Volume 27, Issue 3, Fall 2014

A PUBLICATION OF THE JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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The Jeffersonian is published in February, June, and October **Submissions are always** welcome and should be directed to Ken Burkett c/o the **History Center**

2014 Annual Giving Campaign

As this year's honorary co-chair for the Jefferson County Historical Society's 2014 Annual Giving Campaign we are excited in the opportunity to share with you how the History Center excels at meeting the challenge of recovering and preserving our county's past and shines in presenting it through a wide variety of exhibits, publications and programs to our area residents and visitors.

Along with an ever changing schedule of exhibits, public events and programs the JCHS has numerous upcoming bookings



for the "Kate M. Scott – Did She or Didn't She" public performances. Publications on Kate Scott and the Scripture Rocks will soon be available and filming continues toward the completion of the "American Towns At War Hope Deferred television production. Early in 2015 the site construction of the Scripture Rocks heritage park is set to begin.

None of this happens without a cost!

The JCHS Board continually critiques how and where funding is achieved and how it is resourcefully managed to best meet the goals of the mission. To help support the History Center to meet its goals and continue to be the "Jem of Jefferson County" we invite you to participate with a tax deductible donation to help us reach this year's campaign goal of \$25,000.

Please join us now by mailing in your tax deductible annual giving contribution that will help preserve the rich history of Jefferson County for our future generations.

Mark & Karen McKinney, Honorary Chair

Mark and Karen McKinney

Winter Hours Change - The JCHC open schedule has been changed to Wednesday thru Saturday from 12 - 5 pm

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2014 Events Calendar

October

Sat., Oct. 4 Bowdish Railroad 12–3 pm

> Sat., Oct 18 JCHS Annual Dinner Heritage House (Reservations page 8)

Sat, Oct 25 Brookville Hauntings Jefferson Co. Courthouse (Tickets at the Door)

November Sat., Nov. 1 Bowdish Railroad 12–3 pm

Fri. Nov 28 Bowdish Railroad 5-9 pm

Sat., Nov. 29
Wildcat Reg. Band 7 pm
Jefferson Co. Courthouse
(Tickets at the Door)

December

Fri., Dec. 5
Bowdish Railroad 5-9 pm
Living Window
Book Signing Event

Sat., Dec. 6 House Tour Event (Tickets Required)

Sat., Dec. 20 Bowdish Railroad 12–3 pm

Christmas Idea!

Remember the JCHC Gift Shop

New JCHS Collectors Show

THE JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS OUR FIRST

MILITARY COLLECTIBLES SHOW

A SHOW OF HISTORIC MILITARIA FOR SHOW, SALE, AND TRADE



Saturday, March 28th 2015 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Jefferson County Fairgrounds PA Interstate 80, Exit 81, 1/4 Mile North of the Exit

Featuring militaria from the Civil War to the present including World War I and World War II

ADMISSION: ADULTS- \$5.00 CHILDREN UNDER 12- FREE

FOR TABLE RESERVATIONS OR INFORMATION CONTACT:

EMAIL: KBURKETT-JCHC@WINDSTREAM.NET

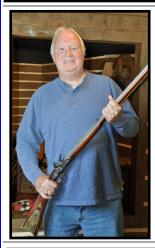
TELE: (814) 849-0077

OR VISIT: WWW.JCHCONLINE.ORG

The JCHS will host our first annual Historic Military collectables show on Saturday, March 28, 2015 at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds. This new event is limited to military collectables and is a new event in addition to our regular fall Antique Rifles and Indian Artifact show.

Exhibitors will have items for show, sale and trade that include weapons, uniforms, accounterments, artifacts, photographs, publications or other items relating to the hobby.

If you or anyone you know would like to participate as a vendor or exhibitor, please contact Ken Burkett at the History Center for more information or a vendor application



2014 JCHS Antique Firearms Show Raffle Winners

1st Prize (Rifle) - John Bailey/Curwensville, PA

2nd Prize (Bag/Powder Horn) - Scott Martin / Strattanville, PA

3rd Prize (Canteen) - Ray Dolittle,/Clarington, PA

4th Prize (Longrifle Book) - Mary Smith/Westover, PA



During May, curator Carole Briggs presented copies of Jefferson County,

Pennsylvania: An Illustrated History to graduating seniors at Brookville Area High School and Jeff-Tech. For several years this project has been underwritten by an anonymous donor.

