



# On The Square

Sponsored by Heartland Bank

The Quarterly Newsletter for the  
**McLean County Museum of History**

Volume 41, Number 3

September, October, November 2009

## Historic Adlai Stevenson Home to be Sold

The McLean County Historical Society has reluctantly decided to sell the Adlai Stevenson II Boyhood home at 1316 E. Washington Street, in Bloomington. Stevenson (1900-1965) was governor of Illinois 1948-1952; twice Democratic Party candidate for the presidency, in 1952 and 1956; and U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, 1961-1965. Adlai was raised in the two-story house on the city's near east side. Though he and his sister moved out of the home by the early 1920s, their parents Helen Davis Stevenson, who bought the house in 1906, and Louis Greene Stevenson lived there until their deaths. Stevenson's sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Ives, bequeathed the home to the McLean County Historical Society in 1977. She maintained the home and used it as her Bloomington residence until her death in 1994.

The Arthur L. Pillsbury designed home was built in 1899 and, according to McLean County Museum of History records, remodeled by the family in 1907 and again in 1948.



The Stevenson Home located at 1316 E. Washington Street.

After over thirty years of stewardship of the historic Stevenson Home, the Museum concluded that it is no longer economically able to continue its ownership of the property. A committee which included Stevenson family members has agreed with the Museum's suggestion that the home be sold.

Museum Executive Director Greg Koos stated, "Sadly, after years of effort, the Society has taken this move to repurpose the house. Over the past decade and a half we have worked with a variety of organizations in an effort to develop support for the cost of restoration and oper-

ation of this historic home. However, with widespread economic stress, the effort to develop the house as a public cultural resource must come to an end."

Bob Watkins, Museum president, stated, "It is our belief that private ownership offers the best long-term protection for this important historic house."

The house will be sold on the private market with protections that will guarantee the preservation of the exterior appearance. The Society

will place a historical marker at the house and will continue developing its educational offerings relating to Adlai Stevenson.

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# On The Square Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 41, Number 3, 2009



Edited by  
Susan Hartzold  
Bill Kemp &  
Bill LaBounty

## McLean County Museum of History

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[www.McHistory.org](http://www.McHistory.org)

### HOURS

Mon., Wed., Thur., Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Tuesday 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

### STAFF

Greg Koos, Executive Director  
Susan Hartzold, Curator of Collections and Exhibits  
Mary Anne Schierman, Dir. of Volunteers and Interns  
Bill Kemp, Librarian/Archivist  
Jeff Woodard, Dir. of Marketing & Comm. Affairs  
Candace Summers, Director of Education  
Graham Cowger, Mgr. of Development Operations  
George Perkins, Assistant Librarian/Archivist  
Terri Clemens, Registrar  
Rachael Masa, Education Program Coordinator  
Harlan Fuller, Bookkeeper  
Betty Turchirollo, Volunteer Assistant

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## Lecturer to Speak on the Food Industry During the World War II

The McLean County Museum of History would like to welcome Dr. Deborah Fitzgerald, who will present a lecture titled "Convenience and the Food Industry in World War II" on Wednesday, September 9, at 7 p.m. at the Museum's Governor Fifer Courtroom. This event is free and open to the public.

Deborah Fitzgerald is the Kenan Sahin Dean of the School of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



Dr. Fitzgerald's research focuses on the industrialization of agriculture, particularly in twentieth century America. Along with Harriet Ritvo, she is the co-organizer of the MIT Seminar in Environmental and Agricultural History. Fitzgerald is also active in the Society for the History of Technology, and is the immediate past president of the Agricultural History Society.

That organization honored her in 2003 with the Theodore Saloutos Prize for best book of the year for *Every Farm a Factory: The Industrial Ideal in American Agriculture* (Yale University Press, 2003). She is also the author of *The Business of Breeding: Hybrid Corn in Illinois, 1890-1940* (Cornell University Press, 1990).

This program is made possible in part by a grant from the Illinois Humanities Council, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Illinois General Assembly.

## The 2009

## Evergreen Cemetery Discovery Walk

is sponsored by

The Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission  
of McLean County  
and Busey Bank

Additional support is provided by  
Members of the McLean County Museum of History  
the Illinois Arts Council  
the McLean County Arts Center  
and State Farm Insurance

# 2009 Evergreen Cemetery Discovery Walk to Explore Lincoln's Legacy

This year's *Evergreen Cemetery Discovery Walk* will celebrate Illinois' favorite son and our sixteenth president with characters that all have a connection to Lincoln. Whether they were friends, rivals or served as soldiers during the Civil War, each of these individuals had a unique relationship to Illinois' self-made man. Below is a list of this year's characters along with a short biographical sketch of each:

## Judge David Davis and Jesse Fell



Jesse Fell

Fell, who helped persuade Lincoln to run for the presidency, and Davis, who served as Lincoln's campaign manager, celebrate the future president's nomination.



Judge David Davis

**Rose Whipp Northrup** She met Lincoln when she was a little girl and has warm memories about the man who became president.

**Edward J. Lewis** This former editor of Bloomington's newspaper, *The Daily Pantagraph*, reveals his role in the momentous events leading up to the Civil War, including a fist fight in downtown Bloomington with a rival newspaper editor.



