



Kidron-Sonnenberg Road Namesakes

Kidron has just three roads leading into town. Emerson and Kidron Roads intersect in the square, while Jericho joins Emerson just a few hundred feet east of town. Hackett Road is on the north edge of Kidron and the location of the Sonnenberg Village.

Recently we've become aware of children who have been given the names of roads associated with Kidron and Sonnenberg Village, most with ancestral connections to Kidron-Sonnenberg.

Kidron

Filbrun is the town of Kidron's only known namesake. He stopped by the Heritage Center several years ago



with his mother who told of visiting Kidron with her grandparents when she was a teenager and declared she would choose to name a son, if she were to have one, Kidron. And she did just that. Kidron graduated from Cedarville University and is married to Jessica.

According to <https://www.names.org/n/kidron/about>, "The oldest recorded birth by the Social Security Administration for the first name Kidron is Friday, January 17th, 1896. From 1880 to 2018, the Social Security Administration has recorded 6 babies born with the first name Kidron in the United States."

Jericho James Stice also has strong connections to Kidron. His mother, Sonya (Gerber) grew up on Emerson Road where his grandparents, Steve and Delo Gerber still live. Jericho's great-grandparents, Willis and Bessie Nussbaum lived on Kidron Road south of town. Five-year-old Jericho lives in Oklahoma with his parents, Sonya and Nic, and siblings Leah, KyLynn, Gideon and Silas.



Jericho Ethan Lehman visited the Heritage Center with his mother, Kristina and great-aunt Judith Ramer. Kristina and Roscoe named their youngest child Jericho because he was born in Kidron's 200th year. He has a brother, Jetson, and a sister, Joyanna. The family lives north of Kidron on the Lehman family farm. Previous owners of the Lehman farm include Jericho's grandparents, Ethan (Karen) and the late Virginia Lehman, and great-grandparents, Calvin and Goldie Lehman.



SEE NAMES P2

Public Annual Meeting Suspended

Due to the current Covid-19 pandemic and our concern for the well-being of all members of the society, the annual members meeting of the Kidron Community Historical Society, scheduled for February 23, 2021, will be conducted by the Board of Directors in conjunction with their regularly scheduled meeting on February 4, 2021. Board members present will serve as the quorum. KCHS members may call 330-857-9111 or email kidronheritagecenter@gmail.com to request a copy of the meeting minutes and/or the 2020 Financial Report to be sent either via email or postal mail.

New Email Address for Heritage Center

kidronheritagecenter@gmail.com

Due to a hacking into the Heritage Center hotmail email account, that email address has been discontinued. Please send correspondence to: kidronheritagecenter@gmail.com.

Heritage Center Remembering



A. Heinz Peter, age 94, of Kidron, died on February 4, 2020. Heinz and Rosa immigrated from Switzerland to Kidron in the 1950s. They volunteered

together and delighted in speaking Swiss with visitors. Heinz had 327 volunteer hours at the Heritage Center.



Gail M. Johnson, age 92, of Mount Eaton, passed away on February 28, 2020. Gail always greeted Heritage Center visitors with a smile. She traced her Zaugg

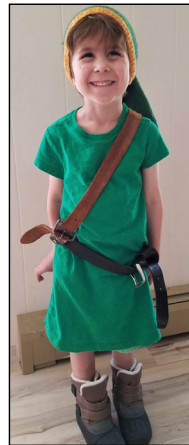
ancestors to the early 1600s. Gail had 162 volunteer hours at the Heritage Center.

Names cont.



Emmersyn Lehman has a long list of ancestral connections to Kidron. She is the daughter of Seth and Danielle Lehman, who live on Hackett Road. Emmersyn's grandparents are Mike (Miriam) Lehman and the late Linda (Gary) Staggs. Mike grew up on Kidron Road with his parents, Cliff and Lena. Cliff has spent many hours volunteering at Sonnenberg Village. Emmersyn is eight years old, in the third grade, and has an older sister, Payton. She loves to play volleyball and basketball. Emmersyn also enjoys playing outside with her sister and cousins, and she has a dog named Rylie, a puggle.

Hackett Andrew Lash is connected to Kidron through his great-grandparents, Gerald and the late Marge (Steiner) Hackett, and grandparents Craig and Eileen Hackett. His parents are Andy and Becka (Hackett) Lash of Dalton. Five-year-old Hackett attends Bright Beginnings Preschool in Dalton. He has two sisters, Aria (7), and Eowyn (1), and one brother, Tobin (3). Interestingly, Hackett has a cousin named Emerson. Hackett loves to play the video game "Legend of Zelda: Ocarina of Time" on his dad's Nintendo 64. He also likes to play outside, riding his bike and scooter. His favorite food is meat. For Halloween Hackett dressed up as Link from Legend of Zelda.



