

Our 175th Year · 1833-2008

# A JOURNEY THROUGH THE PAST 1849-1850

*As we celebrate 175 years, we take a look  
at our history and the world around us  
through News-Sentinel archives.*

## 1849

- ◆ Zachary Taylor inaugurated as 12th president.
- ◆ Famous steam packet, Niagara, arrives from Cincinnati.
- ◆ Destructive fire lays waste 15 buildings in the business district on Calhoun between Main and Columbia streets.
- ◆ Gold rush to California.
- ◆ Death of President James K. Polk.
- ◆ Joseph A. Wright elected Indiana governor.
- ◆ Epidemic of cholera.
- ◆ William Stewart takes over duties of mayor.

## 1850

- ◆ Vice President Millard Fillmore becomes the 13th president upon the death of President Zachary Taylor from cholera.
- ◆ City presents an amended charter to the Legislature providing for a revision of the duties of city officers.
- ◆ Federal census shows 23,191,876 people living in the United States; population of Fort Wayne: 5,382.
- ◆ California admitted to the Union as 31st state.
- ◆ New York's Central Park proposed.
- ◆ Emanuel Leutze paints "Washington Crossing the Delaware."

- ◆ American pianist and composer Louis Moreau Gottschalk tours in Europe.
- ◆ Nathaniel Hawthorne writes "The Scarlet Letter."  
— *Compiled by The News-Sentinel library*