

McLean County Museum of History



On the Museum Square

September-October-November 2017

Evergreen Cemetery Walk

The year 2017 marks the one hundredth anniversary of the United States' entry into the First World War. Keeping in theme, the Museum, in partnership with Illinois Voices Theatre and Evergreen Memorial Cemetery, is pleased to announce that the featured characters of the 2017 Evergreen Cemetery Walk all played integral parts in the war effort—whether at home or abroad—and that each performance will seek to illustrate the significant role McLean County citizens played in “the war to end all wars.”

Annually, the Evergreen Cemetery Walk event serves over 3,500 people. To date, the Walk has featured 172 different individuals from all walks of life. These performances serve to illustrate the historic impact the people of McLean County have had locally, nationally, and throughout the world.

The McLean County Museum of History is pleased to again announce that all students participating in the School Tours of the 2017 Evergreen Cemetery Walk will attend for free due to the continued sponsorship of Ever-



green Memorial Cemetery, additional sponsorship from the Illinois Prairie Community Foundation, CEFCU and support from Museum members.



Mark your calendars for September 30, and October 1, 7, and 8. Performances each day will begin at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Tickets will be available for

purchase starting on September 5, 2017. Tickets will be available for purchase at the Museum, Casey's Garden Shop, The Garlic Press, and Evergreen Memorial Cemetery.



One of this year's feature characters, Carolyn (Schertz) Geneva was a nurse who worked through the American Red Cross to help people at home before the war. Once the U.S. joined the war, she served in an Army Medical Unit and was stationed in England where she cared for wounded soldiers.

Attendees at the Walk should be prepared to walk approximately one mile and to stand for six performances which last five to seven minutes each. Each tour lasts 90 minutes to two hours. A limited number of wheelchairs and seat canes will be available to borrow free of charge, but patrons who have their own are encouraged to bring them.

See page 3 to read about the characters in this year's Walk

With thanks to our newsletter sponsor:



The Work Exhibit will be closing after Labor Day. We will begin making updates to the exhibit. This was made possible by our successful Capital Campaign. Thanks to our donors for their support. Keep watch for updates.

On the Museum Square

Quarterly Newsletter

September-October-November 2017 Volume 49, Number 3

Produced by Samantha Yoder and Jane Flanders Osborn



McLean County
MUSEUM of HISTORY

and

Cruisin' with Lincoln on 66
Visitors Center



200 N. Main St., Bloomington, IL 61701
Phone 309-827-0428 Fax 309-827-0100

www.mchistory.org

Located on the corner of Main (Rt. 66)
and Washington Streets,
the Visitors Center and Museum entrance
is located on Washington Street on the
south side of the Museum Square

HOURS

9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday,
Friday, Saturday

9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Tuesday (Free)

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Sunday (May-September)

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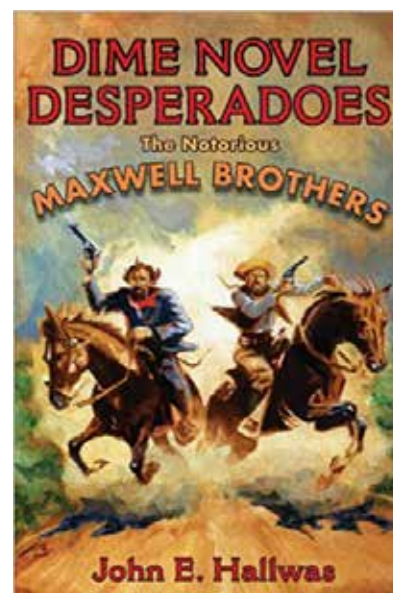
History Reads Book Club

McLean County Museum of History invites all true crime aficionados to join us on Tuesday, November 7 for the fourth and final *History Reads Book Club* of 2017. The discussions begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Governor Fifer Courtroom on the Museum's second floor. The featured book, *Dime Novel Desperadoes: The Notorious Maxwell Brothers* by John E. Hallwas, is a chronicle of robbery, gunfights, horse theft, and murder featuring two of Illinois' most infamous outlaws.

This free, quarterly program is brought to you by the Museum and Bloomington Public Library. The Discussion will last approximately 60 minutes. Participants are welcome to explore the Museum before or after the discussion. Free parking will be available at the Lincoln Parking Deck, located one block south of the Museum on Front Street.

This book will be available at Bloomington Public Library, may be requested via interlibrary loan through your local public library, or may be purchased at the *Cruisin' with Lincoln on 66* Visitors Center.

For more information: contact the Education Department by email at education@mchistory.org or by phone at 309-827-0428; or contact Karen Moen at Bloomington Public Library at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.



Readers Check Out Human Library

Nearly 30 community members attended the Museum's *Human Library* experience on Saturday, July 29. This event featured five presenters, living "Books" that told their personal stories in 30-minute segments to small groups of children, teens, and adults. All presenters were local individuals whose stories represented various facets of life: tales of immigration, overcoming trauma, earning an education, adapting to health struggles, and challenging oneself to achieve.

The Museum would like to extend a special thank you to the Books—Jennifer, Angell, Arabella, Tejas, and Aaron; our partners at University College at Illinois State University; and Museum volunteers for making this event a success.

Founded in Denmark 17 years ago, the *Human Library* initiative is designed to promote dialogue, reduce prejudices, and encourage understanding by bringing people together for intentional, face-to-face conversations. *Human Library* was presented in partnership with the University College at ISU and held in conjunction with the exhibit, *Challenges, Choices & Change: Making a Home*. If you are interested in sharing your story as a *Human Library* Book, check out the ISU Human Library page at universitycollege.illinoisstate.edu/humanlibrary/books.shtml.



Tejas (center) shares his story about the many changes his life has taken in the past three years, including divorce, single parenthood, and climbing mountains.

Evergreen Cemetery Walk

We look forward to seeing you all at the Walk! For more information on the Walk and each of this year's featured characters, please visit www.mchistory.org/learn/programs/cemwalk.php. For more specific questions, please contact the Education Department at 309-827-0428 or education@mchistory.org.



