



## 50 Years Ago in the Burg

by Suzy Millar Miller, 2/20/2018

Fifty years ago, there was a lot going on in Reynoldsburg. Some of the stories shown in the March 13, 1968 *Little Weekly* were about the upcoming Minstrel Show, Society column updates by Gail Wollam, Comments by Barney Kiemeier, and lots of Advertisements.

**Minstrel News by Louise Ream** – *The school system of Reynoldsburg is well represented in this year's 'Modern Minstrel'*



and high school students will want to attend if only to see Coaches John Thompson and Bill Borland in the men's dance line. In harem girl costume, this group is sure to be the sensation of the show. Coach Bill Hayes will be playing an accordion solo and both he and Mrs. Hayes are in the chorus as is Mrs. Marion Canter. Mrs. Joseph Endry, Mrs. Bill Borland, Mrs. Fred Walter, and Mrs. Don Cherry are all in the girl's dance line along with twelve other ladies. Mrs. Endry also does a Charleston number with Mrs. Arthur Lenzo. Margaret Gorrell, Gary Oiler, and Alan Smith are other faculty members participating in the show, which will be on March 28, 29 and 30 at the Junior High School. Other new talents appearing this year will be Joe Ogg with a comedy routine, Steve Fisher at the organ, Pat Zill in a vocal number and The Modern Folk Singers, as well as many others." The outline on the photo read: **Wheeee**—Folks here about are in for a rare treat when they get the opportunity to see these girls, (Excuse the slip of the type-writer, men), perform in the upcoming Minstrel Memories...Photo by June Taylor"

**Front page headlines** included: **Pancake and Sausage Festival** (the Masons of Lodge No. 340 F. & A.M. held their 7<sup>th</sup> Festival); **Teen Dance** (sponsored by the Reynoldsburg Recreation Department with the band "Side Effects" for 25 cent admission fee); **Cycle Napper on Probation** (teenager stole a motorcycle from Tom Spires); **Man Arrested for Shooting** (a man shot a firearm through a door at Bates Main St. Apartments); **Tom Terry injured on Cycle** (Tom injured at the B.B.F. by car); **Armed Robbery on Main St.** (at the Main Carry Out on Main St. where the robbers took \$115.50); **St. Patrick's Day Program** (at St. Pius X School); and **Council Told Not to**

**Bother With Ordinance** (about a proposal to stagger the billing of the water bills where the Service-Safety Director, Charles Laird said, "If I need Mr. Whalen's help running the department, I'll ask for it" to Councilman Gil Whalen.).

**In Society News:** *Laura Bennett and Terry Myers were married on March 2. The bride is a 1966 graduate of Reynoldsburg High School and the groom is from Worthington. The wedding photo is of Laura Bennett Myers.*



Greg Hering, husband of Sylvia Tussing, left Tuesday for California and then will leave for overseas; Miss Ethel Barry of St. Louis enjoys reading the "Little Weekly" and hearing about her friends in Reynoldsburg. She was the first grade teacher here for many years; Mrs. Isa Barrett, Mrs. Vivien Hickman, and Mrs. Bishop attended the (continued on page 02)

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(Continued from Page 01)

Flower Show at the Fairgrounds Friday. Many folks were disappointed in the show this year; Mrs. Martha Tussing entertained the Dorothy Chaffee Circle at her home last Thursday.

The Kielmeyer Realty advertisement was called the "Light Touch". Barney wrote: *In those non-progressive times of the past you could just glance at a piece of furniture and tell whether it was a chair, a table, or whatnot; Criticism has no real power to harm. If it had, the skunk would be extinct; Always make others happy, even if you have to leave them alone to do it; The new jet age can be defined as breakfast in London, lunch in New York, dinner in San Francisco, and baggage in Buenos Aires; Did you hear of the Texan who is so poor that the telephone in his Rolls Royce is on a party line?; You'll feel rich when you see how much further your dollar goes at Kilmeyer Realty.*

Other advertisers in the paper that week were: **Blacklick Coal & Feed** (25 lb. of bird seed for \$1.75), **Walnut Hills Barber Shop** (boys under 12 haircuts \$1.50 except on Saturdays), **Reynoldsburg Salon of Beauty** (permanents for \$9.50 including haircut, shampoo and set - Reg. \$15), **Emon's Pizza** (free 8-pack Coke with purchase of any two orders of spaghetti & meatballs), **Wetherell Dairy Store** (two 1/2 gals. of milk - paper or glass - for 79 cents, Swift bacon for 65 cents a lb. and five loaves of bread for 89 cents). **Don's Briarcliff Drive-In Restaurant** (20 piece tub of Fried Chicken, \$3.75), **Craftown** - The Family Hobby and Craft Shop (which carried: art foam, sequins, decoupage, radio control supplies, and HO car & track accessories), **Dairy Queen** (sale on sundaes for Buy One Get One for 1 cent), **S&W Fabrics** (25% off wools, cotton prints three yards for \$1), **Schiff Shoe**

**Store** (shoe salesman wanted), **Connell Hardware** (bird feeders, bird seed, heat tape, and kerosene heaters), **Bartlett's Garage** (in Wagram), and **Scott's 5&10 Cent Store** (10 rolls of toilet paper for 67 cents, training pants for 17 cents, Toni Home Permanent for \$1.27 and a tubular braided rug - 102" x 138" - for \$33.66)

The **Classified Advertising** showed a variety of services including: **Sewing and Alterations**; **Small Truck - Will Haul**; **Ironing** done in my home; **Wanted - waitress for Jean's Coffee Shop**; **Cook & Food Preparation positions at Lazarus Eastland**;

**Sewing Machines from Capitol Sewing**; **Will Baby Sit** in my home; **Lost - black & white Toy Terrier in Brookside**; **'66 Mustang** at the Red Barn Discount Center division of Dave Smith Ford; **Wanted- School Bus Drivers**; **Wanted - Female Companion** for Elderly Woman; and **Due to Divorce - Singer '66 zig-zag** with walnut console. Assume six last installments for \$1.25 a week.

