

# Hendricks County Museum News

August 2023

*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 Museum,

As I write this we are in the middle of 4-H fair week, a week full of memories for many of us. It has been fun at the Museum giving tours to so many visitors. It makes me happy to see the many multigenerational groups, especially grandparents and their grandchildren. So many discussions of "I remember this" and "my grandmother used that." Makes me wonder what my grandchildren will be remembering about me. I have already had my oldest grandson ask about the Disney Burger King glasses (plastic) he drank from, of course one is still in the cabinet. Hope you all enjoy time with your families and friends and remember to share your stories.

## Hendricks County Bicentennial Logo Chosen

DANVILLE, Ind. (June 29, 2023) — Filled with plenty of color, a prominent 200 with a torch and three hills representing the waterways, fields and roadways of Hendricks County, John Johansson's clean design was selected as the symbol of next year's Bicentennial celebration.

Johansson, who lives in Danville with his wife, Anne and two daughters, is no stranger to logo designs having previously created graphics for The Children's Ballet, Downtown Danville Partnership and Main Street Plainfield. His logo was among 38 designs submitted to the 12-member Hendricks County Bicentennial Steering Committee.

"We were both stunned and thrilled by the number and quality of the entrees," said Pat Baldwin, co-chair of the steering committee. "This was not an easy decision. There were several submissions that could have served as our Bicentennial logo."

In describing his logo, Johansson said he wanted to come up with a bright, aspirational design that would represent the whole county and its history without focusing on a specific town or landmark. Here's how he described the logo on his submission form:

*The rolling green bands represent Hendricks County's forests and parks; the blue, our streams; the yellow, our fields; the black, our county's contributions to transportation and racing; the red outer circle, the tribes who first hunted and fished this land. The torch embodies our community spirit, and our role in Indiana's history. The gold ribbon celebrates our county's most valuable asset: its people – determined, compassionate, united.*

The logo will be used on all documentation, events and projects representing the Bicentennial. Johansson will receive a \$500 cash prize and recognition as the creator of the milestone emblem.

To learn more, submit ideas or volunteer to help with celebrations, visit the Hendricks County Bicentennial website at [www.Hendricks200.com](http://www.Hendricks200.com). Residents can also register to receive email updates about all Bicentennial efforts on the website.



## Recent Visitors



Visitors to the Museum this summer have included a couple from near Cincinnati. He found our website, watched the virtual tour and decided to surprise his wife with a road trip to Danville for her birthday weekend. They had never been in this area of the state. He loved the construction and woodwork, and both laughed at being in jail. He told us the Museum is awesome and they plan to bring their grandchildren over to visit sometime.

# More recent visitors...



Mike Funk, who lived in the residence when his father was sheriff, brought a group of friends on a tour and told them about his experiences here.



Students from the Ohio State University enjoyed learning about Central Normal College during their visit to the Hendricks County Historical Museum.



Retired Mill Creek School teachers toured the Museum. They loved the Central Normal College display!

## Celebrate the Twen-teas at the 2023 Ladies Tea

The Twen-teas Ladies Tea is set for Saturday, August 5 at 1:30. The program will explore the many innovations and inventions that took place in the 1920s, as well as the music and fashion. The event will be held at the Hendricks County Fairgrounds Convention Center with catering by Courthouse



Grounds. Tickets are \$25.00. Phone registration and [online tickets](#) are available through Thursday August 3 at 4:00.

## Dancing With the Hendricks County Stars

Dancing With the Hendricks County Stars was a wonderful evening. Best Dancers were Brett Clark to "Jailhouse Rock" and Dr. Monet Bowling, who also was People's Choice. Brett also was the #1 fundraiser, followed closely by Kevin Miller of North Salem State Bank. The event was a financial success, too! We look forward to new siding going up this Fall on the storage house, using proceeds from this event, AARPA funds and the Downtown Danville Partnership. A major THANK YOU to event co-chairs Deanna Hindsley and Robin Pickett, and their wonderful committee.



### Board of Directors

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# Know Your Towns...



## Belleville, Indiana (Liberty Township)

Belleville is one of the oldest towns in Hendricks County. It was laid out in 1829 and prospered by the fact that the National Road was constructed right through the middle of town. The 1914 Hendricks County History states "it soon became the social and educational center of the county." Progress can be good for some and bad for others, and Belleville falls into the latter category. The completion of the railroad in 1850 — one mile north of Belleville — started a decline in its prosperity.

The one and only stoplight (US 40 and SR 39) was installed in September 1952. Nonetheless, Belleville had many businesses and organizations spring up, including a saw mill, cabinet making shop, and The Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

One noteworthy event that happened in Belleville was the murder of Thurza Hinshaw, wife of minister William Hinshaw. On the night of January 9, 1895, Thurza was murdered in her home. When suspicion fell on her husband, William, public sentiment denied the possibility of his guilt. Despite the loyalty of his followers, he was found guilty of Thurza's murder. He was sentenced to life in prison, but was paroled in 1905 by Indiana Governor Durban; however, he violated his parole and was recommitted to prison. He was later paroled again and moved to the state of Washington.



### Road Rally

Saturday October 14 is our annual Road Rally. We are looking for a few volunteers to: 1) Map out a route 2) Spread the word 3) Help at the start with registration. Let us know if you are interested, I know we have some car guys and gals out there!

### Life on the Farm Exhibit

Our Centennial Farms and agriculture exhibit will be up for a few more months. Don't miss it! There is one object that has everyone guessing. Do you know what it is? (See page 4 for answer.)



**Don't be left Hanging!**

**Stay informed!**

[www.hendrickscountymuseum.org](http://www.hendrickscountymuseum.org)

Or on Facebook and Instagram!



**Thank You to Our Current Sponsor**



## NEW!! Explore the Museum's collections online!



Whether you are curious about what's in the Museum or have visited and would like to learn more, there is now an option to explore the Museum's collections online! Hendricks County history lovers can view relics, books, archives, photos and more by visiting <https://hendrickscountymuseum.pastperfectonline.com/>. While this site is not the Museum's collections in their entirety, we are adding new items and collections each week so there will always be something new to explore. We are excited for this opportunity to reach beyond the boundaries of Hendricks County to share our timeless treasures. Have suggestions for a specific collection or certain items you are interested in? Please email [hcmuseum@co.hendricks.in.us](mailto:hcmuseum@co.hendricks.in.us) and let us know!

### Virtual Tour



### Visiting the Museum

Come visit in person and discover interesting facts, objects and relics displayed throughout the Museum. For those with mobility challenges (there are stairs throughout the museum), there is a virtual tour that can be viewed in the lobby. Museum hours are Friday and Saturday, 11 AM to 3 PM. Group tours can be scheduled by calling 317-718-6158 (leave a message if no answer) or via email to [hcmuseum@co.hendricks.in.us](mailto:hcmuseum@co.hendricks.in.us).



Do you enjoy learning and talking about Hendricks County history? You might consider becoming a volunteer docent! Docents are trained to take visitors on guided tours of the Museum and help further the public's understanding of our cultural and historical collections. Contact the museum for more information.

The cost of printing and mailing our quarterly newsletter has increased considerably; therefore, we are sending it out electronically to all of our Museum members with email addresses. We are asking your help in providing us with your email address, if have not done so already. If you are a member and prefer receiving a printed copy, please contact the Museum with your current mailing address.

You can email the museum at [hcmuseum@co.hendricks.in.us](mailto:hcmuseum@co.hendricks.in.us) or call 317-718-6158.

Answer to the Life on the Farm Exhibit: This item is a wooden drainage tile. The northwest corner of Hendricks County was a swamp until drainage was installed.