

MONTGOMERY MEMORIES



April 2022

A publication of
The Paper of Montgomery County

Photo courtesy of Crawfordsville
District Public Library Image Database

Page Listing

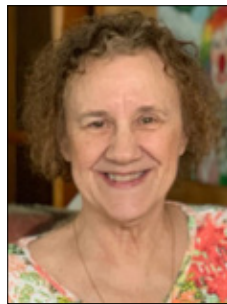
Contributors & Such	2
March Feature - Karen Zach.....	3
Odds & Ends - Karen Zach.....	4
Nifty - Joy Willett.....	5
Hunt & Son Funeral Home	5
Backstage Stars - Chuck Clore.....	6
Poetry and Puzzles - Joy Willett	7
Burkhart Funeral Home	7
Karen's Kitchen	8
County Connection - Karen Zach	9
Museums	10
Grandcestors - Karen Zach	11
Nucor	12

You can view past issues of
Montgomery Memories anytime
online at

<https://thepaper24-7.com/>
Just click on "Montgomery
Memories" under E-Editions.



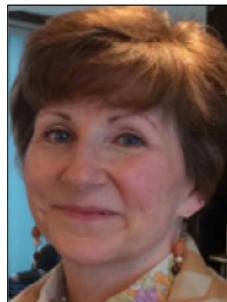
Contributing Writers



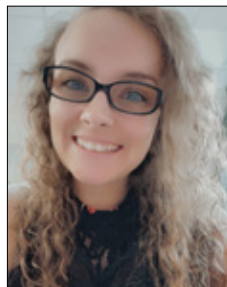
KAREN BAZZANI ZACH has been a contributor of local historical articles for 40 years. A native Montgomery Countian, she grew up in Waveland, married Jim Zach, and received her grad degree from IU while working at CDPL as Children's Librarian. Karen authored one of the newer county histories, *Crawfordsville: Athens of Indiana*. After teaching English at Turkey Run HS for 21 years, she retired and is now enjoying visiting with her two children (Jay and Suzie), writing, reading, doing genealogy, and grandkidding!



CHUCK CLORE After a lifelong career in visual communications, Eureka! Chuck discovered that noodling the nuances of the written word can be just as much fun as tweaking a font into an iconic logo. Montgomery Memories is the perfect venue to explore his treasured C-ville's east-end recollections. An Athenian boomer from the class of 65, he delights in graphic design, cartooning, and story telling. Chuck's articles reveal how a CHS senior corduroy artist eventually evolved into an award winning designer and aspiring writer.



JOY WILLETT was born in Crawfordsville and spent much of her childhood in southern Montgomery County. She has lived her adult life in Indiana, Arizona, and California. She currently lives with her husband, David, in Monterey County California. As an amateur genealogist, she has done extensive research and has written her paternal and maternal family histories. In addition to genealogy, Joy enjoys writing poetry, painting, and traveling.



KELSEY CURRAN is one of the paginators for the Paper of Montgomery County. She edits and helps complete the daily news as well as the Montgomery Memories and Sports Report every month for viewers to enjoy. She was born in a small town in Illinois and moved to Crawfordsville in 2016. She has two children and another on the way. She enjoys spending time with her husband and kids, reading and baking.





March Feature: Handsome, Personable, Young Amazing Artist = ? Oh my!

Karen Bazzani Zach, Montgomery Memories

To be an exceptional artist, one requirement is to be creative, but our two-year Crawfordsville resident (Harry Temple) artist went way beyond being an amazing designer in both his artistic as well as personal abilities. While he lived in Montgomery County, he made many friends and was often described as handsome, personable and young. Not old really, yet in the 1890s, being in your mid-30s was slightly past young, too. Personable, oh my I'd guess he likely was as you will conceive as you continue reading and although I've only seen his brother and one son's photos he was likely very good-looking, as well.

Here, he arrived, I believe to paint scenery for the Ben Hur Company (scenes from the book each sat in a tableaux, in the summer and fall of 1891. DW Cox of the group came here to oversee Temple's work). A few of the scenes mentioned that Temple was doing were the palace of Herod, fountain of Castilla, a tent scene, gate of Damascus and of course the chariot scene. These were likely done for the production of Ben Hur, as one article (CDJ 13 Aug that year) noted that the artist was creating it so there would be no lengthy stops between the scenes as they would now be using "drops" versus sets and that the performance was going "as smoothly and regularly as clock work!" Other local work included: "great masterpieces at the Robbins House" (hotel) as well as many other beautiful pieces around the city. Another accomplishment while in the city was to do scenery for the Odd Fellows for use in degree work. Tagged as a genius, the Indianapolis Journal in February 1894 said he could easily "obtain steady employment (in his field) at good wages but he was too erratic to work or settle down." Hit that perfectly! Yet he made many friends and was followed closely in the newspaper. In July 1891 he and Paul Webb went to Chicago and an excitement seemed to be bubbling as he was supposed to return to take a "charming Miss of the Athens to the altar." By the way, she wisely backed out.

