

# **MOORESVILLE MOMENTS**

**A weekly historical column published in the Mooreville Times in celebration of the town of Mooreville's double anniversary year in 1999:**

- **The 175th anniversary of the founding of the town in 1824**
- **The 200th anniversary of the birth of the founder, Samuel Moore**

**Written and compiled by:**

**Wanda Rusie Potts**

**unless otherwise noted**

***To be continued throughout 1999***

Feb 17, 1999

## Mooresville Moments

*Editor's Note: In honor of Mooresville's 175th Anniversary and the 200th anniversary of the birth of Mooresville's founder, Samuel Moore, the Mooresville/Decatur/Monrovia Times will regular articles about the history Mooresville and Moore.*

### Mooresville remembers town founder

In observance of the 175th anniversary of the platting of the town of Mooresville and the 200th birthday of the founder, Samuel Moore, Mooresville Public Library will submit a series of historical facts to inform new residents and as a reminder to the citizens who may have forgotten or not known the proud history of the town.

Samuel Moore was born Jan. 21, 1777 in North Carolina. His family moved to Indiana near Salem and at the age of 20 he became interested in trade activities. He located in Brown Township around 1822.

The first permanent settler in the area about 1819 was probably William Ballard. Wolves, bear and deer herds were numerous but the settlement was rapid and log cab-



**Samuel Moore was the founder of Mooresville**

ins arose in every in every direction along the banks of White Lick Creek.

Moore established a trading post on the site approximately where the Village Shopping Center is now located and carried on a mercantile business with both whites and American Indians.



**Elizabeth Worthington Moore, wife of Samuel Moore, was the founder of Mooresville Methodist Church**

The business flourished and he was able to purchase 160 acres of land where Mooresville now stands for \$2 an acre. In 1824, he laid out the town consisting of four blocks of five acres each. Each block contained 16 lots and the center line is still the main intersection of Main and Indiana streets.



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## Upright in character seen as desirable inhabitants

Samuel Moore insisted that this town be people by honest, industrious and temperate citizens when he mapped out Mooresville 175 years ago. Because of this requirement, Moore did not sell land to the public for 16 years, and only gave property to those he felt were upright in character.

It was written of him, "temperate in thought, fanatic in nothing, firm in his convictions as he saw the right."

The road between Indianapolis and Terre Haute came

through Mooresville and the first frame building between the two cities was erected by Moore on the northeast corner of Main and Indiana streets in 1824. Moore sold goods at this corner for 44 years. A large boulder marks the site. The boulder is inscribed, "In memory of Samuel Moore, founder of Mooresville. First trading post. First store on this site."

The historical marker was unveiled during Mooresville's centennial celebration in 1924 by Samuel Moore's granddaughter, Ida Fogleman.

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Samuel Moore and Eliza Worthington of Madison, Ind. were married in April, 1928.

Eliza Worthington was born in Georgetown, Penn. in 1803. The family moved to Cape Girardeau, Mo. where her father died young. Eliza's mother moved herself and her children to Madison, Ind. to live with her bachelor brother, Joshua.

While there, Eliza joined the Methodist Church. When she came to Mooresville as a bride, she met with Celi Tansey and wife and Jesse Rooker and his wife for prayer meetings. Together, they laid the foundation for the Methodist Church in Mooresville, now United Methodist Church.

Several children were born to the Moores, but only three daughters survived childhood. The oldest, Jane, married R.B. Newby. Their first baby was named Samuel Moore Newby. Jane Moore Newby died very suddenly on Aug. 24, 1852 and her infant

son only two weeks later.

Daughter Mary Moore married Washington Conduitt and on land given them by her father, Washington Conduitt built the stately two story brick house on West High Street.

In Oct. 1853, Washington Conduitt returned from a business trip to find his young bride dying and the home a bitter reminder. Samuel Moore bought the house from his son-in-law and lived there the rest of his life. It is now known as the Samuel Moore home.

The house was added to and enlarged to accommodate the children and relatives they took to care for and raise. The two sons-in-law lived there until they remarried. Eliza Worthington Moore's two bachelor brothers lived there, too.

Daughter Maggie Moore married David Fogleman on Dec. 30, 1869. She assumed the management of the household as her parents aged.

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Eliza Worthington Moore, wife of Samuel Moore, founder of the Town of Mooreville, died Dec. 10, 1873. She is buried in the Old Methodist Church cemetery on West Washington Street, the site of the first Methodist Church built on land donated by the Moores.

Eliza Moore never forgot the hardship after her father's early death. After her marriage, she and her husband always found room for one more to share their home.

At one time, the family included their children; grandson, Sam Newby; niece and nephew Mauda and Will Moore; Eliza's brother William Worthington; their sons-in-law and other relatives and children of relatives. She is said to have furnished many baskets of food to families in need during the Civil War.

The Sabbath was kept holy in the Moore household, where everything was prepared the evening before as much as possible. Eliza entertained only during the week.

At times when the family was largest, there was a rule: on two women in the kitchen to do the cooking. To Eliza Moore religion applied to daily living and the keeping of a well organized and smoothly running household with as little friction as possible. Wednesday of each week was made "company day" for Eliza Moore. Usually, an elderly friend or more received an invitation to spend the day and enjoy a turkey dinner. Turkey was plentiful then.

Eliza Moore endured the tragic loss of so many loved ones and gave so much of herself to others. She eventually grew frail and was not able to survive an acute attack of congestion of the lungs. She was 71.

In 1950, Mary Ida Fogleman wrote a tribute to her grandmother she only knew briefly. "For one who had been loving and serving her Heavenly Father those many years, what a wonderful way to go home. It is not far - just a step through an open door."

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## Mementos honored Samuel Moore

On New Year's morning when the band in our streets began to play, the kind citizens hastily gathered around it with anxious looks and smiling faces, for all knew (save one) why its soul cheering music burst forth on the morn of the newly born year. Each knew the notes were but a signal for the people of Mooreville to meet for the purpose of paying homage to him from whom Mooreville received its name.

The assemblage was composed of men, women and children of all ages, from the gray haired grandsire with unsteady step to the chubby fisted babe in its cute little cab, and each one seemed as happy as though they were to be the recipient of the present to be given on the occasion.

Dr. Parse turned to Mr. Moore and said, "This is you day" - to which the latter replied, "it seems so." The doctor then said:

"It was the custom in olden times to present warriors with robes or to crown them with laurels as a token of honor due them for the many victories they had won. But we come not with a crown of laurels nor glittering robes, but come with a staff which is not so much prized by us for its intrinsic value, as for the motive that prompts us to give it; we wish you to accept and carry it through life in remembrance of

this people who desire to give unto you a staff upon which you may lean in your declining years."

The doctor then presented Mr. Moore with a fine gold headed cane, which bore the following: Mr. Moore, Founder of Mooreville. Presented by its Citizens, January 1st, 1875.

The aged pioneer's benevolent countenance plainly told that he was completely struck with surprise, but he calmly responded in the following words:

"My friends and fellow citizens, I thank you very much for this token of your kindness, and it is a comfort for me to know that in my declining days the people of Mooreville desire to aid in making the remnant of my life a pleasant one.

"I shall keep this staff as long as I live in remembrance of you, and in remembrance of the New Year morning of 1875."

The beautifully hand carved cane of 18 carat gold handle and tip, black ebony mainstem; along with many many items of value and historical are now in possession of John Herron Art Institute, Indiana State Museum, and the Mooreville Public Library. They were freely given by Mary Ida Fogleman in memory of her grandfather, Samuel Moore and family.

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### Bells for Founder

Near the end of his own allotted 87 years, Ed J. Nelson, who lived at 6 E. South St., Mooreville and died in 1962, recalled for a newspaper his experience as a lad, when he was awakened by his father to toll the church bell to inform the town that Samuel Moore was dead.

Besides hurrying from a warm bed into a cold night, the young Nelson's troubles had just begun. The bell rope broke; he climbed into the belfry to grasp the broken end of the rope and scared the roosting birds; the birds fluttered and blew out his lantern. Climbing a ladder on the top, he found no rope left and had to ring the bell by hand, nearly freezing his fingers and bursting his ear drums.

Ninety-three times he clanged the bell as was the custom - once for every year of the deceased's life.

The night was deeply engraved on Nelson's memory, but either Mr. Nelson was mistaken or he wasted three rings, for

records show that Sammy Moore died at the age of 90.

Nevertheless, the townspeople knew from the solemn and continuous tolling of the bell that their patriarch had passed away.

Nelson's memory was clear on other details and of the funeral he recalled.

"It was the largest ever held in town. The grave included a sort of homemade vault made of huge pieces of sandstone placed at both ends, both sides and at the top of the casket. These stones were taken from a quarry east of Mooreville."

Samuel Moore died March 8, 1889. He is buried in the old Methodist Cemetery on West Washington Street.

The inscription on his tombstone reads simply:

Samuel Moore

Jan. 21, 1799

March 8, 1889

"So He giveth his beloved sleep"

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### **Friends Church and cemetery have long traditions**

In 1823, a log meeting house was built by the Friends Church on the Plainfield Road (State Road 267) on a hill overlooking White Lick Creek. Increased membership soon outgrew the little log meeting and land was secured near the fork of McCracken's Creek and White Lick Creek about one mile west of town.

In 1827, the first brick meeting house was built at a cost of \$900.

The White Lick Cemetery was begun in 1827 next to the church. During the Civil War, the church was found to be unsafe and was torn down. A frame building was erected in its place.

The present Friends Church was built at the corner of North Monroe and West Main Street from 1867-1870. It was located next to the Quaker School (Academy Building) on a beautiful, spacious lot. The present church has been added to, renovated and

remodeled several times during the last 130 years.

The Friendship House was built in 1965 to accommodate some of the activities of the church and is presently used by organizations, scouts, blood draws, voting, receptions, reunions and celebrations.

The White Lick Cemetery next to the old church west of town is still owned and managed by the Friends Church. Many Mooreville pioneers are buried in the older part of the cemetery.

The well kept, beautiful setting is presently the burial site for Quakers and chosen by many who are not members of the Friends Church and do not know of its long and venerable history.

A complete history of White Lick Cemetery was prepared by Gene Gormon in January, 1995. It is available with his well kept notes at the Mooreville Public Library.

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## 100 facts about Mooreville

Excerpts from "One Hundred Facts About Mooreville" from notes prepared by Miss Carrie E. Scott during the centennial celebration of Mooreville in 1924, compiled by Ralph H. Storm in 1936.

1. William Ballard is considered the first settler in 1819.

2. Asa Bales built the first house in Mooreville on the south side of East Main Street near the center of the block.

3. The first brick house was built by James Kelly at 18 W. Main St.

4. Mooreville became incorporated in 1831.

5. Dr. Curtis G. Hussey was the first physician to locate in Mooreville about 1825.

6. Asa Bales was the first postmaster.

7. A mail route was established by 1830 when mail was brought from Indianapolis each week unless detained by high water.

8. Late in the 1820s, a brick one-room school was built and later destroyed by fire. In the 1830s, it was rebuilt by a frame house on the lot just west of the location of the Methodist Protestant Church (now New Life in Christ Church, 40 E. Washington St. There was a historic marker installed during the centennial celebration).

9. The first newspaper was The Mooreville Chronicle published by Thomas J. Worth from 1846 to 1851. After that, the name changed with new owners to The Vindicator, The Mooreville Enterprise, The Mooreville Herald, The Mooreville Monitor, The Mooreville Guide, and

in November, 1893, William Sage bought the paper and changed the name to The Mooreville Times.

10. The first steam railroad between Indianapolis and Vincennes came through Mooreville in 1867.

11. The electric trolley, called the Interurban Line, between Indianapolis and Martinsville, was constructed in 1902 and made the last run on Oct. 30, 1931. There were 27 stops and 11 stations between Indianapolis and Martinsville. The Interurban Station in Mooreville was located on East Harrison Street.

12. The first electric light plant was owned by Archie Calvert in 1893. The residence of T.L. Lawrence was the first home with electric lights.

13. The first telephone company was organized March 31, 1900.

14. Mooreville has the oldest "Old Settlers" picnic in Indiana, beginning in 1870.

15. In 1924, Mooreville's population was 1800.

"May we, who are permitted to celebrate the centennial anniversary of the founding of Mooreville, always hold in grateful memory the pioneers who cleared the wilderness and laid so firmly the foundations of our town.

"May we continue to build wisely and well."

Ralph H. Storm  
Assistant Historian  
Ninth District, Morgan  
County  
May 23, 1936

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### Methodist Church bell fondly remembered

The old Methodist Church on West Washington Street was used for services until a fine brick structure was built in 1882 on the corner of South Indiana Street and East Harrison Street.

A bell for the new church was the gift of Dr. Curtis Hussey and the old bell from the church on Washington Street was given to the Friends Academy school.

This bell marked the time for beginning school and for recess until the Newby School was built in 1936. It was run alternately with the bell on the new Methodist Church to announce the death of Samuel Moore.

When Newby School was built in 1936, Jim and Loren DeHoney carried the old bell to the attic, where it remained until the bicentennial celebration, when it was brought down to the middle

hallway and displayed. Now that the Academy Building is being renovated, the old bell will find its proper place in the anticipated history museum.

Thousands of pupils who experienced the urgent calling of the old bell will remember and think fondly of their school days and, hopefully, the old bell will ring again for very special occasions.

Residents, scholars, students, teachers and descendants of early citizens of Mooreville are invited to share with "Mooreville Moments" a brief memory, event, life story, or an experience with special meaning. This week's column was written by Rachel Ruona, a descendant of one of the town's earliest pioneer settlers.

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## Miss Ida

Mary Ida Fogleman, affectionately known to townspeople as Miss Ida, the granddaughter of Samuel and Eliza Worthington Moore, was born Nov. 25, 1872 in the big brick house on West High Street where her father and mother, David and Margaret Moore Fogleman, lived with the Samuel Moores.

She graduated from Mooreville High School in 1891 and attended both DePauw and Indiana universities. She was honored with membership in the Emeritus Club as having been graduated and faithfully serving her alma mater 50 years or more. It was signed by Herman B. Wells and dated June 12, 1948.

Ida Fogleman was valedictorian of her graduating high school class and helped found the first Mooreville High School Alumni Association. She also helped found the Bay View Club, with she and her mother as charter members. She was a member of the Nature Club and an early member of a small literary group.

Miss Ida was a loyal Methodist, taught a Sunday School class, and engaged in social and benevolent activities throughout her life.

Mary Ellen Simmons, a pretty blond 6-year old girl with pink cheeks and musical talent, came to live and share the home of

Miss Ida in June 1914. Mary Ellen graduated from Mooreville High School in 1926 and married Norman Richhart Sr. She died June 24, 1929 after a series of illnesses and is buried in Mooreville Cemetery beside her husband, who passed away in 1965.

She left two small sons, Norman Jr., age 2, and Jerry, age 4 weeks. Miss Ida raised both boys as her own. They called her "mother." When the boys were adults, they joined their father as pharmacists in his business in Mars Hill, and later, Norman Jr. joined with Chet Freeland to establish Value Plus Pharmacy in Mooreville. The friendly neighborhood drug store in Mars Hill closed in 1985.

Instilling her "sons" the value of history and pride in their heritage, they were her heirs. They donated the land on South Indiana Street for the present Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1111.

Miss Ida died in 1953 and is buried in Mooreville Cemetery. Norman Richhart Jr. died in 1990 after moving back to Mooreville. Jerry Richhart passed away last year.

Norman Jr.'s wife, Norma lives in Mooreville and kindly cooperated in the writing of this article.

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### Miss Ida continued

Miss Ida, Ida Fogleman, granddaughter of Mooresville founder Samuel Moore and his wife, Eliza Worthington Moore, preserved hundreds of historical items and keepsakes from the family of her parents and grandparents, and often welcomed people from all over the state to view the large exhibit in her home. She later donated many priceless articles to the Indiana State Museum, Indiana State Library, and Indiana Historical Society.

"It is a task caring for all these keepsakes and I want to place them where they will be preserved for future generations," she said.

Among the many articles donated were: an 80 piece octagonal style gold band dinner set over 100 years old, a child's tea

set, Venetian glass etched in gold, an alabaster clock encased in glass and overlaid in gold meant to be a gift to Mary Moore Conduitt, who died suddenly before her husband could return home with the gift. There were also bonnets, vintage clothing, a small bureau made by cabinet-maker Jacob Combs in 1839, furniture, candlesticks, work baskets, books, Godey's Ladies Book, wedding dresses, personal mementos from concerts, politics, newspapers and letters.

She closed her home and was cared for by Norman and Norma Richhart.

Miss Ida was a tiny, dainty, gentle lady who evoked fond memories of pink teas and gracious ways that befitted the only heir of the founders of Mooresville.

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### Mooreville postmasters

Asa Bales, a prominent businessman, was the first postmaster in Mooreville, appointed Aug. 30, 1826, and served until June 17, 1881, when Robert D. Worthington, brother of Eliza Worthington Moore, was appointed.

Mooreville postmasters since Asa Bales have been Robert Worthington, David Worth, John Cox, Solomon Hunt, Robert Worthington, David Worth, William Hawk, Calvin Moore, George Worth, Alexander Compton, Fred Worth, Clark Woodward, Amos Carter, Samuel Rooker, Henry Woodard, John Harrison, Samuel Rooker, Henry Wood-

ward, John Bayliss, James O. Thompson, Harry H. Thompson, Frank Sheets, Ensley Roberts, V.D. Macy, Charles Wilson, Edgar L. Hensley, Frederick Quillen, Ruth Quillen, Leo L. Abbott, Glendon Hinshaw, Maurice Hensley, Cheryl Pearson, and since 1994, Jeff Catron.