Carl (1872-1966) and Julia Scott Vrooman (1876-1981) were one of the preeminent power couples of their day. Carl served as Secretary of Agriculture under

President Wilson, and is best known for his agricultural work during World War I—particularly helping to launch the War Garden program. Julia, who was active in philanthropic work, decided she too wanted to help with the war effort. While she and Carl were in Europe, Julia began working for the YMCA with American soldiers at the front. In no time, she formed a jazz band comprised of soldiers to entertain and improve the morale of troops stationed in Europe.



Julia Holder (1884-1970) was dedicated to meeting the needs of others her entire life—be it her family, her students, or local and international relief efforts. A longtime teacher at Bloomington High School, Holder worked on behalf of the Red Cross War Fund and was in charge of a “corps” of

volunteers cutting gauze to make surgical bandages for war-wounded during World War I. She even played the part of a refugee mother in the huge parade sponsored by the Bloomington Red Cross in May 1918. *Weekend Only Performance.*

Edward (1895-1954) and Lincoln Bynum (1900-1977)



fought heroically alongside one another on the battlefields of France during World War I. So fiercely did they fight, that the all African American 370th U.S. Infantry quickly earned the nickname “The Black Devils” from German troops unfortunate enough to encounter them in battle. Though these men were treated much better by French soldiers than



their American counterparts, when the Bynums returned home in February 1919, they were greeted by their father and thousands of grateful Americans who lined the streets of Chicago to show their respect for this brave band of brothers.



Ethel Hamilton Hanson (1882-1920) was a popular member of society circles and active in educational, charitable, and political work in the community. Before her marriage to Frank Hanson at the age of 28, she was a math teacher at Bloomington

High School, among other places. Though she left behind her teaching career, marriage did not keep Hanson from her civic obligations. When the U.S. entered World War I, she became an “ardent war worker,” working tirelessly to help organize the Women’s Committee of the Council of National Defense in McLean County, and was active in Red Cross and YWCA work.



Roland Read (1895-1954) was thrice rejected for volunteer service in the U.S. Army, and then rejected from the draft due to defective eyesight during World War I. While Read persevered and joined the American Field Services for transport duty in France, upon his arrival there, Read was once again rejected for service. A tenacious young man and true patriot, Read then applied to, and was accepted by, the French Army. During the next tumultuous year, duty would take him from Paris, France to Saloniki, Greece where he served as a First Lieutenant in the Serbian Army.

Carolyn Schertz Geneva (1892-1992) entered Brokaw School of Nursing when she was about 19 years old. Upon graduation three years later, Geneva was made head nurse for the surgical department at Brokaw Hospital, which coincided with the outbreak of World War I in Europe. Three years later, Geneva began working for the recently founded Bloomington chapter of the American Red Cross. There she taught classes in surgical dressing and, in August 1917, joined an Army Medical Unit and was stationed in tents set up along the west coast of England for six perilous months.

Lincoln's Festival on Route 66 Brings Crowds



Pictured here is Mr. Abraham Lincoln (portrayed by Kevin Wood) at the newly renamed *Lincoln's Festival on Route 66*. Mr. Lincoln engaged many visitors at the Museum during two days of the festival. He even tried his hand at piecing together his own "Lost Speech" in the new *Abraham Lincoln in McLean County* permanent exhibit!

Over the course of the three day festival, 718 people visited the Museum and participated in a variety of activities including *Encounters with Lincoln's Bloomington* on Friday evening, Lincoln and Route 66 Trivia on Saturday and Sunday, and several excellent speakers whose topics ranged from Lincoln in History, Film and Fiction, and how modes of travel evolved in the area. Thanks to all who participated and we hope to see you at the festival next year!



SEPTEMBER

20% off for everyone & 25% off for Museum members

9/1-9/8: State Farm bike bells & stadium seat cushions

9/1-9/15: Evergreen Cemetery Walk apparel

Gift Shop Sale Days!

OCTOBER

20% off for everyone & 25% off for Museum members

Baseball books & baseball caps

IWU/ISU items

10/28: A one day sale on Nestle Beich candy bars for 75¢ in celebration of National Chocolate Day

NOVEMBER

20% off for everyone & 25% off for Museum members

Active Duty and veterans receive a 20% percent discount on all gift shop items all month!

Small Business Saturday: Receive 20% off entire purchase; members receive 25% off.

11/27: Museum Christmas items will be available

History Makers Gala

Charles and Jeanne Morris, Judy Stone, Jesse Smart, and Craig Hart were honored at the 6th Annual *History Makers* Gala on Thursday, June 15, 2017. The event also served as the McLean County Historical Society's 125th annual meeting of its officers and members. Nominations are being accepted for next year's honors; forms can be found on www.mchistory.org or requested by email at development@mchistory.org.

Mark your calendar for next year's event at the Double Tree on Thursday, June 28, 2018.





Session 2 camper Reid Kelly hones his comic book drawing skills in the Pink Chintz Room of the David Davis Mansion during Archaeology Day. This year campers drew their own comic books inspired by ever exciting and always anachronistic steampunk themes.



Space Man Abe, or "Spabe" as he came to be lovingly known, enjoys a cool drink of milk during lunch at Second Presbyterian Church. The Museum is fortunate to be able to take full advantage of the free summer lunch program graciously supported by District 87 schools.

Session 2 campers bask in the glory of their sweat equity at the West Side Community Garden during Architecture Day. This year's camp contrition to the Garden is a combination free pantry/free library. West Side gardeners are encouraged to share their surplus produce with community members, and community members are invited to take and leave books as they please.



Former Board President Carolyn Yockey, Curator of Digital Humanities Torii Moré, and Archivist George Perkins admire one of the displays at the pop-up museum curated by campers and hosted by Prairie315 on Museum Studies Day. In a matter of hours, campers evaluated and sorted their collection of personal objects, interviewed one another about their objects in order to compose narrative-driven object labels, and carefully designed visually striking displays in time to open their pop-up museum to the public.

Movies Under the Dome: Wings



As part of the Museum's programming to commemorate the centennial of World War I, the fifth installment of *Movies Under the Dome* will feature the 1927 classic silent film *Wings*, directed by William Wellman, composer J.S. Zamecnik, and starring Clara Bow, Charles "Buddy" Rogers, and Richard Arlen. This program will be held Tuesday, November 14 at 6:30 p.m. in the Museum's Governor Fifer Courtroom and is free and open to the public. This film is rated PG-13 for mild violence and intense situations.

