

The Henry County Historicalog

"Bringing history to life...and life to history"

Fall 2024

Spiceland Friends Meeting: A time to celebrate

Henry County was a mere two years old when a group of Quakers gathered under the trees in a place that would be known as Spiceland.

On Sept. 28-29, the congregation will celebrate two milestone birthdays at once-- the creation of the Spiceland Friends Church 200 years ago and the building of its long-admired place of worship 150 years ago.

"We are not simply celebrating a building or individuals, but the enduring truth of God's Word and the continuing power of the indwelling Holy Spirit to transform lives here in Spiceland," wrote Ron Reece, the presiding clerk of the Spiceland Friends Meeting.

A booklet of memories and testimonies of current and past attenders



This beloved building has stood in Spiceland for 150 years

is being prepared as part of the celebration. Long-time members and recent attendees alike are invited to share what the church means to them. Here is an example:

For nearly 75 years,

Irene Goodwin has been a presence at Spiceland Friends Meeting. Her father, Earl Prignitz, was brought to faith in a small Quaker Meeting in Iowa. In the late 1940's, sensing the call of God to

become a pastor, Earl and his wife Ethel picked up their family and moved from Iowa to Indiana so he could enroll at Earlham College. In 1950 he became the pastor at

See FRIENDS, page 4



Mark your calendars: Madrigal Singers will once again highlight Holiday Open House

Summer is fading like one of its glorious sunsets. Soon the leaves will change their colors. And before you know it, the hectic Christmas season will be upon us.

That's why the

Henry County Historical Society wanted to help you reserve a date on your calendar early. The annual Holiday Open House, once again featuring the New Castle High School Madrigal

Singers, will be Sunday, Dec., 15, from 2 to 4 p.m.

A presentation on the origins of popular Christmas songs will again be featured. Come enjoy a holiday taste of yesteryear!

This day in Henry County history

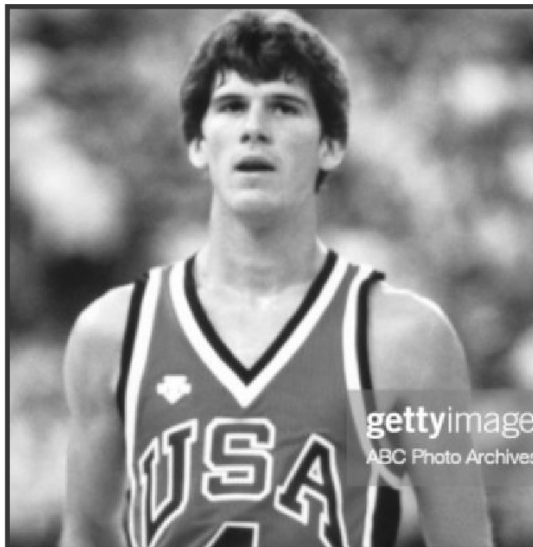
Each day, Henry County historian Darrel Radford posts a "This day in Henry County history" tidbit on the Historical Society's Facebook page. Here are some of the most popular posts in the past few months. We invite you to visit, like and follow the page.

If you missed any of these posts, we invite you to go back to our Facebook page and scroll down to find them.

Thanks to Doug Magers and the late Mike Bertram for the great photographs we have to accent our "This Day In History Page." Thanks also to our sponsor for the page, Destination Henry County, where slam dunk experiences await at www.HoopsInHenry.com.

Popular posts on Facebook

1. Steve Alford / Olympic All-Star team, 22,055
2. Christopher Long, Revolutionary Soldier monument, 4,742
3. Citizens State Bank anniversary of founding, 4,010
4. Princess Theatre, 2,594
5. Ben Franklin fire, 2,678
6. Spiceland Academy, 2,411
7. Merging of The Courier and The Times, 2,216



Steve Alford playing for the U.S. Olympic team in 1984 and the Princess Theatre's removal of segregated seating in 1960 were two of our top 'This Day In History' Facebook posts recently.

AG® at your service!

