

TIPPECANOE COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

TippecaNEWS

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EAGLE SCOUT TRADE BALE CREATION PROJECT

At the fall 2021 Feast of the Hunters' Moon, you may see newly created reproductions of fabric-wrapped trade bales, similar to those that French voyageurs would have used to transport goods to and from the original Fort Ouiatenon in the mid-18th century. The creation of these bales continues a tradition of area Boy Scouts supporting and participating in activities of the TCHA.

TCHA and Boy Scouts of America have been integrally linked since 1929. In March of that year, the Association along with the City of Lafayette hosted a delegation of thirty French war heroes of the Association Amicale Croix de Guerre. TCHA held a pageant in their honor at the Fort Ouiatenon Park site, and costumed Boy Scouts provided Native American dances while adults portrayed priests, traders, and habitants.

The Boy Scouts played an important role in the dedication of the blockhouse at the Fort Ouiatenon Park in 1930 when three Boy Scouts raised French, British, and American flags on poles while standing on the roof. From the very first Feast of the Hunters' Moon, Boy Scouts have participated, portraying voyageurs, performing Native American dances, serving food, delivering wood, and picking up trash. A scout also played taps on his bugle at the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Tippecanoe in 2011.

The tradition continued this spring with Samuel Root, part of Troop 373, whose charter organization is the Central Presbyterian Church in Lafayette. Samuel wanted to contribute to TCHA and the Park as a thank-you for all his experiences at the Feast. The 25 bales he and his helpers created will greatly enhance the authenticity of the blockhouse programming during the Feast and the blockhouse programs throughout the year.



The rank of Eagle Scout, the highest in Scouting, is earned by a Scout who has been a Life Scout for at least six months, has earned a minimum of 21 merit badges, and has demonstrated Scout Spirit and leadership within their troop. Only about 4% of Scouts earn the rank. Samuel had to plan, develop, raise funds, fully document, and lead this service project that demonstrated leadership and service to the community beyond scouting. Thanks again, Samuel, and congratulations on this achievement!

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

By Leslie Martin Conwell, Program Director

TCHA has begun a busy summer of programming! Thanks to efforts by Pete Bill and Jeff Schwab, we can now offer many programs in a flexible hybrid format- both in person and via Zoom. Here are some of the exciting programming coming up this summer and early fall. Please note- *Due to the changing status of COVID, please check TCHA's website or Facebook page several days before a program is scheduled to find out if the program will be held in person, held virtually via "Zoom," or will be a hybrid program. Zoom links will be posted several days before the program-* www.tippecanoehistory.org

JULY

"Show & Tell- 1886 and Lizzie Shoemaker- Breaking Purdue's Glass Ceiling in Science"

*Presented by Pete Bill, Tuesday, July 13, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM, the History Center, *Hybrid meeting- in person and via Zoom*

"Tippecanoe Battlefield Interpretation- the 4th US Infantry

*Presented by John & Nolan Wickett, Saturday, July 17, 10 AM – 4 PM, *In person program, Tippecanoe Battlefield "Purdue and Amelia Earhart"*

*Presented by Sammie Morris- Director, Purdue University Archives & Special Collections Research Center, Tuesday, July 20, 12 PM – 1 PM, the History Center, *Hybrid meeting- in person and via Zoom*

"Woodland Indian Interpretation"

*Presented by members of the Wea Tribe, Saturday, July 24, 2 PM – 5 PM, Sunday, July 25, 10 AM – 3 PM, *In person program, Fort Ouiatenon Historic Park*

"Powerful Women of Purdue"

*Presented by Dr. Katharine Watson- Archivist, Purdue University Susan Bulkeley Women's Archives, Wednesday, July 18, 6 PM – 7 PM, the History Center, *Hybrid meeting- in person and via Zoom*

"Guided Tour of the Tippecanoe Battlefield Grounds and Museum"

*Presented by Rick Conwell, Saturday, July 31, 1 PM – 2 PM, Tippecanoe Battlefield and Museum, *In person program, Free for members, \$5 for non-members, children up to 18 free* *Includes museum admission*

AUGUST

"Show & Tell- Ouiatenon Artifacts"

*Presented by Leslie Martin Conwell, Tuesday, August 3, 6 PM – 7 PM, the History Center, *Hybrid meeting- in person and via Zoom*

