MUSEUM UPDATE REGARDING COVID-19

With consideration of decisions by state and local officials, school systems, and public health departments, the Monroe County History Center has made the decision to close to the public and cancel events and programs until further notice. This includes all garage sale pick ups and drop offs.

We don’t know how long this closure will last, nor the ramifications that the Coronavirus will have on our community, but protecting, preserving, and disseminating information about our history doesn’t stop because the History Center is closed. We are still here for you. Our staff is still working, though more often from home. We are still able to answer questions by email or phone. We will also be adding more information to our website including online exhibits and ways you can help from home.

Please check our website and Facebook page for updates on when the Center will reopen and news on the Garage Sale. Thanks for understanding and please stay healthy!

SAME STORY, DIFFERENT YEAR: FLU PANDEMIC RAVAGES THE WORLD

By Randi Richardson

In October 2019 the History Center published a blog post by Randi Richardson about the flu epidemic of 1918. In light of the measures currently being taken to limit the spread of the Coronavirus, Randi has updated that post and added some photographs so we could share it in the newsletter. For other great articles published by the History Center, go to: https://tinyurl.com/1919flu

From January 1918 through December 1920, five hundred million people around the world were infected with the flu which resulted in the deaths of somewhere between three to five percent of the world’s population. Many of those who died were soldiers. Most of the deaths, estimated between 20 to 100 million, occurred in a span of several weeks in October and November.
During the month of October, 1918, the number of soldiers who died each day at Ft. Benjamin Harrison in Indianapolis was frequently in the double digits. By the end October there were 3,266 flu-related deaths throughout the state.  

The enrollment at Indiana University in the fall of 1918 was the largest to date—1,935 students. On October 10, 1918, there was already an outbreak of the flu on campus and the State Board of Health made a decision to close the university for ten days. All students not in the Student Army Training Corps were advised to go home. Bloomington theatres, churches, all public buildings and city and county schools were also closed.

The peak of the epidemic at IU hit on October 16, with 174 cases of the flu. Consequently, the administration extended the closure of the university until November 4.

By October 18, plans were being made to open up the new high school building as an emergency hospital if it was found to be necessary, and members of the community were urged to exercise every possible precaution. It was recommended that every cold, no matter how slight, should be treated as influenza. Everyone sick with the flu should stay at home and strictly avoid crowds. Two or three times a day the nose and throat should be washed with a solution of salt water.

On October 21, 1918, the Bloomington Evening World reported that the flu situation at IU and the city was improving so much so that there were several empty beds at the emergency hospital in Assembly Hall on campus. However, the front page of the paper noted nine deaths within the county, four from the flu.

“Tommy B. Hays, a freshman and student at IU and son of Thomas Hays of Sanders, died at the emergency hospital on the campus Sunday of double pneumonia following Spanish influenza. He was 20 years old. He was graduated from the Smithville High School in 1916 and taught in the Harrodsburg School last year. He is survived by the parents, two brothers, Bruce and Glenn Hays, and sister, Mrs. Daniel Greene. Funeral was held at two o’clock this afternoon in charge of the Rev. J. C. Todd. Interment took place at Clear Creek.”

“Mrs. Florence Charles, 30 years old and wife of Joseph Charles, died at 10:30 last night of Spanish influenza at her home on South Rogers Street. Her husband is a fireman on the Monon. Mrs. Charles had a severe attack of the disease and was believed to be recovering when her heart became weak and failed her. Besides the husband there are four children: Lucile, Frank, Thomas and Anna; also two brothers, Wilbur and John Wolfington.”
The family moved here eight years ago from West Baden. The body will be taken on the 10:15 Monon train tomorrow to Abbydell, Orange County, for interment.”

“Mrs. Lillian Grey, 14 years old and wife of Ernest Grey, North Morton Street, died of Spanish influenza at 6:45 Saturday evening. Her husband, who formerly worked at the Greek Candy Store, is also bad sick with the disease. The couple was married last Christmas and lived with the groom’s parents. The mother, who came from Indianapolis today, stated that her daughter is now only 14 years old. The body was buried at Rose Hill Cemetery this afternoon.”