Edward J. Lewis



Sarah Withers

**Sarah and Allen Withers** Moving to McLean County from the South, pragmatic businessman Allen must find a way to continue doing business with Lincoln supporters while his wife tries to stay socially connected because of her negative attitudes towards Lincoln.



Allen Withers



Ezra Morton Prince

**Ezra Morton Prince** One of the founders of the McLean County Historical Society and an enemy of Southern sympathizers, he will disclose the personal side of the humorous Abraham Lincoln.

## Sarah Woodruff Walker Davis

Wife of David Davis, a cultured, genteel woman who found her life directly affected by Lincoln's assassination.



Sarah Woodruff Walker Davis

**Emily Hanks Loomis** Daughter of John Hanks, a close cousin of Abraham Lincoln, she will proudly proclaim her family relationship to the president.

**Simon B. Malone and Alpheus Holden Pike** Survivors of the social system and war that divided the nation, they will share their harrowing experiences as a fugitive slave (Malone) and captivity in the notorious Southern prison camp, Andersonville (Pike).



Alpheus Holden Pike

Created in partnership with Illinois Voices Theatre and Evergreen Memorial Cemetery, this year's walk will take place for the public on October 3, 4, 10 and 11, with starting times of 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. each day at Evergreen Memorial Cemetery, 302 E. Miller Street, (three blocks east of Gene's Ice Cream on Main Street).

Tickets go on sale September 8 at the McLean County Museum of History, Evergreen Cemetery and the Garlic Press in Normal. Tickets are \$14 for non-members of the historical society and \$12 for members, with a \$2 discount if purchased in advance. It is important that you purchase your tickets in advance because this event is guaranteed to fill up fast.

If you have any questions, please contact the Education Department at [education@mchistory.org](mailto:education@mchistory.org) or 309-827-0428. We hope to see you there.

# New to the Gift Shop

The Museum is happy to offer some new items in the Gift Shop this season. In conjunction with our newest

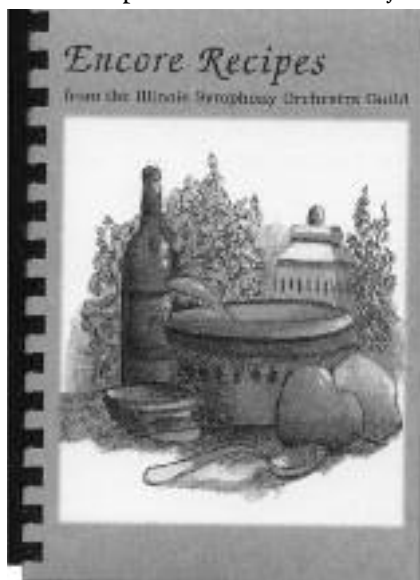


exhibit *Come and Get It! The Way We Ate 1830-2008*, we are now selling *Encore Recipes: From the Illinois Symphony Orchestra Guild* for \$25. This cookbook features favorite recipes from the Illinois Symphony Orchestra and friends in Bloomington-Normal and Springfield.

Also new to the shop is *Lincoln in Sculpture*, a publication of the Illinois State Historical Society by Carl Volkman for \$10. This booklet outlines the locations and descriptions of over fifty Abraham Lincoln sculptures across Illinois. Buy a copy today and map out

your own Abraham Lincoln family vacation.

For all you serious history buffs, we would like to introduce our "I ♥ History" t-shirts. These 100 percent cotton shirts are all white with "I ♥ History" on the front and the McLean County Museum of History logo on the back. So come get matching t-shirts for your whole family. Youth sizes M – L are only \$8; adult sizes S – XL, \$10; and Adult 2XL, \$11.

Also for kids, we've added a Route 66 coloring book by Carole Marsh for \$6. This workbook includes fun activities to help teach your child about the many sites along the famous Route 66.

Last but not least, we are excited to introduce a collection of notecards by local author, editor and photographer Karen Ament. Karen, a long-time resident of Bloomington, recently moved to the "edge of Normal" where she has taken beautiful photographs of surrounding farmlands and interesting barns to create personal notecards. These are on sale for only \$3.50 each.

Come and see the fun new items we have to offer for the whole family!

## Volunteer Help Wanted

**Education Outreach Volunteers (EOV)** – Education Outreach Volunteers are trained to assist the Director of Education and the Education Program Coordinator with school tours. This is a very flexible volunteer opportunity. You are called to assist as the need arises. The average time commitment is usually two hours. Education volunteers work with children of all ages, but primarily preschool through junior high school. A complete training and all materials are provided.

**Reception Desk Volunteers – Day and weekend shifts needed.** In this position, the volunteer is the official greeter and Museum representative. The reception desk assistant greets visitors, and gives them a brief introduction to the building. They also answer the phone, take messages for the staff, and answer general questions. A complete training is provided. In this interesting position, you meet visitors from all over the world. Reception desk assistants are asked to serve two four-hour shifts per month. The Director of Volunteers and Interns works with your schedule and availability.

**Library Reference Assistants – Day and weekend shifts needed.** In this position, you assist visitors using the library for genealogical and historical research, and perform the regular tasks of shelving books and answering phone calls. A complete training is provided with experienced volunteers and training manual. Library reference desk assistants are asked to serve two four-hour shifts per month.

