

Fall

2018

# North Manchester HISTORY

*Interpreting the History  
of North Manchester  
and the Eel River Valley*



## HISTORY OF YOUR NEWSLETTER

Gladys Airgood

The first edition newsletter of the North Manchester Historical Society was published in February 1984 by Nancy Reed and Allan White. The newsletter included information about Little Hoosiers Historical Club, memorial gifts given, programming for upcoming meetings, and the Halderman Cemetery. 185 newsletters were mailed at a cost of \$2.00 per year to receive the newsletter. Since its inception the newsletter has been published quarterly. In subsequent years the newsletter cost was included in membership dues. By January 1986 mailings had increased to 250. In February of 1987 a newsletter committee was established consisting of Nancy Reed, Orin Manifold, Joanne Koller, and Orpha Weimer. Bob Nelson became editor in July of 1987 with Allan White assisting as printer. Subsequent editors were Michael Thompson and Ferne Baldwin. The Heckman Bindery has bound the newsletter collection of 1984-1995 and these 2 volumes are in our library at the Center for History.

In June of 2001 the charge for the newsletter to non-historical society members was set at \$20 per year. John Knarr began as editor of the newsletter in 2008 and has recently retired. His professionalism and work with the newsletter has been much appreciated and valued. The Center for History staff and volunteers will now be editing and publishing the newsletter. We hope you will enjoy the new look and feel of the *North Manchester History* newsletter. Source: *Historical Society Minutes, 1971-2018*

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**The Center for History**

122 East Main Street

Monday through Friday, Apr—Dec

10:00a—4:00p

First Saturday and Special Events

**Visit Thomas Marshall House**

409 North Market Street

First Saturday Apr—Dec

1:00p—4:00p

## HELLO, GOOD BYE, AND HELLO

In 1999, when I had newly moved to North Manchester, I was invited to chair a committee to find a new home for the NMHS museum. I had recently worked at an excellent regional history museum, so I had lots of ideas of what a museum could be. And the founders of the NMHS had laid a firm foundation for this next stage.

Almost 20 years later, I can say that I am thrilled with what has been accomplished! The Center for History has become anchor to downtown, our collection has grown exponentially, the community has supported us financially, we've won awards and competitive grants and we've gradually earned a state-wide reputation as a leader among small museums. Most importantly, we tell the story of our town better every year.

As I retire from the Center for History at the end of this year, my main feeling is one of deep gratitude for many, many faithful volunteers. Hundreds of dedicated board members, talented staff, devoted docents, builders, and planners have slowly helped realize the vision of what we might become. It has truly been a community effort.

It's been fun for me to be a builder, but it's time to say "Good Bye" so the next stage can begin. In our next newsletter, you will say "Hello" to Ariel Wagner, our new Director. We place in her capable hands the next phase of your remarkable Center for History. I wish her much success, satisfaction, and fun!

*Mary Chrastil*

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE CENTER FOR HISTORY

The Center for History is full speed ahead until we close for the winter on December 15. Our docents have changed the typewriter display in the front window, replacing it with a Christmas exhibit including a sleigh from the 1920s donated by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Heckman.

*Santa* arrived at The Center November 24 – the Saturday after Thanksgiving. 85 came for this event. The children came with their parents and grandparents. Some adults just came for a photo with Santa.

Each year we do our best to come up with a new ornament for our tree at the *Festival of Trees* at Timbercrest. You can see our 'photo' tree in the Assembly Room this month. You or someone you know might be on it.

December 6 is our Docent Potluck, the last event of the year for us. This is a time to share a meal with those who have given us their time all year. The food is always good and the fellowship even better.

*Paula Dee, Museum Coordinator*



(Right) Before taking the students into the Miller Barn, Farmer Joe Vogel stops at Don Bechtold's farm models.

Twice a year 2nd and 3rd grade students from our local elementary school visit the museum as part of their Indiana history curriculum which helps to bring our local history alive.



Presenters this year for the 2nd grade field trip were:

Chief Jim Kirk  
Joe Vogel  
Lark Killingbeck  
Diana Iden  
Kathy Garber  
Marsha Mort  
Sandy Bendsen

