

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



Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Kokomo, IN
46902
Permit No. 144







Footprints

A publication of the Howard County Historical Society

Volume 10, Issue 4
November 2021







Remembering Dave Broman

From the director

Keeping busy and keeping you informed

It's a busy time of year here at the historical society. The hard work of *From Dark Pages* is over, though there is plenty of wrapping up still to do.

Stew is off to the dry cleaners just now with the costumes. Randy is putting together the dining room table and resetting it after its use as a set revealing Mary Shelley's contemplation of her creation, Frankenstein. Heather was adding up ticket sales and filing invoices yesterday, but the unofficial tally looks very good. *From Dark Pages* made a healthy profit for the historical society, with 106 tickets sold. We also had generous sponsors this year and a talented crew of actors and technical support. Kudos also to Kori Wood, new committee chair for this event.

Following *Dark Pages* is our annual meeting and dinner on Nov. 4, and soon after, *Christmas at the Seiberling* (see Tammy Greene's report). Beyond that, we are preparing for the Howard County Hall of Legends in March. We have received a good number of nominations this year to add to those already in the files, making the work of the committee a challenging and worthy task.

With all the day-to-day happenings, it is often a challenge to take a breath and remind ourselves of the bigger goals that drive us at the historical society – to make local history matter and represent the broadest possible story of history in this area. That means staying relevant and keeping up with new historic research. It also means being aware of national, regional and local news and ideas. We do that at the historical society by maintaining membership to the American Associ-

ation of State and Local History, Midwest Museums Association, Indiana Landmarks and Indiana Historical Society. We stay abreast of the literature in the fields of historic preservation, museums and public history. These foundational pursuits feed each and every event we do here.

In her column, Board President Sharon Reed shares her perspective on the HCHS's place in the county. She highlights the trust that has built up between this organization and the community. The American Alliance of Museum (AAM) recently put out a new report *Museums and Trust 2021*. The report found that museums are regarded as highly trustworthy and seen as fact based and research oriented. This was for any kind of museum. The report further states that "the general pattern of museums being highly trusted holds true across all segments of race and ethnicity, political beliefs and attitudes towards inclusion." This is wonderful news, but also comes with a continued responsibility for museums to maintain this trust. We need to continue to build relationships and be skilled communicators.

This issue has Gil Porter's report from a recent presentation by the tribal historic preservation officer for the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, Tammy Greene's report on upcoming festivities around Christmas at the Seiberling and a tribute to Dave Broman by Linda Ferries.

We want to make sure we are communicating what we are up to, as well as why, so you can be informed and feel connected to local history.

Catherine Hughes
HCHS Executive Director

In this issue

2 From the director	6 Remembering Dave Broman	18 Recent grants awarded to HCHS
3 Christmas at the Seiberling	9 HCHS Annual Meeting	
4 Carriage ride information	10 From the Dark Pages	18 Eastern Region Tourism
5 From the board president	12 A Tragic Loss	19 Donations and membership
5 Volunteer information	17 Remembering Removal	

Donations and Memorials

Porte Cochere Capital Campaign

Silver
Allen Safianow

Memorials

In memory of Dave Broman:
Ruth Reichard
Eastern Region Tourism Marketing
Cooperative

Bequest
Mary Jo Bollinger

The English Rose
Café & Tea Room



www.englishrosecafe.com
502 West Jefferson Street
Kokomo, IN 46901
For Reservations Call
(765) 450-4934

Membership

Our new and renewed memberships

Richard Alexander	Barbara Dutton	Thomas and Kathryn Rethlake
James Allman	Teresa Fields	Sherry and Mary Margaret Riley
Ron and Pam Barsh	Alan and Prudence Harnish	Glenn Rodgers
Larry and June Barton	Larry Hayes	Blake and Jennifer Rollins
Sue Beahrs	Mark and Peggy Hobson	Elaina Schroer
Don and Gail Beaton	Peggy Hollingsworth	Dana Scruggs
Marilynda Bennett	Catherine Hughes	Anne Shaw
Faith Brautigam	Peter Inman	Thomas and Judy Sheehan
Jim and Donna Calabro	Steve Johnson	Charles and Sharon Short
Bill and Sharon Carter	Jerry King	Edward and Dixie Stone
Rosemary Pike	Dave and Linda Kitchell	Linda Stout
Hilary Crook	Gale and Donna Leiter	Ronald Tetrick
Joyce Cylkowski	Juanita Martin-Davis	Edward Trobaugh,
Joe Dunbar	Mary Jo McClellan	Major General U.S.A. Ret.
Charles and Mary Duncan	Jerry and Marcia Nelson	Pat Waymire
Craig Dunham	Don and Marti Pries	

