



Footprints

A publication of the Howard County Historical Society

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In 1916

- The Howard County Historical Society was born
- Seiberling resident Cora Miller was peddling home remedies to ladies
- The roof of the mansion was already 25 years old

Fostering a flourishing community

I've heard it said that the most dangerous words in the English language are "we've always done it that way." Maybe not as dangerous as "it's not loaded" or "I double-dog dare you," but the point is well-taken. Do what's right and what works – even if it isn't what has always been done.

History is full of failures brought about by unwillingness to change. Some of the early settlements in the Americas fell apart because the colonists wanted to live the way they had lived in Europe and couldn't accept the fact that their old lifestyle was a death sentence in the New World. The business world of today is full of similar stories.

Howard County has faced many difficult circumstances in its short existence. The national Panic of 1893 nearly killed our major manufacturer at the time. When the natural gas boom ended, the local economy took a huge hit, and many factories that depended on gas for ener-

gy were shuttered. The Great Depression was no less tragic here than anywhere else. And we've repeatedly experienced the vicissitudes of both the auto industry and agriculture.

We didn't survive by doing the same old thing. Our story is one of persistence and innovation and of the people who chose to not give in.

The job of the historical society is to preserve the stories of those people and help us all learn from their choices both good and bad. The biggest lesson is the importance of people, and the best things we can do to ensure our future all have to do with fostering a community that people will flourish in. Let's build a community that brings people together, and let's start by looking to the past to learn what works and what doesn't.

Dave Broman
HCHS Executive Director

In this issue:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 2 From the executive director | 10 Saying goodbye to a long-time volunteer |
| 3 State bicentennial events | |
| 4 HCHS turns 100 | 12 It was a TREEmendous Christmas |
| 6 Weaving county stories together | 13 Visitors choose their Christmas favorites |
| 8 Miller artifacts added to collection | 15 Membership |

Events planned to mark bicentennial

As Indiana celebrates its bicentennial this year, a number of events and projects are planned in Howard County to mark the occasion.

Hoosier Made: World Driven

The Kokomo Automotive Heritage Museum is hosting "Hoosier Made: World Driven," a three-museum celebration of Indiana's automotive heritage. The event, a Legacy Project endorsed by the Indiana Bicentennial Commission, runs until Oct. 3.

"Hoosier Made: World Driven" examines the heyday of Indiana's automobile industry when some of the world's finest motorcars were built in the Hoosier state. The exhibit will be presented at Indiana's three leading transportation museums: The Kokomo Automotive Heritage Museum, the Studebaker National Museum in South Bend and the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Automobile Museum in Auburn. A passport (available at all three museums) can be stamped at two museums with admission to the third museum for free.

The Kokomo display will feature five different Haynes and Apperson touring vehicles. The museum is home to more than 100 antique automobiles and offers visitors a glimpse of the nation's automotive history, with an emphasis on local automotive history.

Kokomo Salutes Indiana's Automotive Heritage 1894-1964

A week-long celebration of Indiana's automotive heritage in Kokomo Sept. 5-11. Events include

Indiana Driving Tours – Tours will explore the state's great historic and automotive sites and wonderful Hoosier cuisine. Driving tours will depart from the Kokomo Automotive Museum on Sept. 5. One tour will head to Northern Indiana and the other to Southern Indiana.

Historic Kokomo Tours – Learn more about the history of Howard County with tours at the Seiberling Mansion, Elwood Haynes Museum, Kokomo Automotive Museum and Downtown Kokomo.

Haynes-Apperson Automobile Reunion – Historians believe that as few as 150 of Kokomo-built Haynes and Apperson cars still exist. For one weekend, the goal is to get one-third of the surviving automobiles back to Kokomo, making this reunion the biggest assemblage of Haynes and Apperson cars since production ended nearly a century ago.

Classic Car Club of America Grand Classic – Dozens of examples of automotive royalty will be on display in Highland Park on Saturday, Sept. 10. The public is invited to enjoy these rare and beautiful cars.

Continued on Page 15



Special places in local history made available on interactive map

On Dec. 11, Indiana will celebrate 200 years of statehood.

