



Pickerington - Violet Township Historical Society



March/April 2026 Newsletter

In Remembrance:

Gary Taylor (1937-2026)

Gary Taylor was a founding member of our society, and the list of contributions he made to our organization is long and varied. From making coffee at member meetings to sharing his wealth of knowledge about Pickerington history, Gary was always willing to step in and help wherever he was needed.

His slide show presentation was a highlight of our third-grade tours of the Museum. The students truly enjoyed learning about Pickerington's past through Gary's stories and photographs — and so did the adults in the room.

Gary joined the board as president in July 1999 and served in that office for 14 years. At the time of his death, he was serving as past president advisor. Over the years, he recruited several past and current board members — including me — and encouraged us to get involved.



Gary was the go-to person when it came to Pickerington history. He was our leader in many ways, and he will be sorely missed.

Our condolences go out to his wife, Barbara, and the rest of the Taylor family. We are grateful to those who have donated to the society in his memory.

- Peggy Portier

Mark your calendars for our Annual Yard Sale!

Join us **April 9 (4–8 p.m.)**, **April 10 (8 a.m.–1 p.m.)**, and **April 11 (8 a.m.–1 p.m.)** to shop for great deals. All proceeds benefit the Museum.

We also invite you to take this opportunity to do some spring cleaning and donate to the sale. We gladly accept books, craft supplies, toys, tools, instruments, sports equipment, and other household items. Please note: **No clothing.**

To arrange a time to drop off your donations at the Museum— or to schedule a pick-up from a Pickerington-area address— please call **(614) 382-5989** or email:

pickhistsociety@hotmail.com.

**Thank you for
supporting the Museum!**

Upcoming Events

Annual Yard Sale

Lower Level of Museum

Upper Level will be open for Village

Shoppe Hop on April 9

15 E. Columbus Street

April 9, 4:00 pm- 8:00 pm

April 10, 8 am-1:00 pm

April 11, 8 am-1:00 pm

The Big Roadshow:

Transportation Milestones that Shaped Pickerington

Pickerington Senior Center

150 Hereford Dr.

April 24, 4:00 pm-7:00 p.m.

April 25, 9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

April 26, 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Saturday there will also be hourly tours of the Center Street depot.





Historical Society to Celebrate America 250



This July 4 marks the 250th anniversary of the birth of the United States of America. To honor this historic milestone, the Pickerington-Violet Township Historical Society will celebrate throughout the year with special projects and events.

One of the first initiatives is our **America 250 Commemorative Quilt Project**. For a \$10 donation to the Pickerington-Violet Township Historical Society, your signature and/or message will be added to a beautiful patriotic quilt, lovingly sewn and gifted to the Society by our own Terry Guay.

The completed quilt — along with

an informational booklet recognizing the individuals and groups who signed it — will be placed with the 1976 Pickerington Time Capsule and preserved until it is opened in 2076.

If you would like to participate, please complete the form included with this newsletter and mail it, along with your payment, to:

**Pickerington-Violet Township
Historical Society**

P.O. Box 732
Pickerington, Ohio 43147

You may also submit your application in person at one of the Museum's monthly events.

Spring Arts Show May 1 (6-8:30 pm) & May 3 (2-4 pm)

Upstairs, enjoy artwork created by talented students from Pickerington North and Pickerington Central. Downstairs, view works from other local artists.