HCHS awarded several grants

The Howard County Historical Society recently was awarded with several grants:

- \$50,000 from the U.S. Department of Interior National Park Service’s Historic Preservation Fund, administered by the Department of Natural Resources’ Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology for the repair of the Seiberling Mansion porte cochere
- \$6,460 in programming funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities and Indiana Humanities as part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021
- \$10,000 in operating funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities and Indiana Humanities as part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021

- \$5,000 from the Efroymsen Family Fund to assist with matching funds for the repair of the Seiberling Mansion porte cochere
- \$5,000 Heritage Support Grant to assist with matching funds for the repair of the Seiberling Mansion porte cochere. Heritage Support Grants are provided by the Indiana Historical Society and made possible by Lilly Endowment Inc.
- \$8,663 for the final phases of Howard County African American History Revealed exhibit, funded in part by a grant from the Community Foundation of Howard County, Inc.
- \$10,000 for matching funds for the repair of the Seiberling Mansion porte cochere, funded in part by a grant from the Community Foundation of Howard County, Inc.



HCHS Board President Sharon Reed joined HCHS Executive Director Catherine Hughes for a meeting of the East Region Tourism Marketing Cooperative at the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Automobile Museum in Auburn on Oct. 21. The Howard County Historical Society is a member of this group of tourism boards and destinations that meets to share marketing initiatives across Indiana.

‘Tis the season

Christmas at the Seiberling

By Tammy Greene
HCHS Publications Committee

This (almost) the season, which means out on the lawn, HCHS Caretaker Bill Baldwin is getting help from the elves to string up the lights across the grounds. Inside, the decorators are busy decking the halls, wrapping the presents, hanging the stockings and trimming the trees to once again bring you the magic of *Christmas at the Seiberling*.

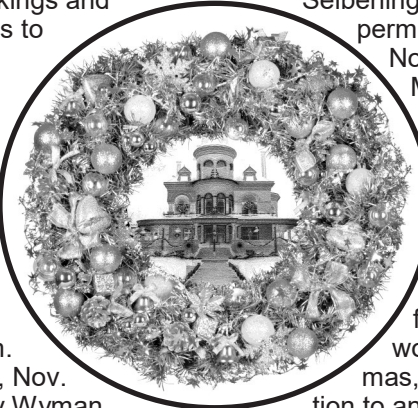
Santa is also busy preparing for his annual visit to the Seiberling and will light up the mansion at 6 p.m. on opening night, Nov. 27, sponsored by Wyman Group.

For those of you able to come out, we will once again have COVID-19 safety measures in place to protect us all. You must have a ticket to enter. Opening night admission is \$10 per person; for all sponsored “Christmas at the Seiberling” evenings, timed tickets are free. Tickets can be reserved on the HCHS website: [https://howardcountymuseum.org/programs/christmas-at-the-](https://howardcountymuseum.org/programs/christmas-at-the-seiberling)

seiberling. It’s great to note the elves are also busy preparing the carriages for rides from 6 to 8 p.m. on opening night. Tickets are \$55 per ride and reservations can be made online or by calling the office at 765-452-4314.

Opening night will also include musical performances on the Seiberling porch (weather permitting) by Men of Note, Harmony Magic and the Kokomo Park Band. Another fun feature to the night will be a silent auction to win a Santa hat filled with the wonders of Christmas, a beautiful addition to anyone’s holiday decoration. The decoration was made by HCHS volunteer decorator Tiffany Saunders and, of course, proceeds from the auction will benefit the historical society

Don’t worry. If you are not able to see Santa or the mansion in person, there will be a virtual video tour by Awry Productions again this year. It will go live opening night. Just keep your eyes on the HCHS Facebook page.



Christmas at the Seiberling schedule and sponsors

- Saturday, Nov. 27, 6 to 9 p.m. — Wyman Group
- Thursday, Dec. 2, 4 to 8 p.m. — Community First Bank
- Friday, Dec. 3, 4 to 8 p.m. — Financial Builders
- Thursday, Dec. 9, 4 to 8 p.m. — Indiana University Kokomo
- Friday, Dec. 10, 4 to 8 p.m. — Ivy Tech
- Thursday, Dec. 16, 4 to 8 p.m. — First Farmers Bank and Trust
- Friday, Dec. 17, 4 to 8 p.m. — Security Federal Savings Bank
- Saturday, Dec. 18, 4 to 8 p.m.: Candlelight tour — Duke Energy
- Visitors are also welcome during regular hours, 1 to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday, with regular admission.



