

Thank you for the article about 1956 in the March 2024 Courier. You neglected to mention one of the most notable events in the Burg that year - I was born in 1956! I'm certain it was merely an oversight that you didn't include mention of it. Others born that year who have a connection to RTHS are your cousin Sandy Winters, Cindy Kitzmiller, Cindy Basinger, Jimmy Slonaker, Charity Connell, and Steve Barth.

I grew up at 734 Waggoner - exactly one mile north of Main and one mile south of Broad, on the east side of the road. We were at the foot of the big hill just before you reach the Oldham farm as you are traveling North.

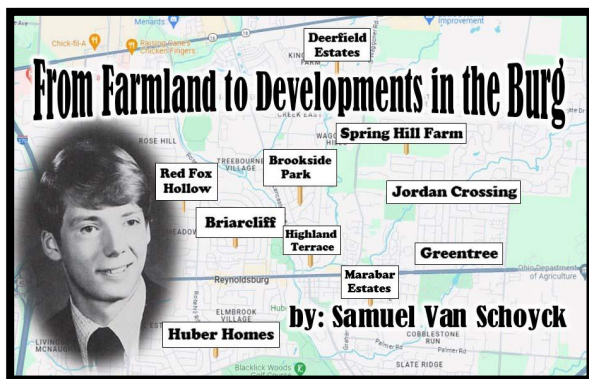
My mother often spoke of the 1956 flood. If you remember my home-place, there was a creek that ran down the middle, separating our yard from a field to the south. When

Mom and Dad got up that morning, the doghouse from the yard was floating and bobbing on whitecaps in that field, as the creek had gone out of bank during the night. The dog was tied in the yard and almost treading water. My mother was eight months pregnant with me. Dad was of the generation that went to work unless it



was a matter of life and death, and he walked to Broad Street to catch the Lake Shore Bus that ran from Newark

(continued on page 2)



(continued from page 01)

to Columbus. Mother ventured out to retrieve the dog and fell in the mud, pregnant as she was.

The water did not make it to the house, but the yard and field were a mess. The Franklin County engineer ordered a new



concrete culvert be installed under Waggoner Road. The old culvert of hand-laid stone was left in place to handle potential overflow.

My great-grandfather, James Oldham bought the Oldham farm in 1864 after mustering out of the Union Army. James, his father John, and his brother Sam all relocated from Hilliard to Waggoner Road.

James passed the farm to my grandfather Samuel Collins Oldham, who began a dairy farm. He married Nanny Tussing in 1891. Their children were Cyril (married Bertha Gray), Zola (married Robert Barb from Palmer Road), Grace (married Ed Carr from Hilliard), Leroy (died from a farm accident at four

years old), Clark (married Dorothy Carr from Hilliard, then Jo Mills) and Lois (married Carl Van Schoyck from Rose Hill Road).

Lois and Carl had four children: Suzanne - (class of 1951, married Glen Gornall, class of 1950), Marylou (class of 1953, married Les Thompson), Joe (class of 1961), and Sam (class of 1974,

married Jane Wyrick, class of 1972, then Diane Sellers of Jackson, Ohio).

I wanted to share what knowledge I have regarding the history of the various housing projects that sprang up around 1956.

Red Fox Hollow - These 100 acres were my Dad's home-place, owned by my grandfather Will Van Schoyck. The house sat very close to Rosehill Road.

When Will died unexpectedly in 1925, my grandmother was left with two adult children who were out of the home (Arthur and Eva), two teenage boys at home (Lester and Carl), two young children (Dorothy and Harold),

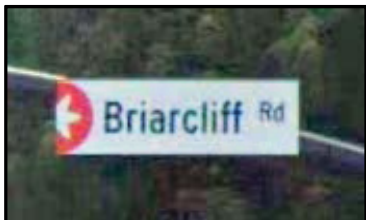


and Will's two spinster sisters. Lester and Dad quit school and went to work to support the family, then tried to farm nights and weekends. During the depression, the farm was sold for \$40.00 an acre to a group of retired nuns who lived on Broad Street. The nuns kept the farm until the 1950s when they sold it for development as Red Fox Hollow. *(continued on page 03)*

