



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

April 20

## Preservation News

### 2004 Annual Meeting

Tuesday, April 20 7:00 p.m.

Hummingbird Heaven Tea Room, Old Jail

110 W. Washington St., Martinsville

The Board of Directors cordially invites all members and guests to the 2004 Annual Meeting. Review the past year, celebrate our significant achievements over our traditional dessert and coffee. Nominate and elect one member and appoint officers for the coming year. Meet and congratulate the 2004 Preservationist of the Year. Thank you back for the amazing story of the historic William M. Macy Farm, especially how owners (and MCHPS members) and Joyce Robinson tracked Macy to Oregon, Idaho and California following his departure from Brownsville in 1882, all the while beating back INDOT's plans to make their front yard highway right-of-way.

For more meeting information, contact Joanne Stuttgen at (765) 349-1537 or email [stuttgen@insidereservations.com](mailto:stuttgen@insidereservations.com). Reservations requested by April 19, please.

### Second Annual Antiques Spree and Flea Market

Tina Chafey (765) 342-6082 or 349-1949  
[thummingbird@core.com](mailto:thummingbird@core.com)

The second annual Antiques Spree and Flea Market was held Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup>. This year's format moved away from the typical rummage sale, with vendors being invited to set up booths to sell all variety of wares—

from Girl Scout cookies to antiques and collectables. The Wilbur Kendall Room and 4-H Building were packed from wall to wall. Even the kitchen space was used. All told, we took in \$1100, which is a little less than last year but with less work. Next year, we plan to raise the booth rental to a more reasonable rate while striving to maintain the high quality of merchandise we had this year. Start stockpiling your discards now!

## Old Jail

Joe Mills (765) 342-0391

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In the last newsletter, you read that MCHPS has received a grant totaling \$11,250 to repair the box gutters on the Old Jail. This is a matching funds grant, so MCHPS is obligated to provide 50% of the total project cost. Members have been asking about this match, and the Board is happy to report that the money is on hand. We have been anticipating this project for several years and have dedicated most of our fund raising activities to this project, which will begin later this summer.

There seems to be some confusion about the status of the Old Jail's ownership. MCHPS owns this building. MCHPS acquired the Old Jail as a donation from the County in 1994. The building was for sale for several years, but with no success. In 2000, we were approached by Hummingbird Heaven about leasing the building. Hummingbird Heaven has been a tenant since that time.

Tina Chafey is both a board member and a co-owner of Hummingbird Heaven. The Board of Directors has found it rewarding to have Hummingbird Heaven as a tenant, and to have Tina constantly available to field inquiries about preservation and local history. In fact, she is often the first to learn of rumors, plans, and activities involving local historic resources. MCHPS has gained many members through Tina's discipleship, and the Old Jail has acquired not only admirers but passionate support from both the local community and out-of-town shoppers.

Log onto our website at [www.mchps.org](http://www.mchps.org)

**MCHPS Slam Dunks with John Wooden Books**

## Sales of *Inch and Miles* Continue at Academy Building Museum

Sales of *Inch and Miles*, the new children's book by Morgan County native and legendary basketball coach, John Wooden, have recently received a boost in the northern part of the county. MCHPS struck a mutually beneficial agreement with the Academy Building Museum to sell the books for a fifty-percent profit. Julie Kyle-Lee, museum director, has coordinated book sales with a special basketball-related exhibit and other special events, including a youth basketball tourney and the Mooresville High School all-class reunion.

The book is available at the Academy Building Museum and at Hummingbird Heaven for the retail price of \$15.95 plus tax. MCHPS members receive a 20% discount.

## Wooden Autographed Bookplates Now Available for Wooden's *Inch and Miles*

Coach Wooden has graciously signed a limited number of specially designed bookplates for everyone who has purchased copies *Inch and Miles* from MCHPS. The bookplates feature a photograph of the historic Martinsville High School Gymnasium where Coach played from 1924-1928 as an Artesian. They are available from Tina Chafey at Hummingbird Heaven and Jailbird Antiques, in the Old Jail at 110 W. Washington Street. Hours are T-Sat 10:00 to 5:00. Call 349-1949 for more information.