Wings, which won the first Oscar for Best Motion Picture in 1929, is set during World War I in 1917. David Armstrong (Richard Arlen) and Jack Powell (Charles "Buddy" Rogers) are rivals in the same small American town, both vying for the attentions of pretty Sylvia Lewis. Jack fails to realize that "the

girl next door," Mary Preston (Clara Bow), is desperately in love with him. The two young men enlist to become combat pilots in the Air Service. Upon graduating, they are shipped off to France to fight the Germans. Mary follows them by joining the war effort as an ambulance driver. This remastered version features an original score re-orchestrated and performed by a full orchestra, enhanced coloring, and several added sound and visual effects.

World War I related artifacts from the Museum's archival and object collections will be on display before and after the film. During the short intermission, Jim Hoppe, local WWI enthusiast will present a program about local WWI aviators.

Canned soda and popcorn will be available for purchase before the movie. The Museum will also be collecting new, personal care items that will be donated to veterans at the VA Hospital in Danville. Bring in any new, personal care item from the list below, and receive a free bag of popcorn!

New and unused items which can be donated are the following (no hotel items please): deodorant, mouthwash, hairbrushes, combs, liquid hand soap, body powder, tooth paste, shaving cream, pre-shave lotion, after-shave, disposable razors, stationary kits, playing cards, t-shirts, socks, paperback puzzle books (large print is preferred), telephone cards, and coffee.

Contact: Education Department at education@mchistory.org or 309-827-0428

Music from the Great War

As part of the Museum's continuation of programming to commemorate the centennial of World War I, the Museum will host local artist, musician, and luthier Dale Evans and singer/songwriter Hannah Kerrigan, for a musical program featuring their renditions of well known, (and not so well known) songs from the Great War on Saturday, November 11 at 1:00 p.m. The program will be held in the Governor Fifer Courtroom and will be free and open to the public.

In times of war, artists and musicians have often been called upon to use their talents in the pursuit of "victory." The explosion of publishing popular music after the U.S. Civil War saw its peak during the Great War of 1914. The performance will also include a display of Evans' collection of colorful song sheets and original 78 rpm recordings played on his Victrola.

Dale Evans was born and raised in Bloomington. He received a Master of Fine Arts from Herron School of Art at Indiana University. He is a self-taught



musician who has built hundreds of instruments including hammered dulcimers, banjos, and many other folk and exotic instruments. Evans teaches watercolor at the McLean County Arts Center and his interest in World War I sheet music blends his three passions—art, music, and history.

Hannah Kerrigan, also a Bloomington native, has been singing and writing songs since childhood. It was only recently that she began to share this talent, accompanied by dear friend and musical partner, Dale Evans. Both Kerrigan and Evans share a passion for traditional folk music.

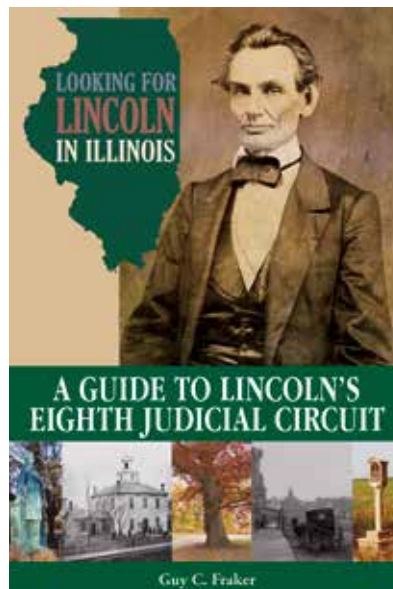
Prior to the program, the public is invited to attend the annual Veterans Day Ceremony that will be held on the east side of the Museum. The ceremony begins at 11 minutes before 11:00 a.m., with the American Legion color guard firing one round each minute until 11:00 a.m. Veterans Day began as Armistice Day to mark the cessation of hostilities during World War I on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918. In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will be moved inside to the Museums Gov. Fifer Courtroom.

For more information about this program, please contact the Education Department at 309-827-0428 or via email at education@mchistory.org.

Local Lincoln Scholar to Present on New Guidebook

The Museum is excited to welcome back local author, retired lawyer, and Lincoln scholar Guy C. Fraker to present on his forthcoming book, *Looking for Lincoln in Illinois: A Guide to Lincoln's Eighth Judicial Circuit*—the first ever guidebook to the circuit—on October 24 at 7:00 p.m. in the second floor Governor Fifer Courtroom. Fraker's book seeks to guide readers through the former Central Illinois prairies and towns in which Abraham Lincoln practiced law for 23 years prior to his presidency.

Included in this recent addition to the *Looking for Lincoln* series are detailed travel directions, five route maps, and more than one hundred images of the local people that Lincoln encountered along the way. Published by Southern University Press, the book has been described as, "Showcasing courthouse markers, county line markers, *Looking for Lincoln* Wayside Exhibits, and other points of interest, this unique guidebook invites travelers to visit the towns where Lincoln practiced law, view the terrain that is much the same now as when Lincoln passed, and per-



haps experience a sense of Lincoln's presence in those out-of-the-way places."

Fraker, a retired attorney from Bloomington, Illinois, is also the author of *Lincoln's Ladder to the Presidency: The Eighth Judicial Circuit*. His articles have been published in the *Journal of the Abraham Lincoln Association*, *Illinois Heritage*, the *Pantagraph*, and the *Champaign News Gazette*. He was a consultant for the WILL-TV documentary *Lincoln, Prelude to the Presidency*, and is co-curator of *Prologue to the Presidency: Abraham Lincoln on the Eighth Judicial Circuit*, an exhibit on permanent display at the David Davis Mansion.

Looking for Lincoln in Illinois: A Guide to Lincoln's Eighth Judicial Circuit will be available for purchase in the Visitors Center on the ground floor. A book signing by author will directly follow the program.

For more information about this program, please contact the Education Department via email at education@mchistory.org or by phone at 309-827-0428. Free parking is available on the Museum Square and surrounding streets, or at the Lincoln Parking Deck located on Front Street.

2017 Annual Volunteer Reception



On April 26th, staff invited Museum volunteers to celebration for their dedicated work. Each year, volunteers contribute 12,694 hours of their time to helping the Museum fulfill its mission.



