

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 24 & 25
Wigwam & Teepee Exhibit
at the Museum 1-4 PM

March 4
Membership Meeting
*How to Discover the History
of Your Property*
at Otterbein 7PM

April 14
Opening Day at the Museum
for the 2024 Season
1-4PM

OUR MANAGEMENT TEAM

Greg Myers, President
Vice President
Lisa Lowry, Treasurer
Melanie Kloucek, Secretary

Board of Trustees:

Lori Bellman
Jerry Dicus
Luann Everett
Frank Valenti

MUSEUM HOURS

Second and Fourth Sunday
April through October
1:00 PM—4:00 PM

Special tours can be arranged
throughout the year by calling
419-645-4782



Learn more on our
Facebook page



MEMBER
**OHIO LOCAL
HISTORY ALLIANCE**
Inspire. Connect. Educate.

Cridersville Elementary School WIGWAM & TEEPEE EXHIBIT



In November, 57 Fourth Graders at Cridersville Elementary School made models of wigwams and teepees. The models were put on display in the school cafeteria during the Christmas on Main Street Celebration. It was one of the destinations in town. Folks who visited the school were invited to join in a "Peoples Choice" vote to select the ten best models.

The Cridersville Historical Society will be hosting an open house on Saturday, February 24 and Sunday, February 25 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. to view the ten winning models.

We believe this is an excellent opportunity for us to commend the students on their good work and their interest in history. Plus, you may get the opportunity to meet several of the students.

OPEN POSITION — With the passing of Charisse Zuppardo, we have a vacancy in the Vice President position. If you have interest in joining our management team as Vice President, please contact Greg Myers at 419-733-0568.

—BECOME A MEMBER—

Our mission is to preserve our local heritage for future generations. We do this through exhibits at our museums, our special public education programs, and our activities with local students.

**It is important work and it is fun.
We invite you to join us in the fun.**

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

Individual — \$10 Student — \$5
Dual Membership — \$20 per couple
Patron Levels — \$50, \$100, or \$250
Corporate Levels — \$100 or \$250

Please make membership payments to:
Cridersville Historical Society, P.O. Box 2444, Cridersville, Ohio 45806

CRIDERSVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

111 W. Sugar Street
P.O. Box 2444
Cridersville, Ohio 45806

Preserving Our Past For Future Generations



CRIDERSVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY Newsletter

JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2024



QUARTER AUCTION

Best Fundraiser Ever

The Historical Society held its annual Quarter Auction at the Fire Station on November 11, 2023. It was a huge success. When the doors opened people began arriving and they just kept coming. We had to set up extra tables and chairs.

We had an excellent selection of items donated for the auction, plus several raffle items. Our refreshment stand with pizza, popcorn, and drinks was also successful. We made more than \$3,700 for museum expenses.

We want to thank everyone who attended, the people who donated items for the auction, all the folks who volunteered to run it—and the Cridersville Fire Department who not only allows us to use their building but also helps us set up and clean up the event. It was a great team effort!



BLACK HOOF PRESENTATION

On December 7, 2023 the Cridersville Historical Society hosted a presentation by Rusty Cottrell, noted historian and student of 18th and 19th century Ohio Shawnee culture. He gave a first-person history of Chief Black Hoof, the principal chief of the Shawnee in Western Ohio.

The program explained Chief Black Hoof's philosophical clashes with Tecumseh, his participation in the French & Indian War, the American Revolution and the War of 1812, and the Shawnee migration in 1832.

The presentation was held in the Community Room at Otterbein-Cridersville with a capacity crowd of more than 85 people attending. Cottrell's presentation was followed by 30-minutes of questions and answers. Attendees also had the opportunity to talk with Cottrell individually. The evening was a great success.

GENEROUSLY
SPONSORED BY



Our guest speaker, Rusty Cottrell, with several members of our Young Historians Club after his presentation as Chief Black Hoof.

Preserving Our Past For Future Generations

Christmas on Main Street

Saturday, December 9 was a busy day in Cridersville. It was the Annual Christmas on Main Street celebration. The Village was filled with people and families visiting 12 designated places around the community.



The museum has been a destination since the first year of the celebration. This year it was fully “decked” for the holidays and the model railroad exhibit grew to 24 feet in length with

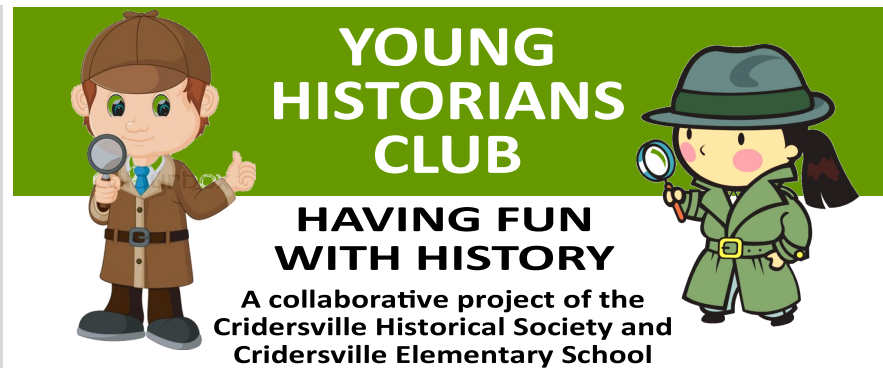
three separate trains and more than 100 buildings and structures. It is always a favorite part of the event.

