

THE ARCH

Putnam County Museum Newsletter



PUTNAM COUNTY MUSEUM
Bridging Generations. Connecting Communities. Preserving Past.

THE ARCH

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THE ARCH GOES DIGITAL

THE ARCH, Putnam County Museum's newsletter, has made the leap to online availability beginning with this issue.

"We know that many PCM members are digitally savvy, active online users and believe that many of them will actually prefer to read THE ARCH on their computer, tablet or smart phone," says Tanis Monday, executive director of the Museum. "This is one of several steps we will be taking to reach out online to both current and potential future members."

Members for whom the Museum has an active e-mail address will receive an e-mail with short story teasers and links to the full stories, which will lead them to the Museum website (www.putnamcountymuseum.org). There, readers will see links to all the stories in that issue of the newsletter and have the option of accessing older editions of the newsletter, too.

Users will also be able to download THE ARCH in portable document format (PDF), for viewing or printing from their own computer.

Monday says the Museum hopes that roughly two-thirds of its current membership will choose online access. In addition to giving users the convenience of online access and retrieval, electronic distribution is expected to reduce printing costs by more than half and postal costs by two-thirds.

If you still like the print version, don't worry. The Museum will still print and mail a limited number of copies for those who prefer it that way.

THREE NAMED TO MUSEUM BOARD

Three additional members joined the Putnam County Museum's Board of Directors this summer and fall. They are: Robert W. Evans, Gigi Jennewein Fenlon and David Zeiner.

"Each of our new board members brings new energy and a unique perspective of our community to the Museum," says Tanis Monday, executive director of PCM. "We're already benefitting from their efforts and insights."



Robert W. Evans

Bob Evans, a lifelong Putnam County resident, is familiar to most as the owner and principal broker of Collins Evans Real Estate in Greencastle. He attended Culver Military Academy, DePauw University and Purdue University. Bob has served as a director of numerous community organizations over the years including the Putnam County Community Foundation, Old National Bank, Putnam County Board of Realtors, Main Street Greencastle, Greencastle/Putnam County

Economic Development Center, and the Putnam County Quality of Life Forum.

He was named Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year in 1993, won the Putnam County Foundation "Spirit of Philanthropy Award" in 1995, and was named a Sagamore of the Wabash in 1996. In 2000, his professional peers named him Putnam County REALTOR of the Year.

Gigi Jennewein Fenlon has lived in Greencastle for 20 years. She is the Coordinator of Community Service and Outreach for DePauw University. Previously she was Assistant Professor of Communication and Theatre and Coordinator of Arts Publicity and Marketing. She directed the university's annual ArtsFest for seven years of which her favorite project was Art and the Green Castle.

As a co-owner of the former J.C. Penney building in Greencastle, Gigi has been personally involved in downtown revitalization efforts. She served on the board of Main Street Greencastle and is a past president of the organization.



Gigi Jennewein Fenlon

Gigi has acted and directed throughout the state, including appearances with Indiana State University's SummerStage and the Phoenix Theatre in Indianapolis. She is currently a member of the Arts Illiana advisory board.

David Zeiner, a 1980 graduate of Greencastle High School, received his B.S. degree in Agriculture from Purdue University. He worked in computer sales and network installations for IMS-Connecting Point and also as a territory manager for Xerox Corp. He then operated and managed a fast-growing captive finance company for several years in the outdoor power industry. Currently David operates the family farm and manages residential and commercial property. He is a licensed auctioneer, insurance adjuster and personal property appraiser.



David Zeiner

His community service includes having served on the board of the Putnam County United Way, and currently as treasurer of the Putnam Friend-of-Youth Foundation (Camp Friend). Celebrity watchers will remember David as a "star" of Dancing with the Putnam County Stars for the Putnam County Youth Development Center.

The mission of the Putnam County Museum is to collect, preserve, and interpret the natural, historical, and cultural heritage of the county and its people through education, exhibits, and special programs.

Putnam County Museum



Putnam County Museum



PUTNAM COUNTY MUSEUM
1105 N. JACKSON STREET
GREENCASTLE, INDIANA 46135

IN THIS ISSUE...

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- Sarah Myers appointed
- Volunteers play vital role
- Posters, Courtesy of American Legion

SARAH MYERS
APPOINTED
NEW ASSOCIATE
DIRECTOR

Sarah Myers, a Putnam County native with one of the nation’s first college majors in Public History, has joined the Museum as part-time associate director.

“I am genuinely excited that Sarah is joining us,” says Tanis Monday, executive director of the Museum.

“She is a hard worker who will help the Museum strengthen its standards and practices.”

Myers is a third generation native of Putnam County. She graduated from Greencastle High School in 2008,



Sarah Myers,
Museum Associate Director

then attended Ball State University, first as a history major, and later joined the Public History program. “It was the perfect choice for me, as someone who enjoys history but didn’t want to teach,” Myers says.

The Public History program prepares student for history-related careers in public agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private for-profit firms, organizations, and agencies.

Sarah interned at PCM in 2010, working as a docent and on the museum’s collections database. After graduating from Ball State, she joined the Fort Des Moines Museum in Des Moines, Iowa, as its Education Coordinator through AmeriCorps VISTA.

“Fort Des Moines was a wonderful place to start my career; but the opportunity to return home and to the Putnam County Museum was too good to pass up,” Myers says. “This position is what I studied for and what I want to do professionally. I learned so much from my short time at the Fort Des Moines Museum and was sad to leave, but I know I will love working with Tanis at the Putnam County Museum.”

MUSEUM VOLUNTEERS PLAY VITAL ROLE

There is a role for volunteers in every local non-profit organization, but for the Putnam County Museum, they are essential. “The Museum simply couldn’t function without its volunteers,” notes Diana LaViolette, a former president and now emeritus board member.