You must bring in a book in order to receive a bookplate. Tina will personally affix a bookplate in each book. If you have given books as gifts and would like bookplates for them, please talk to Tina. She will help you to receive the bookplates you are due.

Wooden will sign more book plates as we need them.

## ***My Personal Best* is Forthcoming Wooden Title to be Sold by MCHPS**

MCHPS is pleased to announce the pre-sale of a new book by Coach John Wooden. *My Personal Best* is due out from McGraw-Hill about May 5<sup>th</sup>. Retail price of the 192-page pictorial history will be \$19.95 plus tax. Members receive a 20% discount. Reserve your copies now at Hummingbird Heaven by calling (765) 349-1949.

*My Personal Best* is sure to be popular with Coach's fans throughout the world, but it will be especially so for Morgan County residents. In it Coach relates the story about how he was born on a tenant farm near Hall, became a star basketball player at Martinsville High School and Purdue University, and went on to become college basketball's "winningest coach" at UCLA. Now 93 years old, Coach Wooden recently received the Presidential Medal of Freedom, America's highest civilian honor.

Pairing never-before-seen photos from Coach Wooden's private collection with his personal stories and affirmations, *My Personal Best* encompasses the dramatic arc of Wooden's larger-than-life achievements. As he has done in his previous books, Coach offers a wealth of biographical details, personal reflections, and a lifetime of lessons.

Readers will meet his father, Joshua, the honest, straight-shooting Morgan County farmer who urged his son, "Don't try to be better than somebody else, but never cease trying to be the best you can be." His mother, Roxie, a hardscrabble survivor who taught her children the value of faith and sacrifice. And his wife, Nellie Riley, the Martinsville high-school sweetheart (and ukulele virtuoso) who inspired him courtside through many games and who remained Coach's inspiration throughout his life.

You'll also meet Coach's own coaches, such as Principal Earl "Pop" Warriner, the feisty disciplinarian who guided Wooden through his first games at Centerton School and left him with the lesson that "no player is bigger or better than the team." Martinsville High School coach Glen Curtis, otherwise known as the Ol' Fox, who taught Wooden the poetry of basketball. And Purdue's Piggy Lambert, whose unbending principles and love for his team became Wooden's model of what a great coach and teacher could be. Last but not least, you'll meet many of the students and players who became, in the end, Coach's greatest teachers of all.

### **Bridges**

Del Chafey (765) 342-6982  
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Three of Morgan County's historic iron bridges are in the news (but you won't read about them in the *Reporter*). The **Burton Lane Bridge** will soon be moving to yet another new home. The Lamb's Creek Bridge on Old SR 67 will be renewed on site. And the Indian Creek Bridge at Mahalasville is being replaced with a new neighbor.

MCHPS recently received a call from the county highway superintendent, who ordered the Burton Lane Bridge banished from the county highway garage property on Blue Bluff Road. The remains of this historic bowstring arch pony truss bridge were removed to this location following its collapse in May 1997.

Since it is unlikely that \$250,000 in local funds will ever be found for the re-erection of the bridge, Director Del Chafey sought an alternative for saving it. He turned to Jim Barker, a Bloomington civil engineer with much experience moving and restoring historic iron bridges. Barker has agreed to accept the bridge and will store it at his expense "against the day when some government agency sees the beauty and ingenuity of the structure." The move is expected to occur in May.

One of Indiana's historic bridge experts, Jim Barker is no stranger to Morgan County's bridges. He has been a consultant on several projects, including the restoration of the **Lamb's Creek Bridge**. Bids were opened in March, with CLR, Inc., of Bloomington receiving the contract. Fabricated and erected in 1893, Lamb's Creek Bridge is located on Old SR 67 near the Lankford farm.



