

'Drums Along the Wildcat' - September 23, 2023



#### November 2023

From the President: Third Quarter Stories
3

Own Piece of History

4

Christmas Volunteers; New Volunteer Coordinator **5** 

Drums Along the Wildcat 6

Exploring the secrets of an historic home

10

Working on the Greentown History Museum 16

Hall of Legends a festive affair 20

Membership; Christmas at the Seiberling

Annual Campaign; Upcoming Events 23

Copyright 2023
Howard County Historical Society
Kokomo, Indiana 46901
howardcountymuseum.org

#### From the Executive Director

#### So much happening!

We had such a fantastic turn out for our 2023 Hall of Legends event on August 17 and were so excited to honor six amazing individuals with ties to Howard County. Congratulations to Ben Cotner, Rachel Jenkins, Rev. Dr. Robert A. Lee, and Dr. Lance Washington and the late Dr. Meta Christy and Don Moore!

We would like to invite you to our annual meeting on Nov. 14, starting at 6 p.m. at Elite Event Center, 2820 S. Lafountain St. This meeting is important as the membership elects new or returning board members who guide the organization's goals and mission. We hope you can join us for a wonderful dinner and learn a little something fun about Howard County in the process!

You'll read more about this later in Gil Porter's article, but I would be remiss if I didn't mention the very first modern-day powwow right here in Kokomo that took place on Sept. 23. "Drums Along the Wildcat" took over Foster Park with drums, dancing, food, and education. Thank you to the Kokomo Native Initiative for their work to make this event possible and successful!

Speaking of events ... We here at HCHS are in the full swing of planning Christmas at the Seiberling. Our theme this year, "The Nutcracker Ballet," is sure to plant dreams of sugar plum fairies in the minds of visitors. Opening night kicks off at 6 p.m. Nov. 25 when Santa arrives and the official lighting ceremony takes place. You don't want to miss it!

The leaves are finally changing here in central Indiana and temperatures are dropping (and then rising, then dropping – it is Indiana after all!). As we careen into the holiday season, I'm reflecting back on my first year here at HCHS. It hardly feels like it's been any time at all, but time flies when you're having fun! I don't want to get too emotional, but this past year has really been one of my favorites. It is an honor to work with our amazing staff and supportive board of directors. Kokomo is not my hometown, but I'm so proud to call it my adopted town; it has truly become "home." To have the job of sharing history within such an amazing community is something I've always wanted. So, I want to say thank you to our members, our volunteers, staff, and board for their support and open arms. I can't wait to see what we accomplish together in 2024!

Sincerely, Anne

Anne Shaw HCHS Executive Director

#### From the President

#### Third Quarter Stories ...

#### Greetings!

I hope this quarterly edition of HCHS Footprints magazine finds you all well! I am so happy that you have found this edition and I hope and pray you find it both informative and interesting.

The third quarter of 2023 at the Howard County Historical Society has been an exceptional one! Beyond the normal activities and day-to-day work of the HCHS, this quarter included the 2023 Howard County Hall of Legends event at The Venue at Brookstone. The event was extraordinarily well received, with more than 160 people in attendance! We inducted six new honorees in this year's class to bring the total number of Legends to 79!

I would like to offer a hearty and wellearned congratulations again to this year's inductees: Dr. Meta Christy, Rachel Jenkins, Rev. Dr. Robert A. Lee, Dr. Lance Washington, Don Moore and Ben Cotner! An awesome class with awesome stories that add richness to the history of Howard County! I would also like to personally thank the committee for presenting such an incredible night.

Thanks to Pastor William Smith, Taylor Claypool, Randy Rusch, Judy Brown, Linda Ferries (and her entire selection committee), Brett Ellison and Anne Shaw! Thank you all. I hold you in high regard.

Not to be outdone, the final quarter of the year looks to be full of activity as well! HCHS will conduct our annual meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 14, starting at 6 p.m. at the Elite Banquet & Event Center at 2820 S. Lafountain St. You don't want to miss a fascinating presentation by local historian Gil Porter on the amazing story about how Native American history and the Underground Railroad converged here in 1835, before the county even existed.

Plus, back by popular demand from last year, we'll have another exciting round of Howard County Jeopardy (category: Names).

There is still limited time to purchase tickets.

And finally, the big event each Christmas season will be coming with the "Christmas at the Seiberling". Opening night is set for 6 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 25. Watch for details and don't miss this beautiful and festive event!

