

MARCH 2017

at THE FILSON



1310 South Third Street
Louisville, Kentucky 40208
www.filsonhistorical.org
502.635.5083

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Louisville, KY
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The Filson Historical Society

Our Mission

To collect, preserve, and tell the significant stories of Kentucky and Ohio Valley history and culture.

SAVE THE DATE

Current Exhibits at The Filson

The Filson currently has three exhibits open. Tours of these exhibits and of the Ferguson Mansion will be given daily at 2:00 p.m.

1. To the Polls! Presidential Campaigns and Elections
2. Moments in Time: The Power of Pictures
3. The Rogers Clark Ballard Thruston Mountain Photograph Collection, 1882-1905

“To the Polls! Presidential Campaigns and Elections” and “Moments in Time: The Power of Pictures” will be closing on Thursday, March 9, 2017 in preparation for our upcoming World War I exhibit.

FRIDAY, APRIL 7

5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. • The Filson Historical Society
Free

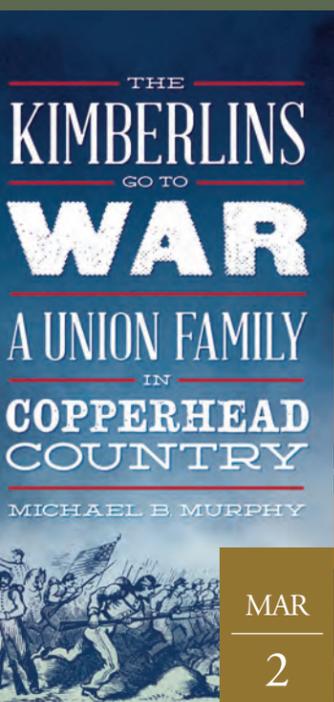
Exhibit Opening Remembering the Great War at The Filson

April marks the 100th anniversary of America's entrance into World War I. To commemorate the occasion, The Filson Historical Society is recounting the stories of Louisvillians who served both abroad and at home. Join us on Friday, April 7 for the public opening of two new exhibits showcasing the letters, photographs, posters, uniforms, and other personal effects of the men and women who fought and shaped war efforts in Louisville. In addition to the exhibits, World War I lectures and events will be offered beginning in April and continue throughout the spring and summer months—be sure and check back for updates.

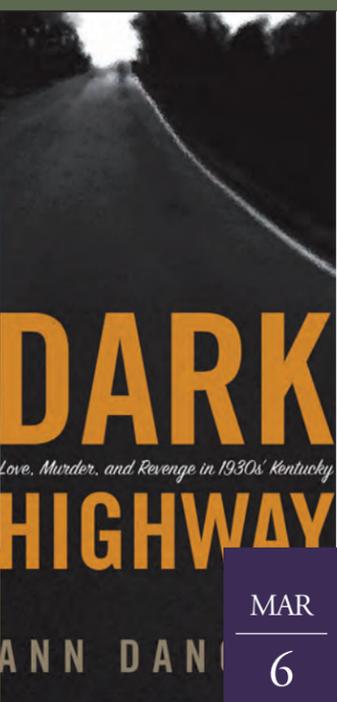
MARCH

at THE FILSON

Kentucky's Largest & Oldest Independent Historical Society



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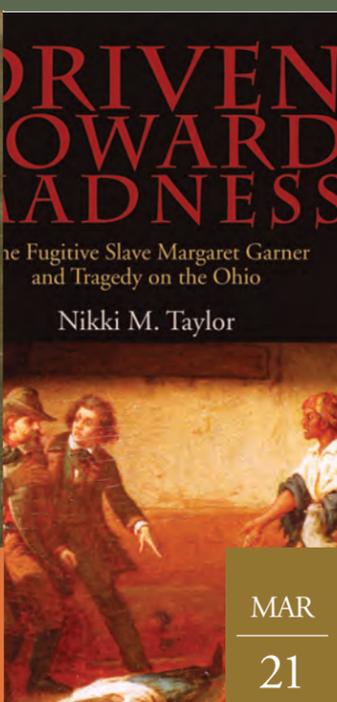
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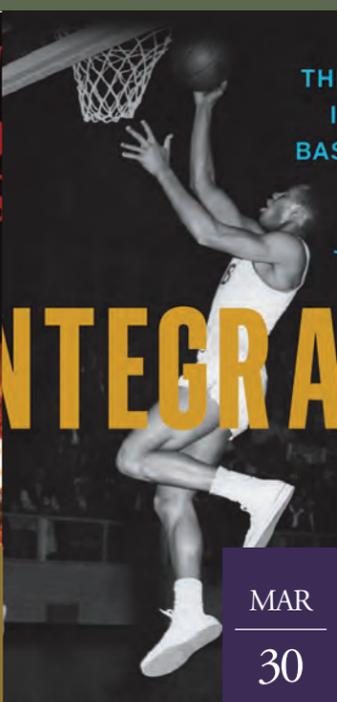
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MARCH 2017 PROGRAMS