Among the longest serving postmasters were Charles "Booner" Wilson from February, 1934, to November, 1951; and Glendon Hinshaw from May, 1961, to 1982.

At least three of the postmasters performed their duties ably, not handicapped by the loss of one arm.

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May 12, 1999

## Mooreville Post Office first on Main Street



**Mooreville's second post office which now houses the Dean Mayfield Insurance Agency was built on the lot adjacent to the site of the first post office.**

The exact location of the first post office is not certain, but a very early office was on South Indiana Street.

A small frame building on East Main Street seen in early photographs of Main Street barely shows a wooden sign on the side "Post Office." This building was replaced in 1909 on an adjacent lot. The building still stands at 10 E. Main St. and currently the home of the Dean Mayfield Insurance Agency.

After 30 years on East Main Street, the post office was moved to 16 N. Indiana St. in 1940, and in September, 1960 moved again to 104 W. Main St., presently the location for the Mooreville Police Department.

On April 21, 1985, Maurice Hensley, postmaster from 1982-87, presided at an open house introducing to the town the new and present post office on West Carlisle Street.

In 1900, horse drawn hacks delivered rural mail and local draymen brought mail from the railroad station to the post office.

Free mail delivery began in Mooreville May 1, 1917. Two carriers, Charles "Booner" Wilson and Forest "Pake" Rusie, were employed and all residences and places of business within town limits were served. Four deliveries a day were made in the business section. The remainder of the town had two deliveries a day. The salary of the carriers was \$50 per month.

The local post office advanced from second to first class status July 1, 1961. There were three rural routes and one full-time and two part-time city routes. At present, there are nine city carriers, 17 rural carriers, eight clerks, seven city routes, 12 rural routes, 30,231,000 pieces of mail held annually and 137,587 miles traveled each year.

### Post Office Trivia

Ballpoint pens replaced the famed post office pens and wells of water and powder ink in the Mooreville Post Office in 1956.

Mooreville's five digit zip code, 46158, was assigned in 1963.

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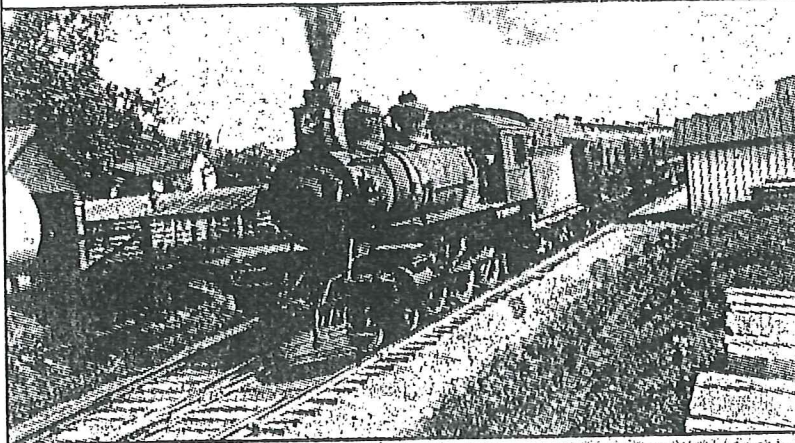


May 19, 1999

# Mooreville Moments

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## **Trains brought passengers, freight to Mooreville**



**A mail and passenger train leaves Mooreville south-bound after making a station stop, just south of South Street. The date the picture was taken is unknown. Photo supplied by Maurice Hensley.**

During the year 1852, the New Albany & Salem Railroad, which was constructing a railroad from New Albany to Michigan City, decided to build a line from Gosport to Indianapolis. By 1854, the company had graded 28 miles through Martinsville to Mooreville.

Due to financial problems, the line was not completed and in 1867, the company sold the Gosport-Mooreville grade to General Ambrose E. Burnside, who incorporated it into his projected Indianapolis & Vincennes Railroad. This line was completed and the first train through Mooreville was on Nov. 1, 1869. The Indianapolis-Vincennes line was later acquired by the Pennsylvania Railroad. For the next 72 years, the railroad provided both freight and passenger service.

During the 1930s, special passenger trains were operated for the Indiana State Fair. Passengers would ride to Indianapolis Union Station and board a street car to the fairgrounds on 38th Street. After a day at the fair, passengers would return home late in the evening.

During the last years of passenger service, passengers could board a train in Mooreville at 10:29 a.m., arrive at Union Station at 11:05 a.m., spend the day shopping in downtown In-

dianapolis, catch the 5:10 p.m. train and be back in Mooreville at 5:41 p.m. The last run of the passenger train was July 5, 1941.

The railroad station in Mooreville was located on the west side of the track between High and South streets. The station had a ticket window and waiting room on the south end. The agent's office was in the center. Walter Comstock was the station agent during World War II. It was Comstock's job to deliver telegrams from the War Department notifying next of kin of the death of their loved one.

On the north end of the depot was the freight section where freight and parcels were held for pick up or delivery. The building had a bay window on the east side of the office section where the agent had a clear view of the track in both directions. A siding was located to the west of the depot where freight cars could be spotted for loading and unloading. Another siding also served the grain elevator on the north side of High Street.

The Pennsylvania Railroad became Penn-Central Railroad in 1968 and in 1976, the railroad was acquired by Conrail. This lasted until April 11, 1992, when the line was purchased by Railtex and renamed Indiana Southern Railroad.



May 26, 1999

# Mooreville Moments

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## Monument honors war heroes

By Lula Mae Buckner

Memorial Day was first observed in 1865 to honor those who lost their lives in the Civil War. Later, it honored those who lost their lives in all wars. For over 100 years, the holiday was celebrated May 31. In 1971, the date was changed to the last Monday in May.

Locally, the VFW and American Legion sponsored a parade every Memorial Day for many years. The parade started up town and ended at the cemetery with a program and music. Former servicemen, wearing their uniforms, concluded the program with Taps and a gun salute. The Memorial Day parades were discontinued in the 1950s for lack of participation.

After World War II, a joint committee from the VFW, the American Legion and the Lions Club met to discuss dismantling the Community Service Roll on South Indiana Street. The Community Service Roll, a lighted billboard, stood where the present fire station stands. It listed over 400 men who served in the armed forces during WWII.

The committee incorporated as the Mooreville Community Memorial Association. The committee considered different types of memorials. Finally, a combination "living memorial" in the form of a recreational center and a granite monument on which was to be inscribed the names of Gold Star veterans from the community was recommended. To make the project possible, a financial campaign was launched.

The organizations and many individuals gave their whole hearted support. The school supported the project enthusiastically, raising a total of \$850. Three acres of land adjacent to the school campus was purchased from Paul and Louise Swisher for \$2,012.60, including legal fees. Construction and grading of the property, lighting installation, equipment, and the granite me-



**This granite monument stands on the Newby Memorial Elementary campus to honor Moorevillians who died in battle.**

monial brought the total cost to \$6,981.34.

The committee received the town board's permission to change the name of Kelly Street on the south side of the Newby building to Memorial Drive. The granite monument was placed southeast of the Newby building at the gateway of the new recreational center.

Mooreville's dream of a community recreational center was partially realized Oct. 28, 1948 when the lighted football field was dedicated before a football game between Mooreville and Greenwood.

A monument bearing the names of the 29 heroes killed in WWI and WWII was dedicated July 4, 1950. During the bicentennial year, the names of veterans who gave their lives in the Korean and Vietnam conflicts were added.



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### The Interurban

For nearly three decades, commuters and shoppers enjoyed quiet, quick, smooth riding electric train service from Martinsville through Mooresville to Indianapolis. The cars traveled 30.33 miles between the communities 15 times a day at a speed of 60 to 65 miles per hour. The fare was 55 cents.

School children rode to both Mooresville and Martinsville schools and students at Brooklyn could choose which high school they preferred.

The interurban bridge over White Lick Creek was dated 1901 but the track and the road took longer to complete.

The power house popularly called the "car barns" was located on West Harrison Street at the present location of Millers Merry Manor. During the 1976 Bicentennial celebration, a committee arranged for a historic marker to be produced and installed.

The tracks ran down the middle of Harrison Street, enabling traffic to move on either side.

Motorman's pay was 25 cents an hour and linemen received \$2.75 a day because the work was more dangerous with 13,200 volts at Mooresville. From 1902 to 1912 electric power for the line was produced at Mooresville.

For 10 years the power house furnished electricity for the town.

Paul Hadley, artist, was a regular commuter and he decorated the cars at Christmas while 12 women regular passengers arranged to have Christmas parties each year during the trip.

Most of the information collected about the interurban locally was from an interview with William "Tommy" McElwain who worked on the line and later was employed at the Mooresville Power and Light Co., now Indianapolis Power & Light Co.

In August 1930, reports suggested the service might be discontinued. The reports proved true and the last car returned to Mooresville at 1 a.m., Nov. 1, 1930. This was a sad event for Mooresville.

Records show 41 people had been employed, drawing \$44,604 annual wages. About 125 people at Mooresville depended on the cars for transportation to work at Indianapolis.

Indianapolis was the center for interurban travel during its heyday and the old traction terminal was the largest in the United States.

(Next week: The T.H.I. & E. Friendly Club and the story of the rosewood gavel.)

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## First meeting of the T.H.I. & E. Friendly Club

By, Wanda Potts

When the Terre Haute, Indianapolis & Eastern Traction Company ceased operations in 1930, many employees were thrown out of work and naturally drifted in all directions seeking employment.

In the summer of 1935 a committee met to plan a reunion of former workers. The committee was Omer Lydy, Robert

Allred and Clyde Harvey and the first meeting was Sept. 15, 1935 at Mooresville Town Park. The meeting was a great success with over 100 attending.

"After some time spent meeting old friends and trading stories of former days, the ladies called all to dinner which consisted of a bountiful supply of everything good to eat."

After dinner it was decided the meeting should be held once a year. A committee of one man from each division was appointed to promote the organization and announce the date and place of the next years meeting and one wife from each division to arrange for entertainment.

Most of the meetings were held at Mooresville and many familiar names were regular attenders or office holders.

The 26th meeting of the T.H.I. & E. Friendly Club was held at the American Legion Hall in Mooresville on Sept. 13, 1964

with 19 members and three visitors attending.

After a lengthy discussion it was decided to disband the club as attendance

was small and many of the remaining members were in all health or advanced age.

Membership record books, pictures and traction records were to be placed in the Railroad Transportation Museum.

The Interurban Rule Book of the Terre Haute, Indianapolis & Eastern Traction Company issued Nov. 1, 1923 and the minute books of the Friendly Club were handed down by the family of Ralph Rariden to be donated to the Mooresville Public Library according to directions in the minute book and the Rosewood Gavel was returned to Mr. Sanford M. Gentry.

"... the ladies called all to dinner which consisted of a bountiful supply of everything good to eat."

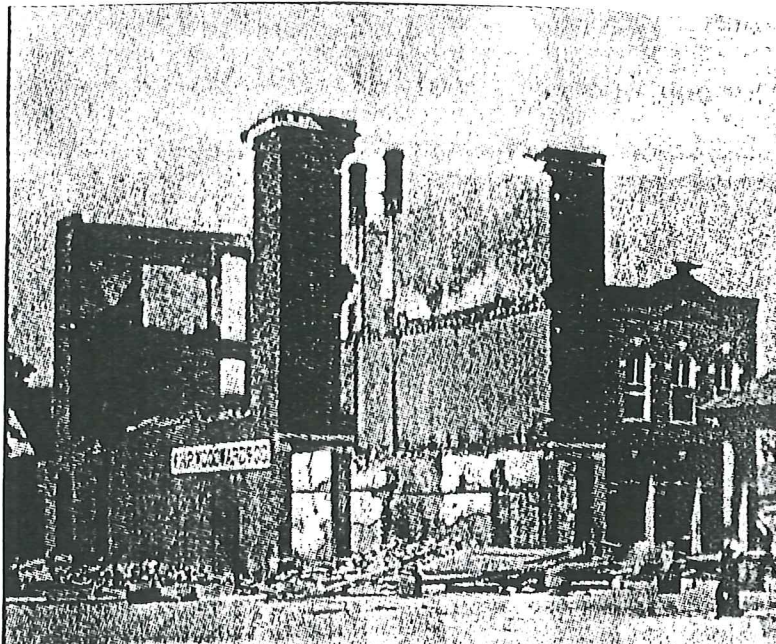
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### Mooreville sustains serious fire damage



**One of the largest fires in Mooreville's history happened at the corner of Main and Indiana streets. The fire destroyed all but one business.**

Mooreville received its' first setback in 1842 when fire destroyed all but one store and one dwelling — both owned by Samuel Moore.

"Last Sabbath morning, July 8, 1881 while all was quiet and peaceful, the cry of "fire" rang out and smoke was seen issuing from the Odd Fellows building on the northeast corner of the public square" (site of present mini-park honoring Paul Hadley).

The fire originated on the third floor and already burned through into the second floor. It then quickly destroyed the building leaving only two walls standing. The adjoining business buildings were saved by a crowd of on-lookers forming a bucket brigade.

The hall was rebuilt. The top stories were torn away in 1964 and the name stone from the corner of the building showing I.O.O.F. Morgan Lodge instituted July 7, 1859 was removed and now rests in a frame in the Academy Building.

In the fall of 1936 the Comer Sanitarium (first established by Dr. Robbins) and located in the middle of the first block of North Indiana Street, west side) was completely destroyed by fire and the hospital was moved to the Conduitt large home on the south-

west corner of Morgan and Indian streets. When the Comer Sanitarium became Kendrick Memorial Hospital and moved to Hadley Road, the building became apartments and burned to the ground in 1981.

The Carlisle home on East High Street was burned on March 17, 1941. Irvin Antrims nine room house on North Monroe Street which housed the rented Ruth Boyd downstairs apartment and Bernie Kirkham upstairs apartment burned on a Saturday night in January, 1942.

The Newcomer Lumber Company fire lit up the night sky in March, 1959.

A tragic house fire caused the death of Brown Township fireman Leonard Shover and injured two other firemen in December, 1963.

Kelly's Grandview Restaurant on South State Road 67 (now the location of Poe's Cafeteria) burned in October, 1971. And the Indiana Uniform building at the northwest corner of Morgan and Indiana Street was completely destroyed on New Years Day, 1986. The Bomax garage burned in 1993.

But the largest and meanest fire was on Dec. 27, 1925. That story next week.

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## The Rosewood gavel

A Rosewood gavel was presented to the T.H.I. & E. Friendly Club in September 1956 to be used at their meetings instead of an "ice pick" (must have been an inside private joke).

The gavel was a gift from member Sanford M. Gentry and the following poem was written by his daughter and read at the Sept. 9, 1956 meeting of the club. The gavel was returned to Gentry when the club disbanded.

Back in the 19th century the  
interurban lines were born/ They  
traveled all through the country-  
side, hamlet and farm/ The  
schedule was one every hour, if  
you were in a rush/ And best of  
all the seats were comfy in bright  
green plush.

The conductors and motor-  
men were handsome in their  
uniforms to blue/ With buttons  
so bright, like real gold too/  
And when winters winds blew  
and ice clung to every wire/  
Why worry if they were late,  
each waiting room had a good  
seat and a booming fire.

As well as an agent to chat  
with and listen to your quibs/  
And help you with the luggage  
and sometimes mind the kids/  
But time sped on as time will do  
somehow/ And the horseless  
carriage was invented and made  
its proper bow.

Folks said 'that's a joke,  
they're not here to stay/ But  
they were wrong, good roads  
helped pave the way/ They in-  
creased and grew better; Oh no!  
they did not fail/ But they sure

pushed them interurbans clean  
off the rail.

However the men that ran  
those cars were brave and  
strong/ They found new jobs  
and got along/ But they missed  
their pals of days gone by/ So  
for a yearly picnic they decided  
to try.

The families gathered with  
baskets full of goodies to eat/  
And the fun of renewing ac-  
quaintances couldn't be beat/  
So they decided to organize each  
laddie and lass/ And that's how  
the T.H.I. & E. Friendly Club  
came to pass.

Each year the president would  
wield the gavel 'till the glasses  
would click/ Did I say gavel, it  
was just an old ice pick/ So  
when the president of '55' ob-  
served this need/ He said, "This  
old ice pick shall be forever  
freed".

Therefore he called on his  
neighbor, Dan W. Jackson, a  
carver to see if he could/ Make  
him a gavel of old Rosewood/  
So he carved it most gently, with  
infinite care, this talented man  
of 85/ And a plate attached  
reads T.H.I. & E. Friendly Club  
from S.M. Gentry-1955.

The years will roll on as they're  
want to do and the club will be no  
more/ And there'll be no presi-  
dent to rap attention and take  
the floor/ Then may this gavel  
be placed in a museum, encased  
in glass with light aglow/ In com-  
memoration of the interurbans  
that ran so many, many long  
years ago.

