Summit County History Web Sites: A Growing Resource
by Cheri Goldner, Librarian

If you have an interest in local history, we hope you’ll visit www.SummitMemory.org, the collaborative, online scrapbook administered by the Library, to check out the site’s new design and latest exhibits. Many other local governments, historical organizations, and historians offer Web sites, blogs, or Facebook pages with digitized content. Their photos and documents are making it easier to research or reminisce about Summit County’s history. Like all digital collections, these sites are works in progress and will change over time, so be sure to check back often. The following are just a few examples of what’s currently available. If you’d like to submit a site for us to include in a later issue of Past Pursuits, please contact us at 330-643-9030 or speccollections@akronlibrary.org.

The City of Akron: History of Akron
www.akronohio.gov/cms/site/e6643f0add40bfe8/index.html
This Web site includes timelines of general Akron history, black history, and a list of mayors. It also includes digitized copies of two brochures produced in the 1940s by the Akron Chamber of Commerce.

University Libraries Archival Services Digital Collections
In our Autumn 2012 issue, we featured the University of Akron (UA)’s Digital Resource Commons (DRC), an online repository of images from collections in the University’s Archival Services. The DRC will be terminated on December 31, but the images will remain available on the new site above. The site contains nearly 29,000 images, most of them from a collection of Goodyear negatives showing rarely
seen images of factory work, company events, and a wide variety of rubber projects and lighter-than-air flight. Also included are images from the papers of African American photographer, publisher, and businessman Opie Evans and more than 400 photographs of the University of Akron. The site uses the same software that we use for Summit Memory (CONTENTdm) and functions very similarly.

**Akron Women’s History**
http://blogs.uakron.edu/womenshistory
Produced by the Women’s History Project of the Akron Area (WHP), which recently merged with the Summit County Historical Society, this site is maintained by the University of Akron. It documents the many contributions that women have made and continue to make to the Akron area. Photographs are still being uploaded to the new blog format, but biographies are available. Users may search for a woman’s name or use the links provided to browse biographies by time period.

**The History of Akron & Summit County**
www.akronhistory.org
This site collects, preserves, and digitizes various media in order to present the history of Summit County. The site is maintained by author and local history buff Jeri Holland with the assistance of Rodney Johnson and Michael Cohill. The site is organized into categories such as Architecture, Businesses, Citizens, and Crimes & Disasters, with links to pages on specific topics. Many of these include historic photographs. The group also has a Facebook page (www.facebook.com/akronhistory) where Johnson posts historic photographs and information. His “Where am I at?” series posts images from historic sites within the county and asks fans of the page to identify them.

**Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society**
http://cuyahogafallshistory.com
The Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society partners with Jeri Holland on this site, which is in blog format. Use the "Navigate History" drop-down menu to find photos and narratives on specific topics including Businesses & Buildings, Citizens & Families, and Parks.

**Green Historical Society**
http://www.greenhistoricalsociety.com
The “Our Archive” link at the top of the page leads to pages on a variety of topics, including Green’s five hamlets, early settlers, historic homes, and local landmarks. The site includes numerous postcards, maps, and photographs in slideshow format. There is a section on the Evangelical Movement and Greensburg Seminary, and the Local History References section includes transcribed lists of original land patent holders. Be sure to try both clicking on and hovering over the “Our Archive” link, as each action provides different options.

**Boston Township**
www.bostontownship.org/history.phtml
The History section of Boston Township’s Web site includes articles on topics such as Boston Park, Township Hall, roads and cemeteries, a list of trustees and clerks since 1811, summaries of township minutes since 1811, and a listing of warrants (checks) prepared by clerks from 1917 through 1951. The site also includes a Community History Project to which people can contribute by loaning old photographs or documents for scanning. To contribute, contact Trustee Randy Bergdorf, who is also director of the Peninsula Library and Historical Society and author of many of the articles on the Boston Township site.
Richfield Historical Society
www.richfieldohiohistoricalsociety.org
The “Photo Gallery” link leads users to the Society’s Flickr account, which includes more than 1,200 historic photographs of century homes, citizens, schools, and more. Click on the “Sets” tab in Flickr to view the photographs by these categories. The site also includes pages about a driving tour of Underground Railroad locations and early Richfield history.