BY KAYE FORD AG®

Co-Director, H.C. Historical Society

The observant reader may have noticed the new credentials following this author's name. The AG® stands for Accredited Genealogist®. The International Commission for Accreditation of Professional Genealogists, or ICAPGenSM, is a professional credentialing organization who sets standards for the genealogical community through comprehensive written and oral examinations.⁽¹⁾ These examinations test an individual's competence in regional genealogical research.

Kayenectons

This author earned her credentials in June 2024. I am accredited in the Great Lakes region, which includes Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

The accreditation testing is done in levels. Level one is submission of a four-generation research report. A four-generation research report includes five sections: a pedigree chart, family group sheets, a research log, a document file, and the report itself. The report is based on a family who lived in the region in which one is testing for most of the four generations. The first generation is the most current generation, and the report moves back in time from that point. This is judged using the double-blind system (both applicant and judge are anonymous to one another). The applicant must pass at 90% or higher to move on to levels two and three, which are typically taken on two consecutive days.

My four-generation research report delved into the family history of local woman Julia (Mayer) Ballard, the author's maternal grandmother; the author's great-grandmother Julia (Doyle) Mayer of Wayne County, Indiana; the author's great-great-grandfather John Doyle of Cincinnati, Ohio; and the author's great-great-great-grandfather Christopher Doyle, also of Cincinnati and who immigrated from Ireland cir-



ca 1840.

Level two testing consists of a written examination and document analysis. In total, one has four full hours to complete both sections of level two. The written examination asks general genealogical comprehension questions of a broad nature. For document analysis, one answers questions about several types of documents, such as how to find a document, create a family group 1 "About Us," website, International Commission of Accreditation for Professional Genealogists (<https://www.icapgen.org> : accessed 13 June 2024) sheet from information in a document, transcription, etc. One may need to know the basics of a foreign language, such as German in the Great Lakes region. One will be given a foreignlanguage document from which to translate and transcribe a short segment. One will have to develop a research question using a found document.

Level three testing is compiling a first draft of a research report in a four-hour time frame. One is given background information and then has four hours to put together the five elements of a research report (see above). It is not expected to be a complete research report but representative of a first draft. This tests one's ability to create a comprehensive research plan, find appropriate data, correlate and analyze that data, and formulate next steps of research.

After passing levels two and three at 90% or better using the double-blind system, the applicant is then notified and scheduled for an oral interview.

The oral interview gives the applicant an opportunity to defend any questions the Testing Committee has. The applicant can ask questions of the committee at this time.

It took this author approximately a year to earn her AG® credential.

ICAPGen wants professional genealogists to succeed. With all this said, going through testing is not without assistance!

ICAPGen offers a robust YouTube channel with many helpful videos reviewing every level of testing. Check them out here: <https://www.youtube.com/@ICAPGen>.

Any genealogist is welcome to view these videos to aid in their research even if you are not testing. Another big help is ICAPGen online study groups. These serve as mentoring/peer review groups, as well as staying accountable for reaching your goals. Speaking of peer review, an applicant is encouraged to provide constructive feedback to their peers. Helping someone else helps you!

I participated in the level one study group and the level two/three study group and would not trade those experiences for anything! I learned from many others around the United States (and Mexico – hi Susana Leniski, AG®!), making new friends along the way. I am ready to put these credentials to good use in helping others delve into their Henry County family history roots. Find me at HCHS or at Kaye@HCHC.me (Hoosier Connections in Henry County, <https://www.hchc.me/>). In the next Historicalog, we will discuss using maps in your genealogical research. Historic maps offer much more than just geography in learning about your family history and are a great way to connect the past with the present.

(1) "About Us," website, International Commission of Accreditation for Professional Genealogists (<https://www.icapgen.org> : accessed 13 June 2024).



This intriguing collage celebrates the 200-year history of the Spiceland Friends Church on the web page for the congregation.

