



6999. Post Office Building,
Centerville, Iowa.

APPANOOSE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FALL NEWSLETTER



FALL IS HERE!

Fall is our favorite time of year at the Appanoose County Historical & Coal Mining Museum! With Pancake Day and the Homecoming Open House just around the corner, we're busy preparing for LOTS of visitors! And then we get our researchers in gear finding loads of interesting stories to tell at the Haunted History Tour!

We're very excited about this year's line-up of personalities that we will be profiling. There's a wide assortment of personalities, from authors attorneys, criminal and coal mining connections, and more.

This year we will again be featuring graves on the east side of the Oakland Cemetery in Centerville. To enter the event, park your car in the cemetery, west of the creek, then enter via the bridge. We can shuttle you to the top of the east hill where the tour will begin.

Don't miss this one! It will amaze you!

7TH ANNUAL
**HAUNTED
 HISTORY
 TOUR**
 ~EAST OAKLAND~
 SATURDAY OCTOBER 22
 DAYLIGHT TOUR AT 3:00 PM
 LUMINARY TOUR AT 6:30 PM
 \$7 FOR ADULTS
 \$5 FOR STUDENTS

HEY ALUMNI!

We're once again looking forward to our annual Homecoming Open House, which is on Saturday, October 8. We truly enjoy meeting all of the visiting alumni and hearing their stories of life in Centerville and Appanoose County.

If you are visiting the area for Homecoming, please take the time to come in and have some refreshments and reminisce with us!

WELCOME ALUMNI!
**HOMECOMING
 OPEN HOUSE**
 SATURDAY OCTOBER 8
 APPANOOSE COUNTY HISTORICAL
 AND COAL MINING MUSEUM
 100 WEST MAPLE
 9 AM TO 5 PM - ADMISSION IS FREE!
 COME & REMINISCE WITH
 OTHER CHS ALUMNI!

Curator's Corner *by Lisa Eddy*

Summer was busy! Many tour groups, reunions, and visitors to the area stopped by the museum this summer to check out what the museum had to offer. They always had good words to say and everyone seemed to really enjoy their visit.

Some of our spring and summer activities included the Annual meeting held in April featuring Enfys McMurry's presentation, "World War II - At War and At Home", which was a resounding success! Over 200 people gathered, including 42 World War II veterans, who were honored for their service at the meeting.

In May, Enfys gave us another amazing event in the courtroom at the Appanoose County Courthouse. Her presentation, "Murder, Mafia and KKK Mayhem" was a sell out. Over 100 people jam packed the courtroom and were amazed by the stories of Appanoose County's criminal history.

In case you were unaware, Enfys has been writing a book that she has entitled, "Centerville

- A Saga of Mid-America", which is mere weeks from completion. It is a comprehensive history of Centerville from its prairie grass beginnings through 1946, making it a 100-year story. Enfys has long insisted, and I agree, that Appanoose County's history is not that of an ordinary town. As her research has taken her through the years of newspapers and local historical records, she has discovered just how extraordinary Appanoose County's history is. As Appanoose County residents, we are so fortunate to have such a talented writer documenting our County's history. Thanks, Enfys, for all you have done to help us and enlighten us.

There is a fabulous new exhibit in the works at the museum right now, thanks to Debbie Robinson, Dana Moritz, and Susan McDanel. They are revamping our military exhibit and it is looking great! I appreciate all of their hard work on this project.

We've received some great artifacts this summer! We thank you all for taking the initiative to bring your Appanoose County relevant items to us rather than selling them or throwing them away. Every piece adds another story to our collection.

In other news, we have added the services of an Experience Works program trainee to our staff at the museum. Rebecca True has been learning to become a museum docent, to catalog artifacts, and learning about proper artifact care. Additionally, she has been learning administrative assistant duties such as filing historic ephemera, operating various office equipment and assisting with mailings. There is no shortage of work to be done here at the museum. Welcome, Rebecca!

The Appanoose County Courthouse was filled to capacity to hear about the turbulent 1920's.

Inset: Enfys McMurry



Newspaper Digitizing Project Update

The digitizing of the area newspapers is complete!

We have received the database and are currently waiting for the representative from the Advantage Company to come to the museum to install it properly and train us on its use. Once that happens, the database will be available for use on a computer here at the museum.

The database will be available online through the Advantage Company early in 2012. The link will be provided on our website. At that point, the database will be accessible from any home or business computer that is connected to the internet!

We want to extend our sincere appreciation to those people and businesses who donated to this worthwhile project. It was an expensive procedure, but now that it is done, it is much less expensive to maintain it, year to year. Becky Maxwell, editor of the Ad Express/Daily Iowegian, has stepped up to the plate and offered that the Iowegian will take on the annual fee to keep the database up-to-date.

We were also fortunate to have received a Community Fund grant to help with the newspaper digitizing project, and acquiring a new computer that visitors will be able to use to access the old Iowegians.

DIGITIZING PROJECT HEROS

BILL BURCH
MORGAN CLINE
BILL & MARJORIE HEUSINKVELD
ROGER KNOTT
CONNIE STATER
BILL HAWKINS
KRIS KOESTNER
ROLLIE & LUCY REZNICEK
GARY CRAVER
JIM IRELAN
FRANK REZNICEK
LARRY & CAROL DRAKE
GALE NORRIS
LYLE KESTERSON
GILBERT & BARBARA EARLY
AD EXPRESS/DAILY IOWEGIAN
APPANOOSE CO GENEALOGY SOCIETY
ALLIANT
MERCY MEDICAL CENTER

“Curious Kids” Raise Money for the Museum!

Mrs. Brooke’s Curious Kids summer program has a wonderful tradition - each year they choose a local non-profit to receive proceeds from their lemonade stand. And this year, they chose the museum!