Call The Filson at (502) 635-5083 - Reservations are requested to ensure seating for all programs.

All programs are free for Filson members and \$10 for non-members unless otherwise noted.

The Dan and Frances Street Hall and Caperton Hall are equipped with copper wire hearing loops to assist patrons with hearing devices.

THURSDAY, MARCH 2

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. • The Filson Historical Society

Free for members, \$10 non-members

The Kimberlins Go to War: A Union Family in Copperhead Country

Michael B. Murphy

As July 7, 1861 dawned, war was in the air in Lexington, Indiana. The county seat of Scott County was abuzz with the latest news of the southern rebellion. The *Madison Daily and Evening Courier* told of skirmishes between Federal troops and “secesh” forces at Harpers Ferry and Falling Waters, Virginia. Closer to home, word had come that William A. Sanderson had organized a new outfit, the Twenty-Third Indiana, and was recruiting throughout the Second Congressional District for men to join the regiment. Although Scott County had been rife with sympathy and support for the South, answering the call to serve the Union cause from the county were Jacob T. Kimberlin, a twenty-one-year-old farmhand; his older brother, John J. Kimberlin; and his cousins, William H. H. Kimberlin, Benjamin F. Kimberlin, and James Stark. These five young men could not have known at the time that none of them would ever again see their homes. They only knew that the Kimberlins were going to war.

Michael B. Murphy is senior vice president at Hiron and Company, an Indianapolis advertising and public relations firm, and chairman of the board at Monarch Beverage. Murphy received his degree in American studies from the University of Notre Dame and his master's degree in history from Indiana University Purdue University at Indianapolis in 2009.

MONDAY, MARCH 6

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. • The Filson Historical Society

Free for members, \$10 non-members

Dark Highway: Love, Murder, and Revenge in 1930s Kentucky

Ann DAngelo

On a cold November night in 1936, the body of beautiful businesswoman Verna Garr Taylor was found in a ditch along a lonely highway in rural Kentucky. Verna had been shot through the heart, and her fiancé, former lieutenant governor and brigadier general Henry Denhardt insisted she committed suicide. But the clues left behind point to murder, and General Denhardt quickly became the target of investigators. The general's sensational murder trial drew reporters from all over the country to the small Kentucky community. The case was featured in the *New York Times*, the *London Herald*, *Newsweek*, *Time*, *Life*, and other national and international publications. When the trial ended in a hung jury, Kentuckians — including Verna's three angry and grieving brothers — waited in grim anticipation for the general to be tried again.

Ann DAngelo is a licensed Kentucky attorney with an undergraduate degree in history from the University of Louisville and a juris doctor degree from Salmon P. Chase College of Law.



THURSDAY, MARCH 9

5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. • The Filson Historical Society

Free for members, \$10 non-members

Our Nixon

Bryan L. Frye

Throughout Richard Nixon's presidency, three of his top White House aides obsessively documented their experiences with Super 8 home movie cameras. This unique and personal visual record, created by H.R. Haldeman, John Ehrlichman and Dwight Chapin, was seized by the FBI during the Watergate investigation, then filed away at the National Archives, and forgotten for almost 40 years.