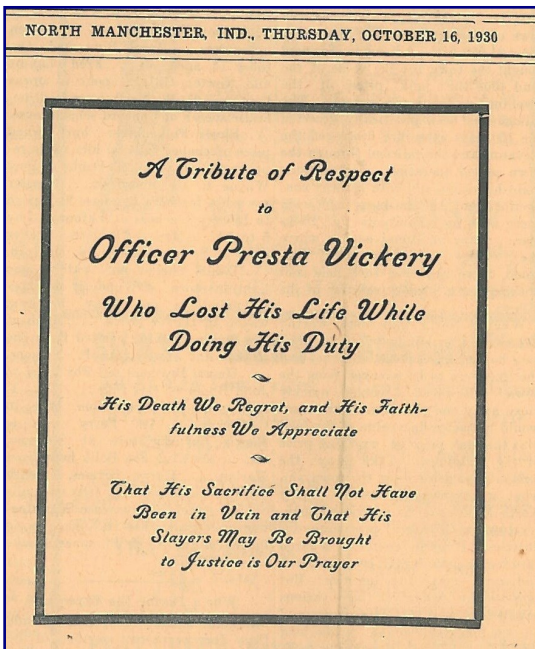


## 2nd Graders Visit The Center for History

### Chief Kirk tells Students the Story of Presta Vickery

A little after 3:00 am on Wednesday October 15, 1930, North Manchester Police Officer Presta Vickery, 48, was on foot patrol with his partner, Wilber Martin. The officers were making their nightly rounds checking the back of the downtown stores along the alley by the Eel River when they came upon two men who had broken into the C. E. Brady Men's Store at 139 East Main Street (currently Main View family room). A gunfight ensued between the police officers and the robbers. Officer Vickery was struck by a bullet in the chest. Both officers retreated east, toward Mill Street. Vickery collapsed and died near the home of W. O. Jefferson at 215 East Main Street (currently the American Legion). The robbers got away with \$50 cash and were never caught.

After this deadly shooting the North Manchester Police Department purchased bulletproof vests for their officers to wear while on duty. One of the first vests purchased is now on exhibit at the Center for History along with a plaque honoring the fallen Officer Vickery. Source: *News-Journal*, October 16, 1930



## NEW IN COLLECTIONS

*Aug—Nov 2018*

1910 façade piece from  
120 E. Main

Richard Freeman's  
1942 diploma and  
honorary awards

Minutes of Chester  
class of 1942 reunions  
with photos

Tea strainer, apple  
corer, sand painting

1940 Brownie Box  
Camera

1942—1963 Air Force  
medals and photos of  
James Burton

Strauss/Ober family:  
5 pc Eastgate parlor set  
from 1880s, clothing,  
1880s high chair,  
genealogy, photos

## WILLIAMSBURG & LANCASTER EXCURSION

April 29—May 4 2019

18 MORE TRAVELERS

NEEDED

For more information  
contact: Bernie Ferringer  
(260) 982-8734

## 1,238 visitors came to the Center for History between March 15 and October 15, 2018 from:

### OTHER

#### COUNTRIES

British Columbia  
Spain  
Germany  
Philippine Islands

#### Alaska

Wasilla

#### Arizona

Phoenix  
Scottsdale

#### California

Eureka  
Irvine  
Los Angeles

Redlands

#### Colorado

Denver

El Jebel

#### Florida

Bradenton  
Cocoa  
Deland  
Dunedin  
Haines City  
Key West  
Miami

Sarasota  
Tallahassee

Wimauma

#### Georgia

Fayetteville  
Lake Park

#### Iowa

Coralville

#### Illinois

Chicago  
Elgin  
Joliet

LaGrange

Mahomet

Naperville

Springfield

#### Louisiana

Hayes  
Sulphur

#### Maryland

Bartonsville

Columbia

Hagerstown

Jefferson

#### Maine

Bath

#### Michigan

Ann Arbor

Bloomfield

Browntown

Climax

Detroit

Grand Haven

Hillsdale

Sturgis

#### Missouri

Beverly Hills

St. Louis

#### Montana (1)

#### North Carolina

Raleigh

#### New Jersey

Long Valley

#### Nevada

Las Vegas

#### New York

Long Island

Schenectady

#### Ohio

Ashland

Cincinnati

Cleveland

Dayton

New Carlisle

Perrysburg

Springfield

Toledo

#### Oklahoma

Fayette

Oklahoma City

Paulding

#### Pennsylvania

Bensalem

Fort Washington

Philadelphia

Somerset

#### South Carolina

Little River

#### South Dakota

Rapid City

#### Tennessee

Colliersville

Nashville

#### Texas

Austin

Fort Worth

Houston

#### Utah

Ogden

#### Virginia

Alexandria

Arlington

King George

McLean

#### Washington

Woodinville

#### Wisconsin

Madison

Oak Creek

#### INDIANA

Akron

Albion

Andrews

Angola

Auburn

Avon

Brookston

Brownstown

Carmel

Chesterton

Churubusco

Claypool

Columbia city

Crawfordsville

Crown Point

Decatur

Fishers

Fort Wayne

Geneva

Goshen

Hagerstown

Huntington

Indianapolis

Kewanna

Kokomo

Lafontaine

Lake Village

Laketon

Lawrenceburg

Leo

Marion

Mentone

Middlebury

Middletown

Mishawaka

Monticello

New Haven

New Paris

New Waverly

Noblesville

North Webster

Peru

Pierceton

Richmond

Roann

Roanoke

Rochester

Sidney

Silver Lake

Somerset

Spencerville

St. Joe

Tipton

Twelve Mile

Urbana

Wabash

Warsaw

Westfield

Williamsport

Winona Lake



# THEN and NOW

1911



121 119 117 115 113 111 109 107 100-Block East Main in 1911  
 Warvel AmerExpress Arnold Bank Winton Priv. Sandoz Lavey A.B TOWN  
 Building FirstNational MDs Dwllg. Meat Miller HALL  
 Carrg/Impl

2018



121 119 117 115 113 111 109 107-103 November 2018  
 For Apts. Apts. For Sun Mostly New Town Hall  
 Sale Tanning Body Books Look Look  
 Boutique

Photo by Scott McAlpine

