Beautiful, Timeless, Still Available...



Resident Spotlight: Matilda Stanley

Matilda Stanley, ca. 1822 - 1878 Queen of the Gypsies

Matilda was said to have a wonderful faculty of telling fortunes, when she pleased, and remarkable powers as a mesmerist, both qualities being explained by the assertion that they were handed down to her as the eldest daughter in the Stanley family and were secrets possessed by her alone.

She was described in the press as a "plain, hardy-looking woman, with a manner indicative of a strong and pronounced character."

It was the tradition of their people on the occasion of a funeral of the Stanley family, to travel to Dayton to bear tribute from across the United States, as well as England and Canada. On Palm Sunday 1877, one of Levi and Matilda's daughters and her husband were buried in the family plot after a nine-mile long procession of colorful wagons and carriages through the rain.

Newspaper stories of the time noted the "rather bright colors of apparel and the expressive features of these people standing in the rain without umbrellas." When the minister stood at the head of the wide grave, the only umbrella upraised was over his head.

The Gypsy Queen, Matilda Stanley, died in Vicksburg, Mississippi in January 1878 after an illness of two years. Her body was embalmed so that it was said to "retain the natural aspect of life." It was placed in the Woodland receiving vault in Dayton, and every day members of late Queen's family came with fresh flowers to strew over her. Eight months later her funeral was held, giving time for word to spread and her people to travel to Dayton, and she was interred in the Stanley family plot.

It was said that twenty-thousand people paid their last tribute to the dead Queen, including a dozen chiefs and their tribes from different sections of the United States,

Canada and England. Popular expectation that the funeral would consist of some extraordinary rites was not warranted.

Rev. Dr. Daniel Berger, of the United Brethren Church of Dayton officiated, the quartet choir of the First United Brethren Church sang hymns, and the transfer of the casket from the vault to the family plot was a brief ceremony. Her funeral attracted press coverage by the major newspapers of the country and was front page news.

Matilda Joles Stanley died January 15, 1878 in Vicksburg, MS. She was buried on September 15, 1878 at Woodland Cemetery in Section 102 Lot 1559.

Woodland History: Streets of Dayton

As you drive through Woodland you will find many familiar street names of Dayton inscribed on monuments and headstones. Dayton was established in 1796 and by 1801, many of the downtown streets of Dayton were well laid out by Daniel C. Cooper. Our town was named for Jonathan Dayton, the youngest signer of the United States Constitution. He served as a General in the American Revolution. He never set foot in the town named after him.

The first street was called Water Street (now Monument Avenue) as it was closest to the river. There were seven streets laid out running east to west; five streets running north to south were then laid out. St. Clair Street was named for Arthur St. Clair, Ohio's Governor at the time and Jefferson Street for our President, Thomas Jefferson.

In 1825, the state began to build the Miami Erie Canal. In 1913, the canal was filled with mud from the flood and was no longer used. The city bought the canal property and located a street there naming it Patterson Boulevard in honor of John H. Patterson who is credited with much of the relief efforts after the flood.

"The Far Hills" homestead was the name of the estate owned by Patterson. The name stuck and the road became Far Hills Avenue. Dorothy Lane was named for John's daughter. Sawmill and Stonemill roads were named for the two mills located on the Patterson farm. The sawmill was located where the N.C.R. lumber yard once stood.

Other streets in Dayton named for Woodland residents:

- Brown Street was named for Thomas Brown who found a bed of clay in the area and started a brick yard there.
- Bidleman Street for John Bidleman who owned Bidleman's Tannery.
- Dutoit Street near Stivers High School for Eugene Dutoit. He was a botanist and raised animals for medical research.
- Best Street for Henry Best who was a jeweler. His sons, Edwin and William, carried on the business.
- Gunckel Avenue for Lewis B. Gunckel who served in the state Senate and was influential in the establishment of the National Soldiers Home in Dayton.
- Schantz Avenue for Adam Schantz. Butcher, brew master and real estate developer.
- Artz Lane for William Artz who owned and operated a furniture store.

- Babbitt Street for Thomas S. Babbitt who was vice-president of the Pasteur-Chamberland Filter Co.
- Odlin Avenue for Peter Odlin, a member of the state Legislature.
- Zeigler Street for Major David Zeigler. He was a soldier in Germany before fighting in the American Revolution.