The ad about **Toni Home Permanents** brought back a lot of memories. Every spring before Easter, my Aunt Grace Millar Owen would come over to the

house and give my mom and me a Toni. We had to buy the Toni and Aunt Grace would put all of those tiny plastic curlers in our hair with those little papers. The whole house would smell like the perm solution for days. Aunt Grace would charge mom 50 cents and gather the local gossip for the week!

Things have changed a lot in the 50 years! Local newspapers don't seem as interesting as they were back in 1968. I guess most of the information now is communicated through Facebook, but it still pleases me to look back at these old, yellowed newspapers and read them as if they were yesterday.

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<b>Decco Const. Inc.</b> 6084 Livingston Ave. 866-4712 AFTER 6 P.M. 866-8724 LOCAL INS. REPAIR CO. All Types of Maint. Repairs and Remodeling FREE ESTIMATES	<b>THE EAST SIDE LUMBER CO.</b> A DODDINGTON YARD 1927 East Main St. 252-1161 YOUR PANELING HEADQUARTERS	

by Mary Turner Stoots  
02/09/2018

Delores sent me an email on December 28<sup>th</sup>, *"Hi all, that old arthritis has taken over my hands and so I will have to resign from the Sunshine Committee. Already, I cannot write well. So, as you know, this was my dream to send cards to our members but maybe someone will take it over. I am gathering the cards and will send them or bring them down. soon."*

It wasn't long after, that she got very ill and ended up in the hospital. Today, just 6 weeks after her email, we lost Delores. She was your Sunshine Lady for a long time and sent out cards to cheer people up. She will be missed by many.

Delores was a long-time member of RTHS and was Recording Secretary for the Board from 2005 to 2007 among other duties. You might remember seeing her at our last Card Party in April 2017, she sat at the table by the door greeting people with a lovely smile and taking their tickets.



L-R: Delores Gramelt, Nancy Vance, Ginny Stockdale, Nancy Slonaker

Delores attended Reynoldsburg schools for all 12 years and was a 1956 RHS graduate. The following is from the 1956 Commemorative Book when her class celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> reunion in 2016. The book was published by Suzy Millar Miller who generously supplied the information to me so I could share it with all of you:

*Her favorite activities (besides being grandparents) are her church work, the Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society, and garden club. At the sixty-year reunion in 2016, Delores wrote, "After graduation, I went to work at the Defense Construction Supply Center in Whitehall and I was married in July to Bob Trivett, who I dated in high school. In May of 1957, we had a son, Robert. About 1960, I returned to work at the same facility and retired as the*

*Technical Data Manager in 1995 just short of 40 years. Our son is deceased (2010), but I have one special Daughter-in-law who has a business of her own and two grandchildren, both graduates of The Ohio State University. We have a home in Florida in which we spend the winter months, so I am a happy retiree, soon to celebrate 60 years of marriage."*

### **Ruth Delores Trivett**

January 11, 1938 ~ February 9, 2018

Dee "Diz" Trivett, 80, of Etna, passed away Friday, February 9, 2018. Dee was a 1956 Reynoldsburg High School graduate; member of the Eastern Star; Reynoldsburg-Truro and Licking County Historical Societies; Reynoldsburg Alumni Assoc.; Reynoldsburg Garden Club and Vineyard Community Church, Reynoldsburg.

She was preceded in death by her son Robert; brother Stephen Gramelt; parents Steve and Susanna Gramelt. Dee is survived by her husband Bob; daughter-in-law Kathy; grandchildren Beth and Ben (Becky); sister Mary White; and several nieces and nephews.

Family will receive friends 10-11 a.m. Wednesday, February 14 at Vineyard Community Church 15187 Palmer Rd. Reynoldsburg where her funeral will follow at 11 a.m. Inurnment at St. Joseph Cemetery, Lockbourne at a later date. Arrangements under the care of Cotner Funeral Home, Reynoldsburg. Contributions may be made in Dee's memory to your favorite Animal Rescue association.

**MUSEUM STREET ADDRESS** (No Mail): RTHS Museum, 1485 Jackson Street, Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068

**MAILING ADDRESS:** Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society

P.O. BOX 144, Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068

RTHS Courier, March 2018-03







## ATTENTION RTHS MEMBERS

This is a reminder to the local membership that Saturday, April 21, is our "Helping Hands" Open House from 10:00am to 2:00pm. We will be collecting goods for Reynoldsburg Helping Hands. Feel free to bring us canned as well as nonperishable food items such as cereal, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce, macaroni & cheese, gelatin, pudding, canned soups, chili, beef stew, and peanut butter.

Personal care and grooming items are always needed as well, such as shampoo, body & hand creams, toothpaste, body soap, etc.

Please **do NOT donate any frozen or fresh food**. RTHS does not have the storage capacity, and the pantry prefers to buy those food items themselves using monetary donations received directly at their facility.

### What exactly is Helping Hands?

I wasn't sure, so I located an article online from *This Week News* published in March of 2014 to obtain a few facts:

- Reynoldsburg Helping Hands (RHH) first opened in 1958.
- They are the only food pantry that serves families strictly within the Reynoldsburg school district area (Truro Township). All food and money donated goes to local families.
- Unlike other area food pantries, RHH does not get food from the Mid-Ohio Foodbank. Mid-Ohio will not approve the Reynoldsburg pantry to get food because the location is so small. Therefore, RHH is totally self-sufficient operating on donated items and monetary donations.
- RHH serves about 40 people each week by appointment (*this number is from 2014, but I'm sure it is much greater now*)
- They are open from 10 a.m. to Noon on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, to receive donations.