"History of West Lafayette"

*Presented by Nick Schenkel, 12 PM – 1 PM, the History Center, *Hybrid meeting- in person and via Zoom*

"Show & Tell- Artifacts from the Tippecanoe Battlefield Museum"

*Presented by Rick Conwell, Tuesday, August 10, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM, the History Center, *Hybrid meeting- in person and via Zoom*

"Folk Music"

*Presented by Annie Hatke Schap, Wednesday, September 8, 6 PM – 7 PM, the History Center, *Hybrid meeting- in person and via Zoom*

SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER

"Show & Tell- Fraternal Organizations"

*Presented by Ken Moder, Tuesday, September 14, 11:30 AM -12:30 PM, the History Center, *Hybrid meeting- in person and via Zoom*

"Feast of the Hunters' Moon"

*Saturday, October 9, 10 AM – 5 PM, Sunday, October 10, 10 AM – 4 PM, *In person program, Fort Ouiatenon Historic Park*

OPERATIONS REPORT

By Leslie Martin Conwell, Operations Manager

Thanks to the help of some dedicated volunteers, the Arganbright Genealogy Library and the History Center grounds have been spruced up for the summer! At Arganbright, volunteers did the tedious job of beautifying the walkways by chipping out old concrete, putting in new pavers, planting flowers, putting down fresh



mulch, and repairing a large urn. At the History Center, weeds were pulled and new mulch was spread. Thank you to the following volunteers for helping the buildings and grounds look renewed, refreshed, and welcoming- Shirley & Mike Benham, Pete Bill, Walt & Eileen Griffin, Carolyn O'Connell, Ouiatenon Blacksmiths, and Mary & Ted Springer.

We appreciate all that you, our members, bring to TCHA. Through your volunteering, attendance at programs, donations, membership renewals, participation in TCHA's social media platforms and your valued input as TCHA moves into the future, YOU are TCHA's best ambassadors to the community. Have a great summer!



FEAST OF THE HUNTERS' MOON

By Leslie Martin Conwell, Feast Event Manager

Mark your calendars!

2021 Feast of the
Hunters' Moon is
October 9 & 10.

A decision as to the status of the 2021 Feast will be made by August 1. Continuing dialog is being held with community officials as to the status of COVID 19 and any anticipated impacts on the event. Please visit the Feast website www.feastofthehuntersmoon.org for updates.

Come enjoy the 54th annual Feast of the Hunters' Moon, scheduled for October 9-10! The Feast is a re-enactment of 18th century life at Fort Ouiatenon Historic Park on the banks of the Wabash River just southwest of current day West Lafayette, IN. The event's time period depicts the heyday of Fort Ouiatenon, 1717-1791. The first European settlement in Indiana, Fort Ouiatenon was a witness to many different cultures and lifeways. At the Feast, skilled interpreters, musicians, and artisans engage the imagination while inspiring exploration of the music, cultures, and crafts of the past. Period foods include frybread, buffalo, stews, and soups.

Besides TCHA, over 50 area not-for-profits benefit from the Feast. The event infuses over 2 million dollars into the local tourism economy, thus making the Feast vital to the quality of life in the community at large.

Beginning August 1, advance tickets may be purchased online on the Feast website or after September 1 they may be purchased at several area businesses. See the Feast website for ticket information.

The Feast has been successful these many years due to the wonderful relationships TCHA has built with other community organizations, Feast participants, volunteers, and the public. TCHA would like to thank Tippecanoe County Park and Recreation Director Allen Nail, who is soon retiring, for his many years of partnership, support, and friendship at the Feast. We'd also like to wish good luck to Nathan Murphy on his new job in Texas. Nathan worked as the Site Manager at Fort Ouiatenon for 19 years, and will be greatly missed.



OUIATENON PRESERVE

By J. Colby Bartlett, Director of the Ouiatenon Preserve, Inc.

A TCHA cornerstone and community landmark received international attention last month when on Friday May 21st, His Excellency Philippe Etienne, Ambassador of France to the United States traveled to Tippecanoe County to tour the Ouiatenon Preserve - National Historic Landmark, a Roy Whistler Foundation Project.