I take this opportunity to recognize that we are celebrating the one-year anniversary of Anne Shaw as our executive director. Anne has been a blessing to the HCHS and to me as the board president. Thank you, Anne, for your tireless effort and for "jumping on this moving train" and keeping it moving full speed ahead! I look forward to see what you bring to the HCHS and this community during this next year!

Thank you for reading! If you have any questions regarding any of the upcoming events or if you want to donate OR volunteer to assist us in our work, please call the society at (765) 452-4314. I look forward to seeing you all soon!

Respectfully,

Dave Dubois HCHS Board President

# Own a Piece of History

If you haven't been to visit us lately, you're missing out on some new items we've added to our gift shop. These coasters are made from slate salvaged from the Seiberling's original roof when it was replaced in 2017, cut by Caldwell Monument Company and etched by SHAK Makerspace here in Kokomo. Each piece is a little different and some contain "imperfections" such as nail holes and shadows of overlapping tiles. You can own an actual piece of the Seiberling Mansion! Each coaster is \$10 and supplies are limited.



# **Christmas Cheer: Be a Volunteer**

s we head into our busiest season of the year, our volunteers are more important to us than ever!

Volunteers play a crucial role within our organization, as they dedicate their free time to educate the community and visitors about our history.

Christmas at the Seiberling is a few short weeks away with opening night on Nov. 25 at 6 p.m. We would love to have you join us this holiday season to help staff our beautifully decorated mansion. I think if you would ask any of our volunteer hosts, they would agree that it's a magical time of year to introduce or welcome back visitors of all ages to the Seiberling. The primary responsibilities of our hosts include welcoming guests, managing admission and gift shop fees, and sharing their knowledge. Generally hosts typically serve

from 1 to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday, depending on their availability. They have the flexibility to choose the number of days they'd like to assist. Christmas brings the added bonus of volunteering opportunities from 4 to 8 p.m. on our eight sponsored evenings.

If you're not into being a mansion host, do not despair! We have plenty of other opportunities to help HCHS including set up and tear down for events, gardening, building maintenance, researching, and just about anything else you can think of to aid the organization.

To inquire about becoming a volunteer or to obtain more information, please reach out to Christina Ralston, our volunteer and outreach coordinator, at 765-452-4314 or via email at christina.ralston@howardcountymuseum.org. Your devotion to Howard County Historical Society will be greatly valued and appreciated.

#### HCHS welcomes new Volunteer Coordinator

ello, I'm Christina Ralston, and I am excited to be the new Volunteer Coordinator for the Howard County Historical Society. I'm looking forward to stepping in to this position and for the opportunities it brings.

I have lived in Kokomo for about seven years and enjoy learning about the rich history of the city. It is also interesting to discover the connections between here and my birth city, Detroit, Michigan.

My education is in software development, of which I earned my diploma for at Ivy Tech. I have a passion for creating code and working with computers. My interests also extend beyond technology. Sewing and designing clothes, as well as baking cupcakes and cakes, are a few of my favorite hobbies.

At home, I have a wonderful German Shepherd mix named Blue. I adopted Blue when he was four years old and he recently turned eight.

My true passion lies in volunteering and working within the nonprofit sector, which has been my overarching goal. I genuinely enjoy collaborating with



people, building connections, and making a positive impact on my community.

One of my favorite aspects of this role is the opportunity to delve into the rich history of Kokomo, Indiana. I'm eager to learn as much as I can about this city's past, and I look forward to passing that history on to others.

# 'Drums Along the Wildcat'

'A special day in the history of our community.'
- The Honorable Tyler Moore, mayor, City of Kokomo

The drums were silenced and the dancing stopped with the forced removal of many Native American families from Howard County, Indiana, in the 1840s.

On Saturday, Sept. 23, 2023, the drums and dancing began again, and entire communities gathered together to celebrate the moment at Foster Park in Kokomo, Indiana.

Special honor recognitions and various dancing and drumming exhibitions were held throughout the day. Hundreds of guests visited with vendors selling authentic tribal merchandise and food. Also, community and health organizations provided information about their services.

"This was a unique experience as the first multi-tribal gathering here since Indian removals some 180 years ago," said Kokomo Mayor Tyler Moore. All of Howard County lies in the residue of the Great Miami Reserve, the mayor noted. In 1844, Kokomo became the county seat of the last-named county on the last communal land in Indiana of the Miami tribe of Indians before forced removal.