New Director of Volunteers and Interns Open House



The Museum hosted an open house for Samantha Yoder, the new Director of Volunteers and Interns on July 25th. This event gave volunteers and Board members chance to meet the new director and enjoy treats.

To learn more about Samantha, see page 8 for a short Q & A.



Staff Q&A

Samantha Yoder joins the team



Director of Volunteers and Interns

What attracted you to the Museum?

Well I have always had a love of history and this is such a great staple in our community. It seemed it would be a great place for me to grow as a young professional and be connected to my community.

What did you do professionally before coming here?

I worked for the Girl Scouts of Central Illinois for the last four years as a Member Recruitment Specialist. I helped manage the volunteers within McLean County and recruited new volunteers and girl members.

What's your background? Where did you grow up and go to school?

I was born and raised in Danvers, so here in McLean County. I attended school at the Olympia School District. My Bachelor's degree is from Blackburn College in Communications and I will be done with my Master of Divinity in Christian Leadership in December.

What do you like to do for fun?

I love traveling! I spend a majority of my summer traveling—Cubs games or visiting friends from college. I am active with the Junior High Ministry at Eastview Christian Church, so I spend time leading the group on Wednesdays, and help at services on Sundays.

Do you have any short-term goals in your new Museum position?

Short-term goals would be to survive my first *Cemetery Walk*...haha! Honestly, I want to meet with the volunteers and see the museum through their eyes to make volunteering with us more appealing to the outside person.

How about long-term goals?

Long-term I would love to be able to get quarterly meetings back into play for the volunteers, give them a chance to talk or ask questions about procedures. I would also love to expand our volunteering pool, adding some different generations and perspectives!

What are some challenges facing the Museum today?

The biggest challenge I see is the diversifying of our volunteers. We need to find new outlets to continue to grow our volunteer numbers.

Meet Our Interns

Jill Barth, a senior at Dominican University in River Forest, Illinois, grew up in Bloomington. She is studying American History and Library and Information Science in hopes of working in a museum archive or library after graduating with her master's degree.

Jill is serving as an intern in the Library/Archives and has taken on several projects this summer. She worked to organize new materials in the St. Mary's and Second Presbyterian Churches' collections. Her largest project was organizing the collection of Bessie Hibarger, a teacher and writer in Sibley and Bloomington, Illinois who kept a lot of her family history. Jill has also spent some time preserving documents in the archives. She has a passion for history and loves learning new information about the past and seeing how it affects the present. Being from Bloomington, she is excited to learn more about some of the people and places that she grew up around and learn more about how archival materials are stored.



Conrad Fredricksen is a junior at Illinois State University majoring in sociology and minoring in political science. As an intern in the Education Department, he is working on a small scale oral history project to formally collect the stories of senior reminiscence program participants. This consists of researching, conducting interviews and transcribing interviews. Conrad wishes to get important information on researching and interviewing from this internship and hopes to gain mutually beneficial connections and learn about the practices of working at a museum.

Born in Evanston, Illinois, Conrad was raised in Wilmette,



Illinois. A graduate of New Trier Township High School, he continued to the University of Missouri before transferring to Illinois State University. When he graduates, he wants to attend graduate school before finding a job in urban planning or sociological research. In his spare time, Conrad enjoys studying music, playing billiards, and hiking.

Tapping retirement funds to pay for college

Question: Should I withdraw or borrow from my 401(k) plan to help pay for my child's college expenses?

Answer: As a general rule, impairing your retirement savings to meet current spending needs is not a good idea, even for higher education expenses. There are other sources of funds for education needs - in contrast, in retirement, when one is on a fixed income, borrowing to meet expenses is problematic.

What you take out of your plan now can be hard to replace later. It's been estimated that it can take six to ten years to fully restore a retirement account that has been tapped to meet four years of college expenses. In part, that's because one misses out on the compounding of investment income during the period. For longer time frames, the stock market has produced higher total returns than the interest rates on student loans. The other part is that it can be hard to get back into the saving habit.

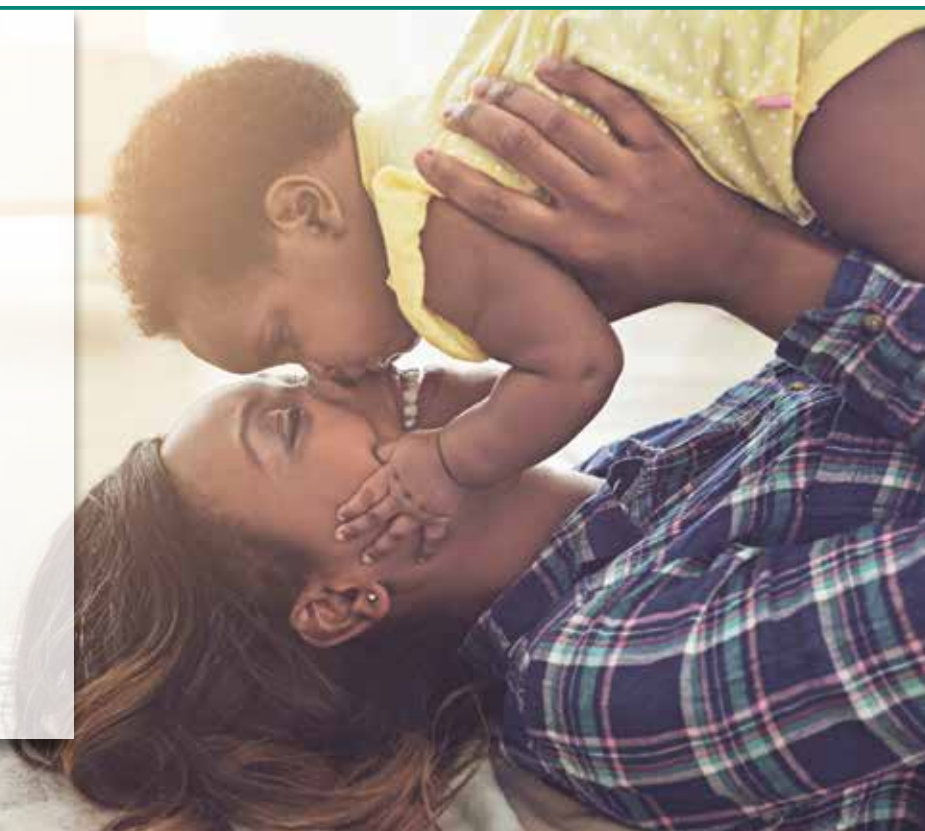
The better approach is to save for higher education early, separately from retirement savings, so as to put time on your side and minimize the need for loans when the college years arrive.

