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Fort Recovery Museum Newsletter **Fall 2023**

Greetings Patrons,

We are moving into my favorite time of year. I believe this year's leaves have been exceptionally beautiful. If you haven't taken a stroll through our park in a while, I would highly recommend it. It's one of those places that can be taken for granted. I am glad I get to see it through the eyes of visitors who are almost always effusive in communicating their enjoyment in spending time in our beautiful park.

Coming on November 4! *St. Clair's Defeat Revisited: A New View of the Conflict*

I'm excited to share the attached flyer announcing *St. Clair's Defeat Revisited: A New View of the Conflict*. This exhibit introduces the visitor to a Native perspective of the complex history of St. Clair's Defeat, which took place on the very ground our thriving village has grown on. This exhibit was co-created by Ball State University and 11 Tribal Humanities Scholars descended from the Tribal fighters in St. Clair's Defeat. We are honored to have this exhibit at Fort Recovery before it travels to the Fort Wayne History Center, Northeast Oklahoma A&M College in Miami, Oklahoma, in 2024, and to the Ohio History Center in 2025. What a special exhibit to have in our community between November 4 and January 7!

The free exhibit includes a 15-minute welcome video that contains all Native voices. The exhibit itself covers four themes – including the *Background* of the Northwest Indian War, the *Battle* (St. Clair's Defeat), the *Aftermath* of broken treaties, removal of Native people, boarding schools, and the *Persistence* of Tribes today. Also included are art items made by today's Tribal citizens. For more information, view the Welcome Video [here](#), the online exhibit guide [here](#), and the exhibit web site with additional materials [here](#).

Christmas Open House Thurs Nov 9 – Sun Nov 12

The Historical Society is excited to be partnering with the Fort Recovery Merchants Association for the Fort Recovery Christmas Open House on Thurs Nov 9 – Sun Nov 12. The Merchants have for many years taken on the task of decorating Krenning Park. They do a beautiful job! Thanks to Marie Bruns of Cedar and Mane Beauty Collective for bringing her enthusiastic love of all things Christmas! This year we plan to make Krenning Park a more magical place to stroll through! For the visitors pleasure we are transforming the walk-by exhibit into a Christmas scene! A popular jolly red suited gentleman will be taking lists from the original Santa House! His house will be conveniently located off the path adjacent to the Historical Society's restored 1800 era log cabin. While waiting to get your turn with this jolly guy take some time to pop into the log cabin. This year it will be decorated for Christmas in the modest style of the mid-1800 settler. On Sunday, Chris (Kramer) Ewery will again be in the log cabin with her family giving demonstrations on the spinning wheel. Feel free to ask questions about the craft! She has a wealth of knowledge to share.

Carriage rides will once again be available from the Merchants Association on Sunday (11:00-4:00). Historical Society members Carol Ranly and Rose Cain will be two of our tour guides. Tony Stahl, Superintendent of Fort Recovery Schools, will again lend his time to this popular venue. We've made some changes to the carriage route, beginning and ending at the Museum. The village has generously allowed us to close Fort Site Street to allow for safe pedestrian traffic between Krenning Park and the Museum.

The Museum will be open free of charge on Friday thru Sunday of the Open House! Be sure to stop in to experience the exhibit *St. Clair's Defeat Revisited: A New View of the Conflict*. See flyer for details.

Recap of *Beyond the Battlefield* event in August

This being my first major event held outdoors I must admit I was a bit nervous! With threats of rain fluctuating all week up to the day of the event, we just kept moving ahead hoping for a dry day! It didn't rain until 45 minutes after we closed on Sat Aug 12, and the entire 2-day event exceeded our expectations! In two days we had over 400 visitors from 12 states and Canada! I really must give credit to Talon Silverhorn and our visiting Tribal interpreters, Chris Thompson and Kevin Nolan from Ball State, and many volunteers for making this event the success it was! I am so grateful for everyone's knowledge and generosity.

One of a Kind Auction Results

This year's One of a Kind Auction on Oct 22 was well organized and well attended. There were so many wonderful items and trips auctioned from so many generous donors. I would like to thank co-chairs Mary and Randy Diller for their hard work and organizational skills, and the committee of volunteers behind them. The proceeds to the Historical Society and Project Recovery go directly to the maintenance and improvements to the various historical buildings and properties owned by these organizations. The Historical Society is currently working on upgrades to the Walk-by Museum in Krenning Park and Project Recovery recently made multiple upgrades to the Visitors Center. Our historic buildings and parks give Fort Recovery its unique charm and are so worth the effort to maintain.

