

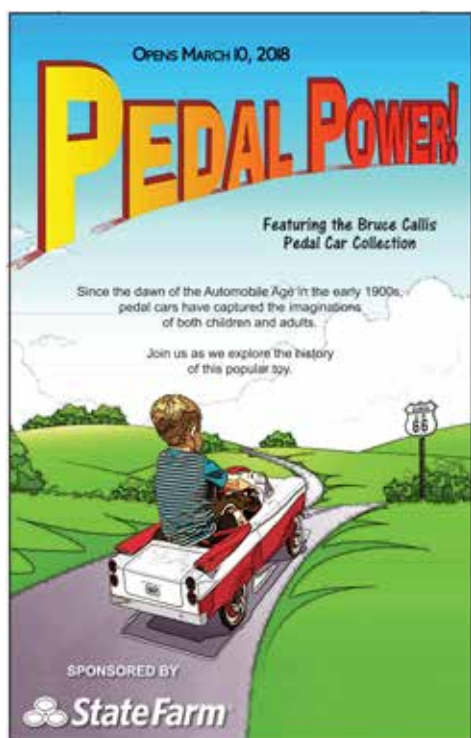
McLean County Museum of History



On the Museum Square

March-April-May 2018

Pedal Power! Exhibit Grand Opening



Join us on March 10 as we unveil our newest rotating exhibit, **Pedal Power!**

Festivities will begin at 10 a.m. with a ribbon cutting on the third floor, followed by an 11 a.m. presentation in the second floor courtroom by exhibit curator Anthony Bowman. Refreshments will be provided.

Family-friendly activities take place between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. and will provide plenty of opportunities to get creative. Build (and race) mini LEGO automobiles with the Children's Discovery Museum. Watch masters from Meltdown Creative Works who will be screen printing exclusive **Pedal Power!** T-shirts. The first 30 guests will receive a complimentary voucher for shirt a to print. Bring your own garment to print for \$10. Additional garments will be available for purchase during the event.

This exhibit will feature nearly four dozen child-sized autos from the Bruce Callis Pedal Car Collection, which spans fifty years of pedal car production from the 1920s through the 1970s. Learn about the Callis collection, discover who designed these popular toys, and interact with these icons of childhoods past. Whether you remember these toys from your childhood or are discovering pedal cars for the first time, you will want to cruise down to the Museum and explore **Pedal Power!**

All exhibits will be open and free until 5 p.m. thanks to exhibit support from State Farm. For information about this event, please contact the Education Department at education@mchistory.org or 309-827-0428.

Mark your calendars
for the grand opening of the
Museum's newest exhibit,
Pedal Power!
Saturday, March 10, 2018

With thanks to our newsletter sponsor:



SAVE THE DATE!

7th Annual *History Makers* Gala — June 28

The McLean County Museum of History invites you to join us for the seventh annual *History Makers* Gala to be held on Thursday, June 28 at the DoubleTree. This annual event honors individuals who have devoted much of their lives to making McLean County a better community in which to live.

This year's honorees have made significant impacts in the fields of education, arts and culture, labor, and politics. Proceeds from the *History Makers* Gala support the Museum's free educational programs that serve approximately 7,000 students and 2,000 senior citizens annually. Visit mchistory.org, or follow us on Facebook for the release of the honorees' names in mid-March!

On the Museum Square

Quarterly Newsletter

March-April-May 2018 Volume 50, Number 1

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)

OFFICERS

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Robert Watkins, Second Vice President
Sandra Harmon, Secretary
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Executive Director Search Update

After five years of helping the Museum maintain its reputation of excellence and reaching more people than ever, former Executive Director Beth Whisman served her last day on February 2. Beth did many wonderful things for the Museum, and we wish her the best as she pursues new opportunities with the Town of Normal.

In addition, we have received applications from many qualified candidates in the search for a new executive director that members of the search committee are currently reviewing.

Keep an eye out for the announcement of a new executive director. With all of the impressive resumes we've received, we're sure Museum members will be pleased with the new leadership.

History Reads Book Club

All avid readers are welcome to join us on Tuesday, May 1 at the McLean County Museum of History for the second *History Reads Book Club* of 2018.

The discussion will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Governor Fifer Courtroom. Ring in the spring season with a reading of famed author Ray Bradbury's 1957 novel *Dandelion Wine*. Set in the summer of 1928, Bradbury's book tells the tale of 12-year-old Douglas Spalding and his childhood in Green Town, Illinois—loosely based on the author's hometown of Waukegan.

This free, quarterly program is brought to you by the Museum and Bloomington Public Library.