**Want to be a featured artist?
Request an application:**

pickhistsociety@hotmail.com



Pickerington - Violet Township
Historical Society

2026 Board Members

Elected Officers

President: Peggy Portier

Vice President (Administration):
Keith Ebright

Vice President (Programs):
Open

Secretary: Stephanie Johnson

Treasurer: Fiona Spears

Members-at-Large:
Barbara Freeman, Mary Herron,
Kevin Wetherell

President's Appointees

Historian: David Williard

Membership/Volunteer Chair:
Stephanie Johnson

Newsletter Editor: Rachel Scofield

Curator: Peggy Winter

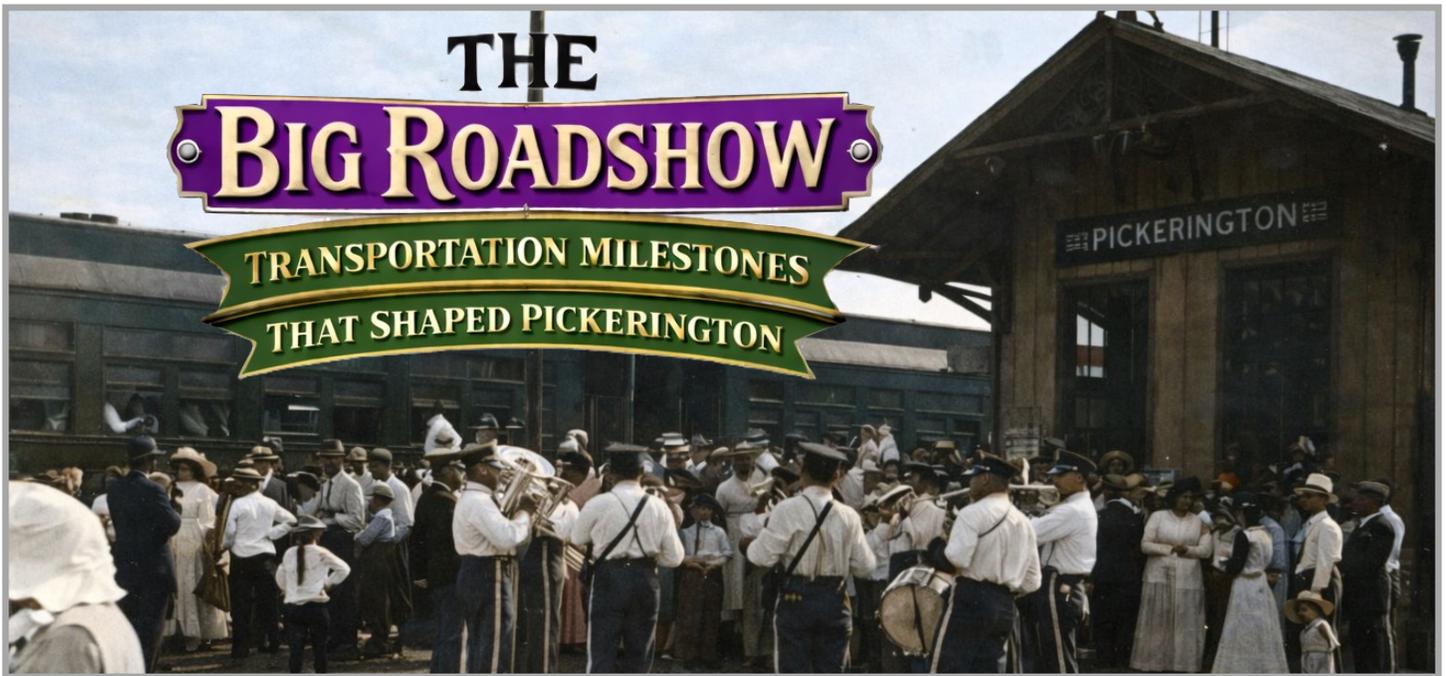
Librarian: Terry Guay

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Pickhistory.org



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PickeringtonHistorical
Society



The Big Roadshow: Transportation Milestones That Shaped Pickerington

As part of the America 250 celebration, the Pickerington-Violet Township Historical Society will present “**The Big Roadshow: Transportation Milestones That Shaped Pickerington**” April 24–26 at the **Pickerington Senior Center**, 150 Hereford Drive.

The free, family-friendly event explores how transportation helped shape Pickerington, and the nation, focusing on key milestones including Zane’s Trace, the Ohio & Erie Canal, the railroad, and Interstate 70.

Ohio’s growth has long been tied to how people and goods move through it. Native peoples followed animal trails and traveled waterways by boat. Early settlers carved-wagon paths through forests and cleared land for farming and manufacturing.

In the early 1800s, canals connected Ohio to eastern markets, fueling rapid growth in towns and cities. By the mid-19th century, railroads largely replaced canals, offering faster transport and greater capacity. The creation of the interstate system in the mid-1900s cemented Ohio’s role as a transportation hub for trucking, logistics, and commerce.

Exhibits at **The Big Roadshow** will bring that history to life. The centerpiece of the show is a large S-scale model train display modeled after the Toledo & Ohio Railroad route, along which locomotives still travel through Pickerington today.

Additional highlights include an early motorcycle on loan from the American Motorcycle Association Hall of Fame and Museum and antique cars displayed in the parking lot (weather permitting).

Sixth-grade students from Harmon Middle School will present the story of Zane’s Trace, an ambitious 230-mile frontier road stretching from Wheeling, Virginia (now West Virginia), through southeastern Ohio to present-day Maysville, Kentucky. The road played a major role in the development of the Northwest Territory and the cities of Zanesville, Lancaster, and Chillicothe.

The Diehl family of Master Builders has created a large LEGO display celebrating Ohio’s transportation history, while the Pickerington Public Library will offer a children’s craft.

The Pickerington Early Learning Center students will display their art in the “**Big Roadshow Coloring Corner**” for kids. Transportation-related wood carvings from the Olivedale Wood Carving Club will be exhibited.

Zane’s Trace lecturer, Dale Ferbrache, will portray a pioneer land surveyor and bring the wilderness to life on Saturday (time to be announced). Canal boat captain reenactor, Jack Campbell, will be on hand Sunday at 3:00 p.m. for a special presentation.

Tours of the original Pickerington train depot at the Toledo & Ohio Central Train Station, 50 N. Center St., will be available on the hour Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Reenactor Tony Mills will portray Clyde Leach, the depot agent during a time when Pickerington was home to both the state’s largest creamery and a major grain mill.