Of course, there are many, many more streets named for those at Woodland and soon we will offer a new tour called the Street Names of Dayton. Come walk or drive through the cemetery and see how many street names you can find.

Garden Talk with Mark Webber

President of Mark Webber's Landscaping Co., Nursery & Farm www.webberlandscaping.com and www.gardentalkblog.com

At Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum you will find numerous Eastern white pines (Pinus strobus) planted throughout the grounds. This five needle pine has soft needles to the touch and can grow at least 100' tall and can live to be 200 to 300 years of age. The Eastern White Pine is the most common and widely used timbers for construction lumber in the northeast United States.

In the Journal of Henry David Thoreau, which was written between 1855 and 1861, he was taken back by the unique sounds that the Eastern White Pine would make when the wind would blow through this trees canopy and he wrote that:

"The white pines in the horizon, either single trees or whole wood, are particularly interesting. The wind is making passes over them, magnetizing and electrifying them...This is the brightening and awakening of the pines...As if in this wind-storm of March a certain electricity was passing from heaven to earth through the pines and calling them to life"

This sound is only unique to the Eastern White Pine when the wind blows and even more unique is the sound one hears when you stand under an Eastern White Pine in the winter months as snowflakes fall through the pines as the country music group Alabama sang about in the song entitled "Christmas in Dixie."

The Eastern White Pine is woven deep into the American historical landscape. Before the arrival of European immigrants, it is estimated that virgin stands contained an estimated 3.4 billion m³ (600 billion fbm) of lumber. The long, straight trunks of the Eastern White Pine were once prized for use as ship masts. The king of England's aggravating habit of marking out and reserving all the biggest and best of these trees for use in his navy lead to the Pine Tree Riot of 1772, and played a role in the events leading up to the Revolutionary War.

By the late 1800's most of those vast stands had been logged. Because it is among the more rapid growing northern forest conifers, it is an excellent tree for reforestation projects, landscaping, and Christmas trees and has the distinction of having been one of the more widely planted American trees.

Mark Webber is a Board Certified Master Arborist and trusted resource to Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum

Reader Response from May's South Park Moment in Time article

Scott Kayser made an inquiry as to how we received a quote from his mother, Viola Kayser, who was remembering Miss L. Daisy Hammond, principal of Patterson School. We told him that the information was given to us by the South Park Historic District. He wrote saying that his mother was active in the Patterson PTA serving at least one year as president in the 50s or 60s. She later served as president of the state PTA. He said her association with South Park was that she lived in the 200 block of Bonner St. for 92 years.

Scott said that he left Dayton almost 50 years ago, but still considers it home. "One of my fondest memories from childhood is of feeding the ducks at the ponds in Woodland cemetery when we visited my grandparents graves. My mom is not buried there, but her parents and other family members are."

As for the memory of his mom he wrote, "She was a plain old person who made more of a difference on this world than she could have ever imagined."

Thank you Scott for sharing your story and letting us share with our readers.

Long time Volunteer passes away

Pat Jayson known to most as PJ, passed away suddenly May 28, 2015. Pat had been a volunteer at Woodland for over 8 years.

While at Woodland she was a tour guide for our historical tours and events, researched and reviewed historic documents that were placed in the Wright State archives, put together the Sports Legends Tour and in her last 3 years played Erma Bombeck at the Discover Woodland Davs event.

It was only fitting that Pat would put together the Sports Legends tour since she in fact was a legend herself. She played field hockey, basketball and tennis through college and later coached UD tennis, field hockey and softball. Pat was UD's first women's athletic trainer and assistant women's basketball coach. She was honored by being inducted into the University of Dayton Hall of Fame in 2010.

Pat was a great asset for Woodland with her knowledge of Woodland history and talent for entertaining those listening to her many stories. She especially loved playing Erma Bombeck, while sitting on the rock and talking about Erma's career as a writer.

Pat was generous, compassionate and had a heart of gold. She gave everything to make sure people knew the Wonders of Woodland. We will miss you PJ.

