

101 Years of Rolfe, Iowa, Newspapers at Your (Online) Fingertips!

If I could have at my fingertips the Rolfe, Iowa, newspapers spanning 101 years from 1888 to 1989, the first thing I would look up would be _____.

If you mentally filled in the above blank, you are in store for a treat!

The Rolfe, Iowa, newspapers used to be available on microfilm at the Rolfe Public Library. The library's microfilm reader needed repair; therefore, the microfilm rolls were moved to the Pocahontas Public Library where they still reside.

Hello to 101 years of the Rolfe, Iowa, newspapers on the Internet!!!

Recently there was a drive to digitize (transfer from audiocassettes to CDs) 110 oral history interviews of people living in Rolfe during 1980-81. Funds were raised via sponsorships, donations, and sales of prints of watercolors by Marion Gunderson. Although some tapes are yet to be sponsored, the funds raised surpassed the amount needed to digitize all the tapes.*

Because of the tremendous support of the oral history drive, funds raised from sales of prints will be redirected toward making 101 years of Rolfe newspapers available online. The overall cost of this newspaper project is just shy of \$4,000, half of which is already raised.

Rolfe newspapers from July 19, 1888, through September 28, 1989, are currently on 33 rolls of microfilm. (There may be missing issues.) Once there is adequate funding, the microfilm will be digitized.

Once the digitizing is completed, at the Rolfe newspaper web site you will be able to type keywords, including topics and names. If the search engine locates articles/captions/ads, etc. that include the words you typed, you will be able to see the related information on the computer monitor. You may also search by year. (For example, if you type "girls basketball" and specify "1971," you will find the 1971 Rolfe newspaper contents that include the words "girls basketball.") You may also browse the online newspapers in the same manner in which microfilm is browsed.

How May I Help with a Donation?

Q. What is a suggested donation amount? A. Any amount is appreciated. (With the oral histories, donations ranged from \$10 to several hundred dollars.)

Q. How do I go about donating? A. Contribute cash or write a check payable to "Rolfe Public Library Trust." (The word "Trust" is important to include.) On the memo line of your check or in a separate note, indicate "newspaper project." Leave your donation at the library or mail it to the Rolfe Public Library, 317 Garfield St., Rolfe, Iowa, 50581. (If possible, use the form located on the third page of this document.)

*For information about the oral history project, contact Louise Gunderson Shimon (515-465-2746, mariongundersonart@gmail.com) or the Rolfe Public Library (712-848-3143) or go to www.mariongundersonart.com/oral-histories/. Unsponsored tapes may still be sponsored.

(continued)

Q. May I sponsor an entire roll(s) of microfilm? A. Yes. It is optional to specify the ID #(s) of the roll(s) on your check. ID #s are indicated in the table below. The sponsorship amount per roll is \$115. Multiple sponsorships for rolls will be accepted. (Please be aware that there may be issues missing.**)

Q. If I have questions, whom should I contact? A. Louise Gunderson Shimon, 14106 Green Dr., Perry, Iowa, 50220; 515-465-2746; mariongundersonart@gmail.com. Or ask at the Rolfe library, 712-848-3143.

Q. Will my donation be publicized? A. The intent will be to maintain anonymity (although that is difficult to guarantee) unless requested otherwise.

Q. Will my donation be tax deductible? A. Yes. The Rolfe Public Library Trust is associated with the City of Rolfe, which has a 501(c)(3) nonprofit status.

Q. When will the newspapers be online? A. The target date is February 2011.

Q. Is this project information and more about Rolfe newspaper history available on the Internet? A. Yes. Go to www.mariongundersonart.com and click on the "Rolfe Newspapers Online" link.