Thank You to Mark Lussky and Helen Lockart for 4 years of dedicated service through the PathStone employment program

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JCHC Assessment

Currently the JCHS collections are undergoing a formal assessment under the auspices of a specially funded Historical Collections Assessment grant whereby an authority on conservation and collections management is visiting our facilities to review our storage capabilities, documentation procedures and methods of collections care in order to provide helpful recommendations.

In August Jeff Slack, who is an Historic Building assessor from Pittsburgh, visited the History Center to examine our two oldest buildings. Conservator Laura Schell from Lockport, New York, also visited to review what we do to conserve our collections

When completed, this assessment will help us evaluate our current procedures and improve our chances for so we can continue to use the best practices available in caring for the items that you have entrusted to the JCHS.

JCHS Holiday Events Schedule

Friday, Nov. 28 Community Light Up Night (5 - 9 PM)

Bowdish Railroad

Saturday, Nov. 29 Wildcat Band Performance (7 pm)

Jefferson County Courthouse (Tickets at the Door)

Friday, Dec. 5 Victorian Christmas (5—9 PM)

Living Window Display
Book Signing Event
Bowdish Railroad

Saturday, Dec. 6 House Tour (5:30 PM)

(Tickets Required)

Saturday, Dec. 20 Bowdish Railroad (12 - 4 PM)

Bowdish Railroad will close Jan. 1 - Mar. 7, 2015

Mark Your Calendar for Saturday evening October 18th and join us for the JCHS Annual Dinner with Dr. Todd Pfannestiel presenting some interesting facts about paranormal research

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Executive Director kburkett-jchc@windstream.net

Carole Briggs

Curator cbriggs-jchc@windstream.net

Graduate Assistant
Cara Stockdale
cstockdale-jchc@windstream.net

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Quinton Boroi Jack Burkett Andrew Byerly Austin Fields Mark Lussky Helen Lockard Bill McCracken George Miller

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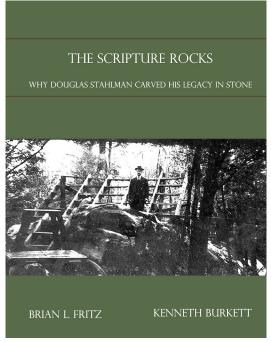
New Publications

The Scripture Rocks Why Douglas Stahlman Carved His Legacy in Stone By Brian L Fritz and Kenneth Burkett

Many local legends abound about the mysterious carved Bible rocks frequently encountered in the wooded hillsides around Brookville, Pennsylvania. Over the past 6 years, volunteers from the Jefferson County History Center and North Fork Chapter 29 of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology have undertaken an extensive quest to relocate, map and record the Scripture Rocks, and learn the true facts about the man who carved them.

This book is intended to be a historically accurate account of Stahlman's life and to preserve a record of his work without bias for or against his religious convictions and his chosen life style. Included is a transcription of Stahlman's personal *The Dedicated Rocks* book and many of his inscriptions that are preserved in stone.

Soft Cover 250 pages.



Book Signing Event

Authors of both Scripture Rocks and Kate M. Scott: Did She or Didn't She
Friday Evening, November 28, 2014
5 pm - 8 pm
Reserve YOUR copies Now!

The Scripture Rocks & Kate Scott: Did She or Didn't She					
Copic Post	Copies of Scripture Rocks @ 35.00 each (Includes Sales Tax) Copies of Kate Scott @ \$35.00 each (Includes Sales Tax) Postage \$ 5.00 per book Will pick-up at JCHS				
Name		Return with your check Payable To: JCHS P. O. Box 51			
City	Zip	Brookville, PA 15825			
Phone	Order NOW for Christmas	Credit Card Reservations Call 849-0077			

County Receives New PHMC Historical Marker

Pennsylvania's newest state historical marker was unveiled on Thursday, August 28th by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission and the Pennsylvania Game Commission at the site of the Commission's original Ross Leffler School of Conservation.

