



*Mayor Graves' Column – September 25, 2014*

Our History on Display

“WE THE PEOPLE of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.”

That quote is the preamble to the U.S. Constitution. The week of September 17 - 23 celebrates our Constitution. This very important document, signed on September 17, 1787, establishes the structure and ideals of our country.

This year, Helen Marshall, a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, created a wonderful display of the signers of the Constitution. Their names, pictures, and the state they represented are all on display at City Hall. The signers of the Constitution came from Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Virginia. These dedicated individuals represented all walks of life.

Today the Constitution continues to serve us well. It embodies the spirit and intent of our Founding Fathers. It is important for our children to study and be aware of the principles that our country was founded upon. It is always important for us to understand our history.

Another display in the foyer of City Hall also has historical significance. Our minute books dating from 1855 through 1953 have been preserved thanks to a grant from the State of Tennessee. These books are our history and detail the progress of the city of Gallatin. We have enlarged the City Hall showcases in order to put these books on permanent display for all to see.

A background montage of black and white pictures from the past century or more reflects many places and businesses that are part of our history. You will enjoy seeing many of the historical depictions of Gallatin. The pictures reflect the ferry crossing, Randy's Record Shop, W.N. Robertson & Company store, the Inter Urban, the J.C. Penney store, and so much more. There are just too many to list. Special thanks go to city employees Marianne Mudrak and J.R. Smith who have overseen this project.

You will want to come and see for yourself. If, after looking at the display case, you want to know more about Gallatin's history you can visit the Sumner County Museum behind Trousdale Place or the Sumner County Archives behind the County Administration Building on Belvedere. There are many treasures of our past that you will want to see.