At Mahalasville, the **Indian Creek Bridge** (above photo) is being bypassed by a rerouted road and replaced with a new bridge. The county's plans to dispose of the bridge have been stymied by federal laws protecting historic properties eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The two-span, Pratt pony truss was fabricated by the Vincennes Bridge Company in 1926. It replaced an earlier iron bridge swept away by flood waters in September 1926.

The Burton Lane Bridge was listed in the National Register in April 1992, but due to its current condition, it will be removed from the list. The Lamb's Creek Bridge was listed in 2000. MCHPS may pursue listing of the Indian Creek Bridge in the future.

## The National Register of Historic Places in Morgan County

The following Morgan County resources are currently listed (or have listings pending) in the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register is a list of properties the federal government considers significant in the areas of history, architecture, engineering and/or architecture. Properties must retain a high degree of integrity. Contrary to popular belief, there are *no restrictions* placed on properties listed in the National Register. For more information, contact Joanne Stuttgen (765) 349-1537 or [stuttgen@insightbb.com](mailto:stuttgen@insightbb.com)

- ◆ BLACKSTONE HOUSE & MARTINSVILLE TELEPHONE COMPANY (CURF AND HFNSI FY/COSTIN FUNFRAI

- HOME), 127 S. MAIN, MARTINSVILLE (1997)
- ◆ BRADFORD ESTATE, CLAY TWP. (1989)
- ◆ CEDAR POINT FARM, JACKSON TWP. (2003)
- ◆ CROSS SCHOOLHOUSE, WASHINGTON TWP. (1983)
- ◆ EAST WASHINGTON STREET HISTORIC DISTRICT, MARTINSVILLE (1997)
- ◆ ELM SPRING FARM, JEFFERSON TWP. (2001)
- ◆ HALL SCHOOL, GREGG TWP. (PENDING)
- ◆ HITE-FINNEY HOUSE, 183 N. JEFFERSON ST., MARTINSVILLE (1996)
- ◆ LAMB'S CREEK BRIDGE, JEFFERSON TWP. (2000)
- ◆ FRANKLIN LANDERS-BLACK & ADAMS FARM, BROOKLYN (2000)
- ◆ LONG SCHOOLHOUSE, WASHINGTON TWP. (1999)
- ◆ MARTINSVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT (1998)
- ◆ MARTINSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM (1981)
- ◆ MARTINSVILLE VANDALIA DEPOT (1991)
- ◆ MOORESVILLE COMMERCIAL HISTORIC DISTRICT 2003)
- ◆ MOORESVILLE FRIENDS ACADEMY BUILDING (1975)
- ◆ MOORESVILLE/NEWBY GYMNASIUM (1997)
- ◆ MORGAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE SQUARE (1996)
- ◆ MORGAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S RESIDENCE & JAIL (1996)
- ◆ NEELY HOUSE, 739 E. WASHINGTON ST., MARTINSVILLE (2000)
- ◆ WILBUR SCHOOLHOUSE, GREGG TWP. (1993)
- ◆ WILLIAM M. MACY FARM, BROWN TWP. (PENDING)

NOTE: The Burton Lane Bridge and Hastings Schoolhouse are in the process of being de-listed and are not included here.

## Board Seeks Grants for Education and Community Arts Projects

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The Board of Directors recently submitted two grant applications to develop and implement an eighth grade public school art curriculum based on the study of architecture and its application in the real world. We will learn in the next few months if we will receive funding.

In our proposed project, students will learn to identify the various architectural styles by their distinguishing features while gaining an understanding of the complex social and historical impulses that created new fashions in the built environment. Focus will be on local examples. Guest presenters from related fields--architecture, construction, interior design, historic preservation, social history and folklore--will demonstrate how what is learned in school can be successfully transferred into real work experience.

The students will experience this first hand by applying their new knowledge and artistic skills to two community arts-based projects. With guidance from MCHPS, students will create signs for each of four designated historic districts in Morgan County and develop a traveling informational exhibit about local architecture and buildings and their preservation.

