



The sixth mural announcement was a brand new mural in Clio - featuring a baseball team from the late 1800s whose star pitcher was a Clio native!

Theme: The Shane Hill baseball team - active from 1878 to 1898. The original team was composed of boys from three pioneer families - the Whiteleys, Maytums, and Shanes - who all emigrated from England to Wayne County in the 1850s. The boys attended Shane Hill School, but as their fame grew, they played all over - not just in Wayne County, but in Iowa, Missouri and Kansas.

It's estimated that the Shane Hill team won over 85% of their games in those twenty years - and most of their losses came when an opposing team was 'stacked' with professional players.

As their reputation grew, they recruited other players from Wayne County, including a star pitcher from Clio named Hollie Souder. Souder perfected a curve ball that was nearly impossible to hit. A recruiter from the New York Giants came by train to southern Iowa just to watch Souder pitch. Souder was offered a five-year contract with the New York Giants, and he played professional baseball for several years before retiring and moving back to Clio.

The Shane Hill team fully disbanded in the early 1900s, although they played two exhibition games in Seymour and Allerton in 1918 to raise funds for the Red Cross and World War I. Even with all the players in their 60s, they won their last two games.

Fun fact: Shane Hill School was two miles north of the town of Warsaw, which is a ghost town that has disappeared from Wayne County. Warsaw was at the intersection of what is now 140th St. and Davis St., approximately eight miles east of Clio. Shane Hill School was near 140th and Fillmore St.

Location: This mural is on the north side of the Branded Design Photography Studio in Clio, IA, which is a recently restored brick building that is a great home for the new mural.

Lead Artist: Wade Lambrigtsen from Menomonie, WI, and co-lead Niko Alexander from Minneapolis, MN. Wade owns a sign shop (www.vintagesignshop.com) and Niko has worked as the creative director for the University of Minnesota Golden Gophers (<http://nikoalexander.com/>).

Special thanks to Prairie Trails Museum of Wayne County for sharing more info about Shane Hill, including some great information written by Shelda Lunsford about the team.

The ninth mural celebrates our beloved Wayne Theatre in Corydon, which received a new mural in honor of its contribution to the arts in Wayne County!

Theme: Gone With the Wind. The Wayne Theatre was built in 1936 and owned by brothers Frank and Floyd Smith. At the time, it was revolutionary - it featured the largest movie screen in Iowa at the time, as well as an incredible acoustic experience, which was important as "talkies" had replaced silent films by this time. It was built in a modified Art Deco style using cinder blocks, which was still a new construction material when the theatre was built.

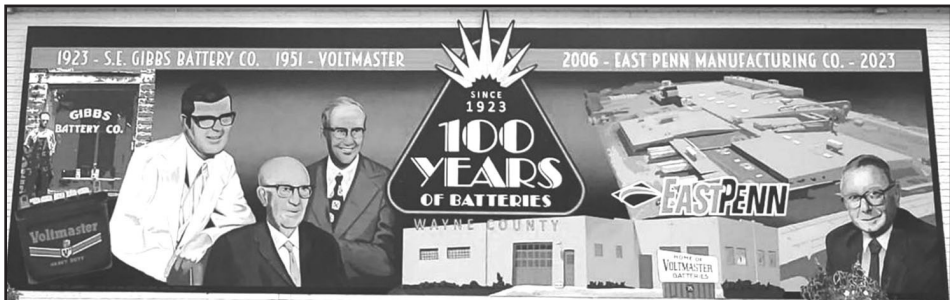
The building also housed a candy kitchen and a barber shop.

In 1939, the Smith brothers installed dual carbon arc projectors specifically so that they could show the movie "Gone With the Wind." These projectors, with some modifications, were in use until 1991. One of the projectors and the original popcorn machine are now on display at Prairie Trails Museum of Wayne County.

The theatre closed in the 1980s. In the early 1990s, two local groups, Wayne County Arts Council - WAYCO and Corydon Community Betterment, bought the theatre and restored it to its original glory. The theatre has shown movies nearly every weekend since then, and is still operated by volunteers. It has also been updated with digital projection so that it can show the latest movies as soon as they're released.

Location: The mural was painted on panels and installed on the north side of the Wayne Theatre building in Corydon.

Lead Artist: Miranda Ensink, Amsterdam, Netherlands. Miranda is an experienced muralist who has participated in many Walldogs events around the world. We were thrilled she came all the way to Wayne County to design this mural! You can see more of her work at <https://www.signpaintersandco.com/>.



The seventh mural is a new mural in Corydon, featuring the history of battery manufacturing in Wayne County!

Theme: 100 Years of Batteries. Mr. S E Gibbs manufactured the first battery in Wayne County in his garage in 1923. In 1925, he and F. Bird Fry incorporated their business as Gibbs Battery Company, Inc. They operated out of a brick building north of the Corydon Lumberyard, where Hy-Vee is today. In 1928, F. Bird Fry's son Laurence joined the business, and it was his engineering skill that kept the business running during the Depression and World War II.

By 1938, the company employed 26-30 people and manufactured 10,000-15,000 batteries per year. They also developed a successful side business manufacturing "GB Oil Mixed Soap" - a special soap designed to prevent mechanics from burning their hands with battery acid. During World War II, they had major contracts with the US Armed Services for their soap, and at the height of the war, they were filling 1000 two-pound cans of soap per hour!

In 1951, Laurence Fry and three others purchased Gibbs' business and renamed it Voltmaster Battery Company, Inc. They constructed a 4800sqft factory on the west edge of Corydon, where the battery factory is still located (in a much larger space!) today.

