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Indiana News - May 2018

Welcome to the May 2018 edition of Indiana News! This e-mail is sent once a month and focuses on news and resources relating to genealogy research in Indiana. You are receiving this e-mail either because you signed up on our website to receive it or because you are a member of the Indiana Genealogical Society.

MISSED AN ISSUE? Past issues of this e-mail going back to 2010 are available for [download](#) as PDF files.

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SAVE THE DATE: IGS 2019 conference with DNA expert

Mark your calendars! DNA expert Blaine Bettinger will be the featured speaker at the Indiana Genealogical Society's annual conference on **Saturday, April 13, 2019** at the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne. Bettinger is author of *The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy*, and "The Genetic Genealogist" blog.



IGS appoints Benton County and Morgan County Genealogists

The Indiana Genealogical Society welcomes Latisha Provo as the Indiana County Genealogist (ICG) for Benton County. She was appointed by the IGS board at the May meeting. If you have questions about Benton County research, please contact her at director@otterbeinpubliclibrary.org

The Indiana Genealogical Society welcomes Janice Kistler as the Indiana County Genealogist (ICG) for Morgan County. She was appointed by the IGS board at the May meeting. She is the Reference and

June 2018 newsletter available for IGS members

The June 2018 issue of *IGS Newsletter*, our bi-monthly newsletter for members of the Indiana Genealogical Society, is now available for download in the [IGS Records](#) section of our Members-Only area.

Highlights of IGS annual meeting

Thank you to everyone who came to the Indiana Genealogical Society's conference in New Albany with Jane Wilcox. Among the highlights of our annual meeting:

- **Library Staff Educational Scholarships** (\$500) were given to Janet Winrotte of the Culver-Union Township Public Library (Marshall County) and Teresa Biddle Douglas of the Harrison County Public Library. Each recipient received \$500 to be used towards furthering their education, and each library received an additional \$500 to purchase genealogy resources.
- **Electronic Database Award** (\$500) was given to the Bloomfield-Eastern Greene County Public Library for their many contributions, including city directories and poor house censuses.
- **Elaine Spires Smith Family History Writing Award** (\$500) was given to Barb LaFara for her article in the March 2017 quarterly about documenting the family oral history of David L. and Jennie Osborne of Indianapolis and Minneapolis.
- **Outstanding County Genealogical Contribution** (\$500) was given to Diana Brumfield of Putnam County for her work with the Putnam County Public Library.
- **Distinguished County Genealogical Service** (\$500) was given to Mike Lewman of Parke County for his work preserving the Hixon Cemetery and many other pioneer cemeteries in Parke County.
- **Grants** (\$1,000 each) were given to: 1) Jefferson County Genealogical Society for restoration of the Congregation of Israelites Cemetery; 2) Porter County Public Library System for preservation of Porter County professional licenses; 3) Lawrence County Historical & Genealogical Society for adding to their newspaper microfilm collection; 4) Martin County Historical Society for preservation of courthouse documents; 5) Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum for digitizing their Miles' news collection; 6) Wabash Valley Genealogy Society for their Vigo County bicentennial history & genealogical hotspot event; 7) South Bend Area Genealogical Society for their Hispanic genealogy workshop; 8) Genealogical Society of Marion County for replacement of their library's HVAC unit; 9) Monroe County History Center for preservation of probate records.



IGS adds 18 free databases from scanning kits

We recently added **18** free databases that were created by the recipients of our [Indiana Genealogy Digitization Project](#) - an ongoing project to give portable scanning kits worth \$500 to qualified non-profit groups in Indiana:

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY - contributed by Bartholomew County Genealogical Society:

- Bartholomew County Orphans Home - residents (1893-1902).
- Bear Creek Baptist Church - history (1954).
- Burnsville Christian Church - history (1838-1988).
- First United Lutheran Church, Columbus - history (1893-1953).
- Old Union United Church of Christ - history (1816-1991).
- St. Bartholomew Catholic Church, Columbus - history (1841-1991).
- Tabernacle Church of Christ, Columbus - history (1829-1940).
- Wertz Memorial Evangelical United Brethren Church, Columbus - history (1892-1959).

CLAY COUNTY - contributed by Clay County Genealogical Society:

- Ashboro High School - alumni (1918-1959).
- Clay City - history of schools; phone directory (1949).
- Brazil - phone directory (1949).
- Center Point - phone directory (1949).