The marker is now located at the original site of the School of Conservation at the intersection of Game School Road and Empire Ridge Road in Brockway, Jefferson County.

The Ross Leffler School of Conservation was the first academy in the nation devoted entirely to the training of game wardens or game protectors, who are now known as wildlife conservation officers. According to the marker nomination form prepared by the Game Commission, "For years the Game Commission had been holding occasional conferences to keep game protectors (officers) abreast of changes in wildlife law and enforcement issues, and to provide specialty instruction. The agency's desire to improve game protector training led to talk of establishing its own training school. The training school idea slowly but surely gathered support. The board president Ross Leffler championed the cause, and in October 1931 the commissioners directed him to proceed with the establishment of a training school.

The resulting innovation, the Ross Leffler School Conservation, eventually became the model for the rest of the nation, producing 648 full-time game protectors and wildlife conservation officers through 29 graduating classes, the 29th of which graduated in March 2013.



This view of the north entrance to the PA Game Commission's original School of Conservation

According to a 1932 issue of *Pennsylvania Game News*, official publication of the Game Commission, "On July 7, 1932, the agency dedicated the Pennsylvania Game Commission Training School near the town of Brockway on State Game Lands 54 in Jefferson County. The school, an old hunting lodge owned by a Pittsburgh attorney, was found to provide one- week blocks of special training and refresher.



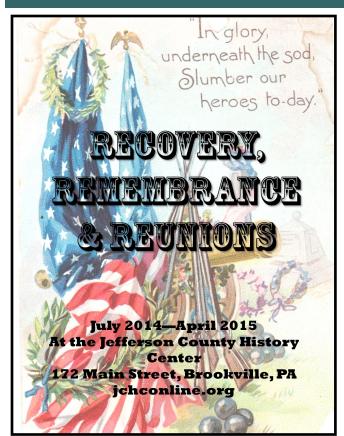
Senator Joe Scaranati, Matthew Hough, Executive Director of the PA Game Commission and Jean Craige Pepper, Victor Commissioner for the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission with the new Historic Marker

In early 1936 the Game Commission announced it was looking for men between the ages of 21 and 40 to become "student officers," the school's first class. More than 2,000 men asked for information on the school and nearly half of them filed applications. From this field of candidates, 434, representing every county, were chosen to compete in entrance examinations.

On July 7, 1936, 35 prospective officers, averaging 25 years of age. Eight months later, 27 men graduated. The school moved from Brockway into a wing of the Game Commission's Harrisburg headquarters in 1987.

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New Exhibits



Recovery, Reunions, and Remembrance

The end of the Civil War was a joyous time for the Union. However, many soldiers never made it home.

Our newest exhibit *Recovery, Reunions, and Remembrance* depicts the ways fallen soldiers were returned home from the Civil War and how veterans and their families came together to deal with their losses, remember the sacrifices their comrades, and celebrate their service in the struggle to preserve the Union .

Come check out Dr. McKinney's embalming station, delve into the stages of mourning during the Civil War period, learn about the GAR and SUV and discover where Memorial Day got its start!

The exhibit will be available until June 2015

Carole puts the final touches on a case full of needlework objects. She says, "It all started when we received a set of diaries written by Sarah Henry in the 19th century. She knit, she crocheted, she quilted, and her writing got me thinking about all of the wonderful needlework in our collection. It's a perfect case of things for the Adda Edelblute Pearsall Parlor!"



NOW BOOKING

Kate M. Scott: Did She or Didn't She? is a 45 minute dramatic program featuring Clarinda Darr as Kate and Mark Lussky as Osborn Oldroyd, a Lincoln collector who, according to some sources, took a deposition from Kate during which she claimed to be the mother of a daughter of John Wilkes Booth. Supported by a grant from the Pennsylvania Humanities Council, the program is available to audiences of 25 or larger at almost no cost. Contact cbriggs-jchc@windstream.net to make arrangements.

