

## Captain Henry Vanderburgh Chapter National Society Daughters of the American Revolution

proudly dedicates an Historical Marker



In honor of
Colonel Hugh McGary, Jr.
First landowner of our city
and
to honor McGary Burial Grounds
First cemetery within our city

Thursday, May 30, 2019

11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.
on the grounds of the Old Courthouse
Evansville, Indiana



### The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of The United States of America

---Francis Bellamy
I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States
of America, and to the Republic for which it stands,
one nation under God, indivisible,
with liberty and justice for all.

#### The American's Creed

---William Tyler Page

I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a republic; a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a Perfect Union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to live it, to support its Constitution, to obey its laws, to respect its Flag, and to defend it against all enemies.

### The Star Spangled Banner

---Francis Scott Key

Oh, say can you see by the dawn's early light What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming; Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight, O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming; And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air, Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there. Oh, say, does that star spangled banner yet wave O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

Oh, thus be it ever when free men shall stand
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation!
Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the heav'n rescued land
Praise the pow'r that hath made and preserved us a nation!
Then conquer we must when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto: "In God is our trust!"
And the star spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

# Program for Dedication Procession and Posting of Colors

Bagpipes playing by Kyilindi Pipe Band: Scotland the Brave

United States of America flag,

by Alisha Alman

<u>Indiana State flag,</u>

by Susan Hansen

Sons of the American Revolution flag.

by Dr. Mark Browning

Daughters of American Revolution flag,

by Nancy Collins

Children of the American Revolution flag.

by Luke Pettitjohn

Invocation:

by Jo Phelps \* Chaplain

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

of the United States of America:

Cheri Baumberger \* Honorary Regent

<u>The American's Creed:</u>

Betty Rittenhouse\*

The Star Spangled Banner:

Jolene Meyers \* Bagpipes

Welcome and Introductions:

Judy Green \* Regent

# Dedicatory Remarks on DAR and honoring Mrs. Dolores DeWitt Browning by Charleen Browning Spear\*

Introduction of Mayor Lloyd Winnecke
by Charleen Browning Spear\*
Address by Mayor

Introduction of Dennis Au:
by Vannetta McDowell\*
Address by Dennis Au

Marker Unveiling, Ribbon Cutting
by County Commissioners
Ben Shoulders, Jeff Hatfield and Cheryl Musgrave
with Bagpipes playing Highland Cathedral

Reading of Inscriptions by
Rebecca Browning Carter and Jeannie Browning Hester\*

Introduction of County Commissoner, Ben Shoulders
by Charleen Browning Spear\*
Address by County Commissoner

Benediction by Rev. Ted Tempel
Invitation for refreshments in Old Courthouse following
Playing of Danny Boy by bagpipes
Retiring of Colors

\* Members of NSDAR

## Colonel Hugh McGary, Jr.

Today is a day for celebration of the life of Colonel Hugh McGary Jr.—the pioneer. Hugh passed through this virgin territory and held a dream for a city at the bend of the Ohio river. He purchased 200 acres of land in 1812, on the banks of the Ohio River. As his historical marker that we dedicate today states....

"On March 27, 1812, McGary purchased a fractional section of land at Vincennes Federal Land Office, becoming Evansville's first landowner. In 1817 he took on partners, Robert Evans and James W. Jones and success came to McGary's vision of a town when Evansville became the Vanderburgh County seat in 1818. A community leader, his home hosted the first Vanderburgh County Court and his warehouse the first church service. McGary disappeared from the Evansville scene around 1813, never to be heard from again."

## McGary's Burial Ground

The first cemetery in Evansville existed close to where this historical marker is located. It was known as McGary Burial Ground and was donated to the city by Colonel Hugh McGary, Jr, for the burial of pioneers in this growing town. As the historical marker we dedicate today states...

"Located in the vicinity of N. W. Fourth and Vine Streets, this cemetery is the earliest documented cemetery in Evansville-ca. 1816-1829. In the 1818 donation enlargement to Evansville, Colonel Hugh McGary, Jr. reserved a one-acre parcel here for a cemetery. Buried here are McGary's wife Mary 'Polly' Anthony McGary and two of their children, Amandah F. and an unnamed child, as well as other early Evansville residents. Though some may have been moved, many still lie in unmarked graves. We now recognize this as the final resting place of our honored pioneers."

Eight Historical Markers dedicated within our city since 1990:

by the Captain Henry Vanderburgh Chapter National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution Evansville, IN with the help, research and tenacious dedication of Dolores De Witt Browning \*

1990 - Historical Marker honoring McCallister Family in Wesselman Park.

1996 - Historical Marker for Matthew W. Foster Home on SE Second Street honoring Matthew W. Foster, his son John Foster, Secretary of State and Ambassador and John's wife, Mary Parke Foster, 3rd President General NSDAR.

1997 - Historical Marker and Yoshino Cherry Trees honoring Mary Parke Foster at the Pagoda in Evansville.

1999 - A small historical marker under a small Yoshino Cherry Tree at the grave site of Mary Parke Foster in Oak Hill Cemetery.

2000 - Historical Marker in front of YWCA honoring Albion Fellows Bacon, one of the most outstanding women in the state of Indiana.

2002 - Veterans Marker and flag pole at historic St. Paul's Episcopal Church on SE First Street honoring all area veterans.

2005 - Historical Bronze Plaque in lobby of the Civic Center, NW Martin Luther King Blvd. honoring Captain Henry Vanderburgh.

2008 - Historical Marker featuring a bronze book on the grounds of Willard Library, honoring Willard Carpenter, community leader, philanthropist, and benefactor.

# Tribute and Thanks to Mrs. Dolores "Dee" DeWitt Browning 6/19/1923—7/10/2016

In Mrs. Browning's words, "My main focus in my life has been my family. My parents, my husband, Charles and my four children received my utmost attention, taking precedence over any other goals. After raising my children and volunteering for many worthy organizations, recently, I have found time to devote to another endeavor, researching my family tree. I rejoiced as I became a member of the Captain Henry Vanderburgh NSDAR. I served on their Board of Management for fifteen years and served as Regent of the Chapter for two years. I served on the committee to erect historical markers for about fourteen years. I was instrumental in researching and erecting 8 historical markers within our city. I have left funds with the DAR, to erect another historical marker after my death."

I am thrilled that we are able to fulfill my mother's wishes today. She loved her city of Evansville, encouraging her four children to settle in their hometown. She specifically wanted to honor Colonel Hugh McGary, Jr. with a monument, but her time here on earth did not permit it. Today we pay tribute to my mother, Dolores DeWitt Browning—as her legacy is fulfilled and her gift is given—a gift that reflects her love and respect for history and her hometown. Through this experience, my respect and admiration for my mother has grown. Dee Browning was all about volunteering and giving back to those in her community. Time is the most precious commodity we have—and sharing that time with others is a true gift—both for the giver and the receiver. History and learning about our ancestor's helps us—light the path for our own lifetime journey.



The Captain Henry Vanderburgh Chapter NSDAR celebrates history as it researches and defines historical events, persons and areas. Historical sites that remind us of the wondrous and glorius events of the past bind us together with a common bond. This historical marker will stand as a continuous reminder of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution and its dedication to preservation of our country's history.

DAR Col. Hugh McGary, Jr. Historical Marker Committee
Mrs. Charleen Browning Spear, Chairman
Mrs. Judy Green, Regent
Mrs. Debra Sparks, Honorary Regent
Mrs. Cheri Baumberger, Honorary Regent
Mrs. Jolene Meyers,
Mrs. Vannetta McDowell
Mrs. Betty Rittenhouse, Corresponding Secretary