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McLean County Museum of History Welcomes Our New Members!

Mr. Justin Boyd
Mr. Ted E. Hoffman
Mrs. Lyn Misner
Ms. Melanie Scott-Dockery
Mr. Joe Strupek

Museum membership is an act of philanthropy that supports local history, preservation, and education for the entire community. Each membership also offers direct benefits to you and your family with free admission to the Museum and Library/Archives, discounts in the gift shop, member price for event tickets, and our Time Travelers reciprocal membership that offers free and discounted admission to hundreds of sites across the U.S.

Join today at www.mchistory.org!

Donations to Collections

New to Collections

Wedding slippers 1962, Women's saddle shoes c. 1970; donated by Lynne Fazzini

Packet of stationery decorated by Lillian Peterson Michael c. 1975; donated by Pat Pulokas

DSM-UAW hat c. 1989; donated by Darwin Beach

Collection of political matchbooks c. 1950-1972; donated by Nancy Wilkey

Shaving mug c. 1880, Silver cup c. 1890; donated by Brad Briney

August Leben's baseball mitt c. 1910; donated by David Leben

Toledo, Peoria & Western Railroad hard hat c. 1975; donated by Domingo Carranza

Derby hat c. 1920, Young Men's Club 50th anniversary coin 1966, Boy Scout Silver Beaver Award c. 1933; donated by Maxine Drexler

Collection of political yard signs c. 1978-2015 Judge Bill Caisley

Two American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employee buttons c. 2000 and 2004

Adding Machine c. 2010, Wannemacher Electric jacket c. 1985; donated by The Wannemacher Family

GTE Telephone Tester c. 1980, GTE nametag c. 1980, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers hard hat sticker c. 1980; donated by Julie Jan Violano Brandt

Wooden handmade tools for opening windows on Chicago and Alton Railroad cars c. 1900; donated by George King

Robert C. Underwood's gavel c. 1970, Illinois "Supreme Court 1" license plate 1980; Robert C. Underwood's briefcase c. 1970, Honorary doctoral hood from Illinois Wesleyan University 1970, Honorary doctoral hood from Illinois State University 1984; donated by Susan U. Barcalow

Collections Spotlight Featured Artifact

Gavel — donated by Susan Barcalow

The museum recently received this gavel, which belonged to Illinois Supreme Court Justice Robert C. Underwood. The gavel was part of a larger collection of objects associated with Justice Underwood's time as a judge.

Underwood was born in Grundy County and attended college at Illinois Wesleyan University. After he finished law school, he practiced law as a private attorney in Normal from 1942 to 1946. He was elected as a McLean County judge in 1946 and

served until 1962. In 1962 he was appointed to the Illinois Supreme court and served as Chief Justice from 1969 until 1984 when he retired. After his retirement from the court, he went back to the private practice until his death in 1988. Underwood was buried in Funk's Grove Cemetery.



New to Library/Archives

Scrapbook of *Pantagraph* Bible verse contest, 1933, kept by Hattie Etherington; donated by Donna Coit

Music CD, 2011, "Somewhere Between" by Two Dollar Ransom (2\$R); donated by Marcos Mendez

Broadside, "Friends," poem by Gussie Packard DuBois, undated; donated by Alexandra Stocker

Program, 23rd annual American Passion Play, 1945; donated by Nedda J. Blake

Legal papers, including warranty deed, Adolph Wochner to Eva A. Rethwisch, 1909; donated by Donna J. Sinks

Collection of newspaper clippings, correspondence, notes, meeting minutes, promotional items, and other material from Merlin and Beulah Kennedy; donation relates to civil rights issues, including fair housing, the Bloomington-Normal NAACP chapter, and family histories; donated by Merlin Kennedy

Items relating to Paul F. Beich Co. / Kathryn Beich, including company newsletters, applications, seniority listings, and other material, mostly 1980s; donated by Ann Sheppelman

Various items, including blueprint of warehouse district south of downtown Bloomington showing location of Lake Erie and Western Railroad depots; and other material; donated by Amy Miller

Collection of McLean County maps, 1950s and other dates, including wall-size county map, updated from 1931-1937; donated by Jeff Tracy

Blueprints and specs for 1502 N. Main St., Bloomington, residence (location of Kroger grocery today), late 1890s, Miller and Fisher architects; other items; donated by Judith Forman

Six DVDs detailing projects completed by local business A Touch of Glass; donated by business owner Terry Garbe

Joseph W. Bowles National Kidney and Liver Cure (Normal) patent medicine promotional items: sight drafts (refunds) worth \$1 to the National State Bank of Bloomington and the National Bank of Bloomington; donated by Charles C. Wislet, Jr.

Local theater programs, including Majestic Theatre (January 5, 1911); Chatterton Opera House (November 5, 1914); Illini Theatre (March 23, 1926); and others; donated by Martha Miller

Make/model catalogs for automobiles built at Diamond Star/Mitsubishi manufacturing plant, including Eagle; Eclipse, Mirage, and other others; donated by Darwin Beach

Sheet music stamped "Keynotes of Normal;" additional sheet music stamped "Mothersingers of Normal;" donated by Pat Hiser

Additions to the existing Campbell / Cochrane / Casey Family Collection; donated by Stephen S. Campbell

