

THE HISTORICAL RECORD

March 2026

A Publication of the Wyoming Historical Society and the Wyoming History Museum

HISTORY OF SPREEN'S CORNER

March 12, 2026

Bill Schierenbeck, a direct descendant of the Spreen Family, will reprise his 2007 program on the history of Spreen's Corner with updates. Spreen's Corner, One Wyoming Avenue, has a long and interesting history. The building has served our community in many ways. Come learn about this versatile building and the people who lived and worked there.



**PROGRAMS ARE AT
7 PM
Wyoming Civic Center**

FREE - OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - REFRESHMENTS

www.wyominghistoricalsociety.com

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Open Tuesday 10:30-3:00
or by appointment.



Wyoming History Museum
A Unique and rewarding
place to visit.

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Terry Delgado
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POP-A-DOG

Pop-a-Dog is a mobile hotdog business based in Wyoming, ready to serve anywhere anytime. Owned and operated by Wyoming residents John and Terri Pinkston, Pop-a-Dog debuted in 2016. Since then the business has grown to include serving at many local city and school events as well as private parties and corporate events. We are slowly and cautiously beginning to serve our public once again. Locations and times are posted on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Remember it's always a great day for a hotdog!

TERRY'S MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Terry's Montessori School, Inc. has provided Montessori education in Wyoming since 1973. Terry's began as a full day Montessori home care program for children 2 through 6 years of age at 209 Wyoming Avenue. They now offer an infant and toddler program as well at several locations: 425 Crescent, 435 Crescent and 415 Poplar. Terry's was created to offer families a unique, homelike environment, within turn of the century homes. Over the years Terry's has provided a warm and caring setting in which a sound education and developmental program has flourished. This atmosphere was fashioned to cultivate a healthy self-image for each child in our school.



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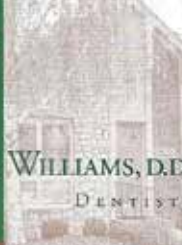
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**-- MARK YOUR CALENDAR --
REMAINING PROGRAMS FOR
THE 2025-2026 YEAR**

April 9, 2026

Amy Pursley - Wyoming Street Names II

May 7, 2026

Thea Tjepkema - Under One Roof: The African
American Experience in Music Hall

2026 Wyoming Historical Society

OFFICERS:

Amy Pursley, President
David Savage, Vice-President
Tom Bond, Treasurer
Kevin Grace, Secretary

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Welcome New Lifetime Member

Stephanie Denton

Welcome New members

Jim Clasper & Cheryl Albrecht	Dorrie Meckes
Sara Verhaeghe	Laura Verhaeghe
Mary Ellen Knickel	

MEMBERSHIP...

Our membership year is January-December with our membership drive happening late each fall. However, we gladly welcome new members at anytime of the year. For a year dues are: Individual \$25, Family \$50, Business \$75, Lifetime \$500. High school and college students are free. New members joining after September will be credited through December of the following year. New members please send your check made out to Wyoming Historical Society, with your name, address, phone and email and we will handle the rest. 800 Oak Avenue, Wyoming, OH 45215. Thank you.

WYOMING AUTHORS COLLECTION...

New Additions to our Wyoming Authors Collection:

The Lenin Stain - Bill Mefford
The Wives of Los Alamos – Tarashea Nesbit
The Peoples House – David Pepper
Getting Huge – John Young
21st Century Confusion – Jeff Stahler
Happy Holidays – Cross Stitch Patterns – Dorrie Meckes

If you know of any Wyoming current or former resident who has written a book, please let us know. We would love to add them to our ever growing Wyoming Authors Collection.

WYOMING'S 250th CELEBRATION EVENT...

Have you ever wondered who Powell Crosley, Jr. was or why the Y on Winton Road is named after him? On March 10th at 6:00 pm, join us at the Wyoming branch library to find out! Learn about Powell Crosley, Jr. and his many innovations as we celebrate Wyoming's participation in the 250th birthday of our country.

Tony and Cathy Ramstetter, caretakers of the Reily house, will describe the story of Powell and his brother Louis, and how Powell came to be the "Henry Ford of Ohio." From the Ramstetter's personal collection in their billiard room/Powell Crosley Museum, the Ramstetters will bring early tube radios and other Crosley artifacts. Beginning at the turn of the 20th century, Powell was not only an innovator, but together he and Louis were entrepreneurs and pioneers in broadcasting and telecommunications as well as transportation and household appliances. Their legacy lives on today in a variety of products, from radios and daytime soap operas, to the Cincinnati Reds and night baseball, to the shelves in your refrigerators. You'll not only hear about the Crosley brothers successes but you'll also hear about some of their other endeavors that didn't necessarily pan out. Like when they made the first compact car in the late 1930's that could get 56 miles to the gallon! Come curious!



