

The first mural announcement made was an update of the Walldogs' largest original 1993 mural: the Round Barn mural in Knapp Park in Allerton!

Mural theme: Round Barn. This mural features the Nelson Round Barn, which is still standing one mile east of Allerton. It's the last surviving round barn in the county and one of the most well-preserved round barns in Iowa, recently winning an Iowa Barn Foundation award. The Round Barn was built by Ed Nelson in 1912. A local nonprofit, originally organized by David Wampler, Clell Bryan, and Bob Finley, saved the Round Barn from destruction in 1992. They've also preserved a Queen Anne house (1897), a restored one-room schoolhouse (Williams School, 1869), and a church (originally the New York Christian Church, 1887). The site is used regularly for everything from school programs to weddings and local events. You can learn more about the Round Barn at theroundbarn.org. The Round Barn

Location: This mural replaced the original mural in Knapp Park in Allerton. The mural was placed on a freestanding structure in front of the original mural. While the theme will be the same as the original 1993 mural, the design is new.

Lead Artist: Alicia Rheel. Alicia currently lives in Madison, WI, and has been painting since 1986. She's been a project lead for several other mural festivals, and you can learn more about her at www.rhealimagination.com/. The original artist for the 1993 mural is Bill Hueg from Minneapolis, MN. Bill chose Alicia to lead the new mural, but he attended with his granddaughter to help with the painting.



The second mural was another restoration - the Coca-Cola mural on the side of the Old Time Soda Fountain in Allerton!

Theme: Coca-Cola. This mural celebrates Allerton's historic soda fountain and pharmacy. The building was originally built in the late 1800s, and the soda fountain dates from the 1950s. After the soda fountain closed for the last time, a local community organization, led by Ross and Lorena Blount, purchased the building to save it from falling into disrepair. They raised funds to purchase and restore the soda fountain and other original contents. The soda fountain is once again fully functioning, serving malts, shakes, root beer floats, and other old-school treats. There is also a wonderful collection of pharmacy memorabilia to represent the history of pharmacies in Wayne County.

The soda fountain is operated by volunteers every Saturday evening during the summer, and is also available for parties and rentals. You can learn more about it on Facebook under Old Time Soda Fountain.

Location: This mural was painted over the existing Coca-Cola mural on the south side of the Old Time Soda Fountain. This is the only Walldogs mural that was painted directly on the bricks of the building.

Lead Artist: Ray Guzman. Ray was born in the Bronx and currently lives in Hoboken, NJ. He has been painting for over 30 years, and his inspirations span both urban and rural landscapes, often breathing nostalgic life into his subjects. You can find more about him at <https://rayguzmanstudio.com/>.



Our third mural announcement was a new one for Allerton: Allerton's Chautauquas!

Theme: Allerton's Chautauquas. Allerton organized a major Chautauqua from 1899 to 1931. Chautauquas were popular multi-day festivals held around the US, featuring speakers, musical performances, plays, bible studies, and other forms of entertainment and education. Allerton was located on two passenger rail lines and so could bring in major speakers and big crowds for these festivals. The estimated crowd for the first Chautauqua was 10,000 people.

Some notable speakers at the Allerton Chautauquas included Helen Keller (a famous blind/deaf author and speaker), William Jennings Bryan (a US Secretary of State and presidential candidate), Carrie Nation (a leader of the anti-saloon Prohibition movement), Booker T. Washington (the first leader of the Tuskegee Institute and a civil rights activist), and many other famous celebrities of the day.

The Chautauquas were held at Chautauqua Park, which still exists thanks to local volunteers at the south edge of Allerton on Hwy S26. Attendees could camp onsite and rent tents, cots, mattresses, pillows, blankets, tables, chairs, and stoves. Or, they could buy a meal in the dining tent for 25 cents.

The Chautauquas ended in 1931, likely due to a combination of the Depression and the availability of new entertainment like radios and talking motion pictures. But they're an important part of Allerton's early history and we're delighted to have a mural to commemorate them!

Location of Mural: Allerton City Hall. The mural will be painted on panels and installed on the space above City Hall (120 N Central Ave). It is five feet by 18 feet in size.

Lead Artist: Brent Logan. Brent was one of the original Walldogs in 1993, and we were excited to have him come back and lead this mural! Brent is based in Dubuque, IA, and has painted at a multitude of Walldogs event around the world.

*"Art is an international language . . .
Understood by all."*



The fourth mural announcement was another restoration in Allerton - the Six-Toed Cat! Theme: Six-Toed Cat. This mural commemorates the Inn of the Six-Toed Cat, and especially the six-toed cats that gave the inn its name. The original 1993 mural featured a multitude of cats. It was repainted and repositioned for this festival.

The hotel was one of Allerton's original railroad hotels, built by the Allerton Hotel Company in 1909 to accommodate travelers stopping over in Allerton while waiting for onward trains (or visiting our chautauquas!). It was especially useful for railroad conductors, who often stopped in Allerton and waited to change to their next train.

Throughout the 1930s, 1940s, and beyond, the hotel continued to operate while also renting space to local businesses, such as a beauty shop, a shoe shop, and a dentist. However, when passenger rail service in Allerton ended in 1967, the hotel suffered from a lack of railroad guests. It was eventually turned into small apartments, primarily for seniors.