Ambassador Etienne, accompanied by Consul General Guillaume Lacroix and Honorary Consul Martin Baier visited Indiana during a two day official diplomatic visit that included meetings with Governor Holcomb, Indiana corporate leaders and a visit with French drivers at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway preparing for the Indianapolis 500.

Ambassador Etienne and his entourage was received on Friday afternoon at the Fort Ouiatenon Park. Upon his arrival, he was escorted by Captain Malcolm Duncan leading the Tippecanoe Ancient Fife & Drum Corp and Captain Thomas Wojcinski leading the Les Garnison du Pays den Haut, French Marine unit. While he reviewed the assembled troops, I was explaining the history of the establishment of Ouiatenon, by a small detachment of Marines in 1717. The Ambassador, demonstrating his quick wit and humor, quipped "And look after all of these years, what fine condition they are still in!"

The troops escorted the Ambassador to the Blockhouse where he viewed a display of Ouiatenon artifacts. During this, I presented him with a replica of a pewter French spoon that had been recovered from the site and following a brief meeting with local officials, including Lafayette Mayor Roswarski and Tippecanoe County Commissioners Murtaugh and Brown, the Ambassador delivered a moving speech to the assembled guests and press pool. Among his comments, the Ambassador highlighted the shared history and unique bond that America and France share, as each others oldest and closest allies. He continued by saying in part,



Philippe Etienne, Ambassador of France to the United States

"Here, the Ouiatenon Preserve was created and given National Historic Landmark status by the Federal Government, with the support of the French Consulate in Chicago. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate those who spearheaded this effort, as it not only reconnects your community with our common history, but it also highlights the connections between history, ecology and biodiversity. This is an important project for us and for future generations."

"I also see the work that you do to become more familiar with your French history as a symbol of our special relationship. By taking part in archeology, research, and education programs, you will learn more about your history, but you will also teach us French more about our own history."

Following his remarks, the Ambassador was welcomed by representatives of the General de Lafayette Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Indiana Society of the Son's of the American Revolution.

In a highlight of the day, we were fortunate that representatives of the Miami (Myaamia) Nation of Oklahoma including Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Diane Hunter and Tribal Archaeologist, Rebecca Hawkins, were able to make the journey to be with us and conducted a traditional welcoming by gifting and wrapping Ambassador Etienne in a beautiful Pendleton blanket and presenting him with a Myaamia language dictionary. Consul General Lacroix was presented with a piece from a Myaamia artist and a dictionary as well.

Following these welcomes, the Ambassador was introduced and visited with representatives from TCHA including President Jeff Schwab, Operations Manager Leslie Conwell, Del Bartlett and Kory Cooper, the Roy Whistler Foundation including President Michael Reckowsky, The Archaeological Conservancy Midwestern Director, Phil Millhouse, Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Historic Preservation Director, Beth McCord and State Archaeologist, Amy Johnson, Visit Lafayette - West Lafayette President, Jo Wade, as well as representatives from the Tippecanoe County Soil & Water Conservation District and the US Fish and Wildlife Service.



We then boarded Utility Terrain Vehicles for a tour of the Preserve and to visit the site of Fort Ouiatenon. During this we discussed the history and archaeology of the site, the history of the creation of the Preserve and its ongoing environmental restoration, as well as plans for future research and development of public interpretation. It was readily evident, that both the Ambassador and Consul General have a deep and genuine interest and appreciation for the Native American, French, and early American history of our region.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend great thanks to everyone, including the Tippecanoe County Parks Department and the TCHA staff and board members, who assisted in making the Ambassador's visit a wonderful and memorable success! A special thank you to Brook Sauter for photographing the event and to Sheriff Goldsmith and Chief Flannely and the men and women of the Tippecanoe County Sheriff's Department and the Lafayette Police Department for their assistance in providing protective details and escorts in support of this historic visit.

Visit the TCHA website Blog for the full article and speech by Ambassador Etienne. <https://tippecanoehistory.org/blog/>

TIPPECANOE BATTLEFIELD NEWS

By Trey Gorden, Tippecanoe Battlefield Museum Manager

The Tippecanoe Battlefield is wearing its summer greenery now, and folks are coming out to enjoy the fresh air, stretch their legs, picnic, and explore the nature trails. Come on out and join us! When you've had enough exercise, come into the museum and explore the history of Tippecanoe County, chat with other history enthusiasts, compare reading lists, and discuss the Battle of Tippecanoe and the people involved in the events that shaped Indiana and the nation.