The Director of Volunteers and Interns works with your schedule and availability.

**Are you interested in meeting people in an exciting atmosphere and contributing to your community? If so, please contact Mary Anne Schierman, Director of Volunteers and Interns, 309-827-0428 or email: [volunteers@mchistory.org](mailto:volunteers@mchistory.org) to receive information on the volunteer program.**

The Museum's volunteer program is sponsored by Country Financial.



# Focus on Volunteers

Studies have confirmed that volunteering is good for your health. We also know that it is good for meeting new people and learning new things. Our newest example is the team of **Dianne DeLong** and **Brigid McBride**. Both are librarians, one retired and the other new to the field and looking for a job. Together they are working on a project to catalog books that no one in this country has cataloged or put on WorldCat or RSA (the Alliance Library System's online catalogue database).



Dianne DeLong and Brigid McBride cataloging library books.

Dianne spent twenty-five years working in Milner Library on the Illinois State University campus, retiring in 1998. During those years, the work of a librarian evolved. The arrival of the computer, learning how to use one and deciphering its credible contents began to fall to the librarian on high school and college campuses while students worked on their research papers. Most of Dianne's work during this time was that of a cataloger. Since retirement she has learned that even the rules for cataloging have changed.

Brigid graduated from University High School and Illinois State University. In late 2008, she completed

her M.S. in Library and Information Sciences at the University of Illinois. While looking for work, she decided to offer her services to the Museum as a volunteer.

Her major interest as a librarian is preservation and archival work. After a few months of volunteer work, she was offered part-time work through a generous grant from the Butler family to promote access to the collections on the Internet. She has reorganized and created almost 30 online finding aids and entered

over 100 collections to the online version of the National Union Catalog Manuscripts Collection. In addition, she has updated the Library's book catalog on WorldCat, which provides worldwide access to thousands of collections. While working here, she has "fallen in love with archival work at the Museum."

In May, these two talented women, both working in the library, met for the first time and developed a partnership. Since then they have spent one day a week identifying uncataloged items and then cataloging them and entering their

information onto the world-wide catalog of library holdings. Because of their work patrons from all over the world can see the Museum's wonderful collection of local history and genealogical materials.

This volunteer project has developed into a friendship and an enjoyable sharing of knowledge. Brigid is learning cataloging skills from Dianne. Dianne is learning new methods that are now being taught in library school. Dianne will continue to enjoy retirement. Brigid will continue looking for a job. Both will go forward with a new friend and an appreciation of each other's contributions to this project.

# Summer Interns Enjoy Large Projects

Every once in awhile an especially fascinating project comes along. This summer the convergence of two excellent students made it possible for an especially large archive collection to be organized. The project was to sort through and organize the contents of eleven boxes of scrapbooks, letters, photographs and other memorabilia pertaining to Josephine Sanders and the Sue Pike Sanders family. The collection focuses primarily on Josephine Sanders who was born in 1900 and went on to become a famous vaudeville and Hollywood star using the name Irene Delroy.

**Paul Ryburn** organized the scrapbooks created by Irene Delroy's mother Della Sanders, who trav-



eled with Irene during her showbiz career. These scrapbooks include original newspaper articles and photographs detailing her life between 1921 and 1932. Paul also worked on the letters to and from Irene Delroy. They describe the joys and sorrows of her career as well as local happenings (such as Bloomington architect Arthur Pillsbury's car accident) and the deaths in Irene's family.

Working on the photographs, **Denise Sampson** sorted through the 1,200 images in the same collection. Six hundred of the images she reviewed were professional



photos of Irene Delroy taken during her career. It also contains 100 images of her family, including the families of Sanders, Pike, Mayberry, Soverns and Johnson, dating back to the 1840s. Paul and Denise also found interesting links between Irene and Adlai Stevenson II. Among the photos are two snapshots of Adlai and Irene together and in the personal papers there are forty-four letters between Irene and Adlai discussing her father's estate.

Through this internship, Paul and Denise have learned the skills of processing a large collection and working as a team to make these materials accessible to the public. They have done a wonderful job.

**Anthony Bowman**, an Historical Administration student in Eastern Illinois University's master's program, is completing the require-

ment of working full-time in a museum for six months. He chose the Education Department and is the Public Projects intern for the summer and fall semesters. Three projects are dominating his activities. He spent three weeks assisting with the History Careers Day Camp. He is now helping to prepare for the *Evergreen Cemetery Discovery Walk* and the annual Christmas at the Courthouse.

Each of these programs requires several months of preparation. Anthony led a group during History Careers Day Camp that completed an archaeological dig, artifact analysis and architectural tour. For the Cemetery Walk, he composed biographies for each historic persona featured at this year's event and trained to be a tour guide. All of the activities for children at Christmas at the Courthouse will be developed and supervised by Anthony.

It has been thoroughly enjoyable to have him with us full-time. He is an asset to the museum community.



# History Careers Day Camp 2009

Another summer of History Careers Day Camp has come and gone with great success. All three sessions were full and the Museum staff and volunteers met many new campers who had a blast learning about three different careers in history. This year's camp was expanded from three to five days — two days each of Archaeology/Art and Architecture and one day of Environmental Science.