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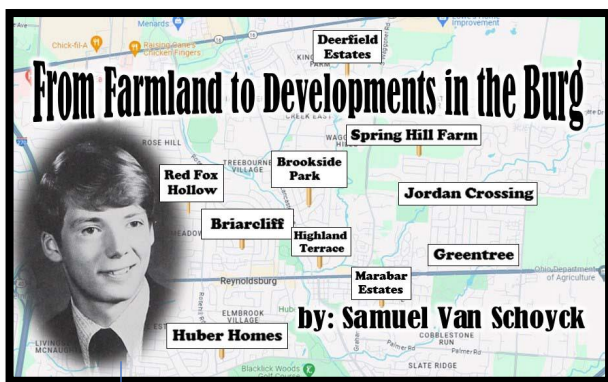
Huber Homes - Huber was comprised of two farms. Al Haft owned the western farm and Jessie Evans owned the eastern portion. Jessie owned the famous Red Barn where weekly square dances were held; Happy Orndorf was the dance caller.

Briarcliff - This was the site of the Briarcliff Farm, homeplace of the Feucht family, Briarcliff Drive was the lane to the farm. Fred Feucht, father of Buddy and Mary Alice Feucht Foster was born here. His brother Chris farmed the land until it



was sold for development. My folks said he was an excellent farmer, and the farm was well maintained. Fred farmed the land on Livingston Avenue where Quail Hollow condos are now located.

Brookside Park - Here again, two farms were merged. The south portion was owned by Clayton Roshon. His house stood on Lancaster Avenue and he



by: Samuel Van Schoyck

by the Dysart family (to whom I am distantly related). Their house was also on Lancaster Avenue, close to Rodebaugh Road. Cliff and Betty Rose, long time teachers at RHS, lived in the home for many years.

Marabar Heights - This property belonged to my great grandfather, James Oldham. I am unaware that it ever belonged to John Morrison. John



Morrison was James Oldham's son-in-law. John owned the first farm on the east side of North Waggoner and died in the 1930s.

Prior to 1955, the Oldham farm on Waggoner consisted of only 100 acres. They had a Jersey milking herd, requiring lots of pasture and hay. James bought the property on Graham Road that would become Marabar. At times, they drove their heifers and dry cows down Waggoner and pastured them there. They also made loose hay which they hauled back to the farm. My mother remembered taking picnics and eating in the shade of a large sycamore tree that grew next to

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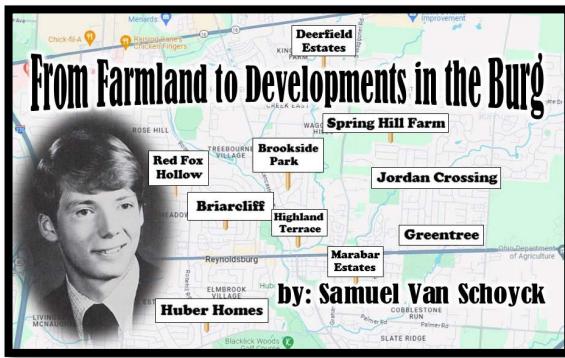
LIVE SUBURBAN
in
Brookside Park Addition
REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO

NO DOWN PAYMENT TO QUALIFIED VETERANS
Low Down Payments Under F. H. A. Terms for Others

Advantages of Home Ownership in Brookside Park . . .

- ★ Easy access to Columbus Metropolitan area, via Route 40 (E. Main St.) Route 16 (E. Broad St.)
- ★ Near North American—Army Depot—Port Columbus
- ★ Short Drive to Town & Country and Great Eastern Shopping Centers
- ★ Lots average 60 x 110 — Extra large size

raised a small flock of sheep when we were kids. The northern half was owned



(continued from page 03)

Graham Road. At some point, James considered developing the property and naming it Oldham Heights. He went so far as to have professional blueprints made indicating the location and names of the streets. I have these original blueprints, dating to the turn of the century.