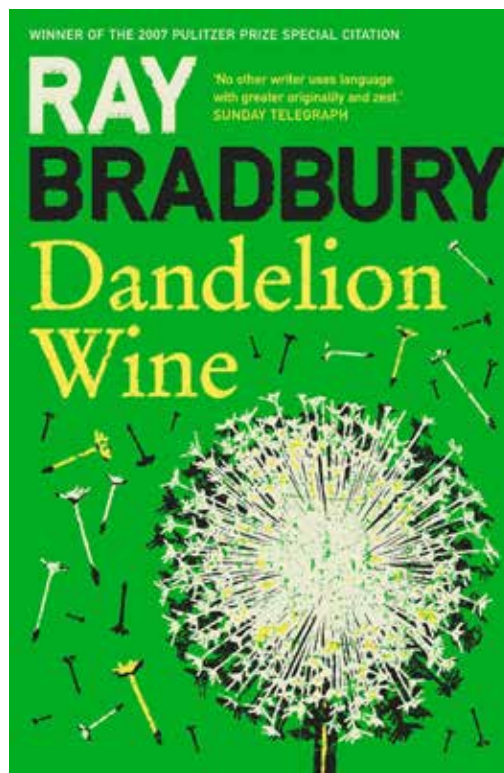
The discussion will last approximately 60 minutes.

Participants are welcome to explore the Museum before the meeting.

Free parking is available on the street or in the Lincoln Parking Deck, located one block south of the Museum on Front Street.

Copies of this book will be available for checkout at Bloomington Public Library or may be requested via interlibrary loan through your local public library.

For more information on this program please contact the Museum's 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. The Museum looks forward to seeing our local literature lovers in May!



Movies Under the Dome: *Honey, I Shrunk the Kids*

From Academy Award-winning director Joe Johnston (Best Visual Effects, *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, 1981)—known for his technical effects prowess on such films as the *Star Wars* and *Indiana Jones* trilogies, and as director of *Jumanji*, *October Sky*, and *Captain America: The First Avenger*—join the Museum for a viewing of Johnston's directorial debut film, *Honey, I Shrunk the Kids* (1989) on April 14 at 1:00 p.m. as part of the Museum's ongoing **Movies Under the Dome** series.

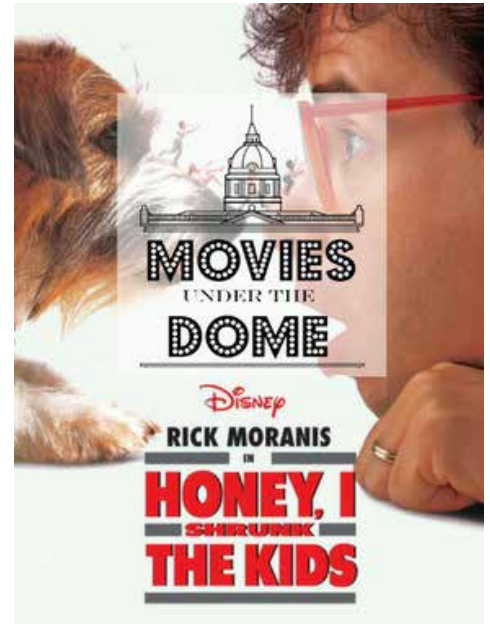
Starring Rick Moranis as the absent-minded, yet innovative, inventor Wayne Szalinski, *Honey, I Shrunk the Kids* follows the story of the Szalinski children and their next-door neighbors who temporarily fall victim to the tinkering of their inventor father and his shrink ray prototype. As the kids navigate the world at the height of 0.25 inches tall, equal parts suspense and hilarity

inevitably ensue.

Special effects makeup artist, props artisan, and Illinois State University graduate ('81, M.S. '84), James Spinner provides the inspiration for this Saturday matinee. Spinner's work has also been featured in the films, *Men in Black II*, *The Grinch*, *Planet of the Apes*, and *Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian*. Spinner works with fine art and film effects materials, hot metal castings, resin, latex, foam, and has developed a unique structural framework for creating human forms termed "skeletonics."

Honey, I Shrunk the Kids has a run time of 1 hour 33 minutes and is rated PG for mild violence. A brief intermission will feature family-friendly activities, including a visit from educators at Sugar Grove Nature Center.

Admission is free. Drinks, treats, and popcorn will be available for purchase.



For more information, contact the Education Department at education@mchistory.org or 309-827-0428.

Under the Dome Knit In:

Making things for creatures great and small!

Knitters and crocheters—mark your calendars for the next *Under the Dome Knit In*, Saturday, May 5 from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. in the Museum's Governor Fifer Courtroom! The Museum welcomes all knitters and crocheters to come down and create charity items or work on your own project.

This quarter's featured knitting/crocheting charity will be Comfort for Critters. Volunteers have been knitting and crocheting blankets to comfort homeless pets living in animal shelters across the United States for the past 10 years. While these pets await adoption, the blankets provide a comfortable bed year-round. When they are adopted, their blanket goes with them, providing something familiar as they adjust to their "forever family." A local beneficiary of these blankets is CISAR /Central Illinois Small Animal Rescue in Colfax. For more information about the project, lists of participating shelters, or free patterns to use, please visit the web page at www.comfortforcritters.org/.

The *Under the Dome Knit In* is free and open to everyone. Light refreshments will be served. Grab a friend, some needles or hooks, and of course don't forget your yarn, and come on down to the Museum to "knit for a bit!"

Free parking will be available at the Lincoln Parking Deck, one block south of the Museum on Front Street. For more information, or with any questions, contact the Education Department at 309-827-0428 or education@mchistory.org.



Kittens who received a blanket from Comfort for Critters.

Register for *Futures in History Camp*

Calling all future historians!