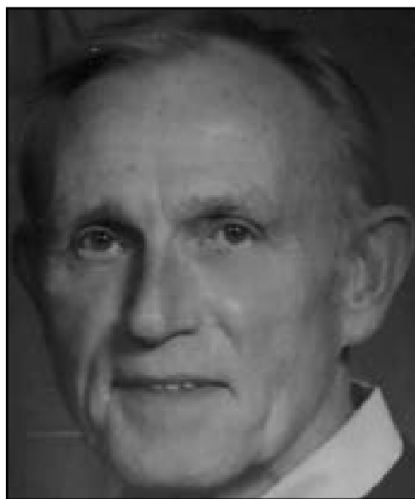
Friends

Continued from Page 1

at Spiceland Friends. When Irene first walked into the meetinghouse in Spiceland, little did she realize that many years later she would still sit in one of those pews. Irene remembers the meeting as always being an active one blessed with wonderful music. There were many children and adults involved in Sunday school and dozens of community ministries.

When her dad took another pastorate, Irene stayed in Spiceland, raised her family, and eventually retired from a teaching career, all while serving the church. During her years here Irene has been involved in almost everything but most significantly left her mark on the many children she taught and mentored in her decades of teaching Sunday school.

Today, Irene is one of the meeting's most faithful members. In her apartment at Raintree Square, she sits at her "card writing table" quietly sending out cards of encouragement and praying for those who are ill or just need a lift. She takes her ministry seriously and demon-



Historian and long-time church member Richard Ratcliff led a two-week class on Spiceland Quakers in preparation for the upcoming anniversary events.

strates what she believes Spiceland Friends has long been about – following Jesus' example of looking out for one another.

You are invited to share your memories by logging on to the website www.spicelandfriends.org.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Here's the complete schedule of events.

Saturday, September 28, 2024

- 12:30 pm – Opening remarks
- 12:45 pm – photo of 50-year members
- 1:00 pm – Pitch-in dinner (50-year members honored guests)
- 2:00 pm <Pictures>
- 3:00 pm – 4 The Light Quartet

4:00 pm – Dismiss to fellowship and browse displays <Pictures>

*Meetinghouse remains open
• 5:00 pm – Campfire (BYO chair, hotdogs, etc.)

Sunday, September 29, 2024

- 9:30 am – Sunday School
 - 10:30 am – Worship
 - 11:30 am – Cake, fellowship <Pictures>
 - 12:30 pm – Closing remarks
- *Meetinghouse remains open for as long as people wish.

A look back at Henry County's vote in presidential elections

Democrat candidates have won here only twice since 1832

By **DARREL RADFORD**
Henry County Historian

John F. Kennedy couldn't do it. Franklin D. Roosevelt tried — and failed — three times. The famous 1948 headlines were right here in Henry County. Dewey did indeed beat Truman. Even the dramatic rise of Barack Obama — which resulted in him becoming the first Democrat to win Indiana since Lyndon Johnson in 1964 — didn't sway enough local voters for him to win our county.

Where presidential elections are concerned, Henry County has almost always supported the Republican. Statistics compiled by historian Richard Ratcliff shed some interesting light on local voting tendencies.

In his book "Henry County at the Millennium," Ratcliff lists the local presidential vote totals for every year from 1832 through 1996. Ratcliff notes that Henry County residents first had the opportunity to vote for president in 1824, just two years after the city of New Castle was platted. That year John Quincy Adams defeated Andrew Jackson in an election that was ultimately decided in the U.S. House of Representatives, because neither received a majority of electoral votes.

Ratcliff notes that, unfortunately, no records of the local vote totals exist for that year or for 1828.

The records which are available are interesting, however. So are newspaper clippings detailing former presidential visits.

• Henry County loved Abraham Lincoln. That was especially true in



Gen. George McClellan only got five votes from Spiceland township residents in 1864, as residents there overwhelmingly supported incumbent Republican Abraham Lincoln.



Dewey did defeat Truman here in Henry County in 1948, but the infamous Chicago headline was historically premature nationally. Spiceland Township. In 1864, 344 residents there voted for Lincoln. Only five chose his opponent - George B. McClellan.

• In 1964, Lyndon Johnson received 12,374 votes, over 2,000 more than Republican Barry Goldwater and almost 3,000 more than John F. Kennedy had received here in 1960. It was only the second time a Democrat had carried the county. Franklin D. Roosevelt won here over Alfred M. Landon in 1936. But Roosevelt lost to Wendell Willkie and Thomas Dewey (twice) in the following three presidential elections.

