The Museum is temporarily closed due to the Coronavirus outbreak. We will email and post on Facebook with updates.

Museum Updates

SAVE THE DATE
Cedarville Area Historical Society
20th Annual Chili/Soup/Sandwich Luncheon

Sunday, February 7th, 2021
Drive Up And Carry Out
You Place Your Order — We Fill Your Order
You Pay For Your Order and Drive Away
$6.00 (Cash or Check)
Your Choice of Soup (Chili, Chicken Noodle, TBA)
Cheese Sandwich, Veggies, Dessert

Programs Available on YouTube

In order to brighten your winter, CAHS is making available many programs from the last 17 years on YouTube. Our latest addition, “Tales of Yesterday in Cedarville” presented on October 19, 2010. It includes Gene Reed, Paul Bertram, Ramona Kryder, Russel Korth and Len Cummins.

Please go to Youtube and search “Cedarville Area Historical Society” to find us.
“Like” our page at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtNjKA5hA5R5ZSV02bEGfBA to get automatic upload updates.
Gene E. Reed, 88, Cedarville, died December 9 at FHN Memorial Hospital. He was born December 19, 1931, near Afolkey, Ill., the son of Donald and Ruthe (Rote) Reed. Gene married Mary Kaiser in 1953 in Cedarville. She died in 2016.

Gene went to Cedarville and First Ward grade schools and was graduated from Freeport High School in 1949. He lived 77 of his 88 years in Cedarville. He worked at his father's service station from 1949 to 1951. He then served four years in the U.S. air force. He returned in 1956 to again work for his father. He purchased Reed's in 1967 and worked until late in 2016. Gene played fast pitch softball from 1948 until he pitched his last game in 2010. He helped form the Freeport Night Owls softball team in 1967 and played with them through the 1981 season. He played for many other teams. He also coached the Cedarville Grade School basketball team for 14 years. He was a volunteer fireman for 25 years and belonged to the American Legion.

Gene is survived by his son, John of Cedarville; sister-in-law Norma Bawinkel of German Valley; brother-in-law and sister-in-law Bob and Mary Kaiser of Flower Mound, Texas; seven nephews; and five nieces. He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife Mary; and his daughter Kathleen Reed in 1993. Burial was in Cedarville Cemetery.

Richard “Dick” Louthain, 89, formally of Cedarville, died December 15 in Rockford where he had lived since 1978. The deceased’s father of the same name was well-known in the 1940s and 1950s as a teacher and the coach of Cedarville School’s basketball team. The younger Louthain was born in 1951 in Nora, Ill. His mother was the former Evelyn Pearce. In 1946 – 1947 he was a member of his father’s team.

Richard was graduated from Freeport High School in 1949. He then served in the U.S. army from 1951 to 1953, stationed in France. He married Carol Anderson in Cedarville in 1955. She died in 1987. In 1991 he married Mable Gross; she died in 2018.

Mr. Louthain was a tool and die maker in Freeport and Rockford. He retired from Warner Lambert in 1996 as a mechanical technician. Surviving are two sons, Craig (Michelle) Louthain of Belvedere and Steven Louthain of Rockford; a daughter Laura Padron of Palm Springs, California, two stepsons, Lonnie (Bonnie) Gross and Donald Gross; two stepdaughters, Wendy (James) Heiler and Cindy Meyers; a brother Neale H. (Alicia) Louthain of Phoenix, Arizona; seven grandchildren and seven step grandchildren and many great grandchildren.

Burial was in Cedarville Cemetery.
The February 7 Cedarville Area Historical Society soup, sandwich, veggie and desert luncheon and annual meeting will convene at the Cedarville Museum on top of the Second Street hill.

Because of current restrictions due to Covid-19, the meeting will be convened by providing information to each member as they drive through.

The eighteenth annual event has always been held on so-called Super Bowl Sunday, the day the top two American professional football teams clash for the honor of being called “top dog” for a year.

The lunch, which is open to members and non-members of the historical society, starts at 11 a.m. and ends at 1 p.m. The lunch, costs $6 for adults and $2 for children under 12. Second helpings are free for those who would like to drive by a second time.

Come by between 11:00 and 1:00 on February 7th. Place your to go order of your choice of Chili or Soup and we will pack up your Chili/Soup, cheese sandwich, veggies and dessert for you to take home and eat in the comfort of your home. Proceeds from this event are used to cover the museum’s operation expenses.

In addition to enjoying the lunch, CAHS members will also receive a copy of the organization’s annual financial report and be asked to vote for three persons to serve three years on the nine member board of directors.

Current board members Lisa Goodwin, Moira Knowlton and Steve Myers are up for re-election.
We Want Your Stories
Email us your stories or antidotes about Cedarville or the Cedarville area. We will present them in following newsletters. Email

If you have not renewed your membership, please do so. We need your support. Thank you.