Evergreen Cemetery Walk
2016 Preview

After 22 years the Evergreen Cemetery Walk is going strong! The eight McLean County individuals featured this year will share stories of how they helped shape not only our history, but in some cases the landscape upon which we walk. Two of the featured residents even directly impacted the beautiful grounds of Evergreen Memorial Cemetery!

This event draws over 3,500 people every year. To date, we have featured 157 different individuals from all walks of life. Their stories continue to illustrate the deep and lasting impact the people of McLean County have had on history. Put on your walking shoes and bring your family to this fascinating, outdoor theatrical program.

The Museum is also pleased to announce that our returning sponsor is Evergreen Memorial Cemetery. The Cemetery’s sponsorship will help bring almost 2,000 students and chaperones, free of charge, to the school performances of the Evergreen Cemetery Walk on the weekdays between public performances. Without the Cemetery’s support, most of these students would not be able to attend. Thank you to the Cemetery and its Board of Trustees for their support.

Weekend tours will be held at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on October 1-2 and 8-9. Advanced ticket sales begin September 6 and will be available for purchase at the Museum, The Garlic Press in Normal, Evergreen Memorial Cemetery, and Casey’s Garden Shop in Bloomington.

State Farm Expands Matching Gift Program

Employees and Retirees Can Double Giving Impact

State Farm Companies Foundation recently announced it is expanding the State Farm charitable gift matching program. For years, the foundation matched State Farm associates’ gifts to colleges and universities, but it will now match charitable gifts to all eligible non-profits, including the McLean County Museum of History.

This means a $100 membership is now a $200 gift that supports local history education and a $1,000 Lincoln Club member now has a $2,000 impact on our free programs.

If you’re an active or retired State Farm associate who’s made a gift to the Museum since January 2016, including a membership gift or 2016 campaign pledge, please log onto the website cybergrants.com/statefarm/gives to request a matching gift of up to $1,500.

For more information: Lauren Lacy at llacy@mchistory.org or 309-827-0428

Knitters and crocheters—mark your calendars for the next Under the Dome Knit In on Saturday, November 12 from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.!
The Museum welcomes all knitters and crocheters to come down and create charity items or work on their own project. Our event will be held in the Museum’s Governor Fifer Courtroom.

This quarter’s featured knitting/crocheting charity is the Red Scarf project, sponsored by the Foster Care to Success: America’s College Fund for Foster Youth. Since 1981, this charity organization has helped over 50,000 young adults in foster care achieve success in education via financial backing for college in the form of scholarships and grants, care packages and family-like encouragement, academic and personal mentoring, and help with internships and employment-readiness skills.

On Valentine’s Day each year, Foster Care to Success sends care packages to college students in foster care across the country. The handmade scarves by knitters and crocheters are included in each care package and become treasured keepsakes for students for many years. Scarves can be any shade of red, including red stripes with other colors, or multicolor hues including red. The scarves should be unisex, 5 to 8 inches wide, and 60 inches in length.

The Museum will be collecting completed red scarves from September 1 until November 21. These scarves will be distributed by Foster Care to Success in February of next year.

The Under the Dome Knit In is free and open to everyone. Light refreshments will be served. All you need to bring is your own project or the materials to begin a new one. Free parking will be available at the Lincoln Parking Deck, one block south of the Museum on Front Street.

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

www.fc2success.org/how-you-can-help/red-scarf-project
Evergreen Cemetery Walk
2016 Preview

(continued from page 1)

For more information: 309-827-0428
education@mchistory.org, or
www.mchistory.org/learn/programs/cemwalk.php

(Weekend Only Performance)
Samuel White (1847-1917) and Paul Moratz (1866-1939) A contractor from Indiana, Samuel White began erecting schools and homes throughout the county soon after moving here in 1870. White's crowning glory came in 1898 when he transformed a cow pasture into one of the most desirable areas of the city, today known as White Place. White partnered with one of the leading architects of the area, Paul Moratz, to help him develop White Place. Moratz contributed designs for several residences and the iconic entry gate that still exists today.

Ethel Murray (1917-1990) As a schoolgirl subjected to segregation, Murray disliked the subject of history. She observed that “Blacks and Indians” never seemed to “win or be successful.” Though her mother routinely had to pack lunches in shoeboxes since restaurants that served blacks were uncommon, such prejudice was not enough to suppress Murray’s belief in the innate goodness of people. During her childhood, the Ku Klux Klan often met in an old mine near her home. But rather than hiding in fear, Murray took it upon herself to befriend the young son of one of the Klansmen!