• In 1972, 14,538 county residents voted for Richard Nixon, the highest vote total any president has ever received here until 2020, when Donald Trump received 15,043 votes.

• In 1992, Ross Perot received 4,416 votes in Henry County, the most ever for an independent candidate. Former Alabama Gov. George Wallace garnered 2,366 votes in 1968. In 1980, John Anderson received 562 votes.

While presidential elections come to Henry Coun-



Mooreland's Crawford Parker is seen here with Richard Nixon, one of the top vote-getters in local presidential election history.

ty every four years, visits by former or sitting presidents are rare, indeed. Herbert L. Heller, who wrote an "Historic Henry County" column for The Courier-Times in the 1970s, reported on two such occasions.

In 1844, former Democrat president Martin Van Buren - who was defeated soundly here in 1836 and 1840 by William Henry Harrison - paid a visit to Knightstown on the National Road. A newspaper report indicated the public there for this occasion seemed afraid to approach him. Elisha Scovell, a local resident and political friend, recalled in that story that Van Buren looked "a little annoyed at their backwardness."

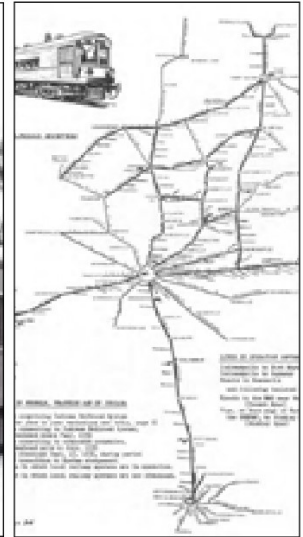
In 1871, President Ulysses S. Grant - who had won here by more than 2,000 votes - passed through New Castle with his family, according to the Heller column. He said the president greeted such local dignitaries as Gen. William Grose, Simon T. Powell and other personal friends.



Heller pointed out another newspaper account of Grant's visit said that the Civil War hero had not learned to make speeches and for this reason had nothing to say. The New Castle Courier, for this reason, had represented Grant's speech by leaving a half-column in the newspaper blank (above).

If history is any indicator, Donald J. Trump should again carry Henry County. The two times he's been on the ballot here have resulted in nearly 30,000 votes. There is no history on Kamala Harris, of course. The last time a woman was on the ballot for president here in 2016, Hillary Clinton received 5,124 votes. But ask Thomas Dewey. It's not over until all of the votes are counted.

Recent museum events take visitors back in time



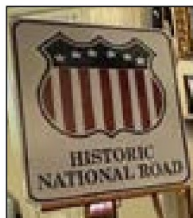
It was “all aboard” at the Henry County Historical Society on Sunday, June 23, during the museum’s “Transportation Day.” Zakry Lamb, left, talked about his love of train history, including the time-honored interurban, seen in the photo above. A map of interurban routes can be seen at the right.



Richard Adams shared his train knowledge at the June 23 event.



Bob Hunt gave a detailed history of the National Road during the museum’s ‘Transportation Day’ event on June 23.



Donna Tauber holds a new book by former Knightstown resident Pat Chase June 23 during the museum’s “Transportation Day.” The book on Jonathan Knight, a surveyor on the National Road project, is available at the Henry County Historical Society. Come see us Tuesday through Friday 1 to 4:30 p.m. or call 765-524-0530 to set up an appointment.

HISTORY NIGHT AT THE MOORELAND FREE FAIR



Mooreland native and museum co-director Darrel Radford led a PowerPoint presentation at the Mooreland Free Fair, touching on town and county history.

MOORELAND — Those who attended Tuesday’s “History Night At the Fair” presentation at the Mooreland Free Fair found a very different town waiting for them.

The streets were dirt. The old Mooreland school was still there in all its red-bricked, cupola-topped glory. Crawford Parker, the man who came oh-so-close to becoming Indiana’s 41st governor, was back in the town he once called home.

Pictures including all of the above and more were part of a PowerPoint presentation enjoyed by a good crowd during the first “History Night At the Fair.”