Some of the camper's favorite activities included exploring the Davis Mansion State Historic Site and doing a mock excavation, learning about architecture while touring historic downtown Bloomington, designing and constructing cardboard buildings, and playing a fur trading game while exploring at Sugar Grove Nature Center in Funk's Grove.

The education department at the Museum is thrilled to be able to continue providing this educational and fun experience for McLean County students entering fourth through sixth grades. Many of the students we served this summer received scholarships to participate in camp for free. We pride ourselves in being able to offer this unique camp experience to students of all means. We know of no other day camp in the area that offers so much for so little. It is the support of our members that allows us to



Session II camp participants studied environmental science at Sugar Grove Nature Center on day five of camp.

provide this valuable program to members of our community.

Thank you to our partners: the David Davis Mansion State Historic Site, the Old House Society, and Sugar Grove Nature Center for making this event possible. We'd also like to thank the following volunteers, who assisted with Day Camp this year: Anthony Bowman, Kay Henrichs, Peg Kirk, Judie Bey, Mary Kay Zeter, Paul Rayburn, Chris Davis, Phyllis VerSteegh, Mary McLintock and Carolyn Moyer. Thank you to our professional speakers: Ken Kashain, Carson Durham, Mike Ryburn, Emma Meyer, Susan Hartzold, Terri Clemens and Robert McIntosh. We appreciate all your continued help in inspiring our campers each year.

## State Farm Becomes a Platinum Level Sponsor

The Museum is pleased to announce that State Farm Insurance has become a sponsor at the Platinum Level. Their support in the amount of \$15,000 makes them sponsors of our latest exhibit *Come & Get It! The Way We Ate 1830-2008*, as well as the sponsor of the Museum's annual Christmas at the Courthouse and the Museum's Family Workbook. State Farm's support over the years has truly helped the Museum become one of the leading cultural institutions in Central Illinois. This sponsorship further underscores their commitment to the community and to the Museum's mission.

You will likely notice State Farm's logo on exhibit posters, event flyers, advertisements etc. This is one way the Museum recognizes the importance of their support. Ultimately, that support helps bring the quality exhibits and programs to the community that the Museum has come to be known for. For that, we are very grateful that State Farm continues to support the Museum.

Any businesses that are interested in a sponsorship opportunity with the Museum should contact Graham Cowger in the Development Office at 309-827-0428 or email: [development@mchistory.org](mailto:development@mchistory.org)



# Program to Explore Using Archaeology to Understand Food Habits

Ever wonder how we began eating the foods we eat today? Or how people once prepared food without the modern kitchen conveniences we take for granted today? You can find these answers out and more by visiting the Museum on Thursday, November 12 at 7:00 p.m. for the program *The Archaeology of Food*, presented by Floyd Mansberger. This program is being held in conjunction with the Museum's current exhibit *Come and Get It! The Way We Ate 1830-2008*.

Mansberger's program will offer a new way to look at foodways from the early Illinois archaeological record. He will also illustrate how archaeological remains tell us about people's changing eating habits over time.

Mansberger received his bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois in anthropology and a master's degree from Illinois State University in history. Over the past twenty years, he has participated in a variety of cultural resource management projects and has published articles on his research in such journals as *Illinois Archaeology*, *Transactions of the Pioneer American Society*, and *The Journal of the Illinois Geographical Society*.



Floyd Mansberger of Fever River Research will present *The Archaeology of Food* on November 12.

Mansberger is the current director of Fever River Research, a cultural resource management firm in Springfield that specializes in projects that are associated with historic properties that date to the recent past.

This program is made possible in part by a grant from the Illinois Humanities Council, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Illinois General Assembly and a gift from State Farm. For more information about this and other programs, contact the Education Department at 827-0428.

## Food Traditions Oral History Potluck a Grand Success

Food has a way of bringing people together, as was demonstrated by the Museum's Oral History Potluck on July 26. The First Christian Church was kind enough to let us use their facilities to host this unique potluck that allowed people to bring a traditional family dish and to share their memories of it.

The food was delicious, and included a variety of traditional family favorites, such as oxtails with sauerkraut, collard greens with hamhocks, kolache, sorghum syrup, sweet potato pie and pressed sushi.

As participants shared their stories, we recorded them for an oral history project in conjunction with our latest exhibit *Come and Get It!* As the event came to a close, there



Participants at the Food Traditions Oral History Potluck enjoyed a wide variety of very tasty foods.

were many requests to do another time, you may have another chance to enjoy some great food and some great memories.

## STAFF PROFILE



**How Long have you been at the Museum and what is your job?** I started in October of 2007. I am the Education Program Coordinator. I help create, organize, and teach all educational programming. This includes field trips, school outreach, Senior Reminiscence programs, etc. I also help coordinate History Careers Day Camp and the *Evergreen Cemetery Discovery Walk*. I love my job!

**How did you end up working at the Museum?** I've worked with kids on and off for twelve years now. I taught children in environmental education for close to three years before coming to the Museum. I saw this job opportunity in *The Pantagraph* one day after returning from an environmental educator position for the Appalachian Mountain Club in New Hampshire. While completing my undergraduate degree at

ISU in Geography and Environmental Science, I spent a lot of time researching in the library here. I interviewed with Greg and Candace and they liked me so here I am. I feel very honored to work for this organization.