Hamer Higgins (1840-1902) and Jacob Jung, Sr. (1850-1933) After the end of the Civil War, Hamer Higgins headed west to seek his fortune and arrived in Bloomington in 1868 with only $10.00 in his pocket. That same year he began working for James Haldeman as a marble cutter’s apprentice and, in less than 10 years, acquired the business. Two years later, Higgins partnered with Jacob Jung, who had also begun work as a marble cutter’s apprentice for Haldeman. Together, these two men owned and operated a very successful monument company. Later known as Higgins, Jung, and Kleinau, the company remained in business for 80 years.

Jennie Thompson (1860-1924) Born in Canada, this charitable woman immigrated to the U.S. in the 1860s. When Thompson was only 19 years old, her mother’s death left her to look after her six siblings, and so began a life of physically ministering to the sick and infirm. During the flu epidemic of 1919, Thompson worked tirelessly to provide care to the dying while also assisting mothers in childbirth. The last 16 years of her life were spent as a field worker for the Day Nursery and Settlement Association, whose purpose was to provide a safe place for children of women required to work outside the home.

John Jackman (1816-1896) Energetic and well-liked, Jackman spent over 40 years in railroading, working in Massachusetts and Ohio and eventually moving into the machinery side of the business. Arriving in Bloomington in 1864, he took a position as Superintendent of Machinery for the Chicago & Alton Railroad Shops and there he remained until his resignation almost 15 years later. Amazingly, Jackman’s impressive career would see the railroad link states from coast to coast, and Canada to the Gulf of Mexico.

Richard Shipley (1903-1973) Stories are often told of restless youths running away to join the circus but, at the age of 16, young Richard Shipley actually did. And while he may have only spent a year with the Ringling Brothers Circus before returning home to his family, it was enough time for him to develop an enduring passion for life under the big top. So great was this passion that 20 years later, Shipley returned to the circus as an elephant trainer; an occupation he would hold for the rest of his professional life.

Tickets are $17 for the general public, $14 for Museum members, and $5 for children & students w/ID. A special $2.00 pre-sale discount is available for general and Museum member tickets if purchased at least 24 hours before the day of the performance. There is no discount on children/student tickets. All ticket sales are final. There will be no refunds or exchanges, and the event will take place rain or shine.

If you have any questions or need special accommodations, please contact the Education Department.
Join the Museum for a new film series with McLean County connections! The second installment of the series will be Tuesday, October 25 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Museum’s Governor Fifer Courtroom. Pre-show activities begin at 6:00; the program starts at 7:00. This program is free and open to the public.

The evening will feature the creative work of local science-fiction author Gerald “Jerry” Sohl. After publishing nine novels, Sohl moved to Hollywood in 1958 and wrote popular television scripts throughout the 1960s. Come and experience two of his episodes, both of which prove that nothing is ever as it seems!

These episodes are rated PG for mild violence and suspenseful situations. Drinks and popcorn will be available for purchase before the program.

Make-up artists will be on hand to transform you starting at 6:00 p.m. Also be sure to check out rarely-seen Halloween and sci-fi related artifacts from the Museum’s archival and object collections. During our short intermission, Museum archivist Bill Kemp will speak about Jerry Sohl’s life and career. Stick around after the show for a chance to win exciting prizes. Costumes are encouraged!

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

**History Reads Book Club**

All avid readers are welcome to join us on Tuesday, November 1 at the Museum for the final History Reads Book Club of 2016. The discussion will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Governor Fifer Courtroom. The featured book this fall is *The Bootlegger: A Story of Small Town America* by prolific Illinois author John E. Hallwas. It is said that, “In unraveling the process by which Colchester, Illinois, lost its grip on the American promise…Hallwas reveals this remote corner of the Midwest as a true reflection of the quintessential American experience.”

This free, quarterly program is brought to you by the Museum and Bloomington Public Library. Discussion will last approximately sixty minutes, and participants are welcome to explore the Museum before the meeting. Free parking is available at 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 own public library.

For more information: Education Department at education@mchistory.org or 309-827-0428; or Karen Moen, Bloomington Public Library, at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org
Museum, Visitors Center
Host Route 66 Conference

The second annual Route 66 Miles of Possibility Conference will take place in Bloomington-Normal on Thursday, October 20 through Sunday, October 23. Workshops will be conducted at the McLean County Museum of History and the historic Ensenberger building. The conference will feature several informative speakers covering topics related to Route 66, including preservation, promotion, research, and education. There will also be a variety of activities planned for conference participants. The list of offerings includes historical tours, a free Route 66 Short Film Festival, a hot dog roast, a dinner and dance party with Route 66-themed music from local band “Wagon Load a Trouble,” vendors, and more.

Registration: www.regonline.com/milesofpossibility
Updates: Miles of Possibility Facebook page
Contact Terri Ryburn: route66lives@gmail.com or 309-452-5325

Museum Exceeds $3 Million Campaign Goal, Continues Upgrades

The Museum has surpassed its $3 million campaign goal to fund significant improvements, including a new permanent exhibit and Museum-wide technology upgrades.

