

# Hendricks County Township History

Did you know that Hendricks County originally had not 12 townships, but nine? The nine townships were in three rows of three and approximately the same size. From west to east they were: Eel River, Middle, and Brown in the north; Marion, Center, and Washington in the middle; Franklin, Liberty, and Guilford in the south.

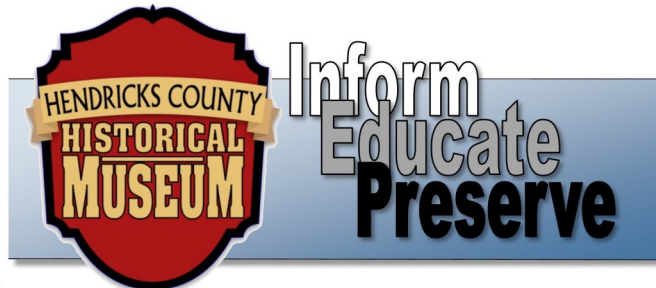
The first division came in 1851, when Union Township was formed from the western part of Middle Township. (The northern boundary of Center Township changed slightly at that time also.) In 1854, parts of Franklin and Marion townships were taken to form the new township of Clay, and during the Civil War, in 1863, Brown Township was divided into approximately two equal parts, with the southern part becoming Lincoln Township.

As you can probably guess, at least from the Brown and Lincoln Township split considering the date and the fact that the new township was named for President Abraham Lincoln, it was apparently all about politics.

## Tri Kappa awards grant to Museum

Danville Tri Kappa has awarded us a grant for a Cricut® machine and supplies, and a TV. We will be able to enhance our displays, and hopefully make them easier to assemble.

The television allows us to continue moving forward on getting a room by room tour on video, which will allow those who can't make the stairs to see all of the museum rooms. We are so grateful for our community support!



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**DON'T BE LEFT HANGING!**

**Stay informed!**

[www.hendrickscountymuseum.org](http://www.hendrickscountymuseum.org)  
 Or on Facebook and Instagram!



## Hendricks County Historical Museum News

May 2021



*The mission of the Hendricks County Historical Museum is to collect, preserve and interpret items relating to the people, places and events of Hendricks County and to stimulate public interest in the heritage of the county through education, exhibits and special programs.*

### President's Message

Dear Friends of the Hendricks County Historical Museum

I am enjoying this weather, and the wildflowers and daffodils. Many of us are vaccinated and hospitalizations are down, so it looks like we all will be able to get out more and visit the people and places we love. If you took a break from the museum, and are ready to come back and see us, or volunteer in a variety of ways we look forward to having you join us. There are so many things happening, more tours, events, of course *Dancing with the Hendricks County Stars*, planning ahead for the Fall and Winter (yes it is time to start looking ahead!). You can help on a one time or ongoing basis or just for a special event. Drop us an email or give us a call to let us know what you are interested in.

## Doll Party

**Saturday, June 12 • 11AM-3PM**

**Bring your own doll and learn more about these girls and others! Paper dolls will be shared and refreshments available!**

**Come and share your American Girl® doll!**

I also want to thank our intern James Godfill who helped in so many ways this past school year. He graduates and will be in the workforce, so we will miss his weekly time at the Museum.

I love Spring, a time of so many possibilities!  
*Pat Baldwin*  
 President, Board of Directors



Dancing with the Hendricks County Stars!

## We're gearing up for another great event!

We are so jazzed to be working on Dancing with the Hendricks County Stars for Saturday, August 21!

We have picked up where we left off last year and our dancers will begin anew with their lessons at Arthur Murray Dance Center of Avon.

Since the Silent Auction is a big part of this event, our committee is now collecting items and experiences to offer in this great, fun, fundraiser for the Hendricks County Museum. Have an idea for a great silent auction item? Let us know.

DWHCS certainly has become a tradition and has been called by many, Hendricks County's premier event. Having this event in summer will be a refreshing change. It will be in the Expo Hall of the Hendricks County Fairgrounds and can be almost an

open-air event, but with the cool air that we experience while at the July county fair.

The Roaring 20's theme will be a fun turn and guests can join the fun with 1920's attire. There will be props of the same theme, and who knows – maybe even some surprises along the way.

Tickets will go on sale late May, so be sure to save the date for this very special evening!

—Deanna Hindsley, Event Coordinator

History Finds:

### Foot Warmer

In front of the parlor fireplace in the Hendricks County Museum sits a black triangular box about a foot long, covered in porous cloth. Before embarking on a trip in a horse-drawn wagon or carriage in cold winter, this box would have been filled with coals from the fireplace and placed on the floor of the vehicle. Ladies would put their feet on the warmer and cover feet and legs with a blanket on long trips. It was also used on a "school hack" (horse-drawn school bus), keeping a child's feet warm.