After James died in the 1930s, the property was owned and farmed by his youngest son Morton. Mort was not a successful farmer, and he eventually sold the property to Wayne Burkey.

When Wayne decided to develop it, he named it after a contraction of the names of his daughters, Mary and Barbara, hence Marabar. Mort's son was Paul Oldham, long time insurance agent in Reynoldsburg. He and his first wife Marjorie purchased the first lot in Marabar, at the corner of Broadwyn and Graham. It was located under the sycamore tree mentioned above. The tree stood until Paul sold the house in the 1980s when new owners had it removed. If you are familiar with the contours of the land, you can't help but imagine what a beautiful farm it once was.

Deerfield Estates - Off Waggoner, these houses were also built in the 1950s. Many were owned by Western Electric employees. I cannot remember the name of the family who farmed it. The home sat where the first house is located today, and the barn was where the next house west is situated.

The next development in my memory was some 20 years later when **Greentree** was created on East Main on the former Wilby Arnold farm across the street from Glen Rest Cemetery.

Editor note: *I asked Sam a few questions. One of the inquiries, was about a story I heard - that at one time, the Oldham family owned all the land from Rodebaugh Road to Main Street down both sides of Waggoner.*

Sam: No, the Oldham family did not own all the Waggoner Road property from Rodebaugh to Main. That myth probably stems from the fact that many descendants lived on the road. Clark and Dorothy originally had five acres where the Lutheran church is currently located and moved to the farm after his father died.

Grace and Ed Carr lived on 70 acres on the west side of the road just south of my parents. Their daughter Jane Baer lived on ten acres across the road on the east side of Waggoner. And Mother and Dad had five acres at 734. At one time, John Oldham owned what was eventually



the Herman Woodruff farm on both sides of Waggoner at Rodebaugh. In the early days, the east side of Waggoner was mostly owned by the Boyd family, while the west side (from St. Pius to Main) belonged to

(continued from page 04)

the Chamberlains. Their heirs lived in Chicago and held the land in trust until it was sold for development.

Of course, you can deduce that the Baers (Steve, Tim, and Chris) and the Griffins (Ken, Lolly [Sample] and Rod) are my first cousins once removed.

The land **Helen Trotter** put into easement (behind the stores on Broad Street where Hobby Lobby and Lowes are located) belonged to her parents Lee and Alice Schmidt. It was difficult for her to get approval for the AG easement because the rules say the land has to be in an area that remains primarily agriculture. Clearly that was

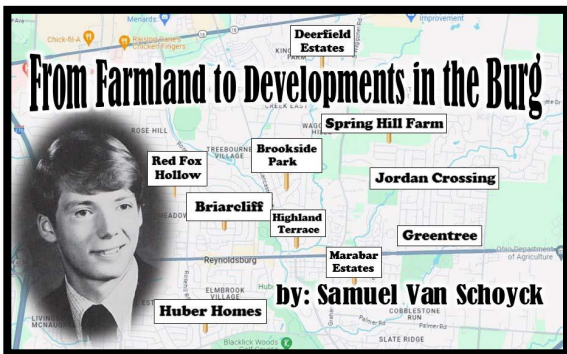


not the case, but she was relentless.

Editor's Note (from Mary Turner Stoots): I'd like to add three developments - One of the oldest housing developments, another a little over 30 years old, along with one of the Newest.

Highland Terrace, the New Addition—In 1907, Highland Terrace was laid out with 119 lots. Until Brookside Park was begun in 1956, Highland Terrace was the most ambitious real estate project in 125 years. For decades it was called the 'New Addition.'

The Connells lived in Highland Terrace. Their eldest daughter, Charity, now lives in Ralph & Jean's house



- and - she lives next door to the young couple who bought my grandparent's house, where my mother was born in June of 1929!