- Monetary donations allow the pantry the opportunity to buy and keep frozen food on hand, along with fresh items such as milk, eggs and bread. They can also purchase grocery store gift cards for the needy families.
- The pantry advises that people should check the expiration dates on canned and non-perishable items, because outdated items are not accepted.
- Families in need of assistance should call Helping Hands at 614-868-9394 to leave a number and a message about how many adults and children are in their families. A pantry volunteer will call people back to make an appointment for them to come in and pick up food.

### I hope to see you on Saturday,

**April 21 ~ Mary Turner Stoots,**  
*President*



**"I Graduated from RHS with a Serial Killer"**  
**March 27<sup>th</sup> General Meeting @ 7pm**  
**Mary Turner Stoots**

## THE COURIER

*March 2018 Issue*

**Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society**

**Mailing Address:** PO Box 144

Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

**Street Address (NO MAIL):** 1485 Jackson St

Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

**Museum Phone:** 614-902-2831

**Courier Editor:** Mary Turner Stoots

**Courier Editor Phone:** 614-560-4987

**Courier Email:** RTHSCourier@aol.com

### Photos Provided by:

Connie Parkinson, Suzy Millar Miller

& Mary Turner Stoots

**Contributors:** Connie Parkinson,

Suzy Millar Miller & Mary Turner Stoots



Other local historical societies share the meeting minutes with their members, so the board agreed to share ours too. The following is a summary from the Board Meeting on February 13, 2018.

Our Board Meetings are all open to the membership and you are welcome to join us:

- The Christmas Dinner was scheduled for Saturday, December 8th, 2018 at MCL Restaurant in Whitehall. We will eat at 6:00pm
- Ohio Fire & Safety will replace our current fire alarm vendor as of March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018
- A committee will be formed to review the top ten items from the September 2017 Questionnaire
- So far, the RTHS Facebook page has reached 163,577 people
- Upcoming events include:
  - ✓ 03/24/18 – Genealogy I Class, with Wendy Wheatley Raftery
  - ✓ 03/27/18 – General Meeting – Speaker, Mary Turner Stoots, 'From Homeroom to Homicide, the Execution of a 1970 RHS Graduate'
  - ✓ 04/24/18 - Card Party at the Reynoldsburg Senior Center
- Handicapped parking will be designated by the back door of the museum
- Donations received:
  - ✓ Miscellaneous items for the McNaghten Collection from Phillip Thomas
  - ✓ An Intarsia Indian Portrait made by Jack Carson (RHS 1943) donated by Jack Turner
  - ✓ Miscellaneous give-a-ways for our museum patrons from Vickie Edwards Hall
  - ✓ A flagpole & base from Jim Diuguid. Jim also donated framing materials
- Connie Parkinson and Mark Myers were interviewed about the Underground Railroad for a Reynoldsburg Video series sponsored by Barth Cotner. The video was shot at our museum on February 14<sup>th</sup>



- **President – Mary Turner Stoots**  
(614) 866-6137 RTHSCourier@aol.com
- **Vice President – Dick Barth**  
(614) 866-0142 Rebdot1027@gmail.com
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- **Recording Secretary – VACANT**
- **Corresponding Secretary**  
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- **Past President – Richard Barrett**  
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\*\*\*\*\*

**Courier Editor:** Mary Turner Stoots  
**Publicity Chairman:** Mary Turner Stoots  
**Museum email:** RTHSCourier@aol.com  
**Museum Phone:** (614) 902-2831



## Lots of New Members!

Michael Burney- Individual  
Sandy (Jewell) & Bill Bysinger- Family  
Carol Deuber - Individual  
Sylvia (Tussing) Hering – Individual  
Steve Holderman – Individual  
Greg & Wendy (Baldwin) Leitch – Family  
Dave Reidel – Contributing  
Teresa, Brian, & McKenzie Spangler – Family  
Denny & Marsha Spires – Family  
Peggy (Scholl) Typrowicz – Individual  
John & Kay (Darby) Waldorf - Family  
Karen (Poling) Weber – Individual

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# Collecting Dead Relatives

**Genealogy I**  
**Saturday, March 24, 2:00pm to 4:00pm**

**Genealogy II**  
**Saturday, April 28, 2:00pm to 4:00pm**  
**With Wendy Wheatley Raftery**

Have you been wanting to learn how to do genealogy, but not sure how to start?

Have some of your family members told a story or stories you'd like to know more about? Maybe you watched those television ads about Ancestry.com, and wondered about doing a Family Tree of your own? I am offering two classes in genealogy aimed mostly at beginners or those who have started but may only be able to name grandparents or great-grandparents.

I began myself in 1980, intrigued by a genealogy class offered at the Main Library downtown. My dad had passed away in 1976, and I knew nothing about his family except his parents' names and the fact that they lived in Franklin County. The class beckoned to me to come and try to learn more, and I did. I hope my classes will encourage you as well, and I will share with you the many tips I've learned over the years.

We will also cover things like - Family Group sheets, Pedigree charts, surname lists, census records, County Court House records, birth, death and marriage certificates (and how to track them down), cemeteries, and many others. The coverage will include general rules you'll need to know, and we'll have a lot of fun doing it.

For a small fee of \$5.00, I will provide handouts of the forms mentioned above that you will need. The classes will be restricted to 13-15 people to allow me the time to answer your questions and give individual help when needed. The second class will be a continuation of what we didn't cover in the first class, so I recommend that you sign up for and attend both.

Classes are open to ages 12 and above, and how far above is entirely up to you. This is one hobby that you're never too old to start!

Register by US Mail or by email at: [cdutchman1@aol.com](mailto:cdutchman1@aol.com) and send your class fee as follows:

Make your check payable to RTHS (Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Class Preference: ☐ March 24 ☐ April 28 ☐ Both Dates 2:00pm-4:00pm

► Your class preference will be confirmed upon receipt of your class fee.

