

From: [Indiana Genealogical Society, Inc.](#)
To: mere_thom@runbox.com
Subject: Indiana news - 5 April 2012
Date: Thursday, April 05, 2012 12:05:55 PM

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)

Indiana news - 5 April 2012

We're in the mood to celebrate a little! Good things have been happening in the genealogy world of late:

- Indiana strengthened its commitment to records access by passing the [Access to Public Records Act](#), which adds fines as a potential penalty for failure to provide a record when requested.
- With the debut of the "Finding Your Roots" series on PBS last month, we now have not one but two TV shows about the search for family to inspire us and get us talking.
- The 1940 census images were released to the public this week and the Indiana section has already been posted to several sites (see below).



Come to our conference in Fort Wayne later this month to celebrate more!

IN THIS ISSUE:

[Countdown to Conference](#)

[1940 Census Released](#)

[Members Only Additions](#)

[Hendricks County Probate Records Project](#)

[Indiana Census Resources](#)

[County Roundup](#)

Countdown to Conference

The Indiana Genealogical Society's [Conference](#) in Fort Wayne is now just literally days away - Saturday, April 28th! Did you see our recent [Q & A](#) with Debra Mieszala, our featured speaker?

Debbie Mieszala



Social Media Links



[IndianaAncestors](#)



[IndianaGenSoc](#)

[IGS blog](#)

Not sure where to stay or what to see? [Visit Fort Wayne](#) has some great suggestions. And the area is very genealogy-friendly - did you know we researchers add [\\$10 million a year](#) to the Fort Wayne economy?

1940 Census Released

The National Archives site has all 3.8 million of the 1940 census images available for viewing at <http://1940census.archives.gov/>



The 1940 census images are also being placed online by several genealogy vendors. All are free; Ancestry.com may require you to create a free account first.

- Ancestry.com - <http://www.ancestry.com/1940-census>
- FamilySearch - <https://www.familysearch.org/1940census/>
- MyHeritage.com - <http://www.myheritage.com/1940census>

At press time, Ancestry.com and MyHeritage.com had the Indiana section of the census available on their sites; FamilySearch did not yet but is adding new states each day.

Resources for viewing the 1940 census:

- To keep track of all the columns that are in the 1940 census, you may want to refer to the [1940 census form](#).
- To translate the codes that were used by the enumerators on the entries, use Steve Morse's [1940 census codes](#)
- To look at maps of the Enumeration Districts of the area, use Steve Morse's [1940 Enumeration District maps tool](#)
- To determine which Enumeration Districts existed for an area, use Steve Morse's [1940 census ED finder](#).
- To find out about street names that have changed in Anderson, Bloomington, Evansville, Fort Wayne, Hammond, Indianapolis, Kokomo, Michigan City, New Albany, Richmond, South Bend and Terre Haute, visit Steve Morse's [street name change](#) resource guide.

There is no index to the census yet; you must browse through the individual pages of an Enumeration District. We are proud to be participating in the effort to create an index of the 1940 census. FamilySearch is loading new states into its indexing software each day; when Indiana is ready to be indexed, we'll let you know!

Members Only Additions

We hope you received our e-mail notifying you about the April 2012 issue of *IGS* Newsletter being added to the [IGS Records](#) section of the Members Only area.

These are our newest databases:

[College Records:](#)

Butler University:

--Graduates of Butler University, Indianapolis (1933)

Central Normal College:

--Graduates of Central Normal College, Danville (1939)

DePauw University:

--Graduates of DePauw University, Greencastle (1923)

Goshen College:

--Students of Goshen College, Goshen (1922)

County Records:

Hendricks County:

--Index to Probate Order Books for Hendricks County, Indiana (1825-1852)

Miscellaneous Records:

Government:

--Employees of United States Treasury Department with Indiana Connections (1875)

OTHER ADDITIONS

Haven't visited the Members Only area recently? We also added databases in March about:

--Bartholomew County (schools)

--Boone County (churches; settlers)

--Hamilton County (deaths)

--Marion County (delinquent tax list)

--Wells County (cemeteries)

Hendricks County Probate Records Project

We've added to our database of the [dates of death](#) mentioned in the estate cases - there are now almost 650 entries in it.

