



Morgan County Historic Preservation Society
P. O. Box 1377
Martinsville, IN 46151
<http://www.mchps.org>

April 2005

PRESERVATION NEWS

ANNUAL MEETING AT GOETHE LINK OBSERVATORY

Tuesday, May 17th 7:00 p.m.

Please join us for our yearly meeting, splurge on decadent desserts, vote for new officers, congratulate this year's Preservationist of the Year, and explore the historic Goethe Link Observatory built in 1937. RSVP to Joanne Stuttgen by May 15th by calling (765) 349-1537 or e-mail stuttgen@insightbb.com. The Observatory is located at the top of Observatory Road hill, off SR 67 opposite the Brooklyn-Bethany Park exit. (Getting there is half the fun!)

Four New Board Members Elected

Joe Mills (765) 342-0391
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In response to the request for new members of the Board of Directors, the following persons have been elected: Steve and Cheryl Edwards and Terry and Deb Bunton, all of Mooresville. Cheryl has been nominated to fill the position of Secretary, Terry has assumed duties as website designer, and Deb will take over the Wooden book sales.

Additional Directors are being sought to replace others stepping down in 2006. We are particularly in need of a treasurer, as Mark Stuttgen will be retiring from the Board in May. If you have accounting and/or bookkeeping experience and would be willing to help out, please contact Joe Mills.

Architecture as Community Art Curriculum, Parts I and II

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The initial phase of "Designing Place", a six-week segment of the eight grade art honors course taught by Kathryn Maxwell at West Middle School funded by an Historic Preservation Education Grant is completed.

"Designing Place" was presented to the public at the district wide fine arts exhibition on April 7th. The great response confirmed what we had come to believe: the curriculum and materials would be of interest to other teachers and schools. When we began to consider

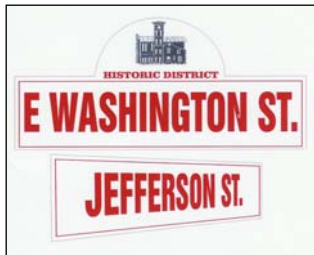
duplicating our collection of slides and other classroom tools for greater use, we quickly realized how inefficient and expensive this would be. Clearly, a power point program and a website will be the most effective way to share the course's goals, objectives, ideas, methods, materials, and products.

In order to fund this second phase of the project, MCHPS has submitted an application for a 2005-2006 Historic Preservation Education Grant, a joint effort of Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana and the Indiana Humanities Council. We seek to hire a designer, to develop a power point presentation and website so the course can be shared with and replicated by other teachers in the district, county and state, and beyond.



Display panel at fine arts exhibition

Another aspect of the original "Designing Place" project was to have the students create artwork suitable for use on designs that will designate Martinsville's three historic districts. Chelsea Kouns's illustrations of the Morgan County Courthouse, Raemaker House and the Morgan House, the former New Highland Sanitarium, have been selected for use on the signs. Sign Solutions will create the reflective metal street signs that will replace the existing signs.



The sign design will be presented to the City Council on May 2nd. If the Council approves, signs will be made first for the Downtown Commercial District, followed by the East Washington Street and then the Northside Districts, as long as funds hold out. MCHPS has pledged \$2,000 toward the cost of the signs, and the City may also contribute. Any remaining funds will have to be raised.



Chelsea Kouns and Kathryn Maxwell. Chelsea's artwork for the Downtown district signs appears over her right shoulder.

New Book, *Wooden on Leadership*, Now Available

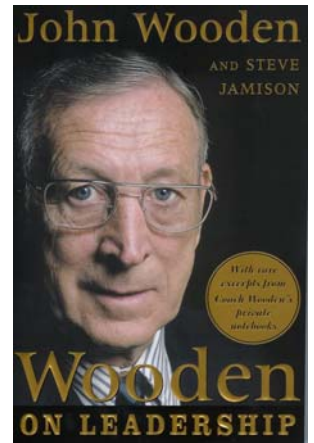
Joanne Stuttgen (765) 349-1537
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Coach John Wooden has yet another new book out, the third in two years. *Wooden on Leadership* debuted on April 9th. MCHPS is selling this stated first edition book as part of its ongoing fundraiser. Like the other Wooden titles, this one also comes with a special edition bookplate autographed by Coach Wooden. The bookplate features a color scanned photograph of the main entrance of the historic Martinsville High School Gymnasium. Cost of the 320-page hardcover book is \$22.95. MCHPS members receive a 20% discount.