Moments in Time from our Friends at South Park Historic District

Nan C. Kennedy

Miss Kennedy was hired by the Dayton Board of Education in 1900 as a teacher for the deaf. When she died in 1935, after 34 years of teaching, the deaf school (then located at Longfellow) was named the Nan C. Kennedy School for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. As a newspaper account wrote, "It was largely through her persuasion that the school board authorized the first classes for deaf and hard of hearing children in 1900. Miss Kennedy started the school with seven pupils and taught them herself for several years until the membership increased and the board gave her some assistance." (Dayton Journal, April 19, 1935). Later, the school moved to Patterson,

and it became the Patterson-Kennedy School. Though deaf education was removed elsewhere, the name remained the same until the school was demolished in May 2012. Miss Kennedy died on February 25, 1935. She is located in Section 35 Lot 750.

Nan Kennedy Obituary Dayton Daily News February 25, 1935, pg. 6, col. 4NAN KENNEDY IS DEAD AT 79

Funeral arrangements for Miss Nan Kennedy, 79, of 17 Edgemont av., who died Monday morning, were being completed Monday. The eldest child of John and Martha Darst Kennedy, she was born Feb. 5, 1856, at the old homestead on the Frederick pike, in Harrison twp. She was a member of the Third Street Presbyterian church and later of the Westminster Presbyterian church and an active member of the mission societies. She was educated at the Cooper Female academy. She is survived by one brother, Harry D., Columbus, and several nieces and nephews.

Windows of Woodland

Woodnotes by Ralph Waldo Emerson

"As sunbeams stream through liberal space and nothing jostle or displace, So waved the pine-tree through my thought And fanned the dreams it never brought."

Many of the windows in the Mausoleum are fashioned after woodland themes in literature and poetry, and this window is no exception. In this window is a hidden animal amongst the leaves and an original logo of Woodland Cemetery. Try your hand at finding them when you come to visit the Mausoleum and stand before this magnificent stained glass artwork.

Visit the Mausoleum and all the windows contained within, daily from 9am to 5pm.

Upcoming Summer Tours

Discover Woodland Days

Sunday, October 4

Two hour Historical Tours depart at 12:00, 12:30 and 1:00 PM. Joins us as volunteers portray the residents of Woodland in this unique tour. This year we welcome the Oakwood Historical Society who have added Oakwood residents resting at Woodland to the tour. Free and open to the public. For more information, please call Debra Mescher at 937-228-3221.

Upcoming Fall Tours

Fall Migration Bird Tour

9:00 a.m.September 19

Woodland Historic Tour

10:00 a.m. August 12 and 15, September 9 and 12, October 7 and 10

Women of Woodland Tour

10:00 a.m. August 8, September 12, October 10

Sports Legends Tour

10:00 a.m. August 15, September 19, October 17

History, Mystery, Mayhem & Murder

10:00 a.m. August 22 and September 19 5:30 p.m. August 19 and September 16

Reservations are required for all tours. Please call 937-228-3221. Meet at the Fountain in front of the Administration Office. Your early arrival will ensure that the tour will depart on time. All tours are given weather permitting. Please wear comfortable walking shoes.

Support Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum at local Grocery Stores!

Support Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum!

Are you a ClubDLM or Kroger Plus Card holder? Would you like to support the Woodland Arboretum Foundation by doing your normal grocery shopping? You can when you register your shopping card to our organization!

Go to krogercommunityrewards.com and link your Kroger Plus Card to Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum #28721.

You must sign up each year for your PlusCard purchases to count towards Woodland's fundraising account.

Go to dorothylane.com/ClubDLM and link your ClubDLM number to Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum #821.

Our Foundation continues to focus on the restoration, preservation, horticultural and educational projects needed to keep Woodland a cultural resource for Dayton and Ohio.

Support Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum!

Thank you for your donation to Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum. Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum Please make your check payable to: 118 Woodland Ave. Dayton, OH 45409 Woodland Arboretum Foundation 937-228-3221 Your gift is a tax deductible donation to a 501(c)3 public charity. Membership Level ___ \$100 Supporter ___ \$30 Friend \$500 Sponsor \$50 Contributor _____ \$250 Associate \$1,000 Patron Other Foundation members will receive a Woodland Schedule of Events, our quarterly newsletter, Woodland Wire, and invitation to member events. Please accept (my)(our) GIFT for 2015 in the amount of \$ _____ Apply my gift to the: Horticulture Fund or Arboretum Foundation Mr., Mrs., Miss, Ms.

(please indicate above how you wish to be recognized)

I/We wish to remain anonymous.

City, State, Zip

E-mail Address

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(W) (C)

Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum

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