

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

America 250 Cover
From the Director 2
Membership3 - 4
Recollections5
Home for the Holidays.....6 - 9
2026 Calendar10
Business Patrons.....11

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CASSCOUNTYHISTORY.ORG

4th Quarter 2025



The America 250 celebration in 2026 marks the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence and is the nation’s official semi quincentennial. America 250 is a nonpartisan, initiative that encourages communities across the country to reflect on our shared past, honor the contributions of Americans from all walks of life, and look forward to the future with a deeper understanding of freedom, liberty, and justice that has evolved over the past quarter-millennium. This nationwide commemoration includes a wide variety of educational, cultural, and celebratory events culminating on July 4, 2026, and provides an opportunity for people of every age to engage with history at the local and national levels.

Locally, we are planning a series of events in June and July to celebrate this historic milestone. CCHS has been stewarding the region’s historical artifacts, stories, and exhibits since 1907, and the America 250 celebrations offer a platform to connect broader national history with Cass County’s own rich past. As part of this work, CCHS has set a goal for 2026 to finish the remodel of the first floor of the Cass County Museum. This project includes creation of new experiences such as a natural history exhibit featuring our American mastodon family, a permanent transportation exhibit showcasing our historic ReVere automobile, and other engaging displays that bring our local history to life. These improvements can’t be done without your continued support. Please visit our website, Facebook page or museums to learn more about our work and our progress. Happy Birthday America!



The mission of the Cass County Historical Society is to collect, preserve and share Cass County Indiana history.

Museum Hours:

Long Home Museum
1004 E. Market, Logansport
1 - 4 PM Thursday - Friday &
First Saturday of the Month
\$5 Adult Admission

Cass County Museum
Castaldi Family History Center
421 E. Broadway, Logansport
10 AM - 4 PM
Tuesday - Thursday

*Both Museums are Closed in
January for Cleaning & Exhibit
Maintenance*

GIVING OPTIONS

*Send your charitable, tax
deductible donation to any of
the following.*

Cass County Historical Society
421 E. Broadway
Logansport, IN 46947

**The Charles P. Schaefer
Designated Endowment Fund**
c/o Cass County Community
Foundation
P.O. Box 441
Logansport, IN 46947
(Send to Cass Co. Comm.
Foundation)

**Cass County Historical Society
Pass Through Account**
c/o Cass County Community
Foundation
P O Box 441
Logansport, IN 46947
(Send to Cass Co. Comm.
Foundation)

CCHS IS A 501(C)3 NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Members,

I hope this message finds you well and that you enjoyed a safe and happy holiday season. As we begin the new year, our staff and volunteers are back to work during our annual January shutdown, focusing on cleaning, maintenance, and the careful removal of holiday décor across our museums to prepare for the year ahead.

Please note that while the museums are closed during this period, the Society offices and the Castaldi Family History Center at the Cass County Museum downtown remain open during regular hours for research assistance, inquiries, and support.

You will soon be receiving our Annual Campaign mailing, if it has not already arrived, which shares updates on our progress and goals. We are grateful for your continued support as we work to complete the remodel and introduce new experiences on the first floor of the Cass County Museum, while also addressing long-overdue maintenance and restoration efforts at the Long Home Museum. Additional details about these efforts can be found on our website at casscountyhistory.org.

Thank you for spending another year with the Cass County Historical Society. Your involvement and encouragement mean a great deal to us, and we remain optimistic that we are on the right path as we move forward together.

Heather Fouts

Heather Fouts
CCHS Executive Director



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

***The Confluence* Subscription \$25**

Includes one year of the CCHS quarterly newsletter mailing featuring the latest information on program offerings, museum development and local history stories of interest.

Individual \$50

Includes one year of benefits for one person. Benefits include admission to both museums, subscription to CCHS quarterly newsletter *The Confluence*, 10% discount on museum gift shop merchandise, invitation to members only events and discounted or free admission to select special events.

Household \$100

Includes one year of benefits for two adults and all children under age 18 in the household. Benefits include admission to both museums, subscription to CCHS quarterly newsletter *The Confluence*, 10% discount on museum gift shop merchandise, invitation to members only events and discounted or free admission to select special events.