The classes are \$5.00 each, and \$10.00 to take both classes\*

Mail this coupon and the fee to Wendy Raftery, 3580 Homestead Dr. Columbus OH 43224

## Have You Visited Our Facebook Page Yet?

Just type "REYNOLDSBURGTR" in the Facebook 'Search' box and look for the little RTHS Museum picture to select: Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society



## A PLEA FOR HELP WITH OUR GARDENS

The RTHS property has been maintained flawlessly for many years by an individual who now has knee problems. Spring is around the corner. We could certainly use some help in that arena. **NO mowing required**, just help planting **flowers that we will provide** and periodically watching for weeds. A landscaper is NOT in our budget. We will treat the gardens to keep the weeds to a minimum. If you like garden work, **please help us!** Let us know if you are interested. Send an email to Mary Stoots at **RTHSCourier@aol.com** or Call Dick Barth at **614-327-8162**

## 2018 CALENDAR

### MARCH 2018

- 13 – TUE – Board Meeting, 7:00pm
- 17 – SAT – Open House, 10:00am-2:00pm
- 24 – SAT – Collecting Dead Relatives, An Introduction to Genealogy with Wendy Wheatley Raftery 2:00pm-4:00pm
- 27 – TUE – General Meeting, 7:00pm, Guest Speaker, Mary Stoots, "From Homeroom to Homicide" *The story of a 1970 RHS Graduate who was a Serial Killer executed by the State of Ohio.*

### APRIL 2018

- 01 – SUN – Directory/Roster Published
- 11 – WED – Max & Erma's Restaurant Fundraiser, 10:00am-11:00pm, All Day!
- 17 – TUE – Board Meeting, 7:00pm
- 21 – SAT – Open House, Helping Hands Shower, 10:00am-2:00pm
- 23 – MON – Deadline for May Courier
- 24 – TUE – Card & Board Game Party at the Reynoldsburg Senior Center 6:30pm
- 28 – SAT – Collecting Dead Relatives, Genealogy II, 2:00pm-4:00pm, with Wendy Wheatley Raftery

### MAY 2018

- 03-06 – Publish May Courier
- 12 – SAT – Computer Genealogy, Jim Diuguid 2:00pm - 4:00pm
- 15 – TUE – Board Meeting - 7:00pm
- 19 – SAT – Open House, 10:00am-2:00pm "Titanic Fashion, A First-Class Experience" *(the effort required to dress up fashionably on a daily basis in 1912 as a First-Class Passenger aboard the Titanic)* by Loraine Dawley
- 30 – WED – Pizza Cottage, Restaurant Fundraiser 4:00pm - 9:00pm (Dinner hours Only)

## SUPPORT LOCAL HISTORY

Join the Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society

**Individual - \$20 Family - \$25 Sustaining - \$30 Contributing - \$50 Life Membership - \$300**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Names \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Make Check Payable to RTHS and mail to: RTHS, Box 144, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068**

*Invite your friends to join*





# RTHS MUSEUM AND ITS LAND

By Cornelia M. Parkinson ©

Some time back I wrote a short article for *The Courier* about our museum, detailing land transactions and speculating on who built the house we use. Taking for granted that the research I did beforehand is still accurate, and additions could be of interest, here we are. The story involves one house divided into two houses, and three locations. Some land transfer records were missing more than 40 years ago. This may be hard to read because of the brackets [ ], but if you skip them you'll miss the gossip.

Lots 51 and 52 are in Old Reynoldsburg, at Jackson Street and Broadwyn Drive. These are the lots our museum sits on. They were created on November 9, 1831, when Abiather Vinton Taylor completed surveying and platting John D. French's land. [A. V., pleasant-faced and said to have been a dignified and gentle man, was one of the Hibernia Taylors, a son of Robert Taylor 1729-1858 who brought his family here, and who named Truro Township after his former home in Truro, Nova Scotia. French had come here from Washington County, NY, in 1816 and bought a square mile of land from Daniel Dunihue (here 1813), also land from an Edward Livingston.] When in the early 1830s the National Road (Rt. 40) headed straight through his land, French, in his fifties, decided to sell the land as lots. Historian Hetty Evans stated that his boarder, James C. Reynolds [a hard-working, ambitious man in his twenties, appointed first Postmaster plus several more achievements], persuaded French that here was a good place for a town. French may have had that same idea when he bought his square mile.

Franklin County records showed no demand for French's lots for four long years. The first recorded sales were in 1835, when six buyers bought eight lots plus two parcels. On September 26 that year, James McAboy of Franklin County bought lots 51 and 52 for \$35.

About a year later, McAboy sold the lots to Edward Hedden for \$210. 1836 was a year of

this was not mentioned in the 1836 sale.

Dixon took a \$300 loss when in April 1848, ten years later, he sold the lots to James Harrison for \$200. In 1849 Harrison sold a 30-foot strip off the south end to Ira C. Abbott for \$65, and in 1850 sold the remainder to George Rush for \$300. [Rush men also owned land north of Main Street on Lancaster Avenue.] In 1855, Rush sold his land to Samuel Parkinson [relative by marriage] for \$500. Samuel lived there with wife and children. [Samuel 1822-1901 was a brother of George Parkinson (carpenter) who bought land here in 1832.] Samuel, 28 years later in 1883, sold to Jonathan Bateson for \$2,500, and moved away.

From 1883 to 1927 is the vital gap in the land records. Another Robert Taylor (related? can't find; think not) and his family lived in the house from sometime before 1911. In 1927 the adult children and heirs of Electa Taylor [heirs were Bertha Taylor Valentine, Clem Taylor, Odessa Taylor, and Gertrude Taylor Funk] deeded the property to their father, Robert Taylor, for "\$1 and other valuable considerations," a legal phrase used to show but not tell a price.

