Footprints

A publication of the Howard County Historical Society



From the executive director

Digging up bones

Il over the county you can find the bones of dinosaurs. Iron bones that carried the weight of massive steam-belching monsters. They rumbled through downtown Kokomo, through Greentown, Russiaville, Cassville and Oakford. For a time, they were the backbone of the county's economy, but few remain. Today, they're hidden, overgrown with weeds and trees, paved over, ignored, sometimes cussed and frequently forgotten.

It's easy to dismiss the railroads as old technology or road-kill on the highway of progress. Let's not fall for that way of thinking. The rails are finding new meaning – and those strips of iron had a great deal to do with the way we live our lives today.

David Foster helped bring the first rail line into the county seat at a time when the local economy was based in agriculture. The trains hauled our produce out to the markets and came back with goods to be sold in our stores. When the gas boom began, the railroads were ready, carrying sheets of glass from Diamond Plate Glass to be used in building Chicago.

Greentown plates, tumblers and creamers for dinner tables throughout the country, and opalescent glass for cathedrals around the world - and bringing in sand from the Lake Michigan dunes to melt down into more glass. After the boom, the trains brought us steel and took away automobiles, carried in scrap metal and left with fencing, delivered raw rubber and took tires away and carried lifeboats, radios and weapons for the front lines of two world wars.

None of that would have been possible without the rail lines, and Howard County would have turned out to be a very different place. Remember that when you wait at a crossing for one of the few remaining trains or bump across a rough crossing. Keep it in mind as you enjoy the new walking and biking trails along the tracks and watch the restoration of the depot and rail district in Kokomo. The railroads once made our communities strong, and now their old bones are lifting us up again.

Dave Broman HCHS Executive Director

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Delco exhibit a labor of love for HCHS volunteer

By Linda Ferries Publications Committee Member

The newest exhibit at the Howard County Museum – "Delco – The Golden Age of Innovation" – has been a labor of love for Justin Clark. It's an expression of his passion for history and for sharing history with others.

"History, if cloistered, if not shared with the public, is pointless," says the recent Indiana University Kokomo graduate who has spent months as an HCHS volunteer in choosing the appropriate artifacts, researching the history and designing and fabricating the exhibit set to open in mid-July.

Clark is a native of Shelbyville whose family brought him to the Peru/Kokomo area as a youngster. He's a graduate of Maconaquah High School and earned his bachelor's degree in history and political science from IUK in May. This fall, he's headed to Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis to pursue a master's degree in public history.

He credits his experiences at HCHS for his career path.

"Last year, I was able to arrange an internship with the historical society as part of my IUK program," Clark said. "That was my first real experience with the Seiberling and the historical society and as part of that, I went with (HCHS curator) Stew Lauterbach to pick up a collection of vintage radios Delphi was donating to the museum. What a thrill to open those 50-year-old boxes with radios from Delco's heyday. They do elicit an emotional response; they are beautiful. I remember picking up a radio and thinking 'Wouldn't it be cool to do something really neat with this?"

And so he worked with Stew and other museum staffers and volunteers to make it happen.

Noting the longtime exhibit of Delco artifacts was really little more than "open storage," he grabbed the opportunity to do something bigger and better.

"In many ways, for a lot of people, Delco's story IS Kokomo's story, as important as El-



HCHS Volunteer Justin Clark arranges artifacts for the newest exhibit "Delco — The Golden Age of Innovation" at the Howard County Museum.

wood Haynes, the Gas Boom, other aspects of history that have been well covered at the museum," Clark said. "I'm very interested in the history of science and technological development – and that's Delco. And it's also the very human story of the people who worked in the plant.

"I wanted to tell the story of the scientists who were inventing new technologies in the laboratories and the blue-collar workers who were making radios in the plant. And I wanted to make it as cool and accessible and engaging as it can be."

The new exhibit will be housed in the Mural Room on the second floor of the Seiberling Mansion. It's the first to use one of the three "King Tut" display cases the historical society purchased last year from the display house in Ohio that had provided the cases for a major

national traveling exhibition of Egyptian artifacts several years ago. And it's the first big 360-degree exhibit offering views on all four sides.

"This exhibit is a first step into the future dreamed of by the exhibits committee," said Dave Broman, HCHS executive director. "The committee has been working on its long-range plan for what will be on display in the museum and how it will be displayed. This exhibit shows the potential of what can be done."

Clark said, "As I worked on the exhibit, I kept in mind the people who worked at Delco. Part of my goal is to honor them. I asked myself, 'Would a Delco retiree be happy with this?'"