Historical Society of Olde Northfield
www.hson.info
This site includes a chronology of significant events and lists of local veterans, including photographs. There are also scanned newspaper articles, books and pamphlets, information on early settlers and local residents of note, and several Nordonia Hills community slide shows.

Bath Township
www.bathtownship.org/History/Township%20History%20Web%202.htm
Bath Township’s History page provides an overview of the township’s history as well as links to a transcript of remarks made by trustees during a celebration of the township’s 175th anniversary in 1993. There is also a list of township officials, a timeline through 1970, and a history of roads and transportation.

Free Online Genealogy Resources: Ohio
by Iris Bolar, Librarian

This is the first in a series of articles covering free online genealogy resources for states commonly researched in Special Collections.

Free online resources for Ohio genealogical research can be found both at the county and state levels. Because county-level Internet resources around Ohio are too plentiful to cover here, this article will focus on multi-county resources for researching Ohio ancestors.

FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org)
We cannot discuss free online genealogical resources without mentioning the collections of FamilySearch. Some of the most commonly used Ohio records on this site are the digitized Ohio death certificates for December 1908-1953. Special Collections also maintains this collection on microfilm. Other Ohio collections, such as county marriage and naturalization records, are on FamilySearch. Significant for Summit County researchers are admittance and employment cards for Edwin Shaw Hospital through the database Ohio, Summit County, Coroner Inquests, Hospital and Cemetery Records, 1882-1947.

Ohio Genealogical Society (www ogs.org)
The Ohio Genealogical Society (OGS) has several free online Civil War tools to help you with research. Its Ohio Civil War Genealogy Center Database Set includes name and subject indexes to Ohio Civil War Genealogy Journal, available in Special Collections. Names of Civil War soldiers from Ohio units, a roster of the Society of Civil War Families of Ohio, and Confederate burials at Camp Chase Cemetery in Columbus are included. The database set may be searched as a whole or individually. Another military database through OGS is the Ohio Revolutionary War Veterans Index. The index is a work in progress, but it currently contains
8,220 Revolutionary War veterans who lived in Ohio or who may have been buried in Ohio. On the civilian side, OGS provides access to the Ohio Divorce Index. Though not complete, the index includes 1,492,894 entries between 1962 and 1996. Several Ohio lineage society rosters and other databases are freely available through OGS.

Ohio Historical Society (www.ohiohistory.org)
Ohio Memory is a joint project of the Ohio Historical Society (OHS) and the State Library of Ohio. It is an online collection of photographs, images of objects, and documents contributed by libraries, archives, and historical societies. Explore by collection name, subject, place, or contributing institution and narrow results by format. There is also a link to a collection of digitized Ohio newspapers. The African American Experience in Ohio, 1850-1920 is a digital collection that provides access to photographs, manuscripts, newspapers, and other items. The War of 1812 Roster of Ohio Soldiers is a database that has been transcribed from the Adjutant General’s official roster and links to page images. OHS also provides access to the Boys and Girls Industrial Schools database, which indexes the case records of youth sent to “reform school.” Currently, it consists of admission records for the Girls Industrial School from 1869 to 1943 and admission records for the Boys Industrial School from 1858 to 1944. Search by name to bring up a list of matching results. Click on the “Help” link for information about the records and instructions for ordering copies.

Other free Ohio resources
- The Ohio Obituary Index of the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center indexes obituaries from 60 partner institutions, including Akron-Summit County Public Library. There are over two million obituaries indexed in the database with more added daily. Instructions for ordering obituaries and contact information for the participating institutions are included in entries.
- OhioCivilWar.org is an archive of contributed information on Ohio’s Civil War servicemen. You can search or browse the site’s categories.
- The Ohio Chapter, United States Daughters of 1812 has created the Index to Grave Records of Servicemen of the War of 1812, State of Ohio. It currently contains about 9,500 names. The records include name, birth year and state, death year, cemetery name, and county. There are links to more details for each person—at least rank and company—and sometimes headstone photos are included. You can search by name or view listings by cemetery or county.
- An index to the admissions applications of the Ohio Soldiers & Sailors Orphans Home is available on the Greene County Public Library Web site. Over 3,500 applications from 1877-1919 are indexed.

Tips for locating free county-level online resources
- Check Ohio Genealogical Society Chapter Web sites.
- Look at genealogy and local history sections of Ohio library Web sites.
- Look for research tools on local historical society Web sites.
- Check the sites that libraries and genealogy organizations list as links. You may find additional local genealogy resources.

