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# NEWS

## Butler County Historical Society

*Preserving and Interpreting Butler County's Rich Heritage*

**For Immediate Release**

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### **JOURNALS OF GERMAN IMMIGRANT COME TO LIFE**

*Independent scholar, Neil Ann Stuckey Levine, will discuss “The Life and Times of Christian Iutzi”, a 19<sup>th</sup> century German immigrant farmer to Butler County*

(Hamilton, OH) – When Christian Iutzi and his family departed their native Germany in search of the American dream in 1832, he brought with him the earliest of three journals he kept during his lifetime. Beginning in 1812 and ending in 1825, the journal includes brief entries of political events, weather conditions, farming, commodity prices, and mentions of family and friends. Today, the historic journal is part of the collection of the Butler County Historical Society. Though Christian Iutzi made his last journal entry over a century ago, his words will come to life during a June 27<sup>th</sup> program at the Hamilton Lane Library entitled “One for All: The Singularity of Christian Iutzi.”

The program, co-sponsored by the Butler County Historical Society and The Friends of Christolm, will feature independent scholar Neil Ann Stuckey Levine, editor of the recently published book *Transplanted German Farmer: The Life and Times of Christian Iutzi (1788-1857), 1832 Immigrant to Butler County, Ohio, in His Own Words*.

Taking primary documents, researching them, and preparing them for publication is not an easy task. Much of the old German script was painstakingly transcribed and translated by Neil Ann Stuckey Levine, a native of Butler County. Neil Ann graduated from Hamilton High School as class valedictorian. She later attended Cornell and Columbia Universities. As an independent scholar, Neil Ann has published over 100 research essays on Amish Mennonite history and genealogy, much of it related to Butler County. Interested in making the accounts of Christian Iutzi more accessible for researchers, Neil Ann agreed to act as translator, editor, and annotator of what became the book, *Transplanted German Farmer*.

*Transplanted German Farmer*, which contains excerpts from two of Christian Iutzi's journals and original logbook, provides a guided glimpse into the past. Christian Iutzi accounts for experiences that range from Napoleon's defeat and exile to traveling via the canals when they were constructed through Hamilton. Because of the book's educational value as a primary source of Butler County history, a limited number of copies will be distributed free to teachers who attend the program. Following, a luncheon will be held at the Hamilton YWCA – reservations by Monday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> and \$12.00 per person is required. To make reservations please call Anne Jantzen at (513) 726-5265.

Simply put...

WHAT: “One for All: The Singularity of Christian Iutzi”  
WHO: Neil Ann Stuckey Levine, PhD. – editor of *Transplanted German Farmer*  
WHEN: Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am  
WHERE: Hamilton Lane Library  
300 North Third St.  
Hamilton, OH 45011  
NOTE: Program is free and open to the public. Luncheon at YWCA is by reservation and \$12.00 per person. To make a reservation please call Anne Jantzen at (513) 726-5265. Last day to RSVP is Monday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

In 2009, the Butler County Historical Society (BCHS) is celebrating 75 years of dedication to the preservation and interpretation of Butler County's rich heritage. The BCHS, a non-profit organization, operates the historic Benninghofen House – a showcase of Victorian Era lifestyle that includes all the furnishings and décor appropriate for a late 19th century home. Additionally, the BCHS manages an archive that consists of many original and secondary materials relating to regional history. To help us prepare for your visit (tour or research), please call ahead (513) 896-9930. The BCHS is also affiliated with Heritage Hall, a space for the display of rotating exhibits and the permanent location of the Robert McCloskey Collection. To learn more about Heritage Hall, please call (513) 737-5958.