



# FROM THE STUDY



November 2014

Volume 15, Issue 3

GENERAL LEW WALLACE  
STUDY & MUSEUM  
HOME OF BEN HUR

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## 8th Annual Holiday Tea Returns to Elston, Lane Place

**Amanda McGuire**  
*Associate Director*

On Friday, December 5, the 8th Annual Holiday Tea & Fashion Show returns to the Elston Homestead and Lane Place with a theme of “Home for the Holidays.” This event allows ticket holders a rare chance to see two of Crawfordsville’s most prestigious historic homes and enjoy holiday

merriment, while supporting the General Lew Wallace Study & Museum.



*Kristin Clary, Carolyn Baer, and Marta Collier model fashions from heathcliff in 2013*

The Elston Homestead, located on Pike Street, was the childhood home of Susan Elston Wallace. The house, now home to Wabash College President Gregory Hess, and his wife, Lora, will be decorated for the holiday

*cont. on page 6*

## Rain Fails to Dampen Spirits at the 8th Annual TASTE

**Stephanie Cain**  
*Visitor Services*

It was a smaller crowd, but the 8th Annual TASTE of Montgomery County was a success despite a three hour shutdown in the middle due to severe weather. With three rocking musical acts and fifteen fantastic food vendors,

we were able to weather the storm and deliver a great time to the 600 attendees who showed up despite the weather.

Perennial favorite Kenn Clark opened the day’s musical festivities and earned the dubious honor of being the day’s

only musician to play the entire set. Just as the popular Greencastle band Him & Her were getting started at 3 p.m., the rain began. Displaying an adaptable sense of humor, singer Tosh Everson and her husband, Joel, belted out

*cont. on page 5*

*The General Lew Wallace Study & Museum is deeply committed to the protection and preservation of Lew Wallace’s legacy now and for generations to come.*

**Mission**

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A hero is a person who, in the face of danger and adversity or from a position of weakness, displays courage and the will to

sacrifice self for some greater good. Heroes are the men and women who aspire to make a difference in their community and in the world. They are often recognized by their brave deeds and noble qualities. The 2014 exhibit at the museum has looked at the year of 1864 and events in Lew Wallace's life. Lew had already accomplished heroic things in his life, but 1864 was perhaps the year in which his heroic qualities shone most brightly. Certainly his performance on the field of battle at Monocacy had all of the elements necessary to create a hero. His initiative when others failed to act, his ability to accurately assess a situation, his willingness to enter into battle against a much larger and better trained enemy, and his desire to protect the Union at any cost demonstrated Lew's heroic qualities. Monocacy was not, however, his only shining moment. At other times during the year, he also exhibited heroism in quieter ways. His ability to work with political and military leaders to assure a safe and honest election that ultimately resulted in the Emancipation of the enslaved people of Maryland was heroic. This was followed by

his desire to help the freed slaves build new lives. Wallace is credited with the creation of the first Freedman's Bureau, demonstrating his desire to make a difference in his community and in the lives of a people facing daunting challenges.

In our orientation video, former curator Joann Spragg notes that we say that our children need heroes to look up to. Her response is that we have lots of heroes, we've just forgotten them. One of the goals of the General Lew Wallace Study & Museum is to make sure that we not only remember Lew Wallace and his heroism, but also use him as a springboard to remember others past and present, men and women, famous and not so famous, who have served as heroes, mentors, teachers, and leaders. People who have made a difference in the lives of our nation, state, community, and families are worth remembering and honoring. Just as we have sought to recognize the service of Lew Wallace in 1864 in our exhibit this year, we encourage you to recognize, remember, and thank those who have made a difference in your life. They are heroes too.

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## Holiday Shopping Made Easy by GLWSM

***Stephanie Cain***  
***Visitor Services***

With the holidays fast approaching, many people are looking for unique gifts for friends and family members. The General Lew Wallace Study & Museum gift shop can help you out, with offerings for everyone on your list.

For those who haven't yet seen the Study, or who want a photographic reminder of their visit, we have our brand-new Souvenir Books! With twenty-four full-color pages of Study photographs and a brief biography of Lew Wallace, this is the perfect souvenir for visitors, but it also makes a great gift for family members who are fans of Lew! The booklet was written by Study staff with assistance from our Wallace Scholars, and many photographs are by local photographer Kim Carter Johnson. The booklet sells for \$9.95 and will be

a lasting reminder of your visit to the Study.

