

# The Far-Land Legacy

WHAT WILL YOU LEAVE BEHIND...?

[TheFarLandLegacy.com](http://TheFarLandLegacy.com)

FAIRFIELD County

FRIDAY

March 25, 2022

Vol. I | Issue: 13

\$5.00

## ***MEDILL DEVIATES DIRECTION***

**FROM SCARCE POSSIBILITY TO LAW AND POLITICS**



**WILLIAM MEDILL's Portrait**  
*Courtesy of the Ohio Memory*

**Joe McFarland**  
The Far-Land Legacy  
*The Publishing Legacy Company*

**LANCASTER** – Born in February 1802 to William and Isabella Medill, shortly after their immigration from Ireland in the late 1790s, William Medill grew up on the family farm in New Castle

County, Delaware.

Opportunities remained scarce for farm children to gain an education; however young William completed the necessary preparatory studies to gain acceptance to a nearby academy. Once

**See MEDILL on page 3**

## ***AN ELEMENTARY MEMORY***

**Joe McFarland**  
The Far-Land Legacy  
*The Publishing Legacy Company*

**LANCASTER** – Named after William Medill and purchased from J. Floyd and Roxy Wright in 1958, Medill Elementary School, originally named “Governor William Medill Elementary School” in 1959 before construction broke ground, secured a section of 12.79 acres purchased for \$1,500 per acre.

The school originally opened their doors on October 24, 1960, once built to hold eight classrooms. No official dedication announced the new presence of the \$220,000 project now designed to provide a future to more children, however an “open house” commenced on Sunday, November 6 that same year in tribute to the American Education week. That same year the school opened an additional 2.49 acres added to the property purchased by the Church of God at a \$7,100 price tag.

By 1963, because of the East School busting at its seams with an overcrowded population of students, Medill took the first graders to alleviate the tension. Two years later, the addition of eight more classrooms, a cafeteria, and multipurpose room added to the functionality of the facility. Reports confirmed on October 17, 1965, the first

**See SCHOOL on page 5**

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# SPOTLIGHT

**Joe McFarland**  
The Far-Land Legacy  
The Publishing Legacy Company

**John Albert Thrash**  
23 FEB 1901 - 24 MAR 1972  
SALEM CHURCH CEMETERY

**BLOOM TOWNSHIP** – Born on Saturday, February 23, 1901, John Albert Thrash came into the start of Ervin Albert and Mary Etta (Finney) Thrash's family. Born in Bloom Township and the eldest of seven children, John married Mary Margaret Huston (Allen) on Wednesday, November 26, 1919, in Franklin County after he turned 18. She was older by roughly one- and one-half years.

Together they started a family and raised four daughters: Norma Carol, Marjorie Mae, Doris Eileen, and Marie Emma.

For forty years John inspected railroad cars at the Buckeye Steel

Castings on Parsons Avenue in Columbus, Ohio.

When John passed away in his home on Friday, March 24, 1972, after just turning 71, his family interred him down the street off Slough Road at the Salem Church Cemetery. Both he and his wife are among the last to be buried in this cemetery where a small marker marks their burial plot.

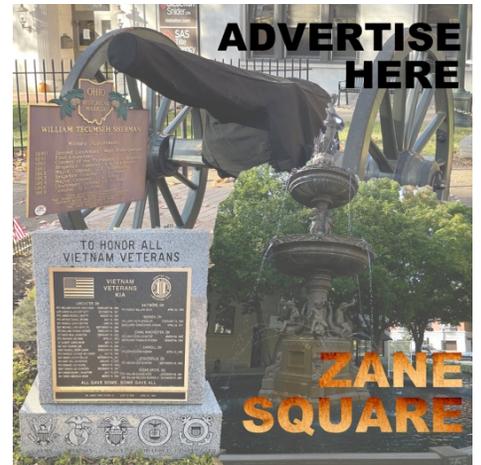


**JOHN ALBERT THRASH as a young man.**  
*Courtesy of FindAGrave.com*

**JOHN ALBERT THRASH**  
*Courtesy of FindAGrave.com*



**John Albert Thrash and Mary Margurite (Allen)**  
*Courtesy of FindAGrave.com*



Therefore, thou shalt keep the commandments of the LORD thy God, to walk in His ways, and to fear Him.

