



Third and Main

Open the door, walk in, turn to the counter and find 2 or 3 or 4 or more persons of note expecting to help (or share a current joke) --where-- 3 East Main Street in the very heart of our very own Tipp City. If you have ever accepted help or been the help for one of the Tipp Monroe Community Services (CS) projects, you know the staff (5 at the present time) is well organized and is well on top of the needs of our town. They, to quote one of my favorite sayings, "see the need, recognize the responsibility, and take the time to be the answer".

The stories flow out...the time a couple came into town and wanted to get married immediately as he had been called up (they had a license) and was leaving for the war zone. Kathy Taylor, she is still the director today, located Vickey Blakey, who was our town's mayor at the time. One of the staff scooted out for a bouquet down the street. The marriage took place on the corner in the yard of the Lutheran Church the same day and the couple went on their way. There are many stories involving Gail Ahmed and the Tipp City Community Band. There was the instance when the band was preparing for a concert on a downtown street and had no chairs or music stands. CS was right there, called the high school on North Hyatt (now the Middle School). They located a vehicle (Sandy Whitaker's truck), and she, Mary Lou Wilson, Jackie Wahl, and of course, Kathy, loaded all the equipment needed, then lost the whole load in an equipment slide in route. They promptly reloaded everything and placed Kathy in back with her arms securing it!!! The concert went on as scheduled!!

The very first Tour of Tipp City Homes (they just completed the 40th) was sponsored by CS. The event began with the community coming together to enjoy a meal of "Stone Soup" (reference the children's book (Stone Soup by Ann McGovern) made up of ingredients supplied by each family attending. Mary Lou Wilson, the director at the time, and Kathy were told by one participant that the selection of homes for the first tour needed closer supervision because one of the homes being considered had pictures not suited for public viewing and another had a flock of chickens living inside. Another year, the "Nutcracker" theme became the creator of lots of extra work because the trees in front of the homes were decorated with edible decorations. These items attracted the "real thing". The birds "got with the theme" and did some decorating of their own, covering the sidewalks in front of the houses, and along Main Street with the results of their feasts (of course CS had to clean up the mess....you guessed it Kathy again!!).

The Tipp City citywide garage sale day emerged as another CS project in 1998. It was soon noted that calling in, giving your name and address and in turn being promised a yard sign indicating your being part of it was not enough for an orderly day of shopping...so the locations of the sales sites were plotted on a map and widely distributed. 30 locations were on the map that first year and 2023's map had 100.

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Can you believe this? The current fabulous Arts Council was birthed by CS. Ellen Cotterman led the group on its "maiden voyage" as they presented WINDOWS OF TIPP CITY on the side of Thornton's Hardware in the Methodist Church parking lot!! Ellen had done some travelling outside the US and had observed other shows that displayed all forms of art outside this way. It was a big hit in 2008. The involved citizens of Tipp and beyond spent a month getting the area and window frames ready for the various art to be placed within their boundaries. Also, one of the early presentations was a project involving CHAIRS. I said chairs, not just any chairs. ALL SIZES AND SHAPES OF CHAIRS. which entrants painted and decorated with many original designs and offered their creations for sale, the profits going to the Arts Council. Anyone still have a chair? Please send a picture to this great newsletter.

CS assisted with the creation of the Veterans Memorial Park, one of the outstanding sites of our town, located at the SW corner of Main and Hyatt Streets. They helped with the administration duties as Mike Jackson and Ron Re led the whole project. These projects always need A "banker and overseer" to help the men and women doing the actual work. Aren't we proud when we drive by this location!!



Now for a very big project helping our town. THE COMMUNITY LUNCH ON US...When several churches asked CS to help them start a program that would offer hot lunches to our community's children, who stepped up?? You guessed it. In 2010, the program headed by Carol English hired a very special gal, talented in her own field, Renee Johnson who worked (and still does) at the Middle School campus of Tipp Schools. Some hard-working aids from the community helped her purchase supplies, prepare, and serve the meals, which were hosted by the Methodist church. Then, a call was sent out to all churches and other organizations for volunteers that helped make the plan a reality. Originally, meals were served only at the downtown site but soon the need to make meals available to kids in the whole community birthed deliveries to 7 off site locations, where hot boxed lunches were begun. 849 meals were served the first year (June July, August). In 2023, 8,590 were served. There were also 109 volunteers, many of them repeats, this past year. Many of you reading this story were a part of that success. NOW HOW TO PAY FOR ALL THESE INCREASES...GUESS WHAT....it is time for the PURSE AUCTION to enter the picture big time!!!!

