

Historical Society celebrates 50th year of Highland House Museum

This is the 18th article in a series from the Highland County Historical Society featuring members of the HCHS Hall of Fame and recognizing the 50th anniversary of the Highland House Museum.

The following recognition hanging in the HCHS Hall of Fame is the only one signed. As noted in an earlier article (No. 13), Joe Rockhold, author, was a longtime president of the organization.

Jacob Cochran Landess 1838-1917

Jacob Cochran Landess believed that he had the power to heal. He was born in 1838 in Danville and lived most of his life around Pricetown. He was a successful farmer and businessman.

Joe Rockhold recounted, "As a small boy, I drove to Pricetown with my father to take our horse who was suffering with a bad infection called a polleivil. I can still see Mr. Landess sitting in his wheelchair, as in the picture, and the yard of his home being filled with sick animals."

"Mr. Landess had certain words he spoke as he cast his hands over the animals.

"He would rub the affected part and then throw it away. He kept repeating his biblical words and throwing the disease away."

"Jacob Landess was the youngest of 17 children and although many in his family did not believe he had the power to heal, many of them did believe it. It has been said by members of the family that Grandma Landess had the power to heal goiter."

"I can't say whether Jacob Landess had the power to heal, but as a child I remember our horse was healed from the polleivil and lived a number of years after that."

"So we believe that Jacob Cochran Landess has a place in the Highland County Hall of Fame as Highland County's famous faith healer of animals."

– Joe Rockhold, 1979



Jacob Cochran Landess
(1838-1917)