Registration for the 2018 season of *Futures in History Camp* at the McLean County Museum of History is preparing for launch in April. Registration for two separate sessions of camp—one in June and one in July—will open Monday, April 16. Registration for the two sessions is open to the first 20 campers to apply for each week of camp. Preference will be given to those campers who have never attended camp before. The dates for the two sessions are as follows: June 18-22 and July 9-13.

Camp registration is available to all area kids entering fourth through sixth grades. Online registration will be available through the Museum's website at mchistory.org/learn/programs/daycamp.php. Printable registration forms will also be available through the Museum's website, as well as through the Unit 5 and District 87 online backpacks.

This summer, campers will have the chance to explore five potential future careers related to the field of history: law, archaeology, architecture, museum studies, and environmental science. Over the course of the five-day camp, students will visit the David Davis Mansion and Sugar Grove Nature Center, and will become experts on the Museum and the surrounding Museum Square.

For more information, please contact Education Program Coordinator Hannah Johnson at hjohnson@mchistory.org or by phone at 309-827-0428.

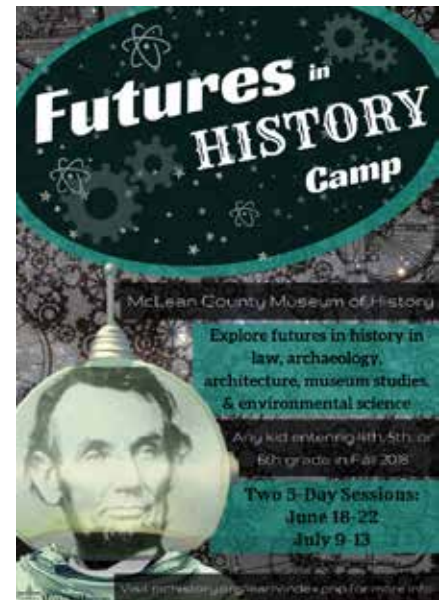
We look forward to hearing from all of you future-minded history enthusiasts in April!



Campers were treated to a tour of one of Bloomington's urban farms during Architecture Day 2017. Armando Baez of Rogue Carrots gave campers a taste (no pun intended) of what it means to grow your own food and to open your lawn to the community, while sharing stories of living in a school-bus-turned-tiny-house.



Campers strike a pose with the Lincoln bench and Future in History Camp's very own mascot, Space Abe—or Spabe to those with whom he is closely acquainted.



Campers Xavier Keiser and Ryan Reedy sift through the sands of time looking for artifacts at the David Davis Mansion during Archaeology Day 2017.

Caterpillar, Inc.: A Legacy of the Great War in Central Illinois

The Museum is pleased to welcome Lee Fosburgh, Supervisor of Caterpillar Corporate Heritage Services, who will



present a program on how the First World War helped shape the company we know today as Caterpillar, Inc. This free, public program will be held at 7:00 p.m.

on Tuesday, March 13, in the Museum's Governor Fifer Courtroom.

World War I left many legacies, including one that was felt deeply throughout Central Illinois—the formation of the company known today as Caterpillar, Inc. Fosburgh's program will illustrate how World War I made

the trademark "Caterpillar" a household name, while at the same time propelling two rival corporations down the road to merger.

Fosburgh manages Caterpillar's archival collections, developing company heritage messaging, and curating historical exhibits at the Caterpillar Visitors Center. Before working at Caterpillar, Lee worked in archival positions at non-profit institutions such as the Chicago History Museum and the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists. His corporate archives experience also includes work at Motorola, Inc. and The Pampered Chef.

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

Free parking is available on the Museum Square and surrounding streets or at the Lincoln Parking Deck located on Front Street.



Holt Caterpillar 10 Ton track-type tractor and wagon, painted in military camouflage, outside Holt's East Peoria office c. 1918.

The Walls Speak: Telling ISU's Story Through its Campus Buildings

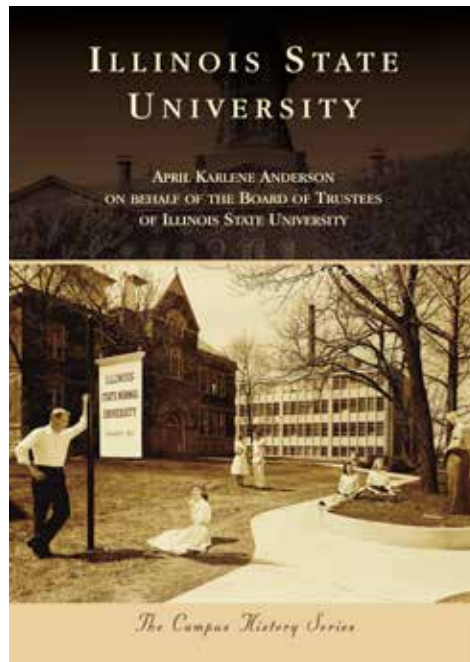
Past and present Redbirds will want to flock to the Museum at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 7 when Illinois State University archivist April Karlene Anderson will present her talk,



The Walls Speak: Telling ISU's Story Through its Campus Buildings. This talk is scheduled in conjunction with the publication of Anderson's recent book *Illinois State University*, the

newest addition to Arcadia Publishing's *Campus History Series*. Anderson's presentation will feature a small selection of the many historic photographs housed in the collection of the Dr. JoAnn Rayfield Archives that served as the foundation of the book.

