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# Bits and Pieces

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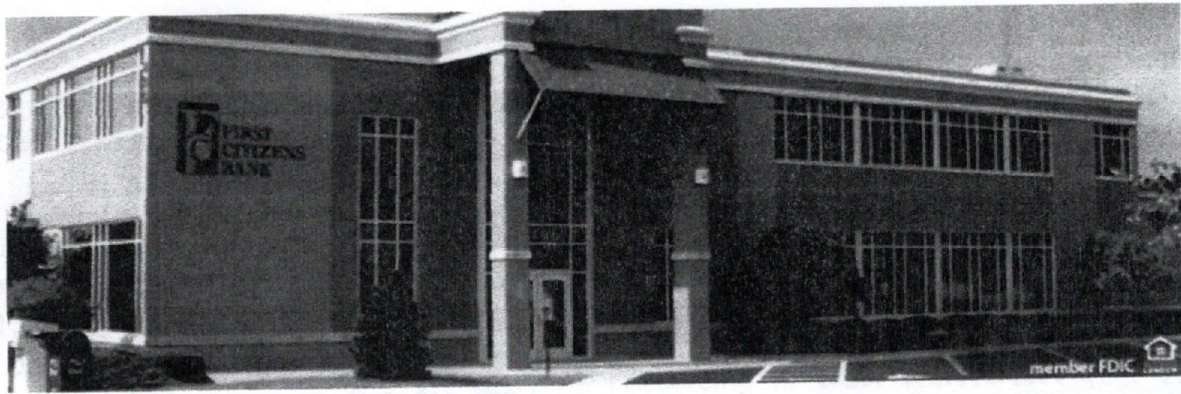
## **The First 125 Years of Important Dates and Face of Education In Elizabethtown and Hardin County, Kentucky**

By Judy Myers  
(Retired HCS educator)

1799	The oldest school record in Hardin County dated April 23rd is an account of a trustee meeting called in the interest of establishing schools in the county. The State Legislature granted 6,000 acres of land to Hardin County for an academy.
1800	The first log school house in Hardin County was built.
1806	First school house in Elizabethtown was constructed. It was to be known as the Hardin Academy. The first teacher was Samuel Stephenson.
1812	Duff Green became the teacher at the Academy. He later served as a member of President Andrew Jackson's Kitchen Cabinet.
1830	In December, Mother Agnes Hart and six nuns arrived from Breckinridge County to the Helm Mansion and started Bethlehem Academy. The nuns purchased the property in 1830 from John H. Helm, twice Governor of Kentucky. The property consisted of 580 acres and the mansion. They paid \$2250.00. It was one of the first boarding schools for girls in the state and had facilities for seventy-five boarding and Seventy-five day students. The school closed in 1959. Eliza Anthony Haynes is said to have been the first graduate and was an accomplished musician.
1840	Alfred Brown was appointed School Commissioner. He laid out the school districts, most of which remained unchanged for more than sixty years.
1844	A female seminary in Elizabethtown was built at the corner of Poplar and Mulberry Streets. The builder was John Y. Hill.
1851	The State Legislature passed an act providing for primary schools that were to be supported by state money. The first public or district school in Hardin County was located on the Leitchfield Road between Elizabethtown and Stephensburg.
1853	There were 74 school districts in Hardin County.'
1860	Cecilian College was founded by Colonel Charles Cecil. It was for males only and was known from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico. The faculty consisted of eleven men. Subjects that were taught included mathematics, English, grammar, rhetoric, history, bookkeeping, natural science, mythology, ancient geography, logic, and metaphysics. In its day, it was an outstanding institution of learning.