Sustaining Member \$100

Includes one year of benefits for one person. Benefits include admission to both museums, subscription to CCHS quarterly newsletter *The Confluence*, 20% discount on museum gift shop merchandise, invitation to members only events and discounted or free admission to select special events.

Benefactor \$500

Includes up to 5 Household or Sustaining Member Level Memberships, assigned to intended recipients at time of purchase. Annual benefits include admission to both museums, subscription to CCHS quarterly newsletter *The Confluence*, 20% discount on museum gift shop merchandise, invitation to members only events and discounted or free admission to select special events.

*Thank you for considering membership to our organization.
Your annual paid membership helps us provide museum admission and services
to all children and students free of charge.*

Everyone on our mailing list receives this card annually in January or February as part of our Annual Campaign package. Please return this card with payment to give a tax-deductible donation to the Cass County Historical Society. This donation does not include your annual CCHS membership. Thank you!

Please complete information on the reverse side and mail this card with your donation in the envelope provided.

	Bronze Level:	Donations up to \$99
	Silver Level:	Donations \$100 - \$199
	Gold Level:	Donations \$200 - \$499
	Diamond Level:	Donations \$500 - \$4999
	Vault Level:	Donations \$5000 + <i>Includes donor name recognition inside CCM Vault</i>

To donate online with card payment please visit casscountyhistory.org

MEMBERSHIP

Fourth Quarter New & Renewed Members

***Kim Reid
Barbara Stein
David Kitchell
Daniel Layman
Barbara Hanlon
Julie Davis
Claudia Benn***

***Jeff Stewart
Shelby Graham
Jim & Andrea Crain
W. Randy Hitchens
Steve Kiesling
Dennis & Gretchen Crum
Thomas Perrone***

THANK YOU!

FROM JILL & HEATHER

Thanks for Helping Us with Our Research in 2025!

Logansport Public Library
Cass County Veterans Office
Royal Center Public Library
Miami County Historical Society
The Miami Nation of Miami County
Carroll County Historical Society
White County Historical Society
Clinton County Historical Society
Indiana Historical Society



Recollections

Written by Lloyd Knight
CCHS Volunteer & Contributing Author

This article is adapted from a March 1980 newsletter of the Cass County Historical Society (CCHS) and was originally written by Powell.

Honorable Judge Horace P. Biddle and U.S. Senator D. D. Pratt were both prominent attorneys during the early years of Cass County. Their legal careers were marked by frequent conflicts, and the following story highlights one of the many heated encounters between the two.

Pratt, a man of considerable size, was frequently pitted against the smaller Biddle in court. Their confrontations were marked by swift exchanges, and their rivalry often led to bitterness and frequent quarrels. On one occasion, Pratt taunted Biddle, saying, “Why, I could swallow you up.”

Without missing a beat, Biddle retorted, “If you did, you’d have more law in your belly than you’ve ever had in your head.”

On another occasion, Biddle, angered by Pratt’s insults, arrived the next day carrying a sword. When Pratt again spoke disrespectfully of him, Biddle slapped him across the face with the flat of the sword. The two men clashed, with Pratt’s imposing size overpowering Biddle’s smaller frame. However, when Biddle unsheathed his sword and prepared to drive it into Pratt’s large abdomen, Sheriff Wilson McElheny intervened, quickly separating the combatants.

Judge John U. Pettit fined Biddle \$1,000 for contempt of court, but the fine was never collected.



We hope you enjoyed this story. Your continued support of the Cass County Historical Society is invaluable. Donations and memberships are always appreciated to help sustain the operations of CCHS. For more information, please contact our office at (574) 753-3866 or visit our website at casscountyhistory.org.

EVENTS

Home for the Holidays Celebrates 3rd Season at Long Home Museum

We are delighted to celebrate the close of our third year of *Home for the Holidays*, our signature Christmas event at the Long Home Museum. Each year this event continues to grow, and 2025 was especially meaningful as we expanded the experience upstairs by adding beautifully decorated trees and holiday décor to the bedrooms. We were also thrilled to welcome new decorators who generously shared their time and creativity, helping us make the Long Home even more magical and inviting for the season.