"Illinois State University was founded in 1857 as Illinois's first public higher education institution. Initially named Illinois State Normal University (ISNU) due to its mission to train teachers, the university gained early national recognition for its work in developing educational philosophies. One of



those philosophies, Herbartianism, was brought to ISNU in the 1890s and was cultivated by some of the profession's leading educators, including Charles DeGarmo, head of modern languages and reading at the university."

"ISNU celebrated 100 years of service in 1957 and, on January 1, 1964, dropped 'normal' from its name. Now known as Illinois State University, the institution offers over 130 under-

graduate and graduate degree programs ranging from the humanities to the sciences and nursing within its six colleges."

Anderson received her masters' degrees in library and information science, and history from Florida State University and the University of Central California, respectively. She is a certified archivist through the Academy of Certified Archivists and holds a Digital Archives Specialist Certificate through the Society of American Archivists. In addition to her work at ISU, she has served as an archives consultant helping academic institutions and companies establish archival programs.

Anderson will present her talk in the Governor Fifer Courtroom on the second floor of the Museum. The book *Illinois State University* is available for purchase in the Visitors Center.

For more information, 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.

Breaking Out...

A New Perspective On Teaching History and the Social Sciences

Teacher Conference 2018

On Thursday, February 1, the Museum played host to roughly 170 regional practicing teachers and Illinois State University History Education majors at the eleventh annual history and social science teacher symposium. True to this year's theme—*Breaking Out...A New Perspective on Teaching History & the Social Sciences*—symposium attendees navigated between four distinct session locations each featuring a unique strand of subject themes. With sessions ranging from, “Trumped! The Challenges of Teaching in the Modern Era,” to “3D Literacy: Helping You BREAK OUT into a New Dimension of Teaching,” to “Firsthand History: Using Historical Documents and Artifacts,” to “Girding Yourself: Preparing for Classroom and Community Partnerships,” symposium participants were encouraged to consider the variety of avenues and opportunities teachers have to break away from the status quo both inside and outside the classroom.



Presenters Dr. Laura Kalmes (ISU College of Education, Bloom Community School) and Stefen Robinson (NCHS History and Sociology) implore their audience to dismantle the figurative siloes that serve to separate schools and society in their session, “Bridge Builders: The Democratic Imperative of School and Community Collaboration.”



Presenters Doug Banwart (Bunker Hill HS), John Bierbaum (NCWHS), and Dr. Stewart Winger (ISU Department of History) educate a crowded Courtroom of teachers on how to internationalize their classrooms in their session, “Globally Minded, Locally Focused: Bring Perspective and the World to your Students.”

Ky Ajayi (ISU Department of Politics, BLM) and Gabe Cripe (YWCA - Stepping Stones) listen closely to one of their fellow panelists in the panel discussion “Girding Yourself: Preparing for Classroom and Community Partnerships.”

Dr. Katrin Paehler (ISU Department of History) addresses the topic of “Breaking Out: New Approaches to Teaching the Holocaust and Other Genocides” with a captive audience in the lobby of the Ensenberger building.



Session participants get comfy on the stairs of the Ensenberger lobby, as chairs couldn't hold the crowd that gathered for Dr. Paehler's presentation.



As an extension of the session "Bridge Builders: The Democratic Imperative of School and Community Collaboration," this panel discussion sought to "address both the challenges and rewards of bridging the gap between classrooms and their respective communities by providing practical examples of how teachers can actively invite the community into their classrooms through healthy dialogue and project-based learning."



Rob Martin of Open Source Classroom, LLC in Downtown Bloomington's Monroe Building opened his workshop to symposium participants for a jointly led session—"3D Literacy: Helping You BREAK OUT into a New Dimension of Teaching"—with co-presenter April Schermann (NCWHS Math).

Breaking Out...



The Museum's own Director of Education, Candace Summers, and her fellow presenters, media specialists Jen Weaver (BHS) and Tera Hafermann (NCWHS), engage conference-goers in an interactive session featuring the Museum's loan kit program and the various ways this program can be interpreted to meet the needs of teachers using primary sources in the classroom.

Dave Estes of the Livingston County War Museum, a fellow Route 66 attraction located in Pontiac, explained the nuances and educational benefits of introducing Skype in the classroom. The Livingston County War Museum has used Skype to connect with more than 200 schools across the US and with classes in more than 10 foreign countries. At the end of this session, one lucky participant won a microphone, web camera, and classroom set of whiteboards to help implement SKYPE in their classroom. Other prizes given away that day included a button maker and a \$100 spending spree for classroom materials that support student activism, a voucher for a book study for the recipient's school, and three escape boxes to encourage higher order thinking in the classroom.



Flag raising marks beginning of yearlong Illinois Bicentennial celebration

To help kick off a yearlong celebration of the Illinois bicentennial, communities across the state hosted a simultaneous Illinois Bicentennial Flag Raising Ceremony at noon on Monday, December 4, 2017.

