

# Strand Theatre Shelbyville, Inc.

Old Website Article Backup

Articles prior to December 5, 2018

## 1913 Flood Lecture

Written by Gary on March, 13 2013

Can it happen again? Will it happen again? Are we prepared?

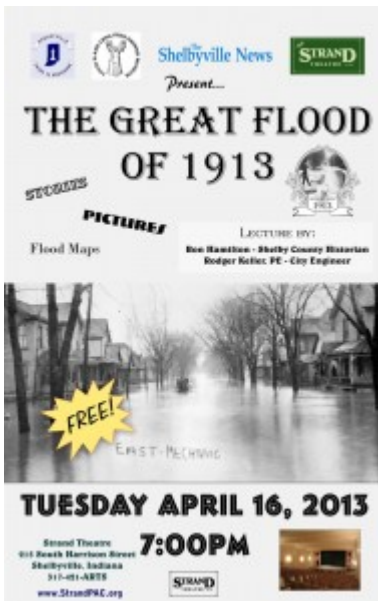
Find out how Shelby County dealt with the great flood of 1913 and see what has been done to prevent such calamity from happening again.

Presented by Ron Hamilton, Shelby County Historian and Roger Keller, City Engineer

Can you imagine rowing a boat past the post office or rafting in front of the St. Joseph Catholic Church? Town residents did just that on March 25, 1913. Shelbyville and Shelby County has never seen anything to match the catastrophic deluge that hit the area in the spring of 1913. It was a flood of Biblical proportions and caused extensive damage.

According to newspaper accounts of the time, the year started out wet as over six inches of rain fell on frozen ground in January. During March, several inches of snow and over ten inches of soaking rains fell on saturated farm fields and emptied into streams already gorged to capacity. Suddenly, at 2:00 in the morning on the 25th of March, rain started falling in continuous sheets that some compared to a waterspout. Big Blue and Little Blue rivers rose dramatically and shrill alarms from the local fire station and water plant wailed the rest of the night to warn city residents of the impending calamity.

### Images on this post:





Archive File: 2013-03-13\_1913-flood-lecture.pdf  
©2022 - Strand Theatre Shelbyville, Inc.