

Rochelle Tourism & Visitor Association
Press Release
11/9/07

Lincoln Highway Traveling Exhibit on display at Flagg Township Museum.

For two months only, during November and December of 2007, the public will have an opportunity to view a fascinating interpretive exhibit provided by the Illinois Lincoln Highway Coalition and covering the history of the Lincoln Highway, the first transcontinental highway built in the United States. The Illinois Lincoln Highway has also been designated as a National Scenic Byway. The exhibit will be on display in the original city jail room inside the Flagg Township Museum. The Flagg Township Museum also has an original Lincoln Highway marker on display on the museum grounds. The Boy Scouts of America placed three thousand concrete mile-marker "monuments", which were designed by Jens Jensen, along the Lincoln Highway in 1928 as a lasting memorial to Abraham Lincoln.

In 1912, Carl Fisher, founder of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, had a dream of a highway spanning our continent from one coast to another. Because of the Pan American Exposition of 1915, he chose San Francisco as the western end of the highway with a promise that motorists could drive there for the exposition. The eastern end of the highway starts at Times Square in New York City. The Lincoln Highway was the first successful, all-weather, coast-to-coast, automobile highway.

Because the Lincoln Highway goes through Rochelle, a mural of Emily Post was commissioned by the Illinois Lincoln Highway Coalition to tell one of the many stories of the Lincoln Highway, and one that occurred right here in Rochelle. The mural can be seen on the north wall of the Hub City Furniture building on 5th Avenue, across from the Post Office. If you would like more information about the Illinois Lincoln Highway, please visit www.drivelincolnhighway.com.

The Flagg Township Museum is open Thursday – Sunday from 11am – 4pm. If you are interested in taking a group through the museum, arrangements can be made to visit the museum throughout the week by calling 815-562-3040.

Please call the Flagg Township Museum at 815-562-3040 for additional information. The Flagg Township Museum is located in Rochelle at 518 4th Avenue.