Campaign Co-Chair and Board President Carolyn Yockey made the announcement in June during the Museum’s History Makers Gala. The Extending Excellence campaign has secured $3.36 million in pledges.

Museum Executive Director Beth Whisman said the campaign has already begun to impact the Museum.

“The Museum has made huge strides in the last two years toward meeting the needs of a 21st century audience,” said Whisman. “Whether it’s combining traditional artifact interpretation and digital technology in our new exhibits, offering brand-new learning resources to local educators and researchers, or making our Museum Square a more inviting green space, we’re rising to the challenge of engaging an increasingly diverse, modern audience.”

Work on implementing the campaign’s goals continues, with the Museum’s attention focused on the next new permanent exhibit gallery, Farming in the Great Corn Belt. Opening March 25, 2017, this exhibit is a collaboration between Museum Curator Susan Hartzold and Don Meyer, veteran agricultural extension advisor and lecturer at Illinois State University’s Department of Agriculture. Farming in the Great Corn Belt will explore how agriculture has changed in McLean County, using artifacts, videos, hands-on activities, and digital interactives that are currently being coordinated by Curator of Digital Humanities Torii Moré.

“Tm very excited about the digital elements you’ll see in the farming gallery,” Moré said. “I think our two newest exhibits, Making a Home and Abraham Lincoln in McLean County, have shown just how much a digital element can enhance the exhibit narrative and allow visitors to delve deeply into specific topics.”

The Extending Excellence campaign was launched to position the Museum to better engage with new generations and foster meaningful connections to our community’s past. When the campaign was first announced, the Museum outlined four initiatives to meet this challenge: installing a new permanent exhibit, upgrading technology throughout the Museum, expanding the Education Department, and enhancing the surrounding green space. These initiatives will continue to be implemented through 2019.

For more information: mchistory.org/campaign
David Davis Mansion Co-Hosting September Conference on Supreme Court Ruling

An opinion written 150 years ago by Supreme Court Justice David Davis has gained new importance as America grapples with how to handle suspects in the war on terror. Now the David Davis Mansion State Historic Site and Illinois State University are collaborating on an academic conference exploring the opinion and its ramifications with their September conference, “Ex Parte Milligan at 150: The Constitution & Military Commissions in American Wars on Terror.”

The Milligan case involved Abraham Lincoln’s policy of using military tribunals to try civilians during the Civil War. The majority opinion was written by Davis, who helped get Lincoln elected president and then was appointed by Lincoln to the Supreme Court.

Yet the decision repudiated Lincoln’s policy on military tribunals. It held that trial by military commission was acceptable only when there was a real war and when civilian courts were impaired.

Davis, in an opinion written in Bloomington, concluded that, “the Constitution of the United States is a law for the rulers and people, equally in war and in peace, and covers with the shield of its protection all classes of men, at all times and under all circumstances.”

The ruling established limits on a president’s war powers, but was mostly forgotten during the 20th century. Then came the September 11 terrorist attacks, U.S. wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, and new questions about the rights of people held on suspicion of terrorism.

Now it is part of a continuing legal debate on civil rights and executive powers.

The Museum is excited for this historic conference being hosted by our good friends at the David Davis Mansion and Illinois State University.

The conference takes place September 22-24. The deadline to register is September 5.

For details: www.milliganconference.illinoisstate.edu

2016 Lincoln’s Festival in Bloomington

The Museum would like to say thank you to everyone who made the eighth annual festival a resounding success. An estimated 3,000 locals and travelers participated in the festival this year at sites throughout the community. Miss the festival? Lincoln history is accessible all year at the Museum, including the new exhibit Abraham Lincoln in McLean County and our new free mobile app that provides a tour narrated by Lincoln at sites in McLean County. You can download the app for Android or Apple by using your smartphone to visit mchistory.org/app.

Museum Visitors enjoyed playing the “So You Think You Know Abraham Lincoln” trivia game, for both fun and fabulous prizes!

Bryan, a first grader from Hudson, gets an audience with President Abraham Lincoln during the 2016 Lincoln’s Festival in Bloomington.

Lincoln must have taken a stroll around to enjoy his own festival. He’d love to have you join him next year!
Meet Our New Board Member

Archana Shekara

How long have you lived in the Bloomington-Normal area?
I have lived in Bloomington for the past 22 years and call it home. I am originally from Mysore, India and have lived in the U.S. for 25 years. I have a BFA in Painting from SUNY NewPaltz and an MFA in Graphic Design from U of I at Urbana-Champaign.

