



Anna District
Historical Society
Anna • Kettlersville • McCartyville

Skipping Village Gazette

The Gueth Cancer Cure

Written by Linda Glessner

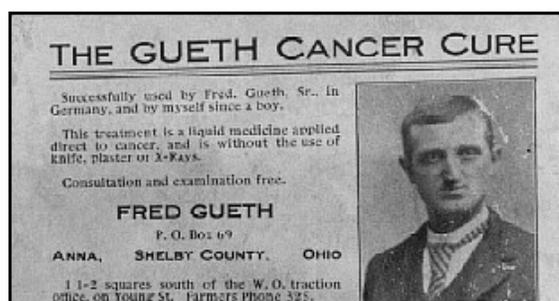
(Anna District Historical Society member, Timothy Mann, grants permission to the ADHS to use the following copyrighted story without restriction.)

Freidrich Gueth, Sr. was born April 29, 1825 in Walthershausen Bavaria and came to the United States in 1845. He married Sarah Zimpfer in 1855 and became a U.S. citizen in 1857. The union produced two sons, George and Frederick, Jr. Freidrich, Sr. was a farmer and barber. In the later years of his life, he lived at the northwest corner of the North Street and 25A intersection in Anna. This residence also served as the Gueth's Cancer Treatment center for several years.

Mr. Gueth, Sr. likely pursued the trade of his father—barbering. In early Europe, a barber was also the local surgeon as was common in that time. Surgery was conducted by barbers who, in having razors (indispensable to their trade), were

called upon for numerous medical tasks ranging from cutting hair to amputating limbs

Frederick Gueth, Jr. was born March 2, 1861 and married Sarah Catherine Moothart in 1881 in Illinois. The Moothart family had lived in Anna, so the newly married Gueths moved back to the Anna area north of the current Meranda Road and 25A intersection where they began farming.



Frederick, Jr.'s secondary occupation was a trade he learned from his father. As town barber/surgeon he had removed cancers from those who were afflicted. The treatment of cancers soon evolved into a liquid cancer cure that Frederick, Jr. offered for many years.

A full list of ingredients for the "cure" was found in the mid 1990's, and two items stood out: an antioxidant, salicylic acid, and a healing herb, cinnamon.

In a book titled "Pharmaceutical Chemistry" published in 1919, the Gueth Cancer Cure was at one time a recognized cancer treatment. The

Welcome to our newest ADHS members...

Brent and Mindy Stombaugh

Welcome and thanks for your generous support of the Anna District Historical Society! *(Please let us know if we have inadvertently missed your name, and we will add it to our next newsletter list.)*

cure was also previously listed in the 1918 edition of Annual Reports of the Chemical Laboratory of the American Medical Association. According to the 1919 AMA report, the specimen had an odor like acetic acid and appeared to contain some vegetable drug. Further tests found powdered sanguinaria, or blood root, which was thought by some to be valuable in the treatment of cancer. The use of blood root never attained much popularity with the medical profession and long ago fell into disuse.

Advertisements and business cards state that with the Gueth Cancer Cure if there was no cure, there was no payment due. Frederick, Jr. was involved in the cancer cure business for many years, until

legislation required physicians to be licensed. From that time on, he was no longer permitted to “practice medicine.” In 1919 the Gueth family’s research and cure was purchased by local attorneys for \$10,000.

After the cancer cure business came to a close the Gueth family invested in thoroughbred horses. Frederick, Jr. remained a farmer until his death in 1926.



Fred Gueth, Jr. Family

In the early 1980’s Mr. Mann met an elderly Dinsmore Township resident who insisted that



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The ADHS is a 501(c)3 charitable organization, and your donation may be tax deductible. Level giving may be automatically deducted each month from your checking account. Please ask Susie Bertsch (937.394.3072) for details.

Frederick saved her great aunt's life. Apparently, others believed the cure was legitimate. Local family history stories still remain of the cancer cure.



Present day picture of the original Gueth house on the corner of North Street and 25A in Anna where the Gueth Cancer Cure was sold for years.

entrance door on the northeast corner of the building was also installed, replacing an antiquated door that was past its useful life.

Also, the east doors on the porch have been enhanced by the addition of custom crafted oak storm doors. These doors resemble the original storm doors that were on the house many years ago.



Newly installed foundation on north side of the Packer Historical Center

“Christmas on Main”

Thanks to everyone who supported our first ever Christmas on Main event last November. It was a great success! In fact, it was such a success that we are planning to have it again next year. Our hope is that we can expand the event to include other Anna businesses and organizations next year. Be watching our newsletters later this year for the calendar dates of “Christmas on Main” in 2022.



New basement opening on west side of PHC for large item access

PHC Updates Completed

The past few months have seen numerous improvements to the Packer Historical Center. The major upgrade is the completion of the new foundation at the rear of the Center. Approximately 50 feet of sagging and decaying block was replaced on the north and west sides of our building. While replacing the foundation on the west side, we took the opportunity to install an outside entrance to the basement to accommodate storage of larger items. A new rear



One of two new oak storm doors on the east side of the porch at the PHC

Anna District Historical Society

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Many of our Skipping Village Gazettes go out via email four times each year. If you know of anyone who does not live in the Anna School District who would like to receive the Gazette, please send their email addresses to carolwentz53@gmail.com, and we will put you on our list. Thanks so much for helping us get the word out about the work of the Anna District Historical Society and our museum, the Packer Historical Center.

Anna District Historical Society

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Phone: 937-646-0011

Packer Historical Center Hours

Sundays 1-4pm and Thursdays 6-8pm

McCartyville History...



McCartyville Creamery



Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church

1882