In Bloomington, the McLean County Board and other community leaders, along with the American Legion Post 635 and the Museum, raised the Bicentennial flag in historic Downtown Bloomington. County Board Chairman John McIntyre read a special proclamation, recognizing the yearlong tribute to the people, places, and things “born, built and grown” in Illinois every single day. Governor Bruce Rauner’s 51-member Illinois Bicentennial Commission designated the theme.

The bicentennial celebration will continue with programs and events throughout the state, ending with the Bicentennial Birthday Party on December 3, 2018 at the United Center in Chicago. Locally, the McLean County Museum of History will offer free programs throughout the year in celebration of the state’s 200th birthday.

You can learn more at Illinois200.com.



Pictured here are several of the many who attended the flag raising. Museum Board President Bill Zimmerman, with American Legion Post 365 members, local and state officials, including County Board Chairman District 5 John McIntyre, Normal Mayor Chris Koos, Bloomington Aldermen Karen Schmidt and Mboka Mwilambwe, and Rep. Keith Sommer. Museum staff include Beth Whisman, Lauren Lacy, Jeff Woodard, and Hannah Johnson.

Meet Our Interns

Jackson Ikert is a senior graphic design student at Illinois State University. He is working this semester on designing materials for the *History Maker's Gala* and the annual *Evergreen Cemetery Walk*. Jackson is interning at the Museum to gain experience designing for a client, and to learn more about McLean County.



Rodney Morgan is a senior at Bloomington High School. He is one of the Museum’s first high school interns and is planning to go to Illinois State University as a History Education major once he graduates. Rodney is in charge of planning and implementing the upcoming *Movies Under the Dome* event on April 14. He will be responsible for both selecting a movie to watch and the activities featured during the event. Rodney hopes that he can put his museum experience to use as a teacher by blending traditional high school education with museum programs and events.



Ryan Owens is a senior History and German double major and European Studies minor at Illinois State University. He is working this semester as the *Evergreen Cemetery Walk* Biographies Intern researching and compiling comprehensive bibliographies of particular individuals buried at Evergreen Cemetery who were featured during early years of the Walk. He enjoys learning all of the secrets that the Museum and archives provide in pursuit of this objective.



Tamara Smith is a senior at Illinois State University who is studying Graphic Design. Tamara will be working with a variety of departments to update their brochures and graphics. Her main project will focus on the Visitors Center guide and map of the Museum. When she is not designing work, she enjoys writing stories—specifically Sci-Fi and fantasy stories. When she graduates from ISU she wants to work at a design agency in Chicago or be a freelancer.



Tax reform and estate planning

The tax reform legislation signed by President Trump on December 22 last year included an important change for many wealthier families. As of January 1, 2018, the amount exempt from the federal estate and gift tax has doubled, to \$10 million plus inflation adjustments since 2011 (so \$11.2 million in 2018, still higher in the years ahead). That's per person, so a married couple has \$22.4 million worth of transfer tax shelter so far. Here are a few points to keep in mind about the new law:

No estate tax repeal. Earlier versions of this legislation included the complete repeal of federal estate and gift taxes in the future. That change was dropped along the way.

Temporary boost? The enlarged estate tax exemption expires in 2026, along with all of the individual tax changes, so as to meet projected budgetary targets. In the past, most such temporary tax breaks have been made permanent, and the amount exempt from federal estate tax never has been reduced. Still, the uncertainty casts a cloud over estate plans for the next several years. What's more, some Democratic politicians are already on record as favoring a rollback of this provision, should the Republicans lose control of Congress.

Full basis step-up at death. For the vast majority of estates, planning for income and capital gains taxes will be more important than estate tax considerations. The new law preserves the adjustment of tax basis to fair market value for property received from a decedent's estate.

Some state death taxes remain. There has been a trend since 2001 of states abandoning their estate and/or inheritance taxes, when the federal credit for state death taxes was converted to a deduction. A majority of states have since dropped special taxes at death, but those that have kept them typically have exemptions well below what the federal government provides, some as low as \$1 million. Anyone who lives in a state—or owns property in such a state—that still has any type of death tax will need to take that fact into account in estate planning. (Illinois - \$4 million)

Estate planners and their clients will be busy in 2018, as together they sort out the implications of this new law.

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a secure retirement
takes on new
meaning.



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McLean County Museum of History Welcomes Our New Members!

Jane Chamberlain
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Dietz
David Dunaway

Mike and Beth Golowski
Evelyn Johnson
Jim McNeely

Colleen Reynolds
Phyllis Short
Roland Spies

Rita Tschanz
Douglas Welch

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

Premium plate from C.M.C. Hamilton's grocery in Saybrook, IL 1907; donated by R. Wise

1899 Camp Lincoln Commemorative ribbon; found in collection

Trapeze bar, trapeze neck loop, burlap sack used as blindfold from the Flying Valentinos act c. 1945; donated by Cherie Valentine

West Point uniform and overcoat worn by Col. Donald M. Dexter Jr. c. 1944; donated by Becky Rossmiller Garrett

Laundry basket and shirt ironing boards used by Emma Hitt at Miller and Son Cleaners c. 1955; donated by Judith Hitt Spear

Two hatpins and hatpin holder c. 1880; donated by Brad Briney

St. Mary's Sesquicentennial Brew beer bottle 2017; donated by Lacey and Andrew Bordewick

Wooden plasterer's toolbox used by Jess Fisher c. 1940; donated by Dianne Moore

Collections Spotlight Featured Artifact

Ironing Board — donated by Judith Hitt Spear

The Museum recently received this ironing board used by Emma Clark Hitt (1908-1979), who worked as a presser at Miller and Son Cleaners from the early 1950s to 1972 when she retired. The piece of equipment is part of a larger collection of objects associated with her. Emma always took her lunch with her to work and sat right at her ironing board to eat. When making the donation, her daughter Judith recalled that her dad would drive her mom to work every day and drop her off at school on the way. A lifelong Bloomington resident, Emma married Henry Olive Hitt, originally from Hopedale, in 1929.