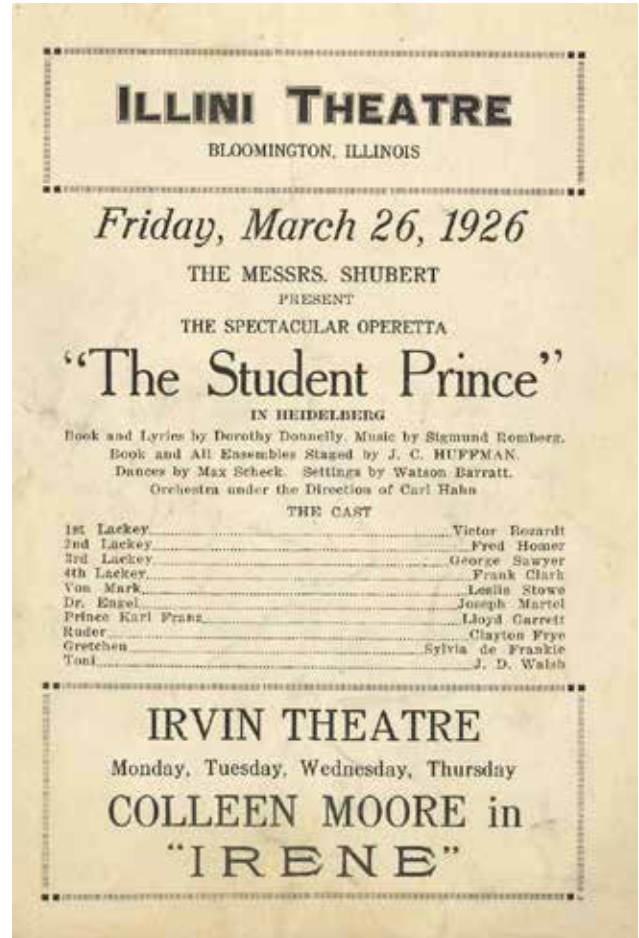
Library/Archives Collection Spotlight

Illini Theatre program, March 26, 1926

The Illini was located on the 100 block of East Market Street immediately west of Lucca Grill (the building is still there). The theater opened in 1910 as the Chatterton Opera House, only to be renamed, in 1923, the Illini Theatre.

Donated by longtime Museum supporter and retired volunteer Martha Miller, this program and several others are late additions to the Museum's existing Lincoln A. Behr Theater Program Collection. Lincoln Behr, born in Bloomington in 1896, enjoyed going to the theater and kept many of his programs, which were then donated by his daughter Martha.

The Lincoln Behr Collection, with most programs dating between 1907 and 1914, offers a window into the world of traveling theater companies at the dawn of the motion picture era. We have Martha Miller's generosity to thank for this lasting gift.



Fifty or so Major League Baseball (MLB), National Basketball Association (NBA), and National Football League (NFL) trading cards featuring athletes with local connections (born or raised in McLean County; played minor league ball here; or attended a local university), including George Moriarty, Bob O'Farrell, Buzz Capra, Jack Sikma, Dave Bergman, Neal Cotts, Laurent Robinson, and others; donated by Frank Kemp

Material relating to the Irvin Theater, East Jefferson Street, Bloomington, including newspaper clippings and typed history; donated by Second Presbyterian Church

Items relating to Illinois State University athletics, including 1988 Redbird Arena seating arrangement chart; Redbird Magazine, various issues, 2014-2016; donated by Ruth A. Wilkerson

Funk Bros. Seed Co. Funk's Hybrid advertisement, undated, featuring the S.B. Mason farm; donated by the Knuth family

Royal Typewriter advertisement featuring the Paxton family of Bloomington, from February 23, 1970 *Newsweek* magazine, donated by Patricia Johnson

Collection of personal and family-related papers, including memorial booklet, Robert Anthony Koos, 1945-2002; correspondence with Joseph Meyers, Michael Holland Moore, Ruth Wantling, and others; and additional items; donated by Greg Koos

Addition to existing Emerson Street Investment Club Collection; donated by Emerson Street Investment Club

Miscellany ephemera from University High School and Illinois State University, 2016-2017; donated by Robert Neulieb

Photographs/Images

Eight color slides of the Illinois Terminal Railroad; donated by Cynthia King

Thirteen 4 by 6 color photographs of Women's March, Washington, D.C., January 21, 2017; donated by Shanna Walz

Postcard photograph, undated, of Evelyn and Lorren Bye; donated by Donna J. Sinks

Collection of family photographs; donated by Merlin Kennedy

Two photographs of 1502 N. Main St. residence, 1919 (showing front of house) and 1950 (back); donated by Judith Forman

Undated photograph of Alton Railroad float showing Liberty Bell mockup; donated by Martha Miller

Album containing photographs of single-family residences featured in promotional material for the Bloomington (IN) Limestone Co., includes three views of the office and yards of West Side Coal and Lumber Co., Bloomington (IL); donated by Paul Segobiano

Photo of George H. Drexler (father-in-law of donor) and others in front of Gridley storefront, undated; donated by Rena Maxine Lebkuether Drexler.

Set of 4 by 6 color photographs on July 2008 installation of restored 1917 Aermotor windmill at Norman Brown farm, East Shelbourne Drive, Normal; donated by Norman Brown

Books/Published Materials

Denizations and Naturalizations in the British Colonies in America, 1607-1775 (2005) by Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck; and *Irish Emigrants in North America. Part Eight* (2014) by David Dobson; donated by Nancy Miller

Ray's New Practical Arithmetic: A Revised Edition of the Practical Arithmetic (Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co., 1877); donated by Kay Nolan

Lincoln's Connections with the Illinois & Michigan Canal, His Return from Congress in '48, and His Invention (1986) by Wayne C. Temple (signed copy); donated by Ruth A. Cobb

Cities, Counties, Constellations, Calendars, Courthouses and Clocks: The Courthouses of Christian County, Illinois (2002) by William R. Kennedy; donated by Guy Fraker

Binder, "History and Reference," Mid-America Windmill Museum, Kendallville, IN; donated by Norman Brown

Illinois Conservation, Mid-Winter 1938, State of Illinois, Henry Horner, governor; donated by Dave Moyer

Race and Rights: Fighting Slavery and Prejudice in the Old Northwest, 1830-1870 (2013) by Dana Elizabeth Weiner; *Forlorn Hope of Freedom: The Liberty Party in the Old Northwest, 1838-1848* (1990) by Vernon L. Volpe; and others; donated by Greg Koos

Art Gems from the World's Columbian Exposition (Chicago Herald, 1893), and partials from two other published works on the Chicago World's Fair of 1893; donated by Harold Gregor

Published history of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Bloomington; donated by Nancy Wilkey

Museum and Visitors Center Now Open Sundays

The McLean County Museum of History and the *Cruisin' with Lincoln on 66* Visitors Center and Gift Shop have begun a Sunday hours pilot program. Sunday operating hours for the Museum and Visitors Center will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Sunday through September 24. During these hours the Stevenson-Ives Library will not be open.