Do you work? Have a family?
Tell us a little about yourself!
I am a Graphic Design faculty member and Honors Program Coordinator member at the School of Art at Illinois State University where I have been teaching for seven years. My teaching, practice, and research are interdisciplinary with a focus on cultural identity in design and civic engagement/service learning.

My husband Chandra works at State Farm and is a systems architect. My son Aniruddha is a sophomore at Vanderbilt and daughter Aishwarya is a senior at Normal Community High School.

How did you end up on the Museum Board?
As a Museum volunteer, I helped with the Asian Indian exhibit, Asian Games exhibit, coordinated Taste of Asia, Festival of India, and “Reason, Reflect, Respect: Cultural Identity in Design” show and panel discussion.

It’s a privilege and an honor to serve the Museum. I thank Mike Matejka for nominating me, and Beth Whisman, the board members, and Museum staff for their warm welcome. I am looking forward to serving on the Museum Marketing Committee this year.

Do you have any hobbies?
I am the current president of McLean County India Association, and have been co-organizing the Festival of India at Illinois State University since 2011. I have volunteered design services and organized charitable events through MCIA benefiting American Red Cross, Salvation Army, and Easter Seals. I have volunteered design services for Multicultural Leadership Program (MCLP), Sister Cities Bloomington-Normal-Asahikawa, Children’s Discovery Museum, Bloomington Library, the Veggie Oasis project, OCA, and the Hindu Temple of Bloomington-Normal. I am also honored to serve on Not in Our Town’s steering committee. I am also a classical Indian dance performer and have performed Bharathanatyam under the Nrityamala Dance Academy to raise funds for American Red Cross, Community Cancer Center, and the Hindu temple.

My interest is in cross-cultural learning. I have conducted several Indian cultural training classes at local daycare and learning centers. I taught BalVihar classes for six years, and I am a regular speaker on Hinduism at Heartland Community College’s World Religion class.

What’s the last good movie you’ve seen?
“The Man Who Knew Infinity.”

What’s the best advice you’ve ever gotten?
Be the change; Do your duty/karma without expectations; Take up one idea, make that idea your life, think and dream of it, let the brain, muscles, nerves, every part of your body be full of that idea, and just leave every other idea alone. This is the way to success.

Public Programs Intern Kyle Albright

Kyle Albright served as the public programs intern for the Museum during summer 2016. Albright, a native of Rockford, discovered a love of German and history in high school. He decided to study history and German language and enrolled at Illinois State University; where he is a rising senior.

As the public programs intern, Albright organized activities for special events and assisted in daily tasks. He had the opportunity to serve as one of the leaders at the History Careers Day Camp. He also prepped for the Museum’s role in Lincoln’s Festival, creating a new self-guided scavenger hunt inside the Museum, and working on additional games and crafts.

Through his internship, Albright has gained insight into how a museum is run and the types of skills it takes to work in a museum, as well as how museums work to educate the public and persuade people to become involved. He also learned how history museums, in particular, work to foster visitor interest in their community. Albright will put his internship experience to use as he pursues his desire to work in a museum with his love of history and German language and culture.
How did you end up working at the Museum?

This spring I was serving as the Evergreen Cemetery Walk biography intern for the Education Department when the position opened up in the Development office. With graduation coming up, I saw it as the perfect opportunity to stay involved at the Museum.

What role does the Development Assistant play for the Museum?

As the Development Assistant, my overall role is to assist Lauren, the director of development, with anything involving specific development events and activities. This includes maintaining the donor database and mailing any direct solicitations or thank you letters that need to be sent out on a weekly basis.

What brought you to Bloomington-Normal and how long have you lived here?

I’m originally from Streator, so I’ve always been familiar with the area. I became even more acquainted with Bloomington-Normal when I moved to attend Illinois Wesleyan University four years ago.

What’s one thing about the Museum that would surprise a lot of folks?

After recommending the Museum to friends and family who had yet to visit, I keep hearing how surprised they are about how much it has to offer. They’ve been really impressed with the technology in each of the galleries, but I think they’re mostly shocked to see how much history plays a role in where they’re living.

In your view, what’s the biggest challenge facing the Museum today?

So far, the biggest challenge seems to be attracting younger generations to the Museum. This is something that is being worked on and has improved, but we could still benefit from drawing in younger members.

What would you like to see the Museum doing in five years?

I’d love to see the Museum become more active on the college campuses in town. I think there are a lot of students that would be interested in the Museum but aren’t necessarily aware of all it has to offer.

Do you have a hobby?

Now that I have graduated, it’s been nice to spend time with friends and family and to catch up on reading. Also, I love getting out to experience new things with my friends; we have a hot air balloon ride in the works!

