

HISTORICO

Sangamon County Historical Society Newsletter

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A Special Message: Keeping You, But Not History, at a Distance

Like you, your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers, the spread of the Corona Virus has reshaped the way we interact with each other. Aware of the potential health threat the virus posed for large gatherings, the Sangamon County Historical Society board on March 11 not only voted to cancel its annual Special Projects Grant fundraiser, Trivia Night, but also to find alternatives to continue to provide you with the broad scope of informative monthly history programs and projects for which we are known.

Until the crisis is passed and we can resume a normal meeting schedule, *Historico* will serve as the vehicle for our monthly programs, putting the experts at your fingertips along with visuals you would normally see on the meeting room screen. *Historico* is also posted on line at sangamonhistory.org if you wish to view it on your computer.

April Program Spotlight

SIU School of Medicine: A World-Class Innovator at 50

By Cinda Ackerman Klickna

It was 1970. The site of the old Reisch Brewery on North Rutledge had been chosen for not just a new structure but for the first communitybased medical school in central Illinois, the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine (SIU SOM).

Fifty years later, 23 sites offer healthcare services across the state, the number of graduates will reach 3000 this May, and the School continues to expand. Around one-third of the doctors in Sangamon County graduated from SIU.

Since its inception, SIU School of

Medicine has earned the international reputation for innovation – in research, 1968 long-range plan of the Illinois teaching practices, student assessment,



"The spirit of innovation has never waned."

DEAN JERRY KRUSE

name only a few. The School's innovations have been adopted by medical schools across the world. Jerry Kruse, current dean, says, "The spirit of innovation has never waned."

The school was created through a Board of Higher Education to create a surgical practices, and programs to medical school for central and southern Illinois through SIU-Carbondale. The mission was to educate medical professionals who would stay in the area to provide much-needed healthcare to rural areas; thus, preference was given to students from central and southern Illinois, a practice continuing today. It was unique compared to other medical training schools: there was no university hospital, no full-time faculty and located in a city not noted for healthcare.

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Coming Together to Protect the Past, Ensure the Future

Tough times require tough decisions.

The board of the Sangamon County Historical Society found itself having to make one early last month when it wound up on the cutting edge of local organizations facing-off against the spread of the corona virus.

Night--the lone fundraiser for our Special Project Grants scribed, the board voted to cancel the event.

Even with several thousand dollars at stake, putting Day. nearly 300 players sitting side-by-side in crowded room, a fast-spreading and deadly virus. The game could wait, said the board, and those who bought rounds, tables or seats could have their money back if they so chose.

tivities, but much of the rest of Springfield and Sangamon County was operating normally. But not for long. their doors, large gatherings were banned, schools an- permit. nounced closings, non-essential businesses shuttered and most people were told to go home and stay there.

then, doesn't look that way anymore.

us, came what we affectionately call Plan B, a what-if approach to what could happen to the Society if our traditional meeting places for programs, events and board sessions became unavailable for several weeks or, for that matter, several months.

Some events, like the annual fundraiser, could be rescheduled for the following year. Monthly programs, which have been drawing well over 100 members and guests, could still be provided, albeit in a different form: interviews with those who would have been our guest speakers and visuals published each month in *Historico*; board and committee meetings by conference calls,

events and deadlines postponed or extended until the virus threat has disappeared.

So we are in Plan B mode.

You will continue to get *Historico* (and in it, our monthly program which this month would have focused With 10 days to go before holding our annual Trivia on the remarkable broad impact the SIU School of Medicine has had on the community, medical care, program and with round and table sales nearly fully sub-training and practices as it marks its 50th anniversary here). Our May "program" is in the works: think Earth

The Society's nominating committee is now weighing would put them in jeopardy for what was predicted to be the candidacy of candidates for board seats that will be opening in June.

If you are interested in serving on the board, please send an e-mail to schsoffice@gmail.com and it will be On that Wednesday evening, local hospitals had forwarded to the committee. The slate will be anmoved to close facilities to all but medically-related ac- nounced in the May issue and voting will be by mail to those whose membership is paid by May 31.

Our annual meeting, which would have been held in Within 24 hours, most city and county facilities closed June at Clayville, will be rescheduled as circumstances

Our June issue of *Historico*, which like this edition will appear later in the month, will provide the annual What seemed like an isolated but tough decision report and an update on elections and other Society business. We normally do not meet in July and August and As part of what turned into a lengthy discussion for are keeping our fingers crossed that we will be able to return to a normal schedule in September.

> Please take note that our fiscal year ends on May 31 and our new year starts June 1.

> If you haven't yet sent in dues for 2020-2021, now is the time to do so.