## First 125 Years by Judy Myers Continued

<b>1865</b>	Late in the summer, the congregation of Baptists of the Gilead Church near Glendale conceived the idea of establishing a school of higher learning. One of the trustees, J. R. Gaither, suggested the name "Lynnland Institute" for the school, it being situated on the banks of the "No Lynn" river. The Kentucky legislature granted a charter for the school on February 11, 1867, under the name of Lynnland Female Institute. The school was to operate under the names of Lynnland College, Lynnland Military Institute, Lynnland Female College, and Lynnland Male and Female Institute.
<b>1866</b>	Hardin Academy became Hamilton College. It existed for 10 years.
<b>1869</b>	This year was the beginning of the Catholic school system in Elizabethtown.
<b>1870</b>	First school at White Mills was known as Lynnvale Academy.
<b>1871</b>	African American schools were established.
<b>1877</b>	The first graded school in Elizabethtown opened with four grades and four teachers.
<b>1891</b>	The Louisville Conference of the Southern Methodist Church decided to establish a training school for boys. Elizabethtown people raised \$12,500 to secure this school to establish an intermediate school here. It was accepted and later the Hardin Collegiate Institute was built. The building was sold to Hardin County for a high school in 1911.
<b>1892</b>	Hardin Collegiate Institute opened in Elizabethtown on the present side of Audubon Court.
<b>1896</b>	There were 108 white schools in Hardin county with 5,783 students
<b>1900</b>	Elizabethtown graded school had its first graduation on June 8 <sup>th</sup> with five graduates.
<b>1909</b>	On May 4 <sup>th</sup> , the County Board of Education took steps to establish a county high school in the county seat. Tuition was free to all children in the county except those in districts which do not pay the county school tax. School opened on September 6 <sup>th</sup> with 70 pupils in the high school and 230 in grade school.
<b>1914</b>	The first moonlight school was at Pole Bridge. These were schools that taught adults several nights each week.
<b>1915</b>	New high school building opened on W. Dixie in Elizabethtown. It was destroyed by a boiler explosion in 1955. Elizabethtown opened its first moonlight school at the Graded School Building.
<b>1920</b>	A lot on Kentucky Avenue was purchased by the school board as a site for a colored school and the East Side High School was started. The school was renamed the Bond-Washington School in 1929 and was conducted for thirty years. It was discontinued in 1959 when the city schools were completely integrated.



Citizens Bank, formed in 1965, has been renamed several times. It was also named the City and County Bank, before it finally became the bank we know today as The First Citizens Bank (located at 425 West Dixie Avenue in Elizabethtown).

January 7-9, 1965 The three-day Grand Opening of the Citizens Bank included a very special guest. Eighty-Eight year old Chief John Big Tree, who had posed for the Indian Head nickel in 1913, was in attendance during this promotional period. The image was reused for a special commemorative \$50 gold piece in 2006--the USA's first 24k (pure gold) coin. The famous statue, "The End of The Trail", depicted Chief Big Tree as the symbolic "red man" who was pushed off of his native land, with nowhere else to go. Chief John Big Tree was born on June 2, 1877 to the Seneca Nation in Buffalo, New York, USA as Isaac Johnny John. He was an actor who made more than 59 movies between 1915 and 1950. Best known for She Wore a Yellow Ribbon (1949), Drums Along the Mohawk (1939) and Devil's Doorway (1950).



January 5-6, 1967 The now 91 year old Chief Big Tree returned to help Citizens Bank celebrate its' second anniversary. This event was marked by a unique promotional item. Customers were given a post card with an Indian Head nickel attached. (See copy of this card-minus the nickel at the left found at a local pawn shop.)

Chief John Big Tree appeared on CBS's I've Got a Secret, December 11, 1961.

His profile was used as the emblem design on the Pontiac car emblem.

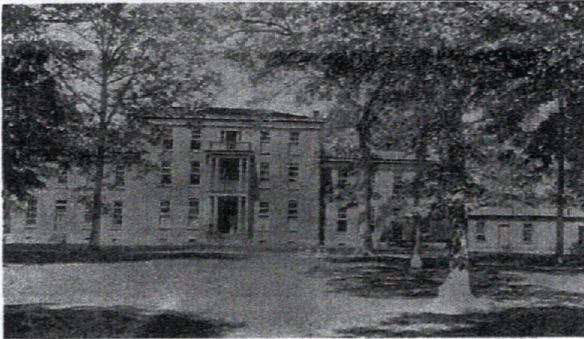
He died on July 6, 1967 on the Onondaga Indian Reservation, New York.



**Article by  
Anita Goodin**

1924 - The St. James congregation built a grade school at Poplar and Miles Street.

Education has always been very important to the citizens of Elizabethtown and Hardin County. Today we can boast of providing education for pre-school through post graduate studies for the residents of this community.