Library/Archives Intern Blake Sheehan

Blake Sheehan, an undergraduate student in history at Illinois State University, served as the summer intern in the Library / Archives. He spent the summer months organizing and processing two newly acquired and wide-ranging collections: the McLean County Chamber of Commerce Collection and the Diamond-Star / Mitsubishi Motors Collection.

Sheehan said he thoroughly enjoyed learning about the commercial and industrial history of Bloomington-Normal through both collections. He believes being a part of the Museum team, and being able to come to Librarian Bill Kemp and Archivist George Perkins with questions, has been a very rewarding experience. Sheehan encourages those who are studying history in the area to visit the Museum. He knows that the organizational and communication skills he sharpened during his internship represent essential tools that will help in the pursuit of a professional career.

Daphne Pierce Completes Practicum at Museum

Daphne Pierce, a student at Illinois Central College, completed a practicum associated with her pursuit of a Library Technical Assistant certificate this summer at the Museum. She has a love and appreciation for history and wanted to be exposed to our archival holdings.

Pierce worked on a special project for the library, doing research on the best way to convert the archival card catalog to a digital platform which would be searchable via the internet. She says that her time with the project enabled her to use research, analysis, critical thinking, and communication and writing skills. When she was not doing online research or interviewing area archivists, Pierce had time to talk with staff members to learn about their positions with the Museum.

Pierce had a wonderful learning experience, and is thankful for the opportunity.
History Careers Day Camp 2016 Wrap Up

History Careers Day Campers—Bryce Fairfield, Ethan Jelic, Erick Alberran, and Teagan Stone—examine their findings during a mock excavation at the David Davis Mansion.

Session Two campers (left) put their finishing touches on a mural that will adorn the West Side Community Garden on Roosevelt Street for the next year. All three sessions of campers put their painting skills to the test and contributed to the final product. The mural is a collaboration between the Museum, members of the West Bloomington Revitalization Project, and designer Doug DeLong of Osborn & DeLong in Downtown Bloomington. Meltdown Creative Works donated the vinyl sign.

Gabriel Anderson of Chillicothe (above) carefully erects an edible structure during snack time on Architecture Day. Campers enjoyed a variety of thematic snacks throughout the week.

2016 History Makers

It was an exciting year for the History Makers Gala. The Museum honored Jill Hutchison, Jack Porter, Gordon Ropp, and Fr. Ric Schneider, and more than 550 guests attended to show their support. The Gala also featured a big announcement—Museum Board President Carolyn Yockey revealed that the Museum has surpassed its $3 million capital campaign goal!

We’d like to thank our sponsors and the Gala committee for supporting this important event. Nominations for our 2017 History Makers can be submitted now through October 7, 2016, so if you know someone over the age of 70 who has left a lasting impression on McLean County, submit their name so that they might be considered for this honor.

Submissions can be made on mchistory.org or sent to the Museum to the attention of Lauren Lacy, Director of Development. Proceeds from the Gala support our free education programs that annually reach 8,200 local students and senior citizens.
Estate planning for collections

It seems that everybody collects something these days. Many collectors have spent a lifetime gathering the items in their collection. The collector's sentimental attachment to the collection is often greater than any other assets that he or she owns. A careful discussion of a collection's disposition is critical. Among the issues to be resolved:

- The owner should be encouraged to create files or notebooks containing detailed information, including documents on loans of parts of the collections to third parties, insurance policies and receipts for the objects in the collection.
- A skilled collector of unusual objects often will have a better understanding of the value of his or her collection than anyone else. Be careful, though, the sentimental attachments tend to distort the perceived value.
- The skilled collector generally knows who the other collectors are in the field. They will often serve as the best people to value the collection, particularly collections that have no recognized market and few collectors (e.g., tax memorabilia).
- It is important to maintain any reference materials that the collector has on the collection. Such works can prove invaluable to the Personal Representative in deciding how to handle, store and dispose of the collection.

Perhaps the most difficult issue is the collection's ultimate disposition. The documents should specifically address how the collection will be handled after the collector's death. If the collection is to be transferred to a museum or other charity, arrangements for such a disposition should be made by the collector prior to death.

If the collection is to be passed to family members, the collector must decide whether the collection should remain intact by giving it to one family member or to divide it among a group of heirs. If a group of heirs will receive the collection, the manner in which the collection will be divided up should be addressed. For example, are specific items to be passed to specific heirs, or does the Personal Representative have the authority to decide how to make the dispositions?

If the collection is to be sold, other issues arise. For example, if the sale is by a private sale, what assurance does the Personal Representative have that the price is appropriate? In most cases an independent appraisal should be obtained before the sale to protect the Personal Representative from fiduciary liability. If the sale is through a dealer, the Personal Representative should make sure to check the dealer's background and reputation and confirm that the sale price is in the range of any independent appraisal.

If the collection has value, the time and expense of an estate plan for it will be entirely worthwhile.