Led by Henry County Historian Darrel Radford, who grew up in Mooreland, the photos brought back many memories.

Frequently, Radford would ask “How many remember this?”

One of the attendees said afterward, “My hand was in the air all night long.”

From posters advertising a “Rabbit Supper” to those announcing major wrestling matches at the fair, the memories were many and varied.

Photos of the old Mooreland Drug Store showcased the pharmacy that was once here under the direction of Wayne and Eddie Lough. The business later became the Holaday Store. Radford recalled that, while he was in college, he worked for Richard Holaday at that store, famous for its cherry fountain Cokes, phosphates, milk shakes and malts.

The presentation also honored a pair of well-known Mooreland military men.

Tribute was paid to Jim Radford, father of the presenter, who was a World War II veteran and involved with the D-Day Invasion as well as the Battle of the Bulge. Radford also offered a slide honoring Dawson Pope, who was at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941 and survived the Japanese attack. Pope, who later became a well-known Mooreland carpenter, used his skills to help rebuild the Hawaii area following the attack.

Radford dedicated the PowerPoint to his late sister, Cheryl, who dearly loved the Mooreland Free Fair. She died from pancreatic cancer March 14.

Radford, who is co-director of the Henry County Historical Society, has a variety of PowerPoint presentations available to show at local service clubs and organizations.



This 1909 temperance parade made Mooreland’s stance on alcohol consumption perfectly clear.



The Gards’ ‘red hot rhythm is missed



Rabbit Supper, anyone?



Remembering the old Mooreland school.

Is there another New Castle governor in Indiana's future?

By **DARREL RADFORD**
For The Courier-Times

Politics was never on Jennifer McCormick's to-do list. Making a difference, on the other hand, has always been there.

From the time she was a New Castle student to serving first as a teacher and then a school superintendent, this daughter of Sheldon and the late Barbara Dynes sought to change lives for the better.

That life passion has now brought McCormick to a place she never had on her personal map—a bid to become Indiana's 52nd governor.

"I don't have huge political aspirations," McCormick said in answer to a question earlier this year at an event in the New Castle Armory.



"It's not what my overall dream was as an adult. But it's brought me to this moment and it truly is for me just an opportunity to help, to serve and to get Indiana back on track where we are focused on people versus a political agenda. That's it. It's that simple. Some have been aspiring to be governor their whole life. That's not me. Life can take you in funny directions but when there's a calling to say 'you can make a difference,' why would I not?"

Applause filled the room after McCormick's statement.

The 1988 New Castle graduate is the Democrat gubernatorial candidate on the ballot for the upcoming Nov. 5 Indiana general election. If elected, McCormick would represent a political rarity. While it's certainly not uncommon for Indiana governors to have previously held another statewide office, it's rare and perhaps unprecedented for someone to have served one statewide office as a Republican, then a higher one as a Democrat.

McCormick said the Republican Party she once knew no longer exists. And she refuses to be intimidated by the fact that the GOP has a stranglehold on statewide officeholders. Republicans have ruled the governor's office for more than two decades and currently have 110 of the 150 seats in the Indiana General Assembly.

"I'm aware of where I live," McCormick said. "But as soon as you tell people it's going to be really hard to win that race, you've just told them to stay at home. I believe if Democrats and independents vote, we win."

See **JENNIFER**, page 9

A look back at the only New Castle resident to be elected Indiana governor

A man who once practiced law in Kennard and New Castle became the 31st governor of Indiana.

Ed Jackson was born Dec. 27, 1873, on a farm in Howard County.

A son of a mill worker, Jackson worked in a (stave factory and delivered newspapers at Tipton.



He took up the profession of law, studying at night and in spare moments in the office of Attorney Leroy B. Nash in Tipton. He was admitted to the bar in 1898 in New Castle.

Jackson moved to Henry County with his parents and located in the village of Kennard, where he began the practice of law by renting desk space for 75 cents a month in the office of a doctor. In his early days as a lawyer, his professional fees were so meager that it was necessary for him to work part time in a brickyard.