"This is a special day in the history of our community," the mayor said during his opening remarks at the event on Sept. 23. "This is a long time coming. It's a day to gather, a day to share stories, a day to learn. Today, the drums and the dancing return to Kokomo."

"Drums Along the Wildcat" was sponsored by Kokomo Native Initiative, an alliance of organizations including the City of Kokomo, the Howard County Historical Society, Indiana University Kokomo, and the Kokomo Early History Learning Center, Inc. The group supports the Indiana Native American Indian Affairs Commission (INAIAC) with educational programs and activities for the local community and to help Native people learn more about services and support available to them in northcentral Indiana.

Additional funding and support were provided by the Community Foundation of Howard County and the Solidarity Community Federal Credit Union in Kokomo.

-- Gil Porter



Images courtesy Howard County Historical Society and the Tyler Moore family. Kokomo Tribune front page used with permission. Courtesy Kokomo Tribune.

(okomoTribune.com MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2023 \$2.00

# 'A LONG TIME COMING'

Weekend event celebrates Native American culture, heritage



Photos by Kelly Lafferty Gerber | Kokomo Tribune

Cloe Dunnagan, 12, dances during Drums Along the Wildcat in Foster Park on Saturday.

KIM DUNLAP KOKOMO TRIBUNE

With pieces of her regalia (clothing) shimmering in the midday sun and the rhythmic beat of nearby drums echoing throughout Foster Park, Laura Zak, a Brook resident and member of Cherokee Nation, danced for her ancestors, Mother Earth and the sky above.

Nearby, other members of Native American tribes joined Zak in the movement, each with their own unique way of celebrating the moment as they made their way around the gathering circle.

For generations, many Native Americans — mostly from the Miami Nation - called this area of



However, in the years following the Revolutionary War, tribes began to cede their land to incoming settlers, eventually leading to the creation of the Big Miami

Reserve, an area of about 1,200

right, and her son Rory Neer do the potato dance, where they try to keep a potato between their foreheads in the dancing circle during Drums Along the Wildcat in Foster Park on Saturday.

Shaunne Neer,

are miles that essentially represented the last place in Indiana that Native Americans could freely live. But then in September 1846, the government came for that land as well, forcing the Miami out of their homeland and to places out west

With the forcible exit of the Miami out of what is now known as Howard County, the gathering circle — a place for Natives to come together to dance and sing while also honoring their ancestors fell silent.

But then came Saturday.

And for the first time in 180 years, the ceremonial drums sounded once again along the banks of the Wildcat Creek.

Aptly named "Drums Along the Wildcat," Saturday's event at Foster Park - sponsored by the city of Kokomo and the Kokomo Native Initiative - was a long time in the making, organizers say.

See DRUMS on A2

# Woman gets six years for arson

KIM DUNLAP

Per court documents, Michelle "Shelly" Ellis will spend a little less

fire at Averhealth, 303 N. Main St. sedan, possibly a Toyota, entering the rear parking area of the busi-ness, according to a probable cause

inside the business and an uniden-

In the video, the woman then drove into a parking lot across the

See ARSON on A3

# 'Drums Along the Wildcat' - Kokomo, Indiana, Saturday, September 23, 2023





Dancers honored the ancestors and celebrated the day, including the all-are-welcome children candy dance, below.



# 'Drums Along the Wildcat' - Kokomo, Indiana, Saturday, September 23, 2023





A day to gather, a day to share stories, a day to learn. On this day, the drums and the dancing returned to the Wildcat.



We wonder where they all will be When this buildings indicay?

Tather, Mother, sober John,

and little Barbara gay. This mase of light and anind.
This mase of light and world
But in the busy, active world.
The others may be found. and you who find this simple scroll and the only have to say for and there That human joys and away! The Crawford Turnily Oct. 1, 1925 Glenn l' Ceruford, Mother Rush P. Crawford, Son 15 yrs.
Barbara Crawford, Langton 12 CRAWFORD COAT OF ARMS

# **GENEALOGY GOLD**

# Exploring the secrets of a home

When the new owners of 1226 West Walnut Street in Kokomo, Indiana, walked across the street to the Howard County Historical Society for more information about their old house, they discovered a century-old time capsule. The poem at left was only the beginning ...







The handprints from 1925 in the driveway at 1226 West Walnut Street, right.