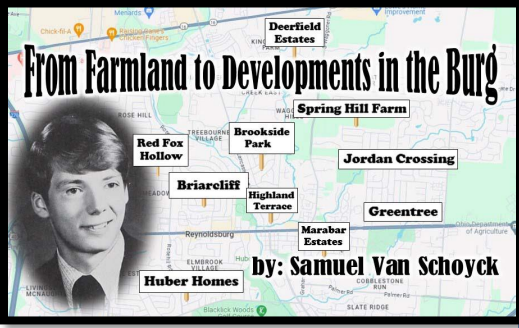


Jordan Crossing is a cul-de-sac off the east side of Waggoner Road just north of St. Pius Catholic Church and was the brainchild of Ron Rohrenbeck. Back in 1993, he built two model homes; a Cape Cod and a brick two-story as a start for Jordan Crossing. The quality of the craftsmanship of all the houses on this street far surpasses many of the other housing developments in town.



Spring Hill Farm was the name of the Oldham farm. The streets in this new development are all named for people who are either in the Spring Hill

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page 06)



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Farm family, or worked on the Oldham farm, including Marilyn Griffin, a past president of the Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society (RTHS) and former editor of the *Courier*, as well as her daughter, Laurel “Lolly” Sample, who was also a *Courier* editor later on! Since the family has been in this town for over 160 years, and are current members of RTHS, I reached out to Lolly and asked for a brief bio connected to each street name to add to the third-grade history workbook.



After I updated the workbook, I wrote a *Spring Hill Farm* article that was in the RTHS September 2023 *Courier* newsletter. If you would like to read it, you can download a newsletter from our website at www.RTHS.info.

Click on the “About” tab, and from the drop-down menu, select “Newsletters.” There are 30 newsletters at any given time. They currently go back to January of 2020.

I’ll bet that Sam didn’t realize I would turn his email into an article!



Sunshine Committee

Do you know someone who needs some Sunshine?

Contact **Carol Deuber** if you are aware of an RTHS member who could use a Get Well, Thinking of You, Sympathy, or any other type of card for some added sunshine in their life

Cell: (614) 581-7048
Home: (614) 471-3288

Write “SUNSHINE” in the subject line of your email:
cadeuber@gmail.com

RTHS 2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- President** – Mary Turner Stoots
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 - Vice President** – VACANT
 - Treasurer** – Marvin Shrimplin
(614) 570-2294
 - Recording Secretary** – Mark Myers
(614) 376-6809
 - Corresponding Secretary** VACANT
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(614) 864-4581
 - Trustee (2 years)** – Donald Larimer
 - Trustee (3 years)** – Judy Diuguid
- *****
- Courier Editor:** Mary Turner Stoots
 - Publicity Chair:** Mary Turner Stoots
 - Email:** RTHSCourier@aol.com
 - Museum Phone:** (614) 902-2831
 - Website:** www.RTHS.info

Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society



Tuesday-September 17th 5:30 PM General Meeting & Indoor Picnic

The Membership will be Voting Tuesday, September 17th at our General Meeting for the 2025 Officers and one Trustee.

The doors open at 5:30 pm for our picnic and the floor will be open to nominations during the meeting.

The 2025 RTHS Officers will be Elected at our September 17th General Meeting

Do you have someone in mind whom you would like to see on the leadership team? Are you interested yourself?

Contact **Judy Diuguid** for nominations by phone or email:

Cell: **614-327-0801** Email: **judyjimd@gmail.com**

We will be voting for the following officers and one trustee

- **President** – Mary Turner Stoots
- **Vice President** – **Currently Vacant**
- **Treasurer** – Marvin Shrimplin
- **Recording Secretary** – Mark Myers
- **Corresponding Secretary** – **Currently Vacant**
- **Trustee (3-year term)** – Jim Slonaker

The following Board Members are finishing out a 3-year term and will NOT be on the slate:

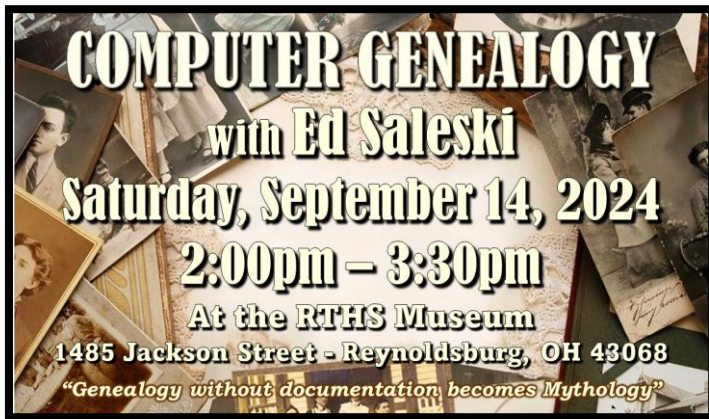
- **Trustee (1-Year Remaining)** – Don Larimer
- **Trustee (2-Years Remaining)** – Judy Diuguid

Feel free to bring a snack to share!

Delight us with your Culinary Skills!!

This is a picnic, after all.

We all like to eat – don't you?



COMPUTER GENEALOGY

with Ed Saleski

Saturday, September 14, 2024

2:00pm – 3:30pm

At the RTHS Museum

1485 Jackson Street - Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

"Genealogy without documentation becomes Mythology"

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.

In this class, you will also learn how to utilize the

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 are a multitude 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.

If you are a beginner, this is the class for you!

I'll go over the basics with some examples (and how things have changed) but I won't try to work on anyone's specific tree. Copies of the website screenshots will be circulated as handouts to all the class participants. This class is primarily to get you started. If I can spur up interest, it would be phenomenal.

For this class, I will present several different software programs. We'll explore

computer to expand your search for family history as well as what sources you should trust (or not) on the internet.

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.

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 leftover 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. The front door will be locked. **Park in Back!**

Register by US Mail or by email at: RTHSCourier@aol.com and send your class fee to:
RTHS-Genealogy Class, PO Box 144, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-0144

***Make your check payable to RTHS or Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society
And on the Memo Line of your check, write, "Computer Genealogy Class"***

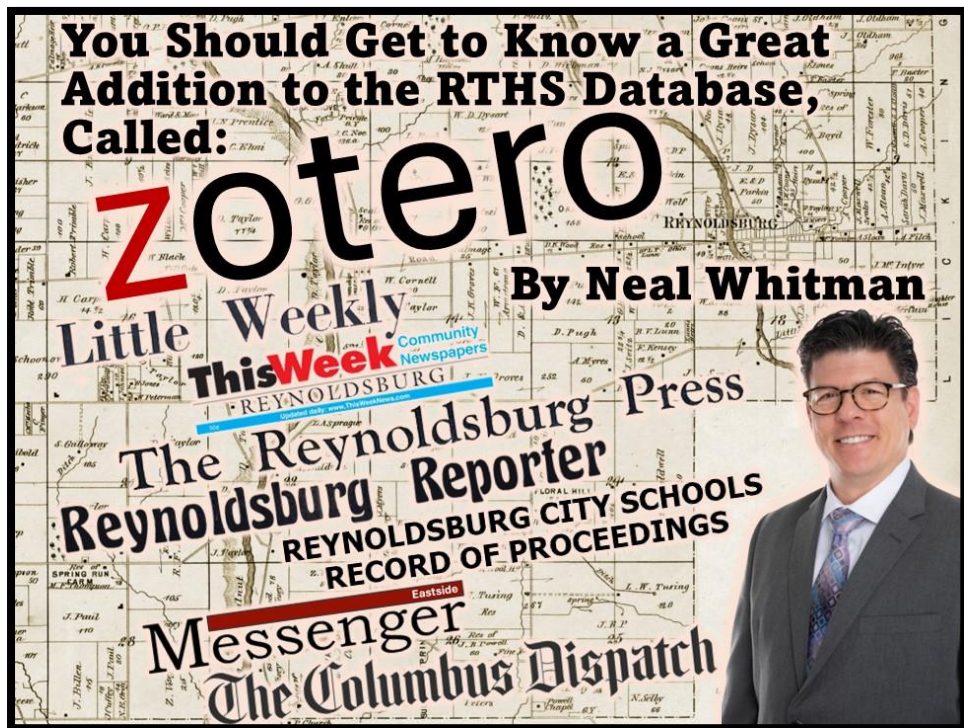
Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email Address: _____

