

TIPPECANOE COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION'S

TippecaNEWS

VOL 4 | ISSUE 1 | SPRING 2025

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Back for 2025: We are thrilled to partner with local Chef Lauren Reed! Join us for four dinners this summer, pairing history with Lauren's culinary talents. Proceeds from each dinner benefit continued work by TCHA. Call [765-476-8411](tel:765-476-8411) ext 1 to register, starting March 19 at 10 AM EST.

EXPERIENCE A *Taste* OF THE PAST WITH RENOWNED CHEF LAUREN REED

Enjoy a taste of the past while supporting Tippecanoe County's future.

\$65 PER PERSON
Open to attendees age 16 and up



Chef Lauren Reed



New themes each month, and a program to accompany dinner!

Friday, June 6 | Friday, June 20 | Saturday, July 26 | Friday, August 15

FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING

2025 TCHA BOARD OF GOVERNORS LINE UP

Meet the 2025 TCHA Board of Governors! The Board is the driving force of the organization, and meets monthly to make decisions and updates for the organization as a whole. It's never too early to think about joining the board, as we will be taking applications for board members in the fall.

Want to try out a TCHA Board meeting before you commit?

Join us on the fourth Tuesday at the TCHA History Center, at 5:15 PM.

PRESIDENT

JEFF SCHWAB

VICE-PRESIDENT

JEREMY SPANN

TREASURER

LORITA BILL

SECRETARY

NICK SCHENKEL

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Roseanne Alstatt ° Cassie Apuzzo ° Colby Bartlett ° Del Bartlett ° Lorita Bill Pete Bill ° Jeff Burnworth ° Mónica Casanova ° H. Kory Cooper Walt Griffin ° David Hovde ° Ashima Krishna ° Tara Raber ° Quentin Robinson ° Dave Sattler ° Nick Schenkel ° Jeff Schwab ° Bridget Slack Jeremy Spann ° John Thieme ° Whitney Walton ° Jillian White ° Todd White

BALL-SHOLTY AWARD WINNER

Congratulations to Lee Brand, our 2025 winner. This award is given to outstanding volunteers who have contributed to the success of the Association. Lee is a long time supporter of both TCHA and the Feast. He also mows the adjacent lots, and provides overflow parking on his land. (Thanks to the cows, too!) Lee generously donated the land for the Ouatatonon Preserve Overlook.

Each year, a Volunteer of the Year is chosen by TCHA staff and announced at the Annual Meeting.

Sharon Baker began volunteering in 2020, working multiple times a week to index funeral home records, superior court papers and even scanning the Greenbush Cemetery records when we received them last year. She also assists Amy in genealogy research and is quick to help patrons when they come looking for answers. This year, she also helped furnish our flower garden at the Arganbright to keep it beautiful throughout the spring and summer months. Since she began volunteering, Sharon has put in 881.5 hours of work at TCHA.

Photo L-R: Kelly, Claire, Sharon Baker and Amy

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNER



ALAMEDA MCCOLLOUGH RESEARCH LIBRARY

BY AMY HARBOR, RESEARCH LIBRARY COORDINATOR

A SPECIAL MYSTERY

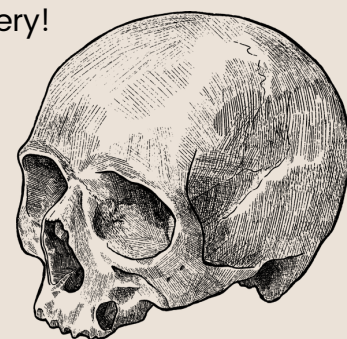
A couple of months ago, Claire received a call from a police detective in Delray Beach, Florida. A human skull had been found in a storage unit that some local people purchased at auction. Further research by the detective determined that the previous owners, elderly siblings, had brought the skull from Lafayette, Indiana. They shared that it had been found by their grandfather under the brick pavement near their house during some street work, and they were always told it was Native American in origin. The detective wanted to know if this story could be corroborated, and how to contact the local Tribes so that the skull could be returned to the appropriate tribe in accordance with NAGPRA guidelines.

Excited about a new mystery, we put our heads together and brainstormed some ideas. A few more questions to the detective gave us the family name and the address of the home where the skull was reportedly found. The house was located on North 16th Street where it intersects with Burroughs. The latter street name rang a bell, as I had heard that there was rumored to be a cemetery on Burroughs Street associated with the early Poor House located in the vicinity. A newspaper search turned up just what we were looking for. (See next page for articles)

News articles found in the Journal & Courier reported human remains being discovered during road improvements in 1908. Furthermore, there were reports of “children playing with human bones, using them for baseball bats and rolling skulls up and down the sidewalks” and that “boys in the neighborhood are carrying relics away.” We knew from deeds and old maps that the County Poor House had been in this location from 1847 to 1854, and we believed that burials had taken place there. It was satisfying to not only solve this mystery but confirm the long-held belief that there was a forgotten cemetery in that location.