More than 250 people toured the museum and 76 individuals participated in our “Local History Hunt”—the game to find answers to questions about museum exhibits.

Christmas on Main Street is always one of the busiest days of the year at the museum. It is a great way to introduce local history to people and it is lots of fun!



The kids always love the model train exhibit!



Our *Young Historians Club* is a student organization that works with adult advisors to encourage student members to develop an interest in history and civics.

An understanding of history and its impact on the present and future is an important part of a good education.

Through a variety of projects and activities, *Young Historians* gain a better understanding of local, regional, state and national history. YHC activities include videos, guest speakers, research reports, field trips, and hands-on projects.

We began the Young Historians in 2021 with thirteen student members. It was a great success! In 2022 club participation increased to 32. This year, 38 students in the third and fourth grades are in the club.

The Wapakoneta School District has officially designated the YHC as a school activity. This means additional funding, and it helps provide field trips during the school day.

This year students are learning about the prehistoric Native Americans, the Shawnee, and the pioneer families in the area. They will be visiting the Logan County Museum to learn more about the Shawnee tribes in western Ohio.

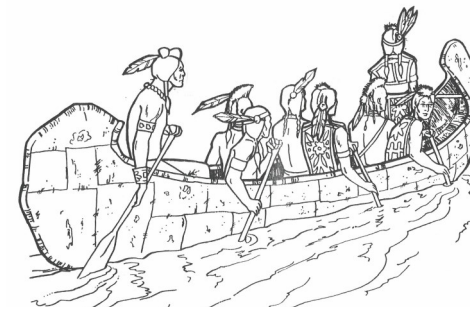


There is a lot to discover from our local history!

Our Young Historians Club enables our student members to enjoy the fun of history.

OUR SHAWNEE LEGACY

A LOCAL HISTORY PERSPECTIVE



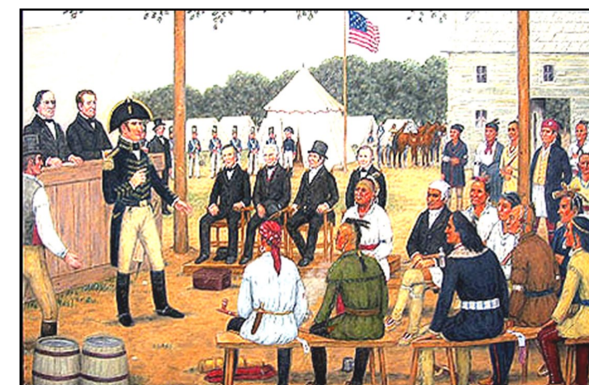
The Shawnee tribes are thought to have established a settlement along the banks of the Auglaize River in the 1780s. They built their village not far from the river, named by French explorers for its clay-filled waters. The Shawnee named their new town Waughpaugkonnetta.



Catecahassa
CHIEF BLACK HOOF
Principal Chief of the Shawnee Tribes In Western Ohio

The Shawnee came to what would become Auglaize County because of the forests filled with deer, beaver, fox, wolf, black bear and many other kinds of wildlife. The region became their hunting grounds. The Auglaize River was also a good location at which to portage (carry) canoes to the head waters of the Great Miami River and on to the Ohio River, the Mississippi River and the Gulf of Mexico.

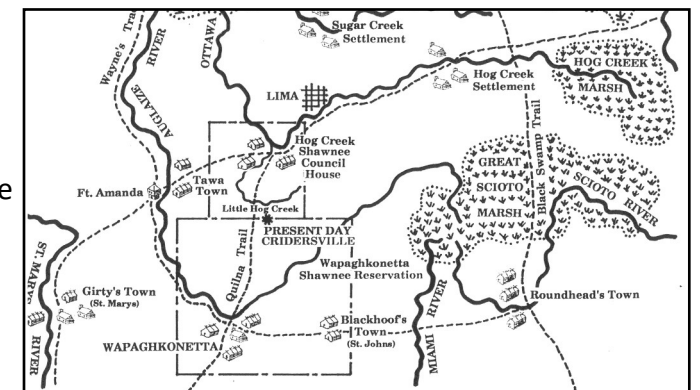
The food of the Shawnee people were fish and wild game including squirrel, raccoon, deer, and bear. The men were the hunters. They also raised maize (corn), pumpkins, squash and beans. They were very fond of maple syrup from the plentiful maple trees. The women were the farmers.



Signing the Treaty of Greenville in 1795

By 1820 the Indian lands of northwest Ohio had been surveyed and divided into 14 new counties. The Shawnee and other tribes did not fit into the U.S. government’s plans for settlement of the region. In 1830 the Indian Removal Act was passed by Congress. It required that all of the tribes be relocated west of the Mississippi River.

When asked why he agreed to sell his lands, Chief Black Hoof is said to have replied, “I consented because I could not help myself, for I never knew them to undertake anything without accomplishing it. I knew I might as well give up first as last, for they were determined to have our Ohio lands.” The Shawnee were removed to the Kansas Territory in 1832 and 1833. Black Hoof did not leave Ohio. He died in 1831. He was buried with great ceremony and secrecy near his camp at what is now St. Johns in eastern Auglaize County.



Along the dividing line between these reservations a trail through the forest developed. This trail would become the Main Street of the new village of Cridersville when it was established in 1856.