

INDIAN HILL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*Keeping Indian Hill's
Past and Present Alive
for Tomorrow*

E-Newsletter

April 2025

Vol. 26

What's Been Going On?

One-Room Schoolhouse Experience

Since 1992, the Indian Hill Historical Society has welcomed local 4th graders to the Little Red Schoolhouse to bring history alive. This year, students came during the last week of February to take part in this unique, interactive event. During the field trip, the students participate in and learn about what it was like to go to school in a one-room schoolhouse during the late 1800s. The day starts with an engaging discussion about the pioneer settlements in southern Ohio - how and why they came to the area and built their lives. Next, hands-on activities provide life experiences: reading from the McGuffey's Reader, practicing cursive penmanship with dip-ink pens, working math problems on small slates with chalk, identifying tools and items used in those days, and playing marbles during "recess."

The Little Red Schoolhouse (1873) is a village landmark maintained by the Historical Society, and it provides the perfect site for this fun, educational, and memorable day.



Cincinnati Bengals: An Illustrated Timeline, with Jeff Suess

On Sunday, March 16th, author Jeff Suess took the audience on an entertaining and insightful journey through the history of this local NFL team. He highlighted many key players such as Bob Trumpy, Ken Riley, Ken Anderson, Cris Collinsworth, Anthony Munoz, Max Montoya, Boomer Esiason, Ickey Woods, and others, as well as influential coaches like Bill Walsh, Forrest Gregg, and Sam Wyche. Memorable moments, including the "Freezer Bowl" and multiple Super Bowl runs, were also discussed. The excitement, passion, and challenges of the Bengals' history were brought to life, making for a fun and informative trip down memory lane!



Rosemary Welsh & Jeff Suess



Jean Davison, Janet & Scott Sayre,
Allison Kahn



Owen & Jan Wrasman, Kent Little



Barb & Andy Hauck, Bill Weyand

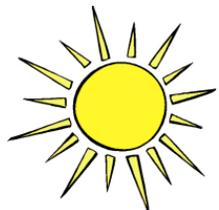


Kim & Michael Hoeting



Beth & Steve Onthank,
Eric & Allison Kahn

Upcoming Events:

April	May	June
<p>Sunday, 13th <u>Greenacres Tour and the Annual Meeting of The Indian Hill Historical Society</u> Come join us for a unique walking tour of the Equestrian Center and Greenhouse! Click blow to RSVP: Make Reservations!</p>	<p>Sunday, 18th <u>The Patron Party</u> is held in one of Indian Hill's finest homes, this annual "Thank-You" party is for the many generous supporters of the Historical Society.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Thank you</i> </p> <p><i>By invitation only</i></p>	<p>Friday, 20th Summer Solstice!</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>

Member News: *1st Quarter, 2025 Updates*

Thank you to all the new & renewing members this past quarter!

Renewals this quarter:

Cecile Allyn

Vicki & Peter Alpaugh

Kathy Bernard

Tanu & Amar Bhati

Cynthia & John Bismayer

Mary & Bill Bramlage

Sandra & Otto Budig

Joann Rude Chamberlin

Liz & Bill Colohan

Molly & Benjy Diesbach

Renie Dohrmann

Laila Frank

Donna & Karl Grafe

Alicia & Jeff Heinichen

Patricia & Don Hinkley

Susan & Chip Hunter

Dennis Janson

Cynthia & Greg Kenny

Zofeen & Khurram Khan

Ann Kranbuhl

Leslie & John Krehbiel

Abby & Kyle Lehr

Simona & Esh Lunken

Debbie & Rich Oliver

Stephen Oughterson

Kellie & Dan Peters

Karen & Rene Robichaud

Lynda & Ray Schilderink

Aimee & Matthew Schloss

Clark Sole

Gerri Strauss

Kathy & David Turner

Bebe & Phil Vollmer

Rosemary & Frank Welsh

New Business Member this quarter:

Victoria Torgersen, Historic & Old Homes, Coldwell Banker Heritage

Business Renewal this quarter:

Cincinnati Country Day School

Interested in becoming a member? [Click here](#)



Please [contact](#) the office if you have any questions.