As part of that celebration, the Kokomo-Howard County Public Library and the Howard County Historical Society are partnering to create an interactive map for you to share your photos and memories of special places across the community.

Through April 30, stop by the Genealogy & Local History Department at the library's main facility downtown and staff members will scan your items of interest and collect the pertinent information.

The library will put the memories together on an interactive map noting these special locations. The map will be on display August through November.

Happy 100th Birthday to us

It's been one hundred years since a group of local women began work to preserve our county history.

Following the celebration of Indiana's centennial in 1916, the Woman's Department Club in Kokomo put into motion a plan to recognize and preserve our local heritage.

County leaders agreed, and from that first small collection of artifacts in the basement of

the old Carnegie Library, the Howard County Historical Society has grown to a 4-building campus with a sophisticated collection system and local history library.

As the state of Indiana celebrates its bicentennial, Howard County Historical Society is celebrating its centennial. What follows is a look back at some of our major milestones.

1914 – The Kokomo Daily Tribune reported on a meeting intended to bring about the “organization of a society dedicated to the business of collecting and preserving all materials shedding light on the natural, civil, and political history of Howard County.”

1916 - Across the state, communities were celebrating the Indiana Centennial, much as we're preparing to do for this year's bicentennial. In Howard County, the Kokomo Chamber of Commerce presented a community exposition and the highlight of the show was a display of historical artifacts organized by Kokomo educator C.V. Haworth. Those artifacts became the backbone of exhibits in the basement of the Carnegie library in Kokomo. The museum rapidly outgrew the library, and artifacts were stored in various places around the county including the office of the Kokomo park superintendent.

1937 - The county commissioners made space for the museum collection in the basement of the new courthouse.

1939 – The museum opened as a WPA project, and an open house was sponsored by the Women's Relief Corps, VFW Auxiliary, Spanish War Veterans, American Legion Auxiliary and the Daughters of the American Revolution.

1941 - The museum closed following the attack on Pearl Harbor and remained closed for the rest of World War II.

1956 – County commissioners, dealing with overcrowding in the courthouse, begin considering ways to move the museum out of its basement.

1958 – The Vermont covered bridge,

about to be razed to make way for the Kokomo Reservoir, was saved from the wrecking ball and moved to Highland Park under the leadership of the historical society.

1964 – Indiana University, which had been using the Seiberling Mansion for classrooms, moved to a new campus, and the historical society soon began to advocate moving the county museum to the mansion.



In 1965, C.V. Haworth looks over museum artifacts, then located in the basement of the Carnegie Library.

Oct. 2-3, 1965 – The historical society held an open house in the Seiberling Mansion to promote its preservation and excite community interest in the project.

1969 – The Howard County Council agreed to support acquisition of the Seiberling Mansion from Indiana University as a new home for the county museum.

July 1973 – The museum opened in the Seiberling Mansion after a year of work and fund-raising by the Howard County Historical Society.

In 1973 the booklet “Monroe Seiberling’s Mansion” was written by Mary Ellen Harnish and Manfred Wright and published by HCHS. An updated version still available for purchase.

1987 – The society hosted a Victorian Celebration in the Seiberling Mansion to help promote and raise funds for the community’s Hoosier Celebration ’88 project, a renovation of the mansion. Governor Robert Orr was a featured speaker, along with Kokomo Mayor Steve Daily.

1994 – HCHS played a key role in the Howard County Sesquicentennial as well as the 100th birthday of Elwood Haynes’ “Pioneer” car. The Seiberling Carriage House was renovated for display of Haynes first auto, which was loaned to HCHS by the Smithsonian and shipped from Washington D.C. for a one-month exhibit. Other Haynes vehicles were brought in from around the country for the celebration, and the carriage house exhibit included three of Haynes’ first six cars.

2001 – Elliott Carriage House was renovated as the Stan Mohr Building to house the historical archives and staff offices.

2002 – A sophisticated climate control system was installed in the mansion to help preserve the structure and its historical contents.

2003 – The mansion was renovated as the Designers Show Home, removing some of the structural changes

Continued on Page 14



For the Future...

