



# PULASKI COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Preserving history for a better future.

## Courthouse Ladies' Waiting Room

### *Historical Society Transfers Properties*

*In late 2016 and early 2017, the Historical Society worked with two local groups that are able to provide capable and forward-thinking stewardship to three properties.*

*The Depot and Caboose are now in the hands of the Winamac Town Park Board.*

*The Log Cabin now belongs to the Northern Indiana Power From The Past.*

*The Historical Society wishes to express their appreciation to these organizations as they move forward with plans for these buildings.*

In the early years of the county's history, the Pulaski County Courthouse was no place for Ladies. Elected officeholders were men and those who worked in the various offices were also men. Additionally, it was men who went to town to conduct any county business.

It wasn't until 1913 that M. A. Dilts and other interested persons (probably prompted by their wives) petitioned the county commissioners for a Ladies Rest Room. Evidentially they had a pretty good argument as a suite of rooms was set aside in the northeast corner of the basement for this purpose. The Winamac Mother's Club was to furnish and supervise the rooms with no expense to the county.

Just a year later, it was brought to the attention of the commissioners that the Ladies Resting Rooms, also now called public waiting rooms, were in disrepair. It

was decided that these rooms were to be thoroughly cleaned and the walls and ceilings painted. Mrs. W. H. Huddleston and Joanna O'Connell, President and Secretary of the County Board of Charities and Corrections, were put in charge of the project. These ladies were given authority to use their own judgment in redecorating the rooms. Linoleum was chosen for the floors and paint for the ceilings and walls. Additionally, a wash basin, connected to city water, was installed for the ladies.

However, a few years later, in 1917, it was decided that an emergency existed in the condition of the floors in the Ladies Waiting Rooms. It was decided to construct an entirely new floor by adding a three inch layer of concrete. The concrete mixture was to be one part good Portland cement and four parts good clean sharp sand.

Furthermore, the project was not to cost the county more than one hundred dollars. Bids were accepted and J. S. Herrold was awarded the contract. His bid; thirty dollars including labor and materials.

With the passing of one hundred years, these rooms in the northeast corner of the basement of the courthouse have housed several different county offices. Presently, the Pulaski County Assessor's office occupies this suite of rooms. And the ladies rest room is now located on the south side of the east hallway in the basement of the courthouse.

For the continuing saga of this facility, see any local media outlet.



## PCHS Awarded \$50,000



### Press Release Quotation

*"The value of the opportunity presented by the Galbreath family cannot be measured," said Kathi Thompson, Pulaski County Historical Society president.*

*"The Historical Society is ecstatic to announce that work has begun, and with the addition of funding from the Indiana Historical Society, we can look forward to displaying the artifacts important to Pulaski County in the manner and style they deserve."*

The Indiana Historical Society has awarded a grant of \$50,000 to the Pulaski County Historical Society, which will support the organization as it moves its museum to a new location.

The funding comes from the second round of IHS's Heritage Support Grants, made possible by a grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. Grant funds from the Endowment are allowing IHS to award a total of \$2.5 million to

organizations across Indiana, in at least five cycles through 2019.

The funding, along with the generosity of Don and Dee Galbreath, will allow the Pulaski County Historical Society to renovate the carriage house on the Galbreath property, located at 500 S. Monticello Street, Winamac, into a new museum space.

As a first step in receiving the donated property, the Historical Society and the Galbreaths are working together on a plan that includes the provision of environmental controls, more appropriate space for exhibits, classroom space, garden space, public space and storage.

The museum, currently located inside the Quonset hut behind the Pulaski County Public Library, is open only on weekends during the summer months.

The renovation of the Galbreath property will allow the Historical Society Museum to remain open year round, featuring a number of rotating themed exhibits focused on local history.

The Historical Society hopes to open the new museum space in late 2017 or early 2018. Watch Facebook for updates.

### About the Indiana Historical Society

Since 1830, the Indiana Historical Society has been Indiana's Storyteller™, connecting people to the past by collecting, preserving and sharing the state's history.

A private, nonprofit membership organization, IHS maintains the nation's premier research library and archives on the history

of Indiana and the Old Northwest and presents a unique set of visitor experiences called the *Indiana Experience*.

IHS also provides support and assistance to local museums and historical groups; publishes books and periodicals; sponsors teacher workshops; produces and hosts art

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INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

exhibitions, museum theater and outside performance groups; and provides youth, adult and family programs.

IHS is a Smithsonian Affiliate and a member of the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience.

## Silent Movie Presentation April 7

Join us at the Opera House on Friday, April 7, at 7:00.