The Crawfordsville Journal in November '92 noted: "Oh, Harry" - Harry Temple, our scenic artist is gone and if all the things people are saying are true, the 'dear boy' has been entirely too frisky. (They only knew a bit of it, too). Married with four young boys, he came to Crawfordsville "as a single man," boarded some at the Robbins' House probably while he was painting murals there possibly trading some of his board for the work and some at Lida Duvall Wilcox's boarding house (her son, Howie was the winner of the 1919 Indy 500 and sadly died due to injuries in



a race four years later) where Temple took a young woman, quite pregnant, representing her as his wife. She wasn't and when Harry Temple left her one night owing Mrs. Wilcox (with children of her own having lost her husband recently) \$30, Harry didn't look back. The young girl, Mamie McCabe, had worked as a waitress in the Robbins House and when she went away, begged Lida Wilcox to have no press, evidently intending to pay her back a bit at a time, Maggie having told her that she wanted to shuffle off the earth and get away from her life.

Harry's wife, Retta Smith, and the boys lived in Wabash, Indiana and Harry basically grew-up in Peru; however, he was born in Hannibal, Missouri and yes, his occupation took him to various parts of the United States (Chicago a big one, but California where he left two daughters, one (Lucille who lived to be almost 100) married six times and the other, Audra Virginia, happy with one marriage and her two boys, quite religious however died at age 26). Also, lived in Ohio a couple of times near where his mother, Catherine Towner grew up (his father was William and seemed that perhaps Harry took after the Senior

Chevalier), NC, Pennsylvania, Iowa, Michigan and several more, including Canada.

He and Retta had married the Sunday before the 4th of July in 1882. His second recorded marriage was to Mamie Peters of Indianapolis who followed him to Tennessee where he dumped her. #3 was Celia Coffee of Lenore, NC and another was referred to from Martin's Ferry, Ohio where he was finally prosecuted. The three gals met each other and decided to get some vengeance on our young, handsome, personable visiting artist. Thus, in early April, Harry Temple was convicted (a very short deliberation) of bigamy. Immediately, his lawyer posted for a new trial. Not sure how he got out of it but just a couple of months later, he was out going from one town to another but this time painting signs, becoming just as well known as when a scenic artist; only, now, headlines were often, "the bigamist, the scalawag," yet his artistry was never in question. He was also at this point going by his real name, Harry Chevalier. However, in life he also went by Harry Griffith and possibly Harry Thomas as his Retta in 1899 (had a daughter shortly thereafter) married "this man" who wasn't around long (hmmm kind of like our Harry nor could I find our Harry in the 1900 census) and that daughter who should have been a Thomas went through life listed as Catherine Temple.

The sons from Harry and Retta mainly stayed in the Wabash area and were fine men as far as is known and love their names: Voyle (Voy), Harry, Jr., Rex, Glo and Oyn, Glo or Oyn likely the one who when Harry was in jail for his bigamy charge in Martin's Ferry, Ohio when he saw Harry behind the bars ran up crying, "Papa!" Harry nearly fainted, falling against the wall of his cell. All the boys were dark, with dark skin and small (5'5" the tallest) in their registrations for the service! Found this one's picture on findagrave (Mary Lou Schultz' pic) and imagine Harry looked very similar. This is Voy born 22 Nov 1888 died and buried in Sylvania, Ohio 1974. He was the only one who went by Chevalier, the rest Temple.

Harry's other girls' (Audra and Lucille) mother was his fourth wife (at least), but this time, he married her after wife #1 passed away. Harry was still living in the 1930 census and believe divorced in 1933 but after that our Harry is gone. Maybe changed his name to Harry Smith or Jones. Ohhh, who knows maybe off to Europe to conquer a dozen (or more) gals over there?

Odds & Ends – Collected & Commented on by Karen Bazzani Zach

Although I've never really thought of it (shame) before, there are many different forms of art and barbering is one of them, so the very first item (besides a lengthy serial about an artist that really has nothing to do with MoCo) I came across was George Bell's "White Front Barber Shop" whose motto was: "We do more work for less money than any artist in this city at 125 North Green Street. Only first-class artists employed!" Sure know it takes a real artist to do my hair (thanks Charlotte, Brenda and Hope, especially but others who have tackled this mess as well!)

A humorous outlook was found in the CDJ 22 March 1890, about the "HANGING COMMITTEE," in regards to art, of course. So one artist was offered by the hanging committee to be able to choose his own place to hang his work since he'd complained so many times to them. So excited, he chose what he felt was the very best place. One of his artist friends said, "Look over there – what idiot would hang your picture in that place?" Devastated, he never chose his place again nor complained about it!

In the May 15, 1879 Crawfordsville Star, it seems that TD Brown had been working on his talent as a landscape artist. "Some of his friends were astonished last week at several oil paintings that he had worked with his own hands." The article finished by stating, "One more name to add to the Athenian Galaxy!" Note: This is Theodore Darwin (married to Caroline Switzer and already at this point a father

to William, Frederic Thomas and Mary Eden about grown), T.D. the son of Dr. Ryland T. Brown and Mary Vanleave Reeder Brown, all VERY talented in so many ways!

