES FOR WOMEN: The Women's Suffrage Movement in Monroe County*. The year-long exhibit, opening on January 14, highlights the remarkable women of Monroe County who fought for more than 50 years for the right to vote. A reception on January 24 at 5:00 pm will be open for the public to view the exhibit in the Deckard Education Room of the History Center.

"We're excited to present this exhibition as a kick-off to our community's centennial year commemoration of women gaining the right to vote. Hilary has uncovered some interesting stories that we'll be sharing throughout the year," said Susan Dyar, Director of the Monroe County History Center. In 2019, Hilary Fleck, Collection Manager, received a May Wright Sewall Fellowship from the Indiana Humanities to fund research using Indiana-based archives and collections to explore and expand upon what is known of Indiana women's participation in local, state and national politics. In addition to the support from the Indiana Women's Suffrage Centennial, *VOTES FOR WOMEN* is made possible through the support of the League of Women Voters - Bloomington and Monroe County, the Monroe County Board of Commissioners, the City of Bloomington, and Monroe County Chapter of the National Organization for Women.

"I'm excited to be able to share the research I've done thus far with the community," said Hilary Fleck, Collection Manager of the History Center. Introducing visitors to the political activities of the Equal Suffrage Club and the Bloomington Franchise League, the exhibit features the activism of Mrs. Isabella Seward and Mrs. Caroline Woodburn, in addition to other suffragists, in the context of the state and national suffrage movement.

The *VOTES FOR WOMEN* exhibition will be open and free to the public on the first floor of the History Center Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. For more information on upcoming events at the Monroe County History Center for the women's suffrage centennial, visit [monroehistory.org](http://monroehistory.org). The Monroe County History Center is a non-profit 501c3 whose mission is to collect, preserve, research, interpret and present the genealogy, history, and artifacts of Monroe County, Indiana and provide an accessible learning environment for all to enjoy.

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