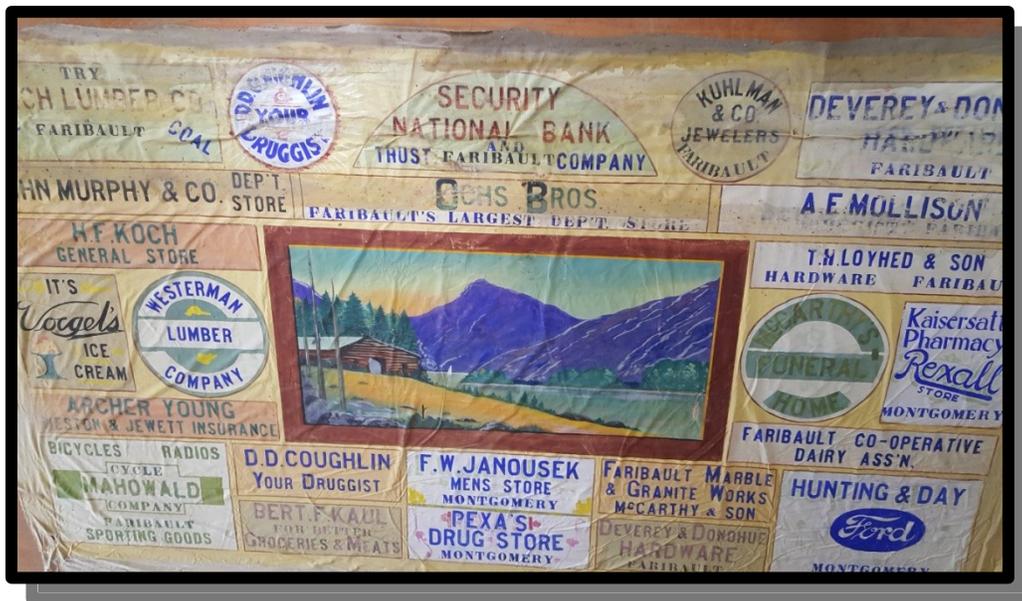


# Please Help Us Restore This Advertising Backdrop!



## Old Hall Advertising Backdrop Information and Update ...

This 10' x 14' Advertising Canvas backdrop was recovered from the attic of the old social hall last summer, before the hall was torn down. It was painted by Twin Cities Scenic Company who did many backdrops for theatres around the United States including movie backdrops and scenery in Hollywood. St. Patrick's Old Social Hall (which used to be across the road) was home to many theatre and musical productions along with being a social hub in the days before radio and TV. Businesses listed on the backdrop are from Faribault, Montgomery and Kilkenny and all are out of business. Twin Cities Scenic Company also went out of business once the television came into light. A number of flats and one other backdrop were also recovered but they had a considerable amount of water damage and were not salvageable.

We spoke with Wendy Wazut-Barrett last summer to find out about restoring this backdrop because of its good condition and the history it holds for St. Patrick and the Shieldsville area. Wendy specializes in the evaluation, restoration, and replication of painted scenes for the theatre, opera, ethnic hall, and Masonic stage. Her work and information can be found at [www.bellascena.com](http://www.bellascena.com). She has done many restorations at the University of Minnesota and at the Minnesota Masonic Lodge. After speaking with Wendy this past week, we discovered a discrepancy in the original estimate to restore the backdrop. It will take approximately \$4,000 to clean, stabilize, restore and hang the backdrop (3 days @ \$1000/ day plus approx \$500 for materials to clean and up to \$500 for materials to hang the backdrop). This means we are short about \$2000 in order to proceed with the project.

Our plan is to have this backdrop restored, stabilized and hung in our new social hall. Volunteers are needed to assist with the hanging once a date for restoration is established. The date will not be established until we have enough money to cover the costs. Donations can be made to St. Patrick Church and in the memo line 'BACKDROP RESTORATION'.