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Winter 2013
Getting to Know…
Salaria Kea O’Reilly
by Judy James, Division Manager

As a black girl growing up in Akron in the 1920s, young Salaria Kea encountered numerous obstacles and racial prejudice. A bright student who loved sports, she was unable to play on Central High’s basketball team because of her race. At the urging of her brothers, the Akron School Board agreed to transfer her to West High where she was permitted to play for the basketball and tennis teams. When she was denied entrance to the nursing program at People’s Hospital in 1931, she remained undeterred. At the encouragement of local black physician Dr. Bedford Riddle, she applied to the Harlem School of Nursing and was accepted.

Following her graduation in 1934, she was employed by Harlem Hospital and worked to eliminate discriminatory practices and conditions there. Her activism continued with her work to gather medical supplies for Ethiopia following Italy’s raid in 1935-36. When Mussolini moved into Spain, Salaria volunteered with the Medical Bureau to Aid Spanish Democracy, also known as the Abraham Lincoln Brigade. This American volunteer unit consisted of 2,800 men and women who served to help fight fascism during the Spanish Civil War. Salaria was the only black nurse who served with this unit. One day, while walking along the side of a road in Lerida, Spain, Salaria was captured by German forces and held prisoner for more than seven months. Her pamphlet A Negro Nurse in Republican Spain describes how she was held in an underground cell, brought up only occasionally to witness the execution of civilians. Rescued by a monk, she escaped in the middle of the night.

Salaria met her husband Pat O’Reilly during her time in Spain. An Irishman, Pat also served as a freedom-fighting volunteer for the International Brigade. Despite their mutual attraction, they agreed that a relationship would be a distraction from their important work. After two months, Pat posed a question. “Would you let the reactionaries take away the only thing a poor man deserved, and that thing is his right to marry the one he loved and believed loved him?” With these words, he convinced Salaria to marry him. Very soon after their wedding in 1937, Pat left to serve through the end of World War II. They were not reunited for seven years.

Following the Spanish Civil War, Salaria returned to the United States where she worked as a nursing instructor. When World War II broke out she tried to enlist, but was again turned down due to her race. After President Roosevelt lifted this ban, she was drafted and served at a hospital in France. At the close of the war, Salaria and Pat settled in New York. She worked as a nurse in Harlem, and he was employed by the New York City Transit Authority as a railroad engineer. Although Salaria loved children, their only child died at the age of six weeks. In 1973, the couple moved to Akron where two of her brothers and their families lived. They lived quietly and modestly until Pat died in 1987. Salaria followed in 1990.

To learn more about Salaria and to read her pamphlet, visit the Abraham Lincoln Brigade Archives.
New Archival Collections
by Mary Plazo, Librarian, and Rebecca Larson-Troyer, Librarian

The Cauffield Family Collection
The Special Collections Division has received a unique collection of photographs and items related to the Cauffield family of Summit County.

The collection includes portraits of Dr. Edwin James Cauffield and his parents, Thomas and Catharine Milliken Cauffield, who were of Irish origin. Dr. Cauffield was a prominent physician in Akron from 1897 into the 1940s. Before moving his practice to Akron he owned a practice in Middlefield, Ohio. While in Akron he met Mildred Grace Wetmore, whom he married in November 1898. Mildred was the only daughter of Henry Wallace Wetmore, a prominent Akron businessman, and Rachel Ruckel Wetmore.

Dr. Cauffield was the Supreme Medical Director of an early insurance cooperative, the Chevaliers. He and his wife had three children, Doris, Margaret, and Edwin, who followed in his father’s footsteps and became a physician in Akron.

The collection contains a photo of Dr. Cauffield with his brothers Samuel, John, and Burt. There is also a photo of Mildred Cauffield and Rachel Wetmore in front of their three-story Italianate mansion at 518 (later 250) West Market Street, probably taken in 1879. This lovely home was torn down and is now the location of the Akron Family Restaurant. Another item in the collection is a photo of a family reunion at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Cauffield at 81 Mayfield Avenue. A copy of the wedding announcement of Margaret Cauffield and Donald VanBuskirk and photos of their daughter, Joyce, are also included. Joyce and her brother Joel were born in 1933 and 1934 in Akron.