[Gertrude Taylor's husband was Allison Ralph Funk, called A.R. His children carried his facial features. As I remember him, a big man, burly, 23+ years a well driller and pump repairman. He chewed tobacco; walking with a companion one day, he spat, then turned and asked solicitously, "Did any of that go on you?" For many years Gertrude and A.R.'s children Everett and Ruth and extended family rented and lived in the gray unpainted old two-story house. Ruth married first Mr. Bagent and had four sons: Fred, Donald, Jack and Bob, a hard-working RTHS member. Years later Ruth married Carl Horn. Ruth and Carl met via correspondence. Ruth brought cheer where she went; and was said to play a killer game of bridge.]



In 1973, when the Truro Township Trustees purchased the house and both lots from the Taylor family, the only direct Taylor heir left was Bertha Valentine. Her guardian sold the property so the money could be used to take care of Mrs. Valentine. [She died in 1975, age 90. Carl Horn had died in 1962; Robert Taylor's grandchildren, Everett Funk and Ruth Horn, moved from Jackson Street in Reynoldsburg to Jackson Street in Columbus, and sort of disappeared from sight. Everett was shy, worked as orderly in a Columbus hospital (Grant?), did not drive, did not marry, and as far as I know had always lived in that house.] Township trustees had the house razed, then discovered that state regulations prohibited building a fire station on property so near to a



prez] and helps built an attractive lockable room inside the hall; there we stored papers and other important materials not a public part of our display.]

Let's examine other land -- the land at Five Points (South Lancaster Avenue at Livingston Avenue) where the large dwelling that is now RTHS's museum once stood. In 1802 the Continental Congress had granted 320 acres to Daniel Earl, Jr., who had fought for the colonies in the Revolutionary War. Subsequent owners were James Crawford [pioneer settler, land south of Livingston Avenue, where his church erected a building], Robert Taft [brother-in-law of James C. Reynolds], and the Trustees of the Associate Congregation of Truro\*. Samuel Gould [schoolteacher], John and George Graham [early settlers], all trustees of the (\* same) Seceder Church, bought 82 square rods of land for \$20. In 1848 Hiram and Laura Sibel sold 18 acres to Lovett Taft for \$250. Taft, a Methodist minister age about 24, paid \$13.88 per acre.

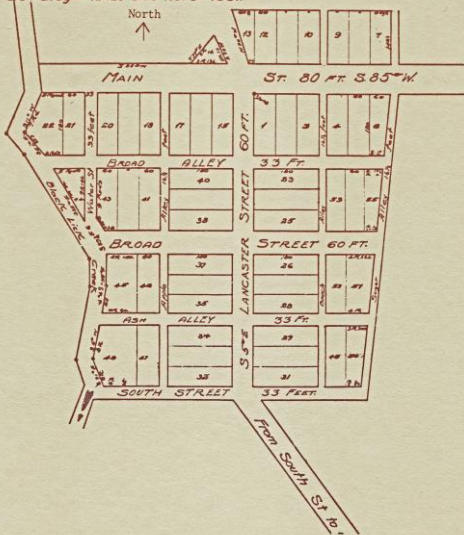
In 1850 Lovett and Leah Taft sold 18 acres to Robert Robertson. The price, leaping from \$250 to \$1839 after only two years' ownership in a time of national depression, strongly suggests that the house -- later RTHS's museum -- was built in that period between 1850 and 1852, during the ownership of Lovett Taft, therefore most likely it was Taft who had it built. Transactions between 1850 and 1903 did not suggest further improvements to the property.

Josiah Medbery bought it in 1867 for \$4300. Twenty-five acres had been added; so Medbery bought 43 acres at \$75 per acre. [He and his family lived there for 36 years. The creek to the west was called Medbery Run; 40 years afterward the land was still known as "the Medbery farm."] In 1903 Medbery, a widower, his son John and John's wife Sadie, and Josiah's widowed daughter Mary Valentine sold the property to Thomas Corwin Ashton for \$5,521. Some people believe that Thomas C. Ashton built the house, but Medbery's long occupation and ownership refute that; and Thomas's granddaughter

(continued on page 10)

### REYNOLDSBURGH TOWN PLAT

On the land of John French on the U.S. Road, on the east bank of Black Lick creek, on half Section 7 & 30 Township 16 Range 20 U.S. Refuge lands Ohio Nov 9<sup>th</sup> 1831.



school building -- straight across the street, the Hannah Ashton School.

The land stood empty. Three times the trustees offered it for sale: for \$28,000 minimum, for \$25,000 minimum, then for \$20,000 minimum. On January 14, 1985, RTHS bought the land for \$22,250. So, the society owned two lots, but no house. [Member and always strong supporter Clark Oldham contributed \$5000, but did not want news of his gift broadcast. We were still meeting, and had our historical displays, above Connell Hardware, in the large hall Nathaniel Nickolis Mason had built as part of his Mason

# April is Renewal Time For Community Rewards

## Attention Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society Members:

The Kroger Company has been very good to RTHS. Each quarter it sends us a check for over \$100.00! The amount is based on how much our members (those who are registered), spend at Kroger's. This is an easy way to help RTHS financially with **no added cost** to you.

But, you must be registered, and you must RE-Register **each April**. It's as easy as one, two, three:

- 1) Go to **www.Kroger.com**
- 2) Click on **'Savings & Rewards'**
- 3) In the drop-down box, click on **'Kroger Community Rewards'**
- 4) Follow the instructions to Register



**If you don't have a computer**, but you have a Kroger Plus Card, the rewards program can only be registered online. I called the Kroger Company and they informed me that the stores do **NOT** have access to help you register for community rewards. In this case, **TELL ALL YOUR FRIENDS TO REGISTER!**

## RTHS MUSEUM AND ITS LAND

By Cornelia M. Parkinson ©

*(continued from page 09)*

Evelyn Ashton Unkle stated that he did not. Neither Franklin County land records nor the land abstract shows who built the house and when. Thomas and his wife Emma Beals and their children lived in the house, at Five Points.