#### By Matthew Behnke

**HCHS Publications Committee Member** 

ot long after moving into our home at 1226 W. Walnut St., last August, my wife, Erin, and I started noticing little clues left by previous residents.

One that left a lasting impression was a pair of small handprints at the far end of the driveway. The young resident even took the trouble to leave the date, September 28, 1925, along with their initials "JPC." This immediately got me wondering about the history of the house and its past residents.

We had always been renters. However, the resolve to buy a house in the new year came in January of 2022 as we explored neighborhoods in Kokomo. The Old Silk Stocking Neighborhood stood out. We loved the neighborhood's history, how every house was distinct, and the looming presence of the Seiberling Mansion. After visiting several residences in the neighborhood, we found one that that we fell in love with.

The one-and-a-half story, vernacular-style home, built in 1908, hosts its share of charms. We loved the wrap-around double-windows in the kitchen that let in ample sunlight for our myriad houseplants, the 10-foot-high ceilings on the first floor, the decorative wood trim around entryways and flooring, as well as the Jack-and-Jill bathroom on the second floor.

From a practical standpoint, we also appreciated that the home was remodeled and move-in ready.

I did some initial research shortly after moving in. The Crawford family, the property's second and longest residents, soon garnered special attention, due to their regular appearances in the local newspapers.

The Crawford family consisted of father Rush, mother Glenn, and their two children, John and Barbara. The Crawfords came to Kokomo in 1911, not long after the property on Walnut was built. Rush hailed from Sullivan, Ind. Prior to marrying Glenn, Rush ran a successful dental practice, which was tragically lost in a fire. After moving to Kokomo, he would work as a travelling salesman for the Globe Stove Company.

Glenn Alda Patten came from a prominent Indianapolis family. Uncommon for most women in her era, Glenn was fortunate to receive a first-class education, attending Smith College in Massachusetts. Prior to marrying Rush, Glenn worked as a teacher in Sullivan. Though listed on the census as the ubiquitous "Housewife," Glenn was highly active in the community, involved in numerous committees and fundraisers at their place of worship, First Presbyterian Church.

As my curiosity about the Crawford family grew, I reached beyond low-hanging fruit. This led me to see if there were any photos of what

the home looked like. Utilizing the photo databases on the Howard County Historical Society's website provided me with not only a few photos of the back of the home, but also several of the Crawfords themselves!

Several photos of the family were donated to the historical society by the late Ned Booher, a well-known local historian who was born in 1910 and grew up across the street. My favorite photo features the family in the back yard, when the kids were young, with an adorable dog lying at their feet. My second favorite is of John and Barbara as teenagers. The house is in the background, with the garage in the foreground. It helped answer a few research questions of mine: Where the original chimney and fireplace were located and what the exterior of the house looked like before vinyl siding.

This simple query with the historical society staff netted much more than I expected, though. Apparently, the garage that the family had built in 1925 was razed in 1994, exposing a time capsule in the cinder block foundation. It was promptly donated to the historical society by the Turner family, the owners at the time. When I found out about the time capsule, it felt like I struck genealogical gold.

What are the odds? Pretty slim, I would wager. The word serendipity came to mind. Destiny, if I was feeling full of myself. Whatever it was, I had a sense that Erin and I belonged in the house. Tightly wound and secured in a slender jar were precious family keepsakes ...

- 1. A newspaper article about John from Red and Blue, Kokomo High School's newspaper
- 2. A newspaper article about John's scholarship-winning essay from the Indianapolis News
- 3. A musical program for a fund-raiser held at First Presbyterian Church for the Children's Wing of the County Hospital, featuring an original composition on piano by Barbara
- 4. Rush's business card with Twin City Water Softener (his post-Globe employer)
  - 5. Glenn's poem

The handprints of "JPC," now known for the son, John Patten Crawford, would become a sort of artist's signature for the newly built garage, and its time capsule within. I have to admit to being a bit partial to John who was by far the most colorful member of the family. In the 1926 Kokomo City Directory, at the ripe age of 16, he is listed under occupation as Reporter for The Kokomo Tribune. This almost seemed like a practical joke, but it may have been a side gig at the very least. In 1925, John was president of his class at Kokomo High School.

The same year, he won an essay competition on home lighting in a contest sponsored by the National Electric Light Association. In the same article, it mentions that he was a delivery boy for the Tribune. He may have served a dual role: paper boy *and* reporter.

y around 1930, the Crawfords were gone (see page 14); Rush and Glenn divorced and the children off to college never to live here again.