By Dave Broman
HCHS Executive Director

A centennial is often the occasion to look back at past accomplishments. We’ve done some things that genuinely deserve pride – and maybe even a little bragging (within reason, of course). But this should also be a time to look forward and ask what we’ll do with the next hundred years.

The society’s board of trustees came to the conclusion last year that we need a big, far-reaching project to kick off our second century — and that the project should help ensure our ability to meet our mission.

We’ve known for many years that the slate roof of the Seiberling Mansion would eventually have to be replaced. It’s the original roof, and 125 years is about all you can reasonably expect of a slate roof in this climate. The years when the structure stood empty and unheated accelerated the deterioration of the roof. In the years since the historical society moved into the mansion, leaks have been an annual battle and a considerable expense. We now have regular leaks, with plaster and paint damage, and the probability of damage to the wood and masonry is growing.

The mansion is an invaluable historical artifact in and of itself, and contains a whole collection of precious objects from our past. We can’t afford to lose either. So, the time has come, and the roof is the project. You’ll hear more about it as the year progresses.

Interpretive plan weaves county's stories together

By Dave Broman
HCHS Executive Director

How many different kinds of museums have you visited?

America has a UFO museum, an apothecary museum and a Museum of Bad Art. There is a Cockroach Hall of Fame museum, a National Mustard Museum, a Barbed Wire Museum, a Museum of Funerary History, even a Museum of Sex. (All real places. You can't make up things like that.) There are more traditional sorts, of course, like Indiana State Museum, The Science Center, the Circus Hall of Fame, The Field Museum and The Smithsonian.

We value our museums. They contribute a great deal to our understanding of the world, not to mention providing hours of pleasure. Our Howard County Museum is one of many, and our effort to find unique ways to share our history is common to all museums. What can we do to make sure our visitors enjoy the experience, to make sure they leave the museum knowing something they didn't know before they walked through the front door? How do we enrich their lives? What is the unique story we have to share, and why is it relevant?

The historical society has struggled to find answers to those questions for as long as I can remember, and probably well before. Every time we sit down to make long-term plans, we talk about what the museum is, what it should be and what it can be. We talk about the divergence between our responsibility for the Seiberling Mansion and our mission to "collect, preserve and share" our history. And every time we get a little closer to the answer.

More than 15 years ago, when I chaired the Exhibits Committee and Stew Lauterbach was

just getting his feet under him as curator, we were chewing around the edges of these issues and we've been gnawing away ever since. From the board's first baby steps in creating a mission statement to the development of a collecting plan, we tightened our focus. We fought to gain control over the myriad artifacts that had been donated and accepted willy-nilly over the years. And as we did, we talked about the stories we have to tell, how to tell them, how to best use the space we have and how to marry the mansion itself to Howard County's history.

In 2015, we stopped gnawing and took a big bite. The Exhibits Committee spent the year developing our very first interpretation plan and set the table for our work in the foreseeable future. Its work will guide our tours, publications, website and social media presentations, programs and exhibits. In the words of Exhibits Chairperson Judy Brown, "All of the hosts at the museum do a great job telling the story of Howard County. The intent of the exhibit committee was to tell each visitor the early history in a uniform, concise way that relates to our lives today." To quote the plan itself, it "articulates the Society's vision of the founding of the county, the Indiana Gas Boom, and the county's history of innovation as key parts of one dynamic and interconnected story."

With the plan established, we've begun work on our tour presentations and exhibits. Curator Stew Lauterbach commented, "I know that the exhibits committee worked very hard to create the interpretive plan and I think it will be useful for years to come. Instead of a potpourri of exhibits on random topics, our visitors will experience a well-thought-out presentation of the

most significant points of Howard County history.”

Stew works directly with exhibits, leading the team that researches, designs and builds each one. “I am very excited about the interpretive plan,” he said. “It represents a step forward in terms of the professionalism of our organization. As a matter of fact, I just gave copies of the plan to the interns and volunteers who help me with exhibits to use while developing an exhibit remake in the Pioneer room.”

The new guidelines establish three central themes, all of which relate directly to the major turning point in Howard County history:

Founding: Howard County’s early years gave little indication of the impending economic boom brought about by the discovery of natural gas, yet they built the region’s ability to take advantage of the boom.