A personal connection underlines those feelings. Clark's grandfather, Henry "Butch" Guyer, had a trucking company in the Peru/Kokomo area and was known as "Guyer the Mover." As

such, he transported Delco radios and other products, as well as show cars fitted out with Delco/Delphi's hightech concepts, to customers and trade shows all over the country. And Clark has had the opportunity to get to know a lot of people who worked at Delco and offered to share their knowledge with him.

"Delco's contribution to Kokomo is huge and we've got to tell that story and I hope we do that," Clark said. "The exhibits committee wants to focus on what makes Kokomo and Howard County important ... and that's the culture of innovation. This is the start of talking about that in a more substantial way." Clark said the exhibit is designed to capture some of the Fifties and Sixties nostalgia of Delco's heyday in the



Clark painted the front of the display case an "old-school pantone blue" to imitate General Motors' signature color.

automotive world. The exhibit includes material donated by Delphi last year as well as artifacts from the HCHS archives. "We looked for the items that were the most aesthetically pleasing or had creative or scientific merit," he added. "While Delco/Delphi engineers have invented a broad range of automotive electronics, the focus here is on these ground-breaking radios, something people can relate to."

And, Clark said, he hopes this exhibit is just the start of telling the Delco/Delphi story, a base that others can build on in the future.

Working on the exhibit has been an amazing opportunity, Clark said. "Stew has been a wonderful mentor. I have learned so much over the last year about exhibits, about the value of feedback – and patience. I've learned from Stew and Dave and Randy (Smith) about all the little details that are so important. That experience is invaluable ... collaboration at its best."

Clark said his experience at HCHS opened the door to his future. "I'm pursuing the master's degree in public history because of what I experienced with the Howard County Historical Society," he said. "I didn't know this was an option but it is." The program is for public educators and administrators in historical settings and prepares graduates for careers in such areas as museums, historical archives, and historic preservation. This summer, Clark will be working as a tour guide at the Indiana Statehouse, sharing the history of that building with the public.

What has the Howard County Historical Society come to mean to Justin Clark?

"I just want people to know how special the Howard County Museum is. It's the county's best-kept secret," he said. "If people would come and engage with what the museum offers, their lives would be so vastly touched by what they learn that they will leave having more of a stake in the community. By understanding their history better, they will care more about where they live.

"Nothing would make me more happy than being curator here 20 or 30 years down the road." he said with a smile.

Credits

Justin Clark extended thanks to the following people for their help in creating "Delco – The Golden Age of Innovation."

Fran Coalburn of The Color Company Kevin DeBard of Printcraft

The HCHS Staff: Stew Lauterbach, Randy Smith and Gail Leiter

Hiram Fouts, retired Delco engineer Kalie Davis, graphic designer



Clark displays an early Delco radio as well as his enthusiasm for the exhibit now open at the Howard County Museum. Although this radio has a polished case and used attractive Art Deco lettering, it was hidden away in the engine compartment of GM vehicles.

Six Howard County 'Legends' to be inducted in August

By Dave Broman HCHS Executive Director

oward County has a long line of legendary sons and daughters. Six of them will be inducted into the Howard County Hall of Legends in August, joining inventor Elwood Haynes, author Norman Bridwell, actor Strother Martin, journalist Steve Kroft, artist Misch Kohn, entrepreneur George Kingston, businessman Bob Knowling and 25 others.

This year, the Hall of Legends Selection Committee has chosen a group of people who, by and large, embody the idea of servant leadership. They include two contemporary leaders in healthcare, one local and one international, a humanitarian and Olympic athlete, a young man who played a central role in our understanding of HIV and AIDS, an educator and minister whose work on behalf of black youth has benefitted generations of young people of all races and one of the county's least well-known but most important automobile innovators.

Dr. Judi Brown Clarke is the Diversity Director for the National Science Foundation's BEACON



Dr. Judi Brown Clarke

e Foundation's BEACON Center at Michigan State University, but in 1984 she was Judi Brown, Haworth High School student and athlete. When she enrolled at Michigan State University, the Big Ten had yet to recognize female athletics and opportunities for women were limited. Track and field was her only option. Judi became a five-time national champion, a

three-time All-American, and still owns an unbroken world record as a member of the distance medley relay team. She won three gold medals in the Pan Am Games and a silver medal in the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics. In 1987, Judi was Sports Illustrated's "Sportswoman of the Year" and was featured in the magazine as one of eight American "Athletes Who Care" due to her work with underprivileged children. She has completed fellowships with the National Children's Defense Fund, National Center for Infants, Toddlers, and their Families, and the Michigan Education Policy Fellowship Program. Dr. Brown Clarke's status as a Howard County Legend doesn't rest on her athletic achievements so much as her work to provide opportunities for underprivileged children and young adults. Her former coach is quoted in the Detroit Free Press as calling her "the only athlete I ever coached who had an Olympic medal and a doctorate degree. That qualifies her to be the perfect role model."