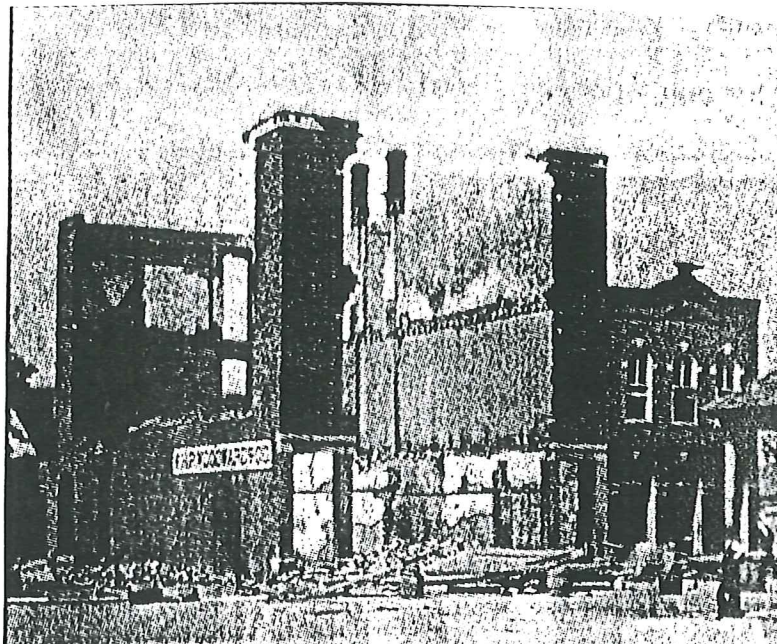
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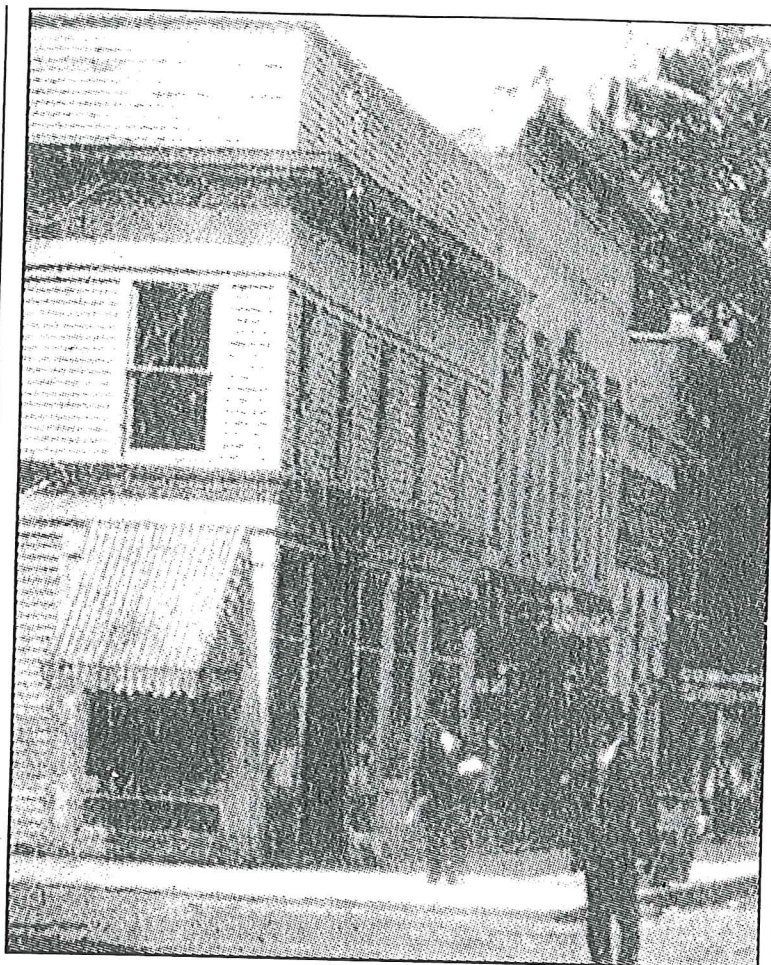
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### Lindley Block destroyed by fire



The site of one of Mooresville's toughest fires is today, the parking lot of Coffee, Tea and Potpourri. The second building down West Main Street in this picture is the current home of Harris and Currans Attorney's at Law.

The large frame building on the corner of West Main and South Indiana streets was probably the largest and meanest and most costly (at the time) fire in Mooresville.

The temperature was 17 degrees below zero and firemen's coats froze to their bodies and icicles clung to their eyebrows.

The fire was discovered by the night watchman, Mart Burris, and was quickly out of control.

The Mooresville Fire Department was joined by four other units from Indiana. They had to change drivers three times because the fire engines had no windshields.

The fire was fought for 16 hours and there were five other fires in town at the same time.

The two and one half story

building had apartments on the second floor and business rooms on the first floor and a pool hall in the basement. The first floor had a cleaning and pressing shop, Wadley's Creamery, Milhons Watch Shop, Ina Lyon's Millinery Store, Dr. Charles Aker's office and Kroger Grocery.

The building was not rebuilt and for many years the vacant hole was surrounded by a wooden fence.

Eventually the Pure Oil Service Station was built there and was in business several years.

The gas station was remodeled and is now the Coffee, Tea & Potpourri, a specialty and gift shop.

None of the men who fought that fire are living today but a few "old-timers" remember it well.

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### Mooresville Milestones

1824	Town platted by Samuel Moore
1825	Feb. 21 - plat recorded, vol. 1 page 88
1826	First postal service - Asa Bales
1830	First elementary school
1831	First incorporation of town
1855	Hovey Working Men's Library built
1861	Friend's High School built
1869	Nov. 1 - first IV steam train
1870	First Old Settlers Picnic
1881	July 8 - Old Fellows Hall burned
1883	Town takes over high school
1902	Interurban electric train
1916	Library Building on Main Street opened
1921	First gymnasium on Monroe Street built
1923	State Road 67 laid out
1925	Dec. 27 - Lindley block burned
1928	State Road 67 paved
1929	First bus to Indianapolis begins
1929	Steam trains quit passenger service
1930	Mooresville first bank closed
1930	Oct. 31 - Interurban stopped
1932	First town hall building on South Indiana Street built
1932	State Road 267 laid out
1936	Newby Elementary School built
1936	State Road 42 laid out
1944	MHS basketball team reaches semi-finals
1944	State Road 144 laid out
1947	football field on Memorial Drive built
1956	March 28 - area schools consolidated
1959	Current Mooresville High School built
1959-60	State Road 67 by-pass constructed
1963	Mooresville Park and Recreation Board organized
1964	Northwood Elementary built
1966	Paul Hadley Junior High building constructed
1966	"Home of the State Flag" adopted in honor of Paul Hadley
1967	Last grocery store on Main Street closed
1970	Athletic fields at Carlisle and Indiana streets constructed
1970	First firehouse on Harrison Street built
1971	April 6 - Carlisle Park, now Pioneer Park, opened
1971	Oct. 24 - Neil Armstrong Elementary School opened
1971	Academy Building leased to Historical Society for 25 years
1989	June 17 - swimming pool at Pioneer Park dedicated and opened
1999	Renovations of Academy Building and Newby Gym continue

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## Coomer testifies at recent WTO trade session

Larry Coomer, Monroeville farmer and president of the Indiana Farmers Union, gave a testimony caused precipitous losses to US farmers. Any upcoming trade agreements must address shortcomings

## Decatur Town hears fire pr

The Decatur Township board heard a proposal to establish a salary scale for fire personnel that would start a probational fireman at \$22,800.

Pay would climb to \$34,180 for a firefighter in his fifth year and thereafter.

The scale also proposes a longevity bonus, possibly paid at the end of each calendar year, of \$250 for a fireman with six years with the department and another \$100 for each year after the minimum qualifier.

The board took no action on the proposal, introduced by fire chief Dale Henson.

Board members expressed general acceptance to the pay scale, but showed some concern about a major jump of \$5,882 in pay from third year to fourth year.

Henson explained that the largest movement for firefighters occurred after three years because

other neighboring offer higher pay.

Henson said ally is fully trained and normally ca salary by having experience.

Board members said that a business agency can't seek employees current position most workers than just pay to

Some of the created for the scale was gatherings of a fire created by a Kugelman.

The committee without announcement the news media

The board's

## Teen gets year's after disregarding judge's order

On Tuesday, Superior Court 2 Judge Christopher Burnham sentenced 15-year-old Rusty Skinner of Mooresville to the Indiana Department of Corrections for one year.

Earlier this year, Skinner admitted to making a bomb, (napalm), and taking it to Mooresville High School. He also admitted to the theft of a road sign.

Judge Burnham had sentenced Skinner to one year on those charges but suspended the sentence and placed the boy on home detention. Under terms of Skinner's home detention, he was not to have access to a telephone.

While he was at home, Skinner admitted to using a cordless phone and placing calls to 900 (sex) numbers. Skinner said he made the calls from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. during the day. From June 1 to the 7, Skinner made over \$3,200 worth of calls. He was charged with theft and probation violation. He pleaded guilty to the charges.

The prosecution said while Skinner was in the Johnson County Youth Detention Facility, he compiled a list of violations.

Among those other inmates ing directions gestures and te it would be easy only one of y Skinner report

Skinner's mother said she did r home. She also was led away.

Judge Burnham wanted to understand tried to give him him have home did you decide nal?" asked the

Skinner said kept his head

The judge said would reflect he was incarcerated his bad v

Skinner will facility at Log will spend about then be sent to serve his sentence havior, he could serving his one



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## Community Party headlights 100th birthday

On Aug. 28, 1924 Mooresville celebrated its 100th birthday with a community party at early candlelight under the auspices of the Woman's Club. Registration was Aug. 29 at the public library.

At 10 a.m., the celebration began with the ringing of the old church bell. Markers were unveiled on the site of the first church in the old churchyard on West Washington Street and for the first school on East Washington Street. At 11 a.m., a marker in honor of Samuel Moore was unveiled on the northeast corner of the town square. The middle day was spent enjoying a homecoming dinner and reunion with reminiscences by pioneers at the community building and school campus.

A Pageant Parade depicting historical events was held from 3-5 p.m. The Spirit of Mooresville was represented by Helen York Cook, granddaughter of Samuel Moore Rooker, the first white child born in Mooresville. Heading the parade was the grand marshal, Charles B. Sweagengen, and his assistant Perry Bonham.

The Mooresville Concert Band followed and in a place of prominence, rode three of the town's

oldest inhabitants, Lavicy Scott and Vincent and Rebecca Williams, all over 80 years old. The oldest native of the town, James Spoon, was not able to participate because of a broken leg.



**Mildred Thompson wore a costume made of green crepe paper with butterflies and flowers added to portray Mother Nature in the 1924 Mooresville Centennial Parade.**

After a basket dinner in the yard of the new high school (now demolished), a huge birthday cake with 100 candles was lighted by descendants of early settlers. The youngest was Wayne Ferguson, 8, grandson of Nathaniel Carter who came to this area in 1820.

Harry Searce was general chairman of the affair. The Rev. Dayton Harvey gave an invocation. Robert Nelson read a poem.

Other members of the committee were Clarence Hubbard, Dr. W.L. Thompson, O.P. Macy, Mrs. W.H. Henderson, Jennie Scott, and Mrs. Norris Talley.

The 150th Anniversary of Mooresville was celebrated Aug. 11, 1974 with the cutting of a birthday cake, balloon ascension and Old Settlers Parade. The new Mooresville town flag was introduced and Clara Richardson's book, *The History of Mooresville 1824-1974*, went on sale.



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### Old Settlers Queens

Glamour was added to Old Settlers in 1964 when a contest to choose a queen to reign over the festivities was inaugurated. Kappa Kappa Sigma sorority sponsored the event at the suggestion of Sarah Jayne Hogue.

Originally, the candidates were representatives of local merchants and were selected by vote - each vote costing one penny. The votes could be cast at the store holding the girl's mane.

The first candidates and their sponsors were Sharon Morrison - Grays Restaurant; Susie Swinehart - Brown's Grocery; Melinda Marksberry - Hook's Drugs; Francis Flick - Krogers; Judy Coble - Habig's; Linda Smith - Adler's Department Store; Cindy Hite - Hayes Drugs; Cheryl Beasley - Gibbs Hardware; Sherry Morley - Brown's Drug Store; Vicki Fields - Bud & Bloom; Sandy Reed - Ben Franklin; Linda Morley - Town & Country; Beverly Johnson - Citizens Bank; Dennie Niemeier - Kelly's; Margie Hribar - Handy Andy Hardware; Linda George - Newcomers; Sarah

Gibbs - Terra Plaza Blowing; Sandy Swinney - Warren Insurance; Barbara Cable - Putt Putt Golf; Jackie Allen - Omar Park Insurance; Suzanne Venable - Big M Bowl; Kathy Palmer - Tri County Sport Shop; Loraine Dolen - Moores Grocery; Janice Townsend - Armstrong Grocery; Wendy Roberson - Pizza Plaza; and Patty Park - Coleman Insurance.

Francis Flick was crowned the first Old Settlers Queen.

In August, 1988, Kappa Kappa Sigma presented to the Mooresville Park Department a donation in the amount of \$100,000 toward the cost of a swimming pool, the result of nearly a quarter century of Old Settlers Queen contests. What a blessing to the community. The dedication and opening ceremony was June 17, 1989.

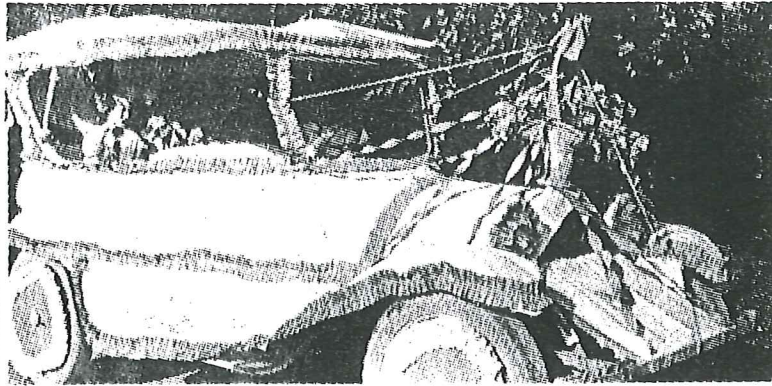
Mooresville's privately owned swimming pool located on the south side of East South Street adjacent to the railroad tracks was closed in the early 1960s.

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## Continuing the story of the 100th birthday of Mooreville



On August 28 and 29, 1924, the chief historical event of the centennial celebration was the pageant parade on Friday afternoon. The Mooreville cornet band led with floats following; depicting different eras of Mooreville history from wilderness and pioneers, through Civil War period and the Spirit of Progress. The Civil War period featured fife and drum corps; the spirit of 1861 had old soldiers riding in decorated automobiles. The line of march formed at Monroe Street beginning at the school house (now Newby Elementary School) south on Monroe to High, east on High to Clay, north on Clay to Main and west on Main back to Monroe Street.

At the community party on Thursday night at the gymnasium (the same 'Save the Gym') hundreds of citizens and former residents registered. The building was decorated in royal blue and white, the centennial colors

and garden flowers. The Mooreville band played. The Womens Club chorus (\*probably led by Mrs. Chester Lawrence) sang and included a quartet, a duet and solo numbers. The program also featured old fashioned square and round dancing, and the Belles of the Sixties dancing in the Virginia reel. The Belles of the Sixties (1860's that is) in costume were popular local young ladies Misses Frances Keller, Maybelle Elliott, Myrabelle Heater, Reva Comer, Emma Louise Reeves and Frances Edwards.

Lawson and Patty Lawrence, visiting from Florida furnished the pictures of entries in the parade. The occupants of the decorated auto were Helen York Cook, William "Billy" King Harshman, Lawson Lawrence and possible Jane Haltom.

If you or anyone you know has pictures of the centennial please share them with the Mooreville Public Library.

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## Moore donates land for Old Settlers

"Trustees of the Town of Mooreville: I wish to donate to the town for a park the land west of Stewart Comers and the fairgrounds on the following terms: The corporation put a good plank fence around it and clean up the brush and logs and make some gravel walks and other improvements. I forbid stock of any kind being pastured there at any season of the year. It must be kept clean and neat so that the ladies and children will enjoy themselves. I forbid baseball, bandy ball, town ball or any such game that would mar the enjoyment of women and children for whose benefit this land is donated. Also forbidden was horse racing or training of horses, and if these terms are not complied with the donation is forfeited. Sabbath School, picnics and public speaking is left to the judgment of the trustees. With the very best wishes for the happiness and prosperity of the citizens of the town, I remain truly your friend," Samuel Moore October 18, 1877.

One of the largest Old Settlers Associations ever formed in Indiana was organized by Marion, Morgan, Johnson and Hendricks Counties to preserve memories of pioneers and to recognize those who made Indiana possible. The first meeting was in 1870 with

Samuel Moore and John D. Carter in charge and held at the fairgrounds. It is estimated that

10,000 people poured into Mooreville by wagon, buggy and special train. In 1883, Marion County formed their own group and Johnson county separated after the first year.

Eventually the picnic was supervised by the

Town Clerk and the Mooreville Lions Club assumed responsibility in 1962.

Described in a letter to a friend "I have spent many summers on my Uncle Jim Clems farm and attended Old Settlers. August was the date, pot luck style. I see the pink cotton candy, the ferris wheel, taste the homemade ice cream, smell the chocolate cake, hear the men's loud laughter, listen for the women's mincing chirp; buy the yellow buzzing bird crack the bright red whip, traipse the dusty lanes, have a peck of fun, tired out before the day's over. Old Settlers in Mooreville, I will never forget."

