



HISTORICO

June 2025

Vol. 61 | No. 6

Sangamon County Historical Society Newsletter
P.O. Box 9744 Springfield, IL 62791-9744 | 217-525-1961 | schoffice@gmail.com
www.sangamonhistory.org | www.sangamonlink.org



Annual Meeting: Summer Celebration Honors and Salutes June 10, 5:30 pm at Vinegar Hill Mall

This year's annual meeting is about celebrating, honoring and saluting those who promote, preserve and protect the history of Sangamon County. Outgoing board members will be recognized, grant recipients will be presented checks, and the members will vote on the proposed slate of officers. Additionally, there will be a presentation about the history of Vinegar Hill Mall.

Meet the CANDIDATES

For President: Linda Schneider



Linda Schneider has served on the planning committee for the SCHS annual Cemetery Walk for many years as the actor liaison. She came on the SCHS Board in

Continued on page 6

For Vice President: Scott Pillsbury



Scott Pillsbury has always had an interest in the life of his ancestors as well as the life of Abe Lincoln. He has served as a Board Member of the Sangamon County

Continued on page 6

For Secretary: Sarah Adams



Sarah Adams works for the Springfield Art Association as their Curator of Collections and Interpretation. She has worked in the museum field since

Continued on page 6

For Treasurer: Sam Sgro



Sam Sgro is proud to be part of a community with such a rich history. He works at the CPA firm Eck, Schafer & Punke, where he has

Continued on page 6

IN THIS ISSUE

Sangamon County History Display	4
Summer Celebration.....	5
Calendar	7

Don't forget to register for the Annual Meeting: Summer Celebration - Honors and Salutes on June 10!



From the President's Desk



CINDA KLICKNA

Please join us for our Summer Celebration. As members, you earn the right to vote on the slate of officers and board members. Join other members for heavy hors d'oeuvres in the historic Vinegar Hill Mall. Hear about the huge laundry that operated in the building in the early 1900s, vote for the new officers and board members, welcome our grant winners, and thank our outgoing Board members.

It has been my pleasure to serve as President of the Sangamon County Historical Society.

Cinda

Don't forget to log in to the Member Info Hub and make sure your information is up to date.

LOG IN



SCHS Mailing Address:
PO Box 9744
Springfield, IL 62791-9744



Historico, published 9 times a year (except July, August and December), is the official bulletin for members of the Sangamon County Historical Society. Springfield, Illinois.

Winner, Certificate of Excellence, Illinois State Historical Society

You can download back issues of Historico in PDF format by going to our website:
www.sangamonhistory.org or www.sangcohis.org.

Send event announcements to: schshistorico@gmail.com

SCHS Board of Directors

2024-2025 Officers

President - Cinda Klickna

Vice President - Linda Schneider

Past President - Susan Helm

Treasurer - Sam Sgro

Secretary - Sarah Adams

Directors

Term ending 2025

Lee-Ann Burgener
Elaine Hoff

Directors

Term ending 2026

Mary Muccianti
Scott Pillsbury
Ruth Slottag

Directors

Term ending 2027

Brian Barstead
Mary Alice Davis
Kathy Hoffmann
Stephanie Martin

Underground Railroad



The Farmingdale Presbyterian Church graciously opened their doors for our May 21st program. Over 70 people came to hear about five Underground Railroad conductors from the

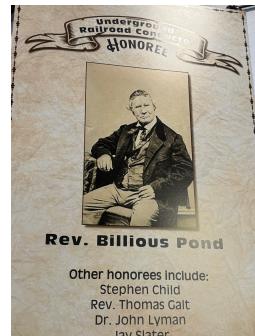
Farmingdale area, and after enjoying snacks after the program, many drove to the nearby cemetery where markers have been placed to remember these brave souls.