This year's theme is "Different Decades of Christmas," with areas decorated to reflect everything from the traditions of the Victorian Era to the rowdiness of the Fifties and Sixties. Don't forget to vote for your favorite decorated room with donations to support the historical society. Each room will have a jar for voting and you can also note your favorites through a voting link on the video tour.

A special feature this year will be the Jingle Bell Boutique, a gift shop filled with handmade and donated treasures, including candy boxes, gift card holders, gift boxes, crocheted items, purses and bags, and kitchen items, among other gift and decorating items.

"Our elves have been busy since spring working on gifts and decorations," said Teresa Fields, who is co-chairing the 2021 *Christmas at the Seiberling* celebration with long-time leader Peggy Hobson. "We are so excited to be able to offer a range of items that will allow families to shop – and support the historical society."

As is custom, charitable sponsors have made possible free admission to the December nights of Christmas at the Seiberling. We want to thank each of them for their generous donations in support of this annual community tradition. ■



This festively filled Santa hat will be sold via silent auction during opening night on Nov. 27.



A variety of handmade and donated treasures will be available at the Jingle Bell Boutique during Christmas

Event notes 175th anniversary of dark period in Indiana history

October 2021 marks the 175th anniversary of a dark time in Indiana state history. That month in 1846, more than 300 citizens of the Miami Indian Tribe were forcibly loaded onto canal boats in Peru and sent to treaty-designated land west of the Mississippi River.

Diane Hunter, tribal historic preservation officer for the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, shared details of the removal, and discussed the past, present and future of the Miami Indian Tribe during an event at the Kokomo-Howard County Public Library on Sept. 18.

"Remembering Removal, Kokomo, Indiana and the Last Communal Homeland for the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma," was well-attended by some 40 guests at the library. Hunter described in heartbreaking detail the circumstances and methods that led to the forced removal of the Miami Indians from the area in 1846, and how the tribe today is resurrecting their language and re-establishing a presence on the traditional tribal land in Ohio and Indiana.

"The 1846 removal took a month to complete,

but the impact of losing our land and being separated from generations of memories continues to be felt by all Miami today," Hunter said. Hunter noted that for many Miami families, the removal is complicated because, by treaty and legislation, many were permitted to stay and some who left later returned.

The 1846 event is also impossible to ignore in terms of local history because Howard County was carved out of the residue of the Great Miami Reserve. This area could become Indiana's last-named county only when the Miami Indians had relinquished their last communal homeland.

Two videos from the program are available on the library's YouTube channel: "Miami Nation talks about impact of 1846 removal" and "Kokomo, Indiana, in Miami tribal history" ([youtube.com/user/KHCPLibrary/videos](https://www.youtube.com/user/KHCPLibrary/videos))

To learn more about this tragic event in Miami history, see Meehkweelintamankwi Aanchsahaaciki, "Remembering Our Forced Removal" at <https://aacimotaatiiyankwi.org/myaamia-history/removal-commemoration/>



Diane Hunter, tribal historic preservation officer for the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, explained the removal of the Miami Indians from Indiana that took place 175 years ago.

graph they cranked to operate.

Though I have no photos taken inside the Ford house in its heyday, it was probably well decorated for the time.

To modern eyes, Eastlake exterior and interior design was nothing less than fussy, pretentious and cluttered, but it was far less excessive to the Victorian-era eye. Though technically considered a Victorian style because it was popular from 1870 to 1890, it was, nevertheless, a break away from the excesses of earlier designs and is considered to have been a glimpse into “modernism.”

In Eastlake, we find more geometrical shapes and modest curves. Occasionally, we also catch a hint of Renaissance Revival, even medieval elements and Far Eastern motif, but they never overwhelmed the design.