**Deuteronomy 8:6**

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# MEDILL |

*Continued from Page 1*

he completed his term, he taught school and worked several other jobs during the next six months to secure his ability to attend the Newark Academy.

The Newark Academy transitioned later to the Delaware College, and now stands as the University of Delaware.

After receiving a college education, graduating in 1825, William read law part time while remaining in New Castle while under Judge Black. He gained admittance to the Delaware bar in the summer of 1830.

The following winter of 1832, at 30 years old, Medill moved Midwest to Ohio settling in Lancaster and became one of the town's most promising young men with his experienced education and polished presence. He showed a promising career in law and studied under the direction of Judge Philemon Beecher. The Ohio Historical Society records Medill achieving his admittance to the bar in early 1832, however the *"Centennial History of Lancaster, Ohio, and Lancaster People"* express that Medill negated admittance to the bar due to Ohio's prerequisite of one year's residence prior to being admitted. William forsook his path, neglecting law and the bar, and deviated toward the political life at an early age.

Although William never settled down with a family of his own, he gained the reputation as a ladies' man as he gained popularity among the people in society.

With a solid, sustainable reputation his integrity never rose to be challenged. When navigating his political career as a Democrat from Ohio, Medill transitioned into a member of the Ohio Legislature representing Fairfield County from 1835 - 1837 after the citizens of Lancaster elected him to serve as their representative. During his third term he added the speaker of the House to his repertoire. His next endeavor took him to Congress after elected in 1838 by Fairfield, Perry, Morgan, and Hocking counties announcing his term to start in 1839 where he served in various leadership positions on several important committees. He served as Congressman, representing the 9th district in the United States House of Representatives, for two terms until 1843 after he realized defeat in the 1842 election.

His political path led him to President James K. Polk's administration as he served as the Assistant Postmaster-



**Portrait of Governor William Medill.**

*Courtesy of FindAGrave.com*

General. Shortly thereafter, his service called him to the office of Commissioner of Indian Affairs. The Native American Indians held Medill in high regards and his justice toward them was accepted, however during this administration the Commissioner role transferred from the war department to the interior department.

His next adventure awaited when he accepted the role as President when elected over the Ohio Constitutional Convention in 1850 where he networked with Henry Stanbery and other prominent politicians.

During the mid-1850s agitation against foreign and non-Protestant people climbed considerably within the United States as movements formed and gathered riots and uproars. Escalating actions drew out the presence of the governor and threats to unleash the militia to asphyxiate the disturbances.

This set up his career advancement for Lieutenant Governor of Ohio in 1851. Three years later Medill transitioned into the position as Ohio's twenty-second governor in 1854, succ-

eeding as acting governor when Reuben Wood resigned as governor on July 13, 1853, and then in his own right when elected a few months later. Medill became the last Democratic candidate for governor to be elected for another twenty years.

In 1855, the Republican Party, formed under the leadership of Salmon P. Chase, with a preceding reputation of antislavery efforts, took leadership with a win, defeating Medill by almost 16,000 votes.

As retirement reared around the corner, President James Buchanan appointed him as comptroller of the U.S. Treasury. During his service to that office a claim granting between two and three million dollars gained approval by both the Senate and House and by the President. William Medill, convinced it to be fraud, refused to disburse the funds. The President and both houses of Congress failed to move Medill to their side and the request remained deserted.