Saturday hours through October 28: Museum opens at 8:30 a.m. during the Farmers' Market. Free admission until noon.

Funding for the 2017 Sunday hours pilot program comes from the Bloomington-Normal Convention & Visitors Bureau.

Calendar of Events — ongoing programs and upcoming events

Now through September 24

The *Cruisin' with Lincoln on 66* Visitors Center has launched a Sunday hours pilot program for the summer of 2017. Now through the end of September, the Visitors Center and Museum exhibits will be open from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. The Stevenson-Ives Library remain closed on Sundays.

Saturdays through October 28

The Museum opens at 8:30 a.m. to all visitors! Tour the Museum's latest exhibits and shop at Farmers' Market.

Second Thursday of every month until May, 2018

Lunch and Learn at the Museum

Bring your brown bag lunch to the Museum's new series, featuring engaging and enlightening topics for discussion. Join us the second Thursday of every month from now until May for a new topic to explore and discuss. The programs will be held in the Museum's Governor Fifer Courtroom from 12:10-12:40 p.m. each time. The first four *Lunch and Learns* will be on September 14, October 12, November 9, and December 14. These programs are free, open to the public, and sponsored by Illinois Wesleyan University and the McLean County Museum of History.

September 4

Museum closed for Labor Day holiday

September 5

Evergreen Cemetery Walk: Tickets on Sale Today

Tickets for the 23rd *Evergreen Cemetery Walk*, September 30-October 1, and October 7-8, go on sale. Tickets cost \$17.00 for non-members, \$14.00 for

Museum members, and \$5.00 for students with ID and children. Buy them at least 24 hours in advance and save \$2.00 each on each adult ticket! (There is no discount on student tickets.) Tickets can be purchased at the Museum, The Garlic Press, Casey's Garden Shop, and Evergreen Memorial Cemetery in Bloomington. For more information see page 1.

September 7 7:00 p.m.

A History of the Evergreen Cemetery Walk

Join Director of Education Candace Summers for a program on the Museum's longest running and most successful outreach program, the *Evergreen Cemetery Walk*. This program will explore the roots of this event and how it began as a call to action because vandalism was a major problem at Evergreen Memorial Cemetery. Audience members will also be introduced to the individuals who will be featured during the 2017 Walk. The program will be held in the Cafe at Normal Public Library and is free and open to the public.

September 11 7:00 p.m.

A History of the Evergreen Cemetery Walk

Join Director of Education Candace Summers for a program on the Museum's longest running and most successful outreach program, the *Evergreen Cemetery Walk*. This program will explore the roots of this event and how it began as a call to action because vandalism was a major problem at Evergreen Memorial Cemetery. Audience members will also be introduced to the individuals who will be featured during the 2017 Walk. The program will be held in the Community Room at Bloomington Public Library and is free and open to the public.

September 17 1:00 p.m.

The Civility of Albert Cashier SOLD OUT

Join the Museum for a trip to Chicago on September 17 for a matinee showing of *The Civility of Albert Cashier*. This musical tells the story of Albert Cashier, born Jennifer Hodgers, who fought for the Union in the Civil War. Tickets are sold out. The buses will leave at 12 p.m. from the *Cruisin' with Lincoln* Visitors Center. We will enjoy dinner in Chicago after the show. Thanks to our sponsors: Ogar & Miller, The Bistro, Jan Lancaster, Specs Around Town, and Prairie Pride Coalition.

September 30-October 1, October 7-8

Evergreen Cemetery Walk: Commemorating the Centennial of World War I

Tours are at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. each day. Tickets will be on sale at the Museum, The Garlic Press, Casey's Garden Shop, and Evergreen Memorial Cemetery. Call 309-827-0428 for more information and see page 3 of this newsletter for details on this year's featured characters.

October 13 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.

Waxing Historic: Living History Museum

The Museum is pleased to host area home school students who will be creating a living history wax museum. Each student will create a display about the historic figure they will bring to life. Historic figures from throughout local, state, U.S. and world history will be featured during this program. Watch your October monthly mailer and the Museum's Facebook page for more details. This event will be free and open to the public.

October 24 7:00 p.m.

Images of the Eighth Judicial Circuit with Guy Fraker

The Museum is pleased to welcome retired lawyer and local historian, Guy Fraker, for a program about his forthcoming book *Looking for Lincoln in Illinois: A Guide Book to Lincoln's Eighth Judicial Circuit*. This free program will be held in the Museum's Governor Fifer Courtroom. See page 6 of this newsletter for more details.

November 7 7:00 p.m.

History Reads Book Club

Join the Museum and Bloomington Public Library for the final installment of the *History Reads Book Club* for 2017. The discussion will be held in the Museum's Governor Fifer Courtroom. For more information, please see page 2 of this newsletter.

November 11 1:00 p.m.

Music from the Great War

The Museum is pleased to welcome Dale Evans and Hannah Kerrigan for a performance of well know (and not so well known) music from the Great War. Please see page 6 of this newsletter for more information.

November 14 6:30 p.m.

Movies Under the Dome: Wings

Come join us for the fifth installment of our new film series featuring movies with a McLean County connection. Along with a screening of the film, the program will include a display of thematic artifacts (some otherwise not on display) from the Museum's archival and object collection, and commentary about the film's local connection. Plus, bring personal care items to donate to veterans at the VA Hospital in Danville and receive a free bag of popcorn! This program is free and open to the public. See page 5 of this newsletter for more information.

**November 18
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

Under the Dome Knit In

Grab a friend, some needles or hooks, and your yarn and come on down to the Museum to "knit for a bit!" Light refreshments will be provided. This program is free and open to the public. Knitters and crocheters will be making scarves to give to Veterans who attend the annual Veterans Day ceremony held on the east side of the

Museum Contact the Education Department for more information and ways you can help.

December 1 5 to 8 p.m.