Dr. Chuck Dietzen is the founder and president of Timmy Global Health, an Indiana-based non-profit organization that works to expand access to

healthcare in the developing world. In his day job, he's medical director for In-Patient Rehabilitation at Riley Hospital for Children. Growing up in Kokomo, 150 foster children came through his family's home and his mother noted that Chuck had a special gift with children. She encouraged him to become a pediatrician. He is a distinguished graduate of



Dr. Chuck Dietzen

Purdue University, received his MD from Indiana University and completed his residency with the University of Alabama in 1991. Dr. Dietzen is the author of many professional publications, grants and professional presentations. His work was highlighted in the 1995 issue of 50 Most Positive Doctors in America, and also in the 2000 issue of Positive Profiles in Medicine. He has received numerous local, regional, and national awards for service and leadership.

Jonathan Dixon Maxwell grew up near Russiaville and came of age during the early years of the Indiana gas boom. When Elwood Haynes



Jonathan Dixon Maxwell

approached the Apperson Brothers for help in building his motorized vehicle prototype, they hired Maxwell to help with the machining. That choice was a historic turning point for Howard County and American auto manufacturing in general. Maxwell helped build several of the early Haynes Apperson vehicles, but left shortly after the company was officially organized. In 1904, Maxwell went into business

with Ben Briscoe to build an innovative new runabout of Jonathan's design. By 1909, Maxwell-Briscoe Motors was the third largest car manufacturer in the country, Maxwell had 19 patents to his name, and the company had built its second factory (in New Castle, Indiana). Jonathan left the company in 1913. The business he built was eventually reorganized under the leadership of Walter Chrysler and renamed. Maxwell spent the last few years of his life raising pure-bred cattle in Maryland and is buried in the town where he met his wife, Peru, Ind.. He had a role in the creation of the country's first commercially-produced auto (the Haynes-Apperson), the design and building of the early Oldsmobiles, the design and creation of the renowned Maxwell autos, and, ultimately, the birth of Chrysler Corporation.

Sister Martin McEntee is known to many in Howard County — for her smile and gracious demeanor as much as her leadership. She was born in the small Tipton County community of Atlanta and baptized in Cicero, but her family

moved to Kokomo when she was very young. She attended St. Patrick grade school, graduated from Kokomo High School and entered the novitiate in 1954 at the Sisters of St. Joseph in Tipton. Her life has been one of service, beginning as a teacher at St. John's in Tipton and St. Paul's in Marion, followed by 28 years as president and CEO of St. Joseph Hospital. Under her leadership,



Sister Martin McEntee

the hospital grew in size and services, adding radiation oncology, renal dialysis and magnetic resonance imaging, along with the Saint Joseph At Home, Saint Joseph At Work and Clinic of Hope programs. Sister Martin has been recognized with the Indiana University Kokomo Service Award, the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Community Foundation of Howard County and Distinguished Service Awards from the IUK Alumni Association and the Indiana Hospital Association — and received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Indiana University. Behind the accolades and accomplishments are a remarkable leader and motivator, whose success is based in her warmth and generosity.

The Rev. Henry Perry dedicated much of his life to the young people of Kokomo and Howard County. His leadership helped the community begin to bridge the gap between black and white during a time of institutional segregation. The Rev. Perry was born in Alabama in 1887. Before moving to Kokomo, he had lived in Washington, Chicago, Des Moines, Evansville and Terre Haute. He attended Tuskegee Institute for a time, where he became friends with one of the teachers, George Washington Carver. He earned a

divinity degree in Atlanta, his teaching degree from the Indiana State Teacher's College and his master's degree from Ball State University. Perry served as pastor of Wayman Chapel AME Church for four years and principal of Douglas Elementary School in Kokomo for 20. As early as 1929, he was publicly proposing the development of recreational oppor-



The Rev. Henry Perry

tunities and sites for African American children in the community, who were denied entrance to the pools, gyms and facilities that young white people took for granted. The proposal took years to gain support and funding. After World War II, Perry was able to cobble together a \$60,000 nest egg from various sources. His dream became a reality in June 1948. To this day the Carver Center, named for Perry's mentor, remains a significant part of life in the community for people of all racial, social and economic backgrounds.