Claire shared what we had found with the detective, impressing him with TCHA’s research skills and resources and solving a mystery he was certain he was never going to find an answer to. We were confident that the skull was not Native American in origin, which was also something of a relief. We put the detective in contact with the Fairfield Township Trustee, in case he wants to return the skull to its original burial area. Another mystery was solved.

See the following page for the newspaper articles used to help solve this mystery!



ALAMEDA MCCOLLOUGH RESEARCH LIBRARY

BY AMY HARBOR, RESEARCH LIBRARY COORDINATOR

DIG UP MORE BONES.

North End Residents Fear Cholera Germs May Lurk in Skeleton.

More human bones are being unearthed on Burroughs street, which is being improved by Contractor David Parsons and his men. The boys in the neighborhood are carrying the ghastly relics away and the residents of the vicinity are complaining, fearing that the throwing about of the old bones may spread disease. The bones are thought to be those buried in the old potter's field. The old poor house stood near the scene. As many of those buried died of smallpox or cholera it is thought that possibly some of the germs may be revived by digging up the bones. Yesterday the workmen began digging in a gravel pit south of Burroughs street and dug up more fragments of human skeletons. There seems to be no end to the human bones there.

Journal & Courier

29 September 1908, page 1

FIND MORE SKELETONS.

Eighteen Skulls Dug Up and Curious Crowd Looks On.

Eighteen more skeletons were unearthed Wednesday afternoon in the ground owned by Green Mitchell on Burroughs street, near Fifteenth. The street is being improved by Contractor David Parsons, whose workmen are engaged in digging gravel on the Mitchell property. Ever since the excavation began the finding of human bones has been an hourly occurrence. The skeletons are about three feet and a half below the surface of the ground. Crowds of people congregate about the workmen and watch with much curiosity the exhumation of the bones. Many of the skulls are still solid and some have the teeth intact. Yesterday afternoon eighteen skeletons were dug up and a pile of bones three feet high was formed. The grewsome sight attracted a huge crowd. Portions of skeletons have been carried away by scores of people and it is no unusual sight to see children playing with human bones, using them for base ball bats and rolling skulls up and down the sidewalks. The old residents of the city remember that a half century ago the old county cemetery occupied the land along what is now Fifteenth street and hundreds of bodies were buried there.

Lafayette Weekly Courier

2 October 1908, page 12

April-June 2025

TIPPECANOE COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION PROGRAM CALENDAR

History of Franklin L. Cary Camp

Tuesday, April 8, 7 PM

TCHA's History Center

522 Columbia St, Lafayette

Presented by William L. (Bill) Hoover,

*Professor Emeritus, Purdue Department of Forestry
and Natural Resources*

The philanthropic impact of Franklin Masten Cary and his wife Jessie Levering Cary lives on to an ever-increasing extent in our community. This is especially true for Cary Camp, named in honor of their son who died unexpectedly at age 18. Bill Hoover's presentation will review the almost 100 years that Cary Camp has contributed to the quality of life for residents of West-Central Indiana.

Downtown Houses of Worship Walking Tour

Saturday, April 26, 1 PM

Tour will begin at Trinity United Methodist

Discover the history and architectural beauty of Lafayette's houses of worship! This tour is FREE, but reservation is required, as we are limited to 25 participants. Five houses of worship will be visited.

School of the Artifact: Beads

Tuesday, April 29, 6 PM

TCHA's History Center

Presented by Leslie Martin Conwell & Rick Conwell

In this session, many of the glass, shell, ceramic, and bone beads found at Ouiatenon will be out on display, for viewers to learn about what beads were traded with the Indigenous local tribes.

Greenbush Cemetery Tours

Saturday, May 3, 1 PM

Greenbush Cemetery

(1408 N 12th St, LAF)

Presented by staff and volunteers of TCHA

Incorporated in 1848 by 23 prominent citizens, Greenbush was Lafayette's second public cemetery, and its purpose was to provide the public with affordable burial plots. Learn more about the earliest Lafayette residents buried here.

An Untrammelled Voice: Jack Lillard and The Informer:

Lafayette's Black Newspaper

Thursday, May 15th, 6 PM

TCHA's History Center

Presented by Matt Meyer, Archivist

Lafayette's Black community was historically centered in one neighborhood, which created strong bonds around shared experiences and institutions. One institution was The Informer, an independent newspaper published by Lafayette resident Jack Lillard. Published from 1969 to around 1972, The Informer remains the only Lafayette newspaper dedicated to Black news.

