



Indiana Historical Bureau

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NEWS

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“Lee L. Driver” Indiana State Historical Marker Will Be Dedicated in Winchester

A public dedication ceremony for an Indiana state historical marker is scheduled for Monday, February, 23, 2009. The state historical marker commemorating Lee L. Driver, a leading advocate for school consolidation in the early 1900s, will be dedicated at Driver Middle School, located at 130 South 100 East, Winchester. The ceremony will begin at 10:00 A.M. Eastern Standard Time.

The text follows for the state marker entitled “Lee L. Driver”:

Indiana laws passed 1897-1907 provided for abandonment of rural one-room schools; they were replaced with consolidated schools that offered graded curriculum, high school education, and athletics. Driver, Superintendent of Randolph County Schools, 1907-1919, replaced over 100 district schools with 20 multi-room buildings, which garnered national acclaim. Born in Randolph County 1867. He graduated from teachers college 1883 and returned home to teach; named principal of Winchester High School, 1900. Elected county superintendent in 1907, 1911, and 1917. In 1920, Driver became Director of Rural Education for Pennsylvania; known there as the “father of rural school consolidation.” Driver died 1960.

The public is invited to attend this dedication ceremony for an Indiana state historical marker that commemorates Driver’s efforts to improve educational opportunities for students in Indiana and Pennsylvania.

State historical markers commemorate significant individuals, organizations, places, and events in Indiana history. These markers help communities throughout the state promote, preserve, and present their history for the education and enjoyment of residents and tourists of all ages. For more than 90 years the Indiana Historical Bureau, an agency of the State of Indiana, has been marking Indiana history. Since 1947, the marker format has been the large roadside marker, which has the familiar dark blue background with gold lettering and the outline of the state of Indiana at the top. There are approximately 500 of these markers across the state.

For a digital version of this release and further information about this marker, the state Historical Marker Program, and other resources about Indiana, visit the Indiana Historical Bureau’s website at www.IN.gov/history or call 317-232-2537.

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