City of Wyoming

Wyoming's 250th Committee will be having more events during 2026 in honor of the 250th celebration. We will post them on our web site and FaceBook page as well as in our newsletters.

THE FATHER OF AMERICAN EMBALMING SCHOOLS...AMY PURSLEY

Joseph Henry Clarke was born in Connorsville, Indiana in 1840. He obtained work as a casket salesman, but also sold embalming fluids as a side job. He wanted to educate himself in the field of anatomy so he could educate his clients on the best use of the products he was selling. He enrolled in an anatomy course at Pulte Medical College in Cincinnati, Ohio. Shortly thereafter, he founded Clarke's Cincinnati School of Embalming. This school held its first class on Monday, March 8, 1882. Clarke's class taught seven students over six days at the Pulte Medical College amphitheater. Clarke taught several more cohorts in Cincinnati before travelling to Philadelphia, New York and Boston to teach his class to new groups of students. This is thought to be the first institution of its kind in the United States, earning Clarke the title of "The Father of American Embalming Schools." In 1901, a permanent college with continuous sessions was established under the name Cincinnati College of Embalming. J. H. Clarke taught classes in bacteriology, sanitation, disinfection, antiseptic chemistry and was a demonstrator.

While the Cincinnati embalming school was being founded, Clarke also established Clarke Chemical Works in Springfield, Ohio. In 1900, he founded The Clarke Fluid Company in Cincinnati, Ohio. Both of these companies produced and sold embalming fluid. His first company was also responsible for publishing several influential text books for the field of embalming. Clarke held at least three patents for various mortuary implements.

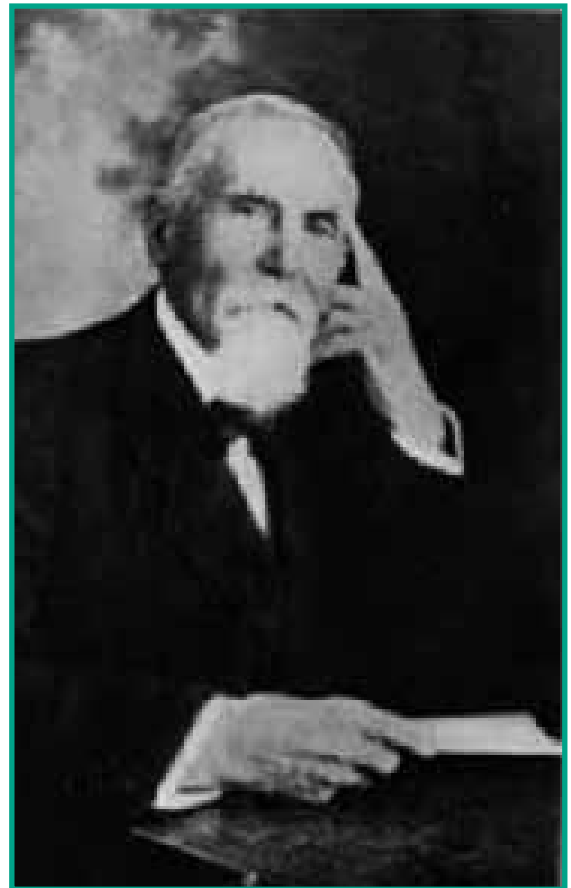
From 1900 to 1909, Clarke and his family lived at 324 Beech Avenue in Wyoming. His son, C. Horace Clarke, helped him administer the school and the Cincinnati company. Today, the institution Clarke founded is known as the Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science.

Sources: Embalming. Jaypee Brothers, Medical Publishers Pvt. Limited, 19 July 2019.

<https://www.ccms.edu/about-ccms/about-us/history/>
New Ohio Incorporations. The Cincinnati Commercial Tribune, 2 June 1900, p. 4.

Williams' Cincinnati Directory. Williams Directory Company, June 1901, p. 2071.

Shotwell, John Brough. A History of the Schools of Cincinnati. School Life Company, Cincinnati, Ohio, 1902, p. 523.



Joseph Henry Clarke

WORLD WAR I AMBULANCE CORPS, ARMCO AND WYOMING...

(The following comes from the 8 December 1917 Middletown Journal.)

ARMCO BOYS ARE DECORATED FOR BRAVERY...

"Dispatches from the American Army Headquarters in France bring the intelligence that American Sanitary section No. 5 is the first American unit to receive the coveted "Fourragere" -- French military decoration work on the left shoulder -- in the colors of the ribbon of the Cross of War.