For over 52 years children of all ages looked forward to a visit with Jack Rothwell (1894-1982) at his booth of toys and balloons and trinkets to take home from Old Settlers.

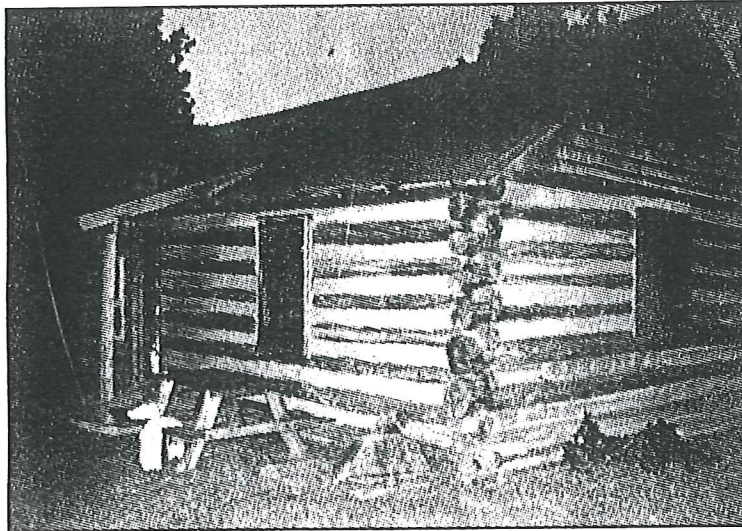


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## Scout Cabin



Late in March, 1937, Dr. Charles L. Aker, local physician and member of the local scout committee, announced plans to build a recreational cabin to be used by Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and other youth groups.

The Building was to be 20-feet by 40-feet, log, with a wainscot of stone. Much of the material used was salvaged when the addition to the Academy Building was removed to make way for the new William & Milton Newby Elementary School, and thus preserve some memories for future generations.

The logs were old electric line poles donated by the Public Service Company. W.L. Milner was the contractor and much of the labor was donated. For certain expenses, a fund drive was necessary. It was estimated the amount needed was between \$300 and \$500.

The cabin was to be of rustic design. A clapboard roof was installed under the supervision of Jess Thompson, who was one of the few men in Mooresville who knew how to do this type of work. A fireplace was planned for one end of the cabin.

Donations from local people varied from 25 cents to \$5 and each name was acknowledged in the Mooresville Times. In the end, the pledges totaled \$221.55. A minstrel show in August and a Halloween party, auction and a grand masked parade helped raise funds to complete the project.

Dedication of the scout cabin was May, 31, 1938. Every boy or girl scout and their families were invited to the program.

6:00 p.m. Mess call by scout bugler and a basket dinner served.

7:00 p.m. Scout bugler sounds retreat and flag is lowered.

7:05 p.m. Community singing led by Fitzhugh Lee.

7:20-8 p.m. Addresses by representatives of Girl Scouts, White River Council Boy Scouts, and district governor of Lions Club.

8:05 p.m. Acceptance by town board.

8:10 p.m. Inspection.

The cabin is still in use by Scout Troop 231.







## Mooreville Moments

*In honor of Mooreville's 175th Anniversary and the 200th anniversary of the birth of Mooreville's founder, Samuel Moore, the Mooreville/Decatur/Monrovia Times is publishing regular articles about the history of Mooreville and Moore.*

### "Mooreville"

words and music by Frank C. Huston

Nationally known as a composer of many hymns and songs, Rev. Frank C. Huston wrote the words and music to the song entitled "Mooreville."

Rev. Huston lived in Knightstown and commuted to Mooreville for his duties as pastor of the Christian Church and choir director. He organized and directed the church choir.

Some time after his ministry here, Rev. Huston moved to Florida and while there composed both the words and music to "For God and Country," an American Legion marching song.

The lyrics of "For God and Country" are:

You may sing of your cities of wide renown/There are some that are wondrous stuff/But I'll sing you a song of my own little town/With which there are none to compare.

It's building may not be so tall/But all who are thoughtful must surely agree/It's folk makes a

town after all.

(Chorus) Mooreville/  
Mooreville

You are the theme of my song.

Mooreville/Mooreville  
You're the place where I belong.

Oh there are others and larger I know

But none are so dear as old Mooreville

And so I'll sing you praises where I go

You're my home town.

It's a beautiful city, is my home town/With it's welcoming streets everywhere/The charm of her homes is a proverb well known/For culture and beauty are there.

Where each takes a pride in his own home town/There's little but good may befall/But still we insist when you're judging a town/It's folk make a town after all.

*The historical articles for Mooreville Moments are taken or copied from various materials located in the Indiana/Local History Room of the Mooreville Public Library and include newspaper clippings and notes from books edited by Becky Hardin, Clara Richardson and Almira Hadley.*



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### Mooresville's Oldest Mystery

By Solon M. McNabb

Copied from the Mooresville Monitor of July 20, 1916

Curious about an old rumor of disappearance and murder, I asked John Henry Rule, an old resident of Mooresville, what he knew of it. This is what he told me.

"Late in the afternoon in early fall, 1838, a stranger was seen coming down Day Hill east of Mooresville from the direction of Waverly riding a sway-backed horse and carrying saddlebags. Perhaps he exchanged words with the miller at the ford as he progressed along the rude road that at the end of a half mile would take him into Mooresville to the eastern most boundary being Clay Street.

"An old house on Main Street had once been a pioneer tavern kept by John J. Cox and that is the period of this account.

"Charley Rusie was 11-years old, staying at the Cox place as a choreboy and he waited on the sickly stranger as he stopped there. Mr. Cox dismissed Charley and told him to go home. When he returned for work the next morning he learned the sick man had gone away during the night and strangely left behind his horse and saddlebags.

"There was much speculation, but Cox had lived here a long time and no one had any particular interest in the missing man. The talk was soon forgotten until two years later, the stranger's brother arrived here searching for his

brother who had left his home in Ohio with \$2,500 and was on his way west to buy land. Two weeks passed and the brother returned to his home without successful search.

"Mr. Cox had done well keeping his tavern since 1834 but the rumors and suspicious of foul play ruined his reputation and he finally left town with a crony who lived northeast of town.

"Thirty years passed before a report came from Iowa that both men had died. Mr. Cox without a word. His companion confessed, it was said, that they both were implicated in the act of murder.

"In 1881, there came a spell of wet weather that caused East White Lick Creek to overflow and cut a deep channel across the field and after the water receded, John Wilson unearthed a skeleton of a man. Dr. Reagan pronounced the bones to be of a man about 35 years of age at the time of death. So for all these years, it is supposed to be the bones of the missing man. But were they?

"The rumor from Iowa was never traced to a reliable source - no confession was ever made by Mr. Cox - so the fate of the ailing stranger who rode into town 78 years ago and put up at Cox's tavern remains, and probably will ever remain, a matter for speculation.

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## Purdue minority students get BAA-funded scholarships

Ten minority students in Purdue University's School of Consumer Sciences and Family Services will receive scholarships funded by Indianapolis' International Airport manager BAA Indianapolis for the 1999-00 school year.

The scholarships were intended to support minority students pursuing careers in small business and retail management. BAA will fund up to 16 scholarships annually through the year 2005.

To be eligible, students must be

a 2.8 grade-point average for four years and complete at least 28 credit hours per year.

Graduating high school students also must have a GPA of at least 2.8.

This year's recipients are Jamie Calvillo, Patricia Campos, Torrance Williams, Serena Wills, Alina Sutalo, Nicole Dickerson, Tynise Jones, Anne Martinez, Jalen Clark and Adrienne Coffey.

Airport Director David Roberts and School of Consumer and Fam-

# State's excise tax es fatal to Decatur sch

By Troy Guthrie

A mysterious shortfall in excise tax funds has made the budget-making process for 2000 even more challenging for most Marion County school corporations, including the Metropolitan School District of Decatur Township.

However, Decatur Township schools' Director of Business Jud Wolfe believes the inaccurate excise tax estimates won't cause schools to surpass their advertised budget figures.

MSD of Decatur Township's advertised budget figures yield a total general fund of \$30,399,599. The school board approved the budget but it still has to go before the state tax board for adjustments to the maximum amount the sys-

tem can levy before adoption in September.

Also, an official student enrollment number for the school system must be plugged into the final budget. The official count of Decatur Township pupils will be done on Sept. 17, Wolfe said. Unofficial enrollment was 5,473 as of Aug. 27.

Wolfe told the MSD of Decatur Township Board of Education last week that he found out when the first installment of excise tax funds arrived from the state in June that the excise tax receipts for calendar year 1999 were short of initial estimates.

He said state officials indicated that the problem spreads across school systems statewide.

## Decatur bus drivers speak c

By Troy Guthrie

Sue Haney and her fellow Metropolitan School District of Decatur Township bus drivers want the number of paychecks throughout the year not to be cut by one.

But, if they can't stop the reduction in their number of checks that is being considered by the school system, they'll settle for an answer on why it's being done.

Haney asked MSD of Decatur Township Director of Business Jud Wolfe last week if the drivers' pay dates were being reduced as a way of saving money. When Wolfe assured her that wasn't the case, and the decision stemmed from moves made two years ago by someone else, she asked if the policy could be amended.

"Can't it be amended?," she pleaded during a school board special meeting last week in which the drivers' plight was added to the agenda originally set for public hearing on the system's 2000 budget. "Do we have to do it just because (someone else) suggested it a few years ago? I'm not being a smart-aleck; I'm honestly wondering why this was done, and if we can't do something about it."

Haney - a 19-year veteran - was

one of five drivers who express their feelings and told at least a pair of stories about their financial situations to the board, MSD of Decatur Township Superintendent Dr. F. Sager, Wolfe and Personnel Director Brad Eshelman.

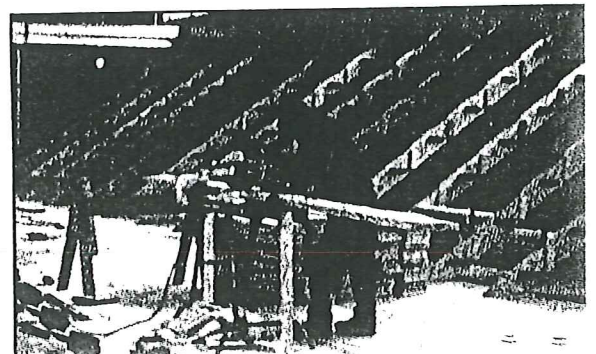
Certified bus drivers and all school system employees have a choice of the normal 26 biweekly paychecks or 21 checks in larger amounts throughout the year, recognized by an employees' bargaining association. The 21-check option means no checks during summer when the traditional school year is out.

But certified workers get paid spring and Christmas breaks, well as getting sick days so they're better budgeted throughout the year, said 9-year driver Dixie Cook.

Wolfe said the change was made during driver contract restructuring about two years ago in an attempt to simplify payroll.

"But, it's my understanding it didn't work because, if one driver couldn't work, another would, that turned into a record-keeping nightmare," he added.

But, also, a representative of Indiana Department of Labor called the 26-paycheck co-





## Mooresville Moments

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### Pioneers of 1944 won first sectional championship



The 1944 Mooresville Pioneers were: front row from left, Richard Burton, Bill Settles, Buddy Dake, Francis Sturm, Tim Shrake, Bob Sellers; back row, Robert Phillips, Wilbur Thomas, Richard Kellum, coach Oscar Finke, Ronald Smith, Charles Roberson, and Reuben Aldrich.

With the passing of teacher and coach Oscar Finke in 1998, and Wilbur Thomas in August, members of the 1944 Mooresville High School basketball team are reminded of their local thrill of glory.

After a so-so first of the season 5-4, the Pioneers' scores improved after Christmas when 6-foot 4-inch Ronald Smith became eligible to play.

After winning the sectional tournament at Martinsville, and the regional at Brazil, the Pioneers advanced to play in the semi-finals at Vincennes. They lost to Evansville Bosse, which went on to win the Indiana State High School Basketball Tournament that year and also in 1945. Mooresville did not go to semi-finals game again for 25 years.

There were celebrations after each victory and many loyal

Mooresville fans joined a caravan to see the games. Of the original team, only three still call Mooresville home; Richard Kellum, Jim Shrake and Ronald Smith. Buddy Dake and Bill Settles are deceased. Reuben Aldrich lives in Bethlehem, Penn., Francis Sturm in Greenfield, and Charles Roberson and Richard Burton are in Florida. Bob Phillips and Bobby Sellers were student managers.

The Newby Gym holds fond memories for over half a century of Mooresville students, athletes, and basketball fans who welcome the recent preservation, renovation and restoral of the historic old gym built in 1921.

The picture was loaned by Lula Mae Buckner, sister of Buddy Dake who died in the Korean War.

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## No comment at Mooresville council

The Mooresville Town Council meeting Tuesday took all of five minutes to complete. The special meeting was scheduled for public comment on the town's 2000 budget.

Along with passing minutes, the council approved a transfer of fund resolution for various minor accounting requirements.

## Mainstreet and Elsewhere

Continued from front page

The Mooresville Park Board will Parents of Mooresville High

## Airport authority board OK

By Troy Guthrie

The Indianapolis Airport Authority last week OK'd the purchase of two more properties by the airport.

Land at 6861 Cottonwood Drive will be bought from Janet Patterson as part of the second phase of Indianapolis International Airport's guaranteed purchase program. The purchase price is \$149,000. The estate of Paul E. Thomas at 1724 S. Lucerne Ave. will be acquired for \$62,500 under the airport's noise

study program.

Both purchases were approved during the authority board's regular meeting.

In another land acquisition matter, the airport got the authority's approval Friday to lease three acres east of Bridgeport Road and Interstate 70 from Linda Wyatt. The land will be used for pasture through December 31.

While that three acres is serving as pasture land, other property near

## AmeriPlex growth has only just begun

By Troy Guthrie

Its founders are quick to point out: don't call it an "industrial park."

There's much more than industrial ventures inside the buildings at AmeriPlex ... and developers hope the park - called a "business park" - will be able to attract an even more diverse assemblage of companies to its Decatur Township location along Kentucky Avenue.



Bennett

AmeriPlex, which sprawls over 1,500 acres, is touted as a business community that pairs world-class transportation offerings with advanced infrastructure.

The park also maintains a link with Indianapolis Airport Authority for long-range planning.

Speaking of the airport, AmeriPlex is connected to the airport communications loop, shoring up service to match airport users' capabilities.

The project actually began in the early 1990s, but none of the developers were sure of the vision becoming a reality until February 1995, said Trent Bennett, a vice president with the group. Construction started in 1996.

"This project was actually written off a couple times," Bennett said. "Then something would happen - a good meeting or something - and it was back on-line again. They (Holladay Group's heads) really poured their hearts and souls into this."

As a result, more than \$75 million in private money has been spent on land development and

state and Hendricks County governments and airport officials in trying to arrange funding for the unique multi-jurisdictional project, Neldigh said.

The project already has \$20 million in federal funds in place. That money will have to be accompanied by \$10 million in local matching funds.

Neldigh said the interchange project is also unique in that, "it will sit across county lines. One side of the intersection will be in Marion County while the other side will be in Hendricks County."

AmeriPlex's Phase 1 was the beginning of the project, of course, "but Phase 3 actually began a few months ahead of Phase 2," Bennett said. Buildings are being utilized in the area mapped out as the third portion, while infrastructure is nearing completion in Phase 2, he added.

Holladay Group hopes the progress is being made just in time.

"About 10 acres inside the park's main entrance has been saved for retail development," Bennett said. "But (a retail presence) requires heavy traffic - which State Road 67 has - and a heavy concentration of homes in the area."

The latter is starting to happen in Decatur Township, according to a real estate study of Decatur, Perry, and two other townships, that Holladay Group contracted an area firm to do. More than 60 subdivisions were pinpointed as new in this area since the 1990 U.S. Census, Bennett said.

To meet the potential for diverse development, Holladay Group Inc. has developed marketing materials to fit various types of recruiting efforts, Bennett said. The materials carry the adage, "Where America Goes to Work" because AmeriPlex extends space for a wide range of tenants, he added.



## Mooresville Moments

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### Sarah Marine was Mooresville's earliest writer

Mooresville can claim a fair share of artists, authors and musicians. Perhaps the earliest writer to be published was Sarah Catherine King Marine. She was born in 1855 in Boone County, moved to Mooresville, and married William Albines Marine, a first cousin to James Whitcomb Riley.

Sarah Marine was a Bible student, a charter member of the East End Bible Class, and an avid enemy of "strong drink." The temperance movement was prominent in this community and her book, "Who Was It?" was published by the Publishing Association of Friends, Plainfield in 1920. The 94 pages included a tragic story of a beautiful young couple who fell to the "curse of alcohol and murder and the grave of a drunkard." There was also poetry, reflections of life in the late 1800s, and a tribute to

Samuel Moore, founder of Mooresville.

Among the works published by Marine and cited in the three volume "Books by Indiana Authors" was "The Garland," "The Virgin Mary; a Careful and Authentic Study of the Life and Character of Mary, the Mother of Christ," "A Story of Two Soldier Boys," and "Who Was It?"

Sarah and William Marine were the parents of three sons; Clarence, Raymond and Myron Marine. The descendants of Myron Marine still live in Mooresville.

Sarah Marine died in 1940 while living with her son in Tennessee and is buried in Mooresville.

