Carriage House Grand Opening
September 21, 2019 ~ 12:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Come celebrate the Grand Opening of the Gowdy House Carriage House on Saturday September 21st from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. during Willkie Days.

We are so excited to share our new exhibit space with you! The main floor of the Carriage House has featured exhibits over the years, and now the upper floor will feature Main Street Shops from days gone by. After almost five years in the making, you’ll be able to stop by the Arlington State Bank, browse the Silver Shop and General Store to name a few.

The Gowdy House Carriage House was built between 1905 - 1908. In its hay day, this facility housed horses and carriages for the Gowdy’s. Groove/slope floors, a gravity fed grain shoot and adjacent water supply made for a “state-of-the art” addition to the Gowdy home. In recent years the upper floor has served as a storage area for museum artifacts. In an effort to share an additional 1,200 sq. ft of exhibit area, it was decided to make this a viable display area. Heating and cooling were added, walls repaired and the huge task of reclaiming the area began. Works days, planning, cleaning, researching, and funding have come together to add a wonderful new area to your Rush County Historical Society Museum.

So many individuals have worked to make this day possible. Without their vision and tireless efforts, this day would not be realized. A special “Thank You” goes to Indiana State Historical Society (special grant), Indiana Landmarks, The CIRCLE Fund (special grant), the Rush County Historical Society Board and it’s members, RCHS Wrestling and Softball Teams, J.R.Wortman, John Gridley, Rosfeld Electric and Walter Wickey.

“Come – be a part of history!”
Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social at the Goddard School

September 7, 2019 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

When school bells ring this fall, so will the bell at Goddard School! It won’t be ringing for class to begin, but more as a sign that it’s time for Ice Cream. The school has not been open to the public for several years and though it won’t be holding school, it will be an opportunity to step back in time and reflect on what a one room school looked like inside and out. Be sure to join us for ice cream, a walk down memory lane, and a special gift for teachers (restrooms will be provided). The Goddard School is located off State Road 44 at 150 South

Barbie Turns 60
Special Display – August through October 2019

Baby Boomers can attest to the fact that Barbie was (and is) a huge part of their lives. As they turn 60, Barbie turns 60 right along with them. Barbie is timeless and has had the ability to stay relevant for several generations of girls – big and small. No other toy has impacted the lives of children everywhere quite like Barbie. The “original” Barbie made her debut in 1959. Various friends and family members have been added along the way.

Our Special Display will be housed in the Children's Room of the Gowdy House. There, you'll find the original Barbie and the many ways she has changed and grown over the years. From 1959 to 2019, Barbie took on various careers including nurse, actor, business woman, presidential candidate, and astronaut. She truly is timeless and certainly not done when it comes to experiencing new adventures.

Come meet Barbie on Children’s Day and on Monday or Thursday morning from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. You can also visit her at our Open House's the first Sunday of each month from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Trick or Treat at the Gowdy House
October 31, 2019
5:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Trick-or-treating, going from house to house in search of candy and other goodies, has been a popular Halloween tradition in the United States and other countries for an estimated 100 years. But the origins of this community based ritual, which costumed children typically savor while their cavity conscious parents grudgingly tag along, remain hazy. Possible forerunners to modern-day trick-or-treating have been identified in ancient Celtic festivals, early Roman Catholic holidays, medieval practices and even British politics.

All ghouls and goblins are welcome to visit the Gowdy House on October 31st for a special treat. All such creatures will be received in the family parlor . . . if you dare! We will bid you welcome from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. . . . IF YOU DARE!

Fall Member Dinner and Program
November 14, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

Voter Fraud in Rush County—1856 will be the topic shared at the annual Rush County Historical Society Dinner Meeting on November 14 at 6:00 p.m. Judge Barbara Harcourt will be presenting the topic of the presidential election that took place that year among three different political affiliations—the Democratic, the Republican, and the Know Nothing parties. Come and hear about the campaigns, the candidates, and the uncertain time in our past AND what was happening in LOCAL politics at that time. It is sure to be an informational and intriguing program.

The dinner and meeting will take place at Center Christian Church, 9112 N 50 W Knightstown, Indiana and is located just west of the flashers off of State Road 3. The meal will be $12.50 and will consist of a salad, ham, beef and noodles, mashed potatoes, vegetable, roll, dessert, and drinks. Rosemary Noah will be preparing the delicious meal.

Please RSVP by November 7 to Julie Leisure at leisurefarm6699@gmail.com or text or leave a message at (765) 561-3985. Payment for each reservation can be made the night of the event. Come and be a part of history!
The annual “Festival of Trees” will be held at the Gowdy House on December 1 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. This Rush County Tradition features twelve themed trees throughout the Gowdy House and Carriage House. We will also feature our “Festival of Wreaths” (a huge hit last year). Six wreaths from Rush County merchants will available for your blind bid auction. Last year the Rushville Pharmacy, The Sampler, Elizabeth’s Keepsake, Rushville Florist, Vogels Florist, and the Rush County Historical Society provided these beautiful wreaths. We look forward to repeat and new vendors this year.

Won’t you join us as we celebrate the season with trees, wreaths, cookies, cider, and perhaps a visit from Santa.

“Come, be a part of holiday history.”

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**Calendar of Events:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 1</td>
<td>Open House 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Barbie Celebrates 60 Years</td>
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<td>Dec. 1</td>
<td>Christmas Open House/Festival of Trees – 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.</td>
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Rush County Historical Society
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Rushville, IN 46173