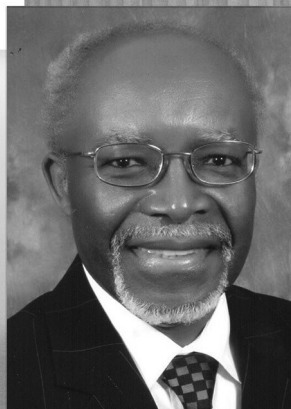


Volume 8, Issue 3, August 2019

Footprints

A publication of the Howard County Historical Society



2019 LEGENDS

From the executive director

Time and tall tales can distort history

If it seems difficult today to discern truth and facts from lies and baloney, history tells us it was ever thus. Perhaps the difference now is that it's increasingly difficult to know who to trust among the growing multitude of information providers.

The same is true when it comes to understanding the past. Speculations and inventions can become memes, then be accepted as history. Some examples from our own local history? The "firsts" attributed to the "City of Firsts" aren't all factual. The reason we're told that David Foster chose the name "Kokomo" is highly questionable, too; and maybe those weren't Koh-koh-mah's bones that are buried under his monument. Unsupported statements, sales pitches, marketing exaggerations and tall tales told for fun get written down, reported, repeated, told and taught, and suddenly they're accepted as fact.

That's why historians recognize bias as inevitable and understand that the same people

looking at the same occurrence can come to entirely different understandings of what they saw and what it means. That's also why historians look for primary sources, which are less subject to the distortions of time.

Gil Porter's research into the founding of Howard County, reported in the last issue of *Footprints*, gave us a different understanding of the county's birth because it was based on primary documents. His work, and the 175th anniversary of the county's formation, will be the focus of our annual meeting in October. You can learn more about our plans in this issue.

Also in this issue, we present our annual overview of the 2019 class of the Howard County Hall of Legends. You'll be amazed yet again by the talent and leadership rooted in Howard County. They'll deserve a spot in histories yet to be written.

Dave Broman
HCHS Executive Director

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From the Dark Pages

October 25-26
at Seiberling Mansion
tickets on sale Sept. 1
hchistory.org

it's horrifyingly fun

"I HEARD ALL THINGS IN THE HEAVEN AND IN THE EARTH. I HEARD MANY THINGS IN HELL. HOW, THEN, AM I MAD? HEARKEN! AND OBSERVE HOW HEALTHILY — HOW CALMLY I CAN TELL YOU THE WHOLE STORY."

E.A. POE

There is a tale to be told. A mysterious tale that unfolds in the darkened Victorian rooms of the great brick edifice known as the Seiberling Mansion. The hairs of my arm raise with a chill as I think of it. Perhaps the telling will ease my trepidation.

"DO YOU NOT KNOW THAT TONIGHT, WHEN THE CLOCK STRIKES MIDNIGHT, ALL THE EVIL THINGS IN THE WORLD WILL HAVE FULL SWAY?"

B. STOKER

Hear this story for yourself — and see it happen — before you question my veracity. It did happen. On Oct. 25 and 26, the moon will go dark, the Seiberling Mansion will cast no shadow, and it will happen again. And again. You'll come to see why I question my own eyes.

Indiana Territory:

Out of the Old Northwest

By Jon Russell
Howard County Historian

The once hotly contested region lying between the Great Lakes and the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers became the territory of the new republic of the United States at the close of the revolution with the *Treaty of Paris*, Sept. 3, 1783.

The former British territory was called the "Territory Northwest of the River Ohio." It was America's first territorial possession. Originally a part of the colony of Virginia, capitalizing on George Rogers Clark being a Virginian, the Virginia legislature gave up their claim to the western lands of Kentucky and the Northwest (called "Illinois County") in the *Virginia Deed of Cession*, signed March 1, 1784.

The earliest real settlement began in the Western Reserve (eastern Ohio) with the completion of the *Land Ordinance of 1785*, allowing for the surveying and selling of land west of Pennsylvania and north of the Ohio River. On July 13, 1787, the Continental Congress (often historically referred to as the "Congress of the Confederation") signed the *Northwest Ordinance*, giving

the region its government and appointing Arthur St. Clair as the first governor. St. Clair was born in Scotland and served in the British Army during the French & Indian War. He settled in Pennsylvania after retirement, becoming the largest landowner west of the Allegheny Mountains. He joined the



Continental Army, rising to the rank of major general before his controversial loss at Ft. Ticonderoga. He served as the first president of the Continental Congress, which during his term passed the *Northwest Ordinance*. He advocated friendly relations with the Indians, hoping to advance Pennsylvania's fur trade in the territory.