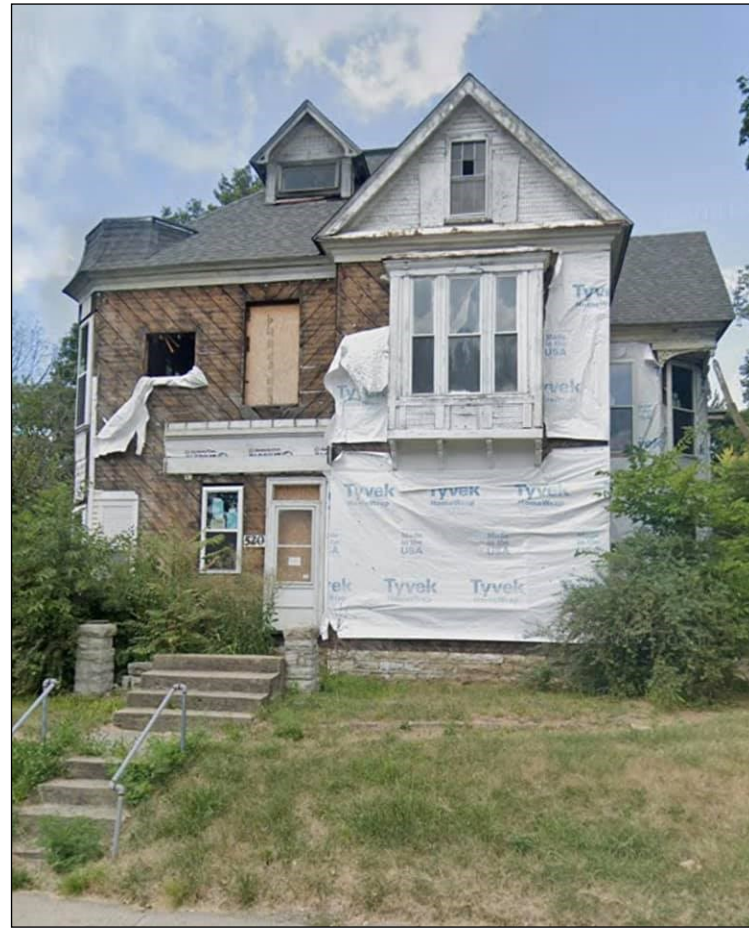
Such were the times

I once met an elderly gentleman from East Liverpool, Ohio, who had been to Kokomo many years earlier. When he learned where I was from, his eyes danced as he told me, “I was in Kokomo once,” though not for good reasons he recalled. “I remember it was a pretty town with large homes and beautiful, tree-lined streets. Friendly folks!” His visit was during the summer of 1918, when he had been one of the “body bearers” selected to handle the casket of one of our sons who perished in the Great War. I can understand how this visit had impressed him, and fortunately, the courtesy shown the young soldier had given him a lasting, positive memory.

I’m sure the house at 520 W. Jefferson was built for entertaining, serving as comfortable shelter for family dinners, parties for friends and clients, Christmas gatherings around the parlor piano or fireplace. It had been a private home during the Gas Boom, industrial expansion, rapid growth ... and 1918. It sheltered in both happiness and incredible sorrow.

The house is gone, the people are gone and with them the memories of those that once knew this “grand ol’ dame” as home.

And for Kokomo, another landmark has been lost. ■



A recent Google Street View shows the dilapidated state of the once-grand home before it burned down.

From the board president

The invitation

“There is no such thing as an instant community. A relationship is an experience built on moments of relating. The greater the accumulation and flavor of these moments, the deeper the relationship. The more we let go of our perfectionism, the more honest and genuine those moments will be.” (*Excerpted from the Bible App on Oct. 5, 2021*)

Each day organizations and people have opportunities to accept the invitation of building relationships with others. The Howard County Historical Society only exists because of the “accumulation and flavor of these moments.” Without our interaction with our Howard County community over the years, we would not have the abundance of artifacts and archives that we are able to share.

As an example, Curator Stew Lauterbach answered this question from a community member – “What is your favorite collection item?” – in his October report to the board.

“Curiously, my favorite collection item is on loan from the Field Museum in Chicago,” he wrote. “It is a fossil eurypterid *Carcinoma newlini*, or sea scorpion, from Howard County and

on display in our ‘Curator’s Cabinet of Curiosities.’ We recently came across an early Kokomo paper with a news item documenting the discovery of a ‘devilish encased in stone.’ We believe the story refers to a eurypterid. I like to imagine them swimming about Howard County’s Paleozoic seas.”

Every week, community members contact the historical society to ask questions or look for validation about certain topics. With every answer offered or piece of information shared, our staff members are building these moments with the community. And it’s not just the staff; historical society members, board members and volunteers also expand our relationships as they share their knowledge.

I am grateful for the trust the community has in our ability to preserve and share the history of Howard County. It is my hope that we will never drop that focus on our mission and vision for the community. The historical society could not exist without our beloved community.