One article that was an overview of a mother's day sermon gave the story of Benjamin West, "the great artist" who when he was little took a piece of dead coal from their fire place. His mother took him up into her arms and kissed him repeatedly praising his wonderful (but crude) attempt. In later years he noted, "My mother's kiss and praise made me an artist that day!" Love it!

Need to do some more research on this Jan 1891 CDJ tiny article as not sure if this is meant as "artist as in painting landscapes or more inclined to think that perhaps around the depots or by the bridges that DW Cox planted shrubs and the like in lieu of this: "DW Cox has leased his greenhouse to his brother-in-law, GW Krause, who now has charge of it. Mr. Cox still retains his connection with the Vandalia as its "landscape artist!" As I noted above, there is a wide variety of "artists!"

Gracious, something else I've not really thought of but as I read an 18 May 1892 Daily Journal article, I could sure imagine it as the article noted that Tom Lyons, "an artist of no mean merit" who so rudely had burglarized and terrorized the town a few evenings before the 18th of May's article, had been covering the wall with evidence of his skills. Some quite startling (huge snakes crawling out of huge cups probably of wine the article said) and mottoes and poems, one a glaring eulogy "of his attorneys,



Hanna & Hanna and a drawing of "Home Sweet Home." And, when visitors came to see him, he would read this one to them: "The rose is red, the violets blue, if you've any tobacco give me a chew!" Poetry besides drawity !!

Now, this isn't the first time I've read about Will Griffith's abilities to decorate show windows and in 1893 an article titled "Show Window Artist" in the CDJ said, "Will Griffith has again evinced his rare ability of a decorative artist by his unusually excellent work in the windows of Bischof's bazaar. Better work of the kind is not to be found even in the large cities." Ernie Patrick was a window dresser at Theobold's during my time and nifty to see such remarkable displays one that seems to be beginning to make a new stand – seen some real beauties in downtown Crawfordsville of late!

With today's I-phones and such, almost everyone can be a decent photographer and in the early days of our county we had many. For this article, let's say they even came from Cincinnati (fall of 1893) when FA Pickerill purchased the long-time Lawson gallery. If you have an interest in this topic, check out the GenWeb page for many of the early photographic artists (if you use anything from the site, please give it credit – there are several places with the citation – and thanks in advance) -- PHOTOGRAPHERS of MONT CTY - Montgomery InGenWeb Project

Walter Seis was born in Hamilton County, Ohio but stopped over for several years in Montgomery County, some of his children born here. He did artistry work while here then went on to Dallas, Texas where he was listed as an architect, lived in Terre Haute for some time and then went to the Cincinnati area where he passed and is buried. Even though gone from Montgomery, his career was followed as with this notation: From the Terre Haute Express to the Crawfordsville Journal 23 May 1894 – "Walter Seis, our old artist, appears to have drifted back to Terre Haute." Seems Walter was commissioned to do a painting in the Hulman Grocery where "Mr. Hulman" wanted him to paint his recollections of Mexico where Walter would use a few photographs and his own recollections of the Mexican plateaus and mountains to create the work and bet it was gorgeous!

Fairly sure if you read the Feature article that the artist was doing work for a production company in regards to Ben Hur however 20 Oct 1890 about when he would have been employed (CDJ p 3) an article noted that the reason an illustrated Ben Hur had not been done as of yet that there was too big of a difficulty finding an artist. Hmmm, maybe Harry Temple Griffith Thomas Cavalier could have done it as long as that was his concentration, anyway!

Well this is just some odds-ends in regards to art in general with a few folks mentioned but certainly short of a history of the artists of our area. That would probably take someone far better than me to complete it !!



Nifty at Ninety - And Beyond

Joy Willett, Montgomery Memories

For this edition of Nifty at Ninety... we meet Lucinda E. Hardee. Lucinda was born on December 20, 1832 in Union Township, Montgomery County, Indiana. She was the oldest of Joseph Henry and Mary Jane (Weir/Ware) Hardee's ten children. Of note is that Joseph and Mary Jane married on April 14, 1833, four months after Lucinda's birth (Indiana, Marriage Index, 1800-1941).

Joseph was born in 1811, reportedly in Kentucky. He came with his parents, John and Lucy (Sears) Hardy, to Preble County, Ohio in ca. 1819. By 1824, the family moved to Rush County, Indiana where John purchased land (U.S. General Land Office Records, 1776-2015). Lucy died in Rush County in 1829 (North American Family Histories, 1500-2000). In the mid-1830s, John, along with six of his eight children, including Joseph, moved to Alamo. John was born in ca. 1758 (U.S., Pension Rolls, 1835) in Dinwiddle, Virginia. He fought during the Revolutionary War, joining in 1776 at the age of 15. Under the command of George Washington he participated in an attack on the Hessians. He served at Valley Forge, and fought at the battles of Trenton, Hanging Rock, and Long Island. Captured by the British and held on a prison ship, there are conflicting reports regarding how his imprisonment came to an end. One had him swapped in a prisoner exchange, and the other said he escaped. Lucy and he married in ca. 1800. John passed away while living in Alamo, on June 1, 1839. According to the Roster of Soldiers and Patriot of the American Revolution in Indiana, John was "Buried on roadside near Offield Creek."