By any standards it was a big house, with a number of bedrooms. Sometime before 1906, Ashton had about half the house cut away and moved into town. [County land records neither dispute nor support this date. Fred Tussing (farmer, champion sheep-shearer, school board clerk) told me about the move, which used one horse, plus a capstan for leverage. The process took about a week and disrupted traffic on newly-widened Lancaster Road. At journey's end the house was placed on Lot 26, facing west at the northeast corner of Lancaster and Broad Street (later Broadwyn Drive). Thomas and Emma, and other Ashtons, have lived there, including their granddaughter Mildred Ashton Stouder and her husband, mayor Harold "Jack" Stouder.]

In 1993 Thad Greene and Marisa Ong owned the half of the house still standing on the original land, and they had plans for that land, but did not like to see a well-built old-time house simply torn down. They offered the house to RTHS, and after some discussion, the society accepted the offer. We had the house moved (Mark Myers told that front-page story in *The Courier*, May 2017). Many changes had to be made, but at last strong and willing men laboriously moved our displays down the 16 tall steps above Connell Hardware to the "new" museum, about three blocks away. They shifted really heavy things, but at least no piano.

For years the place was known as the Heritage House. As a founding member I offered a \$25 prize to the person whose title the officers chose to represent it. They liked "Heritage House." The name was later changed to Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society Museum.

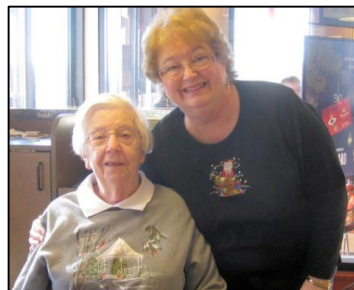
Now half the house faces west, the other half east, with their sides on Broadwyn Drive, separated by an alley and the garage Jack Stouder built for his welding shop. That shop housed welding and automotive repair shops run by successive different people, and is now [David] Bennett's Garage, part of the RTHS buildings complex, storing items belonging to the society.

by Suzy Millar  
Miller 02/05/2018

I thought I should write a short note telling of the passing of Elly Cornell McDowell on Feb. 4, 2018.

Elly was one of my best friends. She was a member of the RHS class of '66 and Girl Scout Troop 505. We have known each other since we were 4 years old. Elly is the first long term member of our troop to have passed away.

Elly's mother, Polly Cornell passed away a few years ago. Many people might remember Polly from her working at the election polls, being a member of the Methodist Church, and visiting friends at Cotner's. I mention Polly because many of you may not have known Elly as much as you knew Polly.



Elly grew up on Lancaster Ave. across from Connell's Hardware. The house is next door to the current Masonic Hall. Elly married Keith McDowell and moved to Hilliard, but she came into Reynoldsburg regularly.

I last saw Elly at a luncheon held at Ann Robinson's house last April. She was so full of life and fun. Elly has been having health problems which started a couple of weeks after that luncheon. She never really recovered from her initial health problem.

I have been so blessed to have her as a friend. We laughed together, cried together, and grew up together. I will miss her.

The photo with Polly and Elly was taken in 2012. The group photo was taken at Ann Robinson's house on April 11, 2017. Elly is in the front of the picture followed by Robin Mansfield Kefauver, Janet Welshon Fowler, Ann Robinson, Wendy Wheatley Raftery, and Sharon Cosner Sellitto. Not pictured: Suzy Millar Miller who was the acting photographer.

### **Eloise Dianne Cornell McDowell**

Eloise McDowell, age 69, of Hilliard, passed away Sunday, February 4, 2018. Graduate of Reynoldsburg High School, Class of 1966. Longtime member of Resurrection Evangelical Lutheran Church, where she loved working with the Bread of



Life Disciples Food Pantry. She retired from the city of Hilliard as a Finance Clerk and enjoyed camping with family, traveling and activities at the church. Preceded in death by parents John and Edna Cornell, son Kenneth M. Spencer Jr. and husband Keith Joseph McDowell. Survived by sons, Marty J. Spencer and Brian (Bobbie) McDowell; daughters, Shelly (Dave) Hudson and Lisa (Michael) Franks; sister-in-law, Judy (Larry) Johnson; 17 grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren; numerous nieces, nephews and a host of friends. Family will receive friends 1-3 and 6-8 pm Wednesday at the TIDD FAMILY FUNERAL HOME, 5265 Norwich St., Hilliard, OH 43026. A funeral service will be held 10 am Thursday at Resurrection Evangelical Lutheran Church, 3500 Main St., Hilliard, OH 43026 with Rev. Karen Asmus-Alsauer officiating. Interment Glen Rest Memorial Estate. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Resurrection Evangelical Lutheran Church Bread of Life Disciples Food Pantry, 3500 Main St., Hilliard, OH 43026. [www.tiddfuneralservice.com](http://www.tiddfuneralservice.com)





# This Event is the biggest Fundraiser of the Year

The Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society (RTHS) is sponsoring a Board Game & Card Party on Tuesday, April 24 at the Reynoldsburg Senior Center, 1520 Davidson Drive, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068. **You don't have to be a senior to participate.** This game night is open to **EVERYONE**.

**OUT OF TOWN/STATE MEMBERS:** Tell your Reynoldsburg or Central Ohio friends. I know you have some. OR Buy some tickets as a donation to RTHS (See Advance Ticket Sale instructions below). We will be more than happy to eat your share of the pizza!