Thank you!

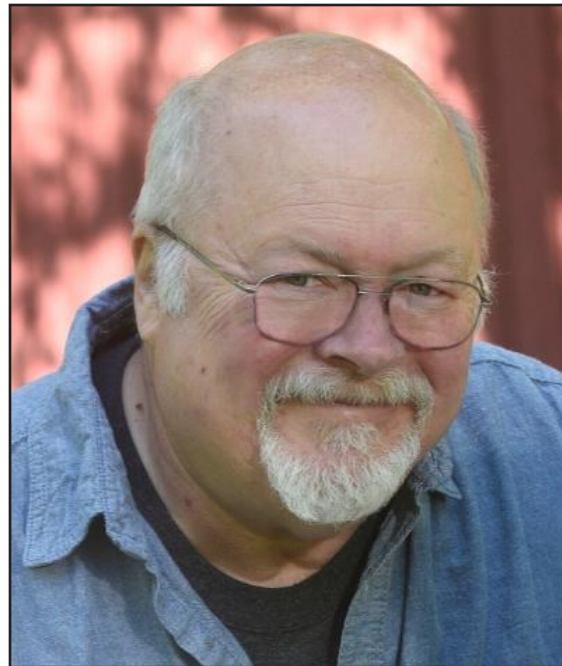
Sharon Reed
HCHS Board President

The HCHS needs you!

Find out why HCHS volunteers are so passionate and excited to share stories and history. Join the HCHS corps of hosts who greet and talk with visitors at the Seiberling.

Can you or someone you know become a volunteer? We are seeking people who love history and learning and enjoy talking with people, who have time to give one afternoon a week from 1 to 4 p.m.

Contact Volunteer Coordinator Jill Snyder at 765-452-4314 or jill.snyder@howardcountymuseum.org.



It is what it is

Remembering the late, great Dave Broman

By Linda Ferries
HCHS Publications Committee

“It is what it is.” A phrase of rueful resignation? Acceptance of reality? A philosophy of a life lived in concert with the universe? Perhaps all these were wrapped up in this phrase often uttered by Howard County Historical Society Executive Director Emeritus Dave Broman. It became a fitting epitaph when Dave suddenly and unexpectedly died June 4.

“It is what it is.”

Most HCHS members and volunteers – and people throughout Howard County – think of Dave in the various roles he played during a more than 30-year tenure as a volunteer and staff member for the historical society. His many accomplishments with the historical society were shared in a story on his retirement in the May 2020 edition of *Footprints* (available in the publications Archive at www.howardcountymuseum.org), but a conversation with Joyce Cylkowski, Dave’s wife of 46 years and the person who knew him best, indicates the depth and breadth of a man who left an indelible mark on his community. She

shares Dave’s story-telling abilities and spins a tale of love, respect, shared interests, and grand adventure through nearly 50 years.

“It is what it is.”

Dave and Joyce met while students at Michigan Tech (Michigan Technological University) in Houghton, Mich., in their beloved UP (Upper Peninsula). She was the only woman who worked in the dish room in Wadsworth Hall, the largest men’s dorm in the world at the time with 1,500 young men in residence. Dave worked there too. Dave was on his way to a degree in biology with a minor in botany; Joyce was studying forestry with a minor in wildlife biology. They studied dendrology, learning how to identify trees, and a soils class they would later put to use in the home gardens that sprung up everywhere they lived. Both learned a lot about these subjects that made life more interesting, even if neither had careers in those fields.

You see, Dave may have studied biology but he was *really* interested in radio. As a high school student in Bluffton, he’d cut his teeth at WCRD, a little AM radio station. At Michigan Tech, he worked for WGGL FM, the public radio station, as well as a commercial station in



roofline, a tower, front-facing “oriel window” and ornamental shingle-work. Capping the tower was a mansard roof with wrought-iron cresting, common to the Eastlake genre. The front and side porches, though later cheaply altered from their original appearance, had similar mansard-like rooflines held up by ornamental, lathe-turned posts. The siding was a type of “novelty shape” commonly referred to today as “Dutch Lap” and was coupled with shingle-siding of varying shapes.

Inside the house, beautiful woodwork framed incised, slate-fronted gas fireplace surrounds, some with the addition of elaborate tilework. There were coffered ceilings in the dining room, raised paneled ceilings in what may have been the smoking lounge or library and ornamental plaster frieze throughout the first floor. Though only one original staircase remained at the time of the fire, located in the entry foyer, another once existed in the hallway just outside the dining room. This was probably a less elaborate set, a sort of “servants stairs,” though the Fords may not have had servants.