We would like to give special thanks to Jennifer Cauffield for this wonderful collection. The collection is ongoing and there will be additional items added very soon.

The Sherwood Kessell Collection
The Sherwood Kessell Collection includes over 300 historic postcards, as well as materials pertaining to the Mayflower Hotel and Lakeside Park. The postcards, which depict numerous sites and vistas of the Portage Lakes area, have been digitized and added to Summit Memory. They offer unique views, many of which were not previously available online. This collection was generously donated by Sherwood “Woody” Kessell.

Summit County Fiscal Office Records
The Summit County Historical Society (SCHS) has recently acquired several historic record books of the Summit County Fiscal Office. Among these books, covering the late 1800s and early 1900s, are records pertaining to Summit County school districts, road and bridge improvement projects, City of Akron disbursements, and county disbursements and bonds. As part of the SCHS archival collection, these new acquisitions are housed in Special Collections.
Special Collections Main Library Class Schedule
For more information and to register, contact us at 330-643-9030 or speccollections@akronlibrary.org. Classes are also held at Library branches. To see the most current branch schedule, visit http://sc.akronlibrary.org/classes-events/.

Getting Started in Family History
Are you interested in discovering your family’s history or tracing your genealogy? The Special Collections Division is pleased to offer orientation sessions for new family historians. Each session will include an overview of the resources available at the Akron-Summit County Public Library, suggestions for getting started and tips for organizing your research.
Saturday, January 4, 10 am-noon: Main Library, Meeting Room 2AB
Saturday, March 15, 10 am-noon: Main Library, Meeting Room 2AB

Branching Out: U.S. Vital Records and Obituaries
In this class, participants will learn the types of information and sources encountered in genealogy research, and what to expect when working with United States vital (birth, marriage and death) records and obituaries. Basic search strategies for finding these records in both online and traditional sources will also be discussed. Because this class will use Internet resources, basic computer skills are recommended.
Saturday, January 18, 10 am-noon: Main Library, Meeting Room 2AB
Saturday, March 29, 10 am-noon: Main Library, Meeting Room 2AB

Finding Your Family in the U.S. Census
United States census records are valuable resources when you are researching your genealogy. Join us to learn more about using these records in your family research and how to effectively search the census using the databases Ancestry Library Edition and Heritage Quest. As the emphasis will be on using electronic resources, basic computer skills are recommended.
Saturday, February 1, 10 am-noon: Main Library, Computer Lab 2

Internet Genealogy
There are an overwhelming number of Web sites for genealogy research. This class will provide tips for locating online resources for family history research and allow participants some class time to explore Web sites. The focus will be on finding free online genealogy resources with brief introductions to the library’s genealogy databases. This class will not cover searching Ancestry Library Edition as there is a separate class for this resource.
Saturday, February 15, 10 am-noon: Main Library, Computer Lab 2

Using Ancestry in Your Genealogy Research
With more than 8,000 databases and 200 billion images, Ancestry is the premier online genealogy resource—and it’s available to you for free within any ASCPL location. This class will introduce you to the many features of Ancestry Library Edition and show you how to do efficient and effective searches. Because electronic resources are used, basic computer skills are recommended.
Saturday, March 1, 10 am-noon: Main Library, Computer Lab 2
We would like to thank the following for their generous donations:

Barbara Clark for *Ohio State History of the Daughters of the American Revolution*.

Colorado Railroad Museum for 36 photographs of the Akron & Barberton Belt Railroad.

Dorothy Conant for the Soap Box Derby slide collection of James Conant.

Cuyahoga Falls Historical Society for various Akron photographs.

Cuyahoga Portage Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution for *Scott Family Records; Allen Family Records; Massey Genealogy Addendum; Whetstone Family; History of Harford County, Maryland; Early Harford Countians; Laurens County, South Carolina Deeds, 1785-1793; and New York in the American Revolution* in memory of Catherine Elizabeth Ebbert Macey and Catherine Elizabeth Macey.

David McCann for commemorative booklets from the June 2013 Cornerstone Celebration of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.

Barbara Nagy for *From Kukulandombo to Akron: the Story of Alex Nancy’s Family* by Barbara A. Nagy.

Ed O’Neil for DVD of historical footage of the dedication of St. Thomas Hospital and the O’Neil Family.
Michael J. Patti for photographs of Ellet High School and Windemere Elementary School.

