

A Weekend Afternoon Idea

By Marilyn Young

If you are looking for something to do on a weekend afternoon and feel so inclined, you might want to check out the United German and French Cemetery. Inside the cemetery you will find many past parishioners who worshipped at St. Louis Church. Prominent among those people is our own Louis LeCouteulx (pronounced La Ka Toe), who owned Buffalo's first drug store and was also the gentleman who donated the land upon which our beautiful church rests.

LeCouteulx was quite an interesting guy. He was a good friend of Robert Morris, the patriot who provided funds that helped to finance the War of Independence. He also could not return to his native France since the French Revolution was in progress, and, being an aristocrat, he most certainly would have lost his head. Google his name and his story comes up and proves to be an interesting read. Suffice it to say, we are fortunate to have Mr. LeCouteulx, along with his second wife and elder son, buried right in our own backyard.

The United German and French Cemetery is located between Sugar Road and East Delavan, traveling down Pine Ridge Road toward Genesee Street. As you come out of the cemetery, look straight ahead across the street and you will see a very large crucifix. That is where Mr. LeCouteulx is interred along with his family. Take a walk over, say a prayer for him, and thank him for our incredible edifice. None of us would be here without his generosity.