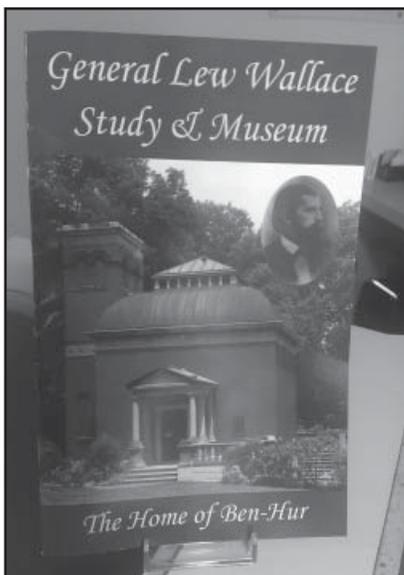
Our Study Logo travel mugs are an eye-catching burgundy with the Study logo in dark gray. They retail for \$10 and are the perfect vessel to hold your hot chocolate or coffee as you travel over the river and through the woods this winter!

If you're looking for stocking stuffers, look no further than our gift shop! We have three gorgeous full-color bookmarks to choose from, each retailing for \$2.95. Three magnet designs are available for \$0.75 each. A beautiful assortment of notecards would be perfect for those post-holiday thank-you notes. A set of 5 notecards is \$5.00 and includes one each of the Study building in summer, the Study building in winter, a Kankakee water landscape painted by Lew Wallace, the statue of Lew Wal-

lace in the autumn, and an historic photo of Lew sitting under the Ben-Hur Beech in his writing chair and lap desk.

And don't leave your Christmas tree out of your holiday shopping! We have two beautiful Christmas tree ornaments to choose from. A Howe house ball ornament is available for \$5.00 and the gold-plated collector's edition Tamerlane ornament is \$10.00.

Don't forget! Lew Wallace Study Preservation Society members receive 10% off all gift shop purchases. This is the perfect time to renew your membership and take advantage of that offer! If you are unable to get to the Study to do your shopping, we don't yet have online shopping available, but we will be happy to take your order by phone or email and ship it to you for a small shipping charge.



*From left: souvenir book; ornaments; magnets and notecards; travel mug and bookmarks*

# The Wallace Home

**Larry Paarlberg**  
**Museum Director**

For many years, Lew and Susan Wallace lived in homes that belonged to her father, Isaac Compton Elston, Sr. Shortly after his unexpected death in 1867, Lew and Susan began construction on the two story house at the corner of Wabash Ave. and Elston St. that would be their home for the rest of their lives. It was one of several family homes on the Elston family property, but did not compete architecturally with the Elston Homestead where Susan grew up, the charming Gothic cottage built by Susan's sister Helen, the elegant home of Joanna Lane—another sister, or with the architecturally dramatic home of her brother Isaac, Jr.

Even after achieving great success and wealth, the Wallaces did little to modify the home they built in the late 1860s. In spite of their world travels and exposure to the homes of some of the most important men and women of the 19th century, Lew and Susan were comfortable with their two story wood frame house on the corner of Wabash and Elston. Lew Wallace died at home in 1905 and Susan passed away there in 1907. Within a year, there were discussions about preserving the home as a tribute to Lew. The house remained in the family until sold by their son, Henry, in 1919. At that time there was renewed interest in using the home as a public shrine recognizing both Lew Wallace and the Tribe of Ben-Hur. These plans to preserve the home intact did not come to pass and the home was significantly remodeled in the 1930s with select details of the original Wallace home retained.

In 1888, prior to the construction of Lew's Study, the *Indianapolis News* described the home life of the Wallaces. The home was described: "His residence in Crawfordsville

is a plain unpretentious brown frame house, two stories, with wide verandahs, and is hidden from view by overhanging trees, in front of which is a broad lawn sloping down to the street.

Behind the house is a grove of beeches, and under their shadows General Wallace may be seen about 5 o'clock in the afternoon walking to

and fro, with long, swinging strides, taking an hour's constitutional after being all day at his desk. There are other trees whose boughs almost touch the windows of the dining room, swaying nearly to the ground, and it is here of a summer evening that he loves to receive his friends, entertaining them with conversation as delightful as anything he has written.

The interior of the house is comparatively plain; the floors are covered with fine matting, over which are spread thick Turkish rugs; the walls are hung with drapery of the Turkish stuffs and there are heavily embroidered scarfs and table covers, inlaid tables, and other bric-a-brac here and there suggestive of his sojourn in Constantinople.