On Oct 5, 1787, St. Clair was appointed governor of the territory, which included what are now the states of Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin and the northeastern part of Minnesota. He established his capital at Marietta, then the largest city in eastern Ohio. Though the territory was official, actual governance — in essence, martial law — controlled only Ohio, eastern Michigan and a bit of the southeastern section of Indiana.

The lands were largely controlled by Indians, and wars with white settlers, as well as among themselves, were common and considered threatening by the territorial government in Marietta. Governor St. Clair led an expedition into the heartland, but was attacked and routed by 1,000 Miami Indians on Nov. 4, 1791.

In August 1792, General Anthony Wayne (referred to by Little Turtle as "The One Who Never Sleeps" in his quest for his followers to make peace with Wayne) left Pittsburgh for Fort Washington (Cincinnati) with a young officer, Captain William Henry Harrison as aide



Arthur St. Clair



Gen. Anthony Wayne

-de-camp. By August 1794, Wayne's army had defeated the Indians at the Battle of Fallen Timbers. At the *Treaty of Greenville*, with Harrison present, Indian hostilities would be temporarily ended.

Another man was also present that day, a Shawnee named Tecumseh. His older brother Sauwaseekau was killed at Fallen Timbers. Tecumseh would not recognize the treaty, and along with another brother, Tenskwatawa ("The Prophet"), would later form the Indian Confederation and continue his quest to run the white settlers from Indian lands.



Tecumseh

On May 7, 1800, Congress split Northwest Territory into two sections. Ohio and eastern Michigan continued as Northwest Territory until March 1, 1803, when Ohio became a state. The remaining lands would then become known as *Indiana Territory*. On May 10, 1800, the *Land Act* was signed and buying land in Indiana became easier. On May 13, William Henry Harrison was named governor of Indiana Territory.

In the early days of Northwest Territory, the area now Indiana Territory had but one county, Knox, and Vincennes was the county seat. Once the region officially became Indiana Territory, Vincennes became the capital.



William Henry Harrison

In historic times, Indians known to inhabit this state included the Huron, who spoke an Iroquois dialect, and the Algonquian —speaking Mahican, Nanticoke, Mohegan, Delaware, Munsee and Shawnee. Most of these were refugees from eastern white settlements. The Kickapoo, Potawatomi, Piankeshaw and Wea were also known to live here, and along with the Huron, had migrated here from the Great Lakes area. There is some evidence that the Miami, long contending that they lived here before European arrival, may have moved from Wisconsin in the 17th century.

Of the earliest, prehistoric inhabitants of the area, nothing is really known.

Settlement and the Indian transactions

It took some 53 transactions with the native population to create the present-day state of Indiana, after Virginia ceded its claims to Northwest Territory in 1783. This enormous volume of agreements — and disputes — resulted from the conflicting territorial claims of the various tribes, their land reserves (often small) and other claims that the government later bought (see Gil Porter's research on Howard County in *Footprints*, May 2019).

The precedent developed when "Mad Anthony" Wayne set the Treaty of Greenville to recognize the Indians' title to their hunting grounds. That purchase was the land east of a line from the Kentucky River to Fort Recovery, Ohio. This included Indiana towns of Richmond, Liberty, Brookville, Lawrenceburg, Rising Sun and Vevay. Fort Wayne was ceded by the Indians the day of the treaty.

Vincennes, Washington, Shoals and Jasper are in the area defined by a treaty on June 7, 1803. The Delaware and Piankeshaw gave up land that now includes Evansville, Princeton, Mount Vernon, Boonville, Rockport, Cannelton, Corydon and New Albany in two treaties signed in 1804. The Miami, Eel River and Wea signed over land that includes Paoli, Salem, Brownstown, Scottsburg, Madison, North Vernon and Versailles on Aug. 21, 1805. Then, on Sept. 30, 1809, the Miami, Eel River, Delaware and Potawatomi gave up the area that would include Terre Haute, Brazil, Sullivan, Bloomfield, Spencer, Bloomington and Bedford. In that same treaty, the area now including Connersville and Winchester were ceded.

Title clearing through treaties extended past Indiana's creation as a state. Treaties signed in 1809, 1816 and 1819 obtained areas where Newport, Monticello and Williamsport now exist. South Bend, Lagrange and Angola were in land acquired by treaty in 1821, and Wabash was part of land obtained in 1826. Crown Point, Valparaiso, Knox, Kentland, Rensselaer and Winamac were part of land acquired in 1832, and other tracts, including that held in the Big Miami Reserve (including all of Howard County), came along as late as 1840.