Q. Is there a test site I can try so that I better understand how the Rolfe newspapers will be accessible online? A. Yes. <http://waterloo.newspaperarchive.com> Username: waterloo; Password: testing123

Microfilm Roll # ***	Begin Date ***	End Date ***	Microfilm Roll # ***	Begin Date ***	End Date ***
#1 Rolfe Reveille	7/19/1888	1/14/1892	#18 Rolfe Arrow	6/24/1943	8/29/1946
#2 Rolfe Reveille	1/14/1892	8/2/1894	#19 Rolfe Arrow	8/29/1946	12/29/1949
#3 Rolfe Reveille	8/2/1894	8/12/1897	#20 Rolfe Arrow	1/6/1949	6/28/1951
#4 Rolfe Reveille	8/12/1897	10/18/1900	#21 Rolfe Arrow	6/28/1951	10/21/1954
#5 Rolfe Reveille	10/18/1900	1/7/1904	#22 Rolfe Arrow	10/21/1954	2/13/1958
#6 Rolfe Reveille	1/7/1904	3/7/1907	#23 Rolfe Arrow	2/13/1958	6/8/1961
#7 Rolfe Reveille	3/7/1907	7/7/1910	#24 Rolfe Arrow	6/8/1961	7/1/1965
#8 Rolfe Reveille	7/7/1910	10/16/1913	#25 Rolfe Arrow	7/1/1965	6/27/1968
#9 Rolfe Reveille	10/16/1913	5/18/1916	#26 Rolfe Arrow	6/27/1968	7/8/1971
#10 Rolfe Arrow	5/18/1916	4/15/1920	#27 Rolfe Arrow	7/8/1971	11/14/1974
#11 Rolfe Arrow	4/15/1920	7/26/1923	#28 Rolfe Arrow	11/14/1974	9/1/1977
#12 Rolfe Arrow	7/26/1923	8/19/1926	#29 Rolfe Arrow	9/1/1977	7/10/1980
#13 Rolfe Arrow	8/19/1926	11/28/1929	#30 Rolfe Arrow	7/10/1980	6/24/1982
#14 Rolfe Arrow	11/28/1929	4/20/1933	#31 Rolfe Arrow	6/24/1982	7/11/1985
#15 Rolfe Arrow	4/20/1933	3/11/1936	#32 Rolfe Arrow	7/11/1985	8/27/1987
#16 Rolfe Arrow	3/11/1936	4/4/1940	#33 Rolfe Arrow	9/3/1987	9/28/1989
#17 Rolfe Arrow	4/4/1940	6/24/1943	****		

**The Rolfe newspaper was published under several names, sometimes with two papers published simultaneously. According to *Centennial History, Rolfe, 1863-1963*, Rolfe's first newspaper was published in 1882. Microfilm coverage begins with 1888 and includes continual or nearly continual coverage (i.e., there may be missing issues) until 1989.

***Table information is provided by Heritage Microfilm, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Because the newspaper operated under different names/ownership over the years, the actual names of the issues may differ from the names in this table.

***In 1989 the *Pocahontas Record-Democrat* absorbed *The [Rolfe] Arrow*.

If you wish to contribute to this Rolfe, Iowa, newspaper project, please complete the form on the following page and include it with your donation. (The form is also available at www.mariongundersonart.com under the "Rolfe Newspapers Online" link.)

If you wish to contribute to the Rolfe, Iowa, online newspaper project, please complete the following form and include it with your donation.

This form and information about the history of the Rolfe, Iowa, newspapers is also available at www.mariongundersonart.com. Once at that site, click on the "Rolfe Newspapers Online" link at the upper right on the web site. Information about the project, including contact information, is also at that site.

**Thank you,
The Rolfe Public Library Board and Staff**

Name(s) of donor(s): _____

Amount of donation payable to "Rolfe Public Library Trust": \$_____

Would you like to sponsor an entire microfilm roll(s)?* ☐ No ☐ Yes (If yes, please include \$115 per roll and, if you wish, specify the roll ID #(s) here. #_____ (Roll ID #s and corresponding time periods of newspaper coverage are available at www.mariongundersonart.com.)

If you would like to be contacted when the newspapers are available online, please include your contact information with your donation.

Email address: _____

Phone number: _____

Mailing address: _____

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**Please mail or take your donation to:
Rolfe Public Library [Trust]
317 Garfield St.
Rolfe, Iowa, 50581**