It could be said that Glenn's words in her time capsule poem were prophetic. Long after the family was gone from Kokomo and passed away, the house (and garage) did in fact decay.

After hosting multiple families through a decade as a rental, extensive renovations were required. The owner prior to us put a lot of money into the home. The wood trim was painted white and original hardwood flooring was carpeted over or replaced with laminate tile. Fittingly, these very renovations directly led to our purchase of the home and re-discovering its secrets. I am so grateful to re-tell the tales of this memorable family.

NOTE: There was another family who briefly resided at 1226 W. Walnut prior to the Crawfords as well as a whole history of land transfers, including the original patent that predated home construction. This included locally famous, pioneer families of Kokomo. Watch for their stories in future Footprints articles.

#### The Incredible Crawfords of West Walnut Street







Left photo, Rush, in back, with John, Barbara, and Glenn. Above, Barbara Pohr Crawford, John Patten Crawford and Ruth Patton, around 1926.

t's amazing how much information can be found poking around newspaper archives and other historical records.

My research unearthed a wealth of details about the Crawfords, their families, and the industrial development of Kokomo.

Rush Crawford and Glenn Patten were married in September of 1909 at the home of Glenn's brother in Kokomo. Her brother would play a major role in bringing the Crawfords to Kokomo and in their lives while here. James Patten, it would turn out, was among the Kokomo elite.

After graduating from Indiana University in 1900, James soon followed in his father's footsteps by working in real estate in Indianapolis. However, he would find his way to Kokomo by marrying a local girl, Ruth Ruddell. Ruth's father, Richard Ruddell, owned Globe Stove Company, which immediately improved James' social standing and job prospects.

James would factor into the history of not one, but two famed Kokomo companies, filing

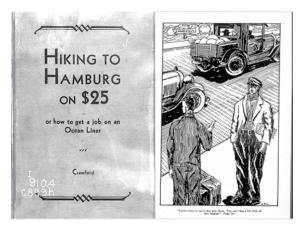
the articles of incorporation for Haynes Stellite in 1915, as the organization's Secretary-Treasurer, while simultaneously running the Globe Stove Company.

It would be easy to assume that he was responsible for getting Rush Crawford his job as travelling salesman at Globe. James and his family even lived down the street from Crawford's at 535 W. Walnut, a property that today is appreciated as a historical home. The original owners were the Schwenger family, owners of the Union Hotel and Schwenger Bakery.

In addition to this shrewd investment, James' background in real estate would directly factor in the Crawfords move to Kokomo. Until 1920, the family would rent from James, who owned the property at 1226 W. Walnut.

In the time that the Crawfords lived at 1226 W. Walnut, they certainly made their mark in Kokomo. In fact, one of the most lasting pieces of their legacy was found quite by accident.

While down in the Family and Local History Department at Kokomo-Howard County Public



John Crawford's 100-page "Hitch-hiking to Hamburg on \$25," published in 1931, includes his own illustrations.

Library, I happened upon an article about a book that John wrote while he resided at the home. John was in the paper again!

A 21-year-old John, riddled with wanderlust after his sophomore year at IU, hitch-hiked across the country to New York City with his KHS school chum Lee Bromley. There they found jobs as waiters on an ocean liner. John's slim, 100-page volume, titled "Hitch-hiking to Hamburg on \$25," was published in 1931.

In the book, John reflects on his adventures, offers advice to would-be travelers, and provides memorable illustrations. Remarkably, I was able to locate a copy at the Indiana State Library, where I digitized it on a Bookeye Scanner in the Genealogy Department. Reading this book made me feel as though I knew the inhabitants of my home better and was almost as exciting as finding the time capsule.

Despite all of the wonderful relics left behind, the Crawfords, sadly, did not stay in Kokomo. Sometime near 1930, Rush and Glenn "parted company." In the 1930 City Directory, they were still listed together; however, in the 1930 census, Rush and Barbara were noted as "Divorced." Rush lived as a lodger in Indianapolis, while Glenn, John, and Barbara remained in the West Walnut Street home.

One possible area of conflict in the marriage could be the fact that, in 1920, James had deeded the house to his sister instead of her husband. Though marital problems may have already existed, leading James to deed the house to his sister, it can be assumed, given the time, that it would have been hard for a man to accept his wife as the homeowner.