One of the lesser-known aspects of Wooden's career is the private notebooks in which he regularly recorded his

observations, goals, and leadership concepts as they applied to basketball, success, and life. *Wooden on Leadership* draws from those personal notes to share practical and powerful leadership skills that anyone can use to improve performance and overcome self-imposed limitations.

Wooden on Leadership reveals the leadership wisdom of John Wooden. It presents the core concepts, methods, and beliefs that Wooden used to teach his teams how to attain Competitive Greatness and true personal success.



History of Martinsville Sanitarium Emerges

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An Indianapolis development corporation has expressed interest in adapting the former Martinsville Sanitarium (most recently the Kennedy Home) into senior housing. Rehabilitation tax credits must be used in order to make the project affordable; consequently, National Register listing is a must. Staff members of the state historic preservation office and Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana have visited the building and expressed some concern about the degree of integrity of the remaining structure, especially considering it is only a portion of the entire Martinsville Sanitarium complex.

Although it is ongoing, research indicates that the sanitarium was conceived of and constructed as two separate but joined units. The existing portion is believed to be the first unit, designed by Indianapolis architect Wilson B. Parker and built by Martinsville contractor C. F. Duncan in 1925. The second unit was begun in late 1926



The main (east) elevation of the Martinsville Sanitarium as it appeared on stationary letterhead about 1930. The Sanitarium faces the Vandalia Depot and is linked to it by the brick walk. The grand lawn has remained the same since 1882, the year the original sanitarium was established.

and completed in 1927. The original sanitarium buildings were entirely removed and replaced.

The Martinsville Sanitarium was established in 1892 and housed in a Queen Anne-style frame building along West Pike Street. Immediately to the north, along West Harrison Street, was the Nutter-Major Sanitarium, which became the Artesian Sanitarium. The two businesses were highly competitive, with the porters often hijacking each other's guests. In 1897, the Martinsville Sanitarium was purchased by Indianapolis businessman W. K. Bellis, a manufacturer of bicycles. Bellis bought the Artesian a year later, and immediately combined the two sanitariums, renaming them the Martinsville Sanitarium.

W. A. Kennedy purchased the Sanitarium in 1918 and renamed it Martinsville Mineral Springs. Between 1925 and 1927, Kennedy had the sanitarium completely rebuilt. The new, English Tudor style sanitarium extended from Harrison Street to Pike Street, housed 150 guests, and had an interior design that featured stained glass windows; floors covered with hardwood, ceramic tile and velvet carpets; a mahogany staircase; crystal light fixtures; and an immense sunroom.



Sunroom and lobby looking north.

The Martinsville Sanitarium closed in 1957 and was gifted to the National Benevolent Association of the Disciples of Christ Church for use as a retirement home. The facility was renamed Kennedy Memorial Christian Home in memory of Kennedy's son, Charles, who died in an auto accident on State Road 37 in 1938.

The first significant alteration to the 1925-1927 Sanitarium occurred in 1979, when the second unit was removed to make way for the construction of the Ken-Mar Apartments. In 1982, an expansion of the geriatrics center (built in 1967) may have led to the removal of the sanitarium's kitchen facility located on the west wall of the first unit. The dining room remained, although it had already been converted into a recreation room for residents.

The bath house, located along Harrison Street against the west wall of the first unit, was removed in 1984. The dining room was subsequently removed in 2003, leaving the first unit as the sole survivor of W. A. Kennedy's beautiful Martinsville Mineral Springs.

The state historic preservation office will determine whether the remaining building retains enough integrity by itself and as a representative of the whole complex to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. With the exception of the addition of a few partitions, installation of an elevator, and the combining of individual guest rooms to make multi-room apartments, the interior has undergone relatively little change. The exterior also shows significant integrity, as does the front lawn.

The Martinsville Sanitarium has been owned by the Community Service Center since 2002. CSC converted the former geriatrics unit into WellSpring Center, a homeless shelter, and in the process, severed utilities and physical connections between the two buildings. The Sanitarium is in desperate need of care, and National Register listing is an important first step in securing its future. Stay tuned for more developments on this issue.