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2021 Heritage Center Display

Works of Artists Past and Present

The Heritage center is seeking creative works from Kidron-area artists and artisans for a new display. Acceptable works may include paintings, woodcrafts, photography, pottery, musicians, music compositions, frakturs, needlework, and sculpting. Works of artists past or present may be submitted for consideration by emailing or calling the Kidron Heritage Center. General information about the artist must accompany all submissions.

2020 Heritage Center Volunteers

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- Fritz Sprunger
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- Meg Wilkins

Sonnenberg Village

Christmas Came Early In Three Significant Gifts

Kidron Community Historical Society Board President Art Neuenschwander announced in December that the society was notified that our grant request to the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission was successful. KCHS was awarded a grant of \$80,000 for dismantling and reconstructing the Gerber Barn in Sonnenberg Village. We have plans drawn and will begin the permit process so that we can break ground this coming spring. Thanks go to our many members who had already donated funds so that we can proceed. We would also like to thank Ohio State Senator Kristina D. Roegner and Ohio State Representative Scott Wiggam for their support in securing the funds from the State of Ohio.

The second gift came in the form of \$10,000 in year-end gifts from members which was matched to yield \$20,000 for



Abe Troyer is making plans to dismantle the Gerber barn in the spring and rebuild it in Sonnenberg Village. Watch for further announcements as to when work will begin

a new lighting system in the Welcome Center. There will be fifteen separate circuits installed in the ceiling and a light bar over the stage. This will allow for much better and more modern lighting and permit flexibility for plays and music concerts on the stage. Volunteer electricians will begin installation in January.

The third gift came from the Kidron Fire Department in the form of the Moser Buggy Shop, also known as Raber Roofing and Spouting. The shop was moved in two pieces to the Sonnenberg Village for storage. Plans and permits have been secured, and when the weather breaks in the spring, a foundation will be built and restoration of the building to its original appearance will begin.

John F. Moser, son of Jacob S. Moser and Verena (Fanny) Lehman, grew up on Kohler Road (former Menno Gerber farm) northwest of Kidron. He went to the Silver Hill school.

The Blacksmith Shop was built by Jacob P. Sommer in 1906. That shop and land was purchased in 1912 by John F. Moser, a blacksmith. He also bought a small piece of land to the west from D. A. Sommer. Moser then built an addition on the back of the blacksmith shop to repair Gerstenslager buggies.

In 1913 Floyd Saurer began working for John F. Moser as a blacksmith. Sometime in



The Moser Buggy Shop has been dismantled and will be reconstructed in the Sonnenberg Village.

1913 or 1914 Moser built a separate buggy shop to the west of the blacksmith shop. He had a thriving business. In 1917 Floyd Saurer purchased the blacksmith shop from Moser – now known in Sonnenberg Village as the Saurer Blacksmith Shop.

The significant event for many auto enthusiasts is that Moser obtained a franchise to sell InterState automobiles in 1915. That would be the first automobile dealership in Kidron and one of the earliest in this part of Wayne County.

Fritz Sprunger is continuing to do research into the history of John F. Moser and his business interests in Kidron. Anyone who may have a picture of the early Moser Buggy Shop, please contact the Heritage Center:

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WINTER 2021



Kidron-Sonnenberg Heritage Center

13153 Emerson Road • Kidron, Ohio

OPEN APRIL through NOVEMBER • SATURDAYS • 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

CLOSED DECEMBER, JANUARY, FEBRUARY and MARCH

The Heritage Center is closed December through March but welcomes appointments for tours and to visit the museum or Sonnenberg Village. Call and leave a message at 330-857-9111 for information or to schedule an appointment.

The Kidron Community Historical Society of Kidron, Ohio, founded in 1977, operates under the nonprofit charter granted by the State of Ohio. Your tax deductible gifts will help secure the future of the Historical Society and give you a part in preserving the heritage of this unique community.

Administration

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Board Vice President Steve Gerber	Board Member Fritz Sprunger
Board Treasurer..... Richard Nussbaum	Heritage Center Director Richard Wolf
Board SecretaryGloria Kaufmann	Sonnenberg Village Project DirectorRay Leisy
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Kidron Community Historical Society Membership

Annual memberships are due in January and expire on December 31. Contact the Heritage Center if uncertain of your membership status.

Name _____	Individual Annual Member \$20
Address _____	Husband and Wife Annual Member..... \$35
_____	Organization Annual Member..... \$50
Type of Membership _____ <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	Individual Life Member \$300
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Would you like a receipt? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>Thank you!</i>	

Send checks to Kidron Community Historical Society • Box 234 • Kidron, OH 44636