“Troy, 18-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. James Sparks, South Madison Street, died of Spanish influenza at ten o’clock this morning. He was sick only ten days. The young man was formerly a messenger boy for the Western Union and worked there until he became ill. He is survived by his parents, four brothers and one sister. No arrangements have been made for the funeral.” Since the beginning of the flu epidemic, according to the Bloomington Evening World on October 26, the emergency hospital on the university campus had received 251 patients. Of that number 154 were said to have been discharged and another 97 were still ill or convalescing.

On November 8, 1918, the Indiana Daily Student reported that the S. A. T. C. men were still under quarantine. They were not permitted to visit the business section of Bloomington or other cities on passes. Among the girls at the university, six were recently taken to Hospital No. 1, known as the university detention hospital situated on a five-acre field at the southern edge of the city.

Slowly but surely Monroe County recovered from the epidemic. Certainly there were many more lives lost to the flu and flu-related illness such as pneumonia, but the exact number of deaths from Monroe County, if that number was in fact reported, was not found during the course of research for this article. The flu epidemic is considered the deadliest disease outbreak in human history. 6

Notes
3. “Spanish Influenza: The Deadly Malady Hits Indiana,” Indiana History Blog, Indiana Historical Bureau, available online at https://blog.history.in.gov/tag/spanish-flu/
Bloomington Housewife Invents
Life-saving Influenza Mask

By Randi Richardson

Irene Beverly (Smith) Morgan, wife of Bloomington’s city attorney Raleigh Lee “R. L.” Morgan, knew a thing or two about illness and hospitals. After all, in the late summer of 1917 she spent a fair amount of time in a Ft. Wayne hospital and then went to the home of her uncle in that city to convalesce.¹

Perhaps it was that experience that inspired her to create a gauze mask to fight the flu in the very midst of 1918 flu epidemic. It first came to the attention of the public in a news release from the Bloomington Evening World on November 9, 1918. In that item, Morgan reported that she had patented a mask that was endorsed by Dr. J. N. Hurty, secretary of the Indiana Board of Health and the State Board of Health of Pennsylvania. Dr. Hurty, as quoted by Morgan, identified the mask as “an excellent one…thoroughly and well made.”

A few days later, on November 16, it was announced by the Evening World that Mrs. Morgan has sent a sample of the mask to former president of the United States and then president of the National Red Cross, W. H. Taft. He reportedly acknowledged receipt of the mask and said the society would consider “adopting the mask universally.”

Not at all shy about tooting her own horn, Morgan wrote once more to the Evening World on November 25 to share with them a glowing letter she received from May Sutherland of Indianapolis, a flu-stricken city that had only the previous day adopted a mask-wearing regulation.² According to Sutherland, she was very much in the limelight when she wore her Morgan mask as many people had difficulty with other types of masks. “Girls in the hot stores fainted because of their close face covering...At the Washington Hotel café, the colored waiters gathered around me to inspect the mask and finally asked to take it to the kitchen where the employees are especially uncomfortable. I suppose they all tried it on! But it was returned to me with great ceremony on a china plate.”

Sutherland included money with her letter and requested that a sample mask be sent to her friend, head of the L. S. Ayres mail order department, with the thought that Morgan might want to sell the mask through Ayres. She also said she passed along information to others that the mask was available through O’Harrow’s Drug Store in Bloomington. Morgan noted that she was having the mask manufactured at the Field Gove Factory in Bloomington and sending them out all over the country.

Efforts to corroborate Morgan’s claims with a search for news about the Morgan mask reported independent of information in which Morgan was the source was not successful. Whether or not Morgan’s claims of her mask invention are valid remains to be seen, but her story is, nevertheless, interesting.