Mary Jane, born in ca. 1815 in Campbell County, Kentucky, was the daughter of Alexander and Elizabeth (Wayman) Weir. Alexander and Elizabeth were married on May 27, 1814. The couple came to Montgomery County, Indiana in ca. 1830. Alexander passed in 1833 at the age of 53 and Elizabeth died ten years later at the age of 63. They were both interred in the Michael Cemetery near Yountsville.

In ca. 1859, Lucinda married Clark B. Nelson, also known as "Hood" (Crawfordsville Daily Journal, March 28, 1923). Hood's parents were from Virginia, and he was born in Bath County, Kentucky on October 12, 1833. The Nelson family came to Montgomery County in ca. 1845.



The 1860 census lists two children living with Lucinda and Hood – Julia A. Hardee, born in ca. 1850, and India J. [Josephine] Nelson, born in 1856. Hood was working as a grocer. During his career, Hood was also employed as a wood worker, a lightning rod salesman, which he did with his son-in-law, George Vance, and he was credited with "conceiving the idea that led to the manufacture of Watson cresting." I have to admit, I don't know what the Watson cresting was, but it was significant enough to be mentioned in Hood's obituary (Crawfordsville Weekly Journal, May 19, 1905).

Lucinda worked, too. The 1887, 1888 Directory tells us she was a dress-maker. Lucinda and Hood's enterprising spirit was shared with other members of the family. George worked as a decorator and painter, while he and Josephine's son, Fred, was an artist and decorator.

The 1900 census listed Lucinda as a widow. However, that was not the case.

Hood and she were divorced. He was residing at the National Military Home in Marion, Indiana. When he passed, at the age of 72, he was buried at Oak Hill Cemetery. His obituary reported that:

Hood... was for years a familiar figure on the streets here [Crawfordsville] and was known by almost every man in the county. He was a man possessed of a kind heart, jovial and had more than average ability. He was an interesting talker, eccentric in some ways but a man generally admired.

Hood served in the Civil War, Co B, 120th Indiana Infantry and he does have a government stone in Oak Hill Cemetery (photo thanks to Kim & Roger Hancock).

During her dotage, Lucinda lived with George and Josephine. After George died in 1911, Josephine and she continued to live together. The 1920 Census tells us that Josephine was running a boarding house and caring for her mother. On March 27, 1923 Lucinda passed away from the "infirmities of old age." Her obituary shared that "She was known to all for her kindly manner and good word for everyone (Crawfordsville Daily Journal, March 28, 1923). She was buried at Oak Hill Cemetery in an unmarked grave. I think Lucinda and Hood are people I would have enjoyed knowing. May they rest in peace.



THREE GENERATIONS AT
HUNT & SON FUNERAL HOME,
THE PRE-ARRANGEMENT SPECIALISTS,
HAVE BEEN MAKING SPECIAL
REMEMBRANCES FOR FAMILIES
IN THIS AREA FOR OVER 100 YEARS.

107 N GRANT AVE., CRAWFORDSVILLE • 362-0440



JUST FOR THE FUN

Photo courtesy of Chuck Clore

Remember 1st Grade at Tuttle Elementary when Miss Jefferies handed us a giant sheet of white paper?

“Just for the fun of it, use your imagination. Picture one of your favorite things. Now, draw it on the sheet of paper.” She challenged us.

Eager artists, we were primed and ready. But wait, we had no pencils. There was no box of 64 Crayolas from which to choose. The only things in the room were a gigantic drop cloth and a rainbow of finger-paint jars. Without inhibition, John, Karen, Linda, and I were slurping and slapping the pallet everywhere. Some of it even ended up on the paper.

In less than an hour, our creative frenzy produced masterpieces worthy of an exhibition at the next parent-teacher meeting. As for that drop cloth? I am pretty sure it ended up In The Museum of Modern Art.

“Rollover, Paul Jackson Pollock!”

I don’t recollect the subject of the picture I painted. But I do remember the sheer delight and freedom I felt creating it. Pride beyond belief filled Miss Jefferies’ classroom at the parent-teachers’ open house.

That uninhibited joy is the true catalyst for creativity.

Don’t expect perfection. Enjoy the evolution of an idea. Let the concept tumble through a series of playful

rough sketches that you may choose to toss once the final composition reveals itself.

Getting started seems to be the hardest part. Teaching summer classes on cartooning at the Springfield Art Museum, I was surprised. Amazingly, a single sheet of white paper paralyzed them. It caused vapor lock in the craniums of kids and adults alike.

A universal fear of hearing, “You are not doing it right!” froze any notion of creativity at the starting line.