Stockade Wall Update

It was mentioned in the last newsletter that the stockade wall between the two Blockhouses was potentially going to be completed in September. If you live in Fort Recovery its very obvious that this did not occur. The wood that is being procured is rather hard to come by. It's being sourced from various lumber suppliers. It has to be dried for a certain amount of time and the bark needs to fall off naturally. All this is to ensure the long-term viability of the wall and to achieve as authentic appearance as possible. Given these delays, the wall is scheduled for completion in spring or early summer.

I hope to see many of you at *St. Clair's Defeat Revisited: A New View of the Conflict* in November thru early January!

Best Regards,
Kim Rammel, Fort Recovery Museum Site Manager

Museum Hours: May - Saturday & Sunday 11:00-4:00; June, July, and August – Wednesday thru Sunday 11:00-4:00; September and October - Saturday & Sunday 11:00-4:00

Please note: The Museum is closed on Oct 28/29 to prepare for the traveling exhibit.

Special tours can be arranged by Contacting Kim Rammel at 419-852-0028.

Find us on our website <https://fortrecoverymuseum.com/> or on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/FortRecoveryMuseum>



OHIO HISTORY CONNECTION

Fort Recovery Museum & Monument



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ST. CLAIR'S DEFEAT REVISITED

A NEW VIEW OF THE CONFLICT

This temporary exhibit introduces you to the complex history of St. Clair's Defeat, on Nov 4, 1791, and its context and aftermath with respect to the nine Tribal Nations who orchestrated this great defeat of the U.S. Military. The exhibit's four themes, design, and immersive qualities will contextualize the: 1) Background; 2) Battle and Native crescent strategy; 3) Aftermath including broken treaties, removal, and boarding schools; and 4) Persistence of Tribes today.

Saturday November 4 and Sunday, November 5. Exhibit open from 11:00-4:00. (all free admission)

A New View of the Conflict opens on the 232nd battle anniversary and continues into January.

Sat Nov 4, 1:00 – "Nothing About Us, Without Us". Presentation by Tribal Humanities Scholar Nekole Alligood and Ball State University Archaeologist Christine Thompson.

Sun Nov 5, 1:00 – "Nothing About Us, Without Us". Presentation by Tribal Humanities Scholar Diane Hunter and Ball State University Archaeologist Christine Thompson.

After a short history of St. Clair's Defeat, Alligood and Hunter will discuss the Tribal collaboration and process used to co-create this exhibit with 11 Tribal Humanities Scholars and Ball State University.



Nekole Alligood (left) is a citizen of the Delaware Nation of Oklahoma and is the NAGPRA Specialist for the Ohio History Connection. She works with Tribal partners to repatriate their ancestors and sacred objects. Nekole previously served as NAGPRA Officer and Director of Cultural Preservation for the Delaware Nation. She has a BA and MA in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Oklahoma and a BA in English from the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma.

Diane Hunter (right) is the former Tribal Historic Preservation Officer of the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma and currently serves her nation as Myaamia Heritage Preservation Specialist. She is a citizen of the Tribe. Diane has given numerous talks about the

presence and history of Miami people. She has a Bachelor's degree from Indiana University and Master's degrees from Ball State University and Georgetown University. Since 2015, she has worked for the Miami Tribe out of Fort Wayne, Indiana.



St. Clair's Defeat Revisited: A New View of the Conflict

will be at the Fort Recovery Museum on these dates (free admission, 11:00 am to 4:00 pm)

- Nov 4 and 5 – Sat, Sun
- Nov 10, 11, and 12 – Fri, Sat, Sun
- Nov 17, 18, and 19 – Fri, Sat, Sun
- Nov 24, 25, and 26 – Fri, Sat, Sun
- Dec 1, 2, and 3 – Fri, Sat, Sun
- Dec 8, 9, and 10 – Fri, Sat, Sun
- Dec 15, 16, and 17 – Fri, Sat, Sun
- Dec 21, 22, and 23 – Thurs, Fri, Sat
- Dec 28, 29, and 30 – Thurs, Fri, Sat
- Jan 5, 6, and 7 – Fri, Sat, Sun

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