Middletown people will be delighted to know that the Armco Ambulance Corps of 14 men belongs to this section of 35 members and it was after this corps of Middletown boys had joined Section 5 that the section received official citations. A general order from General Petain stated they were for "splendid conduct before the enemy." In forwarding the communications the chief of the French military mission attached to the Army added:

"This glorious distinction is a merited reward for the brave men composing the section, who, on a famous battlefield, have given evidence of the fraternity and solidarity between the soldiers of France and America, united in the common cause."

These citations were mentioned by the Armco boys in their letters which have been printed in *The Journal* this week. Although the boys had been in the Verdun sector battles previous to joining Section 5, it was the great battle on October 23, when the French captured Fort Malle Maison and the town of Felain in the Aisne valley, that the Armco boys did such gallant work as to bring entire section into official recognition bravery.

The boys worked 36 hours continuously at this time and were under heavy fire and gas at times. Shortly after this battle, the general visited Section 5 and gave the members a talk. He complimented them on the work, shook hands with each man personally, and said that "he had recommended the members for an army citation for devotion and gallant action."

It was this citation which had led to the decoration mentioned in today's dispatch and bears out the prediction at the time the Armco boys left for the front that they would speedily go to the top for brave and gallant

service in the war "to make the world safe from savagery." And today all Middletown is proud of these boys who so early in their activities have brought an entire section into world fame."

Two Wyoming men were in this Corps, they were Raymond Pendery "Whitey" Myers (great grandson of Alexander Pendery) a foundry foreman at the Armco plant, and John B. Marshall (120 Wentworth). Marshall was in Human Resources Armco.



JOHN KAUFFMAN AND HIS BREWING COMPANY...

Johann Kauffman was born in 1830 in Kirviller, a small town in northwest France, very close to the current borders with Germany and Luxembourg. In 1845, at the age of 15, he came to Cincinnati, started using the first name of John and went to work in the Franklin Brewery, which was owned by his uncle. He quickly worked his way up to become the foreman of the brewery. Over time, he held similar positions at various other breweries in the Cincinnati area. In 1859, Kauffman and two business partners formed Kauffman & Company and built the Vine Street Brewery in 1860. Kauffman became the sole proprietor in 1877. In 1882, he incorporated his company as "The John Kauffman Brewing Company." According to an 1888 publication, *Cincinnati in Wort und Bild* (Cincinnati in Words and Pictures), "Mr. Kauffman's circumspection, expertise and activity now succeeded in making his brewery one of the most important in the city and tripling the previously high sales." This text further touts "the brew he made gained such a reputation that sales outside of Cincinnati were very significant, especially in the southern states."

In 1885, John Kauffman's Subdivision was platted. One year later, he passed away. Most of this land was annexed into the Village of Wyoming in 1905. This subdivision included Central Avenue (now known as St. Clare Avenue), Main Avenue (now known as Sherry Road), Euclid Avenue, Kauffman Avenue (now known as West Mills Avenue), and Mary Avenue (now known as Mary Street in Hartwell) .



The Wyoming Historical Society
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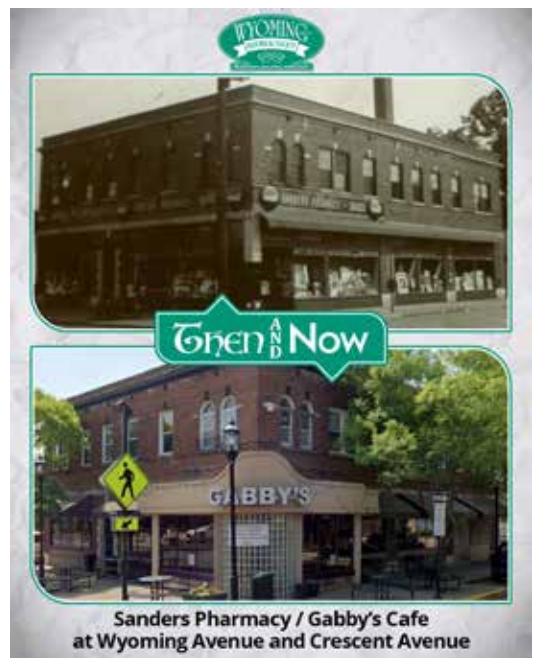
PRESIDENT'S LETTER...Amy Pursley



With all the cold winter days we've had this year, I'm glad my family has a copy of Wyomingopoly to pass the time. Each of the property cards has an historical fact on the back. One of

my favorites is that Oliver Road was so steep that fire engines had to go up the hill backwards! Instead of Community Chest cards, there are Turkey Raffle Cards. One of them reads "You parked on the street during snow removal. Go back 3 spaces." So if you're looking for something to do on a wintry day, or want to learn more about our community, check out the "Merch" tab on our website and consider investing in your very own Wyomingopoly game.

THEN AND NOW



Check out our FaceBook page to see more of the Then and Now graphics. You will learn a lot and they just might bring back some great memories.