I played a little old-time rock and roll. It eased the tension with a good beat going. The students were free to draw sweeping scribbles using the whole arm, not just the hand and wrist. Taking those loose scribbles, they added a few creature features (eyes, ears, nose, and mouth). Walla! They morphed a mess into some very original cartoons, like butterflies, dragons, or puppies.

Don’t let the fear grip you. Grab the graphite. Go ahead and make the first mark.

Ever had a serendipity moment that set your creativity free? For me, it was back in 7th-grade art class. The assignment was to draw a life-like portrait. Mrs. Kirkpatrick herself, brave soul that she was, posed for the session. Thirty minutes later, she reviewed our efforts. She hovered over my unflattering distorted drawing.

Just For The Fun

By Chuck Clore



Photo courtesy of Chuck Clore

“Oh, Boy! Here it comes.” I thought to myself. “I am about to get the art critic’s scorn and a grade of D- in front of the whole class.

“Very interesting, Chuck. You have made my nose pointy. My ears are big. And you distorted my chin.” She said with a gracious smile. “I think you should pursue caricature art.

I not only got an A for my effort, but I also received a prophetic utterance over my career. Today, as a graphic designer, art director, and cartoonist, I have drawn dozens of caricatures as part of my portfolio. Go figure. Neither of us realized how prophetic her kind words would be. Thanks, Mrs. K!

Another ambassador of creative liberation came to Crawfordsville High School during my senior year in 1964. In his first year of teaching, James Glore’s appreciation for the art was contagious. He invested massive energy in rallying students’ enthusiasm for cultivating their talents.

“This is your opportunity to express yourself. Don’t be afraid to be uniquely you,” he would say. “Don’t listen to the naysayers, especially the ones in your head. Do art your way! Take pleasure in creating”

Our excursions to the Wabash College Art Exhibits exposed us to the revolutionary art movements of

the 60s. He encouraged entries into exhibitions and contests of our own. By graduation time in May of 1965, Mr. Glore ignited the imaginations and confidence of dozens of young creatives. The Ball State University Summer Workshop set us on a trajectory to become creative influencers ourselves. Thank you, Mr. G!

Thank God for all the mentors He has sent our way.

Crawfordsville earned the reputation as The Athens of Indiana. C-Ville has fostered an abundance of authors and artists throughout history. Those men and women ignored the critics and bravely initiated their scribbles on page and canvas.

Now, it is your turn. Join those Athenian artists. Use your imagination. Make that first stroke of graphite on the textured white Strathmore. Play! It is never too late to start. Just for the fun of it.

Here is a tribute to another mentor and buddy, Ric Fairchild. Ric embodied creative freedom when he sketched this illustration for the opening of my graphic design studio in 1980.

Poetry and Puzzles

Montgomery Memories

Landscape

By Joy Willett

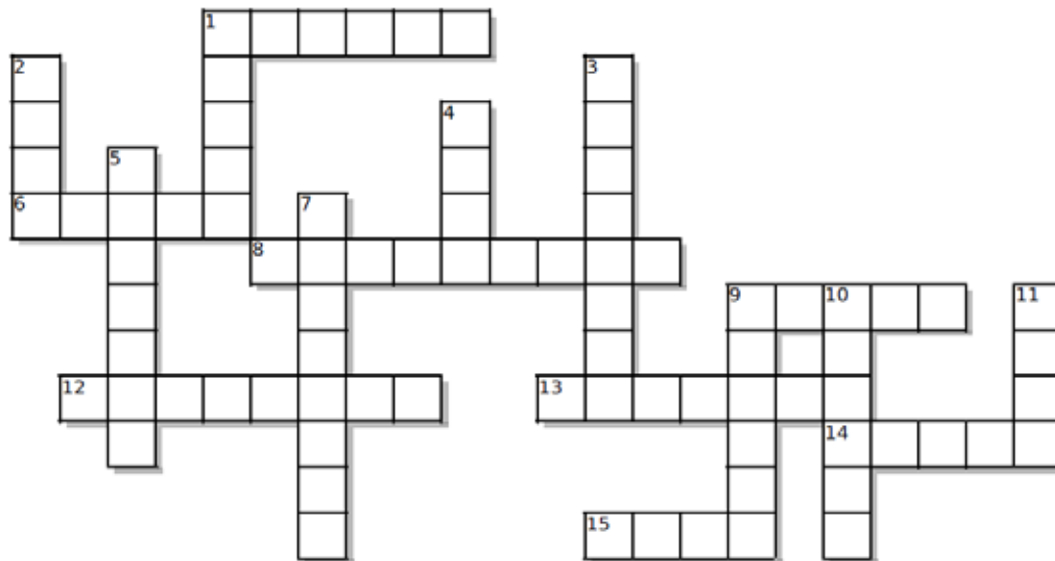
He carried his easel
to the stream
sat it there
next to the bream
who swam and jumped
as the light beamed.
He dipped his brush
into the paint,
dappled the canvas
colorful, quaint,
with lines bold
and others faint.

1

He watched the
sun
move through the
sky
from overhead
to the west nigh
such beauty
enough
to make a man
sigh.
He finished the
job
yet didn't move,
the evening, so
lovely
held him swoon
until the sky
gifted
a golden moon.