Our Nixon is an all-archival documentary presenting those home movies for the first time, along with other rare footage, creating an intimate and complex portrait of the Nixon presidency as never seen before. Haldeman, Ehrlichman and Chapin filmed over 500 reels of home movies from 1969 to 1973, capturing the prosaic and the profound. They filmed big events: the Apollo moon landing, historic anti-war protests, the Republican National Convention, Tricia Nixon's White House wedding and Nixon's world-changing trip to China. They filmed world leaders and celebrities: Nicolae Ceausescu, Chou En-lai, Barbara Walters. But they also filmed each other and everyday life. They filmed because they thought that Nixon's presidency



would change the world forever. The tragedy is that they were right.

Brian L. Frye is a filmmaker, writer, and professor of law. His films explore relationships between history, society, and cinema through archival and amateur images.

The Filson will be offering a guided tour of the exhibit at 5:30 p.m. with the documentary and Q&A session following the tour.

TUESDAY, MARCH 14

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. • The Filson Historical Society

Free for members, \$10 non-members

The Most Sung Music in History: The Hill Sisters, “Happy Birthday,” and the Louisville Kindergartens

Ann Taylor Allen

“Happy Birthday” is probably the most widely-known song in the entire world. It has been translated into many languages and is popular among people of all ages. Yet most people assume that it is a folk song that emerged from a timeless and anonymous tradition. On the contrary, it was the product of a purposeful creative process undertaken by two highly qualified professionals: the educator Patty Smith Hill and the composer Mildred Hill, both of Louisville. The Hill sisters belonged to a remarkable family who helped to make Louisville a center of social reform during the Progressive Era. I will tell the “back story” of the song: the women who created it, the children who sang it, the ideas that inspired it, and the process through which it gained world-wide popularity.

Ann Taylor Allen, who received her undergraduate degree from Bryn Mawr College and her doctoral degree from Columbia University, is a Professor Emerita of history at the University of Louisville, Kentucky.

TUESDAY, MARCH 21

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. • The Filson Historical Society

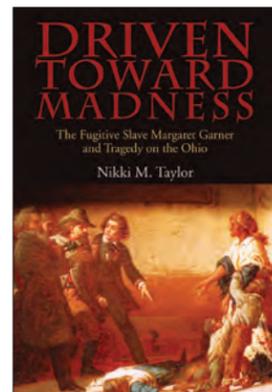
Free for members, \$10 for non-members

Driven toward Madness

Nikki M. Taylor

The story of Margaret Garner—the runaway slave who, when confronted with capture, slit the throat of her toddler daughter rather than have her face a life in slavery. As an enslaved woman, Garner left only faint traditional historical footprints: she could not read or write, and she left no diary, letters, or personal papers, obliterating the opportunity to know with certainty what she thought or believed. Although she is one of the few runaway slaves ever to testify at her own hearing, there are no extant official transcripts. Local papers covered it, but summarized her testimony. In the wake of the killing, various factions appropriated her as differing symbols, each with its own audience and purpose (from hero of slave resistance to black bogeyman).

Nikki M. Taylor is a professor of African American history at Howard University. Her other books include *Frontiers of Freedom: Cincinnati's Black Community, 1802–1868* and *America's First Black Socialist: The Radical Life of Peter H. Clark*.



THURSDAY, MARCH 30

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. • The Filson Historical Society

Free for members, \$10 for non-members

Integrated: The Lincoln Institute, Basketball, and a Vanished Tradition

James W. Miller

In *Integrated*, James W. Miller explores an often ignored aspect of America's struggle for racial equality. He relates the story of the Lincoln Institute—an all-black high school in Shelby County, Kentucky, where students prospered both in the classroom and on the court. In 1960, the Lincoln Tigers men's basketball team defeated three all-white schools to win the regional tournament and advance to one of Kentucky's most popular events, the state high school basketball tournament. This proud tradition of African American schools—a celebration of their athletic achievements—was ironically destroyed by integration.

James W. Miller is the retired athletics director at the University of New Orleans. Prior to his tenure there, he spent eleven years as a newspaper reporter and twenty-one years in the NFL, where he held positions with the New Orleans Saints, Buffalo Bills, and Chicago Bears. He is the author of *Where the Water Kept Rising*.