



St. Joseph County Public Library

Local & Family History e-Newsletter

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News & Events

As usual, we have lots of new things to tell you about, some here in the Library and some on our website. We're sure you'll find something helpful! And don't forget that you can always come in, call, or e-mail [Libby](#), [Sara](#), [John](#), or [Kevin](#) for help and ideas.

We're really excited about our next program, coming in less than a month: "Where Our Grandparents Walked: Finding Our Ancestral Homelands." It will be held on Saturday, May 3, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Come in right when the Library opens and make your way to the Humphreys Multimedia Room on the Lower Level. This program is our annual co-hosted event with the South Bend Area Genealogical Society.

The featured speakers will be the always popular Carol Collins and Sara Allen. Carol Collins, local genealogist and former *South Bend Tribune* genealogy columnist (and SJCP volunteer!), will talk about searching for her ancestors in the British Isles, with specific examples from her many trips to Ireland to find her family's villages, churches, and graveyards. Sara Allen, SJCP librarian and genealogist, will talk about her hunt for family in Eastern Europe. She will tell stories and share tips from her recent trip to Slovenia, where she met long-lost relatives, walked the land on which her ancestors lived, saw their final resting places, and more. Tips for identifying your ancestor's village in Eastern Europe also will be covered.

We're expecting a big crowd, so save your spot and pre-register by calling Local & Family History Services at 282-4621. Walk-ins are welcome, and coffee and light refreshments will be served.

Those of you unable to attend should be sure to check out [our website](#) after the event. We're planning to post some of the program slides online. (You'll find them on our "Programs and exhibits" page after May 6.)

Already up on [our website](#) is a new article for those of you interested in local history. We've met a number of metal detector buffs this past winter, seeking fruitful places to hunt for interesting old relics, so we've posted a new article with some helpful tips on searching. To read it, just go to [our website](#), click on the link to "How-to guides," and then choose "Finding Hidden History with Metal Detectors."

Finally, many of you might be aware of the funding crisis for public agencies that is currently happening in Indiana. The St. Joseph County Public Library will feel the impact of recent property tax legislation, so we are preparing for a smaller budget by cutting our spending now. If you'd like to read more about how we're planning to balance the need to be fiscally responsible with our mission of providing excellent library service, please read [our director's message on this subject](#).