Within just a few years, the remainder of the family would leave the house as well. Barbara went to Indiana Normal College in Terre Haute, later renamed Indiana State University. She married William Kessel, a chemistry professor, with whom she had two children. She also pursued a career in education, retiring as a teacher after decades of service.

Glenn followed Barbara to Terre Haute in 1931, renting out her Kokomo property for five years, before selling it in 1936. Glenn lived with Barbara and her family for a time and then spent her remaining years in Rockville, Parke County, a short drive from Terre Haute.

After living in Indy a few decades, Rush lived out the remainder of his years at the Peabody Memorial Home for Aged People in Wabash County. He is buried at Oaklawn Cemetery in North Manchester.

Not long after graduating from IU, John left Kokomo, first, residing in Indianapolis before settling in Philadelphia. Census records and city directories gave his profession as ad writer, technical writer, and illustrator, respectively.

These talents also came in handy in World War II, where he put his skills to use, rising to the rank of lieutenant colonel in the Signal Corps.

John married twice and had a son. Clearly proud of his time in the service, he was buried in U.S. National Cemetery in New Jersey. -- Matthew Behnke

# If buildings could talk ... Working on the Greentown History Museum

By Jonathan Russell

**Howard County Historian** 

Images courtesy Greentown Historical Society

# 

ongratulations to Greentown, Indiana!

The eastern Howard County hamlet celebrated its 175th anniversary in the summer of 2023, harking back to its founding in 1848. Artifacts of the town's past, many collected when the town celebrated its 150th anniversary 25 years ago, fill the museum operated by the Greentown Historical Society at 101 and 103 E. Main St.

The Greentown Historical Society was founded in 1999, an offshoot of that "sesquicentennial" celebration, "to promote public awareness and appreciation of the unique history of eastern Howard County, Indiana, and its citizens, to carry out historical research, preservation and education, and to provide the public with meaningful heritage experiences."

One of the historical society's founders, Rachel Jenkins, has promoted historic preservation throughout the community and was instrumental in getting Greentown's downtown honored with designation on the National Register of Historic Places. She was named to the Howard County Hall of Legends in the Class of 2023 in recognition of her many contributions to the area. (*Continue to the story on page 18* ...)



Greentown (Indiana) Historical Society locations: 103 E. Main St., left, and 101 E. Main St., above.

or several weeks in 2023 I've been working with the Greentown Historical Society to make some restorative repairs on their buildings at 101 and 103 E. Main St. that constitute the town's history museum.

The needed repairs included floor leveling and partial replacement, and some plaster replacement made necessary by water damage. Nothing really serious there. The major work has been on the outside of the adjoining single-story structure. There bricks had spalled, and the limestone cap had some serious problems as a result of missing mortar joints that separate each piece and the mortar bed that holds the cap to the top of the wall.

To encourage proper repairs to historic structures, the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Parks Service has developed guidelines for restoring properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and others wanting to keep their historic place "historic."

For information on these guidelines, you can log into the website: www.nps.gov/subjects/historicpreservation/standards.htm. In my line of work, I consult them often.

# Repairing the old brick walls: "Tuck-pointing"

"Pointing old brick with Portland cement mortar can cause the faces of the brick to crack and fall off and literally turn to powder, a condition known as "spalling." The extra hard mortar doesn't allow the brick to expand and contract with seasonal changes and its tight grip is what causes the spalling." (thecraftsmanblog.com/how-to-repoint-historic-mortar/)

The kiln-dried clay bricks used in the museum building at 101 E. Main St. in Greentown were made by the Brazil Clay Company, Brazil, Indiana. The company was founded in 1905; their main product was "impervious face brick," or brick used for the outside of walls, the "face."

The bricks are relatively soft and vary in

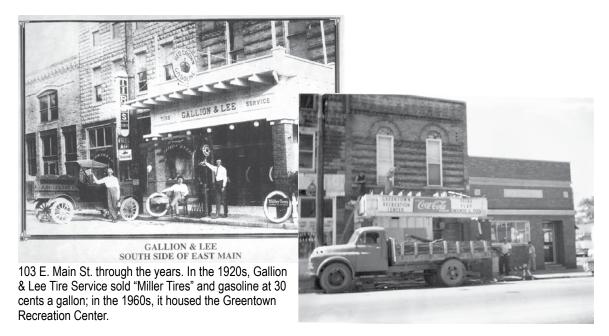
color and size, with some bricks 8-1/2 inches long and others as short as 7-1/4 inches, an oddity of sorts, possibly done that way in order to cover that part of the original building that remained intact underneath. All measure 2 inches in height and 3-3/4 inches in depth. The bricks have a textured surface, resembling "orange peel," with a soft sheen and gently variegated coloring. Apparently, the manufacturer was still in business in 1951, when the westside structure was remodeled.