Lynnland Female Institute

ELIZABETHTOWN NEWS  
MAY 23, 1902  
West Point

The Shean and McCoy brick plant began work on Monday and orders will be filled as rapidly as possible. With two brick plants in operation the supply should be equal to demand.

Relative to the much talked of Army Post locating here a prominent Republican said a few day ago we have as much chance of winning as a camel has to succeed in squeezing through the eye of a needle and not break the needle: "So mote it be."

The Consolidated Coal Co., of Pittsburg, has the steamer Fulton operating a coal digger, unloading the seven barges of coal sunk near Evans Landing in March.

Dr. Prewitt struck a fine flow of gas in his new well. The well will be shot as soon as practicable.

## BITS AND PIECES ON HARDIN COUNTY SUFFRAGE

Women's Suffrage Amendment (19<sup>th</sup>) was signed January 6, 1920. Kentucky was the 24<sup>th</sup> state to ratify the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment in August of that year.

According to **OUR KENTUCKY** (pg. 190) the first suffrage organization was in Glendale with 50 members.

### PREACHER TAKES A HARD RAP AT THE FAIR SEX

Glendale Pastor Says Women Must Mend Ways Before Voting

In the course of his sermon at the Glendale Christian Church on Sunday morning, Rev. E. B. Richey, pastor of the church, took a hard rap at the fair sex in connection with their efforts at women's suffrage. He said so long as women daubed paint on their faces to hide their character and in such quantities as would give a man painter colic; refuse to have a pocket put in their dress, making it necessary to carry around a bag in which they put paint, powder, comb and brush, and sometimes a poodle dog; wore clothes insufficient to protect them against cold, and with dresses so tight as to make them unable to get into a vehicle: as long as these conditions were true the minister said women were not entitle to suffrage.

Dr. Richey closed his remarks on the subject by stating if the weaker sex would give more time to their mental, physical, and spiritual development, their capacity for good was ever better than man's.

(Elizabethtown News about 1914)

## Message from the President



Greetings fellow historians:

Spring is here and Mother Nature is preparing to give us a spectacular show! Nowhere is spring more beautiful than in Kentucky with its rolling hills and fields of bluegrass. We are fortunate to live in one of the most beautiful and historic states in America, and of course, we think Hardin County is the best! Kentucky is known for its fast horses, bourbon, and beautiful women. While those are all great things about our state, it doesn't say much about us as individuals. How are we preserving our heritage and telling our story? As technology continues to progress, future generations will look back in total disbelief at the manner in which we lived just as we view life back in the 1800's. But what will they know about us as individuals?

While statistics are important, as a genealogist, I want to know what my great-great grandparents were "really" like. What did they do in a typical day? What was their personality, their character and what did they contribute to society in general? Documents such as personal writings, journals, and romantic letters from the past are a tiny window through which we catch a glimpse of the real people. I encourage you to make copies of your family history for your children and then place a copy in a public genealogy library for others seeking information about their ancestors. This is something we can all do for the sake of history.

As a historical society, we are tasked with preserving a broader scope of information and recognizing significant sites in our community. When we install a marker that tells a story, we also hope it will inspire curiosity and a desire for those who come after us to continue the mission. The HCHS board has a plan to complete one or more of those projects by the end of 2016, and we will need your help.

Our next meeting is on April 25<sup>th</sup> at the Brown-Pusey House. Kevin Addington will be our guest speaker, and he will share with us a portion of his vision for downtown Elizabethtown. Hope to see you there.

*Ewyllane Van Lahr*

### Menu for April 25<sup>th</sup>

Spring salad w/ ranch & honey mustard  
1/2 Shredded pork w/ buns  
1/2 Chicken tenders w/ dips  
Broccoli casserole  
Mac & cheese  
Rolls  
Peach & cherry cobblers

**Meal cost will be \$10.00**

**Voted Best Caterer  
in the Entire Area!**



### ELIZABETHTOWN NEWS – May 23, 1902

#### NOLIN

We had a very interesting game of baseball here Saturday between Melrose and Upton, which resulted in a tie. The Melrose team then played the Nolin club and were defeated by the score of eighteen to seven. Ice cream and lemonade were served on the ground. The games were played on the farm of Mr. Steve Monon, an excellent place for baseball! About two hundred people saw the games.