Over the drawing room mantel is the magnificent picture presented him by the Sultan—a Turkish Princess, . .

Among other interesting souvenirs are the written agreement relating to the walking match with Charles Dickens arranged during his last visit to Boston, in his own hand writing, which was given Mrs. Wallace by Mrs. Field, and perhaps literally the last fetter broken from

the wrist of a slave. This was a young mulatto woman who ran away from her master near Baltimore, and came to General Wallace's headquarters and he had the chain removed by a



locksmith. It hangs under a tattered battle flag in the library and constitutes a very significant object lesson.

On the library

mantel there is also a beautiful picture, a study in oil of "Thralapa" as he is described in one of the opening chapters of "The Fair God." . . .

The study . . . is up stairs, a large, well-lighted, airy room with an eastern and southern exposure. The floor is stained a dark red, and is bare except the center which is covered with a rug—a table, not a desk—and is probably four feet in length, by four in width. It is covered with heaps of paper arranged with the greatest order and neatness, which is a peculiar characteristic of the General.

On one corner of the table stands a magnificent majolica vase, which came from Florence, while reference books, dictionaries, pens and ink are placed within convenient reach. Near the blotting pad is a huge shell, a grim reminder of his military exploits, . . . On the day of my call, while talking with Mrs. Wallace I had heard the sound of a violin. He had gone when we had invaded his quarters; a bright fire was burning in the grate, a portrait of his friend, the Sultan, upon the mantel, seemed to regard us with a forbidden gaze, and the open music book on one corner of the table gave a clue to the identity of the player. . . "

# Taste, continued

*continued from page 1*

cover songs “Have You Ever Seen the Rain” and “Set Fire to the Rain” before thunder and lightning put a stop to their set. The Study grounds had to be evacuated for approximately three hours while the storms rolled through. Ever a good sport, award-winning Indianapolis singer-songwriter Jennie DeVoe pulled in during the storm and stuck around to play a slightly shortened set from 7:30 to 9:30.

Fifteen vendors appeared at this year’s TASTE, including 1832 Brew Espresso Bar, The Barefoot Burger, The Big Dipper, The Bowery, China Inn, Coal Creek Cellars Winery, Daredevil Brewing Co., The General Store, Hawg Wild BBQ, Iron Gate II, The Juniper Spoon, Joshua Cup, K&K Cafe, Lew Wallace

Study Preservation Society, and Norvell’s BBQ & Catering.

Every year we present two sets of awards: Judges’ Choice and People’s Choice. This year our celebrity judges included Lafayette’s NewsChannel 18’s Elizabeth Rentschler and Amber Hardwick, Steve House of the Chamber of Commerce, and Nina Munroe from Crawfordsville Radio.

## Judges Choice

**Best Entrée** - The Barefoot Burger’s Fiesta Burger

**Best Dessert** - The Joshua Cup’s Limoncello

**Best Booth Presentation** - 1832 Brew



## People’s Choice

**Best Entree** - The Juniper Spoon

**Best Booth Presentation** - The Barefoot Burger

We would also like to thank our many generous sponsors of this event. For a full list, please see page 10.

And of course we couldn’t make the TASTE happen each year without the support and dedica-

tion of our wonderful volunteers. Thank you to each and every person who showed up to donate your time and energy to making this year’s TASTE great!

Make sure you mark August 22, 2015, on your calendar as the Ninth Annual TASTE of Montgomery County. We’re already hard at work brainstorming ways

to make it the best TASTE ever, and we hope you’ll be there with us.

Because proceeds from the

TASTE go toward funding educational programs and outreach events, attendees are able to support the Study while enjoying wonderful local food and music. To see more photos taken at this year’s TASTE,

visit our Flickr account here: <http://bit.ly/1rUTTMn> . You can also keep up-to-date on TASTE news at the Facebook page here: <http://on.fb.me/17RPKKx> .

*Clockwise from top right: Jennie DeVoe performs at the Taste; 1832 Brew receives Judge’s Choice award for Booth Presentation; Joshua Cup receives Judge’s Choice award for Best Dessert; Barefoot Burger receives Judge’s Choice award for Best Entrée*

## Holiday Tea, continued

*continued from page 1*

season by Milligan's Flowers & Gifts. Event goers can also enjoy an interactive fashion show featuring models and fashions from local boutique *heathcliff*. Tea will be served, complete with coffee, sweets, and savory snacks provided by Bon Appétit. Door prizes, generously provided by local merchants, will be awarded throughout the afternoon. Visitors can also enjoy live holiday music from the Wabash College T-Tones.