Gas Boom: The discovery of natural gas caused an unprecedented economic boom. The gas fields were quickly depleted through waste and inefficiency, a stark lesson in conservation, but their legacy is the basis for the county’s economy in this century.

Innovation: The natural gas discoveries attracted innovative and entrepreneurial people to the county, providing money, infrastructure and a workforce for them to develop their ideas. The present-day industrial economy and the county’s identity as a center of innovation is our heritage.

As the historical society and county museum move into their second century, these themes will be woven into their fabric.

“Our hosts and tour guides are already putting it to the test,” said Lauterbach. “Orienting the exhibits to the plan will take some time, but the result will be worth the wait.”

The Howard County Museum won’t ever have the quirky appeal of the Pez dispenser museum, the Burlesque Hall of Fame or Marvin’s Marvelous Mechanical Museum, but we do have a unique history, some remarkable stories, and a beautiful building to tell them in. And now we have a plan to help us better tell those stories.

Video introduces guests to museum

One of the first visible results of the new interpretation plan is an introductory video for our visitors.

It is available on-demand in the first floor “music room,” where a dedicated video player and large screen monitor have replaced the old square grand piano that was displayed for many years.

The video was narrated by former WWKI news anchor Chris Kiefer and features Lucy Mavrick and Josh Pate, students at Kokomo High School and participants in the CEO program for budding entrepreneurs. It was, according to Judy Brown, “a true collaboration, with text written and amended by several people, photos added by interns, volunteers and staff and final production by board member Todd Scoggins.”

Judy even did some of the research, and “learned in a tiny, basic way how to search our collection for archival items that might be used for this or other exhibits.”

Visitors to the museum now have the option to take a guided tour or wander the halls on their own using the video and the mobile device tour to augment the exhibits.

The new video is a perfect starting point for either. It’s available to everyone during regular museum hours, Tuesday through Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m. each afternoon.

New in the collections: Mrs. M's miracle cures

More than 100 years ago, Cora Miller was living in the Seiberling Mansion with her husband, Franklin, who sold so-called "tonics" to ladies through a mail order business.

Recently, through its active-collecting initiative, the Howard County Museum has obtained objects related to Miller's business.

In a November 2013 article for Footprints, Judy Lausch wrote:

"She Will Spend \$50,000. In Giving Medical Treatment Absolutely Free to Suffering Women", "A Million Women Bless Her Name", Send No Money, Just Your Name and Address, If You Are A Suffer-

er From Any Woman's Disease or Piles", "Why Men Desert Their Wives", "There Is Some One Near You Cured By Mrs. Miller", "How to Cure Any Case of Piles", "Put Your Faith In Mrs. Cora B. Miller". "I Give Away Medicine to Women", "A Wonderful Medical Discovery that Cures Women of Female Diseases and Piles as if by Magic, Sent FREE." "Thousands Snatched Back from Certain Insanity by Mrs. Miller's Home Treatment", "I Cure Women of Female Diseases and Piles".

These are among several headlines used across the nation as advertisement to sell a home remedy produced in Kokomo in 1909. Could this be the same



A bottle from Cora B. Miller's home remedy business was recently added to the collections at the HCHS.

Cora B. Miller who owned and occupied the Seiberling Mansion with her husband Franklin D. Miller, between 1905 and 1914?

The short answer is: "yes, but..." The long answer is very intriguing, indeed!

According to a 1909 article in *The Cleveland Plain Dealer*, Mrs. Cora B. Miller "learned a mild and simple preparation that cured herself and several friends of female weakness and piles. She was besieged by so many women needing treatment that she decided to furnish it to those who might call for it. She started with only a few dollars' capital, and the remedy, possessing true and wonderful merit, producing many cures when doctors and other remedies failed, the demand grew so rapidly she was several times compelled to seek larger quarters. She now occupies one of the city's largest office buildings, which she owns, and almost 1000 clerks and stenographers are required to assist in this great business."