Computer Genealogy Class: ☐ Sept 14, 2024 - 2:00pm to 3:30pm

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



Zotero – or – I Did My Own Research! by Neal Whitman

Here at RTHS, we often get emails and phone calls from people who want to find out more about a Reynoldsburg ancestor, learn the history of their house, or pursue some other corner of our local history. We try to help where we can, but it can sometimes be pretty time consuming, and as research bugs know, sometimes you don't realize you've been looking for a particular photo, letter, or news article until you see it for yourself.

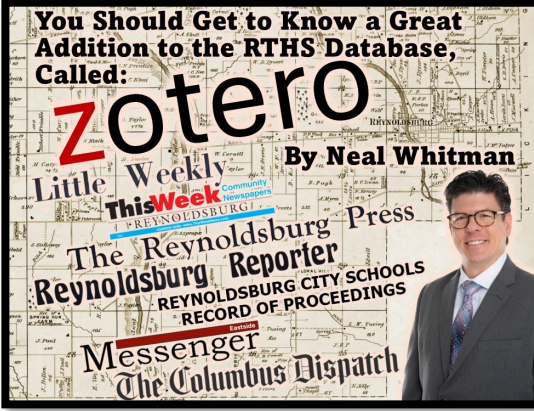
We are proud to introduce a new online addition to the RTHS Database, a collection of 3500+ items (and counting) that any RTHS member can access as part of their membership benefits (nonmembers will be charged a fee). What's in it, you ask?

images of almost all the Reynoldsburg annexation ordinances and maps; Franklin County tax maps from 1895 to 1940; listings of Franklin County tax districts from 1879 onwards; hundreds of “parcel sheets” from the Franklin County Auditor’s office showing ownership history of land parcels in the City of Reynoldsburg, the Reynoldsburg School District (RSD), and areas of Truro Township between 1920 and 1988.

Reynoldsburg School District History Never before digitized images of school board minutes from 1912 to 1951; photographs of all the building plaques in the RSD buildings; the treasurer five-year forecasts from 2010 to the present; and unexpected delights, such as handwritten sheet music to the

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Government Documents Scanned



(continued from page 09)

RHS alma mater dating to 1962.

News - Hundreds of articles from the *Columbus Dispatch* online archives relating to the city of Reynoldsburg, Reynoldsburg Schools, or Truro Township; clipped articles, entire issues, and occasionally there will be entire volumes of selected issues of local Reynoldsburg historical newspapers, such as the *Reynoldsburg Press*, *ThisWeek Reynoldsburg*, and the *Eastside Messenger*.

Photographs

Digital copies of photographs of many figures in Reynoldsburg history, including persons such as Hannah J. Ashton and former City Councilman and RHS Band Director, Daniel Nawrocki.

Research Completed by RTHS Members - Issues of RTHS's bimonthly magazine *The Courier*; articles written by Reynoldsburg historian and RTHS founding member Connie Parkinson; my own



history of Reynoldsburg School District bond issues and tax levies; various other original analyses and data sets.

Items in the RTHS Museum

Descriptions (sometimes with accompanying photographs) of objects housed in the RTHS Museum, such as farm tools, a spinning wheel, or Reynoldsburg's first traffic light, dating from 1927.

Links to Web Resources

Web links to exclusively digital items, such as the RTHS YouTube channel; the online interactive maps "Reynoldsburg City, Reynoldsburg Schools" and "Reynoldsburg through the Years;" and more recent *Columbus Dispatch* articles about Reynoldsburg that were published online.



