

## **Woodford County Journal**

**Est. 1867**

The oldest paper in Woodford County, the Woodford County Journal, was published on December 10<sup>th</sup>, 1867. Founder John W. Karr, a Wapella native, settled in Eureka and started the paper.

Presses in the early days used handset type – a slow and tedious process that mostly likely kept the length to a brief four pages. The Journal published weekly railroad timetables and advertisements – content that would not require re-setting the type from week to week.

A major change occurred in 1890 which doubled the size of the paper. Four pages of ready-print material from the Chicago area was combined with the existing four pages of local content which gave readers access to Windy City news and happenings.

Innovations in technology came to the area in 1906 when the newspaper became the first in the county to use the Linotype machine. The Linotype produces an entire line of metal type at once rather than placing one pre-cast metal letter at a time.

Today, the paper is owned by Lee Enterprises of Davenport, Iowa and is printed at the Pantagraph in Bloomington. Circulation of the Woodford County Journal today reaches 2,900 area residents and businesses.

Congratulations to the Woodford County Journal on becoming a Peoria Historical Society Centenarian organization.