Within the last few months, the historical society has obtained a copy of a small promotional mailing from the Miller patent business, as well

Herbal Tonic

Herbal Tonic is the best remedy you can possibly use for the blood, liver, kidneys, stomach, and bowels. It cures biliousness, jaundice, and constipation. It acts directly upon the liver, upon the kidneys and upon the bowels and at the same time cleanses the blood of all humors and poisonous matter. It cures pimples, sores and other skin affections, rheumatism, scrofula, dyspepsia, etc.

In treating rheumatism it is unequalled. As it acts upon the kidneys and bladder, it cures Bright's disease, gravel, diabetes and dropsy. It acts upon the bowels and cures constipation and indigestion and will aid in curing piles. In fact it acts in a wonderful way upon the entire system.

A good old-fashioned remedy, it is absolutely free from harmful drugs and contains nothing that would injure any person, old or young. It is adapted for a household tonic and may be used by father, son or brother, as well as the women of the family. It is the greatest blood purifier made.

As it is put up in tablet form, it is, of course, free from alcohol and may be readily carried about in the purse or pocket.

Price \$1.00 per box; six boxes for \$5.00.

Neurotone

Neurotone is a nerve and brain food. Not only a medicine but a true food. It soothes and quiets the tired brain and nerves and provides nourishment and strength in a compact form as well.

The remedy will cure diseases of the heart, brain and nerves, headache, epilepsy, sleeplessness, nervousness, dizziness, neuralgia, fits, spasms, blues, worry, despondency, palpitation and other affections of the heart, cramps, nervous dyspepsia, backache, mental weakness, mental anxiety, hysteria, St. Vitus dance, tobacco and alcoholic excesses, opium habit and nervous prostration and do it speedily.

There is no class of disease more difficult to cure in advanced stages than nervous diseases. Neglect nervousness—nervous prostration promptly follows. You cannot, in simple justice to yourself, afford to run the risk when the remedy is so simple and easily obtained.

"Neurotone" is perfectly harmless, entirely free from opium, morphine or opiates and narcotics of any nature and it has no bad aftereffects. You couldn't possibly form any drug habits even by its continual use.

By removing the cause, it prevents despondency and low spirits and makes the patient cheerful and happy.

Price \$1.00 per box; six boxes \$5.00.

A mailing from the Millers' business recently obtained by the HCHS promises cures for every type of complaint. Unfortunately it only relieved customers of their money.

as a glass bottle that originally contained some of Mrs. Miller's fabulous concoction. Both can now be seen in the new acquisitions exhibit in the Seiberling Mansion.

The rest of the story? Mrs. Miller had little or nothing to do with the patent medicine business, as it was the brainchild of her husband, Franklin. Franklin made a great deal of money selling his "medicine," but the *Journal of the American Medical Association* reported it to be fraudulent and the Attorney General agreed.

Curator muses loss of one of his favorite ARTifacts

By Stewart Lauterbach
HCHS Curator

Art and Shirley Ward will be leaving Kokomo in April to move to their new home in Maryville, Tenn. Both Art and Shirley have been good friends of the museum, with both volunteering for many years. And, while we will hate to see them go, we wish them the best.

If I had to single out the contribution of one individual towards the successful creation of our digital collection database, that one person would be Art Ward. While it took the combined efforts of many staff members and volunteers, Art is the only person to faithfully spend 15 years entering data, resolving data mismatches, and proofreading the catalog.

In December 2001, the society purchased a copy of PastPerfect software, and Art began this project by keying 80 years worth of records from our accession books into the database. In the process, he compared the information he had with information from a physical inventory that took place simultaneously. When information from these two sources didn't match, Art made notes, and in a subsequent phase of the project, he and I investigated these problems.

We made a game out of it, and called ourselves CSI agents for "Collection Storage Investigators." This inspired me to write one of my best newsletter articles, *The Case of the Cantankerous Cookstove* in September 2005, in which I detailed how we went about solving these problems using a criminal investigation theme. When giving collections management workshops, I pass out copies of this article and

also share it with new volunteers and interns. For his patience and dedication, the Society surprised Art with a one-of-a-kind monogrammed HCHS CSI jacket.