2019 CLASS OF HOWARD COUNTY LEGENDS ANNOUNCED

Recognition program and banquet set for 10th year

The 10th class of Howard County Legends will be honored by the Howard County Historical Society at the annual Legends Banquet on Aug. 23.

Since its inception in 2010 as the brainchild of Kokomo civic leader Craig Dunn, the Hall of Legends has recognized the accomplishments of 53 notable residents of Howard County and two significant organizations. They span a broad range of work and contributions, from the arts and humanities to journalism, philanthropy, business, medicine, science and engineering.

Among those included over the past decade have been America's first female U.S. Marine, the "Father of Modern Optometry," the creator of Clifford the Big Red Dog, two pioneers of the automobile industry, one of the world's leading heart surgeons, a country music superstar and an opera singer, three award-winning journalists and multiple educators. A full list is available on the historical society's website at www.hchistory.org.

This year's honorees, chosen from a long list

of remarkable people with Howard County roots, include Mike Murphy, a world-famous aviator who trained American glider pilots and led them into France on D-Day; Dee Hahn, a nurse who co-founded the Julian Center for victims of domestic and sexual violence and went on to a career in international service; Ryan Kitchell, the chief administrative officer for Indiana University Health who served on Gov. Mitch Daniels' administrative team as director of the Indiana Office of Management and Budget; Yvonne Ferguson-Watkins, a legal trailblazer as a female African-American attorney in Indianapolis, whose community leadership took her well beyond the courtroom; Kokomo businessman Doug Vaughn, who rose from poverty in Haiti to build a career in his new home and form an international non-profit organization; and Beth Brooke, the first woman to receive a basketball scholarship at Purdue University, who, as global vice chair of public policy at EY (formerly Ernst and Young), was recognized by Forbes magazine as one of the 100 most powerful women in the world.

The Hall of Legends induction banquet will be Aug. 23 at Bel Air Event Center in Kokomo. Tickets are on sale now at howardcountymuseum.org.

Beth Brooke-Marciniak

Beth Brooke was first known in Howard County as an all-around athlete for Taylor High School's Class of 1977. She excelled in tennis, golf, softball and basketball and was part of the first group of women to receive basketball scholarships from Purdue University. On the surface, that gave few hints to her future accomplishments, although it does help explain her 2015 selection for the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame and her 2017 Theodore Roosevelt Award from the NCAA.

Beth graduated with highest distinction from Purdue, earning an undergraduate degree in industrial management and computer science. In 1981, she joined EY, formerly Ernst and Young, in Indianapolis as a CPA, and became National



Beth Brooke-Marciniak

Director of Tax Advisory Services in 1991. She took a two-year break from EY to join the U.S. Department of Treasury in 1993, where she was responsible for tax policy related to insurance for the Clinton Administration. Upon returning to EY, she rose to the position of Global Vice Chair of Public Policy, working on policies related to global capital markets, and served as the head

of EY's diversity and inclusiveness efforts.

Beth has been named to the Forbes list of the "World's 100 Most Powerful Women" 10 times. She served on the US Delegation to 53rd and 54th UN Commission on the Status of Women. She has co-chaired the International Council on Women's Business Leadership, serves on the board of the Aspen Institute and The

Conference Board and has honorary doctorate degrees from IU, Purdue and Babson College.

In 2017, she was honored with the Krannert Business Leadership Award by Purdue. This year, she also became a member of the board of directors of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee.

Ryan Kitchell

Kokomo native Ryan Kitchell dedicated himself to a career in public service and later healthcare administration after the experience of helping to care for a friend who died of cancer while the two were students at Indiana University.

Kitchell honed his financial acumen through a series of work assignments and life events that took him from Wall Street to the Indiana governor's office.

In 2017, Kitchell – whose first paying job was a *Kokomo Tribune* paper route — was named executive vice president and chief administrative officer for Indianapolis-based Indiana University Health.

With impressive credentials (he has an MBA from Dartmouth) and corporate treasury experience in Chicago and New York and with Eli Lilly and Company in Indianapolis, Kitchell is seen as a "thoughtful team builder" at IU Health. He currently manages departments including human resources, government affairs,

information services and marketing in an institution that invests more than \$500 million annually in community-benefit measures and serves some one million Indiana residents.

He brings a wealth of insight to his job and sees his role as that of "a coach," helping develop others and then enjoying seeing them succeed.