Notes

Remembering Tovey Shoes

By Penelope Mathiesen

Tovey Shoes maintained a presence on Bloomington’s downtown square for close to fifty years. “Omer and George Tovey purchased the shoe store [at 101 West Kirkwood Avenue] from Al Robbins about 1940, renaming the store.” Prior to that time, Robbins Shoe Store had occupied the space from 1927 to 1939. Robbins had moved the business from an earlier location at 108 North Walnut Street, where a store called Family Shoes had operated under various owners since at least 1920.

Tovey Shoes continued for many years under the same name but with a succession of owners, all of whom had a history of working at the store: “In 1952, one half of the stock was purchased from Omer Tovey by manager Byron Haase, who later purchased the other half. When Mr. Haase retired in 1971, he sold to assistant manager C.V. Browning. At Mr. Browning’s passing in 1981, LeRoy Rothrock took over ownership.”

Tovey Shoes remained at 101 West Kirkwood on the south side of the square under Rothrock’s leadership until the “store moved when construction of the Fountain Square complex began in 1988.” The renovation of the south side buildings was part of a project that was intended to revitalize the downtown area, which had seen the closure or departure of many businesses. Tovey’s moved to 118 West Sixth Street on the north side of the square, but LeRoy Rothrock found that “his north side location was poor for his business.” In 1989, he stated that:

“We dropped to less than a third of what we did on the south side of the square … The north side of the square has always been pretty poor. The south side always has been the best, followed by the east and west sides. We thought the city was going to get Sixth Street going two ways. That would have helped. But with just one way of traffic headed east, there’s not much visibility for a shoe store here.”

In addition to these challenges, Rothrock noted that “operating an independent shoe store, sticking mainly with U.S. manufacturers, [had] been a tough business for the last eight years.” He was unable to find investors to help him move to a new location and decided to close when the lease ran out at the end of January 1990. He had worked for the business since 1950.

Tovey Shoes ran an imaginative advertising campaign over the years. An example is included with this article to help us remember a longtime local business.

Notes
1. Advertisement for Tovey Shoes, Bloomington Herald-Telephone, October 30, 1986, p. 17.
7. Werth.
8. Ibid.
9. Ibid.

Epilogue to the 1919 BHS State Basketball Championship

By David Lemon

The boys on the state championship team of 1919 were mostly all very successful in their future endeavors. The coach, Cliff Wells, also went on to much success. Besides the Bloomington High School state championship, he coached and won a state championship at Logansport High School and finished his high school coaching career in 1945 with a record of 582–240. He went on to coach at Tulane University. He wrote basketball articles and held clinics nationally and overseas. Among his many achievements was to be appointed the first executive secretary and director of the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame in 1963–66. Wells died in 1977.
Continued from page 5

1919 BHS Starting Five

Donald Aquilla Rogers, forward. The Rogers family were early pioneers in the history of Monroe County and Bloomington. Donald’s grandfather was Aquilla Rogers, a former sheriff of the county and also holder of several political offices over his lifetime. Rogers Street is named for Aquilla. Donald’s father was Leonidas DeWitt Clinton Rogers and his mother was Florence Barnhill. Donald was born in Evansville, Indiana, on 17 February 1901. After graduating from BHS in 1919, Donald entered Indiana University to study Law. While at IU he was a member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity. He graduated with a degree in law and set up practice in Bloomington. In 1924 he married Henry Burton Woolery’s sister Laura Marie. (Burton died in World War I. Being the first casualty from Monroe County, he was honored by having the American Legion post named after him.) Donald became a judge and was the father of Leonidas David (Dave) Rogers who became an attorney and State Senator. The Rogerses practiced law together. Donald died in Bloomington on 14 Oct 1969 and was buried at Rose Hill Cemetery.