The path of **Ryan White**'s life took a sharp turn just days after his birth in 1971 in Kokomo. He was diagnosed with hemophilia and began a lifelong series of regular blood treatments to manage the clotting disorder. In 1984, while being treated for pneumonia, he was discovered to have AIDS. a result of blood factors that had been contaminated with HIV. Ryan and his family were thrust onto the public stage with little preparation, no experience and no particular desire for the spotlight. The controversy surrounding his return to public schools created a firestorm of publicity and made Ryan both a symbol and spokesperson for victims of HIV and AIDS. He appeared in fundraising and educational campaigns as well as benefit programs for children with AIDS. He was befriended by Elton John, Michael Jackson, Phil Donahue, President Ronald Reagan, Surgeon

General Dr. C. Everett Koop and Bobby Knight, among others, appeared on national television programs and testified before the President's Commission on the HIV Epidemic in 1988. Although he didn't ask to be a public figure and maintained repeatedly that he'd trade it in a second for a cure, Ryan became one of a few people who changed the public understanding of HIV and AIDS. His death in 1990 was followed by the establishment of the Ryan White Foundation (founded by his mother, Jeannie White Ginder), the Ryan White Infectious Disease Clinic at Riley Hospital for Children, the Elton John AIDS Foundation and The Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency [CARE] Act passed by the U.S. Congress.

The induction banquet for the 2014 class of the Howard County Hall of Legends will be Friday, Aug. 8, in the Casa Bella dining room at Pastariffic, on South Webster Street in Kokomo. Tickets and information will be available online at howardcountymuseum.org or at the Howard County Historical Society, 1218 W. Sycamore, Kokomo.



Ryan White

Mark your calendars

September 20-21

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- Candle dipping for all ages presented by HCHS
- Visit our tent for hot sweet corn

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Railroad district finds new life

By Dave Broman HCHS Executive Director

We think of history as an inexorable tide, rolling onward, engulfing or obliterating everything in its path. So it was with the railroads, once the backbone of our economy, now rapidly fading away.

For their first 10 years, Howard County and its residents lived in a farm-based economy, with little connection to the rest of the country or even the rest of the state. Roads were few and rough, and transportation was fueled by hay rather than gasoline. Goods were brought by wagons back and forth, to and from local markets or the Wabash and Erie Canal at Peru.

In the late 1840s, a group of investors started building the Peru & Indianapolis Railroad to replace the wagons, and the tracks reached Kokomo in 1853. Samuel Mills and Dr. Corydon Richmond donated land near downtown Kokomo for a depot, and downtown businessmen convinced the rail company to run the tracks right through town to cut down on local

hauling expenses, a decision they would later regret. The P&I was soon followed by a Pennsylvania Railroad line to Logansport, and then by the Frankfort and Kokomo Railroad. Kokomo became a transportation hub for the region and the stage was set.

In 1886, a huge reservoir of natural gas was found under Kokomo. Local businessmen formed a development company and offered free and low-cost gas as an incentive for companies to build factories there. Monroe Seiberling and Elwood Haynes were two who followed the money to Howard County. With cheap energy, plenty of available land, and rail service to carry raw materials in and manufactured products out, the local economy exploded. Jobs were plentiful and the county's population doubled within just a few years.

Short-sightedness and wishful thinking among business leaders in the gas boom region led to tremendous waste and the wells ran dry. The economic boom collapsed, but new businesses, most notably automobile manufacturing, appeared to take



In this photo from late 1918 or early 1919, crowds at the Kokomo depot await a trainload of soldiers returning from World War I.





Tudor Building facade circa 1902, left, and today.

advantage of the well-developed rail systems — and the county kept growing. In Kokomo, the Peru & Indianapolis Railroad became the Lake Erie & Western Railroad and the freight and passenger trains that rumbled through the city center were becoming a problem. A 1913 fire destroyed the depot and most of the businesses around it. A new depot was built in 1916 (it still stands today at the heart of the LE&W Historic District) and traffic controls were added for safety. Presidents visited town on whistle-stop tours and doughboys left for World War I from that depot, returning there to cheering crowds after the armistice. In the 1920s, the LE&W became the Nickel Plate

Railroad, and the current "rail trail" north of Kokomo on the old grade now bears the Nickel Plate name. The 1920s also saw the end of passenger travel on the rails through downtown. In the 1930s, the railroad watchman's tower was added along Buckeye Street as a further safety measure. The little tower has been restored several times and remains today as a reminder of our former dependence on trains. As the 20th century progressed, automobiles took over the streets, and trucks gradually took over the freight transport business.