Notable names in Kitchell's own career trajectory include former Indiana Governor Mitch Daniels, who praised Kitchell's service and dedication as public finance director and then director of the state's Office of Management and Budget. Kitchell's contribution from 2005 to 2010, according to Daniels, was "invaluable" in terms of overseeing a \$20 billion biennial budget, improving Indiana's infrastructure investment, and building up the state's cash reserves. "Hoosiers were fortunate to have a public servant so dedicated to the financial well-being of our state," Daniels said.



Ryan Kitchell

Kitchell currently serves on several boards including the Indiana Sports Corporation, Mitch Daniels Leadership Foundation, Crossroads of America Council of the Boy Scouts of America, the Indiana Motorsports Commission, Indiana Chamber of Commerce, NBA All-Star 2021 Games and the Old National Bancorp.

Kitchell and his wife, Molly, live in Zionsville with their four children. He is the son of former *Kokomo Tribune* sports editor Dave Kitchell and retired Kokomo teacher Linda Kitchell.

Yvonne Ferguson Watkins

In 1950, when Yvonne Ferguson was 3-years old, she moved with her family from their home in Cedar Hill, Tenn., to Kokomo. Who could have predicted this toddler, the oldest of what would be Todd and Maggie Ferguson's 10 children, would grow up to become a trailblazer in the Hoosier legal system as African-American women began to take their place in county, state and federal courtrooms?

Known as "Bonnie" to family and friends, she attended Kokomo Public Schools and was an active member of Second Baptist Church. She excelled at school, earning extra credits by attending summer school and graduating from Kokomo High School in 1963, two years earlier than her classmates. Just 16, she started college at Indiana University's Kokomo

extension. She transferred to IU Bloomington in 1965 and completed a bachelor's degree in English. In 1972, she earned her Doctor of Jurisprudence from the IU School of Law. Later, she was known as a champion of programs to help law students, particularly minority students.

Ferguson Watkins worked as a student teacher before launching her career with the Legal Services Organization, assisting those in need. She was a partner in several Indianapolis law firms before forming her own firms under her married name of Yvonne Ferguson Watkins. Early in her career, she was one of only three women of color practicing criminal law in Indianapolis; she served as a member of the Mike Tyson defense team during the former boxing champion's highly publicized criminal trial in 1992.

Ferguson Watkins's life was directed by a thirst for justice that brought her into the public eye and led her to donate time and talents to people who had no voice. She joined with Indiana Congresswoman Julia Carson, then Marion County's Center Township trustee, in such civic-minded activities as the Annual Shop for a Child Christmas Campaign, Operation Big Vote, Indiana Black Expo, Circle City Classic, Jack and Jill Incorporated and her favorite, the Mozell Sanders Foundation.

At her passing last year, fellow Indianapolis attorneys spoke glowingly about her personality, describing her as "classy" and "bubbly," "always dressed to the nines" with a positive attitude. They spoke of her commitment to helping others, noting she was the original host of radio station WTLC's Legally Speaking, where she and other local legal experts provided free legal advice.

Ferguson Watkins' credits include serving as president of the Indianapolis Professional Association and being a lifetime member of the Marion County Bar Association, Indiana Trial Lawyers and Indiana State Bar Association. Active in Democratic politics in Indianapolis, she was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention twice, in 1977 for President Jimmy Carter and in 1993 for President Bill Clinton, and visited the White House. She was a member of Operation Push with Jesse Jackson and worked on campaigns for former Governor and Senator Evan Bayh and Congressman Andre Carson. She said one of her proudest political efforts was her involvement with the Ohio campaign and election of President Barack Obama.

Watkins Ferguson passed away on Oct. 11, 2018. Among her survivors are two sons, Kip Lamont Watkins and Moishe DuBois Watkins, both of Indianapolis; four grandchildren; and numerous other relatives.



Yvonne Ferguson Watkins

Dolores Hahn-Rollins

Roots and wings. Kokomo-born world traveler and humanitarian Dolores “Dee” Hahn-Rollins had both, and she turned them into an amazing legacy of service to her home state, her country, and the world.