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Curator's Corner

It took the Carnegie Museum of Natural History ninety-seven years to change the dinosaur exhibit in a major way. There was one dinosaur in 1915, then more specimens were gradually added. Then with great publicity the entire hall was revamped and reopened in 2007. All this leads to the question--How much change and how often should exhibits change in a county museum?

When the History Center opened in 2004, the Bowdish Model Railroad was meant to be permanent, but even it changes annually. While the basic layout remains the same, models are removed, moved, or replaced with new models that represent Jefferson County buildings. For example, this year the Courthouse is in storage and the Moon Light Drive-In is new.

We knew the first-floor landing was the perfect spot to welcome visitors and highlight the 1804 founding of the county, our handsome courthouse, and the judges who have served here. And we planned to show the stories of *Living on the Land* in the Parker Gallery.

On the second floor *Some Things in Common* would feature temporary exhibits to show the similarities of the people, places, and events of the county, because our thirteen focus groups had identified many similarities among our various communities.

Galleries B and C would each be home to a temporary exhibit for up to twelve months. Exhibits in the Grand Hall on the second floor would change about every six months. People told us they like to "step back in time" so the parlor would remain relatively untouched.

We've kept to that schedule quite well. The entire county experienced the Civil War, and since 2011, we've exhibited those stories in galleries B and C. We began with *Drumbeat to War*, then traced the movement of people of color through the area, then showed life on the home front. We brought in the Heinz History Center's exhibit, *The Civil War in WPA* and Ron Palms great collection of CW images. We depicted the recruitment of the 105th PA Wildcats, emphasized the importance of the Berdan Sharpshooters, introduced visitors to the eminent historian Kate M. Scott, and now are exhibiting *Reunions and Remembrance* as the Civil War Commemoration comes to a close.

In the Grand Hall we recently switched out "Wilma's Watercolors" for "The Cartoons of David Strohm."

The permanent exhibit in the Parker Gallery does a good job of showing people what has happened over time in this area. Visitors like peeking into the cabin, the woodworker's shop, the mining office, and the camp, but even this exhibit has been changed in small ways. We have changed objects in the cabin, added objects to the camp, and focused on different businesses in two wall cases.

We do think it is important that, even though a person has visited once or twice, new exhibits or at least a new case or two of things should be available.

More than a decade ago, folks in the county helped us determine what we all would like to see in our History Museum. Now it's time for an update and your turn to identify the people, places, and events of Jefferson County that you would like to see depicted in future exhibits.



THE JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

INVITES YOU

TO JOIN THEM FOR THE

2014 ANNUAL DINNER MEETING AND AWARDS PRESENTATION SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2014

AT THE
HERITAGE HOUSE
4 SYLVANIA AVE.
BROOKVILLE, PA 15825

HOSPITALITY 6:00 PM DINNER 6:30 PM

AFTER DINNER PROGRAM
DR. TODD PFANNESTEIL

The Ghost Hunters" television show? Hogwash! "Paranormal State?" Bogus! Where do the real ghosts like to haunt? In northwest Pennsylvania... Right here... Enjoy a discussion with Dr. Todd Pfannestiel—Professor of History and Dean of the College of Arts, Education, and Sciences at Clarion University—as he scares you with tales from previous paranormal investigations he has led in the area over the previous decade. Also, learn about the ongoing investigations taking place in Brookville this summer, with a tease about the "reveal" to be hosted by the History Center this October.

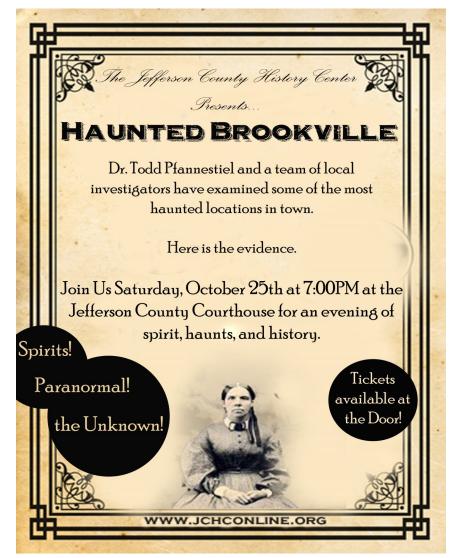
DINNER CHOICES

PRIME RIB WITH BAKED POTATO OR CRAB STUFFED TILAPIA WITH RICE PILAF.
ALL SERVED WITH SALAD, MIXED VEGETABLES, COFFEE OR TEA AND
CHOCOLATE BLUEBERRY CHEESECAKE

PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW!