The primitive Victorian rectangular stone footwarmer was heated on the cook stove or fireplace and put under the quilted bed covers in the cold second-story bedrooms.

—Deanna Hindsley



## Website Digital Collection continues to grow!

Check out the "Digital Collections" page on our museum website to see the historic photographs we have digitized for the Indiana Memory Project. We have over 360 photographs available to view!



Hendricks County Courthouse,  
1862-1912, Danville

Are you interested in agriculture, architecture, disasters? Search the collection by topic or scroll through each photograph. Take a walk back through history and enjoy! As we add to the content, this collection will continue to grow. Additionally, the Indiana Memory Project is now a part of the Digital Public Library of America. This collaboration will increase awareness of the Hendricks County Museum by making our digital historic photographs easily accessible and free to a broader audience.

<https://hendrickscountymuseum.org/digital-collections/>

—Linda Cook



Libbe Hughes, the Museum's Master Gardener, working on the plants in front of the museum. She does a wonderful job every year keeping the front of the museum looking beautiful. She really enjoys her work as you can tell by her huge smile. Thanks Libbe! *Photo credit: Tim Macsary*





**As you know,** our biggest fundraiser each year is *Dancing with the Hendricks County Stars*. The committee is very excited to get “back on track” after a year’s unwanted hiatus.

How can you help? Glad you asked! We need sponsors and silent auction donors. Below you can see the Membership levels and the benefits of each contribution. Every little bit helps!

We thank you so much for your continued support, whether it be financial or by volunteering — both are extremely important to keeping your Museum up and running for all to enjoy! There’s nothing better than reminiscing and remembering the days gone by in our county. The Museum volunteers continue to work very hard to make Museum visits worth the trip and time! We thank all of them!

We are in the process of making your newsletter a great marketing tool to spread awareness of the Museum. In the meantime, check out our social media outlets, Facebook and Instagram. We ask you to “like and share”, and visit our website, [hendrickscountymuseum.org](http://hendrickscountymuseum.org) to see the progress that we are making!

—Emily Hansen

## Items Needed!!

Contact the Museum to donate  
to Our Silent Auction  
[www.hendrickscountymuseum.org](http://www.hendrickscountymuseum.org)



**If you are interested in receiving your newsletter via email instead of snail mail, please contact the Museum, [museum@co.hendricks.in.us](mailto:museum@co.hendricks.in.us), or call 317-718-6158.**

***We currently pay almost \$900 a year sending out the newsletter.***

### Friends of the Hendricks County Historical Museum Membership Levels and Benefits

**\$25 Homesteader** Your donation will be used to further promote our programs to Inform, Educate, and Preserve the Museum!

**\$100 Settler** Entitles you to 2 discounted DWHCS tickets (\$10 off each)

**\$250 Pioneer** Includes all benefits of Settler level plus a listing on our website

**\$500 Trailblazer** Includes all benefits of Pioneer level plus a museum polo shirt

**\$1000 Founder** Includes all benefits of Pioneer and Trailblazer levels, plus a special sponsor listing in event programs

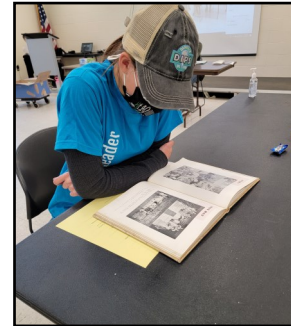
*Members at all levels will receive the quarterly newsletter.*

## 4-H Jr. Leaders hear about Hendricks History

Museum Board President Pat Baldwin gave a presentation on the history of the County to the 4-H Junior leaders at their April meeting. They learned about the Quakers coming from Guilford, North Carolina, and giving that name to their new home, Guilford Township.

Several of the Junior Leaders have been to the museum and remembered the story about Danville stealing the college from "that other town" (Ladoga) which brought a lot of laughter. School houses and teacher training was discussed, with lots of head shakes when asked how they would feel about a teacher staying with their family.

Sports team pictures were sent around to show that students a hundred years ago liked sports, but the uniforms look a bit different.



Top: Ellie Henry, Jr leader president, views a Central Normal yearbook. Bottom: Jr. leaders' April meeting.



*We have interactive activities for the kids! Here is a typewriter on which they can experiment. We also have a scavenger hunt game that will take the kids all through the Museum!*



A big “thank you” goes out to Mark Hindsley for the generous donation of tables and chairs to be used for the Board meetings at 98 W. Broadway.

## Thank You to Our Current Sponsors

