



Paynesville Historical Society

LEARNING FROM THE PAST TO INSPIRE THE FUTURE

251 AMPE DRIVE - PAYNESVILLE, MN 56362

PAYNESVILLEHISTORICALL.ORG | 320-243-7547

Newsletter

December 2025



Business Sponsor Drive



The Paynesville Historical Society has enhanced its business sponsorship program by adopting a single annual solicitation model. Rather than requesting multiple in-kind contributions throughout the year, businesses are now invited to make one consolidated monetary donation. Additionally, the sponsorship benefits previously associated with Kids History Camp have been fully integrated into the business sponsorship package, resulting in a more comprehensive and strategically aligned marketing opportunity for participating organizations. The annual business sponsorship drive is conducted from October through December and provides essential support for the Society's operating budget for the forthcoming year. For the current cycle, the fundraising goal is \$20,000 by December 31.

Membership Drive



Beginning in January, the Paynesville Historical Society will launch its annual membership drive. Annual membership is offered at a rate of \$50 per household, providing essential support for the ongoing operations of the museum. With staff wages representing nearly 50 percent of the organization's annual budget, membership revenue is vital to sustaining high-quality services, programming, and visitor engagement. Membership requests will be distributed in the upcoming weeks.

For the 2026 membership year, the Society has set a fundraising goal of \$10,000. 01



Paynesville Historical Society

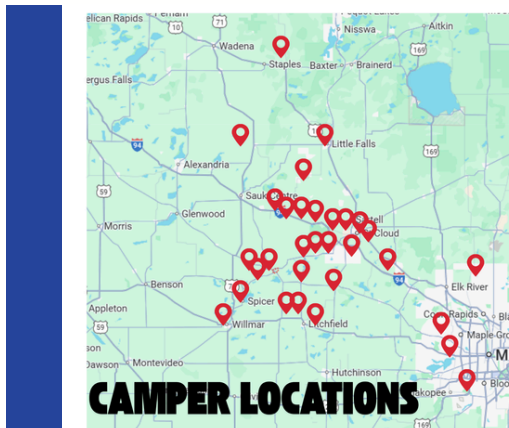
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Kids History Camp - Year in Review

Kids History Camp strives to foster self-confidence and essential life skills by providing technology-free, hands-on learning experiences that engage youth directly with history and their community.

2025 Kids History Camp Review

- 199 campers participated across the summer sessions
- Over 45 volunteers supported each camp
- 12 partnering organizations contributed to programming and resources
- More than 35% of campers required accommodations, reflecting the camp's strong commitment to accessibility and inclusion
- Campers represented 32 different schools and 18 communities, demonstrating the program's broad regional impact

CAMPER SCHOOLS

ACGC	Little Falls Community Middle School
Avon Elementary	Mississippi Heights Elementary
BSE	New London Spicer
Blackhawk Middle School	Paynesville
Browerville Elementary School	Pine Elementary
Cold Spring Elementary	Prince of Peace
Deerwood Elementary	Sacred Heart
Divine Mercy Academy Homeschool	St Francis Elementary School
Eden Valley - Watkins	St Francis Middle School
Holdingford	St Raphael, New Hope, MN
Holy Family School, Albany	St. Francis Elementary School
Homeschooled	St. MARY'S Melrose
Jordan	St. Peter and Paul
Kennedy community	St. Robert's Academy
Lake Ripley Elementary, Litchfield	Westwood Elementary
Litchfield Middle School	Zachary Lane Elementary



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THURSDAY - SATURDAY

10:00AM - 5:00PM



New Winter Hours

This winter, the Paynesville Historical Society has expanded its public hours. The museum is now open Thursday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

In 2025, the museum welcomed more than 3,000 visitors, reflecting continued community interest and engagement.

Winter Market

This winter we are hosting a Winter Indoor Market at the museum. We have 10-12 specialties at the market. It is held on the first and third Thursday of the month. The market is unique in the aspect it is all home-based, homemade goods.





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Timeline Redesign

We are pleased to announce the launch of our Timeline Redesign Project, scheduled for phased completion by April 1. This initiative will refresh the timeline exhibit area while preserving the historical integrity and continuity of the museum's chronological story. The project includes updating the community timeline through the present day with support from the Paynesville High School. In addition, the redesigned layout will create more flexible space for programs and events, introduce a comfortable seating area with improved access to books, scrapbooks, and other research materials, and establish a dedicated display zone for rotating themed exhibits.





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Upcoming Events

December 2025

Event & Class Information: <https://paynesvillehistorical.org/phs-events>

COME PLAY AT THE MUSEUM

JANUARY 2ND 1:00 - 4:00P PM - FREE EVENT

UNDER 6 YEARS OLD REQUIRES PARENT PRESENT



REGISTER: [HTTPS://PAYNESVILLEHISTORICAL.ORG/PHS-EVENTS](https://paynesvillehistorical.org/phs-events)



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BEGINNER CROCHETING CLASS

JANUARY 3RD - 1:00PM - 3:00PM

LEARN TO CROCHET A WINTER HAT WITH A PUFF BALL.

AGES 10 AND OLDER.



REGISTER: [HTTPS://PAYNESVILLEHISTORICAL.ORG/PHS-EVENTS](https://paynesvillehistorical.org/phs-events)



Paynesville Historical Society

BEGINNER EMBROIDERY CLASS

FEBRUARY 7TH - 1:00PM - 3:00PM

LEARN EMBROIDERY BASICS AND EMBROIDER A TOWEL

AGES 10 AND OLDER.



REGISTER: [HTTPS://PAYNESVILLEHISTORICAL.ORG/PHS-EVENTS](https://paynesvillehistorical.org/phs-events)



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DREAM CATCHERS

MARCH 7TH - 1:00PM - 3:00PM

LEARN EMBROIDERY BASICS AND EMBROIDER A TOWEL

AGES 12 AND OLDER.



REGISTER: [HTTPS://PAYNESVILLEHISTORICAL.ORG/PHS-EVENTS](https://paynesvillehistorical.org/phs-events)



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DREAM CATCHERS - KIDS

MARCH NATIVE AMERICAN DREAM CATCHER MAKING

AGES 6 AND OLDER



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