Robert Cathcart Marxson, forward, was born in Bloomington on 5 December 1900, the son of Christian Marxson and Margaret Cathcart. After high school Robert enrolled at IU and played basketball for two years. A suspected heart ailment kept him from completing his basketball career at IU. He graduated with a B.S. in Commerce and Finance. He was a member of the Kappa Sigma fraternity. He and his brother Ernest were owners of the Eagle Clothing Store, which was opened by their father, Chris. Marxson was an active member of the Bloomington community. He was jury commissioner for the circuit court, an active Elks member, a Mason, and a member of the First Christian Church. Robert died from a heart attack while at an Elks bowling tourney at the Indiana Bowling Alley. He was only 47 years old. His date of death was 11 April 1948. He was buried at Rose Hill Cemetery.

John Borland Crane, guard, was born in July 1899 in Perry Township, Monroe County, Indiana. After high school graduation in 1919, John attended IU but apparently did not graduate. By 1930, he was married and living on West Fifth Street in Bloomington. His occupation was stone cutter, working at a stone mill. A city directory in 1931 lists John’s occupation as a foreman. In a 1934 directory, John and family were living on a Gosport rural route and John was listed as a foreman for Cline Cut Stone Company. John died at Green Valley, Pima County, Arizona, on 31 December 1988. He was buried in Bloomington at Rose Hill Cemetery.

Lawrence Kerr Short, center, was born in Bloomington on 7 September 1900. He graduated from BHS in 1920. In the 1930 census Lawrence’s occupation is listed as mechanic, living in Bloomington. The U.S. census of 1940 had Lawrence living with his father and brother and working as a laborer. Lawrence died on 6 May 1977 in Indianapolis. He was a retired Allison Transmission worker and never married. He was buried at Rose Hill Cemetery in Bloomington.

Donald Allen Robinson, guard, was born in Bloomington in September of 1899. He graduated from BHS in 1920. Donald attended IU for two years. Census records indicate that by 1930 he was living in Akron, Ohio, and had married Virginia Houseman. He remained there through 1935, working as a clerk in a rubber factory, but had moved to Memphis, Tennessee, by 1938. He was a manager at a tire store in Memphis in 1938. He became a division manager for Firestone Rubber Company by 1948. Donald died and was buried in Memphis in November of 1970.

Substitutes

Allen Wylie Axtell was born to real estate, loan, and insurance businessman Harry Axtell and Jane T. Wylie in December of 1900 in Shelby County, Indiana. After graduating from high school, Allen joined the Navy and was assigned to the Great Lakes Naval Training Center for basic training in July of 1920. After basic training Allen became a midshipman at the Naval Academy, graduating in 1924. In 1930–31 Allen was an estimator for the Otis Elevator Company in St. Louis, Missouri. Allen remained in the Naval Reserve, and when World War II broke out he was called into service on 18 August 1941. He rose to the rank of Commander and was Chief Executive Officer on the USS Appalachian,
serving in the Pacific. After the war Allen worked in Seattle, Washington, as president of a roofing company. Allen moved to California in the middle 1950s and died on 17 October 1974 in Los Angeles.7

George Coffey, center, was born in Freedom, Indiana, in 1903. He graduated in the BHS class of 1920. He attended IU and played basketball all four years. George was a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. He graduated with a degree in Economics in 1924. His business life consisted of work as a central manager for A. P. Byers Company. He was a former president of the IU Alumni Club of Chicago and former vice president of the I-Mens Association. He died in Chicago on 18 May 1963 and was buried at Crown Hill Cemetery in Indianapolis.8

Wyatt Eugene May was born in Bloomington on 16 December 1900 to John Luther May and Mary Estella McCollough. He graduated from BHS in 1920. He attended IU, where he was a member of the Theta Chi fraternity and graduated with a degree in accounting. In the 1930 census, Wyatt was listed as a farmer, married, and living in Bloomington. By 1936, Wyatt had moved to Indianapolis and was listed as a statistician. Through the 1950s Wyatt worked for the Indiana Employment Security Division as an accountant. Wyatt was a member of the Indiana Society of Pioneers and a member of the First Christian Church of Bloomington. Wyatt died of a heart attack on 2 March 1986 in Franklin, Indiana, at the Methodist Home there. He was buried at Rose Hill Cemetery in Bloomington.9