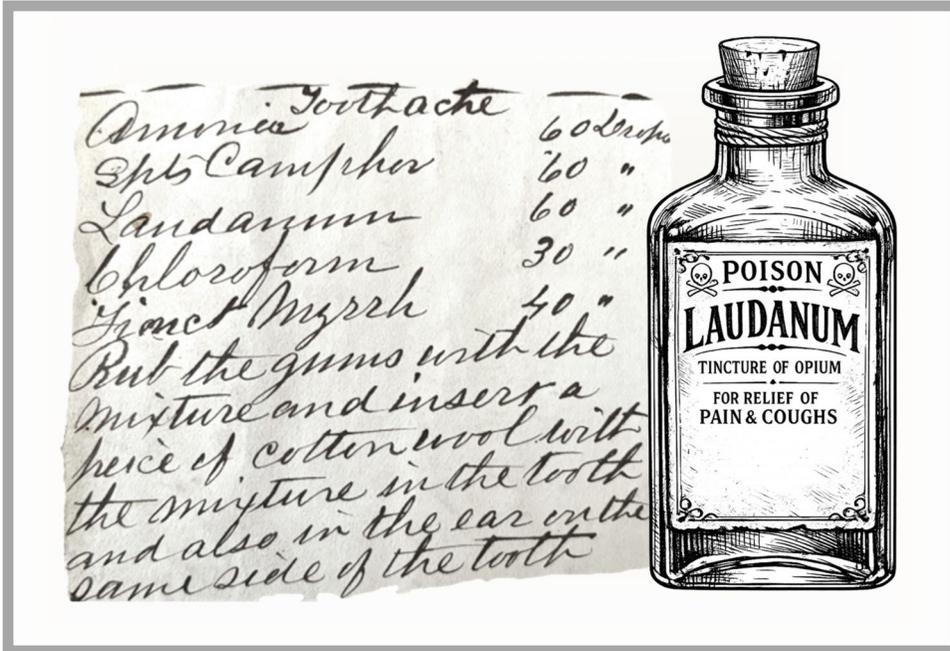
The Big Roadshow runs Friday, April 24, from 4 to 7 p.m.; Saturday, April 25, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; and Sunday, April 26, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free however food will be available for purchase.



36-Hour Give Raises \$4,022!

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Historical Society during the Fairfield County Foundations' 36-Hour Give last November!

Collection Curiosities



Among the items in the Museum's collection is a journal dating to the 1870s that appears to have belonged to someone with an interest in both apothecary practices and the supernatural. A signature on one of the loose paper scraps bears the name "John McCann," though it cannot be determined whether the book itself belonged to him.

One of the journal's many fascinating entries details a home remedy for curing a toothache. The ingredients include chloroform and laudanum — the latter a tincture made of opium dissolved in

alcohol — a reminder of how differently pain was treated in the 19th century.

Toothache

- Ammonia 60 Drops
- Spts Camphor 60 "
- Laudanum 60 "
- Chloroform 60 "
- French Myrrh 60 "

Rub the gums with the mixture and insert a piece of cotton wool with the mixture in the tooth and also in the ear on the same side of the tooth.

Members we lost

This Winter, we mourn the loss of three of our members.

Mary "Diane" (Krouse) Paxton

(1938-2026)

Diane retired from Pickerington Schools where she served as a cafeteria worker. She was preceded in death by her husband of 57 years, Jim. She is survived by her children and grandchildren.

Clover Louise (Longcore) Rogers

(1925-2026)

Clover grew up in Paw Paw, Michigan and worked in a factory assembling war planes. She was the oldest member of our society at nearly 101 years old. She is survived by her children and grandchildren.

Gary Emerson Taylor

(1937-2026)

Gary served as president of the Pickerington-Violet Township Historical Society as well as the Pickerington Lions Club. He also volunteered for 40 years with the Violet Township Volunteer Fire Department. He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Barbara, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Help Us! We need a volunteer to transcribe letters from WWII & someone who can fix a typewriter.

Be a Part of History with our America 250 Quilt



Pickerington - Violet Township
Historical Society



A Red, White & Blue quilt top donated by society board member Terry Guay will be quilted and displayed at our museum Oct-Dec 2026 and then placed with the 1976 Pickerington time capsule to be opened in 2076.

For \$10, you may write your name on one of the quilt squares.

We will be putting together a booklet with information about the people who signed it.

Complete this form and return with your payment.

Your Name _____ Age _____

City where you live _____

Do you have a special connection to Pickerington or Violet Township you would like to share for the booklet? For example – “I’m a fourth generation Pickerington resident” or “I was on the first girl’s state championship basketball team from PHS”

Write your name(s) inside this box.

You may use “In Memory of” or “In Honor of”

This will be transferred onto the quilt.

No more than 4 lines please.