What IS this database? - The RTHS online Database is set up in Zotero, an open-source, bibliographic management platform intended for academic researchers to help manage the many articles, theses, or primary documents they create or refer to in doing their research. I teach academic writing at Ohio State University, and insist that all my students create a Zotero account—and I wish Zotero had existed back when I was writing

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my own dissertation! But it has been an amazing tool for helping me do my local history research here in Reynoldsburg.

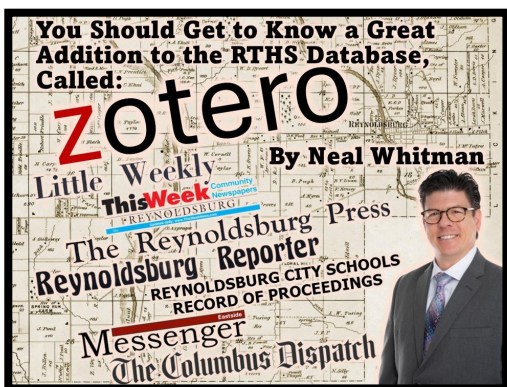
Like many online apps, Zotero is free to use for some activities, but requires a subscription for others. The free version lets you store the **information** for as many sources as you want; with the **paid** version, you can also store digital versions of those items. So, with the free version, you can learn about an interesting article on page B4 of the May 7, 1961 issue of the *Columbus Dispatch*, but you're on your own to find a copy of it. With the paid version, a double click will bring it right up for you to view or download. RTHS has had a paid subscription for almost three years now.

WHO can Search the Database?

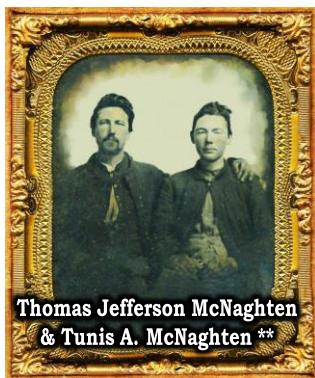
RTHS Database administrators can add items, as well as update and correct data about the items. For example, hundreds of items are waiting to be tagged with labels that are of interest to YOU. If you'd like to get administrative privileges, ask Mary Turner Stoots or Neal Whitman.

Volunteer Opportunities and Service hours!

- The RTHS Database is growing, and there are still thousands of items that we'd like to add to it. To name just one, there's the McNaghten Collection, which consists of several hundred binders containing genealogy notes and artifacts donated by a Reynoldsburg descendant of the McNa(u)ghten* family (whose name is memorialized in one of Reynoldsburg's main north-



south thoroughfares). If you are interested in local history, technology, or both, there's a great volunteer opportunity here. If you're a student looking for service hours for an honor society, or a high school senior pursuing a graduation seal or in search of a history or government capstone project, come talk to us. One RHS alumna of the Class of 2024 added hundreds of items during her final semester of high school. We appreciate her so much, and she seems to have had a good time doing it!



who might be curious about Reynoldsburg's past!

* *The McNaghten family did not add the "U" to their name until the early 1920s, so our collection of over 300 binders is labeled under the original spelling of "McNaghten."*

** *The picture above is an Ambrotype, which became obsolete by 1860 when tin-types became popular before the onset of modern photography.*

We're looking forward to seeing our collection grow and serve as a resource for students, history enthusiasts, and anyone

Some Upcoming Events!

COMPUTER GENEALOGY

Saturday, September 14, 2024

2:00pm to 3:30pm - with Ed Saleski

At the RTHS Museum

1485 Jackson Street - Reynoldsburg, OH 43068

"Genealogy without documentation becomes Mythology"

Sign up for the
Computer
Genealogy
Class
with
Ed Saleski!
See page #08
for an
Enrollment
Form

Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society

General Meeting and Indoor Picnic

Tuesday, September 17, 2024 - 5:30pm

Herbert
Mills
School
Tour

The timing
will follow
in a future
post

Third-Grade School Tours



**The Herbert Mills
Third-Grade School Tour**
**Thursday
September 19th**

Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society Museum Open House

Saturday, September 21, 2024

10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Come to the Museum and take a walk back in time

1485 Jackson Street (across from the Hannah Ashton Middle School)

More Upcoming Events!