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McLean County Museum of History Welcomes Our New Members!

Judith Balk
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Katherine Bruemmer
Jeffrey Dillon
Mrs. Susan Doyle
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Nancy Griffith
Dr. and Mrs. Robert W. Hunt
Jim and Sharon Jaeger
Michael and Maria O’Donnell
Shelley Pysell
Robert and Karen Starckovich
Steve’s Bakery of Streator, IL
Dana R. Sutton
Robert D. Widmer
Nathan Zimmerman

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, 10% off 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

Library/Archives

Stars and Stripes newspaper, May 2, 1945, front page coverage of Hitler’s death; material relating to Adlai E. Stevenson II and Lawrence Irvin, including issuance of Stevenson postage stamp, 1965; other items; donated by Jane Hoobler

Pvt. James T. Sheehan’s New Testament, given upon induction into U.S. Army, dated October 17, 1948; map of Korea; New Salem picture guide; two Mother’s Day cards, 1950; donated by Mary Sheehan

Newsletters and ephemera relating to Illinois State University and University High School, 2015; donated by Robert Neuleib

Master copy of presentation to Chrysler Corp. and Mitsubishi Motors by Bloomington-Normal officials, etc., on June 25, 1985; donated by David S. Anderson

Collection of business letterhead and stationery, 1907-1908, from Virgil Bros. of Arrowsmith ledger; donated by Al Arnolts

Large collection of material relating to the McLean County Chamber of Commerce and predecessor organizations, including the Association of Commerce of Bloomington and the Association of Commerce and Industry of McLean County, including annual reports, programs, meeting agendas, brochures and pamphlets, reports, financial statements, studies, correspondence, and other items; donated by the McLean County Chamber of Commerce

World War II items relating to Village of McLean resident William Harrison Maxey, including State of Illinois service recognition certificate; donated by Sandy Dorrell

United Auto Workers (UAW) agreements with Diamond-Star and Mitsubishi Motors North America; employee packets; UAW welcome packet; training manuals, other items, 1989 to 2016; donated by Glen Wallace, 27-year employee at plant (10 years in the body shop; 17 in the paint shop)

Materials relating to Adlai E. Stevenson’s funeral, 1965 (donor’s father, Willard P. Horsman of The Pantagraph, served as an usher); Sister Cities Asahikawa correspondence; donated by Allan W. Horsman

Donations to Collections

Diamond-Star Motors / Mitsubishi Motors North America plant, Bloomington-Normal, employee newsletters, 1986 to 2015; DSM groundbreaking press packet; 1998 plant tour video; 3 millionth car celebration video; brochures, catalogs, and advertisements for various models manufactured at plant; other items; donated by Mitsubishi Motors North America

Bloomington High School, class of 1957 reunion materials, 10th, 25th, 35th, 45th, 50th, and 55th reunions (donor’s husband Bob Raymond was a member of the class); donated by Janeene M. Raymond

Various items — packet of poetry, including booklets, by Loyal M. Thompson; Civil Defense materials, Cold War-era; programs and miscellaneous items from Stanford High School and Illinois State Normal University; donated by Martha Tyner and Mary Lou Lael

Material relating to the life and career of Edgar E. Lundeen, Sr., Bloomington architect, including work with the Historic American Buildings Survey, 1930s; Kepner and Snavely family genealogy; Lyle Snavely school and World War II records, including correspondence; other items; donated by Edgar E. Lundeen, Jr.

General Land Office warrant, Isaac Funk, January 3, 1851; donated by Catherine Helton

Chiddix Junior High School concert programs; Normal centennial reading program brochure; other items; donated by Elaine Knight

Books / Published Materials

The Sower’s Seed: A Tribute to Adlai Stevenson (1965) by Richard N. Goodwin; donated by Jane Hoobler

Family genealogy. Schertz: Two Sons of Joseph Schertz: Joseph, 1827-1914, Peter, 1833-1911 (1971 manuscript cataloged as book); donated by Rosemary Shertz

Forty plus reports, plans, and manuals published by the McLean County Regional Planning Commission, City of Bloomington, Town of Normal, and consulting firms; donated by the McLean County Regional Planning Commission
Donations to Collections continued

Stanford High School yearbooks, 1937 and 1938; donated by Martha Tyner and Mary Lou Lael

*Cookbook, A Modern Kitchen Guide* (1934), stamped G.C. Heberling Co. (local manufacturer and distributor), back cover, with advertising; donated by Joan Bruder

Sidwell official tax maps, “City of Bloomington Township,” 1971, two oversize bound volumes; “Bloomington-Normal and Vicinity—recorded Plats and Subdivisions 1930-1942,” donated by Catherine A. Pratt and John L. Pratt