In the 1980s, the hotel was reborn after being purchased by Bob Finley. He refurbished the hotel in its original Victorian style, creating a bed and breakfast with a variety of antiques and room themes that reflect Allerton's history. The hotel has continued after Bob's retirement and death, and is currently operated by Kay Boam and Celeste Bivin. They provide a wonderful service to Allerton by running the bed and breakfast for visitors, hunters, and other guests.

As for the six-toed cats: Bob Finley named the hotel after the six-toed cat that hung around the inn while he was refurbishing. Six-toed cats (also called polydactyl cats) are more famously located in Key West at Ernest Hemingway's former home and museum, and this mural will celebrate the uniqueness of these special cats. Find out more at: <http://www.6toedcat.com/inn-history>

Location: The south wall of the Inn of the Six-Toed Cat (200 N Central Ave, Allerton, IA). The original mural was on the Alley Cat (the former gift store / studio behind the Inn), but the new mural is on the side of the Inn itself.

Lead Artist: David Butler, Syracuse, IN. David was an original Walldog at the 1993 Allerton event and has participated in dozens of events around the world.

The fifth mural announcement is important to many people in our community: a new version of the POW-MIA mural that was painted in Allerton during the first Walldogs event in 1993.

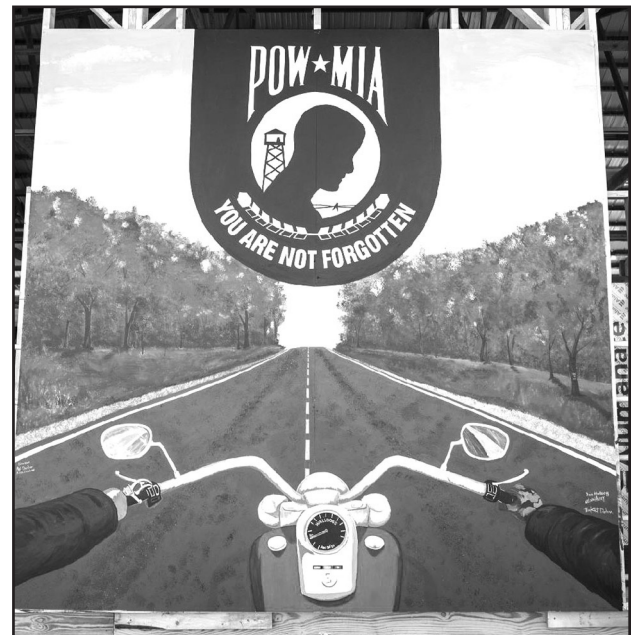
Theme: POW-MIA. The original mural featured the POW-MIA flag with a motorcycle rider. This mural honors the many American soldiers who have been held as prisoners of war or listed as missing in action. According to the US Department of Veterans Affairs, the idea for a POW-MIA flag was conceived in 1971 by Mrs. Michael Hoff, whose husband was a US military officer listed as missing in action during the Vietnam War. The flag's image was designed by Newt Heisley, a former World War II pilot.

The first National POW/MIA Recognition Day was proclaimed in 1979, acknowledging the more than 2,500 servicemembers listed as Prisoners of War or Missing in Action during the Vietnam War. The POW-MIA flag was officially recognized by Congress in 1990, and is flown at the US Capitol, the White House, national war memorials, national cemeteries, major military installations, and other government and military sites.

We deeply appreciated the Walldogs for bringing this mural back to Allerton. We continue to honor the memory of our missing and fallen troops, and are grateful for the service of all veterans in Wayne County and beyond.

Location: The north side of the building at 105 S Central Ave, Allerton (next to the Centennial Building), which is currently Carla Hackney's Healing Escape massage studio. When the mural was first painted in 1993, the building was owned by Lloyd Housley, who is a veteran of the Vietnam War.

Lead Artist: Glenn Avery, Rockford, IL. Glenn is an original Walldog. He painted the original POW-MIA mural in 1993, and we were so thankful that he came back to paint this mural again.



ALLERTON & WAYNE COUNTY IOWA
WHERE IT ALL BEGAN IN 1993

30 YEARS AND THOUSANDS OF WALLS

THANK YOU!
A big thank you to everyone that made the Walldog event a success and a special thank you for including our town and adding a big splash of color!
Humeston Fire Department

ALLERTON & WAYNE COUNTY IOWA
WHERE IT ALL BEGAN IN 1993

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THANK YOU!

Our communities are so fortunate to have the Walldog pieces of art now on display within our county. We can't thank everyone enough for their involvement in this great event.

City of Clio

THANK YOU!
We are so excited to have our Walldog displays on the side and back of our theatre. Thank you to all those that made this possible.

Wayne Theatre
110 N. Franklin, Corydon

Showing movies every
Fri., Sat., Sun.

ALLERTON & WAYNE COUNTY IOWA
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THANK YOU!
We appreciate all involved that helped restore the Coca-Cola mural on our wall as well as all the other pieces not only in Allerton, but across the county.
Old Time Soda Fountain
Allerton

THANK YOU!
It was great welcoming back the Walldogs to where it all began in Allerton. Thank you for restoring our beautiful murals. Our community is thankful for all of you!

Allerton Booster Club

ALLERTON & WAYNE COUNTY IOWA
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