Miller and Son Cleaners opened in 1928 at 929 E. Grove Street in Bloomington. The building was purchased in 1927 by Jacob Miller for \$15,000. In the 1960s the business began a fur storage service. Miller and Son is listed in the city directories until 1981.



New to Library/Archives

Collection of correspondence and miscellany related to the murder of Thomas J. Powderly, an employee of the Chicago & Alton Railroad, and member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Fireman, on Oct. 18, 1903, in Mexico; donated by John Kerrick

Several issues of "The Flyer," the magazine / newsletter of the Illinois Traction Society; donated by Dale Jenkins

Various, including a Normal State Bank calendar, 1953; "Welcome to the Town of Normal" booklet, from the dedication ceremony for the new city hall / police department complex, July 3, 1976; and other items; donated by Bob and Barb Blunk

Materials relating to the Kerr family of Towanda and Saybrook, including family group sheets and pedigree charts; donated by Sonja Reece

Items relating to the family of Charles W. and Elaine M. Williams, including a Korean War scrapbook, and American War Mothers Club scrapbook (items found at 901 E. Walnut St., Bloomington); donated by Tony Brown

Map of Illinois, 1920, and an undated Pennsylvania Railroad map; donated by Doug Williamson

One notebook, c. 1918-2013, containing minutes to Edward and Margaret Alice (Trowbridge) Deal family reunions; donated by Bruce E. Bryan

Sixtieth anniversary program, First Mennonite Church, Normal, 1972; donated by Christian Kibler

Biographical material relating to the John Otto family; donated by Janace Cole

Several items relating to Gladys Lobdell, including a Colfax Community High School diploma; donated by Ruth Wene

Items relating to Bridgestone's Normal plant, including DVD "No Big Mountains," and a brochure celebrating fifty years of manufacturing in Bloomington-Normal (2015); donated by Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations

Collection of items pertaining to long-time electrical contractor Emmet-Scharf Electric Co., including blueprints for State Farm Insurance Co.'s downtown Bloomington office building, 1928 (Emmet-Scharf worked on that project); donated by Emmet-Scharf Electric Co.

Chatterton Opera House (Bloomington) program, October 21, year unknown, featuring Ethel Barrymore in "The Witness for the Defense;" donated by Jane Flanders Osborn

Large collection of Bloomington High School music/concert programs, 1950s and 1960s; donated by Mary Selk, former director of vocal music, BHS

Several items, including Democratic and Republican Party tickets, 1888 presidential campaign, Grover Cleveland vs. Benjamin Harrison; donated by Bob Bradley

Promotional calendar, 1979, Thrifty Drug, Towanda Plaza, Bloomington, donated by Shelly Lanham

Scrapbook, 1964-1979, relating to Mae Deane, McLean County Recorder; items include correspondence, newspaper articles, photographs, and cards; donated by Deb Schuller (Mae Deane's niece)

Sounds of Illinois Chorus, Christmas CD, "This, This Is Christmas," 2017; donated by Sounds of Illinois Chorus, James A. Stahly

Additional material to the Children & Elders Forest Collection, including minutes, 2005-2010; newspaper articles; and information on the individual groves, including sponsorship forms; donated by Children & Elders Forest, Deborah Oberg

Central Illinois Figure Skating Club programs, 2014-2017; donated by Larry Carius

Letter and receipt from the National Bank of LeRoy, November 3, 1931; donated by Pat Hiser.

Photographs/Images

Four 3x5 color photos of the Unity Building fire, 200 block N. Main St., July 1988, taken by Ella B. Wood; donated by Sherry Wood Detloff

Two photos, ca. 1904, one labeled, "Miss Martha Quosick, Elected Queen of Carnival, Oct. 5, 1904"; donated by Frank Thompson

Three photo albums relating to Edward and Margaret Alice (Trowbridge) Deal families; donated by Bruce E. Bryan

Photo of Benjamin David Sholty, c. 1880s; donated by Norma Sholty

Six pages from a photo album, given to donor by Beulah Otto in 1982 (album was Beulah's mother's, Rose Emma Ruh Otto); donated by Janace Cole

Collection of Bridgestone photographs relating to the manufacturing process; donated by Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations

Several photos, including one 5x7 interior of business, 1923; two 8x10 exteriors of business, undated; and others; donated by Emmet-Scharf Electric Co.

