

# Monroe County Historical Society



## Special Item Donated to MCHS



Mr. Wray's 2017-2018 class in WV History at Lincoln Middle School built a replica of the covered bridge next to 219 over Indian Creek and presented it to the historical society. Mr. Wray and his wife are avid West Virginia backroads travelers with a goal of visiting every covered bridge in the state. Creating replicas from the Wray's photographs is an annual project for his special education students. When asked to pick a bridge in 2017, they unanimously chose Monroe County's Indian Creek covered bridge. Look for it on display for the 2019 season in the Caperton Museum. Now all we need is a carriage!

The Monroe County Historical Society would like to acknowledge the donation from Shirley Nickols Bruce given in memory of her sister and brother-in-law, Howard and Jean Ellis.

## January Quarterly Meeting

With a Presentation by Robert Pomphrey  
Sunday, January 13th, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.

Meet in the Monroe County Public Library (downstairs)

## James and Isabella Alexander's Union

From Monroe County's formation in 1799-1800, and the laying out of the original 65 town lots around its courthouse, Union has seen tremendous changes. Bob Pomphrey is a student of this history. He has uncovered secrets of the past inhabitants hiding in plain sight by following the chains of ownership of lots and buildings, some of which remain. If the oldest buildings in town could talk they would have many fascinating stories to tell us. Did you know that the childhood home of Bishop Matthew Clair still stands in Union? Or the location of the town's whipping post? Or that there was a "deer park" or a Temperance Hall with an embalming facility in the basement? Bob will share the results of his detective work through a lecture and a short slide show.



Bob Pomphrey grew up and still lives in Sinks Grove, and Union, Monroe County. He received his B.A. in Education from WV Tech and then a M.S. in Elementary Administration from Radford University. He taught school for 33 years at Gap Mills and Union. He retired from teaching at Mt. View in 2005. These days, Bob is an antique dealer with booth at the Very Thing and also helps with estate sales for Brick House Antiques, both in Lewisburg. His interests are locally made 19th century furniture, folk art and anything old and unique. His immersion in local history began when he purchased his house in Union in 1976 and investigated the chain of ownership. He has previously served on the Town Council and as Town Recorder; currently he is the Town Treasurer.

## KROGER Community Rewards Program

### ***A quick and easy way to donate to MCHS***

MCHS has been approved as an organization qualified for Kroger Community donations, meaning we are able to receive 5% of all Kroger purchases by shoppers who are registered and designate the Historical Society as the recipient. All you have to do is go on line to "[Kroger.com/communityrewards](https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards)"; click on "Enroll"; search for "Monroe County Historical Society" among the organizations listed; and enter your Kroger card number. Unfortunately, donors must renew their enrollment **every year**. However, we will make an effort to remind people each fall to renew. Such a simple process but can actually be quite a substantial gift to the Historical Society. THANKS!