

Museum Notes

for the week of April 28 – May 4, 2024

by Kristen Parrott, curator

Valley Conservation Day: A Coon Creek Watershed Celebration will be held in Coon Valley on Saturday, May 4, from 9AM to 7PM, and the Vernon County Historical Society will have a table at the Conservation Fair. The event will take place around the Coon Valley Dairy Supply Company, just west of Coon Creek. The Conservation Fair itself is scheduled from noon to 4PM, but there will be plenty to do both before and after.

The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) had a camp at this site in the 1930's. The CCC worked on erosion control as part of the Coon Creek watershed conservation project. Check out the watershed council's website at <https://cooncreekwatershed.org/> for more information about the watershed and about Valley Conservation Day.

German genealogy will be the topic of the next genealogy class. The class will meet on Thursday, May 9, at 10AM, at the Vernon County History Center. Teacher Karen Sherry will lead the class in this discussion. Vernon County Historical Society members attend the class for free, and non-members are asked to pay \$5. New students are always welcome.

In the 19th century, Germans emigrated to the United States in three waves: the first wave was 1845 to 1855, the second was 1865 (when the U.S. Civil War ended) to 1873, and the third was 1880 to 1893. Many settled in Wisconsin, and by 1900, German immigrants and their descendants made up 34% of the state's population. In Vernon County, most Germans settled in the Towns of Bergen and Hamburg. Learn more about German ancestors at the genealogy class on May 9.

It's grilling season, and our first grill-out of the summer will be held on Saturday, May 11, from 10AM to 2PM, outside Nelson Agri-Center in Viroqua. If you need a lunch or a snack that day, stop by to see what's grilling. All proceeds will help us to preserve and promote our shared local history.