Thanks to Our Business Members

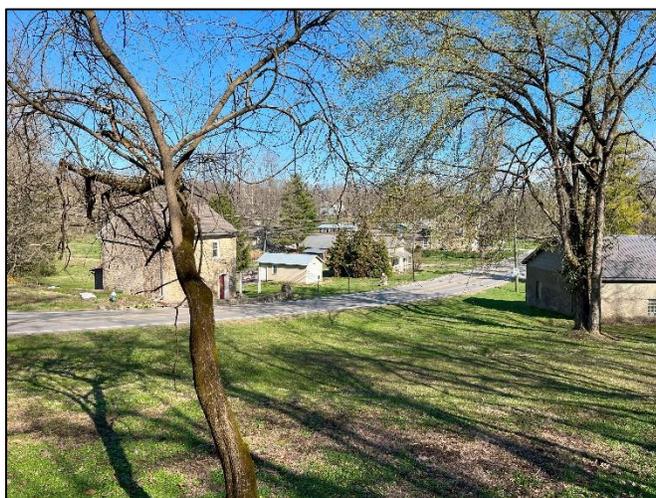
 <p>Central Bark Doggie Day Care 8185 Camargo Rd.</p>	 <p>CINCINNATI COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL LAUS IN ACTIONE 1926</p>	 <p>DALEY DESIGN + BUILD</p>	 <p><i>ERD</i> ENGLISH ROSE DESIGNS</p>
 <p>exp OH EQUINE REALTY PROPERTIES.COM GINA DUBELL-SMITH 513-477-1219</p>		 <p>THE FIRST EDITION RARE BOOKS</p>	
<p>MICHAEL F. GEHRIG Attorney At Law</p>	<p>ERIC HOLZAPFEL Attorney At Law</p>	<p>INDIAN HILL Neighbors Magazine</p>	 <p>INPRINT madeira</p>
 <p>Mariemont Inn Best Western Premier</p>	 <p>Rx INTEGRATIVE SOLUTIONS</p>	 <p>SIBCY CLINE REALTORS</p>	
 <p>SUMMERMUSIK CINCINNATI CHAMBER ORCHESTRA ECKART PREU, MUSIC DIRECTOR</p>	<p>Taft FOCUSED CAPITOL SOLUTIONS LLC</p>	 <p>VICTORIA TORGERSEN</p>	 <p>COLDWELL BANKER HERITAGE</p>
 <p>TOTAL WEALTH PLANNING</p>		 <p><i>Turner Farm</i> Indian Hill, Ohio</p>	
 <p>THE V COLLECTIVE DESIGN & CRAFTSMANSHIP</p>		 <p>THE JW GROUP REAL ESTATE GLOBAL LUXURY EXPERTS</p>  <p>COLDWELL BANKER REALTY</p>	

By providing transport to competitors along the line, the advent of the railroad may have contributed to slowing the growth of the once bustling economy of Waldschmidt's settlement. The thriving city of Cincinnati grew to provide many of the goods the outlying industrious communities had once sent down the Little Miami River. Whether due to Kugler's choices or the advent of change the railroad brought, the fortunes of [New] Germany dwindled.

In 1849, Kugler's mill burned down and was not rebuilt. Mathias Kugler was laid to rest in March 1854. [New] Germany's transition to Camp Dennison occurred less than a decade later under the cloud of the Civil War. A December, 1902 article from *The Cincinnati Post*, [relying on the memories of Dr. Buckingham], details the beginnings of Camp Dennison. With the proximity of the Ohio River to the Confederacy, southwest Ohio was deemed critical in the newly declared war between the states.

General Winfield Scott had spied the area from a train stop in Milford in the mid-1850s. On April 27, 1862, a mere 14 days after the official start of the Civil War, a manager from the Pennsylvania Railroad went to [New] Germany and met with landowners. Leases were immediately drawn up with the farmers of [New] Germany. Dr. Buckingham, a young physician, leased 700 acres to the state. Within days soldiers began arriving by train to the site renamed Camp Dennison (in honor of Ohio's 24th governor, William Dennison). It took time for the camp to be "retrofitted" to the business of soldiering, but in time the Kugler's "Honeymoon Cottage" became the guardhouse for the Civil War offices set up in Christian Waldschmidt's home. Dr. Buckingham served as camp physician, running the hospital. In total over 50,000 troops mustered into and out of Camp Dennison.

A walking trail near Camp Dennison takes today's hiker to the remnants of the Civil War camp reservoir up on the hill overlooking the park. The Pennsylvania Dutch style homes of the Waldschmidts are now owned and maintained by the D.A.R. [Daughters of the American Revolution] and open for tours. If you look over the Camp Dennison landscape, some traces of the millrace dug by the Waldschmidt settlement remain today. With the aid of a variety of the archives collected and donated to The Indian Hill Historical Society, the footsteps and enterprise of the Waldschmidt family remains alive and within reach today.



View of Waldschmidt homestead from Rt. 126



Headstone in the Waldschmidt Cemetery

Office News:

The renovations of Buckingham Lodge are in full gear, but the end is in sight! We discovered some beautiful wood floors under the linoleum in the kitchen and bathrooms and under carpet in my office. They have been refinished and look wonderful! Painting is still under way, but we are all settling back into our original workspaces with new furniture and lighting. File cabinets have been moved to the first floor, so access is much improved. The upstairs library was moved to a larger room, and there is more area to spread out as one is researching history. The old library was converted into an archive room for better storage of the many archive files and maps.



Buckingham Lodge

This wonderful house built by the Bonnell family in the early 1860s serves as the home of The Historical Society, and we are fortunate to be its caretakers. This renovation is the first major update since the Historical Society originally rehabbed the building for its offices in 1988-1989. We are looking forward to another 40+ years. Please stop in to see the results of the renovation work.

Your comments and suggestions are always welcome. You may contact us through email: history@indianhill.org or phone: 513-891-1873.

Happy Winter!

The Indian Hill Historical Society

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