Art is a detail man. He always kept me straight on object ID numbers and often impressed me by recalling the number of the object where we had left off the previous week. He kept copious notes in a beat up, black spiral notebook, whose cover fell off long ago. These notes included information about the problems we were trying to solve and whether or not we had made any progress on them. Art is meticulous about keeping this notebook current; he always dates his initial notes, dates his corrections, and even dates his notes on his notes! This proved invaluable for picking up where we had left off, if weeks or even months passed before we could return our focus to a specific problem. On numerous occasions, I kidded Art about having this notebook bronzed, or at least giving it its own accession number and adding it to our permanent collection.

After the initial data entry and problem solving, Art proofread the entire database once again, looking for errors, and then consulting with me on how best to correct them. For some, proofreading your own work isn't recommended, but Art did a thorough job, and it worked out fine. Art continues to refine our database even now.

I always enjoy Art's sense of humor. One of my fondest memories is of him helping me test a mini golf course idea made up of historic objects for a possible fundraiser. After spending an afternoon putting a fabric practice ball into various items, including an antique urinal, we decided that while this idea was fun, it would

not be practical in the mansion.

Art is patient. I can't tell you how many times he had to repeat an object ID number to me before I would get it typed correctly in the computer. He also never tired of gently reminding me to push the edit button when I would be puzzled about why some field I was attempting to change wouldn't cooperate.

Over the years, Art and I became good friends. At the end each work session, I always made a point of asking after Shirley and requesting that Art give her my best regards. This eventually became our ritual way of saying goodbye at the end of a work session.

As you can see, Art has been an invaluable

volunteer, and I have half a mind to contact the Blount County Genealogical & Historical Society in Maryville, Tenn., and tip them off about him. There is no doubt that he could make a considerable contribution to their organization if he ever decided to volunteer for them, and I would give Art an excellent recommendation.

So while their move is still a month and some days away, I want to once again recognize and thank Art for all of his hard work on our database. His contribution has moved HCHS light years ahead professionally.

And Art, when you read this, be sure to say "hi" to Shirley for me, and give her my best.



Art Ward, who has spent 15 years entering records into the museum database and making sure it was correct, will be hanging up his CSI jacket and moving with his wife, Shirley, to Tennessee in the coming months.

Christmas at the Seiberling 2015 was, indeed, *TREEmendous*!

By Linda Ferries
HCHS Publications Committee Chair

With the theme “A TREEmendous Christmas at the Seiberling,” historical society volunteers, board members and staff created a holiday display that was a huge success, both in bringing in people to see the beautifully decorated historic mansion and in bringing in monetary donations to support the society’s efforts to serve the community.

“With December 2015 setting an attendance record of more than 4,000 and with a profit of more than \$10,000, this year’s celebration was our best effort ever,” said HCHS Executive Director Dave Broman. “With the tireless coordination of chairman Peggy Hobson, the decorators gave us incredible beauty to share and with the support of seven major community businesses, we were able to share that beauty with people from near and far. It was an incredible month.”

The list of those who deserve thanks for their part in this success is extensive. Hobson extended thanks to the people in the community who came forward to donate trees and decorations; to HCHS custodian Bill Baldwin “who worked ‘round the clock;” to board members who made cookies and served as volunteer hosts; to Heather Fouts and Dana Osburn for the kid’s activities; to Brenda Coffman of Blon-

die’s Cookies for the treats she donated for guests. And, of course, the decorators and the sponsors whose donations allowed for six nights of free admission to all.

“The organizations and individuals who decorated took their creativity to a whole new level,” Hobson said. “I can’t thank them enough for their hard work and fabulous ideas.”

Continuing a tradition of many years, the Wyman Group again sponsored the Nov. 28 lighting ceremony that kicked off the Seiberling

Christmas. Six other groups sponsored the six nights the museum was open without charge: Solidarity Federal Credit Union, Ivy Tech Foundation, First Farmers Bank & Trust, Duke Energy, Community First Bank and Haynes International.

“It was so much fun to hear the comments visitors made as they came through the mansion,” Hobson said. “Being able to open the mansion to the community without charge allowed many people to attend who couldn’t otherwise afford to pay the

admission. And children really enjoyed the challenge of the Tree Counting Contest and visiting Santa at the museum.”