See "Railroad" on page 15





A walking trail is part of the revitalization efforts in the former railroad district in downtown Kokomo.

Faces around the museum

By Judy Lausch HCHS Publications Committee Member

Every director and curator at the Howard County Historical Society has said it: "We could not do all we do without our volunteers."

Volunteers fulfill the ideas, hopes and plans of the society, serving on the board of trustees, meeting with committees, staffing events, hosting our visitors and guiding tours. The unsung heroes and heroines are those who work behind the scenes with the collections and artifacts, and those who stuff envelopes, answer phones and help with other clerical endeavors.

Recently, six long-time HCHS volunteers shared their experiences: Sandra Grant, Cliff Hunt, Kathy Pfettscher, Jule Rider, Art Ward and John Wilkinson. These invaluable supporters all say they are committed to helping the museum whenever and wherever needed.

John Wilkinson, a familiar face at many HCHS functions, has volunteered at the historical society since 2009. He describes his job as doing whatever is asked, including assisting caretaker Bill Baldwin, "sometimes to unclog drains in the Elliott House, trimming plants, hanging lights at Christmas," or working for curator Stew Lauterbach and executive director Dave Broman in the office by numbering artifacts, looking up information on computers, filing, sorting, putting plastic sleeves on container boxes, making display boxes for the new radio displays or going after boxes at local businesses.

Lois Martin said she loves working at the Koh Koh Mah/Foster encampment each September. While there, she helps children paint rocks and demonstrates different types of toys played with by children in the early 1800s. Wilkinson also volunteers at the encampment— helping with set-up, working as a candle dipper, hauling water, raking leaves, husking and selling corn and cleaning up at the conclusion.

Jule Rider, a member of the HCHS Board of Trustees, has served on the collections commit-

tee for about 25 years. Her volunteer duties include cleaning cases, washing glassware, cataloging artifacts, helping organize collections, creating folders for collections, updating files and performing inventories of the archive storage rooms. There are few people who know the collections as well as Jule.

Kathy Pfettscher recalls helping catalog every hat, dress, shoe and glove in the museum. Many volunteers have helped to list every artifact owned by the museum into the computer program. "Now if anyone comes in to the office and wants to see Aunt Mable's quilt, we will have an easy way to access it," Pfettscher said.

Clerical help is always appreciated by the staff. Among other tasks, **Art Ward**, a 16-year volunteer, assists by entering artifacts from the accession books into the computer's Past-Perfect program. He has re-checked entries and made notes of errors and inconsistencies. Together with



Art and Shirley Ward are long-time volunteers at the HCHS. Art has spent countless hours entering artifact information into the museum database. Shirley spent many years providing secretarial help in the office.



John Wilkinson may be found doing anything from numbering artifacts to unclogging drains (shown here in a photo from the Koh-koh-mah Encampment).

Lauterbach, he has checked and corrected hundreds of entries. Last year he was honored with a reception at the HCHS offices on the occasion of completing the book of inconsistencies by receiving the first (and only) official CSI (Collection Storage Investigator) jacket. In addition to his CSI duties, Ward, who enjoys woodworking, puts his skill to work at the museum by making display stands, display racks, standing folding poster display frame and storage platforms, among other items.

Sandra Grant is a retired school teacher who carries around an 18" piece of string when she conducts school tours. The piece of string helps her demonstrate the average waist size of a lady during the Victorian era, and is smaller than the waist of most fourth graders. Grant says that all the children want to know if the Seiberling Mansion has a ghost. Kids also like to look out the window from the third floor to see how high up they are, she said.

Cliff Hunt enjoys providing information about Howard County, and enjoys the varied interests of people, especially those from out-of-town, about the mansion's history. **Pfettscher** adds that she learns a lot from visitors and tells the story of one lady asking if the door leading to the front porch from the parlor was a "funeral door." She explained how many times in a house as grand as the Seiberling Mansion, doors led into the room where a casket would be displayed with the intention of avoiding bringing a casket in through the front door and the main part of the house.