(Top) Wabash College T-Tones perform and (bottom) a beautiful holiday wreath designed by Rustic Owl Primitives in 2013

the holidays.

“Our Holiday Tea has become a popular way to welcome in the holiday season,” said Larry Paarlberg, Museum Director.

“The museum is fortunate to have such willing and generous organizations, including the Montgomery County Historical Society, Wabash College, and other local business- support our event.”



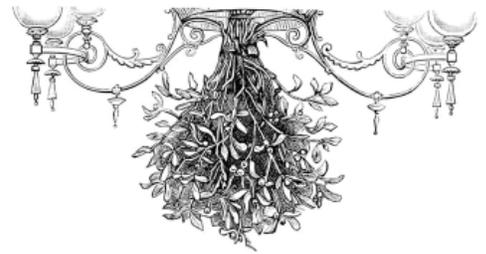
Make a day of it! In addition to

Lane Place, located on Water Street, was once the home of Henry Lane and his wife Joanna, sister of Susan Wallace. Lane Place will be decorated with holiday artwork created by local artist Jill Stockwell and other artists. The popular “Making Spirits Bright” Holiday wreath sale will also be on display at Lane Place. Local artists and designers have created unique holiday wreaths that will be available for purchase. These beautiful handcrafted wreaths make great holiday presents to give or to keep for years to come!

Pattison Pavilion, a gazebo located on the grounds of Lane Place, will also be decorated for

downtown shopping before the Tea, guests can also make plans to attend *It's A Wonderful Life*, performed by the Sugar Creek Players at the Vanity Theater at 7:30 p.m. The play will run December 5-7 and 12-14. For more information about the play and for tickets, please visit [www.sugarcreekplayers.org](http://www.sugarcreekplayers.org).

Reservations for the Holiday Tea & Fashion Show are \$25 per person and due by December 3. To reserve places for you and your guests, call the General Lew Wallace Study & Museum at (765)362-5769 or visit [www.ben-hur.com/programs/holiday-tea](http://www.ben-hur.com/programs/holiday-tea) to purchase tickets online.



### *Holiday Tea*

#### *Schedule of Events*

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2014

*3:00-6:00 p.m.*

Tea, sweets & savories served,  
Holiday floral arrangement display  
Elston Homestead

*3:00-6:00 p.m.*

Special holiday collections display  
Lane Place

*3:30-6:00 p.m.*

*heathcliff* Fashion show  
Elston Homestead

*4:00-6:00 p.m.*

Door prize drawings  
Elston Homestead

*4:00-6:00 p.m.*

“Making Spirits Bright” Holiday  
Wreath Sale  
Lane Place

*5:15 p.m.*

Live holiday music  
Elston Homestead

# From the Garden: Fall Colors

**Deb King**  
*Grounds Manager*

Fall has arrived and brought a palette of wonderful colors. Some of the flowers are still blooming and the trees are starting to turn. Two of the most colorful trees are the ginkgo and sassafras.

Ginkgo biloba or the maidenhair tree turns a bright golden yellow in the fall. This pre-historic tree



*Ginkgo leaf*

has fan-shaped leaves and light grey-brown bark. The ginkgo is a great urban tree, as it's practically pest and disease free. The ginkgo is a slow growing tree, with heights reaching up to 100 feet. The colorful fall foliage is long lasting and

will drop all at once, making for easy cleanup. The ginkgo produces a small fruit that has a horrible smell. Sterile trees are now being developed by nurserymen alleviating that problem.

The Sassafras albidum is one of the top trees for fall color. The leaves turn from golden yellow, orange to bright red. The leaves of the sassafras have 3 distinct shapes- a 3 fingered leaf, a mitten and an oval shaped leaf. Multiple leaf shapes with multiple colors make this tree a beautiful specimen. The sassafras has a deeply furrowed reddish brown bark, often used for medicinal purposes. Sassafras tea, made by brewing



*Sassafras leaves*

the bark, is used as a relaxant or calming agent. The wood is very aromatic also. The sassafras tree usually grows 35-50 feet, but can reach heights of 100 feet. The sassafras tree located by Lew's statue is one of the largest in Indiana.

I'd like to thank all the volunteers who have helped with grounds activities this year: Park Day volunteers (March), green thumbs who planted flowers (May), the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (August Taste setup), Wabash College freshmen (Taste cleanup), Wabash Sigma Chi, and all the others who made the grounds an outstanding part of our Museum experience. I wish everyone a wonderful winter and I hope to see you next year!

