MARION HERITAGE CENTER & MUSEUM

News from the Marion Historical Society October 2026

GREEN MOUNTAIN TRAGEDY COMES TO MARION



The deadliest train accident in Iowa in the late 19th and early 20th century will be brought to life in a presentation by local historian Scott Foens on Sunday, November 14th at 1:00 pm. Scott, author of *GREEN MOUNTAIN: Iowa's Deadliest Train Wreck* will explain how a confluence of factors combined to create a situation that resulted in many deaths. Scott will explain how the disaster's aftermath overwhelmed Marshalltown's limited resources and brought much of the community to a halt. You won't want to miss hearing about this important part of Iowa's history. A reception will follow.

THE McIntyre FOUNDATION
Encourages Your Membership in the Marion Heritage Center and Museum

SPOOKTACULAR REVISITED

Several of your Board members enjoyed working with Lacey Schroeder and the teachers of the Venture Academics class at LinnMar High School to plan an event that would bring a number of "Residents" of Oak Shade Cemetery to life. The Venture students spent several hours at the Heritage Center researching their subjects and writing scripts that described their lives among the living, and then they ran into a problem. The students had hoped to recruit actors from LinnMar to portray their subjects, but busy schedules prevented them from finding enough actors to portray all of the residents. Their teachers and Lacey Schroeder from Uptown Marion came up with a brilliant alternative: Spooktacular became a self-guided tour that could be enjoyed anytime and anywhere. With the help of Jack Zumwalt of Zum Creative, the recorded voices of a number of different students can be heard just by visiting the Marion Heritage Center Website. The beauty of this new plan is that while you can take a walk through the cemetery, you can also enjoy the stories from the comfort of your recliner! Check it out anytime!

Thank You

For a Great Soup Supper !

The place was packed for our annual soup supper on October 25th. If you missed out on the Spicy African Peanut Soup or the Cheesy Chicken Corn Chowder...stop by the Heritage Center and ask for the recipes!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Your Marion Heritage Center needs you to help it be all it can be for the visitors and residents of Marion. From dusting and light maintenance to taking on major project such as planning an exhibit or sending out Membership Renewal letters. There is a place for your skill in this organization! Contact Vicki Hughes at *vshughes@gmail.com* if you would like to help.



QUILT DISPLAY WELL RECEIVED

The Quilt Display that was held in September and October was very well received by all visitors. We are especially grateful to Diane Pitlik, Jill Reicks of Inspired to Sew, and Don Dixson of Quilts of Valor for helping to curate this year's Display. If you would like to have your creation or a family quilt displayed next year, please contact Vicki Hughes at *vshughes@gmail.com*.

2027 MEMBERSHIP LETTERS HEADING OUT SOON

Before you know it, Vicki will be struggling with how to turn an Excel program into mailing labels and the 2027 Membership letter will be at your doorstep sometime in December. If you would like to do her an immense favor, and save the Heritage Center some postage: you could send your 2027 Membership Dues in NOW!!! The cost has not changed: $36 for a Single Membership; $48 for a Family Membership; and Supporters at $100 or higher. Vicki promises to send a personal Thank You for every Membership received in November...and she will use her own stamps!

VIC KLOFENSTEIN RECEIVES HONOR QUILT



Long time member of the Marion Historical Society, Victor Klopfenstein, was awarded a Quilt of Valor by the Freedom Stitchers of Iowa and the Cedar Rapids Chapter of Quilts of Valor. Chapter President Don Dixson presented Victor and nine other Veterans with Quilts at a Ceremony on October 25th at Cedar Memorial Chapel of Memories. Congratulations Victor!

HILLS BANK
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Support comes from the
City of Marion Iowa
Hotel Motel Grant Fund

NEXT UP! PEPPERMINT WALK



The Marion Heritage Center will be open for the Uptown Marion Peppermint Walk on Friday, December 4th from 4:00 pm-8:00 pm. Come on out for Hot Chocolate and Cookies! If you would be interested in providing some cookies to share please contact Vicki Hughes at *vshughes@gmail.com*

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