Preston Edward McBean was born in Milton, Indiana, on 31 December 1900. He attended IU after graduating from BHS. In the Arbutus yearbook of 1921, he is listed as a member of the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity. In 1920, he and his family moved to Burlington, Iowa, where he worked as a packer in a flour mill. An Iowa City newspaper article mentions Preston as one of three who swam across the Mississippi River in August 1921. In 1930, he was a partner in a feed mill business in Burlington, Iowa. In the 1940 census, he was living in Harlingen, Texas and was listed as a Federal-State Inspector. Preston and his family remained in Texas until the mid to late 1950s when he relocated near San Diego, California. He died in Los Angeles, California, on 25 August 1963.10

Lloyd Augustus Wells was three years younger than his brother, coach Clifford Wells. He played basketball with his brother in 1916 at BHS, then was coached by his brother in 1918–1919. He was born in Indianapolis on 24 January 1899, the son of Walter Wells and Lillian Daggy. After graduating from BHS in 1919, Lloyd attended IU but did not graduate. He married Violet Ann Matson in 1924 and they had two children, James and Lillian. In 1930 Lloyd was working as a purchasing agent for Nurre Glass Company in Bloomington. Nurre was famous for building the first glass backboards. The 1940 census found Lloyd living in Putnam County, Indiana, and working as a clerk for the State Farm Penitentiary. In 1941–42 the Wellses were living in Dubuque, Iowa, and Lloyd was working as an office manager for Nurre Glass, which had an office there. Sometime after their time in Iowa the Wells family moved to California where, on 24 April 1991, Lloyd died in Butte, California at the age of 92.11

Notes
10. California Death Index; Arbutus (1921), 307; U.S. 1940 Census; Iowa City Press Citizen, August 1, 1921, p. 1; U.S. 1930 Census.
From the President

Greetings friends and fellow history-lovers,

We are living in interesting times. The Coronavirus is on everyone’s mind as we learn more about the extent to which it may be, or become, a risk to our community. As news has also spread of major institutional closures and event cancellations—both near and far—it is natural to wonder what will come next. While an outbreak of this nature is certainly alarming, it is not entirely unprecedented, so I am comforted in knowing that Monroe County has faced similar challenges in the past and has made it through. For me, the past few weeks have also been a reminder that history is relevant, and it is important for us to stay connected to our past so that we can be armed with more information with which to face the future.

I’m thankful that we were able to safely hold our History Center Gala earlier this year and want to thank everyone who attended. We are also thankful for the volunteers who generously gave of their time, and for individuals and organizations that made donations. Your contributions helped us raise more than $65,000 to fund artifact preservation and storage, ongoing research, engaging exhibitions, and educational programming at the History Center. As our History Center staff members are now having to make the tough call to cancel programs and events that had been scheduled this spring, I want to remind everyone that this is being done with the safety and well-being of our community as the utmost priority. Thank you for your understanding and for your continued support of the History Center despite disruptions to upcoming programming. This also seems like a fitting time to remind you that we have a wealth of resources that are available online including photo archives, the Monroe County Hall of Fame, and the Lake Monroe Oral History Project.

We are indeed living in interesting times, but I would argue that all times are interesting. For this reason, and many more, I am so glad that the Monroe County History Center is helping to preserve information and artifacts, not only about this interesting moment in time, but also about so many more that have come before and that will come afterwards. In the meantime, I hope that efforts to slow the spread of the virus prove successful and I pray that you stay safe and healthy. My most sincere condolences also go out to anyone and everyone that has suffered as a result of this pandemic.

Jennifer Borland, President

Education Desk

By Andrea Hadsell

February and March started the spring season off with a bang here at the History Center! Resilience Productions presented “Elizabeth, A Woman of Color” with rave reviews in February. The play, written and performed by Gladys DeVane with historical commentary by Elizabeth Mitchell and directed by Danielle Bruce, told the story of Elizabeth (no last name) and was incredibly moving and powerful.