Massive “pocket doors” graced the dining room, with double entry doors rising to seven feet in height opening from the street-side vestibule into a large foyer with a beautiful corner fireplace. There were at least four corner fireplace locations, their two chimneys now seen standing like eerie sentinels above the burned mass.

Electric lighting existed in some homes during this period, but many of those would also have a gas light section attached. (Just couldn’t be sure about “those newfangled things,” you know.) Lighting wasn’t much brighter by bulb than by flame, but it was strong enough to read by or possibly listen to a phono-



Eastlake Architectural Style

“Eastlake,” as an architectural style, is a somewhat confusing nomenclature. Having origins in the British Arts and Crafts movement started by textile designer William Morris, it was popularized by British architect Charles Locke Eastlake in his book, *Hints on Household Taste*. In what became a “bible” for early design, Eastlake encouraged “honesty” in craftsmanship and construction. “Work should be hand-crafted, made with solid wood and formed with rectangular joinery,” he wrote. Eastlake promoted the use of oiled and naturally colored fine woods, rather than stains, which he believed, “disguise inexpensive woods.”

The Eastlake Style is considered to be part of the “Queen Anne” style of the late Victorian period, or that period correlating with the reign of Queen Victoria, 1837 to 1901. “Victorian” is the term used, primarily in English-speaking countries, to describe architecture generally built from 1860 to 1910. Eastlake aesthetic was a reaction to the over-the-top Rococo Revival and Renaissance Revival styles, and though it is linked to the Queen Anne style, there are notable differences.

A “simpler style” (well ... ?), Eastlake is characterized by geometric ornamentation, low-relief carving, lathe-turned spindles and posts, and machine-incised lines. These elements were designed to be affordable and easy-to-clean alternatives to the heavy ornamentation of other Victorian styles, including the so-called “Queen Anne,” which was often artistically complex, its detailing commonly referred to as “gingerbread.”

The Charles Ford House 520 W. Jefferson St.

As was common to vernacular architecture (defined as architecture created by local builders based on local needs and availability of materials rather than that designed by a formally schooled architect), the Charles Ford House wasn’t pure Eastlake, though it’s about as pure an example as was built in Kokomo. It was a large house with a steep



Interior photos were taken by HCHS board member Anne Shaw during a visit several years ago. Much of the woodwork had been removed by owners before fire destroyed the structure.

Houghton. He finished the biology degree in 1976; when a radio station in Twin Falls, Idaho, called with a job offer, Joyce was on the road with her young husband, leaving college two courses short of a degree herself.

Their first son, Corey, was born during the three-year sojourn in Twin Falls. Next stop was a radio station in Anderson, back in the Hoosier State and closer to Dave’s family in Bluffton and Joyce’s family in Mt. Clemens, Mich., near Detroit. They traveled across the country with a toddler and a Ryder van filled with the family Subaru and everything else they owned. One of the first of many Broman adventures to come, Joyce says.

In Anderson, they soon learned that the condo they had rented on a bluff overlooking the White River was in the flight line of local hot air ballooning enthusiasts. In typical Dave fashion, he soon was part of the hot air balloon scene, with “hare and hound” races and balloons dropping right in front of their home. More adventures.

And in 1986, the Bromans de-camped for Kokomo, where Dave had been hired to work at WWKI. His 25-year career there was legendary as he led such community-defining efforts as the We Care Christmas charity and the Haynes Apperson Festival to celebrate Kokomo’s automotive heritage.

The thing was ... Dave embraced life fully. He got deeply involved with civic organizations in every community they called home. Their second son, Joe, had come along just before WWKI called. And Joyce went back to school at Indiana University Kokomo to become a nurse. (In the spring of 1997, both Corey and Joyce graduated, Corey from high school and Joyce graduated from college.) Things were really busy with the family; Joyce said Dave needed to pare down his many memberships and focus on one. With a deep love of history as well as community, the Howard County Historical Society rose to the top.

Joyce said he loved the historical society. He loved the annual Christmas celebration. He loved the society’s participation at the annual Koh-koh-mah encampment. He loved everything from bringing the Haynes Pioneer in from



Joyce: We were in Upper Peninsula in May 2018 exploring an old lighthouse. I always think of this pic as our Yooper Mafia photo.

the Smithsonian Institution to planning a “blues and gold” jazz festival when hundreds of daffodils broke into glorious bloom on the Seiberling grounds. He became executive director of the HCHS in 2011 and retired in 2020.