This great group of kids spent several mornings at the museum and one day on Drake Avenue learning different things about Appanoose County history! And on Fridays, they staffed a lemonade stand outside of their building near St. Mary’s Catholic Church. Passersby would stop and get a cool drink on a hot day and all of those proceeds were saved up and donated to the museum. In August, we received a check for \$325! Now that’s a lot of lemonade!!

Thanks kids! You’re the greatest!



Roof Work on Jail, Soffit Work on Museum Completed

The Old County Jail & Sheriff’s Residence finally has the new roof it has needed for several years, thanks to a HRDP grant and some in-kind work of several volunteers.



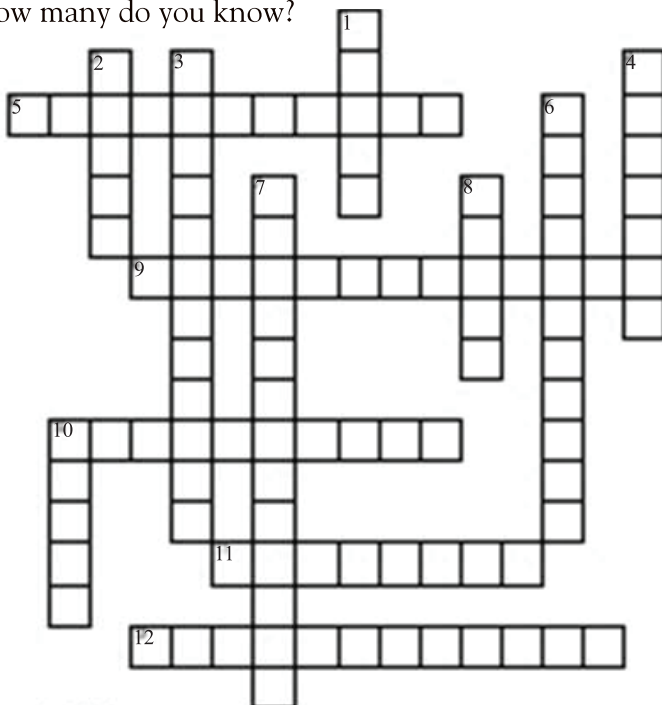
And the Appanoose County Historical & Coal Mining Museum also got a face lift with a newly repaired and painted soffit, thanks to a grant from the local Tourism Committee.



Appanoose County Historical Puzzle Series

Appanoose County’s Interesting Individuals

How many do you know?



This crossword features the names of famous people that had a connection to Appanoose County.

Across

5. He called himself “America’s Best Bad Actor” & was a New York City theatre owner from Centerville
9. Famous orator from southeastern Appanoose County
10. Winner of the 1934 Kentucky Derby from Centerville
11. Women’s physical fitness trainer & author from Centerville
12. Appanoose County Sheriff during Prohibition

Down

1. Famous opera singer from Centerville
2. Governor of Iowa who was from Centerville
3. Famous sculptress who lived in Moulton
4. Author of “Paul Bunyon” who was from Moravia
6. Musician and author of many instructional music manuals
7. Famous silent film actress who came to Centerville in 1921
8. Designer of the Tommy Gun, who lived in Centerville
10. Died as a result of the fire at the Continental Hotel in 1893

Answers on page 1

Remember the Appanoose County Historical Society in your will.

Patrons of Our Heritage for 2011

Governor Drake's Council
(\$1,000 and above)

Bill Burch
Morgan Cline
The Coons Foundation
Bill & Marjorie Heusinkveld
Roger Knott
Robert Ruggles
Connie Stater
Marilyn Vanderlinden

Appanoose Chieftain's Circle
(\$500 - \$999)

Jim & Beverly Beer
Gary Craver
Loren & Wilma Eddy
Bill Hawkins
Kris Koestner
Frank Reznicek
Rollie & Lucy Reznicek

Chaldea League (\$100 - \$499)

Norman & Margaret Christiansen
Dorothy Cornett
Dr. Lee & Mary Jo Den Hartog
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Gale Norris
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Jim & Linda Stevens
Benedict Vruble
Kenneth Vruble
Bob Warren
Tom & Mary Sue Zaputil

Coal Miners Club (\$50 - \$99)

Gary & Dorothy Barrickman
Carolyn Bauman
John & Barbara Cortesio
George & Lisa Eddy
Dave & Dianna Fenton
John & Marcia Holeman
Linda Jones
Robert M. Jones
Rob & Patti Lind
Bill McDanel
Enfys McMurry
Marsha Mitchell
Ron & Paula Mitchell
Barbara Sayres
Jim & Diane Senior
David & Emily Stuart
N. Dale Talkington
Marcia Thomas
David & Terri Walljasper
Dan & Lottie Wilson

**We'd like to thank these people for their generosity and
invite YOU to become a "Patron of Our Heritage"!**

1.Estes 2.Drake 3.Nellie Walker 4.Stevens 5.Corse Rayton 6.Himie Voxman 7.Norma Talnadge 8.Rayne 9.Henry Clay Dean 10.Mack Garner 11.Mabel Lee 12.Gaugbenhangh

Centerville, Iowa Memories on Facebook!

If you would like to reminisce about Centerville and Appanoose County in 'the good ol' days', then find the page called "Centerville, Iowa Memories". It's a busy page with lots of memories being shared. Share yours! We'd love to have you join us!



APPANOOSE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
100 WEST MAPLE
CENTERVILLE, IOWA 52544

641-856-8040
www.appanoosehistory.com

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
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PERMIT NO. 78**

Museum Hours

**Apr 1 - Oct 31: Mon - Fri 1:00 - 5:00
Saturday 10:00 - 2:00
Memorial Day thru Labor Day**

Nov 1 - Mar 31: Wed - Fri 1:00 - 4:00