

James Millikin Homestead Gazette

VOLUME XLIX

125 N. PINE STREET DECATUR, IL 62522

NOVEMBER 2023

Upcoming Events

Homestead Open House Schedule:

Due to the Fine Arts Events
scheduled January - April,
the regular open houses
will be held 3 - 5 pm those
days.

Remember you can always
schedule a private tour
by contacting the
Homestead at 217-422-9003
48 hours prior to the
desired time.

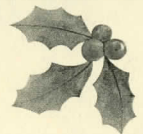
December 3
Christmas Open House
12:30 - 4:30 pm

No Room at the Inn
Nativity Display
January 6 & 7
12:00 - 3:00 pm

Fine Arts at the Homestead
1 pm each time
January 28
February 25
March 24
April 28

Exhibit
December, January
"Christmas Traditions"

Join us for our Christmas Open House

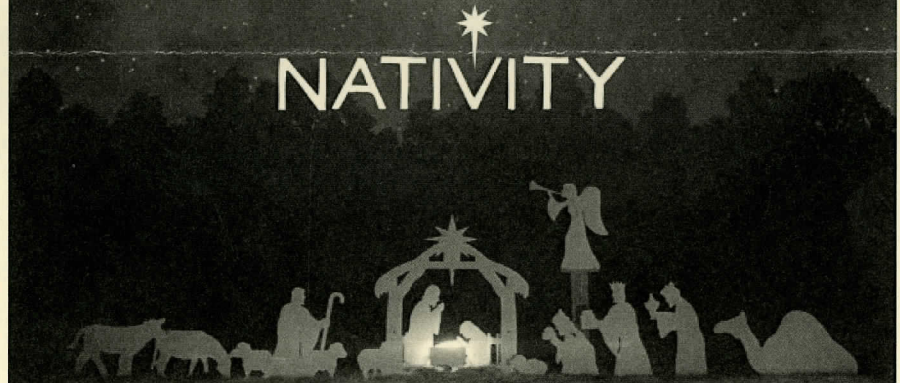


December 3
12:30 - 4:30 pm

Come and enjoy the Christmas atmosphere with the house decked out
in holiday splendor, music surrounding you and the aroma of hot punch
wafting through the air!

Be sure to also stop by and see our friends at the Oglesby Mansion on
the same day between 1:00 - 3:00 pm!

"O, Come let us adore Him..."



"No Room at the Inn"

A Nativity Display at the James Millikin Homestead
125 N. Pine Street, Decatur

Saturday and Sunday, January 6th and 7th
12 - 3 pm

Admission: \$5 per person; children under 10 are free.

All proceeds help support the preservation of this Decatur landmark.
As in past years, we host a nativity display this coming January. Over
one hundred sets will be spread throughout the Homestead and tell the
story of Christmas as interpreted by many different cultures.

We encourage you to participate as an exhibitor and share one or
more of your special creches. We will collect them right after New
Year and return them promptly after the exhibit. For details, please
contact Brigitta Kapp at 217-520-5182 or bkapp47@comcast.net.

From the President's Desk

As I look at the date on the calendar, it causes me to pause and reflect upon this busy time of year. My initial feelings are of panic—no matter when one starts to think about and prepare for the holidays, I always feel that I am not quite ready when they arrive. However, the thought of carrying on traditions is a motivator to make a plan that continues to foster the making of memories.

This sense of tradition is part of the fabric evident in our beloved James Millikin Homestead. Presently, we are preparing to decorate the Homestead, so it is festive when visitors come to our traditional Christmas Open House. We will be open from 12:30-4:30 pm on Sunday, December 3. Our times allow folks to visit either before or after the 2:00 pm Vesper performance at Millikin University—which is another Decatur tradition. We look forward to welcoming you.

Another tradition centers around the spirit of giving as we remember family and friends with cards and gifts. The Homestead traditionally reaches out to our members and friends with an Appeal Letter requesting that we be included in your end-of-the year giving. As a not-for-profit organization, we rely on the community's generous spirit to share their treasure with our treasured Homestead. Please be on the lookout for the arrival of this letter and as always, THANK YOU for your generosity.

May you and your family be blessed with good health and many opportunities in the new year.

Ann-Marie Hillyer
Board President

New Website for the Homestead

If you haven't noticed yet, we have a new website design! We are still at the same address - www.jamesmillikinhomestead.com

The new website is being managed by Homestead friend, Laura Shaw, and we are thankful for her expertise and ability to keep the website up to date. If you check it out you will find information regarding the Homestead, its history, picture galleries and videos, a blog, ways to get involved, and upcoming events. We are currently showcasing 7 events, scheduled between now and April of next year, so be sure to check them out!