As we discovered, replacement bricks were not to be found, so we decided to "make a reasonable facsimile." The bricks are made of casting concrete, using various mortar stains to create the appropriate colors as closely as possible. As the bricks are inserted and mortared into place, a finishing coat of stain and sealer will be applied in order to assure color consistency, a process not without its headaches.

When finished, that section of the building will be washed down to remove "road grime" impurities that harm the surface. As stated, the building located at 101 E. Main St. started its new life as a bank, the State Bank of Greentown. Before the remodeling, it had been a two-story structure; the Masonic Lodge met on the second floor. A printing shop once occupied space on the first floor, as well as the Greentown Public Library. which filled the space at the back of the building facing Meridian Street. In the front corner, facing both Main and Meridian Streets, stood the Gallion & Lee Tire Service store and gas station, selling "Miller Tires" and pumping out gasoline at 30 cents a gallon. (Accounting for today's inflation, that's about \$3.57! So much for those "cheap prices of 'good ol' days.'")

Miller Tires were produced by the Miller Rubber Company in Akron, Ohio. In 1930, the company was bought by B.F. Goodrich.

Later, the Greentown State Bank was removed to a new site on West Main Street,



and its former space became the "Sports Corner" until it was purchased by the Greentown Historical Society in 2007. It now serves as the Annex to the History Center, the two-story structure directly to the east at 103 E. Main St. also owned by the Greentown Historical Society, that serves as the main entry to the museum.

uilt sometime in the late 19th Century, 103 E. Main St. served as the original site of the State Bank of Greentown, organized in 1903, until the bank moved next door in 1951. It has since served a number of businesses including a barber shop, pool hall, office for a bank, the second-floor dining room for Eastern Star, a meeting room for the Jaycees, a video store, cigar store, Production Credit, and the office of Home Health.

The Greentown Historical Society purchased the building in 2001 for use as their museum, the original façade now restored. In 2007, the historical society, along with the Green-

town Advisory Park Board and the Greentown Main Street Association, developed a walking tour: "Historic Trail of Greentown, Indiana." In conjunction with Catherine R. Wright of Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana (now known as Indiana Landmarks), they have produced a very interesting tour of historic sites within the town.

For an example, proceeding from the historical society and heading to the east is an empty lot that once had been occupied by a hardware store. It was separated from a small building by a narrow lot that contained interurban tracks. It was here that the interurban cars could make a turn-around and head back to the east or west. Today, a mural featuring an interurban car and some local crewmen overlooks the lot, a memorial to a fading past when Indiana had one of the best public transportation systems in the country. (Well, that's history.)

Information about this trail can be found at the Greentown Historical Society building. They are planning to update the brochure soon, with new information and historic photos.

# Hall of Legends a festive affair

hat a night our 2023 Howard County Hall of Legends event was!
More than 160 people attended and The Venue at Brookstone, a beautiful new event location in Kokomo, Indiana, buzzed with excitement and enthusiasm as honorees, family members, friends and history buffs joined in.

The Howard County Historical Society was honored to induct six new deserving people and learn a little about their journeys.

Inductees honored as members of the 13th Hall of Legends class included Rachel Jenkins, Rev. Dr. Robert A. Lee, Dr. Lance Washington, and Ben Cotner, who along with his sister, Sarah Cotner, also represented their late

grandfather, Don Moore. Also honored posthumously was Dr. Meta Christy. (Full biographies available in the August 2023 edition of Footprints.)

Along with The Venue's space, Rozzi's Catering offered great food to add to the evening. A video, coordinated by HCHS Executive Director Anne Shaw and produced by Your Dream Filmworks. brought the honorees' stories to life, providing insight and humor into their many accomplishments.

Nominations for the 2024 Hall of Legends can be submitted on our website (hchistory. org), so please think of someone deserving and let us know about it! Deadline for submissions is Dec. 31.



The Howard County 2023 Hall of Legends inductees were honored Aug. 17 in Kokomo, Indiana. From left, Dr. Lance Washington, Ben Cotner, Sarah Cotner (for the Don Moore family) Dr. Robert A. Lee, and Rachel Jenkins.