2

Brush Strokes



ACROSS

- 1 Harry Temple's crime
- 6 Jene Burn's setter
- 8 Painting of the countryside
- 9 Karen's April pie
- 12 Show window artist Will
- 13 Poetry is _____ art
- 14 Painter's stand
- 15 Surname in 2 MM columns

DOWN

- 1 It has chocolate ears
- 2 Clark Nelson's nickname
- 3 Artist who uses a chisel
- 4 They can be fried or hunted
- 5 Showers bring them
- 7 Locale of surly groundhogs
- 9 One who creates using clay
- 10 Favorite at Zach's A&W
- 11 1st medium of Ben West

Check out page 10 for the solution

Burkhart Funeral Home

Charles, Carl & Craig Burkhart

201 W. Wabash Ave., Crawfordsville

765-362-5510

www.BurkhartFH.com





Karen's Kitchen

Karen Bazzani Zach, Montgomery Memories



PECAN PIE & BROWNIES –

Funny that I've had two excellent cooks/writers doing this article, but I really enjoy it myself and it is usually the last I write as it is always short and fun. In this month's MM, the theme is artists and one of my sister-in-law's and one of my brother-in-law's are not only exceptional (see the Grandcestors' article) in the art department but are amazing cooks as well. Here are a couple of recipes from them. Note: My step mom (Doris Simpson) – her niece (Betty), and Barb my sister-in-law (her recipe) make the best-ever Pecan Pie. Others are decent, Jim's mom's was good but her daughter, Barb's is better and Barb swears it's the homemade pie crust and the big thing is to use an aluminum pan. Good luck! (Oh, mine is in the decent category and I do go by her two main points, even with her recipe that she found in her mom's old Betty Crocker cookbook it's not as good as hers, Doris or Betty's)

Betty Crocker's Pecan Pie

USE ALUMINUM PIE PAN

Use a 9" aluminum pie pan – unbaked homemade pie crust

Beat together with a mixer:

3 Eggs

2/3 Cup Sugar

1/3 C. Melted Butter

1 Cup Dark Corn Syrup

Mix in one cup of Pecan pieces

Pour into Pie Crust

Bake until set and brown – about 50-60 minutes at 375. Check the middle of the pie with a fork or toothpick to make sure the middle is beginning to set up.

Hate it when I have to put two dessert recipes and I could have sworn I had one of Terry's steak recipes that was sooo yummy, but can't find it so here's the

Brownies – lol

Cream: 1 3/4 sticks soft butter and 3 C. Sugar

Add: 6 eggs and 2 tsp vanilla. Beat Well.

Sift: 12 T. Cocoa -- 2 C. Flour – dash salt – add above and mix well. Stir in 1/2 C. Walnuts.

Bake in the middle of the oven for about 20 minutes .

Cool. Make Icing

1/4 stick butter -- 4 T. Coca – 1 tsp. vanilla – 2 C. Powdered Sugar – 1 Egg Yolk --- Milk for consistency – mix well and ice cooled brownies. I've actually made these and added the icing when the brownies were semi-hot and it was really yummy. Kind of melts in it and melds another chocolaty taste together with the original!!



County Connections: The Balhinch Artist

Karen Bazzani Zach, Montgomery Memories

Jene Burns helped with the appearance of something I always wanted to do and did so in a small scale a time or two but Jene in 1959 aided in helping Dr. Daisy Jones, the supervisor of education in the Richmond (Indiana) public school collaborate on a book, Richmond, Eastern Gateway to Indiana, that was to be used as a textbook for local history. The 4th graders in Westview had already used a mimeographed edition and it was a big hit! He is seen here in the 21 August 1959 Richmond Palladium with Dr. Daisy, eyeing his original drawings to how they appeared in the book.

Jene married one wonderful lady, Ellen Beals (whose father taught at Earlham College for many years) who when she passed away two years ago (Feb 21, 2020) lacked less than a half-year to be 100. Jene passed in 2006, lacking a few months of being 90. When they moved to our area (1960) from Richmond

(where they are buried in Earlham Cemetery) after growing up there and living there for many years, they purchased (or built) a home near Sugar Creek where they lived about 60 years. We always loved seeing Jene's smiling face appear at the (A&W/Zach's) restaurant (they loved the broasted chicken and fairly sure coneys, too). He and Bill would compare notes about their setters – his Dolly looked almost exactly like Jim's dad's Angie.

Jene's "Balhinch" booklet is one of the coolest books (thanks for the copy, Isabel) ever and it begins with a lovely memorial to Dolly. Loved his comment, "She has grace and style" like a hunting dog (which Angie was great at) but mostly "she just takes walks with me and is a fine companion." Of course, he has drawings of her – one waiting for supper, another in the creek and one basically pointing. Love his drawings, too.