We added another example to our [Facebook photo album](#):

--An 1884 receipt for payment of tuition at Central Academy in Plainfield, a private high school founded by the Quakers.

Indiana Census Resources

With the 1940 census in our thoughts, don't overlook the importance of finding ancestors in the other censuses. There are several subscription sites that offer access to the census, but did you also know about the free resources for Indiana's censuses? For example, the Allen County Public Library has digitized their collection of census microfilm and put it online.

We've compiled a full listing of the census resources for Indiana 1820-1940. To view it, login to the [IGS Records](#) section of Members Only.

County Roundup

DEKALB COUNTY

--A [video project](#) documenting the many towns that do not exist anymore is coming to fruition. The project was begun by DeKalb County Historian John Martin Smith, who passed away last fall.

HAMILTON COUNTY

--[Conner Prairie](#), the interactive history park in Fishers, will debut a [revamped Prairietown exhibit](#) in June. Prairietown is a living history exhibit that shows what life was like in 1836.

HENRY COUNTY

--Do you have any Wilsons in your family tree? Alpheus A. Wilson of Henry County was a private in Company D of the 36th Indiana Infantry during the Civil War. After he mustered out in 1864, he [settled in Redwood County, Minnesota](#), where he became well-known in the community. He lived to be 97.

JEFFERSON COUNTY

--The Indiana Department of Agriculture recently presented its Hoosier Homestead Awards, which recognize farms that are kept by the same family for at least 100 years. This year's [honorees](#) included the Matthews farm of Jefferson County, which has been in existence since 1811.

LAKE COUNTY

--Oak Hill Cemetery in Hammond, which has been taken over by the township trustee because of years of neglect from previous owners, has uncovered more problems. [Human remains](#) were recently discovered in a dirt pile, possibly as a result of graves being disturbed. The city is also considering an [ordinance](#) to lock cemetery gates overnight after intruders were reportedly spotted.

-One of the research strategies for browsing for an ancestor in the 1940 census before the every-name index is completed is to use the street address from their entry in the 1930 census. However, if your ancestor is in Lake County, researchers need to be aware that many street names in Hammond changed late in 1930 because of a city ordinance. For more information (including the names of the changed streets), visit this [Hammond site](#).

MARION COUNTY

--Ron Darrah recently started the [IndyGenealogy blog](#) giving his opinion and knowledge of the genealogy world from in and around central Indiana. Among the posts was one discussing the State Archives and their plan to allow the public to bring in their digital cameras for a \$20 daily fee.

--The [Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library](#) has added a collection of digitized issues of the *Indianapolis*

Star newspaper from 1903-1922 to its website, for access by its cardholders or from any of the library's computers (access is via the "iLibrary Online Databases" link on the left side of their webpage). The collection can either be browsed or searched by keywords, dates, etc. It includes photographs, advertisements, obituaries and marriage announcements. If you aren't a cardholder, or you can't get to Indianapolis to visit the library, you might want to check and see if your home library has a subscription to the ProQuest Historical Newspapers Collection - these digitized issues are also part of that database.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

--Jodie Steelman Wilson, Local History Librarian at the [Crawfordsville District Public Library](#), has co-authored a book, [Hidden History of Montgomery County, Indiana](#).

PUTNAM COUNTY

--The Civil War monument at the Forest Hill Cemetery in Greencastle, which dates back to 1870, is [deteriorating](#). The Heritage Preservation Society (Led by Jinsie Bingham, our West Central District Director) hopes to raise the funds to repair and restore it.

RANDOLPH COUNTY

--The [Spartanburg school](#) has been destroyed by a fire deemed suspicious. The building dates back to 1908 and was used as a grade school and later as a high school.

SULLIVAN COUNTY

--The Sullivan County Home (sometimes known as a "poor farm") is scheduled to be sold at [sheriff's auction](#). The home dates back to 1897.

UNION COUNTY

--In the wake of the legislature's beefing up the public records access law, the Union County government has issued [guidelines](#) for the public for how to make the most effective request for records.

[Forward this email](#)



This email was sent to mere_thom@runbox.com by webmaster@indgensoc.org | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).



Indiana Genealogical Society, Inc. | P.O. Box 10507 | Fort Wayne | IN | 46852