**What's the best part of your job?** I love working with children. It is something that comes natural to me and it is very rewarding knowing that you have influenced someone's life at that age. I feel teaching history is very important at this level. Children need to realize how good they have it nowadays. It is important for them to try to understand what life was like for their parents/grandparents/great-grandparents. It helps them to understand where they came from. Maybe after my lesson, they will go home and read a book or make a toy using materials from nature instead of playing video or computer games.

**What's the worst?** Every teaching experience is different. I think being challenged with a behavioral situation makes you a stronger educator.

**What do you do to relax?** I enjoy hiking, reading, listening to live music and hanging with family, friends and my fiancé, Tim. I am big into conservation, so I am constantly looking for ways to make a "green" difference.

**What is your favorite TV show?** *Seinfeld* for sure!

**What's the last good movie you've seen?** I love comedies. Life's too short to be serious all the time. Favorite movie: *Tommy Boy* with Chris Farley.

**Do you have any family?** I am very fortunate to have such a close family. My parents, Vickie and Dave, and two sisters, Becca and Randi, mean more to me than anything. My sister Becca is married to Aaron and they have two daughters, Madeline (my Goddaughter) and Maya who I am very proud of. My fiancé, Tim Kramp, grew up in Bloomington. His family still lives here.

**Are you from McLean County?** I am from Naperville, a southwest suburb of Chicago in DuPage County. (I have to say, I know more about the history of McLean County than I do DuPage). I was an athlete growing up, went to ISU and recently bought a house with my fiancé in Bloomington. I love it here. There is such a big sense of community and that goes a long way.

**What is your favorite educational program here at the Museum?**

That's a tough one. I think all of our programming is fantastic for all ages. The Senior Reminiscence programs I do are pretty fun for me. Before I came to the Museum I had worked with children a long time, but never with seniors. Every time I visit a retirement facility in McLean County to give one of my programs, I always leave with a smile on my face. With every artifact I show, I hear so many wonderful stories about people's past. I have a profound respect for my elders and their stories are so precious. I always look forward to visits.

### The Museum Welcomes the Following New Members

Dean and Diane Kunz  
Charline and Richard Watts  
Ms. Kim Goben

The Carlson Family  
Mr. Paul and Mrs. Sue Schroder  
Mr. Raymond J. Holtz

Mr. Steve Barlean  
Dr. Alison Bailey

# McLean County Museum of History

## Calendar of Events for September, October, November 2009



Through August 7, 2010

**A Turbulent Time: Perspectives of the Vietnam War** explores the complex ways McLean County residents perceived and responded to this crucial twentieth century event. Questions such as, “How did the U.S. Government get involved in Vietnam? How did local citizens and those serving in Vietnam initially feel about the war? How did feelings change as the war intensified? And, “Why did U.S. involvement continue, even after anti-war protests escalated and the general public demanded an end?” are addressed in this groundbreaking exhibit.

Saturdays until September 5

**Come and Give It!** Every Saturday during the *Come and Get It* exhibit this summer, visitors may donate at least **three nonperishable** food items in exchange for the admission fee to the Museum. These items will be given to Clare House in Bloomington to help out those in need. Nonperishable food items that can be donated include: High protein items such as canned beans and tuna fish; canned vegetables; fruit and soup; dry cereal; dry beans; macaroni and cheese; and other boxed and canned food items. Please, no expired food items. **Thank you for your help and support!**

Through August 6, 2011

**Come and Get It! The Way We Ate 1830-2008.** This exhibit explores the eating habits, cooking equipment and methods and diverse food traditions of McLean County residents since the early 1800s. Discover how dramatically our habits have changed over time. Investigate four kitchens, each representing a different era and illustrating how the kitchen has changed in the last 180 years. Use the hands-on interactives to better understand where food has come from and how dramatically food sources have changed. Delve into the interpretive panels between the kitchens to see the social and economic changes that have shaped the way we ate from 1830 to the present.



Saturdays, through October 24

**Museum Opens at 8:30 a.m. to All Visitors!** Tour the Museum’s latest exhibits and shop at Farmer’s Market—how convenient is that!

September 7

**Museum Closed for Labor Day Holiday**



September 8

**Evergreen Cemetery Discovery Walk 2009:** Tickets on sale today. Tickets cost \$14 non-member, \$12 Museum members, \$4 for students with ID and kids. Buy them in advance and save \$2 each! (does not apply to student tickets). Get them from the Museum, the Garlic Press in Normal, and Evergreen Memorial Cemetery in Bloomington.

September 9 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**Convenience and the Food Industry in World War II.** Join the Museum in welcoming Dr. Deborah Fitzgerald, who will present this program in the Governor Fifer Courtroom at the Museum. Dr. Fitzgerald is the Dean of the School of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. This event is free and open to the public. It is also made possible in part by a grant from the Illinois Humanities Council, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Illinois General Assembly and a gift from State Farm. For more information about this program, see page 2 of this newsletter.