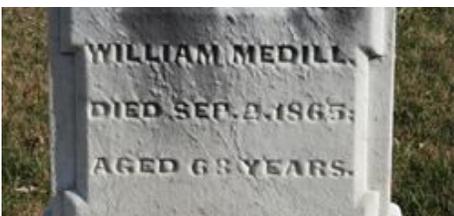
In response to the decline in approval many moved to impeach Medill from office, however others, such as



Portrait of Gov. WILLIAM MEDILL by artist John Henry Witt in 1869. Medill served from 1853 to 1856 as a Democratic Governor of Ohio.  
*Courtesy of the Ohio Statehouse*

R. M. T. Hunter of Virginia pressed to presume his service as they held full confidence in Medill's judgement and ability.

As President Buchanan's term ended in 1863, Medill traveled back to his home in Lancaster, Ohio with declining health. His final years were spent in quiet retirement until he departed this life from a "slowly consuming and painful but mortal disease" on September 2, 1865. Medill's remains rest beneath a large white tombstone marked with the memory of his story in the Elmwood Cemetery. With no heirs to his estate, he left his property and belongings to his nephew and namesake, William Medill, also of Lancaster, Ohio.



Close up of the inscription of Gov. William Medill's tombstone standing proud in the Elmwood Cemetery in Lancaster, Ohio.  
*Courtesy of FindAGrave.com*

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**The Legacy**

# SCHOOL |

*Continued from Page 1*

dedication surfaced after five years of operations and welcomed over four hundred participants to the speech of local businessman, Morton Epstein.

Due to the community's constant growth during the sixties an official clinic and two more classrooms were added to the school and then again in 1973 six more classrooms were installed.

Currently, a chair, donated by Mrs. Russell A. Walkey of Jackson, Mississippi, remains on display in the office of the Medill School. Medill used this chair during his service in the State house in Columbus, Ohio.

Medill currently serves those students from kindergarten to fifth grade and holds the Gales gifted program.



**The new Medill Elementary School.**  
*Courtesy of the Lancaster City School District*



**Both photos of Medill Elementary School are from the original school.**  
*Courtesy of the Lancaster City School District*

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# VALUED VETERANS AND HEROES

World War I

**ANNA CAROLINE  
MAXWELL**  
14 MAR 1851 - 02 JAN 1929  
ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY



**NEW YORK, NY** – Born in Bristol, New York, within Ontario County, on Friday, March 14, 1851, to John Eglinton and Diantha Caroline (Brown) Maxwell, Anna Caroline Maxwell became a medical pioneer of her time which bestowed the nickname, “American Florence Nightingale.”

At the age of twenty-three, she joined the nursing field at the New England hospital located in Boston, Massachusetts. After two short years of dedicated service, she crossed over the Atlantic Ocean destined for England.

By 1880, Anna led a training school program for nurses in Montreal, Quebec at the General Hospital. The following year up until 1889 she served in the capacity of superintendent of school set up in Boston at the General Hospital to train nurses.

1889 took Anna to Saint Luke’s Hospital where she rolled into the role of director of nursing in New York City.

After three more years she ventured off to become the superintendent of New York’s Presbyterian Hospital now known as Columbia University School of Nursing.

With all the transitions from hospital to hospital she contributed her passion and talents to the efforts during the Spanish American War, which played a part in the establishment of the United States Army Nurse Corps. During World War I, Anna served as a nurse in France and awarded the “Medaille de l’Hygiene Publique” which translates, “Medal of Honor for Public Health” by the French government for her service.

Anna Maxwell passed away on Wednesday, January 2, 1929, in Manhattan, New York and lies to rest in the memorial established for her, set aside by the United States government, in Arlington National Cemetery.



**ANNA CAROLINE MAXWELL - A.K.A.**  
“The American Florence Nightingale”  
*Courtesy of Ancestry.com*

4, PLACE DE LA CONCORDE - PARIS

**MAXWELL** NURSING SERVICE

Badge Number 747  
 Name Anna Caroline Maxwell  
 Address in full Hotel Vercel -  
Brown Tenor & Co 30 rue Lafayette  
 Telephone number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of birth March 14 1851  
 Place of birth Boston N.Y.  
 Graduate of The Boston City Hospital  
Training School  
 Location Boston Massachusetts  
 Date of Graduation 1880  
 Registered in following States N.Y.  
 Experience since graduation  
Self - several Schools  
of Nursing in N.Y. City  
at Montreal Que. - St. Luke  
Presby. Hosp. Boston N.Y.