**LOCAL MEMBERS:** We would appreciate any side dishes or finger foods you can bring to contribute to our Pizza Buffet. **Tell your friends and neighbors about the party!**

The event will be from 6:00pm to 8:30pm. The tickets are only \$5 each and can be purchased in advance or at the door.

For that very small \$5 entry fee, each person can:

- Eat from our pizza, side dish, and finger food buffet
- Be eligible for door prizes
- Receive bottomless glasses of free non-alcoholic drinks

Everyone is welcome to bring their favorite board game or deck of cards, although some games will be provided. Our patrons will also be welcome to participate in a Silent Auction and a 50/50 Raffle.

All proceeds will be donated to the Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society.

We are self-supporting and do not receive any funding from the City of Reynoldsburg.

The Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization, so all gifts, donations and ticket purchases are tax-deductible.

**ADVANCE TICKET SALES:** If anyone would like to buy tickets in advance, please feel free to contact me via email at [RTHSCourier@aol.com](mailto:RTHSCourier@aol.com), OR you can send us a check payable to 'RTHS' with **"Card Party Tickets"** written on the memo line of the check. The check must be mailed to **PO Box 144, Reynoldsburg OH 43068**, no later than Tuesday, **04/17/18**. Upon receipt of the check, we will hold the advance-sale tickets at the door in an envelope cleverly decorated with the buyer's name to be opened and used the night of the party.

We will also have tickets in the museum meeting room. Just give the money to Marvin Shrimplin or any Board Member and they will make sure it ends up with Marvin. If you have any questions, contact me via the email above or call the museum phone: 614-902-2831

**PLEASE COME AND JOIN US ~ IT'S AN OPPORTUNITY TO SOCIALIZE**

## Please Support the Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society

Join us for a  
**BOARD GAME & CARD PARTY!**



**Tuesday, April 24, 2018**

**6:00pm – 8:30pm**

**Tickets are only \$5 each\***

**Where: Reynoldsburg Senior Center  
1520 Davidson Drive  
Reynoldsburg OH 43068**

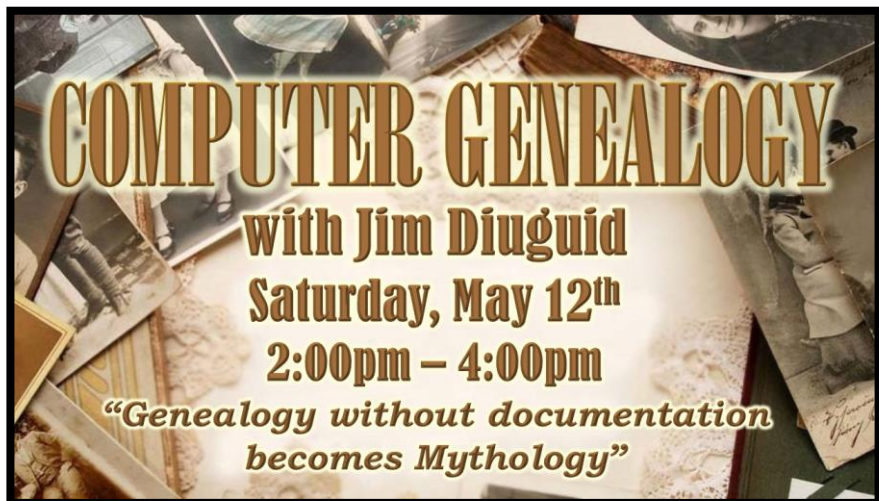


**Your \$5 Ticket includes:**

- **Pizza & Side Dish Buffet**
- **Non-Alcoholic Drinks**
- **Door Prizes**

**Feel Free to Participate in our  
Silent Auction and 50/50 Raffle!**

\* All proceeds benefit the Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society, which is self-supporting and receives no funding from the City of Reynoldsburg



Have you been studying genealogy and want to record family history on your computer, but don't know where to start? Did you look for software, only to find that there is a large volume of programs available and you have no idea which one to choose? Most of the time, you buy software by referral, then after it's paid for, you realize that it doesn't meet your specific needs, so you revert back to the manual method.

For this class, I will present three different software programs. We'll explore the differences and similarities between them all. This will enable you to make an informed decision on how you want to proceed recording and preserving your family history.

Please note: We have no Internet or WiFi at the museum and access to electrical outlets in the meeting room is very limited. You are welcome to bring your laptop or iPad, but a computer is not required, as I will be projecting screen shots for everyone to view.

I first began recording genealogy after my wife (Judy) lost her father in 1979. We were searching through Licking County property records and discovered that Judy's great-great-grandfather

came from Sussex County in New Jersey. We became curious and decided to go to New Jersey and search for more records there. We became hooked and the rest is history. As of today, I have published one hard-bound volume and five or six other volumes of our combined family genealogies.

In this class, you will also learn how to utilize the computer to expand your search for family history as well as what sources you should trust (or not) on the Internet.

If you are a beginner, I highly recommend you attend the Genealogy I and II classes that Wendy Wheatley Raftery will be teaching in March and April as an introduction to this class, but it is not a requirement.

The class fee of \$5.00 will be used to cover the cost of the packets that each of you will receive, and any portion left over will be donated to the Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society.

This class is open to ages 12 and above. Our class size is limited as the meeting room in our lower level will accommodate a maximum of 24 seats. The entrance is handicapped accessible from the parking lot at the rear of our building.

Register by US Mail or by email at: [judyjimd@gmail.com](mailto:judyjimd@gmail.com) and send your class fee as follows:  
 Make your check payable to RTHS (Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Computer Genealogy Class: ☐ May 12, 2018 2:00pm-4:00pm

► Your classroom seat will be confirmed upon receipt of your \$5 class fee \*

Mail this coupon and the fee to Jim Diuguid, 6807 Shaulis Dr. Reynoldsburg OH 43068

# Have You Ever Written a Grant Before?

Or maybe you know someone who has?

by Mary Turner Stoots

As a non-profit organization, RTHS has the opportunity to apply for various grants made available to community historical societies. These grants are specific for multiple tasks, such as general maintenance of our buildings, displays within the museum, archiving costs, construction, etc.