October 3,4,10 and 11

**Evergreen Cemetery Discovery Walk 2009.** Tours are at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. each day. Tickets on sale at the Museum in Bloomington, the Garlic Press in Normal and Evergreen Memorial Cemetery. Call 827-0428 for more information. Sponsored by the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission of McLean County and Busey Bank. Additional support provided by members of the McLean County Museum of History, the Illinois Arts Council, the McLean County Arts Center, and State Farm Insurance.

October 27 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

**Living History Poetry Reading:** Join the Museum in welcoming back the Babbitt's Books Poetry Workshop. Led by Kathleen Kirk, local author and actor, the program will feature poetry reading inspired by the Museum's exhibits. Presented with gravity, poignancy, and humor, the multi-generational poets will explore their own histories, including both world wars, recent military actions, American politics, health and education issues and family histories. This program is free and open to the public and held in the Museum's Governor Fifer Courtroom. For more information, contact the Museum's Education Department at (309) 827-0428.

November 12 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**The Archaeology of Food.** Join the Museum in welcoming archaeologist Floyd Mansberger of Fever River Research for his presentation *The Archaeology of Food*. This program is free and open to the public, and will be held in the Governor Fifer Courtroom. It is made possible in part by a grant from the Illinois Humanities Council, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Illinois General Assembly and a gift from State Farm. For more information about this program, see page 8 of the newsletter.



November 26

**Museum Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday**

December 5 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Christmas at the Courthouse: Home for the Holidays.** Join the staff of the McLean County Museum History for this annual holiday tradition! Enjoy holiday music, Christmas carols, homemade cookies, children's crafts, and a multicultural St. Nicholas for the kids!

December 24 and 25

**Museum Closed for Christmas Holiday**

December 31 and January 1, 2010

**Museum Closed for New Year's Holiday**

# Questions to Ask a Prospective Financial Advisor

When the financial markets are in turmoil, a reshaping of the financial and investment advisory industry isn't far behind. Some banks, brokers or advisory firms may go out of business; bankers, brokers or advisors may decide to change employers; or unhappy clients simply may conclude that it's time for a change. There's no hard data on how much "money is in motion" as a consequence of the current economic downturn, but, speaking anecdotally, it seems significant.

When considering a new financial planner, there are a number of questions that you should ask. Here are a few of the most important:

- How many years of experience do you have and what is your background? The more complicated your situation, the more seasoned your planner should be.
- What does your typical client look like and how do you get new clients? It's a good idea to have a planner who is experienced with your circumstances. (e.g., self-employed, medical doctor, high-net-worth individual, etc.)
- How do you stay on top of the changes in your field? With changes to regulations and the tax code, it is critical that your advisor take action to stay current and protect your situation.
- How often should I expect to hear from you? You need to know how the advisor will communicate with you and how often.
- How do you get compensated for your work? Understanding whether your advisor gets commissions for sales or is paid an hourly or flat fee for advice can help you identify conflicts of interest.



If you are considering a change of advisors, and you are not already working with us, please consider putting us on your short list. We will be pleased to meet with you and present our qualifications. Give us a call today.

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## McLean County Historical Society and Museum Elect Board Members at 117<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

Bloomington- At the McLean County Historical Society's 117<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting held in June, the following Board members were elected: President, Bob Watkins, State Farm; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, Mark Dunn, Attorney; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President, Rob Fazzini, Busey Bank; Treasurer, Pete Borowski, Country Financial; Secretary, Nancy Froelich, community leader; Immediate Past-President, Mike Matejka, Great Plains Laborer's District Council.

Matt Sorensen was elected the County Board Representative. The three year term Board of Directors are Al Bowman, Illinois State University; Fred Dolan, Pantagraph Printing and Stationary Co.; Russel Francois, Architect; Mark Gibson, State Farm; Sandra Harmon, historian and Ben Rhodes, Illinois Wesleyan University.

Also at the meeting, Francois introduced a new permanent installation which interprets the grand architecture of the old McLean County Courthouse, now the Museum of History. The permanent installation was funded as a memorial by the family of noted local architect, J. Orme Evans.

# New to the Collections

## OBJECTS

- ❑ Women's ballot box key tag; donated by Ruth Cobb.
- ❑ Buttons and bumper sticker for Bill and Ed Brady; donated by Mary Kelly.
- ❑ Football board game, toy mixer, swim trunks, handball gloves; donated by Eileen Wagner.
- ❑ Fred Young's stadium blanket awarded by CCIW; donated by estate of Georgette Shupe.

- ❑ Basketball award bracelet and Trinity letter award of John Baldini, Walters Family reunion badge, Democrat lapel stud, Simon bumper sticker, rubber stamp "Fred Baldini"; donated by Mary B. Olson.
- ❑ Blandina Steege Diedrich's 29-inch bisque doll and Charlie McCarthy doll; donated by D.N. Diedrich.

- ❑ Doc Crosby's American Legion uniform, shovels, spading fork, clippers, corn planter and crosscut saw; donated by Gweneth and Loren Hamblin.
- ❑ Elks Club plate and cup, Bloomington Housing Authority patch; donated by Peg Sours.
- ❑ Barnes Grain Co. seal; donated by Robert Weber.
- ❑ Macrame plant hanger, food chopper, McDonald's Muppet glasses, 1958 flower girl dress, 1970s Mikasa dishes, leisure suit and shirt, Florida souvenir shell crucifix, radio; 1970s kitchen table and chairs; donated by Martha Knuth.
- ❑ Corningware Spice of Life baking dishes; donated by Sandy Holcomb.