- Businesses - phone directory (1949).
- Van Buren High School - yearbook (1928).

ELKHART COUNTY - contributed by Elkhart County Historical Society:

- Divorce index 1846-1905.

PIKE COUNTY - contributed by Pike County Historical Society:

- Family Bibles.
- Physician licenses issued 1885-1897.

Ancestry.com adds more Presbyterian Church records for Indiana

In our September 2017 e-mail, we told you that Ancestry.com had updated their database, [U.S. Presbyterian Church Records, 1701-1970](#), which included Presbyterian Church records from parts of 38 states, including Indiana. That database has been updated further, so that its Indiana coverage now consists of:

Benton County (Boswell)
 Blackford County (Hartford City)
 Carroll County (Camden)
 Clark County (Charlestown; Jeffersonville; Marysville; New Washington)
 Clay County (Clay City; Poland)
 Clinton County (Frankfort; Kirklin; Mulberry)
 Crawford County (English)
 Decatur County (Greensburg)
 Dubois County (Ireland)
 Elkhart County (Nappanee)
 Fountain County (Covington; Hillsboro)
 Gibson County (Somerville)
 Grant County (Marion)
 Greene County (Worthington)
 Harrison County (Elizabeth; Laconia; Milltown)
 Hendricks County (Danville)
 Huntington County (Warren)
 Jackson County (Crothersville)
 Jasper County (Remington)
 Jefferson County (Hanover; Madison)
 Jennings County (North Vernon; Scipio)
 Johnson County (Whiteland)
 Knox County (Bicknell; Vincennes)
 Kosciusko County (Warsaw)
 Lake County (Gary)
 Madison County (Anderson)
 Marion County (Indianapolis)
 Marshall County (Plymouth)
 Monroe County (Bloomington)
 Ohio County (Rising Sun)
 Orange County (Orleans)
 Parke County (Montezuma)
 Pike County (Petersburg)
 Putnam County (Portland Mills; Putnamville)
 Rush County (Glenwood)
 Shelby County (Shelbyville)
 St. Joseph County (South Bend; Sumption Prairie)
 Sullivan County (Carlisle; Sullivan)
 Switzerland County (Patriot)
 Tippecanoe County (Lafayette; Romney; West Lafayette)
 Vanderburgh County (Evansville)
 Warrick County (Boonville)
 Washington County (New Philadelphia)
 Wayne County (Bethel; Cambridge City; Richmond)
 White County (Chalmers)
 Whitley County (Columbia City)

NOTE: A subscription is required to access this database.

Federation of Genealogical Societies August conference in Fort Wayne

Indiana will be host to a national conference as the Federation of Genealogical Societies will hold their annual conference **August 22-25, 2018** in Fort Wayne. The theme of the conference is "On The Three Rivers: Past, Present & Future."



The [conference](#) will include these sessions sponsored by the Indiana Genealogical Society:

- Indiana Genealogy: The Crossroads to America - presented by Melissa Tennant, MLS
- Capturing Cubbyholes: Scanning the Other Stuff - presented by Ron Darrah
- Midwestern Treasures on Ancestry.com - presented by Juliana Szucs
- Mitten Roots: Family History Research in Michigan - presented by Kris Rzepczynski, MLIS
- Illinois Digital Resources - presented by Tina Beard, MLIS

Newspapers.com adds Hammond newspaper

Newspapers.com recently added issues of a Hammond newspaper, *Northwest Indiana Times*, from 1906 through 2018. The newspaper was published in Hammond until 1989, when it moved to Munster. It had different names over the years, including *The Hammond Daily Tribune* and *The Lake County Times*.



The newspaper issues are only available to those who have a subscription to the site.

Indiana State Library to hold Genealogy Fair

The Indiana State Library in Indianapolis will hold their annual Indiana Genealogy and Local History Fair on **Saturday, October 27, 2018** from 10 am to 3:30 pm. The theme is "Digging Up the Dead," with a focus on how to research deaths.



Local genealogy and history organizations will have information and vendor tables, and there will be speakers:

- Lisa Alzo will present sessions on "Murder, Mayhem and Town Tragedy" and "Cause of Death: Using Coroner's Records for Genealogy."
- Amie Bowser Tennant will present a session on "Trolling Virtual Cemeteries and Using Cemetery Records."
- Sarah Halter, executive director of the Indiana Medical History Museum, will give a brown bag lunch session on "What Killed Your Ancestors?"