Next week: A Tribute to Samuel Moore, by Sarah K. Marine.

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## MCA having good start despite tragedy

By Scott W.L. Daravanis

Mooresville Christian Academy principal Sheryl Stovall said the first two weeks of classes at the State Road 144 school have gone well despite the surprise death of fourth grader Tori Welker.

Walker died Aug. 23, seven days before the scheduled start of school. Stovall sent a letter to parents of all academy students before classes started.

"We as parents know we are not to bury our children. We are to raise them to the delight of the Lord and to reflect in our old age on all the good times. For Rob and Tracy (Tori's parents), they can only have nine years of wonderful memories



be extended to accommodate all who came to offer respects.

"The kids went through some of the grieving process before school started," she said. "They see Tori now as an angel who is with God. I think this tragedy has been harder on the parents that it has on the kids."

A month before her death, Tori was awarded the reserve grand champion ribbon for her fudge at the Morgan County Fair. She was a member of Mooresville 4-H Clovers, Brownie Troop 1464, the Barbara B. Jordan YMCA soccer league, and Eastview Christian Church at Martinsville.

### New gym ready to open

Stovall said Mooresville Christian Academy is preparing for the grand opening of the new gymnasium in a couple of weeks. She said the basketball floor has been laid and painting of the school's Eagle

## DCHS teacher is award finalist

Decatur Central High School science teacher Duane Nickell was one of 12 educators selected as state finalists for the annual Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

Nickell joined five other science teachers among the finalists who were tabbed last spring. Four will be selected as Presidential Award winners by a national committee.

The Hoosier educators were honored last week at a luncheon at the Omni Indianapolis North Hotel. Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Suellen Reed presented each teacher with a \$500 reward, a personal plaque and a plaque to be displayed at their schools.

"This group of teachers represents the finest math and science teachers in Indiana," Reed said during the award presentation. "This is a distinguished honor, one befitting such tremendous educators."



## TOUR DE M

Competitors in Sunday's Tom Re Pioneer Park. The annual bike con

## Parking area gives perspective to war

By Troy Guthrie

Some are aviation enthusiasts.

Others simply love the chance to watch airplanes because it's something they can't do everyday ... or it's an escape from eating lunch in a busy restaurant.

Still others have a case of wanderlust and try to guess where the aircraft are going when they take off or where they've been when they land.

These onlookers aren't in the terminal. They're parked at the Indianapolis International Airport, a park sandwiched between the runways and Interstate 70.

Onlookers can park for free and stay as long as they want. The only posted restriction is a sign telling spectators to dim their lights.

Tiffany Whistler of Reelsville took in the view with her 2-year-old son,

Steven, on a recent sunny afternoon.

"It's mostly FedEx planes at this time of day," she said, squinting into the distance toward the midfield tower.

Whistler also brings her older son, Daniel, 6, when he isn't in school.

"It's just a chance to relax and just enjoy it here in the car," she said, adding that watching planes from the park is more peaceful than finding parking at the airport and finding a spot in the terminal with a good view.

The view from the park gets even better at night, said Whistler, whose uncle is a pilot for UPS.

"It's really cool," she said of watching the planes on the nearby runways after dark. "They look like a bunch of spaceships out there."

## Stalled land acquisition slows Carson Park

By Troy Guthrie

Funded improvements at Carson Park and initial planning for an intersection that the Metropolitan

Cliburn, who now live at Palm Bay, Fla. Their son manages the Valley Lane properties.

The attempts to acquire land are



# Mooreville Moments

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## The Old Bell

*A tribute to Samuel Moore, founder of Mooreville, by Sarah K. Marine*

I see in the  
b e n d i n g  
shadow

the shade  
of the setting  
sun;

And I must  
tell you,  
daughter

before the  
day is done.



Before the night has settled  
and I have ceased to be;  
Toll the old bell for me, Maggie  
the old church bell for me.

Of course they will toll the new  
one,  
with its deep and solemn tone.  
The years of my life to number,  
as they, one by one, have flown.

My infancy and childhood  
my youth and manhood free.  
But toll the old bell too, Maggie,  
the old church bell for me.

It tolled for your mother, Maggie,  
and each one of your sisters  
three.

It tolled for you brother, Jo-  
seph,  
and I want it to toll for me.

Their memory makes it sacred,  
and whatever else you do.

When they toll the new bell,  
Maggie;  
have them toll the old one, too.

For the sake of the dear de-  
parted,  
there is more in its tone by far.  
Than in any other church bell,  
this side of the "Gate Ajar."

It tells of the love ones waiting  
up yonder for me and you.  
And I have gone to join them,  
let it toll for your father, too.

So the solemn, deep vibration,  
of the church bell in the tower.  
Was joined in the solemn warn-  
ing,  
It gave of the funeral hour.

By the bell that had done buty,  
for the church so many years.  
The mournful concert waking,  
fond memories and tears.

Maggie was Samuel Moore's  
daughters, the wife of David  
Fogleman and mother to Ida  
Fogleman.



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### Lucinda, A Little Girl of 1860

Mabel Leigh Hunt was born in Coatsville Nov. 1, 1892, the daughter of Tilghman and Amanda Harvey Hunt. She spent her childhood in Greencastle and Plainfield, moved to Indianapolis, graduated from Shortridge High School, attended DePauw and Western Reserve University Library School, became a freelance author of children's books and died in Indianapolis in 1971.

She wrote over 30 children's books, including *Lucinda, A Little Girl of 1860*.

She credits Carrie E. Scott of Mooresville, supervisor of children's department, Indianapolis Public Library with suggesting and encouraging her to write books for children.

Stories told by her mother, Amanda Harvey Hunt, daughter of Benajah and Mary Ann Harvey - pioneer Quakers of Morgan

County, of her childhood in the Bethel neighborhood became the basis for her first book. Her mother told her of her childhood and visits to the Bethel community, of people and incidents that gave her an appreciation of the old-time Quaker way of life.

The fictional *Lucinda* is a daughter of a Quaker family in Indiana during the Civil War days, and paints a picture of early Quaker family life.

Mabel Hunt was proud of her Quaker heritage and had the fondest memories of local relatives, people and places. She donated to the Mooresville Public Library her file of correspondence with publishers and illustrators, along with clippings and reviews of her books. She also donated and autographed several of her books to the library.

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## High court dismisses case against Judge Gray

The Indiana Supreme Court has dismissed a petition filed by two Mooresville men alleging the Superior Court Judge G. Thomas Gray violated their civil rights.

The case began as a guardianship arrangement for Mary Boyd, an elderly family member. Gray appointed a lawyer to manage the woman's financial transactions and a family member to make medical decisions. Ralph M. Harris and Curtis W. Davis, also family members, objected to this, saying the guardian appointed to make medical decisions is a convicted felon. They petitioned Gray to remove himself from the case and appoint a special judge, which Gray denied. He said under state law a felon is allowed to assume guardianship of a person, but not an estate. That is why he appointed the lawyer to manage Mrs. Boyd's financial transactions.

Harris and Davis said their rights were violated because they are no longer allowed to file motions in Gray's court or in the county clerk's office. "The respondent has ordered the clerk not to let the relators file anything in the relators' county," said their motion.

An earlier motion, filed in Marion Circuit Court, asks for "affirmative relief for allowing discrimination, demeaning statements, ex parte communication, threatening, endangering Mary Boyd, neglect of duty, and not following state law." This suit seeks \$200 million in damages from Morgan County.

Chief Justice Randall T. Shepherd responded to the suit. He said the pleading is procedurally deficient and does not comply with the rules of the court.

"However, the court looks past the procedural defects and addressed the original action request

By Scott W.L. Daravani

Construction on the long-awaited Marsh Grocery Store at Br Street and State Road 67 should begin any moment now that the Mooresville Plan Commission given its stamp of approval Tuesday evening.

A number of Mooresvillians said they are eager for a new large grocery store to give competition to Kroger. The Marsh the Mooresville Marsh goes on that long.

In 1993, Marsh had approved the town about building at State Road 67 and State Road 14 property currently occupied by Wendy's, but those plans received heavy opposition when it learned that the store was going to be a Lo-Bill discount grocery, not a standard Marsh store. In August that year, the plan commission presented plans for a 95,000-square-foot retail complex with "the best national food distributor" as a centerpiece, reportedly to be

## Hill selects

Indianapolis attorney Kevin Hill, stating his interest in Shirley Hill.

Hill is accused of perjury proceedings. A pretrial is set.

McGoff represented Rand Morgan County and also reportedly got into an altercation with

## Daycare construction

Construction has begun on Children's Village, a 14,000-square-foot daycare facility AmeriPlex. The child development and education center is expected to open early next year and will be operated by The Villages.

The facility will be built to house 150 children up to 6 years old. The facility will have a family/preschool resource center, both indoor and outdoor play areas, with the interior including a loft, and an electronic security system.

The Children's Village was vital to AmeriPlex's growth, said Trent Bennett, vice president of Indianapolis operations for Holladay Group, which has developed AmeriPlex.

## Levee still later for De

By Troy Guthrie



## Mooresville Moments

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### Letter to the children of Mooresville

If you would go west on High Street, cross the bridge which spans White Lick Creek and follow the road which leads southward, you will come to a narrow road which runs to the west again and will bring you to where Bethel Meeting House gleams whitely on a green knoll. This is the site of the meeting house where Lucinda attended meeting on first and fourth days — and in the hollow across the road there is a little house which has been remodeled from the school house where Lucinda sang her "joggerphy" (geography) lesson and where she learned to love the poets.

Lucinda was once a real little girl who lived in the Bethel neighborhood. She grew up to be my own mother. All her brothers and sisters and aunts and uncles were real, too, and they all lived in the vicinity of Mooresville. In

the book, Mooresville was called Shallowford and incidents and escapades and the tale of the immigrant child's grave on her grandfather's farm were true. Martha actually planted the American flag on the tailor's shop; the war really did take the mysterious old German who lived in the neighborhood; and my mother, the real Lucinda, loved the happy ending to the story.

It was not all quite true, but it might have been.

I am glad to say that the ending to my own childhood at Bethel was just as happy.

By the way - Lucinda's real name was Amanda - Amanda Harvey.

Your Friend,  
Mabel Leigh Hunt  
author - Lucinda, A Girl of 1860

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## Ramp closures messes up traffic

Motorists will have to find alternate routes to and from downtown Indianapolis for a few more days because of the closure of three interstate ramps in Decatur Township.

The ramps from Kentucky Avenue to Interstate 465 northbound, from I-465 southbound to Kentucky Avenue and from Interstate 70 eastbound to I-465 southbound are shut down for sealing and patching as part of a project on I-465 from Hanna Avenue to Harding Street.

Indiana Department of Transportation workers will also inspect the ramps and patch holes.

The posted detours for the northbound I-465 ramp from Kentucky Avenue is Harding Street and then turning around. Mooresville residents may elect to take I-70 westbound to State Road 267, and people looking to get onto I-465 southbound from eastbound I-70 may find the Airport Expressway to be the most feasible route.

## Mainstreet and Elsewhere

Continued from front page

On the Move will hold a barbecue get together Monday at 6:30 p.m. at the Monrovia United Methodist Church.

**-m.s.-**  
The next MOPS of Mooresville meeting will be Oct. 14 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. in the First Baptist Church at 680 N. Indiana St. MOPS

# Firefighter adrenaline

By Troy Guthrie

A day in the life of a firefighter can be hum-drum for several hours and then be pierced by chaos.

On a recent day around the Decatur Township Fire Department things were unusually slow, but that was OK because the firefighters had annual maintenance work to do. But firefighters don't get to carve out a day for such tasks; they do them before, after and in between runs.

The Mooresville/Decatur Times spent the day with the firefighters at the department's headquarters on High School Road. Throughout much of the 6 a.m.-6 p.m. workday, the firefighters tested hoses from the trucks, an annual ritual that reveals holes, rips and other damage the lines incur during the heat of battling a fire. But it doesn't provide the adrenaline rush that some emergency response personnel crave.

Also, department inspectors get help from a couple firefighters in doing scheduled building inspections during the morning hours.

A chronological recount of the Times' day with the Decatur Township Fire Department is as follows:

6 a.m.:

Firefighters report to work and shortly thereafter the ambulance with EMTs Kelly Key and Steve Thomson aboard is dispatched to a diabetic seizure. Before the patient is stabilized and sent on her way to the hospital for more treatment, her seizure-induced flailing arms strike Key in the face as she works with the woman.

It's Key's first exposure with such a violent diabetic, and she chalks it up to first-hand knowledge of such a scenario.

6:45 a.m.:

A grass fire is reported along Interstate 70. Firefighters Jeff Brown and Paul Ford pull an engine from the station and head over winding streets to an overpass just east of the reported fire.

The department must respond to every call, without delay, but Ford has his suspicions about this call.

"I think this is a steam pipe that

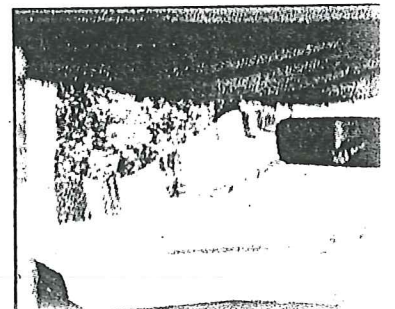
Fire engine water in the makes mornin his way traffic siren. three t so."

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## Mooresville Moments

In honor of Mooresville's 175th Anniversary and the 200th anniversary of the birth of Mooresville's founder, Samuel Moore, the Mooresville/Decatur/Monrovia Times is publishing regular articles about the history of Mooresville and Moore.

### Mooresville Fire Department

Excerpts from histories written by Jim Bruner and Forest Rusie on file at the Mooresville Public Library.

The first record of an organized fire service in Mooresville was in February, 1877 when the town board adopted an ordinance authorizing the "the appointment of a fire warden to perform fire inspections and supervise extinguishment of all fires within the town."

On Aug. 19, 1904, the Mooresville Guide announced "the council committee on fire protection has determined to organize a volunteer fire department consisting of two companies; each equipped with a cart carrying 500 feet of hose, nozzles, axes, etc., each company to consist of from 16 to 20 men. The men are to be drilled efficiently and put under good discipline. Volunteers are asked for. Applications may be made to George R. Scruggs and J.S. Comer." In Sept. 1904, the list of the volunteers was published. Addison Crawford, chief; George W. Julian, captain; William Shrake, William Byers, Ora Richardson, Fred Fenneman, Jesse Horton, Charles Soots, Walter Spoon, Tom Watkins, Otto Chambers, Charles Cox, Elza Allen, and William Edwards. Reserves John Cosand, Horace Horton, Arthur Latta, W.L. Thompson, Forest Swartz, T.W. Carter, Corry Harvey and Albert Buckner. The bucket brigade used water from whichever well was closest.

The town was later divided into four wards with Indiana and Main streets being the dividing lines. Each fireplug had a number. The alarms were called into the "light plant" and the engineer on duty would blow the old steam wildcat whistle "for a few squalls and then a blast off the ward and plug number" thus giving the location of the fire. People with phones could lift the receiver and "central" would answer with the name of the place on fire. "Central" was the familiar name of the operator, Bertha Long, Grace Bayliss and Annie Gamble for many years.

The historical articles for Mooresville Moments are taken or copied from various materials located in the Indiana/Local History Room of the Mooresville Public Library and include newspaper clippings and notes from books edited by Becky Hardin, Clara Richardson and Almira Hadley.

In 1923, the town purchased its first motorized fire engine, a Dodge truck equipped with 1000 feet of 2-1/2 inch hose, nozzles, oil lanterns and wrenches. Then the department needed to reorganize to have men who could drive the truck and be mechanics. Dorry Greeson, the town marshal, was made chief. The fire trucks were housed in car dealer and repair garages and driven by whichever fireman got there first. Charles Nelson was driver during the 1970's.

The fire station on the corner of Indiana and Harrison streets was built by the fire department and dedicated Oct. 4, 1970. The first full time fireman was hired in 1976. Today, there are 10 career firemen.

#### The Volunteer Fireman by Homer Monday, former fireman and chief

The fireman who volunteers, is he who works all day, and wants to serve his neighborhood, without reward or pay.

Who always is available, to jump right up and go, Whenever warning bells ring out, or fire whistles blow.

He braves the blaze and fights the smoke, with all his energy, to save as much as possible, of life and property.

And whenever flames are quickly quenched or only ruins stand, the volunteer will linger there, to lend a helping hand.

He does not look for credit, or a medal on his chest, but he would be a neighbor true, who tries to do his best.



WISH-TV news anchor Ray Rice (left) discuss Henderson, a Monrovia High School junior, her community involvement which earned her the Channel Youth Award.

## CHANNEL 8 HON EMILY HENDERS

Emily Henderson, a junior at Monrovia High School, is the recipient of the WISH-TV "We Value Youth" Award this month.

Henderson will be featured on the Channel 8 news at 5:45 p.m. today. She was interviewed by station newsman Ray Rice Tuesday at school.

"The award is presented to youth to do something nice in the community," Rice explained.

Henderson was nominated by her mother. She is the daughter of Mary Ann and John Henderson of Monrovia.

She specifically was cited for raising more than \$4,700 during her campaign that earned her the queen title of Mooresville Old Settlers Days

Picnic.

She designated proceeds to help County Humane Society. Her rest will go to the Senior Center and Children's Hospital. As a Monrovia student, she participates in girls volleyball and also attends the Advanced Education Program at Monrovia High School, where she is a restaurant manager.