Musical groups who entertained during the evening open houses included Kokomo Chamber Brass, Kokomo Men of Note, Kokomo Harp Ensemble, and the Choraleers.

Planning is already underway for Christmas at the Seiberling 2016. Opening ceremonies will be on Nov. 26.



**Michelle Simmons granddaughter
Josie gets comfy with Santa**

Visitors choose their favorites

By Linda Ferries
HCHS Publications Committee Chair

The hundreds of visitors who came through the Seiberling in December were generous in sharing their excitement and their appreciation for the holiday display, naming decorators Marcia Nelson and Darrell and Bruce Blasius at the top of their lists of favorites.

In the People's Choice Tree voting, Nelson came in first with her "First Class Christmas" tree celebrating the holiday with a United States Postal Service theme. Second place went to the "All American" tree with a red-white-and-blue salute to patriotism by Darrell and Bruce Blasius and Ivy Tech's "TREEmendous Education" book tree came in third.

Darrell and Bruce Blasius again claimed first place in the People's Choice Room voting with their elaborate decoration of the third-floor ballroom. Jane Kincaid and Juanita Martin earned second place with their Gingerbread Kitchen, and the Altrusa Club of Kokomo took third with "A Heavenly Christmas Dining Room."

The tree-counting contest proved a favorite with young visitors between the ages of five and 12 who were invited to count all the trees they could find in the Seiberling. The winner was 7-year-old Bella Sims of Plainfield, Ill., the daughter of Shane and Christine Sims and granddaughter of Barbara Warnock of Kokomo. Bella's entry was for 506 trees in the mansion, which put her closest to the actual number of 513.

Shane Sims says his daughter is "an excellent student, very attentive to detail and a fantastic artist who loves to draw and paint." He said the Simses were visiting family in Kokomo for the Thanksgiving weekend when Bella took it upon herself to keep track of how many trees there were. "She was unaware it was a contest



Peggy Hobson presents Marsha Nelson with the People's Choice Tree Award

until we entered the kitchen at the end of our tour, where she entered her best guess," he reported.

Bella's grand prize was a giant "Christmas stocking" full of fun activities for someone her age – games, art projects, science projects, and more. Volunteer Dana Osburn put the gift package together with prizes donated by Comics Cubed, Kokomo Toys & Collectibles, STAR Financial Bank, Noel Horvath and Kaylee Kingseed.

Peggy Hobson, chairperson for Christmas at the Seiberling, said, "It was fun to see the excitement on the kids' faces as they were ready to put their guess for number of trees to paper and stuff it in the box. You could tell they really enjoyed the challenge."

HCHS 100th birthday

Continued from page 5

made during the IU years and restoring the floor plan to its original configuration.

2005 – A special exhibit focused on the 40th anniversary of the Palm Sunday tornados and culminated in a community program featuring several survivors of the devastation.

2008 - HCHS was recognized as the state's Outstanding Local History Organization by the Indiana Historical Society. The same year, a chair lift was installed to make the mansion more accessible.

2009 – The Continental Steel history project collected artifacts, documents and oral histories and wrapped up with a cathartic community program on the company's final years.

2010 - The first members were inducted into the Howard County Hall of Legends, honoring people with local ties for their achievements.

2012 - The society's Ryan White Oral History Project was named the Outstanding History Project of the Year by the Indiana Historical Society.

HCHS Board Presidents

1916	Mrs. John E. Moore
1917-1924	C.V. Haworth
1924	Mrs. Danna Sollenberger
1925-1931	Ellis Learner
1931-1942	William L. Naftzer
1954	Harold Crain
1955-1960	M.E. White
1961-1962	Spencer Huffman
1963	M.E. Hicks
1964	W.R. Baldwin
1965-1970	L.O. Williams
1971-1972	Willis Whorley
1972-1973	Robert Hotchkiss
1974	Jean Jaumot
1975-1976	Glenwood Armstrong
1977	Jane Pyle
1978-1979	Dan Bourff
1980	Rel Moorcroft
1981-1982	Richard Pickering
1983-1984	Jane Smith
1985-1986	Jon Russell
1987-1988	Ellen Anderson
1989	Brad Bourff
1990	Mike Spear
1991	Genie Mason LaLonde
1992-1994	Dave Broman
1995	Mike Spear
1996-1997	Mike Ullery
1998-1999	Dave Broman
2000-2001	Ted Goff
2002-2003	Mary Ellen Harnish
2004-2007	Jan Chase
2008-2011	Dave Broman
2012	Peggy Hobson
2013	Marilyn Skinner
2014	Ted Goff
2015	Cathy Stover
2016	Judy Brown