As our community adapts to social distancing practices, the MCHC is working on rescheduling programs originally on the April calendar. For updates, visit www.monroehistory.org/covid-19-updates/. During our temporary closure, we are seeking alternative ways to share programs and exhibits via our social media and website.

Volunteer Spotlight

The Monroe County History Center Board of Trustees is a group of volunteers from our community who willingly give their time and expertise while being stewards for the History Center’s mission. The Board of Trustees has temporarily halted face-to-face meetings in response to national, state, and local recommendations related to public health. We will resume meeting on the third Thursday of every month once it is safe to do so again, and we will be holding meetings via online conferencing systems in the meantime.

We would like to welcome the newest members of the Board of Trustees:

Betty Bridgwaters
Scott Faris
Don Griffin
Teresa Steinsberger

Michael Carter
Michael Flory
Scott Loman
Thanks to this year’s Gala Sponsors and Donors

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Kelly Kish
Ed & Vickie McCrea
Michael Molenda & Janet Stavropoulos
Dr. John Thiel
Anna Wiley

**Photos from this year’s Gala**

Janiece Jaffe sings Hoagy Carmichael’s tune “Georgia” while Monika Herzig, our featured performer for this year’s Gala, accompanies her on piano.

*Thank you to Allen and Fred Dunn for the use of their grandmother Dorothy Seward’s treasured piano for our gala program.*

Gala guests look at the selection of artifacts on display from the History Center

Gala attendees listen to a presentation by History Center Director, Susan Dyar
REMEMBERING

Long time History Center volunteer Liz Knapp passed away on February 20. Liz served as the volunteer Genealogy Library Director from 2003 to 2012 and during that time transformed the Genealogy Library into a first-class resource for local and family history researchers. Much of the library’s collection was re-organized, and indexes updated, during her time and she arranged for the permanent loan of the Monroe County Marriage Records and early Commissioner’s Record Books, which has enabled us to make those original documents available for patron use in the library. During her time with the History Center, she also served on the Board of Trustees, and the Collection and Exhibits, Personnel, and Library Committees.

Patricia P. Brown, known by many as Patty, passed peacefully in her Sarasota home with her husband, Bill C. Brown, at her side on March 13 after a twenty-year journey with Alzheimer’s disease. Patty was active in the Bloomington community and taught third grade at Rogers Elementary School for many years before she retired.

Wanda Clegg passed away on January 21. Wanda graduated University High School in Bloomington in 1944 and went on to Indiana University, where she graduated in 1949 with a bachelor’s degree in Dietetics. Wanda donated her husbands photo album and other artifacts that helped create the Monroe County History Center’s exhibit on Hiroshima that was on display in 2017.

Eugene (Gene) W. Fowler passed away February 27. He graduated from Smithville High School in 1938 and served in the Army during WWII from 1942-45. After the war Gene and his older brother, Bob Fowler, took over the family garage in Harrodsburg, IN. During the later part of his working career he taught vocational mechanics at Bloomington North High School.

Nancy Jane Ganka passed away on January 30 after a long bout with cancer. She was married to John Ganka for 18 years and together they had two children, —Melissa and Terry. Throughout her life, Nancy worked as a front office consultant and later enjoyed working in real estate. Her most recent career had been as a direct support professional with special needs adults.

Emerson “Mickey” Klein passed away on January 28. Upon graduation from college he married his college sweetheart Peggy and enlisted with the Army where he was a D.J. for the Armed Forces Network. He hosted the weekly Big Red Football show and was responsible for bringing IU Soccer to TV. He directed shows featuring the Drum Corps International and produced the documentary on Monroe County History – The Spirit of Monroe County.

Bernadine Kay “Bernie” Shook passed away on February 13. She graduated from Bloomington South and attended Indiana University. She married Mark Shook. Bernice will be remembered for her outgoing personality, her knowledge of many topics, and her love for family.

