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Mooreville claims fame as home of Indiana flag

The Indiana town of Mooreville can carve its own little niche of glory in Hoosier history.

It may be a too-well known fact that Mooreville is the home of the infamous John Dillinger, and it may be this fact which is most familiar to natives of this state — even though they don't try to preserve it.

But the segment of glory is one citizens of Mooreville can latch on to and share with pride.

The State Flag of Indiana was born there.

It was in 1916 that the DARS of Indiana launched a program to encourage state residents to submit designs for a flag of their own.

Out of 200 entries, the design of Paul Hadley of Mooreville took top honors. He not only won the first prize, but swept the field, coming in with the second, third and fourth prizes as well.

The following year, 1917, found the selection of Paul Hadley's design voted on officially by the Indiana State Legislature, and a state flag was born.

The design was a field of blue, centered by a flaming torch, with an outer circle of 13 gold stars and an inner circle of six stars, representing Indiana as the 19th state to enter the Union.

The originator of the flag, now 80, is living in a nursing home in Richmond. The son of a Bethel doctor, Hadley grew up in Indianapolis.

He had a brother who also became a doctor, and another brother

whose disability was such that Hadley spent most of his life taking care of him, and he later cared for his widowed mother.

He was a striking figure of a man — 6' 2" tall, with eyes of blue and blond hair, possessing a courtly manner and a wry wit.

Hadley studied art at Manual in Indianapolis, as well as the Pennsylvania Museum of the Industrial Arts in Philadelphia, Pa.

Following his graduation, Hadley designed stained glass windows for churches in that city and in Chicago. He also taught at the John Herron Art Institute, and later, had studios of his own in Indianapolis and Mooreville.

A friend of Booth Tarkington, he helped design the author's

home in Kennebunkport, Maine.

As a member of the Mooreville Dramatics Club, he left a distinct memory for Mrs. Myrtle Keller, who still tells about the Christmas he decorated an inter-urban car, and added to the humor of the occasion by painting the feet and legs of the girls in the group.

The \$750,000 Mooreville junior high school was named in honor of this painter and artisan. His original state flag entry stands in its hallway today. The school, built in 1966, was a great delight to Hadley, although he was unable to be present at its dedication ceremonies.

A painter for nearly 50 years, most of Hadley's life was spent in Mooreville, and many of his paintings may be found in that area, and around the globe.

Boy Scout Week Feb. 7-13

Dr. J.B. Wohlfeld, president of the White River Council of Boy Scouts of America, announced recently that the council chalked up new records in service during 1968.

Dr. Wohlfeld said details will be given in a report to the community in connection with Boy Scout Week Feb. 7-13, marking the 59th anniversary of the founding of Boy Scouts of America.

The White River Council serves 145 religious, school and community organizations, with a total of 192 Scout units and 5,217

registered members in Monroe, Brown, Morgan, Owen, Greene, Daviess, Martin, Lawrence and Orange Counties.

"The successes we note in our annual report are the result of nearly 2,000 volunteer adult leaders who have given dedicated leadership to boys from eight to 18," Dr. Wohlfeld said.

During the fall of 1968, the council held a roundup program which resulted in more than 900 youths joining Cub packs and Scout troops.



PAUL HADLEY...created state symbol.

IN REVIEW

Area Legislators to play big roles

By GREG HACKER
Staff Writer

INDIANAPOLIS—The glitter is faded and the work is begun.

With almost half of the 96th Indiana General Assembly session already behind them, leaders of both houses have indicated they plan to start holding Saturday sessions to speed the legislative process.

Today is the 27th day of the regular 61-day session of the legislature. Yesterday was the last day bills could be introduced without unanimous consent of the chamber.

Both houses have now begun the difficult work of studying, amending and compromising proposed legislation so it becomes acceptable enough to gain passage.

Legislators from the six-county area will play big roles in the process.

Rep. Maurice Chase (R-Bedford) is chairman of the House Natural Resources and Conservation Committee. His pet bill is one which would establish a Reservoir Coordinating Committee within the Department of Natural Resources to supervise reservoir development around the state.

Chase's committee also has several other important matters before it. One of particular interest to those who use Monroe Reservoir is a resolution urging the Department of Natural Re-

sources to start renting V-bottomed boats on the reservoir.

The resolution was sparked by a series of drownings in recent months on the man-made lake.

The chairman of the House Roads Committee is Rep. Stephen Ferguson (R.-Bloomington). While Ferguson's committee cannot dictate which specific roads are to be improved in the next biennium, it is certain that Ferguson will be exerting the maximum amount of pressure on the state highway department to have work done on Ind. 37.

Ferguson and Chase joined together recently in introducing a resolution before the House to urge Congress to return to Indiana all monies contributed by Hoosiers to the Federal Highway Trust Fund. At present, only about 83 percent of the excise taxes paid out of Indiana are returned.

Another powerful man is Sen. David Rogers (D-Bloomington), who is minority floor leader in the Senate. Rogers, who leads the 15-man Democratic delegation in the upper house, has taken an active interest in certain legislation.

He has sponsored a bill to delay the mandatory aspect of the motor vehicle inspection law for two years. The law is scheduled to take mandatory effect beginning March 1.

Students, universities and their problems have also come under the scrutiny of area legislators.