This course will be taught by Kathy Maxwell, a veteran art teacher at Martinsville West Middle School who for several years has included an architecture component in her curriculum. The proposed project will allow her to expand this component into a concentrated twelve-week course that will move art education beyond the confines of the classroom and into the local community.

## News Briefs

Board of Directors

The **Hat Style Show and Auction** fundraiser scheduled for March has been postponed until early summer. Watch your mailbox for news about the special member preview invitation. Contact Tina Chafey at 349-1949 for more information or to donate hats, shoes, or clothing, or to participate in the style show.

Director Randy Marsh and his wife, Jackie, organized a March 15<sup>th</sup> community meeting at Hall to discuss the future of the **Hall School**, which will close in 2005. Residents plan to conduct a survey regarding possible alternative uses and seek the school district's support for the building's long-term future. A National Register of Historic Places nomination for the school has been submitted.

The current condition of the **Grassyfork Fisheries** office building and showroom, located on Morgan Street northwest of Martinsville, has caught our attention. We have had several discouraging conversations with its current owners, who plan to demolish the building and sell the land for development. We will continue to monitor the situation while preparing to go public with the owners' intent. Meanwhile, the building sits unlocked and vacant. The interior is being dismantled and stripped, although the work seems to have come to a halt.

Mary Anna Hunt of HLFH will conduct a **workshop** geared toward increasing membership and public awareness on Thursday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 at the Academy Building Museum. Directors from the Museum board and the Morgan County History and Genealogy Association will join MCHPS board members. If you would like to attend, contact Joe Mills at 342-0391 or mills@reliable-net.net.

# HYNDSDALE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

## JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP Built 1906-1907

The historic photograph below was recently donated to MCHPS by Robin Malwitz, who requested identification of the building under construction. The rusticated concrete block and Gothic arched windows are key to its identity. The building, which uses SR 67 between Martinsville and Paragon has passed the Hyndsdales Church, located just south of the tracks that parallel the highway.

The historic photograph depicts the construction crew at work in late summer 1906 or late winter 1907. The photo includes, in the back row, Tobe Clarkson, Frank Shireman, and Edwin Stiles. In the front row are Ora To Robert Shireman, John Baker, Luther Caldwell, Joe Baker and Jasper O'Neal. The contemporary photograph was taken by Mark Stuttgen on Sunday, April 3, 2004.



Affectionately known in the past as the "Block Church," the Hyndsdales Christian Church was dedicated on April 28, 1907. The new building cost \$1795.50. The half-acre lot was acquired from Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Canatsey for \$100, who then donated this sum to the building fund. The Canatseys were among the founding members who organized in August 1906.

Today, the church marks the site of the once thriving village of Hyndsdales, established by William Hynds in the 1850s following the arrival of the railroad. A farmer and saw mill operator, Hynds served as the first postmaster when the post office was established in 1869. Another early townsman was John Stout, who ran the first general store. Other features in the immediate vicinity included several churches, a cemetery, blacksmith shop and a schoolhouse.

Hyndsdales entered into a period of slow decline beginning in 1870, when the railroad station was moved one mile west to Brown's Crossing. With the expansion of SR 67 in 1937, the Hyndsdales schoolhouse and many of the houses that marked the village site were demolished. The church itself was saved. The congregation, however, had dwindled to such a degree that by about 1943, it had disbanded and the church was closed.

From 1947-1950, the church building was used by the Jefferson Township Farm Bureau and Sunshine Home Economics Club in exchange for its upkeep and maintenance. Between 1950-1963, the building was abandoned. Vines and shrubbery ran rampant, the windows were broken, the roof deteriorated, and the furnishings disappeared.

New life came with reorganization of the congregation in October 1963. With assistance from the First Christian Church in Martinsville and the Paragon Christian Church, the building was repaired and refitted with interior furnishings. The first service was held in March 1964. A rear annex consisting of a kitchen and dining area and classrooms was added in 1965.

Having successfully weathered troubled times, the Hyndsdales Christian Church continues in use today.