The only problem is that grants are like people; they are all different. Each grant requires unique information and very specific supporting documentation. To write a successful grant requires extensive training and experience. None of the current board members has written grants before, and the attempt I made at a construction grant last year was delayed for review until July 2018.

The former Executive Director of the Fairfield Heritage Association graciously supplied two successful grants to us to use as guidelines, but the criteria requirements on those documents varies immensely from anything we would utilize for our much smaller facility.

We are reaching out to you, the membership, to help us, so together we can help RTHS. Many of you come from professional backgrounds and have an address book or Rolodex full of contacts.

Please reach out to your contacts and ask them if they know of anyone who would be willing to help. And don't assume someone else is doing it. THIS is something you can do for RTHS. Everyone always says, "Let me know if there's anything I can do to help."

My motto has always been, "You'll never know unless you ask."



## Restaurant Fundraiser

**Here's Your Full Page Flyer**

### GIVE MOM A BREAK!

Pack up your family and take this flyer (on page 15) to Max & Erma's

Don't feel like going out to eat? The flyer will work just as well on **Carryout Orders!**

### RTHS WILL GET 20% OF THE SALES

**and the only effort required on your part is to have a good time with your friends and family.**

## Remember this from the January Courier?

**How many words in the Front Page Pickle article start with the letter "P" ?**



There are more than you realize!  
The first 5 email subscribers and first 5 postal subscribers to send me the correct number will win a prize!

99% of you either didn't want to play the game, or assumed that all the prizes were distributed. Guess what? Only ONE person responded, and I literally forced another member to count the 'P's (*I can't disclose his name because I've been sworn to secrecy*). There are eight (8) prizes sitting here by my desk waiting for a home.

So ... go dig out your January Courier and count the 'P's! If you can't find it, then go to [www.RTHS.info](http://www.RTHS.info), click on 'Information' in the brown toolbar, then pick 'Newsletters' in the drop-down box. The page you land on will have pictures at the top, and Newsletters at the bottom. Scroll down to find the January newsletter.

email: [RTHSCourier@aol.com](mailto:RTHSCourier@aol.com)

Call: 614-902-2831

## I Can Write a Book!

Learn How From Connie Parkinson

**Meet a Published Author**

**At our Open House**

**Saturday, June 16, 2018**

**10:00am to 2:00pm**

*(Connie's Talk Starts at 1:00pm)*



Take your family out to dinner and benefit the  
**Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society**

# **Max & Erma's** **8050 East Broad Street**

Join Us For A  
**FUNdraiser**

at

**★ MAX & ERMA'S ★**



**Reynoldsburg-Truro  
Historical Society  
Wednesday, April 11th, All Day**

**Max & Erma's East Broad  
8050 East Broad St.  
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068  
614-367-0370**

*Present this flyer to your server and a percentage of  
your food sales will be donated back to the organization*

**VISIT MAXANDERMAS.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION  
ON FUNDRAISING FOR YOUR ORGANIZATION**

Flyer distribution on Max & Erma's property is prohibited and will result in the forfeiture of your organization's entire donation. Donation amount is not calculated on alcohol and gift card sales. Donations will not be made on past purchases. Max & Erma's donations cannot be combined with coupons or other offers.

**WHEN?**

**Wednesday,  
April 11<sup>th</sup>**

**All Day  
Long!**

**11am to 10pm**

All flyers must be turned in to the server at the time of purchase for the donation amount to count towards the Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society. Flyers may be turned in and **counted towards dine-in or CARRYOUT purchases.** Gift card and alcohol purchases do not count towards any donation amount.



Be sure to check out the “This is Reynoldsburg” website online sponsored by Cotner Funeral Home at: [www.thisisreynoldsburg.org](http://www.thisisreynoldsburg.org). The website is: *“a multimedia project which aims to shine the light on Reynoldsburg as a community of diverse individuals working together to make our small city the best it can be.”*



Jared Marrero and William Back are both Seniors at Reynoldsburg High School. They developed this website together and have done an outstanding job. These young men should be commended for all the research they completed for Episode Four of the video mini-series about the underground Railroad: <https://www.thisisreynoldsburg.org/videoseries/>



Mark Myers and Connie Parkinson were interviewed at the RTHS Museum on February 14 about the Underground Railroad. They are currently featured in Episodes Five and Six of the video series with more episodes to be aired later in the month.

The video section on the website says, *“Our video series aims to explore Reynoldsburg, explaining its history and its future through interviews and commentary from community leaders.”*

## FIVE PLACES TO VISIT IN REYNOLDSBURG

**RTHS is featured as one of the “Five Places to Visit in Reynoldsburg”** in the ‘Articles’ section on the *This is Reynoldsburg* website.

<https://www.thisisreynoldsburg.org/articles/>  
The email addresses for the creators of *This is Reynoldsburg* are on the ‘contact’ page. Feel free to visit the website and thank Jared and William for helping RTHS to become a recognized part of the community!



The ‘Articles’ section also includes complete minutes to the City Council Meetings and offers links to an actual recording of the meeting!

This website is full of useful information. Barth Cotner should be very proud of the work that Jared and William have done so far.

### #This Is Reynoldsburg Mission:

Cotner Funeral Home is a proud member of Reynoldsburg, and truly believes in community centered values. An integral part of caring for a community is sharing the knowledge of it. No matter how hard we each try, as individuals we can only learn so much. As part of Cotner Funeral Home’s effort to improve an already rich communal culture in Reynoldsburg, they’ve sponsored *#This Is Reynoldsburg*. The project takes residents to places they might have never learned much about, introducing people and places who are integral to making our town what it is.