2014 JCHS ANNUAL DINNER					
PRIME RIB WITH BAKED POTATO CRAB STUFFED TILAPIA WITH RICE PILAF					
RESERVATIONS ARE \$20 EACH TOTAL ENCLOSED PLEASE RETURN BY SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11TH	Return with your check Payable To:				
Name's	JCHS P. O. Box 51				
Address	Brookville, PA 15825				
CITY ZIP PHONE	Credit Card Reservations Call 849-0077				

Special Events



Haunted Brookville

History is alive and well in Brookville! By now, you've probably heard that the History Center is delving into a new type of research—paranormal investigation. Looking into the most haunted locations in town gives us the ability to connect with our forefathers (and mothers) in a new and different way. For example, an investigation of the Nathan Greene Edelblute building has helped us understand the people who lived here and what life was like during the time they lived here at the History Center.

Our team, comprised of local investigators, utilizes a number of techniques and equipment in order to document and interact with spirits. We have compiled some very interesting and compelling evidence along the way. We have documented such things as orbs, light anomalies, EVPs or electronic voice phenomenon (a.k.a. "spirit voices"), among other things. At a historic home in town, one woman mutters "Don't forget me..." as investigators begin to pack up for the evening.

Have you heard the stories about the Jefferson County Courthouse? It is rumored that the twice hung man still walks the Courthouse grounds. Our investigators have

something to say about that! So, be sure to join us at the Jefferson County Courthouse at 7:00 pm on October 25th to check out the evidence! Tickets are \$5.00 for adults over 12 years old at the door.

Tickets at the Door Saturday, October 25th, 7 PM Adults \$5 and Children (12 and Under) Free

If you believe your building, home, or business to have activity and would be willing to have our team look into your case, please don't hesitate to contact Cara at the History Center or at cstockdale-jchc@windstream.net.

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Wildcats Are Coming to Brookville

Like their brothers in arms, the members of the "Wildcat Regiment Band" were swept up in the wave of patriotism enveloping the United States, both North and South, in 1861. During that same year in Pennsylvania, the men of Indiana, Jefferson, Clarion, Clearfield and Westmoreland Counties answered their country's call to arms and joined the standard of the "Wildcat Regiment".

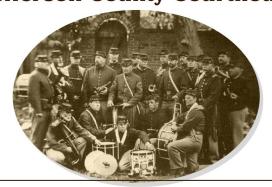
The Wildcat Regiment Band today is comprised of musicians of all ages and from various professional backgrounds. Like their predecessors, the current bandsmen have been recruited from the same geographical area in Pennsylvania and come from all walks of life.

The Wildcat Band has performed for historic and civic events throughout the Eastern United States. National Park Service engagements include regular visits to Antietam, Sharpsburg, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, Harpers Ferry, Manassas, and Monocacy.

The band has been invited to perform in the Governor's Residence in Harrisburg as well as the Pennsylvania

Wildcat Regiment Band

Saturday, November 29, 2014 7:00 PM Jefferson County Courthouse



Proudly the bandsmen played the familiar National Airs as the Boys of '61 marched into battle. Among the massed bandsmen were the musicians of the "Wildcat Regiment Band", the 105th Pennsylvania volunteers

Authentic Civil War ... instruments and music

Adults \$10, Students \$5, Children (12 and Under) free Tickets at the History Center or at the Door

Sponsored by the

Jefferson County History Center
(814) 849-0077 jchconline.org

This performance is supported in part by the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency House of Representatives. The Wildcats have been fortunate to participate in musical events at the Smithsonian Institution and the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC.