Attendance is free, and no registration is required. Indiana librarians can receive LEU credits for attending (librarians please contact crward@library.in.gov in advance).

County Roundup

Here are some genealogy-related news items from around the state.

NOTE: Items on other websites often change or are removed without notice - we apologize if you encounter a link that no longer works.

ALLEN COUNTY:

The Allen County Genealogical Society of Indiana, along with the Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library, is sponsoring 4 [DNA workshops](#) with Diahan Southard on Saturday, October 27. The speaker is separately offering a [hands-on genetic genealogy workshop](#) and private consultations on Friday, October 26.

BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY:

The Allen County Public Library has added free databases of [Crail Cemetery](#) and [Critser Cemetery](#) to

its website.

BENTON COUNTY:

The Allen County Public Library has added free databases of [Davis Family Cemetery](#), [Perigo Cemetery](#) and [Poor Farm Cemetery](#) to its website.

BOONE COUNTY:

The Boone County Genealogical Society has [installed](#) a new sign at Mt. Union Cemetery in Lebanon, as part of their restoration efforts. The Indiana Cemetery Heritage sign was approved by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources and it has also been recognized as a pioneer cemetery.

BROWN COUNTY:

The Allen County Public Library has added free databases of [Aaron Crouch Cemetery](#) and [Anderson Cemetery](#) to its website.

CARROLL COUNTY:

The Allen County Public Library has added free databases of [Beard Cemetery](#), [Doc Smith Cemetery](#) and [Timmons Cemetery](#) to its website.

CLARK COUNTY:

Barnett Cemetery in Jeffersonville has a new [rock wall](#) and sign, thanks to an Eagle Scout's service Project. The cemetery - which is also known as Adams Cemetery - dates to the 1800's and is near a former ammunition plant.

LAPORTE COUNTY:

The Allen County Public Library has added a free database of [Bowell Cemetery](#) to its website.

PUTNAM COUNTY:

The remains of a Greencastle sailor who died in World War II have finally been [identified](#) and buried. Thomas J. Murphy died in 1943; his remains were among those discovered at a battle site in 2015. His remains were positively identified in 2017.

TIPPECANOE COUNTY:

A Lafayette newspaper [article](#) recounts the Civil War **service** of Colonel William B. Carroll, a Lafayette resident who was killed at the Battle of Chickamauga in 1863.

VANDERBURGH COUNTY:

Willard Library in Evansville will host several free genealogy events from June 18 until June 22. J. Mark Lowe will be the featured speaker. Sessions will include: tax lists; navigating the FamilySearch website; online newspapers, and Sanborn Fire Insurance maps. Register for each session via the library's [calendar of events](#).

WELLS COUNTY:

The Allen County Public Library has added a free database of [Jones Cemetery \(Union Township\)](#) to its website.

IGS adds 16 new databases for members

We now have **2,158** total databases for members, including at least 9 databases for each of Indiana's 92 counties.

Here are all the premium databases (accessible only to IGS members) that we've added recently:

County Records:

- Cass County - plat book (1950).
- DeKalb County - Butler High School students & teachers (1935); alumni (1931-1934).
- Floyd County - New Albany High School students & teachers (1914).
- Lake County - Hammond High School graduates (1952).
- Lawrence County - Bedford High School students & teachers (1943).
- Newton County - Brook High School graduates (1917).
- Parke County - Tangier High School alumni (1911-1931); teachers (1932); students grades 1-12 in Tangier schools (1932).
- Scott County - Scottsburg phone directory (1952).
- White County - Monticello High School graduates (1912).

NOT AN IGS MEMBER? We also added some free databases, courtesy of Randi Richardson:

OWEN COUNTY:

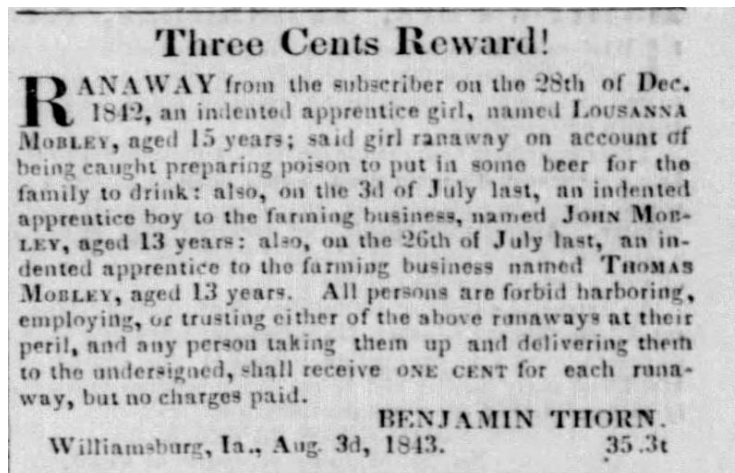
--Gosport High School - graduates (1934-1970) & teachers (1934-1970).

