



Newsletter

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Jewell History Museum Improvements

The Jewell Historical Society has long been concerned about the stability and reliability of the Museum building's northeast door. This door provides a mode of egress from the building's lower level, and owing to its poor condition, there was some concern about its usefulness as an emergency means of escape. Thanks to Jason Seaton of local contractor *Seamless Pros*, this is no longer a concern. Through their help, JHS was able to acquire a new steel door and jamb, which Jason installed recently. The JHS Board greatly appreciates Jason and Seamless Pros for their help in this project!



Seaton Replaces the Museum's Northeast Door

In other improvement news, the JHS Board very much thanks local resident Brant Barquist for keeping the Museum's lawn mowed and trimmed.



Newly-Trimmed Shrub in Front of the Museum

The Museum's landscaping also improved when the front shrubbery was recently trimmed, making it a lot more attractive! Thanks to Brant and others who helped with these efforts!

Museum Additions

Thanks to the generosity of longtime Jewell resident Brooke Samuelson, the Museum now has an actual 1920 bank note from the first National Bank of Jewell Junction!



Samuelson donates the Bank Note to Museum Curator and JHS Vice President Dick Steffen.

A national bank note is a form of United States currency issued by federally chartered national banks. These banks were encouraged to purchase U.S. bonds, with the notes they issued being backed by these bonds.



The Bank Note now in the Museum's Collection

Such notes with charter #5743 belong to The First National Bank of Jewell Junction, Iowa, which is part of a registry of Iowa's national bank notes which details the charter numbers and towns associated with them.

Visit to Another Area Museum

Following is another entry in what is intended to be a series of occasional articles featuring visits to other history museums in our area. We hope that such visits to our sister institutions will result in a better understanding, both for us and for our readers, of our shared history and heritage.

Gilbert Historical Society Museum

In a recent visit to the Gilbert Historical Society Museum, located at 207 Main Street in Gilbert, IA, we met with the Society's President Teri Gallahan, and Vice President Nancy Long. The organization's mission is "to promote the preservation of the history of Gilbert."



The Gilbert IA Historical Society Museum

Current displays in this Museum include:

- Lists and photos of veterans from the Gilbert area,
- Information and articles related to Zenorsville, a Boone County coal-mining community near Gilbert which was founded in the mid-1870s and which declined after the mines closed.
- Pictures and displays related to Gilbert's founding fathers, and
- Gilbert School historical items.



Some of the Gilbert Museum Displays

Gilbert's Museum is open every Tuesday during the months of May through November, from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM. There is information about the Society and its Museum on the City of Gilbert's website, and on the Historical Society's Facebook page.



JHS Website News

This article is excerpted from the JHS website. The original article was published in the South Hamilton Record on October 12, 1972.

Open House at new Casey's General Store

Today and tomorrow, Friday and Saturday, will see the grand opening of Jewell's newest business establishment, Casey's General Store.

Manager Rex Cook invites everybody in the South Hamilton area to come in and look over the store and enjoy a cup of coffee. The store hours are 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. every day.

Customers can receive five gallons of gasoline free with a minimum five gallon purchase, and may register for four big prizes to be given away. The first prize will be an 8 track home entertainment center; second prize an 8 track car stereo; third prize a 5 speed blender;

and fourth prize a decorator wall clock. The drawing will be held Sunday, October 15, at 1:00 p.m. and no purchase is necessary in order to register for the big drawing.

In addition to the opportunity to win one of the four big prizes, Manager Cook says that free ice cream will be served both days of the Casey's grand opening, as well as free balloons and free pizza samples.

South Hamilton's new Casey's General Store is located in Jewell, south on Highway 69.

This and other stories of interest can be found on www.JewellJunctionHistory.org. The JHS website was developed, is maintained and is frequently updated by the Society's Webmaster, JHS Board member Alan Spohnheimer.

A Blast from the Past

The following is a brief excerpt from the Jewell Quasquicentennial Book (p. 207 – 208), published in 2006. It has been slightly edited to fit the available space. This book and the Centennial Book (published in 1981) are available for review in the Jewell History Museum. In addition, copies can be found at the Montgomery Memorial Library, from where they can also be checked out by Library cardholders.

Jewell; United States Post Office

The Jewell Post Office has served the community of Jewell since December 27, 1880, according to the records at the National Archives in Washington, D. C....

The first Jewell Post Office was established south of the Jewell Junction depot. Later it was in the old State Bank building. It has also been located on King Street and Main Street in two locations. Today the Post

Office is located at 549 Main St., at the intersection of Highways 175 and 69. It was completed about 1950. The Post Office building is owned by the E. W. Montgomery Trust.

When the first Post Office was established, Jewell had approximately 60 residents. Now, it serves approximately 2,500 rural and community residents....



The current employees at the Jewell Post Office are Eileen McLuckie, Postmaster, Beverly Grove, part-time clerk, plus John Schlafke and Russell Hockman, rural carriers. Spencer Hill and Vern Schwartz are substitute rural carriers.



The museum project has been partially funded by grants and donations from:

The Jewell Centennial Trust
The IMT Group
POET
Jewell Lions
The Wal-Mart Community Grants Program
Hamilton County Development
Tourism Grants
The Enhance Hamilton County Foundation
and
Private Donors



Membership Time!!

The Jewell Historical Society is working to catalog, preserve and display items important to the history and heritage of Jewell Junction, Iowa. Please help the mission of your Society and of the Jewell History Museum by volunteering at the Museum and/or becoming a member at one of the levels indicated. Any new or renewal memberships purchased before the end of this year will be good through the end of 2026. Your membership helps to maintain the operation of the Jewell History Museum. (Note: The "Utility Membership" will support the Museum's utility bills for a month.)

All members will continue to receive copies of this Newsletter which will help to keep them up to date on JHS activities.

Annual Memberships

___ Individual	\$ 25.00
___ Family	\$ 45.00
___ Patron	\$ 100.00
___ Utility	\$ 250.00

Lifetime Membership

___ Lifetime \$1,000.00

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Would like to volunteer _____

Please return to:
Jewell Historical Society
PO Box 2
Jewell IA 50130