Her mother said she became a pastry chef.

"She's an excellent cook," Ann said.

An older brother, John, attended Monrovia Vincennes University.

## City to stop parking along Kentucky Avenue

#### By Troy Guthrie

Decatur Township resident Terry Sylvester is glad something's being done.

But he knows that people will take what you give them, so he's prepared to see the problem continue.

"No parking" signs to be posted on Kentucky Avenue from Mann Road to Southwest Drive are intended to cut impromptu used vehicle lots and other illegal business ventures that have cropped up on Decatur Township's main thoroughfare.

The change in the traffic ordinance to stop parking along the Kentucky Avenue stretch was sent out of committee with the full approval of the City Council last month, said Decatur Township.

But the wheels of slow. Holiday season take "a month or up."

The signs and Indianapolis Police Marion County Department, however, for vehicles parked with "for sale" signs numbers scrawled. Sylvester said.

"I'm glad this is fear that once the (roadside car dealers) will just move from the other side of I-465 started in the Township this summer ... the

See Parking

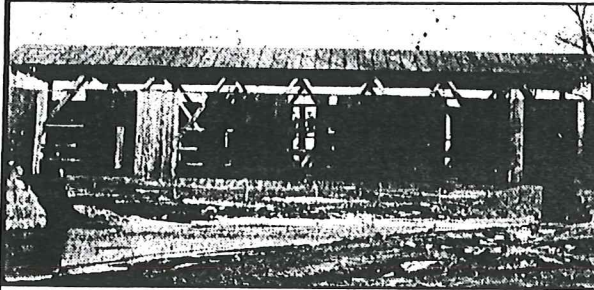
# DC athletic code



## Mooreville Moments

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### State Road 144



**By Lula Mae Bucker**

Years ago, the trip to Waverly was a long journey - leave the east edge of Mooreville, cross the creek through the "little red bridge," wind up the Barnett hill and rumble over the narrow gravel country road.

About 1939, a state highway representative contacted the town board about widening the road to comply with regulations to make it a state road. The matter was brought to the attention of the Lions Club, the only service club in Mooreville at that time. In due time, the county commissioners appointed Charles B. Comer and Dr. Claude H. White to purchase the right of way and assess damages, and appropriated \$8,000 for this purpose. Most property owners were in favor of the improvement and those opposed were persuaded to agree. Part of the road was changed to eliminate some dangerous curves. WPA labor was utilized to clear a wooded area on the Red House Hill behind the Sweargin School west of Mann and Centenary roads. The first black top surface was applied in July 1951; quite different from the asphalt used today.

Three bridges have spanned White River near Waverly. The first, a wooden structure 440 feet long, built in 1873 at a cost of \$25,000, replaced a ferry. This bridge burned on March 21, 1911. The ferry was

utilized again until a new concrete bridge was built at a cost of \$38,750 to be completed by Oct. 15, 1911 with the contractor bearing the expense of the ferry for every day it would be needed after the deadline. This bridge was used until the present bridge was completed on Sept. 10, 1969 at a cost of \$791,690. The three span bridge built in 1911 was dismantled on Oct. 16, 1990 after being barricaded for several years. Dynamite charges were exploded to bring the old bridge down.

It is a short road, only 20 miles extending from State Road 67 to State Road 31, and is probably the second most heavily traveled road serving Mooreville carrying commuters from Indianapolis and Johnson County; shoppers both to and from Greenwood Shopping Center, diners to the popular Gray Brothers Cafeteria, and the growing suburban additions of homes around Mooreville. It is also a direct route to merge with Interstate 65 on the first leg of travel to the south for winter homes and vacations.

The once country road is now a busy thoroughfare with homes, subdivisions, churches and businesses and only a few cornfields to remind us that Waverly was once a long way from Mooreville and a long way back.

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## Judge orders Hill's guns returned; state dodges dismissal of charges

**By Amy May**

Superior II Judge Christopher Burnham signed a modified bond order that requires Monrovia officials to return the personal firearms belonging to its town marshal, Shirley Hill. She was charged with perjury on

plaints about Hill in her role as town marshal, he learned that she did have a criminal record and had made some suicide attempts in Marion County. On May 6, 1981, she was convicted of criminal conversion. She pleaded guilty to breaking into a pinball machine at Magic Mart and removing the

## School board approves DC being Internet center

Decatur Central is one of six area high schools in a pilot program intended to shore up the Internet's use in the classroom, place Internet centers in the schools and give students a way to affordably acquire a home computer.

The program is sponsored by the Indiana Department of Education and Intelnet Commission.

After a presentation by Web Academy USA's Lynn Berger and local coordinator, Nancy Platt, the Metropolitan School District of Decatur Township Board of Education last week approved Decatur Central's participation in the program.

Berger said the state department of education about a year ago began trying to make it easier for students to use the Internet. Education officials also determined that pupils and teachers aren't taking full advantage of the web when it is available.

The result is Web Academy USA, a three-tiered program including the Web Academy USA administration, individual schools' web centers and the home computer purchase program. The monthly fee for Internet access through the state web academy would be at a reduced cost, and students who qualify for the Title One Program would receive a computer system free, Berger said.

Through the Access Indiana Network, teachers will be able to put classroom materials and curriculum on their school's web site, which will be set up as part of the program. After training, students will maintain the site from the web center in Decatur Central's Community Career and Learning Center, with supervision of a school-appointed sponsor.

Once trained, the students will also operate the web center as an Internet service provider, including e-mail, and lending technical assistance when required.

But the program is also intended to get parents involved in Internet usage, Berger said.

## Monroe-Gregg schools end release of honor rolls, pictures

The Monroe-Gregg school district — Monrovia Junior-Senior High School, and Monrovia and Hall elementary schools — has temporarily suspended its release of information to the Mooreville Monrovia Times while a Morgan County judge decides whether to make a restraining order permanent.

"As it stands, we will not release any information from the schools without specific parental consent," said Superintendent Jerry Wolfe. "If someone shows up at our football game and takes pictures, we will not confiscate the film or camera. But we also won't identify anyone."

Wolfe said the district plans to abide by the letter of the order.

The ban on release of information extends to honor rolls or the announcement of students of the month or other honors. Wolfe said students should not be included in pictures a newspaper takes during



**Valley Mill**  
This year's Valley Mill officer is fifth-grade officer Richie McCoy.

## Judge again

Monrovia attorney John Bailey and Steven in Circuit Court on the temporary restraining order for the school's release of information containing a letter containing a release of information for any non-profit organization requested it. Judge Gettelfinger signed a restraining order on October 19, 1999, after the school from releasing the matter is resolved.

Thursday, he heard about whether the order made permanent. The school's intended action under federal law, the Family Rights and Privacy Act, lines what can and cannot be released and to whom. It does not require parents to be notified of their child's release of information, he said. He added that it requires parental notification to refuse to allow release of information.

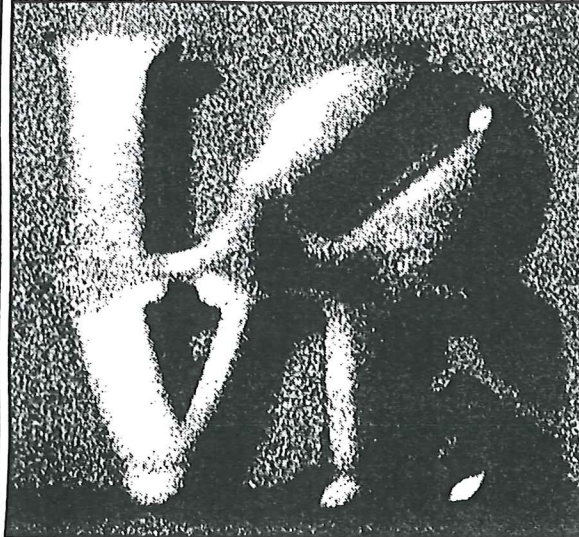
A statement on Page 1 is not proper notice, said the argument showing taking place in Circuit Court. FERPA is a federal law enforced by the Federal Compliance Office. Litz filed with the school corporation did not use due care in students, but Bailey said a tort claim to boot leg a into (county) court." Even if jurisdiction did local court, the Indiana



## Mooresville Moments

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### Robert Indiana's talent encouraged in Mooresville



Once upon a time, a little boy moved to Mooresville and lived with his grandmother "across from the mill." It is easy to imagine that he did not receive a warm welcome from this tight-knit small town and he remembers little of the year he spent here except that some of his school papers were stolen.

He did, however, find a friend in his teacher, Ruth Coffman. She encouraged him and recognized his childish drawings as a talent and she kept some of his papers. Coffman married Maruice "Pee-wee" Haase and many years later they were invited to visit her former student at his studio in New York and attend a reception in their honor. One of her prized possessions was a signed poster - to Mr. and Mrs. Haase-R. Indiana 1968. That original poster was donated to the Mooresville Public Library just before her death.

Robert Clark was born on Sept. 13, 1928 in New Castle and lived in 21 different houses before he was 17. He attended Tech High School, did a stint in the Air Force, studied in various art schools and in

Edinburg and London. Some time later, he took the name Robert Indiana, probably not because of any deep affection for the state, but because it was unique.

His famous LOVE painting has been reproduced on 150 million postage stamps and his more than famous sculpture adorns the Indianapolis Museum of Art grounds.

Best known for that sculpture, his dream is to have LOVE carved from a living rock.

Despite a frustrating childhood with wanderlust parents and eventually a broken home, this man of many talents encouraged by a dedicated elementary teacher, became internationally famous as a painter, artist, designer and sculptor, and hoped to inspire the world with his philosophy.

"What the world need now" has been supplied in one monumental word symbol in steel - LOVE.

Note: This article was copied from numerous articles, interviews, newspapers and magazines all on file in the Mooresville Public Library.

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## Council candidates defend positions late in campaign

District 19 City-County Councilor Bob Cockrum Monday night answered a critic of the pay raise the council voted for itself and his

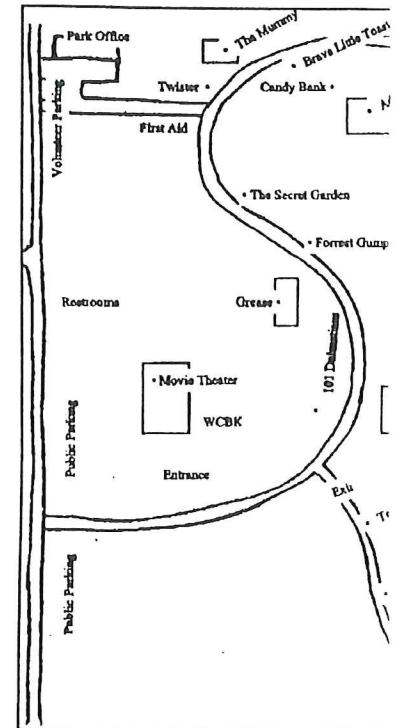
A question from the audience to Barnes asking, "How do you propose

## Contractor sues

PCL/Calumet has filed a suit in Superior Court 1, seeking over \$6 million from EnterCitement LLC, the owners of a theme park being constructed near Interstate 70 and State Road 39 in Hendricks County, just across the Morgan County line.

The theme park, which is scheduled to open in May 2000, has been called Midwest Theme Park and Heartland Theme Park. It will include Garfield's Adventure 60-acre theme park, the Schlitterbahn Indi-

ana 30-acre hotel and PCL/ of a Det contracte says they vices and supplies billed al been paid ing for 3 the unpaid ney fees Mooresv



### Park Halloween Hike route

This year's theme is "Groovy Movies," themes. Candy and 42 different kinds o

## Advance raise money

Advance Auto Parts employees, customers U.S. have raised \$2 million to help find a cure 1996, Advance Auto Parts has raised more than Diabetes Foundation and is the top corporate Cure Diabetes in the world.

According to Ken Wirth, senior vice presid campaign for Advance, the majority of the \$2 m who made a \$1 donation. Customers who dona on a JDF paper sneaker, which was displayed i

Employees of the 1,600 Advance Auto Pa shows, golf tournaments, bake sales and partic munity walks. Employees issued challenges to as other businesses in their communities. Retail Covington, Ga. led the campaign by raising m vance Auto Parts opened a store at Southbridge

## Land buys bring improvements clo

By Troy Guthrie

The purchases of two Valley Lane properties next to Carson Park and agreements to buy nine more nearby parcels has brought improvements a

a second In additi ments at The phase of



## Mooreville Moments

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# Armistice Day

On the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month 1918, a peace agreement was signed ending World War I, "The war to end all wars."

Surely every student in Mooreville school during the early 1930s will remember when all study was stopped and the clear stirring notes of taps was heard from behind the academy building. As the tones died away, Fred R. Glidden, seventh and eighth grade teacher, entered the class room wearing his full Army uniform, including leggings and gas mask, and lectured his class on the experiences and horrors of war in 1918. Earl Warriner, senior teacher and principal, was also a veteran of WWI.

Not many years later, those same young male students were called to another war and so many

who viewed his performance as long past history were sacrificed in a larger and longer war.

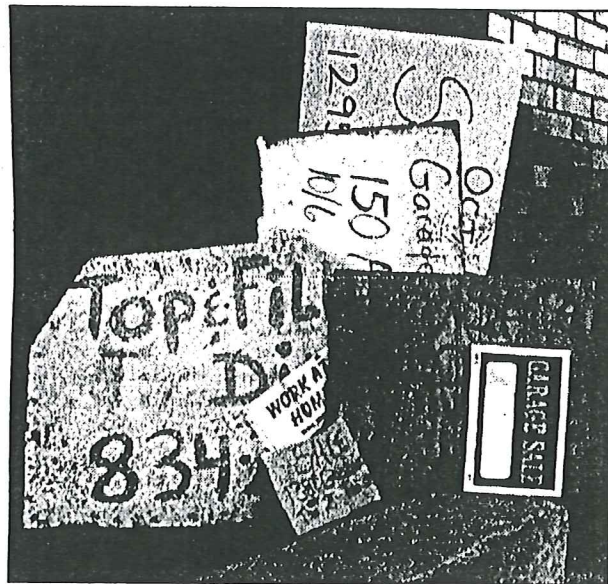
Mooreville's population of about 1900 in the 1940s was devastated by the loss of so many promising young men. Gold stars appeared in windows all over town and everyone was affected by news of casualties that usually came by telegram.

Armistice Day was later named Veteran's Day. A monument was erected on Newby campus to honor those who gave their lives and a ceremony is held there each year at 11 a.m. Nov. 11.

Widows, children, parents, family and friends remember those who died in all wars.

Note: The Civil War will be discussed in this column at a later date. Next week: Lest We Forget.

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## Signs banned from utility poles

The Mooreville Police, on instruction from the Mooreville Town Council, has begun re-enforcing the town's ordinance prohibiting signs from the nailed to utility poles. Owners of signs like these, taken off poles last week, could be fined. Officers have also been instructed to remove all unauthorized signage from any utility pole.

# Decatur Town building need

By Troy Guthrie

Settling has caused a separation of the two halves of the building that houses the Decatur Township Government Offices and the township's fire department. The movement also has separated the fire department's upstairs tile showers and cracked the ceiling and floor.

The cracked ceiling has contributed to plumbing damage and the damaged showers have allowed water to leak, said Decatur Township Trustee Steve Rink, whose office is in the building.

The part of the building that houses the government offices sits on a crawlspace, and the other portion was built on a concrete slab. The office space and the pole barn-type fire truck and firefighters' quarters were then tied together.

Rink estimated the settling to be about three-quarters-of-an inch. He said the township isn't blaming the building's original contractor or the architect who designed it. Instead, he said, it appears that natural settling is the culprit.

One of the contractors who has already inspected the damage told Rink that it doesn't appear to be a serious problem since there are no exterior wall cracks.

The bottom rows of the shower tiles were removed a few years ago and a pan was installed before the tiles were re-attached, Rink said, but construction experts say the showers need to be replaced with one-piece fiberglass shower units.

Two estimates on that work put the cost at about \$12,000.

The cost to bring half of the building back up from its settled position and then repair all the subsequent damage has been estimated at about \$28,000. The Decatur Township Board has directed Rink to obtain another estimate on the work. He said another contractor is scheduled to inspect the damage Thursday.

Money for making the repairs is in the township's cumulative building fund. After the decision is made on how much work to do and who to contract for the repairs, the board will appropriate the funds, Rink said.

The township's insurance won't pay for the repairs, but it will cover the costs of fixing the damage caused

by the settling. An adjuster inspected the building, Rink said.

Rink, Township Assessor Coleman and the fire department moved into the 19,000-sq building in the spring of 1998. The \$1.5 million structure has very little maintenance over the years and the problems weren't noticed until "the past few years," Rink said. The damage didn't seem to be a worry about until the months, he added.

Rink said that he, Coleman



## DMS spellers n

Decatur Middle School's last week at Martinsville perfect rounds among 10 teams to advance to state missing the cut by three teams, besides Welden, Sanderson, Dana Sease, finish "Decatur's best performance."

# New S to ser



## Mooresville Moments

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# Lest We Forget

### World War I

Ira Talley  
John H. Zook  
Howard H. Fields  
Floyd Phillips  
Dr. Valentine Magenheimer -  
killed in auto accident while at Fort  
Harrison.