Name and permanent address of nearest relative  
Charlotte E. Maxwell  
41 Waverley Street  
Boston Mass.

Remarks Boston Mass.  
 Date June - 24 1918

Directions for Local Committee: Badge number, when received from Washington, to be entered in space indicated. This card to be retained by Local Committee as a permanent record of enrolled nurses and used by them in making up list for Headquarters. In case of nurses who have permanently removed from your locality, this card should be sent to Red Cross Headquarters.

**ANNA CAROLINE MAXWELL’S**  
**documentation as nurse in France.**  
*Courtesy of Ancestry.com*



**ANNA CAROLINE MAXWELL’S Tombstone**  
**remains standing proudly in the Arlington**  
**National Cemetery.**  
*Courtesy of Ancestry.com*

**THANK YOU**  
TO THOSE WHO SERVED THESE  
**UNITED STATES**  
**OF AMERICA**

We truly thank you for your service and dedication to protecting our freedoms!

**The Far-Land Legacy**

**DID YOU KNOW?**

The second week of October in 1851 initiated the very first Fairfield County Fair. Positioned in a field owned by John Reber, the location set west of North Columbus Street and south of the Reservoir.

1851 marked the only year in the location as the Society president, John Reber, purchased fourteen acres at the foot of Mount Pleasant to hold all future fairs beginning in 1852.

**THE FAIRFIELD FILES  
TO CALIFORNIA**

**ARTICLE EXTRACTION**

Page 82-83  
*Pioneer Period and Pioneer People of Fairfield County, Ohio*

**LANCASTER** – In the spring of 1852, Thomas Sturgeon and Samuel Crim, being then partners in the buying and selling of horses, purchased 100 horses for the California trade.

They took with them 16 wagons and expected to fit out mule teams for each one at St. Joseph, MO. The trip to Cincinnati was over the pike via Circleville. At Cincinnati the horses and equipment were shipped by steamer to St. Louis and St. Joseph, MO. They employed forty of the best young men in the county to go with them and take charge of the horses and teams.

At St. Joseph they entered the savage Indian country and passed through what is now the fertile plains of Kansas and Nebraska, and after many months reached San Francisco, without the loss of a man and very little stock.

We give herewith the names of the men who were members of the Crim & Sturgeon expedition. Forty-eight winters have come and gone since 1852, and but few of the number remain. Horatio Westlake resides in Columbus, Ohio.

**LANCASTER**

- Horatio Westlake
- Thomas A. Black
- Albert Brown
- Joshua Stukey
- Richard Miller
- Sim Street
- David Brown