**“ONE VISIT, ONE PERFORMANCE, ONE TOUCH, AND WHO KNOWS
HOW YOU COULD SPARK A CHILD’S IMAGINATION?”**

Michelle Obama



Smithsonian Institution

**museum
day live!**

HCHS joins the Smithsonian in a nationwide campaign to reach women and girls of color in underserved communities.

3|12|2016

Learn more at howardcountymuseum.org

Membership

Thanks to all who joined the Howard County Historical Society
or renewed their memberships from November through February.

Dr. Gilbert & Ellen Anderson
Joni Andreas
Andrew & Mary Baker
Andrew Barker
Evan Barker
David & Mae Bastin
Lanny & Carolyn Beach
Milton Beach
Phyllis Blakeslee
Laurence & Janice Blanchard
Darrell & Bruce Blasius
Deressa Bledsoe
Faith Brautigam
Corey Broman
Kevin & Hilda Burns
Linda Clark
Kirk & Wendy Daniels
John & Kathy Davidson
Norma Dunn
Greg & Sharon Foland
Melinda Fulmer
Emily Golightly Rusk

Harry & Roberta Hanson
Joseph Harris
Cary Hiers
Dale Hight
Peggy & Helen Hollingsworth
Robert Hollingsworth
Larry & Judy Ingle
Elizabeth Karavitis
Medora Kennedy
Dale & Grace Kingseed
Jane Kingseed
Grady Martin
Ruth Massey
Sister Martin McEntee
James McIntyre
Thomas & Linda Miklik
Carl Miller
K. Jane Miller
Richard & Marsha Miller
Janet Moore
Larry & Barbara Moss
Joe & Drenda Myers

Kathy Neher
Nancy Obermeyer
Dana Osburn
Palmer's Jewelry, Mike Freed
Julia Parrish
Debra Peck
Paul & Kathy Pfettscher
Sherry Rahl
David & Melody Rayl
Kyle & Lisa Rayl
Sherry Riley
Jerry & Marsha Santen
Ron & Sally Schafer
Charlene Sharp
James & Teresa Simpson
Dale & Nancy Slaubaugh
Mike & Linda Stegall
Karen Swan
Windmill Grill, Tom & Carol Trine
Betty Underwood
Dr. Marvin & Bonnie Van Kley
Jim & Kathy Vega

Bicentennial events, continued from Page 3

Grand Indiana Bicentennial Motor Muster – The celebration's capstone event will be a large judged show focusing on 200 Indiana-built cars (1894-1964), Full Classics and special interest domestic cars through 1966. The show will be on Sunday, Sept. 11 in Jackson Morrow Park. It will be open to the public.

Bicentennial Torch Relay

The Indiana Bicentennial Torch Relay is designed to inspire and unify Hoosiers as one of the

major commemorative events of the 2016 Bicentennial celebration. Patterned after the Olympic Torch Relay, Indiana's version will pass through all 92 counties, covering 2,300 miles in a five-week period. It will average 72 miles per day, starting in Corydon and ending in Indianapolis.

Indiana's Torch Relay will be in Howard County on **Wednesday, Oct. 5**, from approximately 3 to 7 p.m. The torch will travel past many local landmarks before ending in downtown Koko-

mo with a free community celebration. More details of the celebration will be available soon.

First Friday "Celebrate Indiana"

Friday, Sept. 2, from 5:30 to 9 p.m. in downtown Kokomo. The activities and events will be themed around Indiana's 200th birthday.

Howard County, My Home

Indiana Bicentennial Legacy Project at the Kokomo-Howard County Public Library (see page 3).

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

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