**Photographs / Images**

Large addition of family photographs, Sebastian, Keller and Morgan, to existing Sebastian collection; donated by Donna Sebastian

Portrait of Sam Stern of Stern’s Furniture; donated by Jane Hoobler

Two undated Bloomington News Agency postcards, St. Joseph’s School of Nursing building, aerial view of downtown Bloomington, both in color; donated by Eric A. and Phyllis D. Ulrey

Two 5x3-inch photographs of old Beich’s factory, Bloomington’s west side; donated by Mary Sheehan

Order of DeMolay for Boys, first class, 34 members, February 11, 1923, 5x7 photograph by E.M. Moore; donated by Catherine and Kent DePew

Miscellaneous negatives from United ‘Foto’ Shop-Star Studios; five Illinois Light and Power glass negatives; donated by Al Arnolts

Large collection of photographs relating to the McLean County Chamber of Commerce and predecessor organizations, including portraits of board members and photos of local scenes, buildings, businesses, membership activities, etc.; donated by the McLean County Chamber of Commerce

Set of photographs of Jack Romans and Miller Park miniature train (Romans was an operator/‘engineer’), including one 8x10 of Romans at Eureka-Williams, and eight 3x5s of the train; others; donated by Joe Gibson

Collection of photographs stamped Camera Craft studio from the estate of Nancy Lee (Sizemore) Dittmar, an ISU and U-High graduate; donated by Katrina Fuchs

8x10 U.S. Army portrait of Village of McLean resident William Harrison Maxey, WW II; donated by Sandy Dorrell

Large collections of Diamond Star / Mitsubishi photographs, slides, and photo albums detailing the plant’s groundbreaking, construction, dedication, and operation; photos and slides of special events, employee and family activities; other topics; donated by Mitsubishi Motors North America

Horatio G. Bent School, ninth grade class, 8x10, June, 1954; donated by Janeene M. Raymond

Lundeen, Kepner, and Snively family photographs, including those of the Kepner farm; glass slides of Illinois historic sites and buildings relating to Edgar E. Lundeen, Sr.’s work with the Historic American Buildings Survey, 1930s; donated by Edgar E. Lundeen, Jr.

State Farm board of directors, undated, Gilbert Brown indentified; donated by Margaret Riggert

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**One Dress, Over 100 Years of History**

The beautiful wedding gown pictured here was worn by Miss Alice Myrtle Abbott for her ceremony to Rev. Frances McCarty in Mason City on November 30, 1904. Myrtle’s three daughters, Mary Helen, Alice, and Martha Louise, were born in McLean County and wore the same dress for their weddings in 1933, 1938, and 1941 in Bloomington and Galesburg. Subsequently, their daughters Martha Ann and Mary Alice (Myrtle’s granddaughters) wore the dress to their weddings in 1961 and 1969 in McLean County. Myrtle’s five great-granddaughters, Ann, Beth, Karen, Juliana, and Elise, wore the dress to their weddings in 1980, 1986, 1993, 2007, and 2008.

The wedding dress was recently featured in *The Pantagraph*, and it was a popular stop this summer in the New to Collections display on the Museum’s first floor. For more information, including photos of each of the brides, see our recent blog entry on www.mchistory.org.
The Museum recently received this pin as part of a larger donation of political buttons from Clarise Jefferson. Clarise was very involved in the equal rights debate and attended several events throughout the state to support ERA. The button seen here focuses on her ERA support as well as her strong religious identity.

The ERA was first introduced to Congress in 1923. It was not until 1972 that the ERA passed both houses of Congress and was submitted to state legislatures for ratification with a deadline of March 22, 1979. Through 1977, the amendment received 35 of the necessary 38 state ratifications.

A joint resolution of Congress extended the ratification deadline to June 30, 1982, but no further states ratified the amendment and it died. Illinois never ratified the amendment, but did add language to the state constitution to protect minority rights.

Clarise has been a resident of McLean County her whole life. She was extremely involved in the Unitarian Church where her stepfather was the reverend. During the summer of 1965 her stepfather asked that she assist with covering the church secretary’s vacation. Clarise accepted the post and ended up working the week of Adlai Stevenson II’s funeral. She remembers the stressful week and the amount of planning and security that was needed due to the number of high profile mourners. She stated that after the service was over and the security left, she had to lock everything up to keep out crowds trying to collect bits of flowers from the funeral arrangements.
Saturdays through October 29
Farmers’ Market
Our Museum opens at 8:30 a.m. to all visitors! Tour the Museum’s latest exhibits and shop at Farmers’ Market.

September 5
Museum closed for Labor Day holiday

September 6
Evergreen Cemetery Walk: Tickets on Sale Today
Tickets for the 22nd Evergreen Cemetery Walk, October 1-2 and 8-9, 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/child 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 3.

