

MUSEUM MUSINGS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE JEFFERSONTOWN HISTORICAL MUSEUM

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Thankfully, the Covid-19 virus seems to be on the downswing. The Museum will officially reopen to the public April 5th, with CDC guidelines in place, so group visits are currently discouraged. Also, we recommend coming in through the front entrance of the Library, so they can better keep track of how many people are currently inside the building. Thank you for your patience, and we are so happy to have you back!

EXHIBITS: Our current exhibit, titled *Evening Elegance*, has been extended until June 18, 2021. It showcases some of the finer dresses worn by the ladies of Jeffersontown from the early 1900s – 1960s. Our next exhibit will be *A Child's World*, featuring clothing, toys, furniture and other vintage children's items. It will be up from July 1 – December 17, 2021. If you have any old Fisher-Price (or other) baby toys you would like to donate or loan, they would make a nice addition to the exhibit, if you could bring them in before June.

BOUNDARY STONE: Several months ago, we rescued the last remaining town boundary stone before it could disappear forever. The 4 boundary stones were planted at the corners of the square in Jeffersontown by Valentine Conrad in 1850, and he received a grand total of \$1.50 for his efforts in procuring and setting the stone markers. Three of the markers were already long gone, and the last one had accidentally been felled during construction work. Thanks to the wonderful guys at Public Works, the stone is now in the Jeffersontown Museum, where it will be preserved.

PHOTOS: Ronnie Jandt allowed us to scan almost 100 photos he took in 1978 and 1981 of historic buildings in the Jeffersontown area. This really adds to our collection, and we are always on the lookout for historic Jeffersontown photos, so we can have more of a record of our town's history. If you have any old photographs of historic Jeffersontown places or events, we would be *very* grateful for the opportunity to scan and return them promptly to you. Every little bit helps!

DONATIONS: Thanks to Jim Holmberg of the Filson Club, the Museum now has copies of hundreds of *Jeffersonian* newspapers from 1907 through the 1960s. This helps to greatly enhance our knowledge of the goings-on in town, as contemporary newspaper accounts are the best resource for historical information. This donation really means a lot to us, and we are very grateful to the Filson Club for allowing the *Jeffersonian* newspapers to be preserved in their proper home – Jeffersontown.

Judy and Ron Steinhauer also donated many Jeffersontown newspapers from the 1990s, filling in large gaps from our current collection. It's hard to believe that the 1990s were 30 years ago now.

Carole Chambers Davis donated 3 quilts made from feed sack scraps – two were made by Carole's grandmother, Lillian Holloway Miller, and the other by her great-grandmother, Mary Burkhart Miller. Tilford Burkhart owned a feed store on Taylorsville Road, where the scraps used in these quilts likely originated. Carole also donated many other historical Jeffersontown artifacts, such as Carl Miller's top hat, barber shears, and large framed baby picture; a framed baby picture of Miss Lennie Seabolt. brushes, handkerchiefs, gloves, baby clothes, sewing utensils, 4-H items, cameras and more from several generations of the Miller family girls, and even a Howdy Doody marionette that belonged to Carole as a child. She also donated a lovely 1800s music box brought to Jeffersontown by George Seabolt, who immigrated here from Germany and a framed photo of his granddaughter, Lennie.

Donna Ulmer donated her beautiful First Communion dress and veil, as well as several needlework patterns, including a selection of Red Cross knitting patterns for the war effort that are now on display in our World War II cases.

Lori Christian donated on behalf of her brother, Frank Pribble, a c1970 Jeffersontown Chargers wool lap blanket, several annuals, two Chargers glasses from the 1970s, a 1979 class ring, and a 1987 City of Jeffersontown commemorative mug.

Carole Whitlege donated 1944-1947 Jeffersontown High School memorabilia of her parents, Jack and Lillian Hettinger Proctor. Below are the Cheerleading & Band Letters earned by Lillian Hettinger and a photo of some of the students in her 1947 graduating class. The items are currently on display in the Museum.



1978 photo of the Jeffersontown School, taken by Ronnie Jandt