Cheryl Sadler for 1938 Central High School newsletter The Ink Spot.

Summit County Chapter Ohio Genealogical Society for **Pioneer Folks in Medina County, Ohio, volumes 1-4** in memory of Ruth Renton, Elizabeth Ramey, Clair Alexander, Jr. and Ann Noyes Alexander.

**New Books**

**Alabama**
Marriage Records of Bibb County, 1820-1860
Marriage Records of Greene County, 1823-1860
Marriage Records of Marengo County, 1818-1860
Unionists in the Heart of Dixie: 1st Alabama Cavalry, USV

**Connecticut**
Geographic dictionary of Connecticut and Rhode Island

**Delaware**
It happened in Delaware

**District of Columbia**
Maps of the District of Columbia and City of Washington…

**Illinois**
Assumption BVM Church, 25th anniversary book, 1928 [Cook County]
Elim Lutheran Church, 1885-1900 [Cook County]
An English translation from chapters two and three from De byuggde jrnvgsvagnar… [Cook County]
Old Blue Island Cemetery, 1867-1935 [Cook County]
Prairie pioneers of Illinois
Van Vlissingen School, 1893-1999 [Cook County]

**Indiana**
Allen County Genealogical Society: Surname volume (vols. 3-6)
Auburn Presbyterian Church [DeKalb County]
Calumet Township small cemeteries [Lake County]
Commissions discharges enlist "A" [Steuben County]
Concordia Cemetery [Lake County]
Concordia Lutheran Cemetery [Allen County]
DeKalb County Home, 1856-2000
DeKalb County pioneer settlers, 1837-1850
Eagle Creek Township cemeteries [Lake County]
Elmwood Cemetery [Lake County]
Enrollment of soldiers…in the state of Indiana, 1886 and 1894
Evergreen Cemetery [Lake County]
Fern Oaks Cemetery [Lake County]
50 years ago our hometown veterans were in the news [DeKalb County]
First United Methodist Church [DeKalb County]
Gazetteer and complete directory of Steuben County, 1897
Hanover Township cemeteries [Lake County]
Hobart Township Cemetery [Lake County]
Index of wills located at the DeKalb County Courthouse: 1848-July 2004
Index to Lake County naturalization records, 1854 to 1932
Index to veterans’ records as recorded, DeKalb County La Porte commitments to benevolent, educational and reformatory…
Naturalization records: Declaration of intentions [LaPorte County]
Naturalization records: Second papers [LaPorte County]
Newspaper abstracts from "The Hoosier State": Newport, Vermillion County
North Township small cemeteries [Lake County]
Oak Hill Cemetery [Lake County]
Pleasant Chapel Church of the Brethren [DeKalb County]
Portage Township school records, Porter County, 1895-1920
The record of B.J. Crosswaite Post No. 150, G.A.R. Department of Indiana… [Steuben County]
Ridgelawn-Mount Mercy Cemetery [Lake County]
Spencerville Methodist Church [DeKalb County]
Veterans’ record cards for veterans of DeKalb County…
Wittenberg Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1843-1938 [DeKalb County]

**Maine**
An alphabetical index of Revolutionary pensioners living in Maine
Maryland
Annals of Annapolis
Anne Arundel gentry
Baltimore County trader and ordinary licenses, 1830-1832
Early Harford countians
History of Harford County, from 1608 to the close of the War of 1812
Records of the First Reformed Church of Baltimore
Tombstone inscriptions of Holy Rosary Church Cemetery, Baltimore County
White Maryland runaways, 1720-1762

Massachusetts
Bradford's history of Plymouth plantation
Geographic dictionary of Massachusetts

Michigan
Surname index: including keys and clues to kith, kin and cousins

Mississippi
Hinds County marriage records and will book
Our links to the past: 1883-1996 cemetery records for Neshoba County

New Jersey
Geographic dictionary of New Jersey
History of the Oranges in Essex County, from 1666 to 1806

New York
Allegany to Appomattox: The life and letters of Private William Whitlock
History of Lewis County, 1880-1965
Marriages and deaths reported in The Fishkill Standard, 1874-1877 [Dutchess County]
Reminiscences of Syracuse
The wills of Suffolk County on Long Island

North Carolina
Abstract of wills, Buncombe County, 1792-1904
Buncombe County female marriage index, A-Z
Buncombe County male marriage index, A-Z
Burying grounds, graveyards and cemeteries of Buncombe County, NC
Graham County delayed birth records