**GREENFIELD TOWNSHIP**

- Robert McFarland
- O. P. Courtright

**RICHLAND TOWNSHIP**

- Ed Wilson
- W. B. Wilson
- W. H. Ijams

**RUSHCREEK TOWNSHIP**

- Samuel Thompson
- William Thompson

**BERNE TOWNSHIP**

- William Kuqua
- David Ginger
- A. R. Ginger

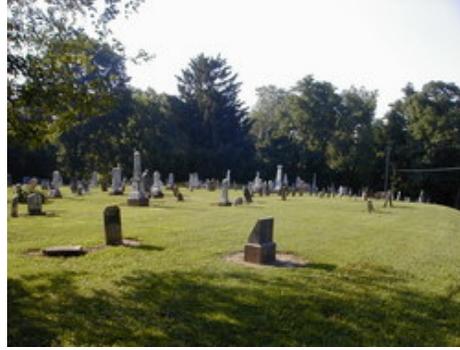
**LIBERTY TOWNSHIP**

- Solomon Ghaster
- William Paul
- Samuel Smetters
- D. B. Miller

**CEMETERY SALUTE**

**Baugher Cemetery**

Dumontville, Ohio

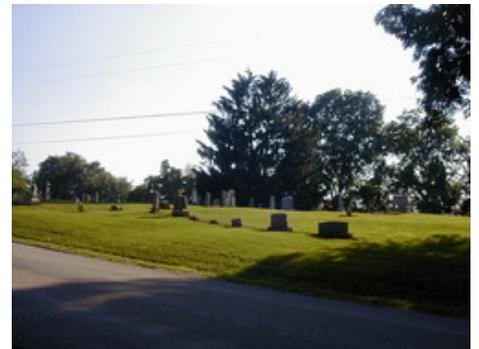


**BAUGHER CEMETERY** | All three photos courtesy of FindAGrave.com

**DUMONTVILLE** – Located off Brook Road in Dumontville lies the Baugher Cemetery, home to the remains of approximately four hundred individuals.

The cemetery remains within the borders of Greenfield Township. From Lancaster one takes S.R. 158 North, turn left on Ginder Road, make a right on Brook Rd, and the cemetery welcomes one roughly 1/8 mile on the left.

Many stones may be missing from the vacant spaces which lie between the stones and many stones lie in pieces toward the back of the cemetery.



Four Revolutionary War veterans occupy the grounds at Baugher where a church once stood prior to the 1930s when the land was granted in 1847.

**WALNUT TOWNSHIP**

- George Watson
- William Watson
- Peter L. Geiger
- David Weaver
- Thomas Lamb
- D. D. Wickliffe
- Adam Shane
- Sol Brennehan

**PLEASANT TOWNSHIP**

- Dan Walters
- E. M. Walters

**MADISON**

- P. S. Julian

**TARLTON**

- William Mallon
- William Jacobs
- L. P. Foust
- John Boyer
- H. C. Mehorter
- H. H. Hamlin
- James Dallas
- D. Alexander

About the same time John D. Jackson, John Cannon, and Jonathan Rising left Lancaster for the coast via Panama. Rising died on the steamer. He was a brother of Philip Rising. But few of the Fairfield people who went to California – and there were hundreds – ever returned.

**COORDINATES**

Latitude: 39.7838° N  
Longitude: 82.6360° W



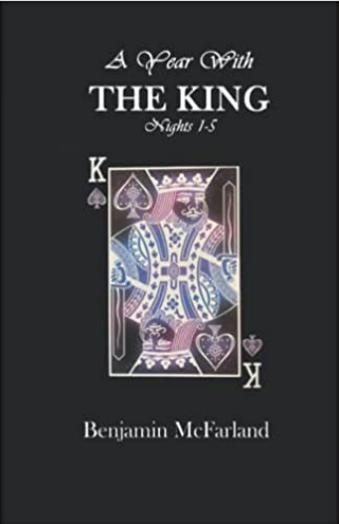
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WE DECIDE TO TAKE  
AFFECTS OUR FINAL DESTINATION  
OF WHO WE WILL BECOME*



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# REFERENCES

*\*All research is extensive and is not limited to the following resources.*

*\*\*The Far-Land Legacy wishes to thank George Sanderson, Charles Russell Goslin, Hervey Scott, The Fairfield County Genealogical Society, The Fairfield County District Library, all online and book resources, and everyone else involved for the preservation of Fairfield County history, securing future generations with the ability to learn from past stories and build the future.*

**AN ELEMENTARY MEMORY:**

Ginnery, Penny. "Reflections: An Historical Perspective of the Lancaster City Schools."  
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**DID YOU KNOW?**

"Remember When." www.fairfieldcountyfair.org/Remember-When. Website. Accessed 24 MAR 2022.

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Page 82-83.

