

## COUNTY ARCHIVIST LOOKING FOR HELP FROM THE COMMUNITY

by Megan Trotter

**PUTNAM COUNTY** -- Anyone who has met Putnam County Archivist Glenn Jones can tell he is passionate about the history of the area. He can share fascinating stories and photos of the past of Putnam County to any visitor who shows an interest in the topic. Now he is looking for more.

The archives is in need of photos and history from old local communities that may have nearly faded away in the present day. Places like schools, grist mills, blacksmith shops, stores and post offices are some spots of the biggest interest. Jones has a large filing cabinet at the archives building filled with empty folders, just waiting for information.

"If we don't gather this information soon, it could be lost forever," he said.

Information and photos are still needed for the following communities in Putnam County: Ai, Avoton, Baker's Lick, Bear Creek, Bilbrey, Board Valley, Boma, Brotherton, Burton, Byrne, Calf Killer, Coxcrest, Ditty, Donald, Double Springs/Blackman's Fork, Double Walnut, Draper's Springs, Dry Valley, Dug Hill/Dughill, Ensor, Falling Water, Foot, Gabbatha, Gentry, Goffton, Hickey, Hudgens, Hudsonburg, Hudsonville, Irby, Jared, Jeremiah, Lodi, Lorenzo, Jernigan, Judd, Marengo, Matthew, Mount Richardson, New Cane Creek, Parkerslick, Peekville, Pekin, Pine Fork, Pippin, Quiz, Robert's Switch, Rock Springs, Saint Luke, Sand Springs, Sandville, Selby, Shipley, Standing Stone, Venia, Verble, Virgil, Void, Waterloo, White Plains and Window Cliffs/Windowcliffe.

Anyone with photos or information about physical locations in these communities is invited to contact the Putnam County Archives at 931-520-0042. Any physical photos will be scanned at the office and the originals will be returned to the owner.

As Jones collects pieces of the area history, the Herald-Citizen will be sharing some of the interesting stories in periodic feature stories titled "Almost Forgotten Crossroads."

Jones hopes reading the stories will encourage more to bring in their information as well. He is primarily interested in information and old photos of buildings.

In addition, Jones wants to place signs up to mark these historic areas.

A handful have already been purchased -- including Roberts Switch, Hickey, Ditty, Sand Springs, Boma and Pippin -- but funds are still needed to purchase more signs for the other communities.

Those interested in donating funds to purchase signs can contact the Putnam County Archives at the phone number above.

The archives building is located in the lower floor of the County Clerk's building at 121 South Dixie Ave., and is open to the public Monday-Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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\*See more about the History of Putnam Co., TN at: <http://www.ajlambert.com>