Born in Kokomo in 1940, she was the only child of Gilbert and Louise Hahn. The Continental Steel laborer and his wife gave her roots; throughout her life, Dee returned often to her hometown and her family here. But she was a smart and ambitious girl, knowing from a young age that she wanted to “see the world.” At Kokomo High School, she was an aspiring journalist, working all four years on the Red and Blue. Bound by society’s strictures, by the time she graduated in 1958, she was a member of the Future Nurses Club, heading for one of the two jobs (along with teaching) considered appropriate for women. Her first move was to Indianapolis, where she earned a nursing degree in 1961. She met her first husband, Dr. E. Carl Hann, while working in the Methodist Hospital emergency room. Their daughter, now Stacey Hann-Ruff, was born. Then, as a young doctor’s wife in the 1960s in Indianapolis, expected to spend her time in volunteer work, doors began to open on a much broader world.

One area of volunteer service was with the Episcopal Church where leadership rec-

ognized and encouraged her intelligence, personality and compassion. Her first major contribution came in Indianapolis in 1975 as co-founder of the Julian Center, one of the first women’s counselling centers in the Hoosier capital. Since its founding in 1975, the Julian Center has helped more than 66,000 survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

At that point, Dee really found her wings and, with her second husband, the Rev. Al Rollins, took off on a new path where she would eventually impact people across the globe. She earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology from St. Mary of the Woods in 1979 and in 1980 moved with Rollins and her daughter to Washington, D.C., where she completed her master’s degree in public administration/women’s studies at George Washington University. Active at St. Mark’s Episcopal Church on Capitol Hill for many years, she was mentored by the late Verna J. Dozier, a renowned Episcopal theologian who challenged and encouraged Dee throughout her life. In turn, Dee mentored and empowered countless women around the world in her work and family life.

In Washington, the world she had longed for opened up, with countless trips to countries around the globe as an internal consultant for the U.S. State Department’s Foreign Service Institute and later as a



Dolores Hahn-Rollins

consultant in organizational development to public and private sector agencies and businesses ranging from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID); the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); the Consultative Group on International Research (CGIAR); the World Bank and Heifer International. From 1984 to 1989, Dee helped design and deliver a “Women’s Leadership Project” for the National Episcopal Church in Kenya, a program whose story is told in a documentary film entitled “The Women Will,” which premiered at the Kennedy Center in 1986.

Dee died in 2008, breast cancer claiming a woman whose curiosity and zest for life had turned her dreams into realities and made her friends across the globe.

Mike Murphy

Born in 1906 in Rossville, Ill., Mike Murphy came to Indiana with his parents as a boy. Fascinated with aviation, he was taught to fly by aviation pioneer and mentor, Captain L.I. Aretz.

Murphy quickly became a thrill flyer, devising many new feats for spectators. Flying a World War I vintage biplane in the 1920s, when barnstorming was all the rage, he was known as "The Flying Irishman" as he performed stunts at state fairs and air shows.

The first pilot to take off and land from a moving automobile, Murphy also mounted wheels on the top of his plane so he could land upside down.

A two-time winner of the World Aerobatics Championship and three-time winner of the Lund trophy for precision aerobatics, he also operated the airfields in Kokomo and Findlay, Ohio.

As world tensions increased, Murphy joined the Army reserves in 1941. By the spring of 1943, he was putting gliders through their paces at Stout Field, Indianapolis, which was headquarters for the First Troop Carrier Command and serving as an instructor at Laurinburg-Maxton glider school in North Carolina.

Recognized as an expert in glider operations and flight, he performed a demonstration for

General Hap Arnold on Aug. 3, 1943 known as the "pea patch show." His pilots silently landed 10 fully loaded gliders in the dark. When Murphy brought up the lights, the large group of spectators were stunned they were standing only feet from the gliders' landing spots. This demonstration convinced General Arnold of the tactical and stealth value of the troop transport glider.

In January 1944, Murphy took charge of glider instruction in England, but managed to return home to marry Mary Louise Neville at Stout Field on March 24, 1944, before quickly returning overseas.

Not surprisingly, Lt. Col. Murphy was the first man of the invasion forces to land his glider, "The Fighting Falcon", on enemy soil in Normandy on D-Day. (He was assigned to the 434th Troop Carrier Group, which today is the 434th Air Refueling Wing at Grissom Air Reserve Base.) Skidding on tall wet grass, his glider slammed into a hedgerow of earthen dikes and large trees only feet from German reconnaissance vehicles and troops. Pulling himself from the wreckage, his two broken legs collapsed, and he fell into a ditch where he was later rescued. The troops from his and other gliders took cover in the ditches and secured their position.