Collection of Bloomington High School 8x10, a cappella choir photos, 1950s and 1960s; donated by Mary Selk, former director of vocal music, BHS

Library/Archives Collection Spotlight

'Remember Mae in November'

McLean County Recorder Mae Deane scrapbook



Deb Schuller donated a scrapbook detailing the public career of her aunt, V. Mae Deane, who served as McLean County Recorder of Deeds from 1964 to 1979. The scrapbook contains many news items, campaign material, original photographs, correspondence, greeting cards, and miscellany. Deane started working in the recorder's office in 1956. She received appointment as recorder after the death of Clyde Kessinger in May 1964. The item shown here dates to her first campaign of November 1964. Deane passed away February 21, 1996, at the age of 64.

We are thankful to Deb Schuller for donating this scrapbook, which tells the important story of this political pioneer.

Books/Published Materials

Eureka: Book of Recipes and Family Remedies (1905); donated by Doug Williamson

Animal Poets, illustrated children's book (2016); donated by Peg Schickendanz—the author!

The Barn Book (2016) by Gracie Weinzierl; donated by Gracie Weinzierl

Indians of Illinois and Indiana: Illinois, Kickapoo, and Potawatomi Indians, by Joseph Jablow (Garland Publishing, Inc., 1974); donated by Greg Koos

COGS and Corsets
A Central Illinois Steampunk Happening

JUNE 1-3, 2018
HISTORIC DOWNTOWN BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

www.CogsandCorsetsIL.com  CogsandCorsetsIL

Calendar of Events — ongoing programs and upcoming events

Second Thursday of every month until May, 2018

Lunch and Learn at the Museum

Bring your brown bag lunch to the Museum's 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 next three *Lunch and Learns* will be on March 8, April 12, and May 10. These programs are free, open to the public, and sponsored by Illinois Wesleyan University, the McLean County Museum of History, and the Collaborative Solutions Institute.

Please check the Museum's website calendar for specific monthly topics.

Saturdays beginning May 5 through October 27

Our Museum opens at 8:30 a.m. to all visitors, with free admission until noon! Tour the Museum's latest exhibits and shop at the surrounding Farmers' Market.

On display March 20 through April 10

Tri-Valley History Fair on Display

Every spring since 1998, projects created by seventh grade students attending Tri-Valley Middle School have been on display throughout the halls of the Museum, and the Museum is pleased to host them again this year. These student-created projects feature McLean County and Illinois history-related topics. Many of these projects will go on to compete at the state level at the Illinois History Day in Springfield on May 3. Please come view what these hard working students, led by their teacher Ms. Mary Pfeiffer, have created. You won't want to miss them!

March 3, 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Resistance and Progress: Then & Now 1960 to the Present

The Museum is the repository for the Bloomington-Normal Black History Project, collecting stories and preserving them for future generations. This special program will be held at the Museum to help reboot the project featuring a panel discussion between long-time Bloomington-Normal residents and area youth, and a dance performance by BCAF. Participants who are interested can also get more information about how they can become involved with the Bloomington-Normal Black History Project. This program is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

March 10, 10:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Grand Opening of Pedal Power! exhibit

The public is invited to the grand opening program to unveil the newest special exhibit at the Museum. The celebration will begin with a ribbon cutting ceremony, followed by a presentation in the courtroom. Light refreshments will be served and several family-friendly activities will be featured too. See page 1 of this newsletter for full details.

March 13, 7:00 p.m.

Caterpillar, Inc.: A Legacy of the Great War in Central Illinois

The Museum is pleased to welcome Lee Fosburgh, Supervisor of Caterpillar Corporate Heritage services, who will present a program on how the First World War helped shape the company we know today as Caterpillar, Inc.. For more information about this free program, see page 5 of this newsletter.

March 15

Museum closed for Staff In-Service Day

April 5, 7:00 p.m.

Dr. King, I Remember... Local Reflections on the 50th Anniversary of the Assassination

A multimedia presentation of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the impact he had on individuals will be dramatically presented. Interviews of local McLean County residents will be incorporated into letters to Dr. King, interspersed with some of his letters and speeches as a tribute to him. Admission for this special presentation by Illinois Voices Theatre Echoes and the Museum is \$5 per person.

April 7, 1:00 p.m.

The Walls Speak: Telling ISU's Story Through its Campus Buildings

The Museum is pleased to welcome Illinois State University Archivist April Anderson, for a presentation about her new book, *The Campus History Series: Illinois State University*, which explores the stories behind the brick and mortar buildings that make up ISU. For more information about this free, public program, please see page 5.

April 14, 1:00 p.m.

Movies Under the Dome: Honey, I Shrunk the Kids

Come join us for the sixth installment of our 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 otherwise not on display from the Museum's archival and object collection, commentary about the film's local connection, and family friendly activities. This program is free and open to the public. See page 3 of this newsletter for more information.

April 16

Registration begins for Futures in History Camp 2018

To download an application, please visit our website: www.mchistory.org/learn/programs/daycamp.php. For more information, see page 4 of this newsletter.

April 19

Museum closed for Staff In-Service Day

May 1, 7:00 p.m.

History Reads Book Club: *Dandelion Wine*

Join the Museum and Bloomington Public Library for the second installment of the History Reads Book Club for 2018. The discussion will be held in the Museum's Governor Fifer Courtroom. For more information, please see page 2 of this newsletter.