When asked about benefits of donating their time, the volunteers said it was because of the great staff at the HCHS and how much fun they have working with them. They like "giving back" to their community. "I feel kind of like belonging to a large family group of history nuts," Wilkinson said.

The volunteers said they enjoy reminiscing about history of people and events in Howard County and talking about the changes that have occurred. Many have made lasting friends with other volunteers. Pfettscher said she loves being associated with HCHS because everyone is pulling together to preserve history of the county.



You may have already met Sandy Grant during a tour through the museum. She received the state's 2011 Hoosier Hospitality Award for her efforts as a museum host and docent.



Volunteers Darrell and Jule Rider and Kathy Pfettscher spend most of their time behind the scenes, working with the collection in a variety of ways. Pfettscher also serves as a museum host.

"We are stewards of our collections," she said. "I love that our community supports us so readily and so well."

The amount of time spent by just these six volunteers averages out to around 12 hours a month per person.

Cliff Hunt leading a tour through the mansion.

They all agree that on-the-job training is the best way to learn the various volunteer jobs. Some have attended workshops, and others supplement their training by reading books and other information provided by the staff. Wilkinson says he likes to listen in when other hosts conduct a tour. They agree they are willing to learn even more information to share with tour groups. "Each room in the mansion has a

story to tell," Grant said.

The historical society has an ongoing need for volunteers in a variety of areas with an immedi-

ate need for more museum hosts. Those with an interest in history, who like to meet people and want to contribute to the community are urged to contact the museum office at 765-452-4314 for more information.



Lois Martin receiving the Hoosier Hospitality Award from Lt. Gov. Becky Skillman in 2010.

Membership

Thanks to all who joined the Howard County Historical Society or renewed their memberships in May through July.

Richard and Betty Alexander James Allman Larry and June Barton Lanny and Carolyn Beach Marilynda Bennett Paul and Darlene Berry Phyllis Blakeslee Darrell and Bruce Blasius Jim Brannon Ed and Judy Brown H.C. and Mary Ann Byrd Bill and Sharon Carter Phillip and Victoria Conwell Weezie Cook Hilary Crook Nancy Doak William Doak Robert and Janet Duchateau Joe Dunbar Craig Dunham Robert Lee Earlywine Rick and Vicki Beth Emry Harold and Joyce Fields Jack and Carolyn Garrigues Dr. David M. Gibson Ted and Paula Goff

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Fred Odiet David and Lisa Olmsted Members of Psi lota Xi Sorority c/o Holly Seamon Thomas and Kathryn Rethlake Darrell and Jule Rider Blake and Jennifer Rollins Robert and Diana Rostron, Jr. Dick and Myra Sanburn Thomas and Judy Sheehan Darrell and Tonia Sherrod **Charles Short** Ronald and Jean Simpson Jackie Smith Edward and Dixie Stone Tom and Dianne Trauring Conrad and Karen Uitts Art and Shirley Ward Pat Waymire Lonita Williams Clark and Janet Winrotte Donald and Marilyn Wooldridge Charlotte Young Dr. Don and Deborah Zent

Railroad, continued from page 11

Trains no longer inconvenience and endanger people on Buckeye Street. Except for occasional special events, such as the 2013 visit from the Bicentennial Train, engines don't ride the rails to the old depot. The depot district, which had fallen into disrepair, has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is being redeveloped as a retail shopping area.

Jeff Broughton is a California real estate developer who found a cause in Howard County – the restoration and redevelopment of the section of North Buckeye Street included in the LE&W Historic District. One of his showpieces is the old Tudor Building across the street from the depot. It was built in 1902 by Stephen Tudor, who shipped chickens, eggs, butter and produce from around northern Indiana to retailers in New York, Philadelphia and Boston. Broughton is also renovating several buildings south of the Tudor, which

were formerly part of the Currens Zapfe Paper and Notion Company, a family business that closed after 80 years in business. Broughton is calling the depot redevelopment "Panhandle Alley". According to local newspaper reports, he hopes to locate a restaurant, bakery and brew pub in the area.

City leaders hope to preserve the depot building and its neighbors, providing new amenities and business opportunities. The City of Kokomo has purchased the building and arranged for right-of-way to extend the city's Industrial Heritage Trail through the area as it heads north to eventually meet up with the Nickel Plate Trail. Trail construction is underway, as are street and sidewalk reconstruction in the depot area. The plan for the depot building itself is still under discussion, but with care and consideration it may once again be a focal point of life in the community.

Howard County Historical Society 1200 W. Sycamore St. Kokomo, Indiana 46901

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