## Collections Corner

**Amanda McGuire**  
*Associate Director*

Packing up the Study for a restoration project is not a simple task. Every item must be numbered and each box packed must be inventoried so we know where each artifact is at all times. It takes a lot of planning, time, and materials. Packing Lew's 1,300 books alone takes countless hours, 100 boxes, and a lot of tissue paper

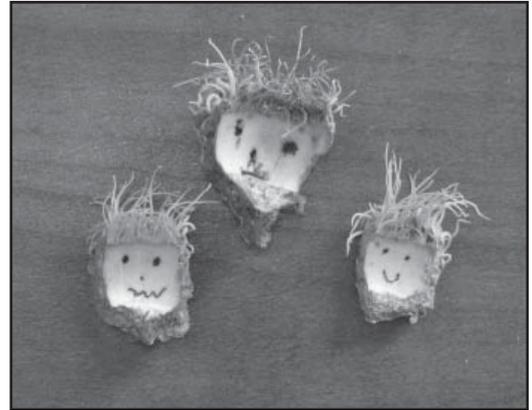
and bubble wrap. Nine wonderful volunteers recently helped me pack up most of Wallace's books - over 75 boxes! They accomplished in two hours what would have taken me days to do alone. A huge thank you to Jean Bristol, Roger & Jan Cain, Elaine Chase, Phil & Judy Michal, Jamey Norton, Dale Petrie, and Ted Ratcliff for all of their help!



*(Left) Before and after pictures of the bookshelves in the Study; (Above) Roger and Jan Cain carefully pack Wallace's books in preparation for the interior restoration*



# Study Scrapbook



*Clockwise from top right: Deb had some fun with some of the burr oak husks found on the grounds; The Juniper Spoon, winner of People's Choice for best entrée, at the Taste; a group of Wabash Sigma Chi helped Deb build a new shed; Jennie DeVoe headlining at the Taste; a Girl Scout troop screens for artifacts during History Beneath Us in September*

## Meet Our Intern: Victoria Johnston

We are pleased to welcome a new intern at the Study this fall! Victoria Johnston graduated in May from Indiana State University. She majored in History and hopes to one day work full time in a museum as a Collections Care Specialist. Victoria received her Collections Care Certificate this summer at the Campbell Center for Historic Preservation and wants to get her master's degree in Museum Studies. This is Victoria's second internship at a museum.



She began her museum experience at the Studebaker National Museum where she helped accession and catalog their collections. Through her internship at the Study, Victoria has been helping to organize our collections and archives, as well as creating boxes and enclosures for some of the objects in storage. Victoria is enthusiastic and passionate about the museum industry and is hoping that all of her hard work and dedication will pay off in the end.

## General Lew Wallace deserves his place in history. Help us preserve that place.

Membership to the **Lew Wallace Study Preservation Society** begins with your annual contribution of \$25 or more. Membership offers discounts and complimentary admission and event tickets.

**Lieutenant Level—\$25 (Individual)**

- Complimentary admission for 1
- Subscription to newsletter

**Major General Level—\$50 (Family)**

- Complimentary admission for family
- Subscription to newsletter

**Governor Level—\$100 (Sustainer)**

- Major General-level benefits, plus
- 10% discount in museum shop



**Ambassador Level—\$250 (Benefactor)**

- Governor-level benefits, plus
- 2 tickets to the annual Taste of Montgomery County

**Ben-Hur Level—\$500+ (Patron)**

- Ambassador Level benefits, plus
- 1 ticket to the annual Holiday Tea

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*Please clip & mail your membership information to LWSPS, PO Box 662, Crawfordsville, IN 47933*

- Enclosed is my check payable to the Lew Wallace Study Preservation Society
- I will pay with credit card online

Please visit [www.ben-hur.com/join-support](http://www.ben-hur.com/join-support) to pay for your membership with a credit card via Paypal

- I wish to remain anonymous
- I'm declining benefits, making my contribution deductible to the full extent of IRS regulations.

## General Lew Wallace Study & Museum Contributions

*Every member and donor matters a great deal to us and we appreciate your support. We have made every attempt to ensure the accuracy of this list. If we have made an error in your listing, please contact us immediately.*

### Memberships

**July 1 - September 30, 2014**

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### TASTE!