Marilyn Sue "Suzy" Rechter passed away on January 23. Suzy is survived by her loving husband of 63 years, Richard; her children, Richard II (Suki), Barbara (Keith), and David (Suzanne); and her sister, Karen Cain. “Grammie” or “Mimi” is also survived by 10 loving grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren, and many very special nieces and nephews.
News from the Library
Compiled by Megan MacDonald and Penelope Mathiesen
library@monroehistory.org

New Monroe County Election Index
A new index of Monroe County elections has been added to the Research Library’s website. It contains the names of persons running for office on Monroe County ballots from 1890 through 2019. It can be searched either alphabetically by surname or chronologically by election year. The entries include name, year of election, gender, level of election (federal, state, etc.), whether primary or general, office sought, political party, and general election winners. This resource, indexed by Lee Ehman, may be found at: www.monroehistory.org by selecting “Library,” “Indexes and Resources,” and “Election Book Index.”

New Version of the Monroe County Court Records Index
A new version of the Monroe County Court Records Index is available on our website. Every record was re-indexed, and previous errors and omissions have been corrected. Recent indexers on this project include Lee Ehman, Lucy Jacobs, Steve King, Maribeth McKaig, and Saundra Taylor. Indexing continues for the remaining 20th century records. This resource can be accessed at: www.monroehistory.org by selecting “Library,” “Indexes and Resources,” and “Court Records 1818–Early 1900s.”

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
Please note that programming at the History Center is temporarily on hold as we await updates from national, state, and local agencies related to face-to-face meetings and events. Please check our website and Facebook page for up-to-date listings of events and event cancellations.

NEWS FROM THE MUSEUM STORE
“We Must Be Fearless”: The Woman Suffrage Movement in Indiana,
By Anita Morgan
Commemorating the centennial of women receiving the right to vote in the United States, “We Must Be Fearless”: The Woman Suffrage Movement in Indiana examines the struggles and triumphs of a myriad of Hoosier women—black and white, rich and poor, urban and rural who banded together to seek equal rights with men at the ballot box.

COST $24.95 Pick up a copy today!

NEW GRANTS MADE TO THE HISTORY CENTER IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH

We would like to thank South Central Indiana REMC for $3400 in grant funding from the Operation Round Up program to pay for exhibit materials and archival storage materials to preserve and exhibit photographs and artifacts from the recently donated Bloomington Fire Department collection.

We would also like to thank Psi Iota Xi for $500 in grant funding to purchase additional archival storage materials to help us preserve photographs and records from the Bloomington Fire Department collection.

We have also received a 2020 Action Grant for $2000 from Indiana Humanities which will enable us to develop and present programming correlating to our suffrage exhibit “Votes for Women.”

The History Center has been awarded a $7,400 Collections Assessment for Preservation (CAP) grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. This grant will enable the Center to hire experts who will assess our facility and our collection storage area and make recommendations for improvements.
Monroe County Historical Society’s
Monroe County Historian
April/May 2020
Vol. 2020, Issue 2

Society established 1905
Museum established 1980

For subscription information contact the Monroe County History Center at 812-332-2517, or visit www.monroehistory.org

Membership Form

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Stay tuned for more information about this year’s Garage Sale

As this newsletter goes to print, we are still planning to hold the Monroe County History Center’s 39th annual garage sale extravaganza on June 12, 13 and 15 at the new warehouse site located at 4015 West Profile Parkway. Hours are 8am to 6pm Friday, June 12, 8am to 4pm Saturday, June 13 and 9am to 3pm Monday, June 15. Those dates may need to be adjusted in light of the need to limit gatherings to help prevent the spread of the virus.

We rely on the revenue from the garage sale to support the operations and programs of the History Center. Your generosity helps make this happen. For now, we have halted pick ups and donations to the sale. Please remove and keep the ENCLOSED FLYER containing details regarding your donations.

* * * Please check our website and Facebook page for updates on when donations can resume and for news on the dates of the sale. * * *

Rick Naftzinger and Cletus Cook taking in a three wheeler bike for this year’s garage sale.

The new Garage Sale Warehouse is bigger and brighter and full of great finds.