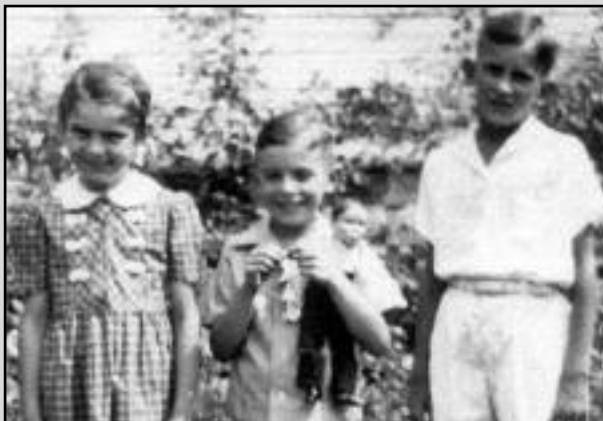
The Museum recently received a fabulous Charlie McCarthy doll collected by Blandina Steege Diedrich and donated by her son, Duane N. Diedrich.

The doll, an exact reproduction of the famous Charlie McCarthy doll dressed in top hat and monocle was the "biggest scoop of 1938." By 1939, Charlie was selling so well that he was offered dressed in his tuxedo, or a dinner coat and white pants and a slouch hat, or the white coat and black pants on the doll Diedrich donated. Available accessories were a steamer trunk or aeroplane luggage with a complete wardrobe.

Edgar Bergen purchased the first Charlie McCarthy, a dummy with the face of an Irish newsboy, in 1921 for \$35. With the money Bergen earned appearing in vaudeville and radio shows with Charlie, he was able to attend Northwestern University.

By 1937, Edgar and Charlie had their own radio show and Edgar had won a special Academy Award for his "outstanding comedy creation Charlie McCarthy." The Charlie McCarthy doll was the beginning of a flood of Charlie McCarthy toys for children, including dolls, games, puzzles, paper dolls, coloring books, spoons, tin wind-up toys and even Halloween costumes.

The Charlie McCarthy doll donated by Diedrich, at 15 inches, was perfectly sized for a child to play ventriloquist, and in the years before GI Joe and today's action figures, Charlie was a breakthrough toy for boys.



Nancy Knuth, Duane Diedrich (center with McCarthy doll in hand), and Jay Knuth pose for a snapshot.

## ARCHIVES

- ❑ Pharmacy receipts, 1918, 1925-1928, miscellaneous dates, Stickrod Drug Store; by William M. "Bill" Martin, Merle Pharmacies, Inc.
- ❑ Seven color "Bull of the Woods" one-panel newspaper cartoons by J.R. Williams; organ recital program, First Church of Christ, Scientist, Bloomington, 1962; Republican Party campaign ephemera; other items; by Jean McCrossin.
- ❑ First National Bank of Bloomington receipt, 1895, signed Isaac Funk (likely Isaac Funk II, 1844-1909); by Andrew Paulsen.
- ❑ Conoco directories, listing McLean County Route 66 campgrounds and hotels / motels, 1935; and other items; by Richard V. Evans, Jr.

## New to collections - continued

- ❑ Collection of correspondence and miscellany relating to Pantagraph sports editor Fred Young's induction into the National High School Sports Hall of Fame, Kansas City, MO; by estate of Georgette Shupe.
- ❑ Report, "The Western Avenue Community Church Center," 1960; by James Keeran.
- ❑ Various items from childhood of Russell Kauffman of Stanford, including first annual report of Mt. Pleasant C.P. Church, 1889; Stanford Community High School commencement program, 1921; and other items; by Guy C. Fraker.
- ❑ Illinois Soldiers' Orphans' Home certificate, eighth grade, Edna Hillman, 1922; by Jeanie Rogalski.
- ❑ Various, including poster of first annual Corn Belt Bowl football game, November 27, 1947; Brown Glass & Paint Co. calendar, 1944; patents on candy-making machinery, some designed by Justin J. Alikonis; and other items; by David Beich.
- ❑ Ledger book, 1925-1934, Tile Factory School, Funk's Grove Township; by Daniel Marley.
- ❑ Newspaper clipping and card with photograph detailing Clifton A. "Doc" Crosby's garden in LeRoy; by Gweneth and Loren Hamblin.
- ❑ Material relating to induction of former Illinois State University head women's basketball coach Jill Hutchison to the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame, Knoxville, TN, including program booklet and media credentials; by R.C. McBride.



**Stanford Community High School Boy's Basketball Team, 1920.**

This 8x10 photo was one of several items donated by Bloomington attorney and Lincoln scholar Guy Fraker. Russell Kauffman (on the far left) married Guy's mother's sister. He spent his adult life in Peoria in the garage door business. The others pictured here (from left to right) are Roy Dossett, Otis Madden, "Prof." C.W. Moore, Donald Hulva, Osborn Runion and Vincent Mullinax.