### World War II

Howard M. Allison  
Richard Blunk  
Ellis Earl Chowning  
Harry DeMoss  
Harold J. Duhammel  
Harold Eller  
Ezra J. Fleener  
Maurice Long  
Eddie Magenheimer  
James Oliver Mills  
Charles Morris

Frank Palmer  
Paul Eugene Prescott  
Alvin "Bob" Scott  
Maurice E. Shrake  
George Stout  
Clariss Van Winkle  
Vernie Whitlow  
Harry E. Wilson Jr.  
John Wrightsman

### Korean Conflict

William Beck  
Russell Dake  
Lowry Hundley Jr.

### Vietnam

Dawson Atwood  
Harold Collins  
Fred R. Hanshaw  
Tandy Huff  
Ronald L. Hovis

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## Bat's habitat still impacting airport

By Troy Guthrie

They're not much bigger than a man's thumb, but the trouble they've caused is immense... immense to the tune of \$18 million.

The Indianapolis International Airport's north runway project and construction of the United Airlines maintenance hub at the airport were deemed by an environmental impact study harmful to the habitat of the Indiana Bat.

The headaches and expense began in, said Dennis Rosebrough, the airport's public affairs director. What was found in that 1992 environmental study was nothing anyone could have predicted.

"We discovered that we might disturb an area that was used for roosting by the Indiana Bat," Rosebrough said of the endangered species. "So, we were required by (the U.S.) Fish and Wildlife (Service) to provide a habitat for them. Actually, they found the Kentucky Bat, which is a cousin of it (the Hoosier variety of bat), but they say that where you find one

Being listed as "endangered" brought steps to protect the major hibernation areas, but overall numbers continue to go down. In Indiana, however, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has determined that the population appears to be stable and maybe even growing.

The comprehensive price tag of the federal government's environmental requirements has climbed to about \$18 million, including ongoing maintenance costs.

"When we wanted to take down about 90 acres of trees, we had to replace them, so we had to buy land for an interim habitat and land where we could plant the trees," Rosebrough said. "Initially, we also installed about 15 hundred bat houses in the White Lick Creek area as part of that habitat."

The houses along the creek provided the bats with an area of tree-limb canopy and lots of insects hovering over the water at night, he added.

But the federal environmental re-

## Decatur Township schools,

By Troy Guthrie

More comprehensive health care benefits will be one of the central issues when the Metropolitan School District of Decatur Township Board of Education and district employees represented by the Decatur Educators Association (DEA) go into contract mediation Monday.

Both sides of the contract issue hope that the mediation can work through differences over the contract by talking them out before actual contract negotiations have to be launched.

Marilyn Bunner, a former Decatur Township teacher, will be the chief spokesperson for the DEA during the talks with the school board, while Assistant Superintendent Donald Moore will be the system's spokesman. A mediator will be appointed by the state.

Most Decatur teachers are members of the DEA, which is affiliated with the Indiana State Teachers Association and the National Educators

Association.

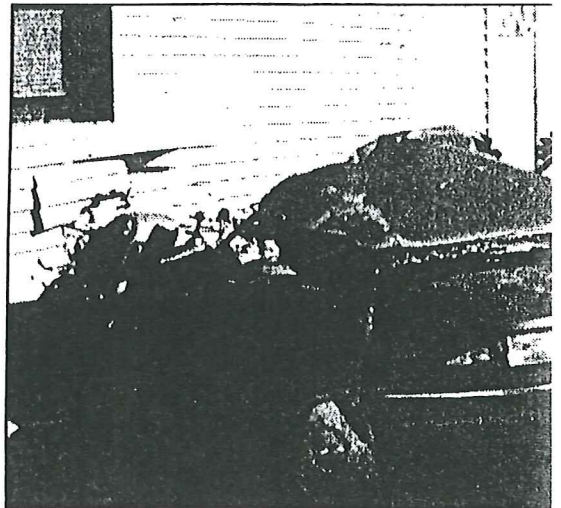
Bunner said the group she represents doesn't want the mediation to turn into "a blood and guts thing," she said the DEA and the school board have always had a good working relationship, and this is the first time in more than 10 years that the two sides have had to go to mediation to settle "differences" over a contract.

Moore said he is "very optimistic" about Monday's mediation.

"I think both parties want to get closer on this," he said. "I'm confident that when both sides work the same thing - a settlement - it probably will happen. We're all reasonable people, and I think it will help."

The DEA has made sure that the things it is going for are reasonable in the organization's voice. "Bargainable," Bunner said. "The vision coverage being added to the organization's health insurance plan is an example."

"The 'wordage' of the con-



**Freak accident sends elderly woman to hospital**  
Morgan County Sheriff's Deputy Sean Parls and Mooresville police officers backed out of her driveway. The woman's car became wedged off its foundation. The woman, who was trapped for a time in the car, was taken to Methodist Hospital in Indianapolis. She sustained only a leg injury.

## Airport turning profit

By Troy Guthrie

The Indianapolis International Airport's third-quarter financial report, which covers expenditures and profits through September, painted a positive picture overall when it was presented last week to the Indianapolis Airport Authority Board of Directors.

The airport's total operating cost for the first three quarters is about \$18 million, about 1 percent below budget. When the numbers were

about 2.3 percent above past totals for the first nine months of previous years.

The airport's non-airline revenue is also running above budget, the cost of transporting passengers below budget, Stone said.

Stone said that the favorable performance in non-airline revenue is driven primarily by two factors: parking and retail sales ventures at the airport.

Parking - the largest source of non-airline revenue - has



### Mooreville Moments

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### Mooreville GAR formed 100 years ago

The Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) Mooreville, Post 278, met in encampment on Memorial Day, May 30, 1899 and posed for a picture in front of the old post office on East Main Street. Jarvis P. Calvert can be seen in the front row standing with his hand in his pocket holding a flash bulb enabling him to be in the picture with his comrades.

According to a directory of veterans buried in the local cemetery as taken by Greg Roberts in 1980, there were 107 Civil War soldiers buried in the Mooreville Cemetery. Ten were Confederate soldiers. George Nelson (1844-1941) may have been the last Civil War

veteran from Mooreville when he died at the age of 97.

Fifty Mooreville veterans were buried outside Mooreville in other cemeteries. Forty-four were buried in the "Sunny South." Ten were buried in other states.

Identified in the picture of GAR encampment attendees were William Greeson, Captain Rooker, Harry Gregory, Robert Scott, William Bowman, Joe Gillaspay, Dave Fields, Ben Jones, William McCreary, Calvert, Check Spoon, William Edwards, William Andrews, Henry Taylor, Dan Earnst, Jake Rusie, John H. Rusie, Frank Trogden, William White, and George Clark.

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## Monument Circle of Lights to be Nov. 26

The annual Circle of Lights ceremony will be at 7 p.m. on Nov. 26 on Monument Circle in downtown Indianapolis.

The Soldiers and Sailors Monument will be transformed into a circle of lights with decorations that will be unveiled for the first time this year. Also, Santa Claus will arrive on the circle.

Several musical guests from around the state, who were chosen during an open audition during September, will perform.

## West Newton PTA event teaches about space; attracts attention

West Newton Elementary School students and about 500 pupils from other schools have taken in "Around the World in 180 Days," an annual activity, over the past three days. The program is sponsored by the West Newton PTA.

This year's theme focused on space exploration, and took place in a darkened West Newton gym that

she said.

As Donald Moore, assistant superintendent, visited the program, he said he can see how the event would attract other schools and parent groups.

"In all my years in this profession, I've never seen a program like this," he said. "It's outstanding how these

## Responsibility for

Whose roads are they, anyway?

The Morgan County Commissioners and officials of Cedar Run Limited, which is developing Heartland Crossing on State Road 67 north of Mooreville, both believe the other should be responsible for the roadways inside the residential and business development.

The two factions discussed the

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## Decatur schools warning of bogus fundraising calls

Metropolitan School District of Decatur Township officials are warning residents to be wary of fund-raising telephone calls from a group identifying itself as the National Coalition for Safe Schools.

The group has told residents that it solicits that it is working on behalf of Decatur, Wayne, Pike, and Perry township school systems, said Jud Wolfe, MSD of Decatur Township business director. He said a resident called the school system Monday to report the suspicious call from the group, but no area school systems are endorsing the identified cause of raising money to make schools safer.

The caller told school officials that the group claimed to be a non-profit entity that is registered with the Indiana Secretary of State's office.

The Decatur schools contacted law enforcement authorities and began circulating the word about the fictitious fund drive, Wolfe said.

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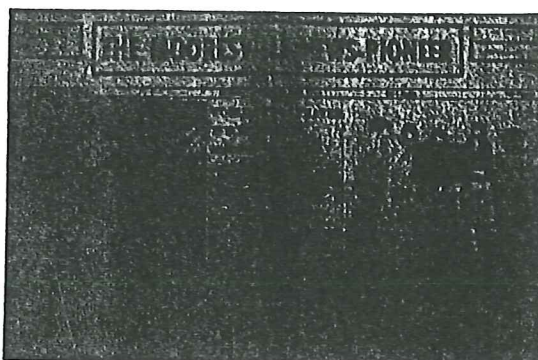
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## Mooreville Moments

*In honor of Mooreville's 175th Anniversary and the 200th anniversary of the birth of Mooreville's founder, Samuel Moore, the Mooreville Times is publishing regular articles about the history of Mooreville and Moore.*

### Newspapers spread the word



History was made Nov. 13 when the Mooreville/Decatur Times first published a bi-weekly edition.

A weekly newspaper has been published under various names since 1846. In 1893, William Sage bought the Mooreville Guide and changed the name to the Mooreville Times. Editors and titles are documented and on microfilm from 1893, with some scattered 1872 and 1873 editions at the Mooreville Public Library.

But wait!! Did you know there were other newspapers, not included in "Indiana Newspaper Bibliography" mostly unknown and unremembered?

The library file on newspapers contains a note, undated, that states "the Mooreville Tribune began first issue Thursday, Sept. 16, 1926 and covers the northern part of Morgan County, like the dew. Miss Lena Douglas edits social and personal news and F.E. Hutchins is editor and publisher, phone 157 at Coleman's office." What ever happened to that?

A prominent Moorevillian edited, printed and published The Beacon with news, comments and announcements about the town in 1941.

The Mooreville News Pioneer, Vol. 1 No. 1, began in February 1963 and lasted about a year. It is not included in Indiana Newspaper Bibliography and John Selch of the Indiana State Library did not know of its existence. The Mooreville Library has a few random copies

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and would like to have more if any are still among someone's keepsakes. Published "every Thursday by the Mooreville Publishing Company, Joseph R. Root, publisher; William R. Grossnickle, editor. \$2 per year. 2 W. Main St. Phone VE 0308."

But the most special of all are several copies of the precious little Mooreville Midget published in 1881 and 1895 by Jarvis P. Calvert. "A paper published for the benefit of everybody in general and one in particular. Issued promptly every semi-occasionally or otherwise at the convenience of the publisher." It was liberally sprinkled with commercials for the Calvert Photography Studio. It contained poems, advertisements, the Year in Review and comments by the inimitable editor, "a most talented man ..."

The first issue of the "Weekend Times" will be preserved in the Mooreville Library and added to the list of firsts in Mooreville.



## Still no developments in hit-

## Decatur Township schools p

By Troy Guthrie

Recently-released Indiana Department of Education performance data for the 1998-99 school year revealed lofty language arts, math and ISTEP Test achievements in Metropolitan School District of Decatur Township classrooms, but also an alarmingly low graduation rate at Decatur Central High School.

MSD of Decatur Township Assistant Superintendent Dr. Donald Moore received the scores last week and said the data - based on what the state expects the system's buildings to do compared with the pupils' actual finish - shows that Decatur Township schools and their mostly blue-collar families bucked the education department's predictions.

"I'm very pleased with these scores," Moore said. "They show that some very good things are being done in the schools around here."

But Moore's satisfaction with the system's performance doesn't stretch across the board. The high school graduation rate - actually compiled for the 1997-98 year - showed that

Decatur Central finished almost 8 percentage points below other schools in the league that the performance data placed it in. The state had expected DC to be about 5.8 percentage points below the mean.

"This is really disheartening, and I don't know, specifically, what to do about it, except that we'll keep working at it," Moore said.

DC also fell .8 percent below the state data's standard for attendance.

Ironically, however, Decatur Central students performed well in math and in the ISTEP testing.

The high school recorded an impressive math performance, finishing 6.5 percentage points above the mean. The state had expected DC to come in over 11 percent above the mean. DC's ISTEP performance matched the state's expected finish of 1.2 percent over the mean.

"I think this all shows that we're doing a good job when the kids are there (in the classrooms)," Moore said.

At Decatur Middle School, students fell just slightly below the

## New airport parking, other holiday services to speed up travel

An automated parking lot with 450 spaces is now open and available to holiday travelers at the Indianapolis International Airport. The lot is located north of the passenger terminal with entrance and exit access near the Amoco/Burger King Convenience Center at High School Road and Raymond Street.

The new lot, which was formerly an employee parking area, only accepts credit cards to enter and exit. The \$10-a-day rate is automatically calculated and charged to the card. There is no shuttle service from the lot to the terminal.

Record crowds are expected at the airport as the holiday season goes on, said David Roberts, the airport director for BAA Indianapolis. On Thanksgiving weekend, alone, the airport anticipates more than 250,000 people.

The airport will take advantage of the heavy traffic by offering pre-wrapped items in 12 airport retail stores through Christmas Eve. Shoppers can purchase an item ready to go on their flight. IIA will also offer a remodeled food court and several new restaurants to holiday travelers. Four restaurants have already opened and six more are expected by Christmas. Eventually, 15 new restaurants will be available at the airport.

Roberts said holiday-season airport users can simplify their routine by using the following tips:

- \* Prior to leaving home, be sure you have airline tickets, photo identification, credit cards and needed prescription medicine. Stop delivery of mail and newspapers, put lights on timers and leave an emergency telephone number with a neighbor.

- \* Plan to arrive at the airport early, allowing extra time for parking, check-in and passenger screening.

- \* Upon arriving at the airport, check luggage at the curbside before parking your vehicle.

- \* Take your parking ticket with you. This improves the security of your vehicle and allows you to use the Easy Exit in the garage and short-term lot.

- \* Most airlines require that advanced seat assignments be claimed at least 30 minutes before the scheduled departure. Because the time requirement may vary, verify the information with your airline.

- \* Passengers who have to alter their travel plans should contact the airline to cancel the reservation in advance so other passengers can purchase the cancelled seats.



## Mooresville Moments

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### Children of Depression remember



As the Revitalization Committee completes plans for this year's Victorian Christmas, children of the depression remember a celebration on a smaller scale.

About 1924, the Dorcas Society of the Methodist Church sponsored a Christmas party for Mooresville and Brown Township. Though Samuel Moore boasted there was no aristocracy in his town, by 1924 there was a difference between "haves" and "havenots." That changed on a Saturday just before Christmas each year when the old gym took on a festive air and young and old were treated to an exciting experience. At each business place, red cans were provided by the Dorcas Society asking for contributions which made the party possible; often the only treat less fortunate children would have.

Mildred Thompson was in charge many years and the program changed each year. Often Santa arrived by sleigh pulled by elves since reindeer were not allowed in the gym, and yes, there were still some real sleighs still around in those days. His bag was filled with little sacks of hard candy and maybe an apple

or orange. Colored balloons often filled the stage to be claimed by each child.

Six circles were formed separating children into age groups led by Elsie Record, Mrs. Will Wilson, Maud Kitchen, Clair Cook, Ina Comer and Myra Belle Heater where games were played and stories told and ice cream was served. Once they were entertained by a trained monkey and another time there were clowns. Once there was a Santa's Doll House and Mrs. Claus (Mrs. Arthur Rushton). The dolls — Ancel Kipp, Marian Thompson, Betty Jane Cook, Emma Francis Couch, Jeanette Fleener, Catherine Alice Lydy, Jane Haltom and Hyla Jane Hadley — were wooden soldiers. Maurice Haase, Jack in the Box, and Martha May Kitchen was Felix the Cat. There was music and games and all sorts of exciting surprises.

The community party continued into the 1950's.

Children of a younger generation remember sitting on the removable wooden steps to talk to Santa. The same magic prevailed over the years.

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## Developer still eased home c

By Troy Guthrie

The Decatur Township Civic Council's land-use committee will be courteous and listen to proposals from a developer wanting to modify the commitments made three years ago on a subdivision, but the committee is standing firm on what it will allow to be added to the township's housing roster.

The Mills-Copeland development at High School and Millhouse roads got civic council support three years ago by agreeing to all homes being at least 2,000 square feet with all-brick

fronts. Things have changed over the years, as the developer has tried to convince the land-use committee the builders who will construct all-brick front homes are scarce.

"It was zoned D-3 with several commitments, but now they're telling us they don't want to live up to all those commitments," said Dal Henson, Decatur Township Fire Department chief and a member of the civic council who met with the developers twice throughout the process. "We will agree to meet with them again, but we've already laid out what was expected. It's the same

## AmeriPlex stu of retail develo

By Troy Guthrie

Retailers run in packs.

The Holladay Group - the development company that launched AmeriPlex business park - has seen the trend, and the company is counting on the onslaught of retail growth to happen around the State Road 67 facility in the next few years... but with limits.