In 1900 he was nominated and elected prosecuting attorney of Henry County and re-elected in 1902. After his term as prosecutor had expired, a vacancy occurred in the office of judge of the Henry County Circuit Court and Gov. J. Frank Hanly appointed him to fill this vacancy. Later he was elected to this judgeship, serving about eight years.

In 1914, Ed Jackson was the Republican candidate for Secretary of State but

See **ED**, page 10



A group of Henry County teachers gather in support of gubernatorial candidate Jennifer McCormick

Jennifer

Continued from Page 8

McCormick urged those in attendance to join her in trying to change Indiana's political colors from red to blue by talking to neighbors, using their social media contacts, writing letters, volunteering to walk for her in parades, and hosting either in-person or virtual meet-and-greet events. As she answered a series of audience questions, she said so much was at stake in the upcoming election.

School choice

McCormick was asked "don't we think parents should have a choice" on where to send their children to school.

Her answer was an emphatic yes. She said parents have had the choice of where to send their children for many years.

"The difference is how it's getting paid for," McCormick said. "The other difference is how it's being regulated. Right now, Indiana is the Wild, Wild West. I go to a lot of meetings where people from other

states ask me 'what are you doing?'

"If you want to send your child to a private school and that's a great fit, so be it," McCormick continued. "If that's such a great fit, why are tax dollars going to a school that can discriminate and pick a certain curriculum and tell a student who has disabilities they're not welcome, tell a student who has identified as LBGQT that they can't be admitted? Why are we paying for that?"

McCormick supporters say following the money leads to some dangerous educational cliffs. They cite more than \$600 million has been shifted from public schools to charter and voucher schools since 2000. Meanwhile, public schools here now have plummeted to anywhere from 43rd to 48th in the nation.

"There are a lot of great private schools," McCormick added. "There are. But there are a lot of private schools that have a lot of

questions they should be answering. You talk about Republicans being fiscally conservative and fiscally responsible. Why was there never a bill about if we're going to have all this choice, everyone should be under the same umbrella of accountability, whether it's fiscal, academic, admissions or teacher credentialing. Where's that?

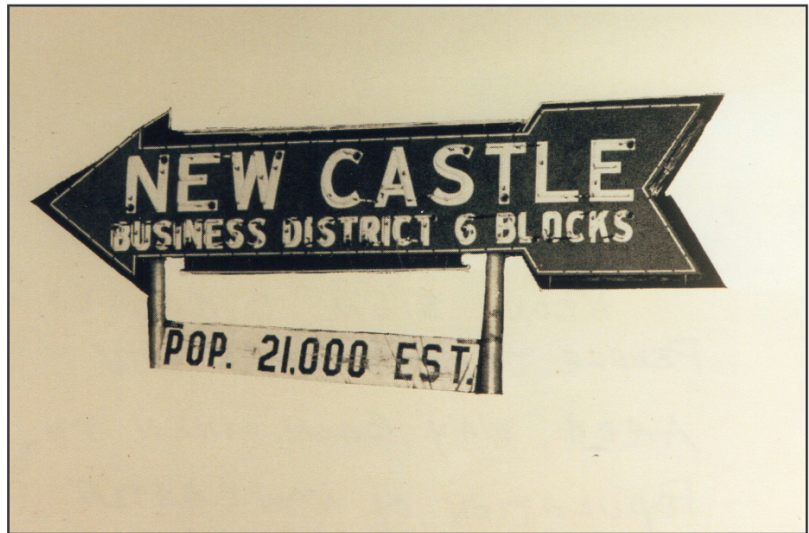
"So it just goes to show you this isn't about quality of education," McCormick concluded. "It's about they don't want to fund public schools. Period."

McCormick cited an 8-3 House employment committee vote Jan. 17 to ease several child labor laws, including allowing youth as young as 14 to work during school hours with parental permission.

"They don't want to fund public schools," she said. "When you're telling an eighth grader they can quit school, get a full-time job and go away, who saves money? The State of Indiana."

Remember this sign?

From the files of New Castle historian Doug Magers, this photo points the way downtown in the 1950s or 1960s. Do you remember this sign? By the way, the population of New Castle now, according to the 2022 U.S. Census, is 17,345.