DOWNLOAD A FLYER FROM OUR WEBSITE

EAT PIZZA RAISE DOUGH

www.RTHS.info

PIZZA COTTAGE
ESTABLISHED 1972

Wednesday September 25 **11:00 am to 10:00 pm**

For the
Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society

Pizza Cottage of Pickerington
1000 Old Diley Road - Facing State Route 256

Third-Grade School Tours



**The Rose Hill
Third-Grade School Tour**

**Friday
October 4th**

Rose Hill
School
Tour
The timing
will follow
in a future
post

Be sure to visit us at the

Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society

Open House

Saturday, October 19, 2024
10:00 am to 2:00 pm

1485 Jackson Street (across from the Hannah Ashton Middle School)

Support the

Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society

Download Our Flyer and Eat at

Texas Roadhouse

Wednesday, October 30, 2024
4:00 PM to 10:00 PM



NEW MEMBERS!

Nancy A. Jordan Individual
Doyline E. Williams Individual
Haley Vowell & Steve Wetz Family
Roger & Roberta Wilson Contributing
Sandi (Miller) Windorfer Individual

David W. Reidel

President

dave@reidelinsurance.com



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THE COURIER

September 2024 Issue

Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society

Mailing Address:

PO Box 144
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-0144

Street Address (NO MAIL):

1485 Jackson Street
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 & Illustrations

Provided by:

Mary Turner Stoots

Contributors:

Mary Turner Stoots
Neal Whitman
and Samuel Van Schoyck

SUPPORT LOCAL HISTORY

Join the Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society

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

Name _____

Additional Names _____

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City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email Address _____

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

Invite your friends to join!

LIFE BUILDERS



On August 2nd, the Life Builders group was given a tour of the museum by Jim Slonaker. Life Builders enhances the lives of adults with developmental disabilities by providing opportunities to create inclusion within the community.

Life Builders' mission and vision is to support individuals to lead self-directed lives. By continually focusing on the individual and their hopes and dreams, Life Builders remains person centered at the core.

Funding options include the **I/O** and **Level One Medicaid** waiver as well as self-pay and **Employment First** through **Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities**.

"Life Builders holds to the highest standards of integrity and accountability. We are committed to assisting all participants with achieving their highest potential and understand the importance of family and friends in their lives."

We had a wonderful time at the Tomato Festival!

The items below will be added to our Gift Shop, and I'll be posting more details about them soon!!



BOOKS FOR SALE!

Reynoldsburg High School 1899 to 1970

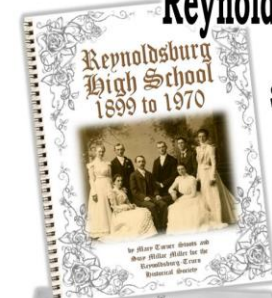
A compilation of RHS class pictures published for the
Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society

\$37.00 for Non-Members*

\$35.00 for Members

\$5.00 S&H (Tax included)

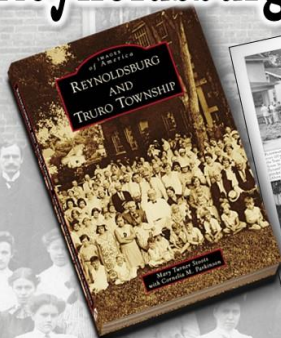
*A Free Membership will be given to Non-Members through
12/31/2025 for the purchase of a book, which includes Bi-Monthly
issues of the Courier Newsletter to be delivered
by email ONLY (no hard copies)



**NON-MEMBERS
GET A FREE
MEMBERSHIP*
THROUGH
12/31/2025**

by Mary Turner Stoots and Suzy Millar Miller

Reynoldsburg and Truro Township



Only \$26.00 plus \$5.00
Shipping

by Mary Turner Stoots with Cornelia M. Parkinson

A Book Order Form insert is included inside your Courier

RTHS Museum, 1485 Jackson Street, Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068

Mailing address: Reynoldsburg-Truro Historical Society

P.O. Box 144, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068