Mike Murphy

Returning home after the war with the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star and Purple Heart, Murphy founded the Marathon Oil Company's aviation division and fathered two children. In 1971, he was awarded the Meritorious Service Award of the National Business Aircraft Association for his contributions to aviation as well as the Civil Aeronautics Administration honor award. Murphy was the founder of many aerobatic and race pilot associations while he lived his post-war years in Lima, Ohio. Mike Murphy passed on April 11, 1981 and is buried in the Saint Joseph Cemetery at Lebanon in Boone County, Indiana.

Doug Vaughn

He was born Doricles Cesar. For 11 years, he was a malnourished youngster who left school after six months to work as an unpaid houseboy in his native Haiti. Of the nine children born to his penniless Haitian parents, four died at an early age.

His future seemed anything but certain, until he was noticed one day by Orville and Lodie Vaughn, a retired couple doing missionary work on behalf of Kokomo's Second Missionary Baptist Church. The Vaughns arranged for the helpful and hopeful young man to return with them to the United States.

Doricles Cesar became Douglas Vaughn, and 56 years later, Vaughn has indeed realized the promise of his adoptive parents in Indiana. Overcoming cultural, racial and language challenges (when he arrived in 1963, he couldn't speak or write English),

Vaughn graduated from General Motors Institute (now known as Kettering University) in Michigan and the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University.

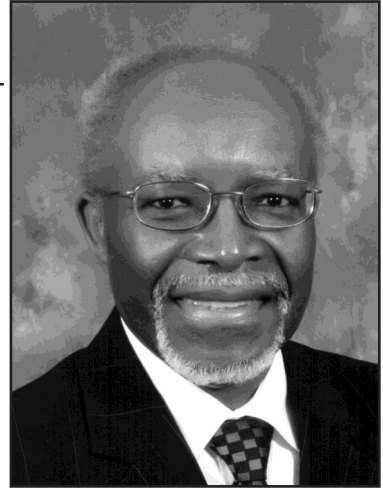
For 13 years, he owned an

insurance agency, and for the last 30 years, he has been the owner of Rite Quality Office Supplies in Kokomo.

Vaughn has never forgotten the circumstances of his youth or his homeland.

He founded the "Haitian Environmental Support Program" in 1981, and since then H.E.S.P. group members and volunteers have made numerous mission trips to deliver supplies, establish funding sources, distribute earthquake relief, renovate schools, host vision clinics and support various environmental efforts in Haiti. A partnership with the Lions Club International resulted in the distribution of 3,500 pairs of eyeglasses. Another project involved the installation of a water purification system to stem the spread of cholera in the water supply at Pilate, a community in north Haiti with some 40,000 residents.

Back home in Indiana, Vaughn and his Haitian-born wife, Lynn, have three children, Doricles, Kimberly and Christina. Collectively, they remain active in various fundraising projects and efforts to support humanitarian



Doug Vaughn

efforts.

Vaughn also serves in the local community as a board member of the Sagamore Council - Boy Scouts of America, Community Foundation of Howard County, Goodfellows, Kokomo CEO program and Second Missionary Baptist Church.

"Since I was tremendously blessed by God and the Vaughns," he said, "I felt like I could make a positive difference in the life of at least one poor child in Haiti. Then my life wouldn't be in vain and my purpose would be fulfilled."

2019 HCHS Annual Meeting

Howard County's 175th anniversary: Family stories

If you still have the original land patent for the family farm — or even if you don't, but are curious about where you live — the Howard County Historical Society hopes you will share your memories and mementos at the society's annual meeting Thursday, Oct. 17.

As part of the celebration of the 175th anniversary of Howard County, this year the HCHS gathering will focus on early families and their stories from the 1830s until the gas boom in the mid-1880s. The event will include a presentation and updates to the county's history based on the "Village on the Wildcat" series by local writer Gil Porter, a collection of historic county maps and a few special guests as well.

