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Indiana News - June 2018

Welcome to the June 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.



FOUND: Photo of Lawrence County baby (1889)

Shelley Cardiel (cardiels@comcast.net) has found this photo, identified as being Roger Evans, which was taken at the W.M. Masten Studio in Bedford, Indiana in the late 1880's.

Research has found that Roger Walter Evans was born 24 January 1889 in Bedford, Lawrence County, Indiana; died 23 November 1952 in Marshall, Calhoun County, Michigan. He was

the son of Walter Evans and Amelia Kern. He married 1) Grace Iva Corps (died July 1937) and 2) Beatrice Hatch Kipp (died 1981). Roger's siblings included Nora Evans (born March 1880) and Gertrude Evans (born November 1890).

If you are a descendant of this family, or know someone who may be, please contact Shelley Cardiel.



Roger Walter Evans
(see [full-sized PDF](#))

Help index Indiana's World War I records

The Indiana State Archives has started a "virtual volunteer" program, where you can [index](#) their records from your own computer. Their first [project](#) is a collection of cards that summarize Indiana veterans' service in World War I.

These service record cards are all the more valuable to genealogy researchers because a fire in 1973 at the National Archives' personnel records center in St. Louis destroyed 95% of the Army's World War I records.

Bechtel		Irl R	4,714,105	White	1 1/2
(Surname)		(Christian name)	(Army serial number)	(Race: White or colored)	
Residence:	R. F. D. #2	Odon		INDIANA	
	(Street and house number)	(Town or city)	(County)	(State)	
*Enlisted in	Inducted at Washington Ind Aug 25/18				—
†Born in	Odon Ind Aug 30, 1890				—
Organizations:	21 Co 6 Bn 160 Dep Brig to Sept 12/18; 14 Sn Tn Amb Co 753 to disch				—
Grades:	Pvt 1 c1 Jan 7/19				—
Engagements:					—
Wounds or other injuries received in action:	None.				—
‡Served overseas	No				—
§Hon. disch.	Jan 22/19		on demobilization		—
Was reported	0		per cent disabled on date of discharge, in view of occupation.		
Remarks:					—
<small>Form No. 724-1 1/2, A. G. O. March 12, 1920. *Insert "R. A.", "N. G.", "E. R. C.", "N. A.", as case may be, followed by place and date of enlistment. †Give place of birth and date of birth, or age at enlistment. ‡Give dates of departure from and arrival in the United States. § Give date.</small>					

FamilySearch also has an indexing [project](#) concerning Indiana World War I enrollment cards - these were microfilmed and then converted to digital images. When complete, the index will be freely available on the FamilySearch website; the digital images will be restricted to viewing at Family History Centers and FamilySearch Affiliate Libraries.

FOUND: Photo of Vigo County woman (1900's)

Shelley Cardiel (cardiels@comcast.net) has found this photo, identified as being Mary Belle (Watters) Fyffe, which was taken at the Bundy Studio in Terre Haute, Indiana in the early 1900's, with Mary Belle appearing to be in her 20's or 30's at the time the photo was taken. The back of the photo identifies her as "Aunt".

Research has found that Mary Belle Watters was born 14 July 1882 in Genoa, DeKalb County, Illinois; died 1951 in Indiana. She was the daughter of George L. Watters (1847-1934) and Mary E. Yeley (1858-1892). Mary Belle Watters married Andrew Fyffe (born December 1881 in Knightsville, Clay County, Indiana; died 1 March 1945 in Terre Haute, Vigo County, Indiana) on 22 October 1905 in Vigo County, Indiana. They had a son, George Watters Fyffe (1910-1980), who married Mayme Jane Shaver in Vigo County in 1938.

If you are a descendant of this family, or know someone who may be, please contact Shelley Cardiel.



Mary Belle (Watters) Fyffe
(see [full-sized PDF](#))

Indiana adoption records 1941-1993 opened

Effective July 1st, children who were adopted in Indiana between 1941 and 1993 can [request](#) a copy of their own birth record from the Indiana State Department of Health. This is the result of a law passed in 2016, which gave biological parents until 2018 to restrict access to their information.

FOUND: Photo of Vigo County couple (1900's)

Shelley Cardiel (cardiels@comcast.net) has found this photo, identified as being Rhoda Kuykendall and husband Lorenzo Dow Holmes, which was taken at the H.T. Biel Studio in Terre Haute, Indiana in the early 1900's. The couple appears to be in their 30's at the time the photo was taken. The back of the photo notes that Rhoda Kuykendall is the sister of Charles Kuykendall.



Research has found that Rhoda May Kuykendall (born 18 November 1871 in Dennison, Clark County, Illinois; died 11 September 1932 in Dennison, Clark County, Illinois) was the daughter of John Kuykendall (1844-1922) and Eliza Ellen Newell (1850 - ??). Rhoda married Lorenzo Dow "Low" Holmes (sometimes spelled Cherryholmes) and they had one son, Estel Vere Holmes (1893-1963). Rhoda's obituary listed several siblings living in West Terre Haute, Indiana.

If you are a descendant of this family, or know someone who may be, please contact Shelley Cardiel.

Rhoda May Kuykendall & Lorenzo Dow Holmes
(see [full-sized PDF](#))

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



Indiana State Library to hold Genealogy Fair

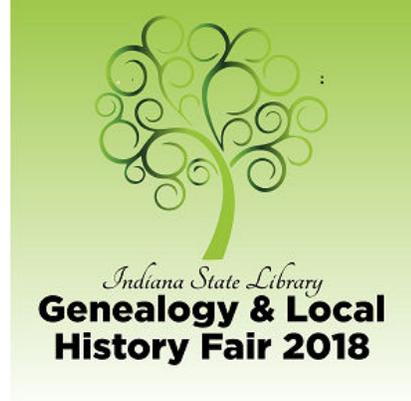
The Indiana State Library in Indianapolis will hold their annual Indiana Genealogy and Local History Fair on **Saturday, October 27, 2018** from 10 am to 3:30 pm. The theme is "Digging Up the Dead," with a focus on how to research deaths.