We're excited to announce the return of the eagle to its rightful place over the archway leading onto the battlefield. It was removed for repair in 2014, and the seven intervening years have been quite a journey. It all started when an expert warned that the eagle, which had sustained damage over the years, would not long survive without repair.

The artist who received it for repair discovered that the eagle could not be repaired in a way that would protect it from further degradation in the weather. The solution was to create a copy of the eagle in aluminum, paint it as the original had been, and put the new eagle over the gate. The old eagle will be housed in the museum in a new, custom-made display case currently under construction.

The new eagle arrived and took up its station over the gate on June 8th. Come out and pay your respects to the newest addition to our battlefield team. And keep an eye on our Facebook page. That's where we'll announce the completion of the new exhibit where our faithful old friend will enjoy a genteel retirement.

ALAMEDA MCCOLLOUGH RESEARCH LIBRARY

By Amy Harbor, Research Library Coordinator

WPA in Tippecanoe County

A few weeks ago, a volunteer in our photo archives unearthed a series of photos of WPA Christmas parties in Lafayette, and that started a conversation about the legacy of the WPA in Tippecanoe County. The WPA, or Works Progress Administration, was a depression era agency which employed millions of Americans to carry out public works projects. The first projects in Tippecanoe County were announced at the end of 1933 and included tree trimming, berm and drainage work, sewer improvement, street grading and painting schools and the courthouse, employing over one thousand men. In early 1934, more projects were announced including developing 340 acres for the Purdue Airport by grading and constructing runways. A major remodel of the county fairgrounds was announced in 1935, and five new exhibition buildings were constructed by WPA workers. Many other WPA projects occurred throughout the 1930s and 1940s; among them were construction of the pool at Columbian Park, the relocation of Wabash and Monon railroad tracks, construction of many buildings at Purdue University (a few of which are Hovde Hall, Lambert Fieldhouse, and Elliott Hall of Music), construction of the state police post in U.S. 52 in West Lafayette, and construction of West Lafayette High School. The most visible and tangible projects were in building construction, but infrastructure maintenance of parks, roads and bridges left a lasting impact and employed thousands of local people.

The government also wanted to provide cultural support instead of only providing direct grants to institutions. A major component of this was Federal Project Number One, which had five different parts: the Federal Art Project, the Federal Music Project, the Federal Theatre Project, the Federal Writers' Project, and the Historical Records Survey. In Tippecanoe County, the murals in the downtown Lafayette Post Office were painted by WPA artists. TCHA was the direct beneficiary of the Historical Records Survey. This was the smallest branch of Federal Project Number One, and its purpose was to identify, collect, and conserve United States' historical records. In Tippecanoe County, workers transcribed and indexed birth and death records from 1882 to 1920 among other things. These indexes can be found in our library, and we use them regularly to help researchers with their family history searches. In May of 1940 TCHA was one of the host sites for "Open House Week", a national effort to show citizens how the WPA was benefiting their communities. Completed and ongoing projects of the Historical Records Survey were displayed to the public for five days that week in the Fowler House.



WPA "office workers" Christmas party, 1936. This print, and several more like it, are part of the TCHA permanent collection. Even more important, all of the workers' names are identified on the back!

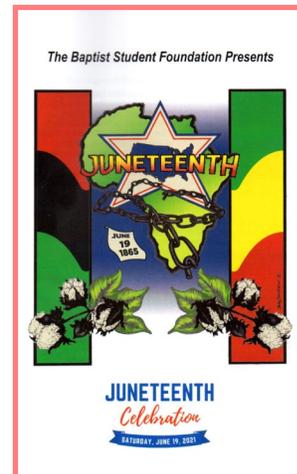
FROM THE VAULT

By Kelly Lippie, Curator of Collections

Juneteenth and African American History in Tippecanoe County

On June 19th, TCHA participated in the first celebration in Tippecanoe County of Juneteenth after it had been made a federal holiday. Although planning for the event began long before the holiday status, participants and planners were delighted with the perfect timing. Leslie Martin Conwell, TCHA’s Operations Manager, was a part of the planning team lead by Dr. Deanna McMillan. The event was presented by the Baptist Student Foundation and welcomed many different agencies to participate in the celebration. TCHA was proud to be a part of the event and share with the community our resources and collection treasures that document African American history in Tippecanoe County. We were also happy to document the event to include in the county’s archives.