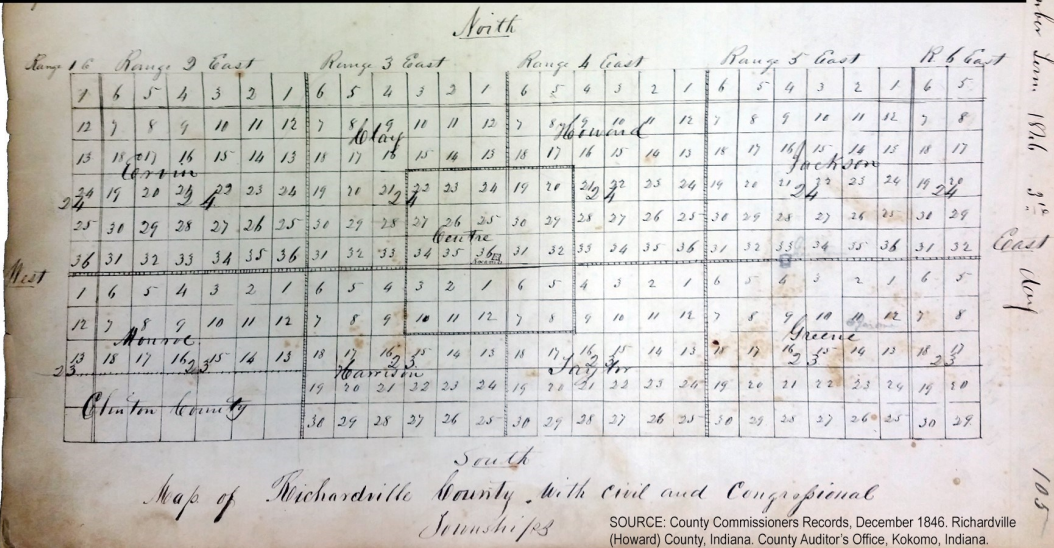
"This has been an exciting year for Howard County," said Dave Broman, executive director of the Howard County Historical Society. Research has revealed important new information about the transformation of the county seat of

Kokomo from an Indian village to the 'City of Firsts.' At our annual meeting this year, we want to honor those who laid the groundwork for 175 years of progress. We hope everyone will join us as we share stories and celebrate our community, both past and present."

New material on the founding of Howard County (originally named Richardville County in honor of the Miami Indians civil chief Jean Baptiste Richardville), published in the May 2019 issue of *Footprints*, was the result of a collaboration with the non-profit Kokomo Early History Learning Center. This center works closely with local history groups, Native tribes and educational institutions as part of its mission to uncover and share knowledge about Kokomo up to 1865.

For the "Village on the Wildcat" research, the Learning Center turned to the nearby Miami Indians of Indiana organization, the federally

Richardville County was renamed "Howard" by an act of the Indiana General Assembly on Dec. 28, 1846 (the county clerk formally filed the name change here on Feb. 13, 1847). Our county commissioners' final action at their meeting in December 1846 under the original name was expanding the number of civil townships from three to nine.



recognized Miami Tribe of Oklahoma and the Myaamia Center at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, for guidance and insight on Indian history and culture. The center also re-examined government records to produce a fresh version of the county's origin story, relying less on "legends" and inaccurate anecdotes and focusing more on primary source documents to tell the story.

At the Oct. 17 meeting, Porter will present updated research that offers new clues about the relationship between the founding Foster family and the Miami Indians, and that challenges the questionable quotation attributed to town founder David Foster that Kokomo was named for "the orneriest Indian."

While not everyone has the Fosters' unique and historically important documentation relating to the early days of the community, the historical society wants to learn more about your family's origins in Howard/Richardville County.

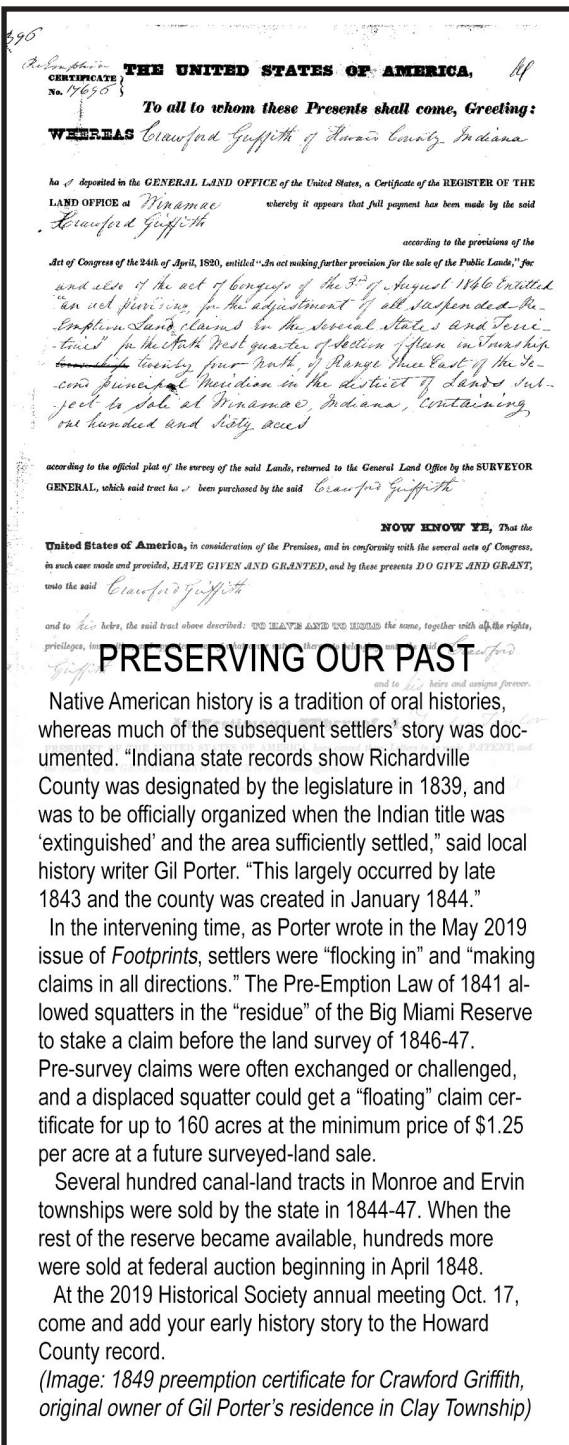
According to Porter, local history groups are especially eager to hear from Native residents about their ancestors. "We know there was an Indian community along the Wildcat for hundreds of years, maybe more," Porter said. "Many living Kokomo residents may be their descendants and have memories to share from oral history stories they've heard all their lives."