> And if you'd like to make a donation along with your dues, it would be greatly appreciated.

Stay home, stay safe, stay well.





Historico, published 10 times a year (except July & December), is the official bulletin for members of the Sangamon County Historical Society. Winner, Certificate of Excellence, Illinois State Historical Society.

You can download back issues of Historico in PDF format by going to our website, www.sangamohistory.org or sancohis.org. Send event announcements to historicoeditor@gmail.com.

Vicky Whitaker, Historico Editor, Photos by Kathy Dehen, Larry Stone

HISTORY NEWS YOU CAN USE...HISTORY NEWS YOU CAN USE...HISTORY NEWS YOU CAN USE..

April Deadline Approaching for **Special Project Grant Applications**

April 30.

The Society board agreed on April 8 to keep the deadline in place, since the application process as been well-publicized for several months and should not be impacted by the closing of area libraries, schools and museums and most history operations.

Special Project grant chair Elaine Hoff urged the board to stick with the deadline sion," Hoff said. The winners are normally and the schedule for her committee to re- announced at the Society's annual dinner view the applications in May and select the in June, but that gathering is also on hold

The grant program provides financial underpinnings for small but significant Sangamon County history projects pro- will be possible in the fall," Hoff noted. posed by individuals and organizations who can complete their work within a 12month period.

The Society usually sets aside a total of \$3,000 a year for the Special Projects months ahead. Grant program whose winners are determined by a committee. If less than \$3,000 is awarded in any given year, the addithe following year or kept in reserve.

Funds for the program are raised through the Society's annual Trivia Night, website will take you to the application the eighth year of which was to be held on form and will explain the process. Saturday, March 21. But in light of spread-

The deadline for filing applications for ing concern over the virus, the Board on the Society's Special Project Grants is March 11 decided to cancel the event. Most of the game's round-sponsors and some who purchased tables and seats in advance, opted to donate the funds to the Society for future Special Grant awards. Unlike most trivia nights, tables and round sponsorships for the Society's fundraiser were paid for in advance, making it relatively easy to contact those who did so.

"We are very appreciative of their deciuntil it is clear that events with large groups of people will be safe to attend.

"Hopefully that or a special reception "We plan to invite all those who donated to the effort to meet the winners of the competition and learn more about the projects they will be working on in the successive

Applications can be downloaded from the Society's website, sangamonhistory.org for individuals and organizations interested tional funds are applied to the overall total in applying for the Society's annual Special Project Grants.

A link on the **Grants** section of the

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SCHS Kicks Off Annual Membership Drive With an April Early Bird Opportunity

Remember that letter you received last May, asking you to renew your membership in the Society for 2019-2020? Seems like yesterday, doesn't it? Well, time does fly and so does our fiscal year which ends at the end of May. Rather than wait for us to write that letter, print it, fold it, stuff it in an envelope, stamp it and mail it, why not use the new renewal form on page 7 and beat us to the punch? Or go on-line and renew for another year through our website, sangamonhistory.org.

On the new form you'll see some additions and changes in the format. One of the things we've learned from doing historic research is that many women often get lost in history because they change their name if and when they marry. We're part of a worldwide movement to correct that, so that if a future historian or genealogist looks at your family history or accomplishments of a female spouse or child, they'll have an easier time connecting the dots...or in this case, birth names.

We've also made it easier to give a gift of membership in the Society, with a box that clearly provides space for you to list the name of the person you wish to become a mem-(continued on page 6)



OFFICERS

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Staff

Mike Kienzler, SangamonLink.org Editor

Please make note of our official mailing address:

SCHS Box 9744 Springfield, Illinois, 62791-9744

SIU School of Medicine at 50: A History of Achievement

(Continued from page 1)

who have led the School over its 50 cer Institute. He helped organyears, new, exciting medical practices ize healthcare systems, creathave impacted our area – and the entire ing a new approach of doctors world. The deans have all been faculty working as teams. This led to teaching physicians (today numbering community health centers

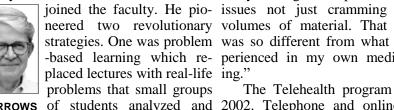
set the stage for innovation. He intro- throughout the world,



duced new teaching methobjectives in medical train- here."

ing. Moy, who called the new school the Springfield Experiment, recruited of dean, he saw the impact of top physicians from across the country the teaching process started who were excited to help create some- years earlier. "Students thing from scratch.

By 1980, Howard Barrows had ready talking about practical



being used in public schools in Spring- advice. field by many teachers, including this author.)

duced was a simulated patient process, called Standardized Patients (SP). The practice continues today: healthy people are trained to pose as a patient; students interact with the "patient" while being observed and critiqued.