It also performs at 19th century balls, dances and cotillions. The band also conducts lectures and demonstrations that address the history of the 19th century brass band movement and the evolution of brass instruments.

From brass buttons and simple hand stitching, to wooden pegged brogans, the Wildcat Regiment Band brings authenticity in dress and manner. The band's uniforms sewn from natural wool fibers, are authentic in every detail, and have been patterned from actual specimens worn by Pennsylvania bandsmen in the Union army. This authenticity in dress presents the audience with the most accurate appearance possible...next to actually living during the 1860s

The Jefferson County Historical Society and the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts which is a state agency funded by the Commonweatlh of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts are happy to invite you to join us on Saturday evening, November 29th at 7 pm for this exciting review of Civil War music.

Tickets at the Door Adults \$10 and Students

\$5, Children (12 and Under) Free

Victorian Christmas House Tours



Plans are well underway for the 2014 Victorian Christmas House Tours. It's a wonderful opportunity to tour some of Brookville's beautiful and unique homes, meet the homeowners and learn the architectural history of each house. This year's Victorian Christmas House Tour begins at the Rebecca Arthurs Library at 5:30pm on Saturday, December 6th, at which time all ticket holders will be assigned to a specific group and given instructions for the evening tour.

A limited number of tickets is now available to Jefferson County Historical Society members and will be available to the general public on November 1st. JCHS members can take the opportunity of early presale tickets by enclosing the form below. The cost is \$20.00 per person. This program is appropriate for adults and high school students.

It takes many volunteers to produce an event like the house tour. A crew of volunteers to set out and light luminarias shortly before the tours begin at 5:30pm, several volunteers to help with refreshments at the Rebecca Arthurs Library, costumed docents at each site, musicians, and tour guides to assist each group. Please contact us if you are interested in serving as a volunteer.

Are you considering offering your home for a future house tour? If so, this is the time to let the committee know and it is the time for you to go on the tour to learn

what it entails. Homes need not be of the Victorian period (1837-1901), and the committee offers a good bit of assistance so that homeowners are not overwhelmed.

Brookville's first Victorian Christmas house tour was held more than twenty years ago. The popular tours, sponsored by Historic Brookville, Inc. continued through 2008, then resumed in 2012 when the Jefferson County History Center sponsored and arranged tours of homes on Franklin and Jefferson streets.

Victorian Christmas House Tour JCHS Members Presale order						
Please Reserve	Tickets @ \$20 Each	Total Enclosed \$				
Name's						
Address			Return with your check Payable To: JCHS			
City	Zi	p	P. O. Box 51 Brookville, PA 15825			
Phone	Presale orders	by 10/31	Credit Card Reservations Call 849-0077			

The Jefferson County Historical Society 172-176 Main St. P.O. Box 51 Brookville, PA 15825

(814) 849-0077 jchc@windstream.net

http://jchconline.org

Museum Hours

Wed. - Sat. Noon - 5 pm

Closed Sunday, Monday and holidays

We typically close when our schools close due to weather, and urge you to phone before traveling any distance

Exhibit Admission Fees

JCHS Members - Free

Non-members

Individual - \$ 5

Household - \$ 7

Students - \$1

Genealogy Contracted Research

\$25 /hr. (1 hr. minimum)

Assisted Research \$15/hr. (after 1st hr.)

If you would like to receive our Enewsletter and announcements of events and activities at the JCHC

SIGN UP AT

jchconline.org

NONPROFIT ORG. U.S.POSTAGE paid Permit No. 11 Falls Creek, PA 15840

Jefferson County Historical Society Annual Membership Aapplication

Individual \$25/12 months Family (Household) \$35/12 months

Name

Mailing Address

City_______ State_____ Zip_____

Phone_____Email______

Credit Card Type _____ Card # _____

Our Mission

Our purpose is to engage people of all ages in the history of Jefferson County. We collect and care for relevant objects, images and documents and invite county residents and visitors to research our materials, interact with our exhibits, take part in our programs and read our publications, in order to encourage an understanding of our past and present and a vision for the future.