This program cover (pictured at right) features artwork designed by Stephen M. Jackson.



Juneteenth, also called Emancipation Day, has long been celebrated around the country and even here in Tippecanoe County. In 1913, a memorable celebration of the event took place in Lafayette with great fanfare. This photograph is believed to be an automobile decorated by Lafayette’s Lincoln School for the 1913 Emancipation Day celebration. For more information about the 1913 Emancipation Day event, visit the TCHA blog on the website. <https://tippecanoehistory.org/blog/>

An important goal for TCHA is to raise awareness of our collection and to continue to collect and preserve Tippecanoe County history by adding to it. We are always on the look out for stories, photographs and artifacts that will help tell these diverse and exciting stories. We’d like to hear stories of the civil rights movement, arts and music, education, business and more!



1942 Lincoln School Basketball Team



Millie Hoffman, Sterling McElwaine and Arletta Winrow



Henry Anderson

SAVING A LEGACY

By Pete Bill, TCHA Board of Governors

STOP! Don't Let YOUR Legacy be Lost!

As a collector of Tippecanoe and Purdue historical documents and artifacts, I'm often saddened to find old photo portraits or large collections of family photos from around the turn of the 20th Century and marked with Lafayette Indiana photographer imprints, sitting in an antique store or garage sale waiting to be purchased for a couple of bucks.

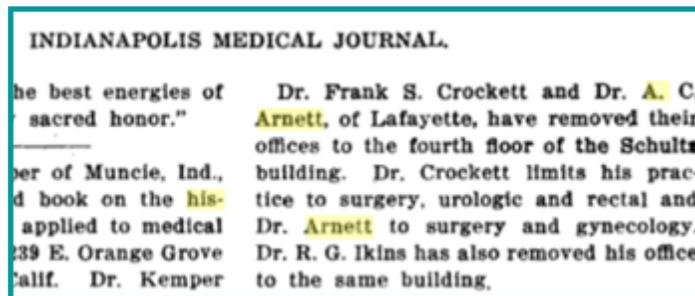
Unfortunately, upon the death of an elderly family member, many valuable and irreplaceable family photos end up scattered to collectors or crafts folk and thus disappear, sometimes forever, from any future public access. Worse yet, often these photos are simply discarded in the dumpster along with "Grandma's other stuff" no one in the family wants.



Jane and John Doe photos of Lafayette/Tippecanoe County residents yet to be identified.

Recently while visiting a local antique dealer, I came across a family collection of well over 100 photos that also included newspaper clippings, documents, and other paper ephemera encompassing four generations. Although a few items had already been sold, most of the collection appeared to be intact inside of two brief cases and an additional box.

Browsing through the materials I recognized a name triggered by my interest in the Tippecanoe County medical history: Dr. Franklin Smith Crockett.



Indianapolis Medical Journal November 1922 -

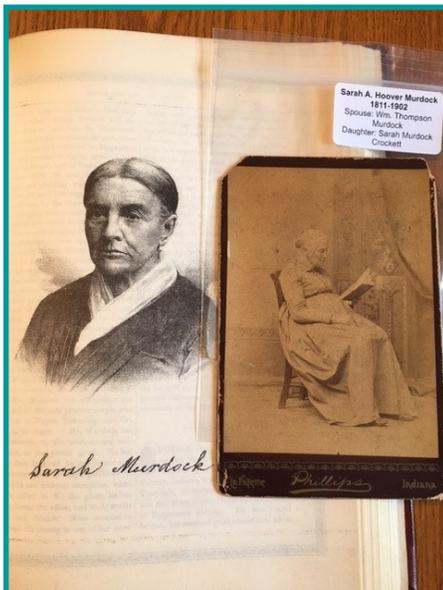
Doctors Crockett and Arnett establish their new clinic.