For the Howard County Historical Society, from left: Board President Dave Dubois, Executive Director Anne Shaw, and Hall of Legends Selection Committee Chair Linda Ferries.



Ben Cotner and Don Moore families.



Rachel Jenkins family and friends.



Rev. Dr. Robert A. Lee, left, and wife Tina with Rev. Michael Carson, HCHS trustee.



Dr. Lance Washington and family.

### Membership

#### Our new and renewed members ...

Richard Alexander
Ron and Pam Barsh

Matthew Behnke and Erin Kaufan

Marilynda Bennett

Blake Dahl

Dave Dubois

**Brett Ellison** 

General James Cox Chapter DAR

Dolores Herman

Bill and Ginny Hingst

Peggy Hollingsworth

Rachel Jenkins

Steve Johnson

Phillip and Diane Knight Jim and Judy Kruggel Gale and Donna Leiter

Marshall and Donna McCay

Richard Moser

Jerry and Marcia Nelson

Larry and Marleta Newberg

Larry Newlin

Bill and Lynn Shirley

Edward and Dixie Stone

Linda Stout

John and Emily West

Donald and Marilyn Wooldridge

# **Christmas at the Seiberling**

ut on your ballet slippers and join us for Christmas at the Seiberling 2023 – "The Nutcracker Ballet."

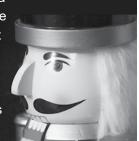
Visions of sugar plums are dancing in our decorators' heads as they plan their respective rooms for opening night, 6 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 25, 2023. Santa Claus arrives at 6 p.m. for the lighting ceremony.

Opening night tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 18 and younger. The holiday season will include six nights with free admission from 4 to 8 p.m. courtesy of our community sponsors. Mark your calendars for Nov. 30 and December 1, 7, 8, 14, and 15.

And tickets also will be on sale (\$10 adults, \$5 for children 18 and younger) for "Candlelight Night," a special evening of illumination on Dec. 16. Call the Historical Society at 765-452-4314 for more information.

The decorating committee, led by volunteers Judy Brown and Angela Washington, are excited to bring you something new this year! With the mansion's third floor turned into Santa's Workshop, we are hopeful that kids and kids at heart will be excited to see where Santa makes all the toys and tell him what they're wishing for!

Throughout the season, don't forget to bring some cash to vote for your favorite room! It's a great way to recognize your favorite designers **and** support the good work of the Howard County Historical Society.



## **Annual Campaign**

#### Donations July to September ...

James Allman

Tom and Ellen Anderson Ron and Pam Barsh Don and Gail Beaton Marilynda Bennett

Glen Boise Marsha Bowling Faith Brautigam Judy Brown

James and Marvel Butcher

Mary Ann Byrd

Phillip and Victoria Conwell

Hilary Crook

Kirk and Wendy Daniels

Michael Davis

Tom and Lynn Folkers

Sandra Grant

Glenn and Nancy Grundmann

Mary Ellen Harnish

Charles and Patricia Hinders

Peggy Hollingsworth Gloyd Johnson Steve Johnson

Dave and Linda Kitchell

Shirley Lee

Chuck and Doris Lingelbaugh

James Long

Thomas and Marsha Maple

Phyllis Melick William Menges

Jerry and Marcia Nelson

Larry Newlin

David and Lisa Olmsted

Alyssa Pier

Thomas and Kathryn Rethlake

Jule Rider

John and Marie Roberts

Michael Rodgers

Randy and Mary Rusch Dr. Allen Safianow Dr. Thomas Scherschel

George Shortle Goldie Snavely Linda Stout

**David and Carla Summers** 

Edward Trobaugh
John and Emily West
Paul and Shelly Wyman
– The Wyman Group

Pamela Yohn

# **Upcoming**

#### **Annual Meeting**

he HCHS Annual Meeting is Nov. 14, 2023, at 6 p.m. at Elite Event Center at 2820 South Lafountain St. in Kokomo. We hope our members can join us for a night filled with good food, some necessary organization business, what's sure to be a fantastic presentation by local historian Gil Porter, and another round of Jeopardy focusing on local history. Tickets are \$35 and are available on our website at www.hchistory.org/programs/annual-meeting. Also check our Facebook page for updates and details. You won't want to miss this evening!

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



Nonprofit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Kokomo, IN 46902 Permit # 144