Carol English, part of the CS staff, was searching the internet for other non-profit funding ideas. She was excited as she knew how much fun an auction can be...but purses? Wow she loved the idea!! First, she needed an auctioneer to guide them and she knew of one very much in the public eye, Galen Gingerich, a principal in the Tipp City Schools, and the rest is history, as they say. Galen, who is now the principal of Neven Coppock school, was an immediate crowd pleaser and still leads the event, having a lot of interaction with his audience!! HE WILL BE LEADING THIS YEAR'S AUCTION ON MARCH 16. IT IS COMING UP SOON FOLKS!! A location has been donated; the Global Methodist Church is the place!! Next, CS needed the purses. Letters were sent to all area businesses and some individuals giving them an opportunity to sponsor the event and helping to provide the purses. Purses came from various stores such as the Coach Outlet, of course, online sources, and various other stores. Misty McDowell at CS is now managing this auction. This year's theme is THE MAD HATTER'S TEA PARTY.

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Ok, gathering of purses is an important first step--but can you believe, the purses contain a variety of surprises such as matching wallets, items from Simply Soap (a big supporter of the event), Bodega (also a big supporter), jewelry, scarves, books, even wine!!! Again, volunteers help with the soliciting and gathering of these "perks" in the purses!! The "icing on the event" - raffle baskets, 50-50 raffle, silent auction – wow, something for everyone! Doors open at 10:00. Lunch (catered by Sam and Ethels) at 11:00, auction at 12:00. SEE YOU at the Mad Hatter Tea Party on March 16 and back here for part 2 of our CS Story, next issue.

Ruth White



From the Museum Director

- As the museum is closed for January and February, things are a little slow. We have had several requests for information and are always glad to be able to find what someone is looking for.
- We have a family scheduled to take a tour of the museum on January 20.
- We will plan some time to do some house cleaning and we will try to come up with some new displays. That is not so easy as we are very crowded but it is good to change things around once a while.
- We look forward to the business meeting in February and hearing ideas for the coming year.

Susie Spitler

Letter from the President

Hello Members,

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and you are enjoying the start of 2024. We have some upcoming events in February. Ron Re accepted the Trustee position to complete Marianne Barnhart's term. I would like to thank everyone who served as an Officer or Board Member for 2023. The annual business meeting and election of officers is on February 10th. The location has changed from the previous years. The topic of "If Tombstones Could Talk" was addressed at the January meeting. It would be great to begin those again.

Thanks for all you do, and I hope to see you at the February meeting.

Joanna Pittenger



Upcoming Events

Saturday, February 10th 12:00 noon – Annual Business Meeting
Tipp Seniors Center

Tuesday, February 13th – Board Meeting

Saturday, March 2nd 10:00 am – 2:00 pm – THS Museum open every Saturday, weather permitting

Tuesday, March 12th – Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 9th – Board Meeting

What's The Story? Part 2

Part two of Ken Serey's "What's the Story – Your Ohio Neighbors Share Their War Memories: From Pearl Harbor to V-J Day" will be coming at a future date. Watch for definite dates to be announce so you can mark your calendars.



History of the TCPD with Ron Re – Part 2

Long time former Tipp City Police Officer, Ron Re will be giving a second talk about his personal experiences in the TCPD. Details will be forthcoming at a later date.

Oral History Taping

Planning is taking place for another oral history taping. This panel will be from the 40's and 50's. Details TBD.



Annual Business Meeting

Our annual business meeting will be held **Saturday, February 10th at 12:00 noon** at the Tipp Seniors Center on South Hyatt Street. We will have a “bring your own brown bag lunch”. Drinks & dessert will be furnished. This will be followed by a short business meeting including a vote on the proposed slate of officers (see below). Tipp City Trivia Bingo by Jo Stull will follow for fun and fellowship. This is open to members and their guests as well as anyone thinking about joining.

Proposed Slate of Officers

President	Joanna Pittenger
Vice-President	Joe Hammann
Treasurer	Cinda Barthel
Board Members	Karen Kuzienschky Karen Jackson Jackie Wahl
Museum Director	Susie Spitler
Bldg. Manager	Wayne Spitler
Trustees	Ron Re' - 2024 - to fill Marianne Barnhart's term Bob Bartley - 2024 Chuck Kessler - 2025 Gordon Honeyman - 2025 Phyllis Schindler - 2026 Lonnie Bowen - 2026

You are welcome to make nominations before the slate is presented to be voted on at our February meeting. Please notify Joanna at 937-216-8951 as soon as possible with nominations you would like to propose.

359 North Fourth Street



Ben Moser had a coal yard at 359 N. Fourth Street. There was a railroad siding that delivered his coal. He also sold groceries, candy, and pop. Later, he added a liquor store when the sales went with the political party of the governor. The family lived in the two-story house just south of this building. It is now the Rusty Hardin Art Studio.

The Museum will reopen on

Saturday, March 2nd

10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Weather permitting, it will be

open on Saturdays until further notice.