John C. Ackerman, Recorder of Deeds in Tazewell County, spoke about the four routes slaves took through Illinois, looking for freedom, and the slow, treacherous journey that was required. The conductors, too, quietly helped in the dark

of night, knowing they would be imprisoned for a minimum of six months and fined \$1000 if caught. Ackerman, who served on the Illinois Legislature's Task Force, announced that the recommendation to form a statewide commission passed both the Senate and the House and is awaiting the Governor's signature. The goals are to connect the many known pieces of information about the Underground Railroad, track where markers have been placed, and create programs and curriculum.



Susan Helm then shared information about the history of the settlement of Farmingdale when 52 New Englanders came to the area in October 1833 after a ten-week journey from



Rev. Billious Pond
Other honorees include:
Stephen Child
Rev. Thomas Galt
Dr. John Lyman
Jay Slater

upstate New York. Many were abolitionists. Reverend Billious Pond served as their pastor during the journey.

Five men later became Underground Railroad Conductors: Billious Pond

(whose son had been accused of helping slaves and through the help of Lincoln and Herndon was found not guilty – the Lincoln Herndon law partnership charged \$5 for their work), Thomas Galt (from Pennsylvania who became the first pastor of the Farmingdale Church), Stephen Child (a teacher who was known to take slaves as far as sixty miles at night to their next stop), Dr. John Lyman (from New Hampshire who was an Army surgeon in the War of 1812), and Jay Slater (from Massachusetts, whose home still stands). A marker was also presented to Anna Stone, current owner of the Slater home.

Seventeen of the settlers signed the document opposing slavery issued by Elijah P. Lovejoy. Lyman, Child, and Pond attended Lovejoy's 1837 anti-slavery convention in Alton, Illinois.



Our thanks to Farmingdale Church pastor, Steve Smith, for welcoming us into their church that is 191 years old.

Photos by Ernie Slotag

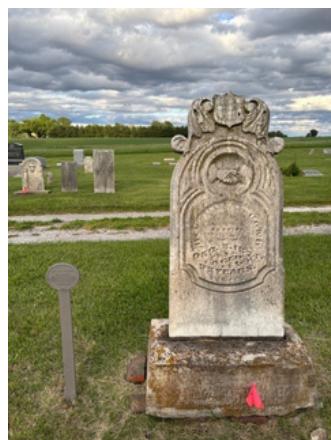
Sangamon County History/Underground Railroad Markers



On the second floor of the Sangamon County Courthouse, a new area has been designed to hold art and history. The Sangamon County Historical Society will be displaying items at various times in the large glass display cases. Thanks to Board member Stephanie Martin, the first display of all buildings that were Sangamon County Courthouses is now on exhibit. At a reception on May 13, Board members Stephanie Martin, Kathy Hoffmann, Linda Schneider, and Cinda Klickna attended. The Chair of the Sangamon County Board thanked the work of the Society. The exhibit will be on display for six months. The next exhibit will focus on items made in Sangamon County.



Farmington Cemetery Pictures



Photos above by Ernie Slotag

Pictures to left by ????



10
JUNE

2025 SCHS

5:30
PM

SUMMER CELEBRATION – HONORS AND SALUTES

VINEGAR HILL MALL
107 W. COOK ST. | SPRINGFIELD, IL

ENJOY HORS D'OEUVRES AND DRINKS, HEAR ABOUT THE HISTORY OF VINEGAR HILL MALL (ONCE THE EDWARDS & CHAPMAN LAUNDRY, OPENED IN 1905), CELEBRATE THE SCHS'S GRANT RECIPIENTS, HONOR OUTGOING SCHS BOARD MEMBERS AND SALUTE NEW BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS.

- REGISTER ONLINE: WWW.MEMBERS.SANCOHIS.ORG/EVENT-CALENDAR
EMAIL: SCHSOFFICE@GMAIL.COM
- MAIL TO: P.O. BOX 9744 | SPRINGFIELD, IL 62791-9744

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Tickets _____ @ \$35 per person = \$_____

Meet the Candidates

Linda Schneider Continued

2022 and has served as the Vice President for the past year. She is a retired office administrator with the University of Illinois Springfield.