Hall School Whodunit Steak Dinner a Success

Randy Marsh (317) 996-3980
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Board Member Randy Marsh, doing double duty as President of the Hall Civic Association, pulled together an impressive fundraiser held April 9th. The Hall School steak dinner and performance of *A Taste of Wine and Murder* attracted 140 ticket holders. Careful planning, a cast of community actors, student servers and other volunteers, plus special guests Damon Bailey and his wife, Stacey, made the evening a remarkable one. Everyone who suspected the murderer to be Morgan County Sheriff Deputy Volitta Fritsche, in the role of Heddy Chablis, was guilty of the crime of mistaken identity. Proceeds benefited the Hall Civic Association, which will take over the school after it closes this June.

An all-class reunion and pitch-in dinner will be held at Hall School on Sunday, June 5th, at 1:00 p.m. The school will be open four tours. If you attended Hall School or otherwise are interested in the project to save the school, please plan to attend. For more information, contact Randy and Jackie Marsh at (317) 996-3980.

Lastly, MCHPS has produced the special edition Cat's Meow[®] figure of Hall School shown below. Sales benefit the Hall Civic Association. You can get your piece at Hummingbird Heaven and Jailbird Antiques or by calling Randy Marsh. Cost is \$21.95 plus tax. MCHPS Members receive a 20% discount.



CEDAR POINT FARM WINS PRESERVATION AWARD

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stuttgen@insightbb.com

Cedar Point Farm, John and Suzanne Hickey's 210-acre farm one-half mile west of Morgantown has been awarded an Indianapolis Preservation Award for properties located within the counties circling Marion County. This first-time



award is given by the Central Regional Office of Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana. Nomination was from the MCHPS Board of Directors.

Established in 1853, the farm was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2004. The Hickeys purchased the property in 1994 and embarked on an exhaustive restoration of all the buildings, including the brick I-house and English barn. The farm was featured in a previous issue of *Preservation News*.

The Hickeys will be recognized for their commitment to preservation at a reception at the Governor's Residence in May.

News Briefs

Board of Directors

Third Annual Cabin Fever Garage Sale \$ Profit on February's sale totaled \$1400. The sale was once again a great success and a popular event—so much so that we

have been asked by vendors to hold it more than once a year. We are considering this request for 2006.

Morgan County Park Board \$ Gary Swaim of the Morgan County Park Board met with the MCHPS Board in March seeking input on development of a five-year plan for a county park system. Goethe Link Observatory, Grassyforks and the former Burton Lane Bridge crossing were discussed as possible park sites.

FOR SALE: William Landers Farm, Madison Twp. \$ William Landers, fourth-generation owner of a historic 670-acre farm established by his great-grandfather, William Landers, has announced plans to sell the property. It includes an outstanding c.1870 Gothic Revival house at the corner of Landersdale and Mann Roads. Board member Cheryl Edwards has spoken to Landers about the historic value of the house and MCHPS's desire to see it saved, but Landers is not interested in pursuing protective measures. Cheryl will continue to monitor the situation.

Current MCHPS Board Members

President: Joe Mills, Martinsville (765) 342-0391
Vice President: Tina Chafey, Martinsville (765) 342-6082
Secretary: Joanne Stuttgen, Martinsville (765) 349-1537
Treasurer: Mark Stuttgen, Martinsville (765) 349-1537
 Del Chafey, Martinsville (765) 342-6082
 John W. Badger XIV, Martinsville (765) 342-0744
 Pam Badger, Martinsville (765) 342-0744
 Randy Marsh, Monrovia (317) 996-3980
 Steve Edwards, Mooresville (317) 831-3904
 Cheryl Edwards, Mooresville (317) 831-3904
 Terry Bunton, Mooresville (317) 831-9794
 Deb Bunton, Mooresville (317) 831-9794

MCHPS ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FORM			
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Areas of special interest or expertise:			
Please check membership: new <input type="checkbox"/> renew <input type="checkbox"/>		For office use only	
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Student	Free	Thank you for your support. Memberships expire December 31. Memberships received after October 1 will be extended through the following year. Please mail completed form to: Morgan County Historic Preservation Society P. O. Box 1377 Martinsville, IN 46151 For more information call (765) 342-0391 or (765) 349-1949 or see our website at http://www.mchps.org	
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