Besides his drawing of the old Weir homestead, Jene explains how Balhinch got its name and gives a bit of Weir history shared by his neighbor, Mabel Weir Grimes. Some giggles next appear as Jene titles his next piece, "Six More Weeks of Winter." His lines made me laugh, "I have never been too impressed with Brother Groundhog as being a weather prophet. He's not scientific, not inclined to do research or



and sneaky. "All summer, they live off our garden. They watch us work and wait until we go in so they can sample our freshly cultivated wares." Although Jene and Ellen weren't much to fear, he did think they should be - ware of Dolly!

The book goes through a whole year with Jene explaining going here (an old house that inside smelled like coal oil) and there (apple trees and bee stands) in the various seasons. Likely while he and Dolly shared these experiences, Ellen was teaching as she had a long career as a teacher (and mother of five) in this area. Probably my favorite piece is "Down Cellar," but perhaps not my favorite drawing. In this one he tells of the 17 room home they lived in with a ballroom on the third floor. The home even had a servants' wing. Eleven chimneys in all with two hot water heating plants. Tiffany paneled china

closets, three porches and the list went on. He was but five but his older brother and sister remembered them trying to survive at the time when their father passed away. He instead had visions of their cat that crawled into their outside cellarway, having squeezed into a hole where a brick was missing to give birth to her babies.

I love all Jene's sketches (we have a couple framed and have seen others in the newspapers, Montgomery Magazines, and the library, but mainly I'm talking about the ones in his book, Balhinch) and the ones of the old homes are intriguing but probably the one I like the best is under "Notes on August" where he talks about eating their harvest (corn on the cob and even gives a bit of a recipe – "a favorite here is cucumber and onion in vinegar with a little sugar, oregano and garlic" – made that many times only we never added oregano and garlic – have to try that this summer) and tells that "no apple sauce is any better than that made from dropped apples – I have made so much apple sauce in my life and the apples in the bucket, the tree against the tree" sure brings a lot of memories my way and I do believe that's why I love this book so much is because it truly gives anyone who has ever lived in the country, had a family, enjoyed Sugar Creek something to which one can relate. Rest In Peace Jene and Ellen!

This is our county!

Why not help preserve its history by contributing to Montgomery Memories?

Email Karen Zach: karen.zach@sbcglobal.net Subject: Montgomery Memories

2022 Montgomery County Museum Scene



MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

As with the Lew Wallace Museum, the best way to visit is to schedule a school – tour hours beginning this month are Wed-Fri 1-4 p.m.; 2nd and 4th Saturdays from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. and the last tour begins at 3:15.



ROTARY JAIL MUSEUM OF CRAWFORDSVILLE, IN

The Tannenbaum Center is a wonderful place to have a wedding reception, a graduation party, any open-house type get-together – Use the e-mail below to reserve it. Covid seems to be winding down so hopefully the museum will be open from 10 a.m. 3 p.m. Wed-Sat \$5 for adults \$3 for children 6-11 and under, free. Neat to learn so much about one of the only 3 rotating jails out of 18 built still in tact and ours is I believe the only one that works.
contactus@rotaryjailmuseum.org