April-June 2025

TIPPECANOE COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION PROGRAM CALENDAR

A Taste of the Past with Chef Lauren Reed

Friday, June 6, 6 PM - 8 PM

TCHA's History Center

Chef Lauren Reed is an accomplished local chef who is passionate about preserving history through culinary experiences.



June 6 Theme: A Meal on the Monon Rail Line

Chef Lauren is taking us on a train-ride with her take on iconic dishes that were served on the Monon Rail Line, which traveled through Indiana and Lafayette until it merged with CSX in 1971.

Limited seats, registration opens 3/19 at 10 AM CST! \$65/person, call (765) 476-8411 ext 1 to register.

Members Only Tours of Fort Ouiatenon

Thursday, June 12, 1-4P

Saturday, June 14, 10A-12P

Ouiatenon Preserve

Hosted by Dr. Mike Strewzewski,

Dr. Kory Cooper, and Cassie Apuzzo

- Thursday, June 12: Members are invited to tour the Fort Ouiatenon Preserve and watch field school students excavate.
- Saturday, June 14: Members are invited to tour the preserve and see the excavation areas in a show-and-tell format. *No excavations will take place on Saturday.*

Artifact Show & Tell: Ouiatenon Field School

Wednesday, June 18, 6 PM

TCHA's history Center

Presented by Archeology Field Students

Artifact Show and Tell and Excavation Progress Report from the 2025 Field Season. This program is open to the public, and free.

A Taste of the Past with Chef Lauren Reed

Friday, June 20, 6 PM

TCHA's History Center

Plus...add all four dinners to your calendar:

June 6, June 21, July 27,

August 8. All at 6 PM at the History Center.

June 26 Theme: From the Archives

Enjoy delicious dishes made from cookbooks in TCHA's Archive. Vintage recipes will be on display to see what Tippecanoe residents have eaten throughout history (both delicious and..interesting)! Limited seats, registration opens 3/19 at 10 AM CST! \$65/person, call (765) 476-8411 ext 1 to register.

Feast Sewing Circles

Various Dates, See description, 6 PM

Arganbright Genealogy Center

Presented by Brooke Sauter, Feast of the Hunters' Moon Event Manager

Back for 2025, Brooke and Feast participants to learn how to sew clothes for the Feast! These free events are meant to help people learn and prepare for the October event. All skill levels are welcome!

April 10, April 17, May 1, May 8, May 29, 2025

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

MEMBERS: GREAT PERKS AS OUR THANKS!

We are excited to once again partner with Wolf Park to offer the following perks, JUST for being a member! Our great thanks to our friends at Wolf Park.

	<p><i>Adventure</i> AWAITS</p> <p>Explore the wild like never before at Wolf Park! From guided tours uncovering the secrets of ecosystems and conservation efforts to up-close experiences like feeding demonstrations, bison encounters, and crafting enrichment for our animals, there's something for every wildlife enthusiast.</p>
	<p>Book Now Use Code: TCHA25</p>
<p>TCHA Member Exclusive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">25% Off - History Tour10% Off - Daily Tours10% Off - Howl Nights	

What's another way you can support our work?

**HELP PROVIDE SUPPLIES WE NEED TO
CONTINUE TO PRESERVE HISTORY.**

SHOP TCHA'S AMAZON WISHLIST AT
[HTTPS://A.CO/E4NKPXK](https://a.co/e4nkpkk)

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

MEMBERS: GREAT PERKS AS OUR THANKS!

A special Bicentennial-year perk, we are partnering with Flora Candle! They're offering a 25% off discount on bicentennial candles, just for being a member of TCHA!

Enjoy the perfectly-curated scents that celebrate our wonderful city and thriving community.

LET'S CELEBRATE

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Thank you to all who have joined the Association since the last edition of our newsletter!

- Liz Alexander
- Amanda Estes
- Kelli Goldsmith
- Geenex Solar
- Genevieve Henderson
- Chris and Heather Hitze
- Hannah and Kyle Mossman
- Erika Roller
- Susan, Robertson, Ballard & Judah Ruggles
- Jill Sauter
- Martin Webb
- Jillian White



CELEBRATING 200 YEARS

Flora Candle Company is honored to celebrate the Lafayette Bicentennial by offering signature fragrances.

REMEMBERING HERITAGE

Notes of vanilla, musk, and denim, paying homage to the city's lasting industry, grit, and the strength of the Wabash River.



EMBRACING LEGACY

Notes of peony, blackberry, and vanilla, capturing the city's festivals and events, beauty, and elegance of our home.



MEMBER DISCOUNT

All TCHA members receive 25% off bicentennial candles when presenting membership card for the entire bicentennial event celebration at Flora Candle Company!

609 Main Street
Lafayette, IN 47901

(765) 767-4819
floracandlecompany.com