Please save the date—Home for the Holidays 2026 will open on Friday, November 27, 2026, from 2:00–5:00 p.m., giving guests the opportunity to enjoy the festive displays before heading downtown for the parade. If you are interested in helping decorate for this beloved annual tradition, please contact Jill at info@casscountyhistory.org. We also extend our sincere thanks to the Cass County Visitors Bureau for their event support from 2023–2025, which helped us build our decorative displays and promote this special tradition, and to Logansport Savings Bank for sponsoring First Saturdays in 2025, where our community enjoyed meet-and-greets and gifts with our Victorian Santa Claus in the Long Home parlor.



Generous support for our signature Christmas event at Long Home Museum provided by the Cass County Visitors Bureau 2023 - 2025.

Thank you for helping us !





2026 PROGRAMS & EVENTS CALENDAR

Recurring Events:

- **First Saturdays at Long Home Museum** – Free Admission & Activities.
- **Cass County Legacy Speakers at Cass County Museum** – Free public history lessons. Follow our Facebook page or website for announcements.

Special Events and Programs:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| • February 5, 1 - 4 PM: | Long Home Museum reopens regular hours |
| • March 7, 1 - 2:30 PM: | Musician Nick Carter , Long Home Museum Parlor |
| • April 4, 1 - 4 PM: | Easter Bunny Meet & Greet , Long Home Museum Parlor |
| • April 30, 4 - 6 PM: | CCHS Volunteer Recruitment at Cass County Museum |
| • June 5: | CCHS Golf Outing – Details coming soon! |
| • June 19, 1 - 4 PM: | Free admission celebrating Juneteenth , Long Home Museum |
| • July 4: | America 250 Celebration – Watch for event announcements! |
| • October 3, 4, 10, 11: | From Dark Pages mystery tour debuts at Long Home Museum |
| • November 27, 2 - 5 PM: | Home for the Holidays debut at Long Home Museum |
| • December 5, 1 - 4 PM: | Santa Meet & Greet , Long Home Museum Parlor |
| • December 9, 5 - 7 PM: | CCHS 2026 Annual Meeting , Cass County Museum |

2025 ANNUAL CAMPAIGN—THANK YOU ALL WHO CONTRIBUTED!

BRONZE \$1-\$99	SILVER \$100-\$199	GOLD \$200-499	DIAMOND \$500-\$4999
Stephen Clary William Jackson Robert McBride Celia Jones John & Janet Davis	George Stephenson Doris Chambers Bonnie Manning Jim & Mercedes Brugh Central Paving Inc. John & Anita Hillis J.T. & Ana Haley Hiram & Posie Fouts Logan's Landing Mary Lou Long Phillip Gleason J.T. Haley	Tony & Barb Partridge Mark & Marsha Bender Small Parts Inc. Security Federal Savings Bank Ann Mummert	Vickie Bridge Paul & Barbara (Castaldi) Harvey Judge Leo & Lucy Burns Tom Castaldi Jerry & Ann Miller Sharon Jones Larry Thomas Michael & Sarah Stajduhar Robert Julian
VAULT \$5000+			
Castaldi Family Trust			

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING CCHS IN 2025!



Cass County Historical Society is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. All donations are tax-deductible.
Campaign donations do not include membership.
Thank you for supporting Cass County Historical Society!

Cass County Historical Society
421 E. Broadway
Logansport, IN 46947
Return Service Requested



Phone: 574-753-3866

Email : info@casscountyhistory.org

Web: www.casscountyhistory.org



Cass County HISTORICAL SOCIETY

TWO MUSEUMS. ONE MISSION.
Join the Cass County Historical Society
today and help share our history!

LEARN MORE

Long Home Museum

Thursdays, Fridays & First Saturday of the
Month 1 - 4 PM

Cass County Museum

Tuesday - Thursday 10 AM - 4 PM

casscountyhistory.org