Dave’s interests were many. Take his lifelong love of camping, for example. Joyce chuckles as she recounts the story that Dave was conceived while his parents were on a family camping trip, and the die was cast. With their interests in nature, he and Joyce began camping while at Michigan Tech. Camping was an important part of family life with Corey and Joe, and in retirement, he planned to do a lot more camping and exploring in his “happy places” – Michigan’s Upper Peninsula and the forested Smokey Mountains where he could indulge his interests in hiking and bird watching. Earning his certification as a master natural-



ist through the Indiana Department of Natural Resources was another goal he had hoped to finish.

Or take his interest in woodworking. Much more than a hobbyist, Dave created a butler's pantry for Joyce in their home on Kokomo's northwest side. The butcher block top he made for his workbench will soon have new purpose as a counter in Joyce's updated kitchen. He put his woodworking expertise to good use in creating a trailer to hold their camping gear; main benefit was being able to see out the car's back window, Joyce says with a laugh.

Or take his interest in reading ... and pottery ... and computers ... and YouTube videos of hummingbirds ... and beehives ... and ...

Then there was family – always a priority with Dave. He supported Joyce's goal of becoming a nurse and her work for more than 20 years



Joyce: Granddaughter Mackenzie holds down the fort as Dave and Corey build a bench on Father's Day 2019.



Joyce: We checked one thing off Dave's bucket list — to camp for a whole month. This photo was taken at Nord-house Dunes in August 2020.

helping patients in St. Joseph Hospital's rehabilitation unit. Their sons grew and prospered – and presented them with six grandchildren. Corey lives in Kokomo with his wife, Amber, and their four children, and works at the lab at Ascension St. Vincent Kokomo. Joe and wife Traci have two children and live in Westfield. He teaches mathematics at Carmel High School as well as English as a second language.

Life wasn't always easy. There were challenges at work. There were medical issues. He and Joyce faced some tragic losses together and learned to deal with all the things they couldn't control.

"Dave would say, 'We aren't going to be able to change that. It is what it is,'" Joyce says. "And we'd go on."

Dave believed in the importance of history, of sharing stories, of making and preserving memories – and this man known for his calmness, his kindness, his open arms always ready for a hug left his own history to be remembered. And even in death, his sense of humor, shared and mirrored by Joyce's, came through. Inscribed on the top of the open casket?

"It is what it is." ■

The Fords were living in the house at 520 W. Jefferson St. when Emma, aged 50, was killed in an automobile accident on Sept. 2, 1910. Charles's business partner, Emma's father William Donnelly (born 1830), had died Dec. 6, 1903, shortly after the death of his wife, Miriam. In 1916, Ford closed the business. In 1917, he married Daisy Bennett (1875-1946) and sold the foundry building. Charles and Daisy moved away, possibly after the deaths of his two sons (in 1919 and 1920), and lived part of the time in Florida. Charles was 81 when he passed away Sept. 13, 1942, while visiting the home of his daughter in Fort Wayne and is buried in Kokomo next to his family. Daisy is also buried at Crown Point.

The house eventually was used as an apartment building, with some interesting tales circulating the local neighborhood about a few of the tenants. And a few of these tales were quite "interesting," indeed. However, this article is for family reading, so we'll just move along.

Among the notables that were employed at the Ford & Donnelly Foundry were George Kingston and J. William "Billy" Johnson.

George Kingston, born in Michigan, moved to Kokomo to work for Ford & Donnelly as a pattern maker. In 1903, he left the foundry and became a co-founder of Byrne-Kingston & Company. He developed a carburetor that was used in Model T Ford and Maxwell automobiles and, later, he and his family lived for many years in the Seiberling Mansion.

Billy Johnson, a native of Kokomo, has been cited as the developer of cast aluminum in 1895. He also

became associated with Byrne-Kingston & Company.

Additionally, brothers George, Grover and Fred Goudy began their careers at the foundry. In 1917, the Goudy Brothers Boiler Company began operations in the old foundry building they had purchased. Recently, Goudy Brothers Boiler Company celebrated 100 years in business!

The human entries into the historical archives of Howard County are well known. The house at 520 W. Jefferson St. was not. Once an architectural gem and the home of a wealthy man, to local residents that only knew its immediate past, it was probably just a "big, ugly dump falling in on itself." So, with that as our foundation, let's take a look at the architecture, for it once was far from being "a dump."