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Ohio
Records of Copley Township Cemetery, Summit County, Ohio
Early folks obits: Medina County, 1880-1892
Green: Our heritage, our home
Italians of Stark County
Legendary locals of Hamilton [Butler County]
New official street atlas of Akron, Summit County
Ohio: A history of the Buckeye State
Ohio and the War of 1812
Preble County
Rave reviews: The first 125 years of Tuesday Musical
Stow sesquicentennial: October, 1954
Virginia survey, 1861 [Highland County]

Pennsylvania
A beautifully solemn scene: The Lewisburg cemetery [Union County]
Cumberland County divorces, 1789-1860
Early Friends families of Upper Bucks
Revolutionary patriots of Lancaster County, 1775-1783

South Carolina
Abstracts of Laurens County deeds, 1785-1793

Tennessee
Alphabetical index to Hardeman County deed books, A-Z
The burned deed index, 1852-1861, Bedford County Cemetery records of Bedford County
Grainger County apprenticeship records, 1797-1873
History of Tennessee: from the earliest time to the present…Grainger County
Maury County history
Memphis, Shelby County the early years… 1820-1850
Warren County marriages, 1900-1950
Wilson County deeds, marriages and wills, 1800-1902
**Virginia**
- Butcher’s Fork, American Legion, Skeen’s Ridge and Back Valley cemeteries of Wise County
- Cemeteries of Coeburn and Banner [Wise County]
- Grayson County marriage register, 1793-1850
- Laurel Grove cemetery [Wise County]
- Marriages of Washington County, 1781-1853
- Powell Valley Memorial Gardens [Wise County]
- Riverview Cemetery, East Stone Gap [Wise County]
- Russell County marriage register
- Scott County birth records, 1874-1895
- Scott County death records
- Washington County marriages, 1891-1902
- Washington County selected death records
- The Wise County death register, 1856-1894
- Wise County marriages
- Wythe County marriages, 1881-1890

**Military**
- The 115th New York in the Civil War
- Civil War genealogy research
- The Confederate mail carrier
- Connecticut Yankees at Antietam
- “Fire cake and water:” Connecticut Infantry at Valley Forge
- Ohio and the War of 1812: A collection of lists, musters and essays
- Soldiers of the American Revolution in Illinois
- Virginia soldiers of 1776
- War behind the lines: The Civil War history of the 115th Ohio Infantry Regiment
- "What can't brave Americans endure?": The New Jersey Infantry at Valley Forge

**Reference**
- Advanced genealogy: Research techniques
- Courthouse research for family historians
- Dusty books & faded papers: Writing a community history
- Easy family history, 2nd ed.
- Family archaeology: Discovering the family skeleton and making it dance
- The family tree guidebook of Europe
- Finding your roots: Genealogy and family history
- Genealogy and history: How to interpret the clues
- A graveyard preservation primer
- History, Cuyahoga Portage Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution

**Canada**
- Dictionary of Americanized French-Canadian names

**England**
- The Jacobite peerage, baronetage, knightage and grants of honour

**Ireland**
- Names of Irish passengers to America, with dates, ports & ship names
- O'Sullivan, the earliest Irish royal family: History and genealogy
- Tartans for the Irish: Suggested tartans for Irish and Ulster Scots names

**Scotland**
- A genealogical gazetteer of Scotland: An alphabetical dictionary of places

**Family Histories**
- An American family: A history from its origins in the Old World to its place in the New World in the early 21st century

**New England**
- New England families: Genealogical and memorial

**Native Americans**
- Delaware trails: Some tribal records, 1842-1907
- Native American DNA: False promise of genetic science

**Wales**
- Welsh genealogy
**Preservation Tip**

Dry winter weather coupled with the effects of indoor heating can leave family treasures parched. Papers and photographs can become brittle in dry air, and static electricity combined with improper handling can lead to tears and other damage.

If your family treasures are housed in an area of the home that is particularly warm and dry this time of year, consider moving them to a more moderate location. Keep items out of direct contact with hot air from vents. Avoid fluctuations in temperature that may result from drafts, open doors and windows or turning thermostats up and down drastically throughout the day.

Experts recommend a constant temperature no higher than 70°F and relative humidity between 30 and 50% to help ensure the longevity of historic treasures.