May 5, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Under the Dome Knit In

The Museum welcomes all knitters and crocheters to come and create charity items or work on your own project. Light refreshments will be provided. This program is free and open to the public. See page 3 for more information about this quarter's feature charity project.

May 19, 1:00 p.m.

Unboxing Memories: Wedding Dress Unveiling

"When daisies pied and violets blue, and lady-smocks all silver-white ... Do paint the meadows with delight." Or, so said William Shakespeare. In the spirit of spring and wedding season, the Museum invites you to join us for a special vintage wedding dress "unveiling." Witness two local girls unbox their great-great-great-grandmother's 1905 wedding dress and shoes for the first time in the company of their mother, family, and friends. Rarely seen wedding garments from the Museum's collection will also be on display, and light refreshments will be provided. Spend another Sunday with Mom in May, and make it a month of reminiscence and memory making.

May 28

Museum closed for Memorial Day holiday

June 1 through June 3

Cogs and Corsets: A Steampunk Happening

The Museum is pleased to once again participate in the second annual *Cogs & Corsets* festival, which will take place throughout six square blocks of historic Downtown Bloomington. This area is home to over 90 shops, galleries, and restaurants—many in historic buildings with ties to Abraham Lincoln. The galleries will feature local artists' new work and host visiting artists whose pieces exude that Steampunk vibe. The Museum will be the site of history presentations, Tea Dueling, a Tea Room, photo op, and a variety of activities held on the lawn and around the building. Enjoy dining, dancing, and workshops, in restored buildings from the 1860s-1930s. The streets will be bustling with a costume contest, promenade, Splendid Teapot Races, vendors, Makers' Faire entries, sideshow circus performers, and more! We can't wait to see you here!

For registration and more information, please visit:
www.cogsandcorsets.com

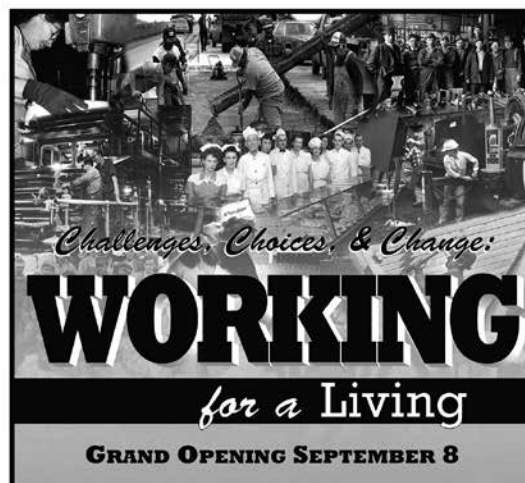
EXHIBIT NEWS



Pedal Power! Opening March 10

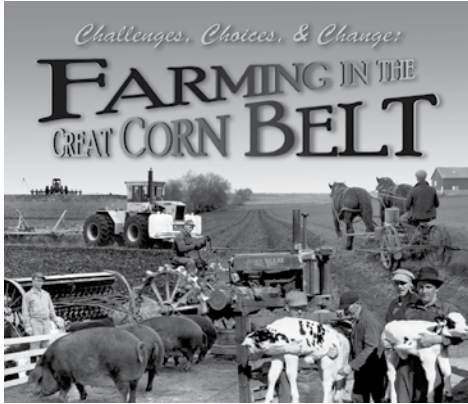
Since the dawn of the Automobile Age, pedal cars have captured the imaginations of both children and the young-at-heart. Visitors will be able to explore the Museum's newest exhibit and discover child-sized autos in a multitude of colors, shapes, and sizes from the Bruce Callis Pedal Car Collection.

Working for a Living Opening September 8



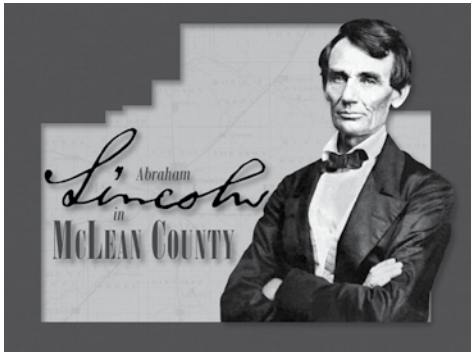
This exciting new core exhibit will explore how new technologies have impacted work in McLean County. In the 1800s the arrival and growth of the railroad transformed our jobs and community. Then new modes of communication began to quicken the pace of business. Later, automotive transportation and the development of a hard road system changed how close we lived to work and where we shopped. And finally after World War II, advancements in computer technology brought fast-paced change to business practices and required new skill sets.

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.



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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Bill Kemp
Librarian

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MYSTERY HISTORY



Last issue's photograph proved too mysterious for our stable of usually unfailing history sleuths. Amazingly, no one correctly identified the photo, which was an undated interior view of the General Electric plant off Veterans Parkway. In the latter-half of the twentieth century, GE was one of the larger employers in the Twin Cities. The groundbreaking was held October 1953, and it opened the following year. Initially, the plant manufactured switches and controls, but by the 1960s, local GE workers were making motor starters, push buttons, and relays, among other electrical devices. By 1969, the plant had 1,400 employees. It closed in late 2010.

For this issue, can you identify the community shown in this aerial? If so, can you provide the circa date? And does anything of interest catch your eye? 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**.