Dr. Franklin Crockett was Dr. A.C. Arnett's first partner. Dr. A.C. Arnett went on to create the Arnett Clinic and his name today is still associated with the large IU medical facility in Lafayette. In this collection were not only dozens of photos of Dr. Crockett's professional life, but also photos of his wife Bird/Birdie/Birda Goslee (1887-1932) and children Katie (1926-1968) and Nancy (1927-2020). As importantly, multiple photos and documents of Franklin's father (Franklin Smith Crockett, senior 1841-1915) and mother (Sarah Murdock 1848-1937) were included and *labelled*.

Better yet, one photo was discovered *and labelled* as Dr. Crockett's grandmother, Sarah Hoover Murdock (1811-1902). This particular photo is important because this Murdock family line isn't just the run-of-the-mill branch on the ancestry tree. Sarah Hoover Murdock and her husband William Thompson Murdock (1811-1889) were considered significant pioneers and contributors to the development of Wea Township in Tippecanoe County. Their significance was considered so important locally that their likenesses and biographical story appear in the *Biographical Record and Portrait Album of Tippecanoe County, Indiana* by the Lewis Publishing Company in 1888! The rare, *labelled* photo found in this family collection allows us a rare glimpse of Sarah Hoover Murdock whose image might have only been seen today through the artist's drawn depiction created for the *Biographical Record*.



Dr. Franklin Smith Crockett



Artist's depiction of Sarah Murdock (1811- 1902) and a photo of Sarah found in a family photo collection for sale at a local antique dealer.

The photos in this collection were probably considered "everyday" and "mundane" by the photo owners and the subjects themselves. But these photos capture irreplaceable likenesses of these ancestors from over a 100 years ago. Some photos also provide valuable visual insights into how people behaved. Everyday activities such as how parents acted and dressed while they were playing with their children, or photos showing adult activities and outings capture interesting frozen moments of a time now long gone.

Thanks to a private collector who acquired this collection and donated it to the Tippecanoe County Historical Association for preservation, cataloging, and making it available to the public in perpetuity, future Crocketts, Goslees, Murdocks, Hoovers, Younts, and others will be able to find photos and documents from their relatives from long, long ago through TCHA.

Don't let your photographic legacy disappear after you're gone. Take the time *now* to label the photos, and contact TCHA's curator, Kelly Lippie (curator@tippecanoehistory.org) to find out about how photos can be either donated or digitally copied so the irreplaceable images can be preserved and shared with generations to come.

Preserve today! Don't let your legacy be lost!

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

A special note of thanks to the TCHA Donor- level members. These members give a little something extra in support of our mission to collect, preserve and interpret Tippecanoe County History.

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RECIPROCAL ORGANIZATION OF ASSOCIATED MUSEUMS

Donor level TCHA members are now part of the R.O.A.M. network and can receive member benefits around the country at many historic sites just by showing your TCHA membership card with the R.O.A.M. logo. Visit their website to see a list of participating sites:

<https://sites.google.com/site/roammuseums>

In return, members from other participating organizations can visit the Tippecanoe Battlefield museum to receive free admission and a discount in The History Store.

Donor-level members, look for the ROAM logo on your membership card to access your benefits. If you don't have the logo, contact Kelly Lippie at memberships@tippecanoehistory.org.



Advertise in the Next Newsletter!

Your advertisement or announcement could appear in the next TCHA newsletter.

If you'd like information about advertising and a list of Ad space fees, contact:

Memberships@tippecanoehistory.org



amazon smile
You shop. Amazon gives.

TCHA is now on Amazon Smile!

If you plan to shop on Amazon, a portion of your proceeds can go to TCHA if you shop through Amazon Smile. You *must* start off by shopping at **smile.amazon.com** for the proceeds to apply to TCHA, not simply Amazon.com. It has all the same products.

Make sure you select TCHA from the charities under Arts and Culture (note: there is a Tippecanoe Hist. Assoc. in Tipp, Ohio listed, so make sure to select the right one!).

Using the Amazon app? You can also adjust your settings to select TCHA as your charity.

Do you have ideas or suggestions for the next member newsletter?

We want to hear from you!

Send your ideas to:

Memberships@tippecanoehistory.org

Tippecanoe County Historical Association is a private not-for-profit organization whose mission is to enrich the lives of Tippecanoe County residents and visitors by collecting, preserving, and interpreting our unique and exciting history.

FOLLOW US!



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Instagram: TippecanoeHistory



You Tube: Tippecanoe County Historical Association

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