Whether your ancestors were part of the longtime Indian communities along the Wildcat or among the 1840s settlers, or if you are interested in learning more about those times, please plan to join the historical society for an interesting discussion on Oct 17.

Reservations for the event will be available through the Howard County Historical Society starting Sept. 1. For more information, call the society office at (765) 452-4314 or visit online at howardcountymuseum.org.

This year's meeting is an important part of the 175th anniversary commemoration, Porter noted. "Tomorrow's researchers and historians will benefit from the details that we preserve today."

As he summed it up: "History is told through the voices of the people who lived it."





A CURATOR'S CABINET OF CURIOSITIES

The curator and his staff combed the nooks and crannies of the museum dungeon to unearth a collection of wonderful weirdness for your edification. Step right up to see the amazing human skeleton. Take a photo with Little Queen Mab, direct from Barnum's circus. But wait! There's more! Millions of years of oddities will be exhibited in the Howard County Museum. Old and new, tall and short, animal and mineral, little-known and world-famous, you'll see Howard County's strange secrets, the stories that have been kept hidden (and, perhaps, should stay that way).

COMING SOON!

OPENS MID-AUGUST IN THE LONG GALLERY
OF SEIBERLING MANSION

Northwest, continued from page 5

So, here was Indiana — 36,045 square miles, 23 million acres — including 280 square miles of rivers and small lakes, along with 230 square miles of Lake Michigan. It was ultimately the 39th state in size (smallest west of the Appalachian Mountains). Ten of the 11 smallest ones were part of the original 13 Colonies. The 11th one was West Virginia, which pulled away from Virginia during the Civil War. Six thousand square miles of Indiana had been leveled by glaciers, leaving clay, sand and gravel under a rich layer of loam presenting some of the best farmland in the country. And originally, as indicated in my first article, most of the state, some 95 percent, was forest.

When the time came for the Indians to go west to the reservations of Oklahoma and Kansas, many refused. They were often removed force-

fully, of course after they had planted crops. It was a brutal ritual. Missionary Father Benjamin Petit described the Potawatomi removal in 1838 as, "sick and dying people on all sides". Interestingly, or perhaps regrettably, these same people had refused to join the Black Hawk Wars of 1832.

The Delaware and Kickapoo had left by 1818 to 1820. The Wea about the same time. The Potawatomie and Miami left in the late 1830s and early 1840s.

As the early 19th century began, the magic number of 60,000 inhabitants (including my great-great grandfather, John Hervey) had been achieved. It had been ordained by the Ordinance of 1787, with both Kentucky and Tennessee reaching that goal before the century ended. Indians, of course, weren't counted, nor were other minority groups. By 1810, Indiana had a population of 24,520.



SEPT. 21-22

**CANDLE-
DIPPING
AND CORN-
ON-THE-COB
PROCEEDS
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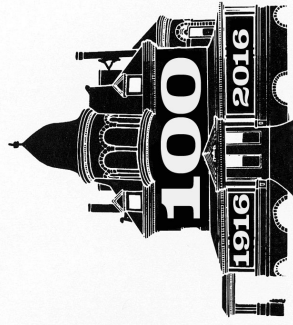
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