- ❑ Several items relating to R. Sidney Smith, creator of the newspaper comic "The Gumps," including collection of strips published by Landfield-Kupfer, Chicago, no date; by Bill Kemp.
  - ❑ Original charter for Barnes Grain Co. (Towanda Township), 1921; by Robert F. Weber
  - ❑ Various from Margaret Bertram and John A. Behnke, including newspaper clippings, local history booklets, such as American Legion Junior Baseball yearbook, 1966; by surviving Behnke family members.
  - ❑ Envelope, stamped dedication of Bloomington Municipal Airport, October 28, 1934; by barb Maxwell.
  - ❑ Letter and membership card, 1912, McLean County Medical Society to Dr. Charles Hamilton, Carlock; by Yvonne Goeken.
  - ❑ Donald E. Yoder, World War II scrapbook, U.S. Army Signal Corps; by Margaret Gibbens Stocker.
  - ❑ Material relating to the Illinois Air Force Mothers Club, including correspondence, newspaper articles, treasurer's book and minutes, 1970-1977; and additional items; by Ruth Cobb.
  - ❑ Several items, including Stanford Fertilizer closing out auction, 1988; and Illinois State Normal University, curricula and courses for freshman, 1932-1933; by Peg Sours.
  - ❑ Miscellaneous receipts, most addressed to Edison Moulic; and indenture, Albert and Louisa Wooden to Abraham Brokaw, 1894; by Mike and Janet Knapp.
  - ❑ Brochure and order form for book, *McLean County and the World War*; and program, GAR, Evergreen City Lodge Hall, 1888; by Jim Hoppe.
- BOOKS**
- ❑ Trinitas, Trinity High School yearbooks, 1960 and 1961; U.S. Army New Testament, 1941; and Hawaiian language guide, 1943; by Shirley Koos.
  - ❑ *Coup de Grace* (1957), French language novel by Marguerite Yourcenar, translated by Grace Frick (former McLean County resident), signed by both; by William K. Rader.
  - ❑ Normal Community High School yearbooks, 1935, 1938, 1944, 1959, 1967, 1975, 1977-1978, 1998-1999, 2001-2002, 2005 and 2006; by the Stark family in memory of Gordon Stark.
  - ❑ *School Architecture, Principles and Practices* (1921); by Russ Middleton.
  - ❑ Bound booklet on the early years of the Bloomington / Asahikawa, Japan, Sister City program; by July Markowitz.
  - ❑ *Chenoa School Memories* (2008), stories published in the *Chenoa Town Crier*; by Evelyn Reis.
  - ❑ *Bloomington Illustrated*, 1889, published in nine parts; by Carol and Steve Struck.
  - ❑ Kelly family history, 1765-1942; by Dan Kelly.
- PHOTOS**
- ❑ Two colors postcards, Miller Park Pavilion and Jefferson Street Masonic Temple, both mid-1910s; by Father Tom Shea.
  - ❑ 8x10 black-and-white party pictures of Owls (social club) gatherings; and 8x10 showing Owls member portraits, 1924; by Richard V. Evans, Jr.
  - ❑ Various, including 8x10 black-and-white of Stanford High School basketball team, 1920; collection of Henry and Russell Kauffman family photographs; by Guy C. Fraker.
  - ❑ Collection of family photographs, late nineteenth through twentieth centuries; Illinois Soldiers' and Sailors' Children's School (ISSCS) band, undated; by William K. Rader.
  - ❑ Various, including collection of 8x10 prints (and a few originals), most showing Beich Co. activities and downtown Bloomington storefronts; ten 4x6 color photographs, 2008, of 9 Harwood Place residence; by David Beich.
  - ❑ Six family photographs taken in Bloomington, including three showing children's Charlie McCarthy ventriloquist dummy; by D.N. Diedrich.
  - ❑ Various from Margaret Bertram and John A. Behnke, including American Legion activities and others; by surviving Behnke family members.
  - ❑ Paris Cleaners interior, 8x10, undated; by Mary Jane Lyman.
  - ❑ Alexander family photograph, 17x40, ca. 1896; by Julius Alexander, Jr.

To make donations of photographs, books or archival materials call the Museum's Librarian/Archivist, Bill Kemp. If you have objects you wish to donate to the collection call the Museum's Curator of Collections, Susan Hartzold. Both can be reached at the McLean County Museum of History, 827-0428.



## Mystery History

A fair number of history sleuths knew that the Italianate-style house pictured in the last issue is located at 203 S. Evans Street. Built in the early 1870s, this impressive residence was first located at the southwest corner of Grove and Evans streets facing Grove. In 1929, the house was turned ninety degrees and scooted one lot south.

Those who knew a little something about this structure include Karen Downen, Gene Drager, Denise Fries, Katy Grady, David Miller, Ted Miller, Marie O'Brokta and Jeanne and John Wroan. David Miller of Miller Properties knew the answer because he owns the building! Today there are five apartment units in the nearly 140-year-old home.

## MYSTERY HISTORY QUIZ

Museum Board member Mike Matejka snapped this photograph in July showing a nice mix of old and new McLean County. Can you tell us where this photo was taken? And don't pressure Mike for the answer. He's sworn to secrecy!



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