Legal terms explained: En banc

En banc is a French term that translates as "on the bench". In local or district courts, there is usually only one judge who presides over that case. However, if a lower court's decision is appealed to a higher authority (either on a state or federal level), the appellate court or supreme court that hears that appeal consists of multiple judges, with decisions sometimes being made by only some of them. An "en banc" case means that the case is being decided by all the judges in that court.



RESEARCH TIP: Indenture records



An indenture is a legal contract between two parties. It is a term often used in real estate agreements or mortgages. But in the 1700's and 1800's, an indenture referred to an agreement to be an apprentice at a job or otherwise provide labor for a "master" or "mistress".

The early settlers of the American colonies included indentured servants - white men and women who were legally "bound" to work for someone for 7 years in return for learning a skill or receiving goods such as clothing (the

"freedom suit") when their term of service was complete. As time passed, children were also allowed to be bound into indentures, either by their parents so they could learn a skill or afford schooling, or by government officials such as township overseers of the poor who had the authority to prevent poor children from becoming a burden on society.

Indentured servants were part of Indiana's history going back to when it was still a territory. Beginning in 1805, any white person under the age of 21 could be indentured with the consent of their father. If the child's father was dead, their mother or guardian could give the consent. From 1805 until 1939 (when indenture was abolished in Indiana), the length of indenture for children was until age 21 for males and until age 18 for females.

Institutions that had the care of children - including the Indiana Boys' School (formed in 1867), the Indiana Girls' School (formed in 1869), the Indiana Soldiers' and Sailor's Orphans' Home (formed in 1887) and various county orphans' homes - could also arrange for them to be indentured, with or without their parents' consent. While indentures made by parents or township overseers of the poor were required to be recorded in the county courthouse, indentures that were made by institutions only had to be noted in the institution's own ledger books.

The 1805 law provided that a mistreated apprentice could file a complaint with a justice of the peace in the county, and appeal that decision to the county's court of common pleas. It wasn't until 1889 that the Indiana legislature added a law that said a master or mistress who inflicted "unnecessary" treatment on a bound child could be found guilty of a misdemeanor and face up to 30 days in jail, along with a fine of between \$5 and \$50. That may explain why Indiana newspapers from the 1800's are filled with notices about "runaway" apprentices, with masters offering a reward (anywhere from 1 cent to \$20) for information about their whereabouts. In the example shown above from an 1843 Richmond newspaper, 3 children - Lousanna Mobley, age 15, John Mobley, age 13, and Thomas Mobley, age 13 - had run away from Benjamin Thorn, with Lousanna allegedly having been caught trying to put poison in the family's beer.

Because the indenture was a contract, indenture records that were not done by institutions are found with other kinds of deeds - in the County Recorder's office. An indenture that was recorded would spell out who was the person that was binding out the child and who was the person who was going to be their master. The indenture would also say what the terms were - what items the master would provide for, such as food and clothing and what particular skill or trade the child would be taught in return. In an [example](#) from 1834 Tippecanoe County, the overseers of the poor for Fairfield Township bound Samuel T. Hannaman, a poor boy age 16, to John B. Semans to be taught the printer trade. Semans was to send Hannaman to "a good English school" for 6 months and provide him with "sufficient meat, drink, washing, lodging and apparel." At the expiration of the service Hannaman would receive a new suit of clothes worth at least \$30.

INDENTURE RECORDS ONLINE:

If you search the [FamilySearch catalog](#), you'll see that it has digitized the microfilm of indenture/apprentice ledger books for many counties in Indiana. Some of these digital images may be restricted - meaning they can only be viewed from a computer at a Family History Center or a public library that is a FamilySearch Affiliate Library. But there are some digital images that are not restricted - including Allen County's indentures [1861-1912](#) and Hendricks County's indentures [1837-1849](#). Some counties' indenture records have been indexed - such as [Jefferson County's](#) and Fountain County's [1847-1884](#).

Indiana Genealogical Society | www.IndianaAncestors.org

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