The "Charles Ford House," as I'd like to refer to it, was built in the latter part of the 19th Century in the style referred to today as "Eastlake Victorian."



A typical Eastlake interior, c. 1890

A tragic loss

Historic house in Kokomo destroyed by fire

By Jon Russell
Howard County Historian

In Sept. 9, 2021, an old house burned to the ground. In the process, it took the neighboring house with it. Both were at one time beautiful homes, built during an era when Kokomo was a leader in the industry and commerce of mid-north-central Indiana.

The first house I noted was a derelict — abandoned and left to the elements. The other was a family home, a family now faced with the prospect of razing that house and looking for a new one. Both were “a tragic loss.”

The derelict home had been the turn-of-the-century residence of Charles A. Ford, who, along with partner William Donnelly, owned the Ford & Donnelly Foundry that stood at 1510 N. Market St. There is no sign of the foundry at that location today, but in the latter part of the 19th Century and into the 20th, it was an important business and the employer of several men who would go on to become notable industrialists and business leaders.

Charles A., and his wife, Emma Alice, came to Kokomo sometime prior to 1890 and raised their three children in this house: Idabelle (1886-1957), Carl Donnelly (1890-1919), and Harry E. (1892-1920). All but Idabelle are buried in Kokomo’s Crown Point Cemetery. She lies beside her husband, Walter Jones, in Fort Wayne’s Lindenwood Cemetery.



Chimneys stand sentinel after fire completed the destruction on Sept. 9, 2021. LINDA FERRIES PHOTO



View of 520 W. Jefferson St. before later owners removed the siding. The photo is from an older Zillow listing.

Annual meeting a tribute to HCHS volunteers and staff



Former HCHS Executive Director Kelly Karickhoff made a heartfelt presentation during the annual meeting Nov. 4 about the life of Dave Broman. Kelly worked side by side with Dave for many years when he served as a board member and HCHS president before becoming executive director following Karickhoff.

The 2021 annual meeting of the Howard County Historical Society took place at the Inventrek Auditorium in November.

Forty-five audience members enjoyed delicious dinners from either Chef for a Day Catering or Poulard’s Cajun Cuisine while watching the program.

In a previously made video, volunteer hosts shared what brought them to volunteer at the Seiberling Mansion and some of their favorite

parts of hosting.

Staff and board members were also celebrated.

The highlight of the evening was a heartfelt presentation by Kelly Karickhoff, in a tribute to Dave Broman. Dave’s widow, Joyce, sons and their families were in attendance. The evening ended after some in the audience were able to share their stories of Dave’s kindness and the impact he had on them.



Volunteers honored included, from left to right, Anne Bradshaw, Goldie Snavelly, Juanita Martin-Davis, Judy Brown, Sandy Grant, John Wilkinson and Kristy Orem.

From Dark Pages brings chills and screams back to the mansion

By Emily West
Footprints Editor

He's baaaack! Once again, Jack the Ripper and his horribly long and terribly bloody dagger were roaming loose in the halls of the Seiberling Mansion, as well as other monsters and the authors whose imaginations created them.

Before you call the police, Ghostbusters or even the exterminator, or worry about more bullet holes in the beautiful Seiberling mirrors or someone messing up the floors, know this was just for fun.

For the fifth year, *From Dark Pages* was presented over two nights in eight performances on Oct. 22 and 23. Twenty cast and crew members participated, with Elizabeth McQuiston as director and Aubrey Drake as assistant director.

During the evening performance, Sherlock Holmes — for the first time portrayed by a woman, Heather Vols — and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle — G.W. Welsh — are on the trail of Jack the Ripper — Jim Holloway.

Along the way, they meet a few Victorian authors of supernatural and science fiction literature, as well as their monsters.

The result is pretty scary — and a lot of fun, for the audience and performers alike.

Stay tuned for the 2022 version of *From Dark Pages*. We have a feeling Jack the Ripper may be on the loose again!



Look out Mary K (Aubrey Drake)! Above, Jack the Ripper (Jim Holloway) is in the house and about to get you!

Following page, clockwise from top left, Frankenstein (Stew Lauterbach) is about to give his creator, Mary Shelley (Anna Ely), a neck massage she'll never forget. Dracula (Jay Eccent) descends the stairs using his cape as either his Covid mask or a way to disguise his ghastly fangs. Cast and crew of the 2021 Dark Pages.

