



---

# Welcome to the Cumberland County Archives and Family Heritage Center

---



## A letter from the Archivist

Ah, December days are upon us. At this time of year, many of us turn our thoughts to celebrations from years gone by. From boisterous gatherings with friends to cozy family parties at our grandparents homes, we all have those special moments that make this season nostalgic. When looking back, one of the most pleasant December memories from my childhood was the telling of stories. All of the children would be seated around aunts or grandparents, anxiously waiting for them to begin speaking. The tales ranged from humorous, to cautionary, even ghostly. The telling of stories during Christmas gatherings is a long held tradition, especially in Appalachia. This year, whether you have large Christmas parties or choose a subdued holiday season, why not take some time to learn about those wonderful stories our friends, our family, or our community members have to offer.

(Lori D. Bowers, County Archivist/Historian)

---

## Genealogy Corner

### THIS MONTHS RESEARCH TIP

When researching ancestors, keep in mind that their names might have been recorded in other documents besides vital records.

Though sometimes more difficult to locate, land records can offer specific details. Also, don't forget to browse obscure sources such as society minutes, school registers, or community newspapers.





# Current Exhibit

## 1936 DECEMBER ADVERTISEMENTS

I wanted to bring a touch of holiday nostalgia to our first December exhibit. After randomly choosing the year 1936, I copied numerous advertisements found within all 1936 December microfilm editions of the Crossville Chronicle. These were matted and placed on stands within our curio cabinet. They will be on display until January 5<sup>th</sup> 2026.



## Coming Up

### WORKSHOPS/CLASSES

We will begin our new seminar classes in January. Times and dates will be announced on our social media sites and via our newsletters. Have a peaceful holiday season.



## Mystery Photo

### THIS MONTHS HIGHLIGHT

Group photo: Webb and Snodgrass 1915  
Do you recognize anyone in this photo?  
Contact us at  
[archives@artcirclelibrary.info](mailto:archives@artcirclelibrary.info)

# Stories From the Archives

Having chosen to share a story from 1936 for this month's holiday newsletter, I spent several hours reading through every December Crossville Chronicle newspaper from that year. With so many wonderful entries, I finally decided on a story published in the December 24<sup>th</sup> edition. *Christmas Carols* written by Katherine Edelman. *Warren Elmore was mad-angry through and through. For the first time in his business career he had a quarrel with his partner. Of course it had been all Peter's fault, but even that didn't help very much. The old saying, "It takes two to make a quarrel" kept bothering him. What was it that his wife had told him to get at Grant's? He asked himself the question as he entered the big department store. Hose for Muriel, that was it! Bother Christmas shopping anyway; why didn't Beverly tend to things herself? As he walked down the crowded aisles, he was conscious of music from the balcony. An orchestra was up there playing Christmas carols. Warren Elmore forgot his peeve against the world; he hurried up and joined the happy crowd. His voice joined in "O Little Town of Bethlehem". It was followed by the glorious "Adeste Fideles". Then came "Silent Night". As its beautiful strains filled the store, Warren Elmore was conscious that all anger was disappearing from his heart. He wanted to get back to the office, to slap Peter on the back, and tell him they were a pair of fools for letting such a small thing interfere with their friendship. And man-like, he purchased six pairs of hose for Muriel instead of three on the way out. A store that took time and thought for Christmas Carols should be rewarded a little bit, he believed. Have a blessed yuletide!*

(Lori D. Bowers, County Archivist/Historian)



Macy's Department Store, 1936

## Volunteer Opportunities

We are seeking volunteers to assist with indexing, genealogy research, and processing archival materials.

Interested? Contact us for further details.

**archives@artcirclelibrary.info**

931-456-2006



facebook.com/CumberlandCountyTNArchives  
@cumberlandcountyarchives