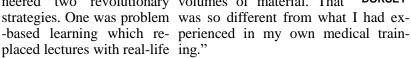
Although the strategies started slowly, they became the model and have been adopted by many other medical schools.

Deans who followed Moy were Carl Getto (1994-2001), Kevin Dorsey (2001-2015), and Jerry Kruse (2016present). Although each dean contributed new ideas, all built on what had already been developed and kept to the mission. As Dorsey says, "The work is really done by a legion of people."

Under the tenures of the four deans funding for the Simmons Canacross a wide region. Getto GETTO

"In the last five to 10 years medical gramme for International ods, moving away from a education is doing what SIU was doing Recognition of Excellence reliance on lectures and add- in the 1970s. Partly, that is because the in Education) from the Asing humanities into the cur- people trained at SIU are leading medi- sociation for Medical Eduriculum. The School was the cal work in many parts of the country cation in Europe. These first to establish goals and and carrying the ideas they learned were in the categories of

their second year were aljoined the faculty. He pio- issues not just cramming



facilitator. (This technique was also zens needing emergency and medical name just a few.

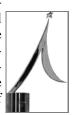
tute opened; a \$10M donation from through a deep dive into what was The other strategy Barrows intro- John Simmons is the largest donor gift

Getto shepherded the State's initial ever provided to the University. Philanthropy has continued with gifts for Alzheimer and other research, for endowed chairs, and for grants to faculty.

Honors for Excellence

Teaching methods continue to be recognized. In 2013 the school became the only medical school in the The founding dean, Richard Moy, cites the impact SIU has made world to be awarded three ASPIRE

awards (A Schools Pro-Assessment of Students,



When Dorsey took on the position Student Engagement in the Curriculum, and Social Accountability.

> The mission of education, research and clinical care was expanded to include service to the community which has developed into federally qualified health centers, and outreach to community groups and schools.

Leadership Role

Kruse points to the many areas in which the School has been a leader: The Telehealth program began in biomedicine, severed limb re-BARROWS of students analyzed and 2002. Telephone and online interac- attachment, infertility, hearing loss discussed, under the supervision of a tions are used round the clock by citi- research, and trauma-informed care, to

Introduced in 2016-2017 is a new In 2010 the Simmons Cancer Insti- assessment for students, developed

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The Simmons Cancer Institute at SIU in Springfield





UNDER CONSTRUCTION in the early 70's, the SIU School of Medicine was built on a site once occupied by Springfield's historic Reisch Brewery (see arrow, top) across from Memorial Hospital).

(continued from page 4) curriculum that had previously been navirus. revamped was reviewed and revamped again.

Kruse says, "At first I was booed off calls with patients to be more effective cal work.

working for students. The third-year world has faced the impact of the coro- with hundreds of medical professionals

New approaches have already been area imaginable. implemented - virtual doctor appoint-Pass/fail is now used completely. ments through Facetime and cellphone win grants for their research and clini-

has surfaced just in the short time the and programs doing incredible work, providing healthcare in almost every

The faculty and doctors continue to

Community Outreach

The School continues to reach out to the community and to build interest in medical careers for area students. Since 2009 the Physician Pipeline Preparatory Program has graduated 84 students, including 14 who graduated in February 2020. Students, interested in pursuing medical careers, learn through case studies, research, lab experiences, and study.

At Southeast High School, students in the Health Science Academy have been working with SIU and other medical groups for over 20 years.

SIU has lived up to its mission to serve central and southern Illinois and has made an impact not only here in Sangamon County, but indeed, all over the world.

Sangamon County Historical Society board member Cinda Klickna is a free-lance writer whose work frequently appears in Illinois Times. A former Springfield School District English teacher, she was president of the Illinois Education Association for six years prior to her retirement. In addition to SCHS, Klickna is a member of the boards of the Dana Thomas House Foundation, the Illinois State Museum Society and the Illinois State Historical Society.



SIU School of Medicine's soaring entranceway on North Rutledge Street.

the stage at conferences when present- with time and care. Kruse explains, tices coming out of SIU, other schools ciation for balancing these. We could are now following the new model.

What is the future that our area can ward." expect? Kruse points to a positive that

ing our new approach, but this has "Public health and the medical combeen astoundingly successful." As has munity haven't had much prior teambeen the case in other innovative prac- work, and there is now a greater apprebe looking at new models going for-

There are many, many departments

Society Deadline April 30 for 2020-2021 Special Project Grants

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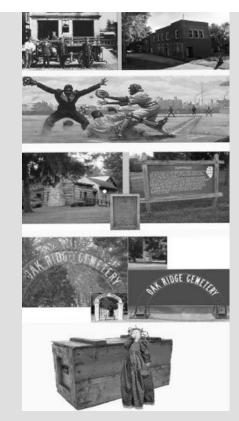
2013, the Society's Special Pro-riot. jects Grant program has funded 25 ing areas in Central Illinois.

have also been used to digitize and the virus threat. preserve blueprints of Sacred Springfield's first architect.

