

PRESS RELEASE:
Belmont County Heritage Museum Opening For 2021 Season

ST. CLAIRSVILLE – The Belmont County Heritage Museum will be re-opening on Tuesday April 6 featuring two new displays. Furniture, including an altar table, celebrant’s chairs, ambo pulpit and more was donated by the First Presbyterian Church in Bellaire that recently closed, having their last service January 3, 2021. Also, now on display is a bedspread coverlet, made of hand-spun cotton and linen dating back to 1830. This once belonged to the John Smith family of Flushing. The item was donated to the McLean County Museum of History in Bloomington, Illinois in 1979 by Mr. Smith’s great-granddaughter, Harriet Wheeler Hoffman. The Historical Society recently donated the bedspread to the Heritage Museum to display.

The museum will be participating in several events this season, including Second Saturdays in St. Clairsville. Guest speakers will be sharing topics about historic events and attractions in the county. It will also host group tours for visits. You can find this information and more by visiting the website at <http://www.belmontcountyheritagemuseum.org> and follow the museum on Facebook and Instagram.

The museum celebrated the 6^{-year} anniversary since opening in December of 2014. It will be open to the public weekly, Tuesday through Saturday 10 am to 4 pm. Admission is by donation. Facial masks will be required for entry.

The Heritage Museum houses the county’s past. In addition to displays about the county’s sheriffs, each room houses displays from the county’s communities representing their industries, landmarks, and important historical figures. The displays bring the spirit and history of each area together under one roof. Inside are artifacts and photos of what made Belmont County great. From the designer of the *USS Constitution* to a major role in the glass industry, people can discover hidden gems that Belmont County is proud to hold in its history.

For more information about the museum, contact Cathryn Stanley, Curator and Group Tour Sales Manager, Belmont County Tourism at 740-298-7020 or info@visitbelmontcounty.com.