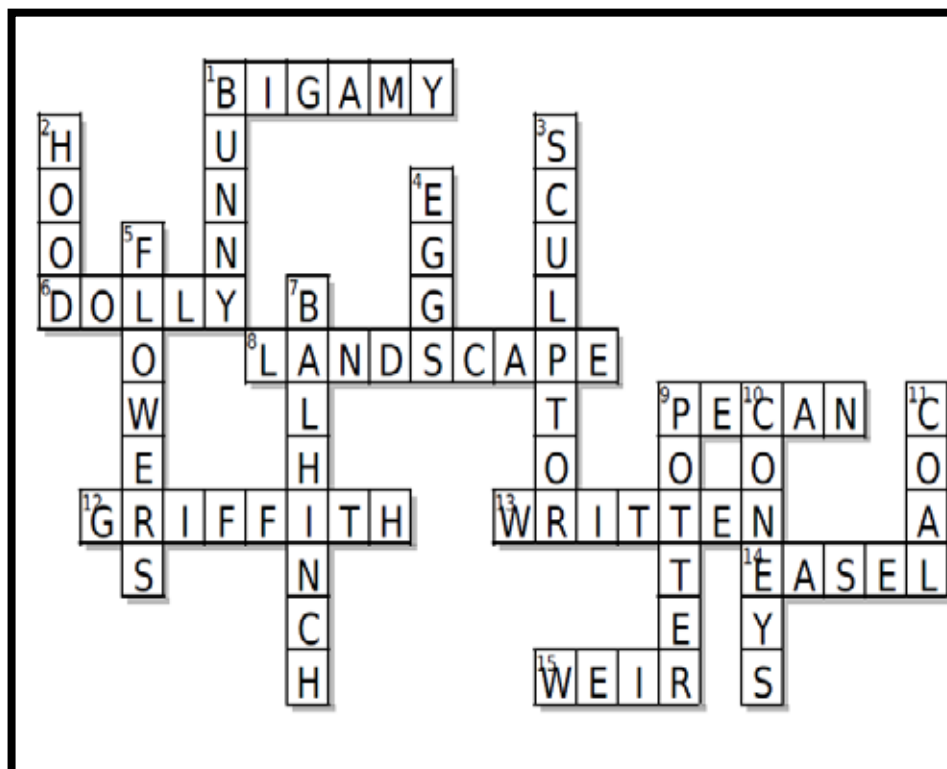
CARNEGIE MUSEUM

765-362-4618 – Wed-Sat 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Admission is free but also feel free to support the Carnegie as a member (\$25 per household) and when you travel you will be able to get into something like 300 museums. Pretty cool! Also this year's theme is From Slate to Tablet, featuring 200 years of Education in Montgomery County. Some upcoming events this summer
Sat June 18: free ice cream on the lawn of the Museum during Nature Day from 1-4 p.m.. July 28 – World of Wonders Book Discussion with Dr. Marc Hudson of Wabash College 7-8 p.m.. Sat Sept 24 – Stephanie Morrisette CDPL Staff Member and nature enthusiast will lead a short hike to gather crinoids along the creek bed at Sugar Creek Trailhead/Rocky Ridge Landing 10-11 a.m.



GENERAL LEW WALLACE STUDY

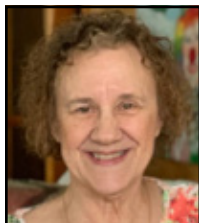
You can book tours online Home - General Lew Wallace Study & Museum (ben-hur.com) When you tour, you will have a staff member take you on a guided tour, wearing a mask and hand sanitizer provided if you need it. Appreciate masks and sanitized hands from the visitors. Book on line or call to book a time. The obvious items are expected (please don't come if you have a fever, cough, cold, headache, shortness of breath ... or exposed to Covid within the last 14 days. The tour takes about 40 minutes and the staff "knows the general!" The May Hoosier Book for discussion is Life List of Adrian Mandrick by Chris White and July's is The Anthropocene Reviewed: Essays from a Human-Centered Planet by John Green. Visit their book club website for more details.



LINDEN DEPOT MUSEUM, LINDEN, IN

(The) Linden Depot Museum's mission: is to preserve and protect the historic 1909-built Linden Depot and its railroad memorabilia as well as to promote its related railroad history. The mission includes the acquisition, restoration, preservation and display of railroad equipment, artifacts and mementos related to railways past and present.

Montgomery County is lucky to have so many awesome places to visit and opens in April. \$6 for adults children 12 and under \$1. See the caboos, the engine, the H-O model railroad scale. Open Fri, Sat & Sundays from April – October noon to 5 p.m.



Grandcestors

Karen Bazzani Zach, Montgomery Memories

My brother and sister-in-law are both amazing artists, both teachers of the subject for many years in the Lafayette area, Terry head of the Lafayette Jeff art department for a couple of decades or more. He was amazing taking students to contests, checking out colleges for them. Some time he'd even trade one of his paintings for work of theirs. He was more inclined to painting while Barb's media has been more in other aspects, with some unique mosaics especially. They have the most interesting home with his work, her work and students' paintings, as well.

Besides artistic, these two are both amazing cooks. For years, the whole family (about 13-15 of us) gathered at their house every Thanksgiving. Although we visitors would bring side items, they fixed the majority of the meals. He enjoyed trying new dressings, especially, and we loved 'em all, well, except for the oyster concoction one year. His turkey and other meats were always top notch and Barb's pecan pie amazing. Corn pudding was a tradition and remains so at current family get-togethers.

There were always things for the kiddos to do – play pool, watch tv, lot of board games, besides naps from well-filled tummies and yep, some of the adults joined 'em throughout the day. Cards was always on the list (bid euchre, sometimes more than one table) and of course, football games to watch. Visiting and enjoying each others company kind of wrapped-up the day. Both Terry and Barb worked with some of the nieces and nephews, especially our granddaughter, Reilley (even on Thanksgiving sometimes but often she'd go



stay with them for a few days in the summers) who is a fabulous artist but not so much on the cooking!

Jim's mom's birthday would land on T-giving or right around it and her cake (always chocolate from the same bakery and I think sprinkles if I remember right) and presents were always part of the feast as well. Somehow, sadly, we've gotten away from that and rarely have any original Zach get-togethers; however, we still lunch occasionally with Jim's C'ville sister, Becky and her hubby, Brad. Sadly, mainly we just stay home due to this crazy covid!

Not every year, but almost we'd take lots of pictures, often one of all of us – that was so much fun to look back and see how everyone had changed. Well, make sure you read Karen's Kitchen as some of the recipes from these two will be included. ENJOY!

This is our county!

Why not help preserve its history by contributing to Montgomery Memories?

Email Karen Zach: karen.zach@sbcglobal.net Subject: Montgomery Memories



TOGETHER, WE'RE BUILDING A BETTER TEAM.

Our more than 25,000 teammates are the heart and soul of Nucor. Our teammate-focused culture is delivering powerful results for our customers.

POWERFUL PARTNERSHIPS.
POWERFUL RESULTS.

www.nucor.com

NUCOR®