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.

FLOYD COUNTY:

The remains of a man who died in Cleveland, Ohio in 2002 were finally [identified](#) to be a man from New Albany who hadn't been heard from since the 1960's, thanks to the work of a forensic genealogist. Robert Ivan Nichols changed his name to Joseph Newton Chandler III when he left Indiana and assumed another identity.

LAKE COUNTY:

A Korean War soldier from Gary who has been missing since 1950 has finally been [buried](#). The remains of Private Gary Baker were among those turned over in 1993; he was finally identified through DNA testing earlier this year.

MADISON COUNTY:

A World War I memorial built in 1920 to remember students from Anderson High School is being [preserved](#) and relocated to Maplewood Cemetery. The project is being led by a local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

MARION COUNTY:

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources has begun [relocating](#) about 400 remains from Bethel Cemetery. The cemetery is located near Indianapolis Airport and dates back to 1838. The cost of this relocation project is \$2.5 million.

MONROE COUNTY:

A woman who recently [visited](#) her husband's grave at Valhalla Memory Gardens in Bloomington discovered the cemetery had mistakenly listed her as having died instead of her husband.

VANDERBURGH COUNTY:

An Evansville newspaper has an [article](#) detailing the history of the county's first orphanage - the Children's Guardian Home. It was built in Evansville in the 1860's and existed until the 1930's.

WAYNE COUNTY:

A bronze marker from Glen Haven Memorial Gardens in Richmond was recently [stolen](#). The theft is believed to be so it can be sold for scrap metal.

IGS adds 9 new databases for members

We now have **2,167** 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:

College Records:

- Butler University, Indianapolis - graduates (1934).
- Indiana University, Bloomington - graduates (1915).
- University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame - graduates (1927).

County Records:

- Clark County - Henryville phone directory (1952).
- Dearborn County - tax list (1842)
- Greene County - tax list (1843).
- Marshall County - tax list (1843).
- Noble County - tax list (1847).
- Starke County - tax list (1843).

Legal terms explained: Bill of exceptions

In a civil case or criminal case, you may appeal the decision of the court. When filing an appeal, you must include a bill of exceptions - a written explanation of your objections to specific rulings that were made by the court during the case and the evidence that supports your objections. NOTE: Federal courts no longer require a bill of exceptions to be included in an appeal; however, some courts on the state level still do.



RESEARCH TIP: War of 1812 pension applications

WAR OF 1812.
ACT FEBRUARY 14, 1871

BRIEF OF CLAIM FOR A SURVIVOR'S PENSION

in the case of Thomas Dickey, a _____
of Captain Joel Comb's Company, Indiana Militia.
Residence: Harrison County Missouri
Post office address: Betheny, Harrison Co Mo.

Enlisted October 31, 1812, discharged December 7, 1812
Served afterward from _____, 18____, to _____, 18____
in Captain _____ Company, _____ Militia.

Declaration and identification in due form, filed May 22, 1871.

The War of 1812 - fought between 1812 and 1815 with Great Britain - was also known as the 2nd American Revolution, coming just 1 generation after the fight for American independence.

Almost 500,000 Americans participated - many of them in state militias that were formed for local defense. Indiana did not become a state until 1816, but residents of the Indiana Territory served in these militias.

After the war, a series of laws gave deeds to pieces of federal land (called "bounty land

warrants") to War of 1812 veterans, to help settle the westernmost territories. And there were already laws in place from the end of the Revolutionary War to give a military pension to a veteran who had died or become disabled as the result of their service.

However, it wasn't until 1871 that Congress passed a law allowing veterans (or their widows and minor children) to apply for a pension for their service even if they hadn't died or become disabled. That 1871 law applied to veterans who had served at least 60 days - or their widows if their marriage had occurred before 1815. An 1878 law expanded eligibility to include veterans who had served at least 14 days.

These pension applications can be rich sources for genealogy research - especially for providing proof of marriage and details of their military service. The federal government kept all of the applications, regardless of whether it was ultimately approved or denied.

There are almost 100,000 pension applications for War of 1812 veterans. They are kept at the National Archives in Washington, DC. Like pension applications for military service from other wars, photocopies of the War of 1812 files can be ordered from the National Archives (<https://eservices.archives.gov/orderonline>) for an application fee.

However, in 2012, to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the beginning of the War of 1812, the Federation of Genealogical Societies launched a fundraising effort in the genealogical community to digitize these files and place them online for free access by the public. Individuals and genealogical and historical organizations (including the Indiana Genealogical Society) donated - over \$3 million to date - and companies such as Ancestry.com and FamilySearch have also their contributed technological expertise.

This collection of pension application files totals more than 7 million pages. The digitizing is now 70% complete, with soldiers' surnames A through M currently available online. The digitized applications can be accessed for free at <https://go.fold3.com/1812pensions>. In the example shown above, Thomas Dickey of Betheny, Harrison County, Missouri claims under the 1871 law that he served in Captain Joel Comb's Company in the Indiana Militia - a claim that was ultimately rejected.

NOTE: If you want to download or print these digitized files, you must create a free account with Fold3.

Not sure if your ancestor served in the War of 1812? FamilySearch has a free [index](#) to these War of 1812 pension application files - including those applications that have not yet been digitized.

Indiana Genealogical Society | www.IndianaAncestors.org

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