Once Upon a Holiday First Friday

Join the Museum staff for a free, fun, and festive evening for the whole family around the Christmas tree. There will be holiday music, homemade cookies, hot apple cider, adult egg nog, and more! You can also pick up gifts for history buffs and lovers of all things local in the Museum's new *Cruisin' with Lincoln on 66* Visitors Center, located on the ground floor of the Museum. For more information about this event and a complete list of participating locations, please visit the Downtown Bloomington Association's website at downtownbloomington.org.

December 2 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Christmas at the Courthouse

Join the Museum staff for this annual holiday tradition. Enjoy holiday music, Christmas carols, homemade cookies, children's crafts and activities, and St. Nicholas for the kids!

The Quilters of the Museum were featured in a large photo exhibit entitled "From One Group to Another: A Sense of Purpose" at the McLean County Arts Center. The KodaRoamers camera club chose 12 clubs/groups to spotlight the interesting and charitable endeavors in which their clubs participate. The quilters' hands featured here are Annajean Winn, Zoe Lutzi, Pat Bolda, Arlene Mitchell, Marilyn Washburn, and Liza Texeira. The photographs were taken by KodaRoamers members Ed Sams, Ann Husk and Denise O'Brien.



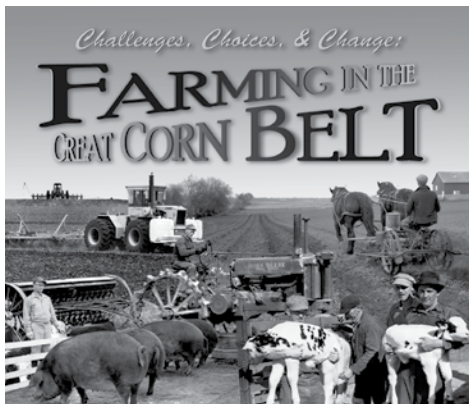
Visitors Center Update

► The Visitors Center has seen an interesting and varied flurry of visitors this summer, including guests from 20 different countries on 5 continents, visitors from 37 states outside Illinois and 89 towns within Illinois but outside of McLean County.

► Our pilot program of limited Sunday hours has proved very fruitful as well, with an increase of public served topping out thus far on Lincoln Fest weekend which saw 85 visitors in the four hours of Sunday operation.

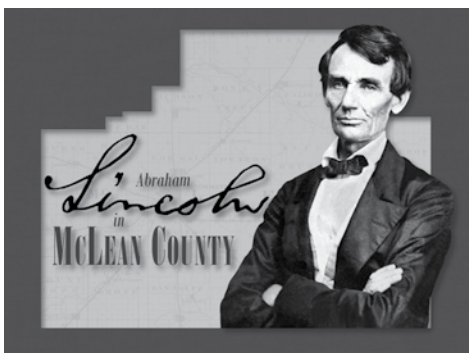
► We continue to expand our reach through social media, advertising and word of mouth. As surprising as it is how often the phrase "I didn't even know y'all were here" comes out of people's mouths, it is so exciting to hear people say they've been here and are returning and bringing new guests to experience this extraordinary museum!

EXHIBITS



Challenges, Choices, & Change: Farming in the Great Corn Belt

This unique exhibit tells the story of farming as it was done by McLean County farmers. It follows a nearly 200-year timeline, using images and experiences of area farmers to tell their stories and revealing the difficult choices they had to make in order to be productive and profitable. Gallery interactives will demonstrate the drastic changes farming has gone through since frontier farmers first arrived, including the size of farms, urban sprawl, technology and equipment, and even the types of crops grown.



Abraham Lincoln in McLean County

This exhibit examines Lincoln's work as an attorney in McLean County and on the Illinois Eighth Judicial Circuit. It defines his pivotal role in the anti-slavery movement and the formation of the new Republican Party in Illinois, and makes clear the circumstances of his nomination for president in 1860. Through revealing reminiscences from the residents of McLean County, the exhibit explores the lasting connections Lincoln made with the people of this community.



Challenges, Choices, & Change: Making a Home

From the arrival of native people to the immigration of Asian Indians and Latinos in the late 20th century, this exhibit explores the experiences of individuals and families who came from all over the world to make McLean County their home. Their stories reveal the many challenges this diverse group of people faced after their arrival—stories of determination and hard choices, of maintaining traditions and inventing new ones, stories of how their lives unfolded and changed—stories of making a home.



Cruisin' with Lincoln on 66

Located on the ground floor of the Museum, the Visitors Center includes an exhibit that features many local Route 66 landmarks, past and present. It allows visitors to compare and contrast travel, dining, and lodging in Abraham Lincoln's time with that of the Route 66 heyday. The Visitors Center is free and open to the public during regular Museum hours.

Encounter on the Prairie: Work

This exhibit highlights the many occupations and industries throughout the history of McLean County. It contains photographs and objects associated with McLean County businesses, including many of the goods produced locally. While in the gallery, step inside the "prisoner holding cell" to await your trial in the courtroom! This exhibit will be closing after Labor Day for updating.

Encounter on the Prairie: Politics

This exhibit provides insight into our political history through government, war, and education. Notable political figures such as Abraham Lincoln, David Davis, and Adlai Stevenson are highlighted, as are common people who have called McLean County home. Their stories teach the importance of education in the community and detail our involvement in military conflicts—from the Indian Wars through World War II.

McLean County Museum of History Staff

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Executive Director

Susan Hartzold

Curator of Collections and Exhibits

Bill Kemp

Librarian

Candace Summers

Director of Education

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MYSTERY HISTORY

Wow, last issue's mystery photograph proved a stumper for most of our loyal readers. Barb and Bob Blunk and Jeanne Wroan were the only folks who correctly surmised that the under-construction building was in fact Felmley Hall of Science on the northeast corner of the Illinois State University quad. Opened in 1930, Felmley Hall's namesake is David Felmley, president of Illinois State Normal University from 1900 to 1930. An addition was added to this science building in the early 1960s. Today, Felmley houses the Illinois State Planetarium, offices of the School of Biological Sciences, and the departments of Health Sciences and Geography, Geology, and the Environment.



Uh oh, here's another building to identify! Hopefully, this one will prove easier than the last one! Do you know this building? Can you tell us something about it? Is it still standing? Here's a hint: It was built for one use in mind and then later repurposed for an entirely different use. If you think you know the answers to these questions, contact Librarian Bill Kemp by email at library@mchistory.org, or by phone at 309-827-0428.