Roger Winslow joined Voltmaster in 1957 and purchased it from L.L. Fry (his father-in-law) in 1972. Winslow successfully grew the company into one of the largest employers in Wayne County, creating a major business that has had a large economic impact on our county. Voltmaster later sold to East Penn Manufacturing in 2006. East Penn is one of the largest battery manufacturers in the world and continues to operate the Corydon facility today.

There will be a big exhibit about "100 Years of Batteries" at the Prairie Trails Museum later this year, so stay tuned!

Location: The east side of the bandstand in the Corydon Square.

Lead Artist: Sonny Franks, Russ Kelly and Eric Skinner from Atlanta, GA and Ontario, Canada. As "the Wingnuts", the three of them have designed and painted murals at multiple Walldogs festivals around the US.



The eighth mural announcement is perfect for celebrating Lineville Bordertown Day annually. The Walldogs painted an "Eagle, Flag and Fireworks" which is perfect for the town.

Theme: "Eagle, Flag, and Fireworks" was chosen because its elements fit well with Lineville's history. The eagle is part of the overall patriotic theme, but it is also an important tribute to the history of the Lineville-Clio school and its Eagles mascot. Many people associate Lineville with the fireworks that bring so much joy to Fourth of July celebrations throughout the area. And the combination of the eagle, flag, and fireworks will create a beautiful patriotic display to welcome visitors who are entering or leaving Lineville and Wayne County.

Location: This mural was previously planned for the Lineville MFA silo however due to circumstances beyond local control, Mayor Jack Shields and the Lineville City Council agreed to placing a freestanding structure on the north side of the Lineville square in the empty area on the north side of Third Street.

Lead Artist: Scott Lindley from Mt. Pulaski, IL. Scott has painted at dozens of Walldogs events and created the huge design for this mural.



The 10th mural was placed in Promise City as a new mural to celebrate Amy Robertson, who was a major contributor to life in Promise City and Wayne County through much of the 20th Century!

Theme: Amy Robertson. Amy was born in 1897, as the only child of Greenleaf and Iona Robertson. Her father and uncle owned the Robertson Bros General Store from 1892-1942, on the site of the current Promise City Community Center.

Amy studied music at Simpson College and earned a masters in music for DePaul university. In the 1940s, Amy and a partner started a toy factory in the old brick bank building that still stands on Main Street in Promise City. At their height, they made 2000 wooden toys daily, selling them in stores like Sears, Younkers, and Marshall Fields. They eventually closed the toy factory after plastic toys came on the market and rendered wooden toys obsolete.

Amy was deeply involved in Wayne County organizations. She helped raise money for the Wayne County Hospital in 1955, and was president of the Wayne County Historical Society from 1955 to 1992, which helped our historical society's membership to become the largest in the state of Iowa at the time. She oversaw the construction of the original brick museum building in 1966, the addition on the east side in 1971, the addition on the west side in 1976, and another addition to the west wing in the 1980s, which includes furniture and memorabilia from her home and toy factory.

Amy also donated the lot where her father's general store once stood to create the Promise City Community Center. She contributed substantial funds to build the center. She also gave generously to many other local causes and established a scholarship for local students at Simpson College.

Location: This mural is on the Promise City Community Center.

Lead Designer: Noel Weber. Noel cofounded the Letterheads mural group and has been painting murals and signs for decades. You can find him at <https://noelbweber.com/>.



Mural number 11 of 16 is a new mural in Corydon, featuring art inspired by the 1980's Farm Aid movement and Wayne County's family farms.

Theme: Farm Aid. Efforts to help support local farmers, starting in the 1980's and continuing now, have included multiple instances of organization and support within the community. Nationally, the Farm Aid organization and concerts started in 1985, after artists like Bob Dylan and Willie Nelson saw how farmers were being impacted by economic challenges across the Midwest.

The Farm Aid concerts were used to raise awareness and funds for family farmers, and Farm Aid continues to support farms through advocacy and mental health support for farmers and their families.

The mural is inspired by local coverage from newspapers in the 1980s, including several images that were included in an Iowa PBS documentary in 2013, as well as national imagery regarding Farm Aid. We'll explore this topic in greater detail when we launch the "Wayne County Mural Trail" website later this year.

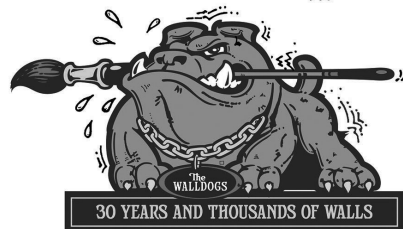
Location: The north wall of Redeemed, on the west side of the Corydon Square. Redeemed is a nonprofit second-hand store that shares their proceeds by giving grants to local organizations, and we are grateful for their support!

Lead Artist: Elaine Wallis from Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada. Elaine has owned a sign business since 1983 and has painted at many previous Walldogs events, and we were lucky to have her in Wayne County this summer!

THANK YOU!

Our Walldog art is proudly on display on it's new home and we are thankful for being included in this amazing countywide event. Thank you to everyone involved from start to finish!

ALLERTON & WAYNE COUNTY IOWA
WHERE IT ALL BEGAN IN 1993



City of Seymour

THANK YOU!

We are so happy to welcome our new Walldog mural to our town. Thank you for including our community in this wonderful event!

City of Humeston

ALLERTON & WAYNE COUNTY IOWA
WHERE IT ALL BEGAN IN 1993