Scott Pillsbury Continued

Chapter of the American Diabetes Association and Illinois American Diabetes Association. Other volunteer roles include little league baseball coach, Cub Scout leader, Elementary school PTO member, Sports Booster Club President at Southeast High School, and Board Member and Officer for the Aqua Sports Club. He is in his third year as a SCHS Director, and he chairs the Grants Committee.

Sarah Adams Continued

2012 with a focus on history and anthropology collections.

Sarah's research interests include 19th century social history, religious culture, and historic foodways. She examines how our everyday habits influence and are influenced by the society in which we live. As a museum professional, she uses artifacts to help investigate those habits so we can make a bridge to our past by forging tangible connections to it.

Sam Sgro Continued

gained valuable experience in financial management and not-for-profit accounting.

Candidates for Directors:



Dawn Phillips works for the Illinois Department of Human Service as Grant Manager. She has served on various boards including the Springfield Ballet Company and the Capitol Area Sports Commission. Dawn serves as Treasurer of the Country Club

Manor Homeowners Association and is a member of the Springfield Civic Garden Club where she enjoys decorating and providing tours at the Dana Thomas House during the holidays.



Ashley Nippert-Yoggerst has worked for or with non-profits focusing on environmental education and historic preservation. She is a volunteer Historical Interpreter at Lincoln's New Salem State Historic site and a Commissioner on the Historic Sites Commission for The City of Springfield where she also serves as Chair of the Community Education Committee. Ashley serves as the 2025 Co-chair for The IL Women in Leadership Symposium.

Calendar

A Heads Up Guide to Area History Events

Send announcements, information, photos and illustrations to schshistorico@gmail.com.

June 7, 7pm: Pasfield House Sock Hop

Retro fun at the Pasfield House with food, music by the 66 Ramblers and contests.



Advanced ticket purchase required.

June 14, 1-4pm: Taste of the Past: Historic Photo Display & Ice Cream Celebration at Washington Park Pavilion

Celebrate 125 years of the Springfield Park District with a display of 125 historic photos showcasing the evolution of our parks and community. Enjoy ice cream from Park N Chill outside the gallery.



Summer EVENTS

- July 3 - Independence Day at New Salem
- July 6 - Voices of the Village - Illinois College at New Salem
- July 10 and 31 - History Comes Alive - Pints with a Poet: Walt Whitman Walking Craft Beer Tour

- August 1 - Powerlight Abe Lincoln Car Show Spectacular & Super Cruise
- August 23 - Victorian Game Day at Edward Place

June 14, 10am-4pm: Summer Frolic at New Salem

Celebrate frontier heritage with period clothed interpreters demonstrating throughout the historic village.



Dana-Thomas House Foundation

June 14, 6-9pm: Jazz in Bloom at the Dana-Thomas House Court-yard

The annual garden party in the Dana-Thomas House Courtyard with food, cash bar, silent auction and performance by the Brian Choban Jazz Quintet.

Reminder:

The SCHS will not hold programs over the summer. Programs will resume in September.
The Historico will also resume in September.

Sangamon County Historical Society
P.O. Box 9744,
Springfield, IL 62791-9744

Return Service Requested

Non-profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 777
Springfield, Illinois

Sangamon County Historical Society 2024-2025 MEMBERSHIP/MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL Form

Mail this form with your check to the Sangamon County Historical Society, P.O. Box 9744, Springfield, IL 62791-9744. Our membership year runs from June 1 to May 31. All memberships cover adults and children 16 and over living at the same address. Be sure to list their full names. Please Print.

Your Full Name _____

Spouse/Significant Other First Name _____

Spouse's maiden name where applicable _____

Your e-mail _____

Your address _____

City, State , Zip _____ Phone _____

Choose Your Level of Membership: Regular (\$30) Pioneer (\$100) Settler (\$250)

Trailblazer (\$500) Lifetime (\$700 one-time fee) College/University Student (individual) (\$20)

This is a GIFT (Name of recipient, mailing and e-mail address):

I am adding a donation to the Society in addition to my membership in the amount of \$_____