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**WORD SEARCH**  
Lancaster Cemeteries  
Last Week Answers

**LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD ANSWERS**

## Guarding Grounds From Last Week's Issue

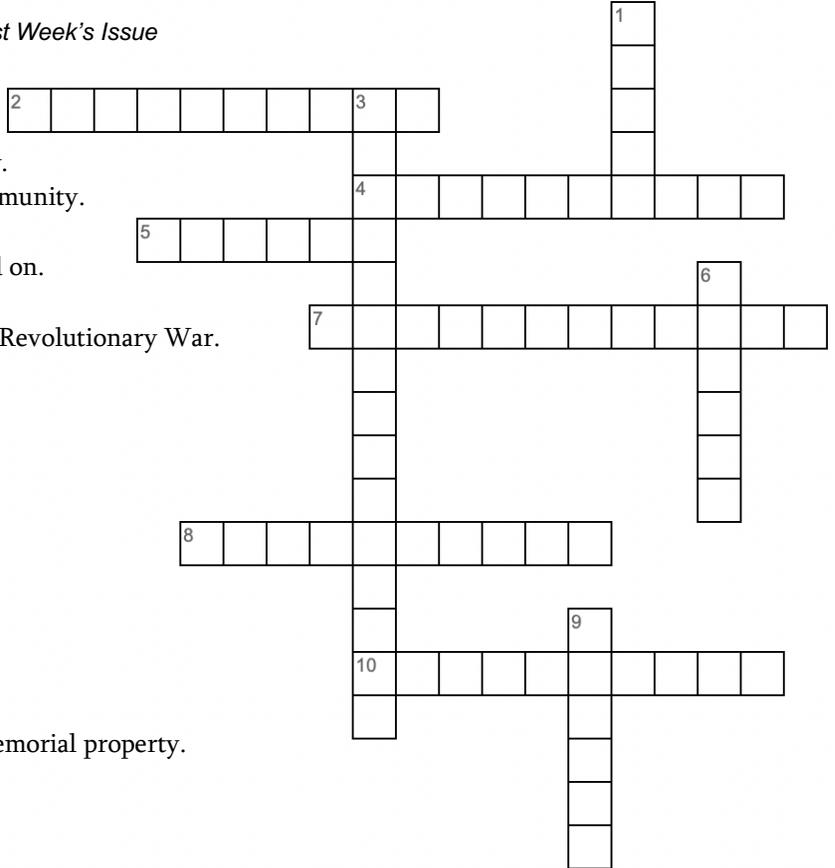
CROSSWORD

**Across**

- 2 City where Andrew's drum is on display.
- 4 Carried a dream to give back to the community.
- 5 Ralph Lester's wife's maiden name.
- 7 The basketball team Ralph Lester played on.
- 8 Wagnalls Memorial is located here.
- 10 Andrew Ream served in this role in the Revolutionary War.

**Down**

- 1 Wagnalls who donated the Wagnalls Memorial property.
- 3 Last week's newspaper title, Issue 12.
- 6 Dr. Gabriel Ralph's last name.
- 9 Ralph Lester's last name.



K R Y L J A F Q X N W I G P V Q L D P  
 Z U F T Q X I C A R N A T I O N M O M  
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 Z T E V E B T O N N P M  
 T G W M S W



## WORDSEARCH

*Find The Bold Words*

- State Insect: **Ladybug**
- State Song: **Beautiful Ohio**
- State Mammal: **White Tailed Deer**
- State Plant: **Buckeye**
- State Frog: **Bullfrog**
- State Fruit: **Tomato**
- State Flower: **Carnation**
- State Fish: **Walleye**
- State Amphibian: **Spotted Salamander**
- State Beverage: **Tomato Juice**
- State Fossil: **Isotelus**
- State Wildflower: **White Trillium**
- State Gemstone: **Flint**
- State Reptile: **Black Racer Snake**
- State Artifact: **Adena Pipe**
- State Rock Song: **Hang On Sloopy**

By: Audrey McFarland

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