FINE ARTS AT THE HOMESTEAD

In the first four months of the new year we feature local artists - poets, musicians, potters- at Sunday afternoon gatherings. Details on our website!

Taste of History was a Tasty Success!

Taste of History took place on Saturday, October 7th. Approximately 150 patrons visited the Homestead as part of this event. Our theme was "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz", and we focused on the original book published in 1900. We had tasty treats, wine, puzzles, music from board member, Jason Butterick, and a guest appearance by Dorothy and Toto! (Jodi Lockwood and her dog, Sophie). With the Homestead lit up as the Emerald City, guests were certainly able to get into the spirit of Oz! Many volunteers helped to make this event possible- thank you!

A Taste of History photo gallery is available on our Facebook page!

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS!

The Homestead board is pleased to welcome Lindsay Nolan, Tiffany Hall, Michael Sexton and Pattie Smith-Phillips.

Matching Gifts

It's great. You get in the mood for chocolate, you smooth out your dollar bill, you try more than once to feed it into the machine and make your selection. As you're watching your candy bar shake free, you see a second chocolate bar follow suit. Wow! Jackpot!

Matching gifts are the fundraising equivalent; for the time and cost of one donation, your chosen charity gets twice the dollar amount..

Socially responsible companies agree to financially match donations that their employees make to eligible causes. However, many eligible donors have no idea whether their companies offer such a program! As a result, more than a billion dollars in available matching gift funding goes unclaimed every year in the United States.

Non-profit charities like James Millikin Homestead Inc. need operating and capital dollars from these generous offerings.

Taking Advantage of Your Employee Match

Here is how you can make the most of your employee match program.

- Step one: Learn the rules. Some companies have a preferred list of charities they partner with, while others match gifts to any charity an employee may support. The match likely has an annual limit. If you don't know how your company's match program works, contact your Human Resources department today!

- Step two: Select a charity and make your donation. Be sure to keep proof of your donation.

- Step three: Typically, companies only need a receipt as proof of contribution and a single form requesting that they match the donation. Follow up and confirm that the match was made.

Don't leave money for social good on the table! Take advantage of your employee match program this year and every year.

Local Companies who match:

Ameren Illinois

Kohl's

J.P. Morgan Securities

Archer, Daniels, Midland

Pepsi-Cola

Walmart/Sam's Executive Level*

Busey Bank limited to April*

Stifel Financial

Greif Inc

Caterpillar (CAT)

United Healthcare

Frito Lay

Vulcan Materials Co.

- Busey Bank offers our Community Promise Month in April called Dollars for Donators! During that month associates can submit their donation receipt and submit into our system for a matching gift of up to \$250. Associates also receive a matching donation up to \$250 based on the number of hours they volunteer during April too!
- Walmart - Executive-level employees should search the company intranet for "matching gifts."

Thanks for Supporting the Homestead as an Organizational Member!



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James Millikin Homestead, Inc.

125 N. Pine St.
Decatur, IL 62522

Nonprofit Org.

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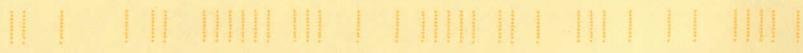
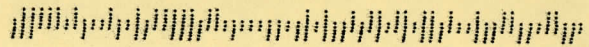
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Decatur, IL

Nola & Harold Wilkinson
150 S. Stevens Avenue
Decatur, IL 62522

6252231867 C025



**James Millikin Homestead
Board of Directors**

President Ann-Marie Hillyer
Vice President Jennifer Brandyberry
Secretary Nola Wilkinson
Treasurer Doug Warren
Past President Donna Williams

Board Members:

David Bowman Lindsay Nolan
Jason Butterick Christine Ossowski
Mike Gibson Deroan Peters
Tiffany Hall Michael Sexton
Brigitta Kapp Pattie Smith-Phillips
Karla Miller Kelly Springman
Ginny Murphy Jim Wilkerson



Please consider making your support of the James Millikin Homestead a part of your legacy by including the Homestead in your estate planning.



Not a member of the James Millikin Homestead? Memberships are inexpensive and the support you provide through a membership is immeasurable. Please contact the Homestead for more information.



Stay in touch with the James Millikin Homestead:

Facebook: James Millikin Homestead
Instagram: @jamesmillikinhomestead
Website: jamesmillikinhomestead.com
Email: jamesmillikin1876@gmail.com
Phone: 217-422-9003

Please leave a message and your call will be returned.

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**Mission
Statement**

Through the preservation of the Homestead, we engage, educate, and entertain visitors with the stories of the Millikins and Decatur.

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