The silent movie classic, *King of Kings*, will be presented as a Lenten Special. This 1927 American silent epic film was produced and directed by Cecil B. DeMille.

It depicts the last weeks of Jesus before his crucifixion

and stars H. B Warner in the lead role.

The opening and resurrection scenes are in two-color Technicolor, a process used from 1922 to 1927.

Enjoy the early 20<sup>th</sup> century atmosphere, including a live theater organ accompaniment by Mark Noller from Manteno, IL.

Seating will be provided, (folding chairs). Feel free to bring a concert chair if you would be more comfortable.

This movie is long enough to include an intermission.

Concessions (popcorn, water and coffee) will be available. Concessions and free will offering will support the Historical Society.



## Indiana Disasters March 27 – April 10

The Pulaski County Public Library and the Pulaski County History Society (PCHS) will host *Indiana Disasters*, one of the Indiana Historical Society's (IHS's) traveling exhibits, from March 27-April 10. The exhibit, which explores all kinds of disasters and how they are remembered by Indiana communities, will be on display at Pulaski County Public Library, located in Winamac on Riverside Drive.

"The PCHS and the Pulaski County Public Library have had a strong partnership and both organizations strive to provide educational opportunities for our community," said Natalie Daily-Federer,

PhD, PCHS board member. "We thought this exhibit would be very interesting considering the history of natural disasters in our own community and neighboring communities."

It is no secret that – in Indiana – extreme weather such as floods, tornadoes, blizzards and drought persist year to year. The way humans interact with their environment also leaves people vulnerable to disasters, such as fires, crashes, spills and explosions.

Historically, stories of these events have been passed down from generation to generation, including biological,

violent and bizarre events such as epidemics, bombs and even squirrel migrations.

In this traveling exhibit, guests will see photographs from various IHS collections and from institutions across the state, which capture these unforgettable Indiana catastrophes. In addition, newspaper headlines, illustrations and survivor accounts show how Hoosiers have persevered in the face of disaster.

*Indiana Disasters* is made possible by Kroger. For more information about this exhibit, please contact the PCHS or Pulaski County Public Library.

### Indiana Historical Society Traveling Exhibitions

Historical societies, museums, libraries, schools and other nonprofit organizations in Indiana can book this and other traveling exhibits through IHS's Local History Services department.

Exhibits may be borrowed for four to five weeks at a time.

To book an exhibit, please contact Karen DePauw at [localhistoryservices@indianahistory.org](mailto:localhistoryservices@indianahistory.org) or (317) 233-3110.

For more information about the traveling exhibit program, visit [www.indianahistory.org](http://www.indianahistory.org)

**Pulaski County Historical Society**

PO Box 135  
Winamac IN 46996  
info@pulaskihistory.net  
www.pulaskihistory.net  
www.Facebook.com/  
PulaskiHistory

**Membership**

Please visit our website for up-to-date information.

**Officers March 2017-2018**

- President: Ryan Harrison
- Vice President: Steve Morrison
- Secretary: Janet Onken
- Treasurer: Lin Morrison
- Curator: Natalie Federer
- Past President: Kathi Thompson

# Bluegrass Jam April 21

Join us for another exciting evening of Country, Gospel and Bluegrass music, presented in a Jam format on Friday, April 21, at 7:00 at the Opera House.

All musicians are welcome (acoustic instruments only, please).

Feel free to bring a covered dish to share and your favorite concert chair.

The VFW will be on hand to run a 50/50 drawing.

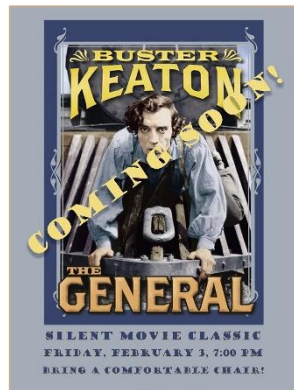
Other concessions and a free will offering will support the Historical Society.

Friday, April 21  
7:00 - 10:00 EST  
VFW/Opera House, Winamac

Dance Floor  
Popcorn, Snacks  
Coffee, Water & Soft Drinks  
50/50 Drawing by VFW

All Musicians Welcome!  
(Acoustic Instruments Only, Please)  
Feel free to bring a covered dish to share.  
Feel free to bring your favorite concert chair.  
Free will offering for Pulaski County Historical Society.

### You May Have Missed....



### Opera House Spaces

For information on renting either store front for a day or for a limited period of time, call Kathi Thompson, 574.270.0128.

For information about long-term leasing or to purchase the building, contact Ryan Harrison at 574.870.0338.

**Pulaski County Historical Society**

**PO Box 135**

**Winamac IN 46996**