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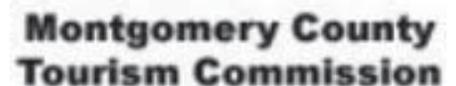
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#### Other

All Smiles Dental  
Dale Petrie  
Dr. Janet Rucker



## Calendar of Events

**Thursday & Friday, November 27-28, 2014-** Museum closed for Thanksgiving

**Friday, December 5, 2014-** Holiday Tea & Fashion Show (see p. 1 for details)

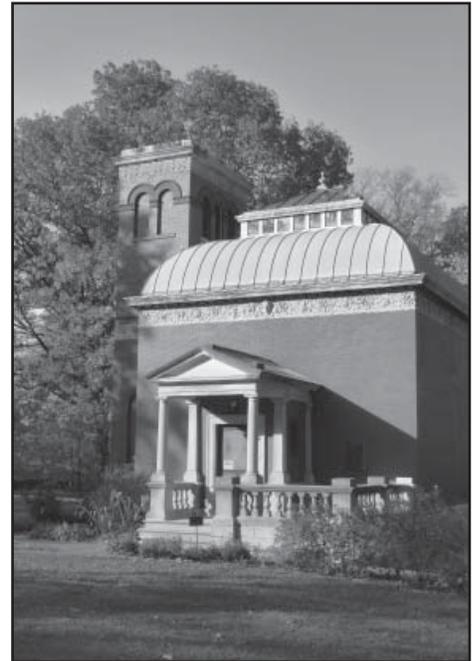
**Saturday, December 13, 2014-** Last day of 2014 Season

**Tuesday, February 3, 2015-** Museum opens for 2015 Season

**Saturday, March 28, 2015-** City of Crawfordsville Easter Egg Hunt- This annual city-wide event returns to Study grounds.

**Saturday, March 7, 2015-** Annual Exhibit Opens (see p. 12 for details)

**Saturday, April 4th, 2015-** Civil War Trust Park Day- Join us for this annual event cleaning up the grounds and preparing for spring.



## Help Build the Study's Endowment

The Lilly Endowment INC recently introduced the GIFT VI phase of its Giving Indiana Funds for Tomorrow (GIFT) Initiative. This initiative provides Community Foundations throughout Indiana an avenue to boost fundraising opportunities for nonprofit organizations by providing matching gifts to new endowments or adding to existing endowed funds. Designated endowed funds can help nonprofits like the General Lew Wallace Study & Museum, secure long-term survival, build flexibility, and assure greater capacity as financial stability increases. The funds are permanent and forever. They are invested to grow over time and will provide an annual, stable source of reve-

nue from the income generated from the investments.

In October the Montgomery County Community Foundation (MCCF) announced this matching gift initiative will continue until March 31, 2016. For new restricted or designated endowed gifts that are contributed to the MCCF, the Lilly Endowment INC will match every dollar with fifty cents. It usually requires \$5,000 to establish a named fund at MCCF, but from now until March 31, 2016 a gift of \$3,350 establishes a named fund.

Already, a contributor to the General Lew Wallace Study & Museum has seen the advantag-

es of this opportunity and is in the process of establishing an endowed fund! Their \$5,000 is translating into a gift of \$7,500! This is a rare opportunity to maximize charitable giving during a limited time. In addition to the deadline of March 31, 2016, there is also a limit of \$150,000 that will be met on a first in, first matched basis. If you ever wanted to help support the General Lew Wallace Study & Museum, this is the time! If you would like more information about this opportunity, please contact Kelly Taylor, Executive Director of the Montgomery County Community Foundation at (765) 362-1267 or via email at [kelly@mccf-in.org](mailto:kelly@mccf-in.org).



**GENERAL LEW WALLACE STUDY &  
MUSEUM**

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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## 1865 Exhibit to Open March 7



*"The Conspirators," an oil painting by  
Lew Wallace*

As we look toward the end of the year and the closing of our 2014 exhibit, *Vindication: Lew Wallace in 1864*, plans are already well underway for the 2015 exhibit. Next year, in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of 1865, the exhibit will examine Lew Wallace's military career in 1865, including his participation in the trials of the Lincoln assassination conspirators and Henry Wirz, commander of Andersonville prison, as well as his secret missions to Mexico.

In 2016, in celebration of Indiana's bicentennial, we will look at *Ben-Hur* and the golden age of Hoosier authors. In 2017, we will focus on the stage and screen adaptations of *Ben-Hur* and its impact on popular culture.