Visitors to the museum are greeted by docents, a corps of about 12 volunteers who give tours, tell visitors about the current exhibits, and run the Museum’s gift shop. “Docents help visitors attach importance to what is featured in an exhibit and its role in the county’s history. They put things in perspective,” says Mary Ann Meyer, who has volunteered at the Museum since 2007 and now runs the docent program.

But not all Museum volunteers are so visible. Marian Abowitz, who just moved to Putnam County a few years ago, works behind the scenes by helping to organize and document the Museum’s growing collection.

“It’s so fascinating to see the things that people donate to the Museum,” she says. “The first time I was here, I got to hold army jackets from World War I, and it really gave me an amazing feeling. I didn’t expect to be so touched by artifacts, yet so many things have made a powerful impression on me.”

Meyer agrees. “Our current exhibit on DePauw is a great example. I graduated from DePauw and have been around the campus for years. But I learned things I’d never known from walking through the Museum’s DePauw exhibit.” Volunteers from throughout the county are welcome to join the Museum’s volunteers, who contribute their time and talents in a number of ways. Here are some possibilities:

- Become a docent: Docents are needed during standard Museum hours (Tuesday-Friday 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm and Saturday 10 am - 2:00 pm).
- Join a committee: As a committee member, you have an option to research and create exhibits, help with fundraising events, coordinate educational programs, or find your own way to get involved and contribute to the Museum.
- Help with a project or an event: We are always looking for assistance with various projects and events. This is a more time-flexible way to get involved.
- Go “behind-the-scenes”: A lot goes on in preparation and maintenance of exhibits and in general upkeep of the Museum. Volunteers help with records and organization of collections, membership and in other important housekeeping operations.

“One of the reasons I love my job is that the Museum is a place where so many people come together to give back to the community,” says Tanis Monday, executive director of the Museum. “Putnam County Museum wouldn’t exist without the love and dedication of its volunteers—past, present, and future.



Docents: Marilyn Lawrence, Marilyn Clearwaters, Mariette Bargaen, Mary Ann Meyer, Ellie Ympa, Barbara Bates, Rita Schendel, June Brattain.
(Not pictured: Saraellen Peters, Sue Ryland, Kay Weaver, Vicki Krider, Sherry Gammon.)

PATRIOTIC WWI POSTERS DISPLAYED
COURTESY OF AMERICAN LEGION

An exhibit featuring World War I-era U.S. propaganda and Liberty Bond posters, provided by the local post of the American Legion, opened at the Museum in August. Another group of the posters will be provided by the Legion and exhibited later this fall.

“These patriotic posters offer a fascinating glimpse into a chapter of our history that many younger people may not be familiar with,” says Tanis Monday, executive director of the Museum. “We’re very grateful to the Legion for sharing this priceless local historic treasure.”

The posters were discovered by Jeff Bray and William Tucker as they were cleaning out the attic at American Legion Post 58 in Greencastle. The posters had apparently been stored there, and forgotten, for decades. “It’s a true ‘Treasures in the Attic’ story,” Monday says. “Fortunately, when they cleaned out the attic, they had the presence of mind to think, ‘We want to share this with others.’” And the rest, as they say, is history.

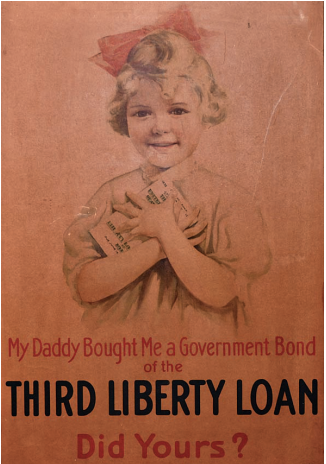
Propaganda and Liberty Bond posters offer a fascinating glimpse into the national psyche during World War I. They ask Americans to make personal sacrifices for the war effort: conserving food and basic materials and investing personal savings in the national interest. One poster in the exhibit, with art of a loaf of bread, reads, “Save a loaf a week, help win the war.”

Every nation in World War I used propaganda posters to justify involvement in the war, and to recruit men and other resources to support the military. Although the U.S. joined the war relatively late, in 1917, it actually produced more propaganda posters than any other single nation.

The posters urged wartime thrift and sought financial support from the public through the purchase of Liberty Bonds. Vast numbers of posters were produced. For the third Liberty Bond the U.S. government produced nine million posters, along with five million window stickers and 10 million buttons.

The sale of Liberty Bonds raised \$21.5 billion for the war effort. The majority of sales were not to individuals but to banks and financial institutions. Most Americans were simply uncomfortable trusting an unfamiliar form of investment.

Secretary of the Treasury William Gibbs McAdoo created an aggressive campaign to sell bonds to individual Americans. The government used famous artists to make posters, and recruited movie stars to host bond rallies. Al Jolson, Elsie Janis, Mary Pickford, Douglas Fairbanks and Charlie Chaplin all made public appearances promoting the purchase of Liberty Bonds. Even the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts sold the bonds using the slogan “Every Scout to Save a Soldier.”



ENDOWMENT
DONORS

- Dr. Roberta Barnes
Ms. Dorthy Brown
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen E. Demeritt
Dr. and Mrs. John Dittmer
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Emery
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Patricia M. Selsor
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Mr. and Mrs. Lee M. Stewart



SAVE THE DATE!

PUTNAM COUNTY
MUSEUM
HOLIDAY PARTY

JOIN US FOR FOOD,
FELLOWSHIP,
AND HOLIDAY FUN

DECEMBER 12,
2012
5 TO 7 P.M.