Ed

Continued from Page 8

was defeated. Again in 1916 he was the Republican nominee and was elected. After serving about one year of his term as Secretary of State, he resigned to volunteer for the World War. After a few months in training camp, he was commissioned a captain and later a major, being stationed at Toledo, Ohio, Battle Creek, Mich. and Lafayette, Indiana, where he was commandant of the S.A.T.C. at Purdue University.

Major Jackson then entered the practice of law at Lafayette but in 1920 was appointed Secretary of State by Governor Goodrich to fill the vacancy caused by the death of W.A. Roach, appointed when Jackson resigned to enter the World War. In 1920 and 1922, he was re-elected Secretary of State.

In 1924, he was nominated by the Republicans for Governor in the primary. He was elected at the fall election on Nov. 4 and was inaugurated on Jan. 12, 1925.

During his administration Gov. Jackson stressed the necessity of the strictest economy; appropriations by the Legislature were curtailed to a minimum and a complete budget was adopted covering all of the state's funds. In pursuance of this policy, the state debt of \$3.5 million was paid and the

state tax reduced from 30 cents to 22 cents.

He gave special attention to the state road construction program and to the increased activities of the Department of Conservation. It was in part through his personal efforts that the first purchase for Dunes Park was made. He provided for a survey of the state universities and normal schools with a view of increasing their capacity and efficiency. He also promoted and greatly aided the movement for the national and state George Rogers Clark Memorial at Vincennes.

At the expiration of his term, he re-entered the practice of law in Indianapolis.

Jackson, unfortunately, had aligned himself with the Ku Klux Klan, an association that made it possible for him to be elected governor. In the end, however, he endured ignominy.

At the time of Jackson's election in 1920 as the candidate of the Republican party, the Klan had almost undisputed power in Indiana. It made laws and enforced them, and elected the governor, legislators, judges, prosecutors and mayors.

It preached white supremacy, terrorized blacks, persecuted Jews and discriminated against Catholics.

Because of his involvement with

the Klan, as well as with an earlier governor, Warren T. McCray, Jackson was indicted and saved only by a legal technicality from going to jail. McCray did, indeed, serve a prison term for rewarding his banker friends with a larger distribution of state funds than was legal and for giving out false bank statements.

Jackson's entire administration was plagued with political and personal troubles. To his credit, be it said that he personally played a leading role in adding several parks to the state system, advanced the state road construction program and increased the activities of the Department of Conservation.

When campaigning for governor in 1924, Jackson had ridden in the Cadillac belonging to the infamous D.C. Stephenson, former Grand Dragon of the Klan in Indiana, who went to prison for the sadistic murder of Madge Oberholzer, secretary to the state superintendent of public instruction.

Stephenson had boasted that Jackson would pardon him, but Jackson refused.

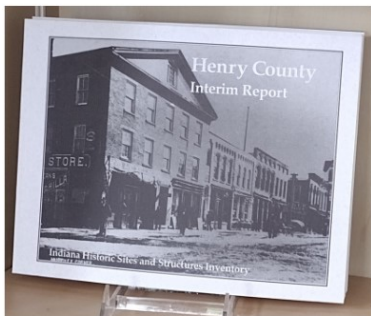
This article is adapted from the book "A Henry County Sampler," by Richard P. Ratcliff

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- Quarterly Historicalog newsletter

See Membership Application on page 12.

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NAME

ADDRESS

EMAIL/PHONE

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP

INDIVIDUAL \$25 PATRON \$50-99 CORPORATE \$300

(PAID ANNUALLY)

FAMILY \$30 BENEFACTOR \$100-499 HCGA \$75 LIFE \$500

MAY WE EMAIL YOU?

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PAID VIA:

CASH CHECK [check number: _____]

PAYPAL [Please go to <https://henrycountymuseum.org/become-a-member-form/>]

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?

YES NO

REMIT DUES ONLINE VIA PAYPAL, IN PERSON, OR VIA USPS Please make out checks to Henry County Historical Society and mail to:

606 South 14th Street, New Castle, IN 47362