September 8  12:10 p.m.
Lunch and Learn: BN Advantage
Learn more about BN Advantage, a regional economic development strategy focused on diversifying and strengthening the region’s economy. Carl Olson, Task Force Chair of BN Advantage, and Sally Heffernan, Project Manager, will lead the discussion.

September 8  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 2016 Walk. The program will be held in the Community Room at Bloomington Public Library and is free and open to the public.

September 27  10:00 a.m.
Lincoln National Heritage Area Sign Unveiling
The Museum’s Lincoln/McLean Club will host a special reception for our friends with the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area in the Museum’s historic Governor Fifer Courtoon. This group, associated with the National Parks Service, will soon install large gateway signs outside the communities of Bloomington-Normal, Quincy, and Danville that read “Entering the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area.” Sarah Seiler Watson, executive director of Looking for Lincoln and the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area, will unveil a replica of the new highway sign and share a progress report on the organization’s efforts to promote heritage tourism along this important corridor. Refreshments will be served.

October 1-2 and 8-9
Evergreen Cemetery Walk 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  12:10 p.m.
Lunch and Learn: Insights and Observations on Election 2016
Local political commentator and retired Illinois State University professor Robert Bradley will offer his insights into how the races are shaping up and what we might observe on Election Day.

October 20-23
Route 66 Miles of Possibilities Conference
The Museum is pleased to be one of the hosts of this second annual conference that will be held at various locations around Bloomington-Normal. As with the inaugural event last year in Edwardsville, the conference will feature several informative speakers covering a variety of topics related to Route 66. There will also be historical tours, a Route 66 Short Film Festival, music from local band Wagon Load a Trouble, and much more. See page 5 for more information.

October 25
Pre-Show Activities @ 6:00 p.m.; Showtime @ 7:00 p.m.

Movies Under the Dome: Chills & Thrills
It’s time for the second installment of the Museum’s new film series featuring performances with McLean County connections! Along with a screening of the show, the program will include a display of rarely-seen thematic artifacts from the Museum’s archival and object collection, as well as commentary from a local historian. This program is free and open to the public. See page 4 of this newsletter for more information.

November 1  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 2016. The discussion will be held in the Museum’s Governor Fifer Courtroom. For more information, please see page 4 of this newsletter.

November 10  12:10 p.m.
Lunch and Learn: Route 66 in McLean County
Route 66 celebrates its 90th birthday this year! Terri Ryburn, noted Route 66 historian, will give a presentation based on her award-winning 1995 guidebook “Route 66: Goin’ Somewhere (The Road in McLean County).”

November 12  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. See page 2 for more information.
EXHIBITS

December 2  
5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Once Upon a Holiday**

*F1rst F1riday*

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, visit the Downtown Bloomington Association’s website at downtownbloomington.org.

December 3  
11:00 a.m. to 4:00 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 a multicultural St. Nicholas for the kids.

December 8  
12:10 p.m.

**Lunch and Learn:**

**Lincoln in McLean County**

Bill Kemp, McLean County Museum of History librarian and co-curator of the Museum’s newest exhibit, will address the role race and racial prejudice played during the epic political contest and moral struggle over the future of slavery in America.

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In the June - July - August issue of *On the Museum Square*, the “A Moment in History” photo depicts a performance on the west side of the courthouse, not the south. Our apologies for the error.

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**Cruisin’ with Lincoln on 66 Visitors Center**

Located on the ground floor of the Museum, the Visitors Center includes an exhibit featuring 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.

**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.

**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, it explores the lasting connections Lincoln made with the people of this community.
MYSTERY HISTORY

Last issue’s “Mystery History” stumped most—but not all!—of our loyal readers. The photo showed a crowd gathered at the intersection of East and Washington streets to watch the cornerstone laying ceremony for The Pantagraph’s new and expanded building. Unwilling to suspend publication or to temporarily relocate operations elsewhere, Pantagraph management had the 1887 building torn down while the new Art Deco-styled building went up around it.

Jim Armstrong knew the answer, as did Barb and Bob Blunk, though it probably helped some that Bob put in 32-plus years at The Pantagraph and knows more than a little about its history. And Andy Streenz, one of the more active members of the Museum who knows his local history as well as Museum staff, was also on the mark. Andy sent us an email laying out the evidence, Sherlock Holmes-like, for his eminently logical deduction.

Okay, you’ll need to put on your thinking cap (or in Andy’s case, an iconic Sherlock Holmes tweed “deerstalker”) for the latest, greatest “Mystery History.” When was this taken? Where is this and what is being built? If you think you know the answer to one or both of those questions, contact Librarian Bill Kemp by email at library@mchistory.org, or by phone at 309-827-0428. Good luck!