"In the area of retail, most (retailers) we're still too green here in Decatur Township, meaning there aren't enough rooftops," Trent Bennett, The Holladay Group's vice president in charge of it nearby office and development manager at

AmeriPlex, said Monday during an update on the park's fourth phase before the Decatur Township Civic Council. "But we think we're going to see it in this area pretty soon."

To accommodate that prediction AmeriPlex has set aside over 20 acres of commercially zoned property and has completed the first leg AmeriPlex Parkway to Interstate 7

And the retail growth in the township eventually will be massive enough to go around. AmeriPlex designated 700 acres near I-70 is perfect spot for some of the development, Bennett said, adding that the park, nearby Heartland Crossing commercial and residential offering

## Civic council supports zoning correction

The Camby Community Church's request to rezone a little less than an acre next to it on Ratliff Road got support Monday from the Decatur Township Civic Council.

The request stems from the Terry Burkhardt property next to the church's land being erroneously rezoned by the city to SU-1 status when the church sought rezoning for an addition to the building.

The current request to shift Burkhardt's 6918 Ratliff Road property to the D-3 classification would correct the error from years ago.

The rezoning request is now scheduled to go before city planning and zoning officials on Dec. 9.

A second zoning change request was postponed before Monday's civic

council meeting.

Raghuunath and Ammu Nair asked for rezoning of nearly 39 acres to the D-511 classification for a residential development.

Civic council member Terry Sylvester said attorney Michael Kiriakos, who is representing the Nairs, is expected to come back to the council later looking for a different residential zoning classification.

**Classifieds  
get results  
831-8000**



## Mooresville Moments

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### Historic sites of Mooresville

Rain-dampened streets cut short the carriage tour of historic Mooresville "square" but failed to dampen the spirits of a good natured crowd enjoying the Victorian Christmas.

Plans were to denote historic spots along the route with commentary by carriage drivers.

Carriage Route 1 passed the Rooker/York/Cook house at 30 W. Harrison St. built in 1882 after a disastrous fire in the original home. Bucker Monument Works and the Bucker home at 36 W. Harrison St. has been a business since 1874. Jefferson Street turns into West Main Street and passes the site of the McCracken Hotel and the Taggart Bakery. Crossing Indiana Street traveling east at the corner was once the Bass Drug Store and later Citizens Bank and on the floor above was the "Opera House." George Keller built the next building where the Masons and Eastern Star met and farther on were various groceries, hardware stores and Watson's Drug Store with the Red Men's Hall above.

The present Times office was the Idle Hour Theater, owned by Skinny McCarty and then the Ritz Theater, owned by Harmon Allison. Not all of these were of the Victorian period but stand the test of time.

The Light Company occupied the corner of the alley on East Main Street, later building the present

building becoming Indianapolis Power and Light Co. The adjacent lot was once a hotel and then owned by Fred Lindley and next door by Sam Wade, and then other private residences.

On the southeast corner of Main and Clay streets, Frederick Sheets built the large brick building, once referred to as the most beautiful house in town. After a series of owners including Billy Lyons, the popular band director, taxi driver and town board member, the house was an apartment. The Damar Home built by Steward Comer, owner of the Comer-Scearc Lumber Yard, a fine example of luxury homes on the corner of Clay Street and Harrison Street, was the branching off of the TH&E traction line as it entered Harrison Street, continued down the center of the street to the "car barns" at the end of Harrison. The "depot" or ticket station was located at 54 E. Harrison St., is now a private brick home.

The Calvert Photography studio was next to the First Methodist Church, now relocated, and across the street at 19 E. Harrison St. was the Likely Home built in 1856.

The tour finished passing the church built in 1883 and arrived at the municipal building, now the town hall, built in 1932.

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## Dollar General may be built at Mooresville

Mooresville residents may have another new place to spend their bucks soon. Dollar General, one of the fastest growing discount retailers in the country, has announced plans to build a store at South Bridge Crossing shopping center on State Road 67 at Indiana Street.

The proposed Mooresville Dollar General would be a free-standing building of about 9,400-square feet with 38 to 40 parking spaces. It will be larger than most other Dollar General's, which measure between 7,500 to 8,500-square feet.

Developers expect construction could begin after the first of the year. That would be contingent upon the plans being reviewed and approved by the town.

Dollar General stores are known for carrying numerous items at low, affordable prices, most for under a dollar. Typical stock includes normal household items such as toothpaste, paper goods and cleaning supplies.

### Decatur supports computer purchases

Computers are being put up for sale to community members by the Metropolitan School District of Decatur Township. Anyone who lives in the town-

## Indianapolis, Marion

By Troy Guthrie

Local government officials have been assured that nothing will happen to city and county services or household utilities at midnight New Year's Eve.

Still, the government bodies have taken steps for peace of mind, and the changes have been expensive.

There will be no interruption of Univov services for Joe Q. Public on New Year's, said Emily Duncan, who has overseen the city and county's Y2K compliance measures.

Decatur Township and other Indianapolis residents will still be able to call 911 at 12:01 a.m. on New Year's Day. The chances of a Y2K computer glitch disrupting services are much less than a drunk driver colliding with a utility pole for example and knocking out service, Duncan said.

To help ease Capital City residents' minds even more, she said, New Year's Day is on Saturday and many city offices' services wouldn't be available even if the much-ballyhooed "Y2K Bug" would hit local government computer systems.

All of the city's and county's computer systems have gone through the Y2K-compliance process, Duncan said, and non-compliant components have been replaced.

Thirteen million dollars was set aside for the program. Duncan said \$9.5 million has been exhausted.

Duncan believes that Indianapolis residents will still be able to call 911 on New Year's Day morning, but Claudia Mathers of Ameritech won't make the same guarantee. However, her apprehensions aren't Y2K-related ... at least not directly related to the scare.

"Under normal circumstances, we'll probably have a situation like we sometimes have on Mother's Day in which you pick up the phone - and if too many people have picked up the

phone at the same time - y fast busy (signal) or a me will say to hang up and tr cause the circuits are busy. "That's what we're expecti barring some major, maj which we don't expect - s should be in fairly good sl

"What we're hoping f weather, so people will l about and hopefully won pick up the phone at midn would give us a little t added.

Ameritech has been v the Y2K scare for over Mathers said. At midnight managers will be at office with central offices and t Utility Regulatory Comm

But - while Ameritech for other telecommunicati nies - the telephone serv foresees only problems lik have been dealt with sev before, Mathers said.

Another of the area's l ties also considers itself s Year's, taking steps like t county and Ameritech to p tomer service.

Citizens Gas said its p pressure high enough that affected by any computer logical glitches.

However, the com adopted the same philos city's and county's, and w call center continuously t Dec. 31-normal closing t 3 to accommodate the a deluge of questions. C plans have also been form an upped field staff will be New Year's.

More than 90 percent tified mission-critical a have been certified as Y2 ant, meaning they have b and approved both in-ho outside technological en seven mission-critical af





## Mooresville Moments

*In honor of Mooresville's 175th Anniversary and the 200th anniversary of the birth of Mooresville's founder, Samuel Moore, the Mooresville Times is publishing regular articles about the history of Mooresville and Moore.*

As the year of celebration ends, events both large and small, bitter and sweet have been recalled.

People, places and things have disappeared from the scene though all played a part in the history of Mooresville.

Gone are the popular gathering places downtown - the sandwich wagon parked on the square, McCracken Hotel famous for Sunday chicken dinners, Taggart Bakery and Hadley Restaurant, the Hayes and Watson drug stores, Jimmy Simpson's "Swing In" (the forerunner to Kelly's, where teens mingled with old-timers in the coffee club and ate Nell's homemade pies) and Kenny Fields' drive-in sandwich shop with his secret recipe Coney sauce and 5-cent hamburgers.

Only Gray Bros. Restaurant on South Indiana Street grew and endured to become famous.

The Carlisle Farm House (now Pioneer Park) served "fine food" for

\$1.25 and many good cooks served Sunday dinners in their homes.

Mr. Chicken (in the Village), Mac's Family Restaurant moved and became Ponderosa; pizza places and pizza places came and went. Dog & Suds, located in space that is now Subway, drew the high school crowd in the '60s.

The town began to inch along on South Indiana Street. Dairy Queen was built in 1950. Kelly's moved to the hill south of town and later burned to the ground.

Fast food came to Mooresville in the 1970s and the wonderful friendly home cooking, home-town hosts and home-town atmosphere were no more.

Biff's stands alone downtown, still making the famous Bismarks like no other (the bakery story is another Mooresville Moment).

The Franklin Ice Cream Store came to town about 1934, and that story comes next week.

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## Renovations costs to be explored for two Decatur Township elementaries

Metropolitan School District of Decatur Township Superintendent Dr. Rex Sager Tuesday night asked for MSD of Decatur Township Board of Education permission to investigate costs of renovating or adding to the West Newton and Stephen Decatur elementary school buildings. Sager said Monday that the request to shop around for construction prices isn't in response to an emergency space situation, but rather it's an attempt to "stay way out ahead of the ballgame."

The schools' ages require thinking ahead, Sager said.

"Now is a good time to get those two buildings - which have been around for a while - up to speed for

with a new population of students... it's preventative maintenance, almost, if you will."

West Newton is the lone Metropolitan School District of Decatur Township building that is what Sager calls a "four-section" structure, meaning it's big enough to hold four sections of 25 first-graders. Other Decatur Township elementaries are "five-section" buildings, he said.

"I would like to bring it (West Newton) up to a 'five-section' first, and that would be economical because the administration, custodial staff and related curriculum are all

## Latest version of D code introduced to

By Troy Guthrie

The latest version of a Decatur Central athletic code of conduct was introduced to the Metropolitan School District of Decatur Township Board of Education Tuesday night.

The policy isn't representative in a unanimous sense, but it best represents the opinions of the group, "and I think it's the best document that we could come up with to do that," said Dr. Rex Sager, MSD of Decatur Township superintendent. "There was consensus-building, idea-sharing and brainstorming ... and there was compromise."

Sager also said he believes community debate and comments will evolve from tobacco being treated in a different way than alcohol and other drugs under the new policy. Alcohol abuse, criminal mischief and theft are similar in how punishment is handed

out, he said.

But - aside from the changes in tobacco use punishment - the plan doesn't include wholesale changes, DC Principal Paul Kaiser said in the days leading up to Tuesday night's meeting.

The group that put together the latest proposed athletic code was made up of three parents, two DC coaches, MSD of Decatur Township Board of Education member David Brown (who presented the plan Tuesday night), Sager, Kaiser, DC Athletic Director Jim Zeller and four student-athletes.

The students had equal say with administrators, parents and school system officials in putting the plan together, Sager said. He said the student members of the group even polled their peers to get an overall opinion of what was necessary in the athletic code.

Kaiser good point consum system's displayed for the st them and

"It wa dards the "I thi througho - there's said.

That I in the we of an ath most cou most deb the handl athletes, I The g percent s season, c

## Initial Hoosier Lottery held in Decatur Town

By Troy Guthrie

Getting drawn to be on the Hoosier Millionaire television show can be likened to catching lightning in a bottle.

You can try and try and try and try... and never succeed.

But it's a little easier to be involved in the TV show's and other lottery games' draws, themselves, some of which are held in Decatur Township. If you're available and let the Lottery know it, you just may be picked to do the picking someday.

Orestes Sarden of Indianapolis comes to the Lottery's Region 1 Headquarters and distribution and storage center at AmeriPlex about every three or four months.

"They called," he said with a laugh when asked why he has made regular trips to the drawing for the past eight years.

Sarden is the ideal candidate for the disinterested third-party volunteer to do the drawing, said Heather Harmless, a Lottery promotions assistant who helped oversee Sarden's drawing.

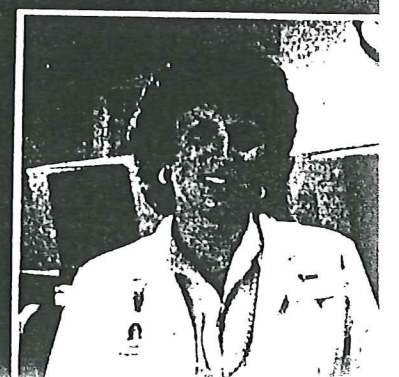
"It's typically someone who is retired or is available during the day," she said. "They just need to call our

hour commitment, however, is worth it. The Sardens receive free Lottery merchandise, including lottery tickets.

On this particular day, Sarden was at the drums for about two-and-a-half hours to draw for the initial batch of

TV show Lottery's but swore Lottery isn't However much m "If I ha

### Convenient, affordable education for





## Mooreville Moments

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### Franklin Ice Cream Store

Such fond memories of the Mooreville that once was and will never be again.

Less than 2000 people lived in the town before World War II. The business section largely occupied a block north, one block south, half a block east and half a block west from the center of town, and was limited mostly to grocery stores, barber shops, restaurants, hardware stores, cleaning shops, doctor and dentist offices and drug stores, and gradually appliance stores.

The Franklin Ice Cream Store located on the west side of the first block of South Indiana Street brought to town a unique departure from the drug store round scoop of ice cream. Beside the regular vanilla, strawberry and chocolate flavors, the store offered orange pineapple, honeymoon, grape pineapple, lemon, butterscotch, cherry crème, butter pecan, banana mint, coconut, caramel and fudge ripple, all dished out with a long narrow scoop resembling a garden trowel.

Opening about 1934 or 1935 when times were bad, the store did good business and later sandwiches and soups, pies and sundaes were added during the winter. The chili recipe was a well kept secret and

never given to insistent customers.

Originally only women were employed, but a rumor from town hall that a hold-up was being planned caused management to hire young men too. The robbery never happened.

Lots of practice was required to hand dip, lift and scrape the ice cream into the special cone.

Employees were allowed to eat as much ice cream as they wanted and their appetite was soon diminished. Wagers were low but the workers were friendly, congenial and dependable.

Miss Ruth Hubbard, now Mrs. Richard Shrake, was manager until 1941 and some local people, glad to have a job, were Kelsey McDaniel, Evelyn Kirkman, Georgetta Young, Ed Warmoth, Laura O'Donnell, Rachel Bailey and Fly Billeter.

Cones were 5-cents. Three dips of any flavor ice cream were 5-cents. Six dips were 10-cents, and six different flavors made a tantalizing dish.

Ruth and Richard Shrake live in Bloomington and both feel that in all the 58 years they have been away, they have never been, nor forgotten, any finer people than their friends and neighbors in their home town.

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## Decatur To housing ma

By Troy Guthrie

A recent survey of U.S. housing markets warned that Indianapolis is one of the areas where a downturn in building activity could occur ... but you can't tell it by looking at Decatur Township.

The study - conducted by U.S. Housing Markets, a division of The Meyers Group, based its findings on a 1 percent fall in new building permits in September after a 5 percent hike in activity over 1998.

But local people involved with the housing industry believe the survey results were unfounded ... or at least premature.

Mitch Reynolds, a realtor with RE/MAX Preferred, said this year has been his best November and December ever, and he considers Decatur Township to be one of the hotbeds for Indianapolis homebuilding activity.

## Decatur officials looking new hours for fire depart

By Troy Guthrie

Decatur Township Trustee Steve Rink and Fire Chief Dale Henson are exploring the idea of 24-hours-on-48-hours-off shifts for the Decatur Township Fire Department.

The change would actually provide 24-hour-a-day fire coverage for the township without costing more money, Rink said.

"We're simply looking at the coverage we can give the township," he added. "This is not a new idea; 99 percent of all firefighters work 24 (hours) on and 48 off."

Decatur Township now has about a dozen paid firefighters, including three administrative staff members, on duty during the day while four

"We're starting to (in Marion County) Decatur still has pro Reynolds said. "The see is that there are additions now that, home, there are so m (to choose from)."

But those existing new homes and those Decatur Township w too long, Reynolds s.

That disputes the Markets study that pl lis in the "monitor car with Las Vegas, Phil: Riverside-San Berna The survey also deen Miami-Fort Lauderdale and San Diego mark ing," while the Hous Worth, Washington Sound, Wash., Orla Ore., Boston and San

volunteers primarily and weekends. Although the department crunch overall, the pr alignment would me: and three volunteer duty all the time. Th trative personnel, wh would mean the day mains at about 11 or

DFTD personnel average of 40 hours p hours every three we on, 48-off concept w 212 hours per 3-week firefighter. That mean hour week. However, would be followed b

See Fire hours

## Commissioners won't accept Heartland road

The Morgan County Commissioners voted unanimously to decline accepting the Heartland Crossing streets into the county road system.

Commissioner Jim Bowyer said he sees a difficulty in maintaining the development's cul-de-sacs. "I think it's going to be very difficult to maintain the road system they have. It's just expecting too much," he said.

Commissioner Janice Bacon added that Heartland's roads are

as are most of the other owners, said Ralph Foley, who represents them. Mrs. McGraw said she is worried about foreign interests in American business.

Foley added that there was a proposed deal, where the county would only be responsible for snow-plowing the main feeder roads in the development, not the cul-de-sacs or side streets. Morgan County would be re-

name will be changed. Johnson Road will become 675 W. He said there are about four homes on this county road, as opposed to another Johnson Road behind Kendrick Hospital in Mooreville, which has hundreds of homes. There will be 60 to 70 changes on private roads. The county does have the right to change the names of the private roads for 911 purposes. Lake Hart, Eminence and Painted

week of January.

The commission from citizen Keith W concerned about the pr into filing a restraining gravel pit owners Ste Edwards. The decision made in a public meet lieves Bowyer and Smith hid the decis Bacon.