Springfield's first black firehouse Since the program began in and its role during the 1908 race

Other recipients last year had projects ranging from sign-age been awarded grants in the past. programs that help communities For 2019-2020, the Springfield better understand their local his- and Central Illinois African tory to underwriting research for a American History Museum won museum display on early African- funding for an exhibit on national American pioneers who settled in Negro League players from Sangamon County and surround- Springfield and Central Illinois that would have opened this spring Special Project grant funds but has been postponed because of

Other repeat grant winners Heart Chapel and Ursula Hall Mu- were the Pleasant Plains Historical sic Conservatory in Springfield Society that received funds to redesigned by William Conway, build wheel chairs ramps at its Clayville Historic Site; Oak Ridge Last year, Special Project National Cemetery for an interpregrants went to five organizations tive marker about its former third including a first-time request from street entrance sign; and Historic the Central 3 Community First Edwards Place to support a travel-Project to create and erect signage ing history trunk program that will associated with the preservation of bring history into the classroom.



2019-2020 Special Project Grant winners reflected a cross -section of local history projects.

Annual Membership Drive Set to Begin, But With a Head Start

(continued from page 3)

ber and the mailing address. If you can add members can be expected to be invited to a year donate a sum above the basic mema phone number and e-mail, we'd be delighted.

Unless you prefer to do it yourself, we formally acknowledge such gifts with a note from the Society to the recipient.

If you are sending it to a college student living somewhere other than with you, it's a great way to keep them in touch with the community and of course, share your interest in local history. They will get *Historico* and an opportunity to attend Society events as a member when they are home from

Of course, we'd also like to point out some other membership features. If you joined the Society in late December or early January, you'll not get a letter to pay anew in May. It's a one-time offer to new members only, reflecting the normal lag we face in transmitting changes in our membership lists to our internal membership system and onto our mailing house. It can take a month or two and it may mean missing a meeting notice unless you happen to catch an announcement on line or in the local media. Later in the year, when we anticipate meeting and reception spaces ing one of the other levels of membership: our members and the area we serve.

special reception where they will learn bership fee in support of our programs and people. We look forward to meeting you.

And don't miss other opportunities associated with membership. We have al-



ways enjoyed and appreciated the extra support that a growing number of our members have given the Society by select-

will reopen and the virus threat fade, new Pioneer, Settler, and Trailblazer who each more about the Society, its projects and its efforts to promote and preserve the history of Sangamon County.

> A significant segment of our members hold the "Life" designation which means they have invested a substantial amount of money in the Society in a single payment. They do not pay an annual fee.

> Though we do not list it on our form, the Society also has non-voting selected business and corporate members whose contributions and support have helped sustain some of our major projects through the years. The Society also provides complimentary non-voting memberships to libraries, schools, area historical societies and museums and other institutions who are part of the broader community that we

> The new form, like those in the past, also provides you with an opportunity to add a donation in addition to your dues. The Society always appreciates the generosity of those who are able to provide us with the extra funding we need in bringing top notch programs, speakers, and more to

BE AN EARLY BIRD!



Renew Now By Mail or On-Line for 2020-2021

<u>JUST A REMINDERI:</u> The Society's membership year runs from <u>June 1</u> to <u>May 31</u>.

You can renew for 2020-2021 by mail using this form...or renew on-line at sangamonhistory.org.

And you can also use this form to give a gift of membership...or to join the Society for the first time!

<u>All memberships</u> — except business/corporate and college/university students — include adults and children 16 and over living at the same address.

2020-2021 SCHS MEMBERSHIP FORM (Please Print)		
☐ I'm RENEWING ☐ I'm a NEW MEMBER		
☐ This is a GIFT for: (Name of Recipient, Mailing Address (Street, City, State, Zip)		
SELECT THE MEMBERSHIP LEVEL		
Regular Membership - \$30 Pioneer - \$100 Settler - \$250 Trailblazer - \$500		
Lifetime Membership - \$700 (one time fee) College/University Student (individual) -\$20.		
Your Name Spouse/Significant Other Name (where applicable):		
Spouse's Maiden Name (where applicable):		
Full Names of others included in your membership:		
City, State, Zip Phone:		
Cell: E-mail:		

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