

MORGAN COUNTY

HISTORY CENTER & MUSEUM



Vol. 4, No. 2

NEWSLETTER

Spring 2026

Annual Banquet Fund Raiser

Vickie Kivett chaired our annual banquet held April 30 at River Valley Church. Early calculations are predicting \$15,000 added to the museum coffers. River Valley supplied the venue and a sumptuous meal.



The program highlighting our Revolutionary War patriots buried in Morgan County was given by Patty Dow, Jill Fewell, Pamela Siddons, Darrell French, Luke Jackson, Volitta Fritsche, Mike Marsh, Dale & Jill Coffey. Most participants were in late 1700s period dress. The audience was given a “Name the Patriot” quiz to answer for a chance to win a copy of “A Collection of Stories and Poems, Volume 1”. The winner was Chris Morphis.



Numerous merchants donated to the silent auction which was followed by a live auction with “auctioneer” Sheriff Rich Myers. This beautiful carved American flag was created and donated by Mike Baugh. We are very thankful for the many merchants who donated items for the auctions, for our sponsors and ticket buyers who supported the evening.

The museum is always in need of volunteers. If you enjoy history and would like to spend a few hours in the museum, we have several opportunities for you. If you love to tell stories, come share them. If you have computer skills, you can help us accession artifacts. If you like arranging displays, we have a job for you.

Our Contact Information

Address: 127 S. Main St. Martinsville, IN 46151

Telephone: 765-315-6982

Facebook page: Morgan County History Center and Museum

Email: morgancountyhistorymuseum@gmail.com

Web page: morgancountyhistorymuseum.org

Open Hours:

Monday 10:00AM-2:00PM

Thursday 4:00PM-7:00PM

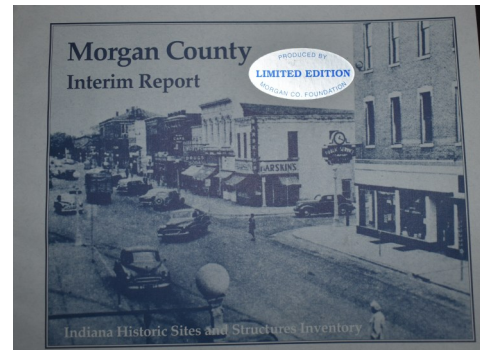
Saturday 10:00AM-3:00PM



A new addition to the museum's artifacts.

What is it?

The what is it the last issue was an antique Toledo Cooker Co. Canning Steamer Oven.



The Morgan County Interim Report is at the museum if you would like to see it.

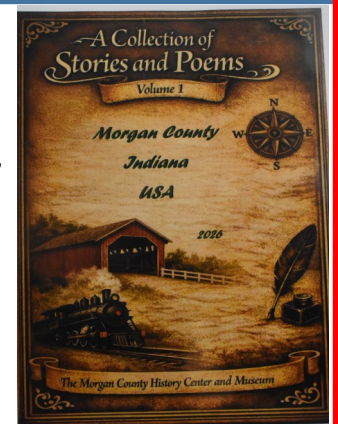
Morgan County Interim Report

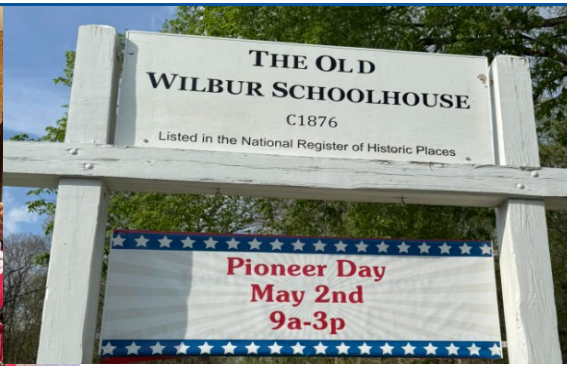
The Indiana Department of Natural Resources is currently working on the newest Morgan County Interim Report. They have been around the county verifying historical sites and structures. The report pictured was published September 1993. They are interested in changes which have taken place in the county, in old pictures, and any structures built prior to 1950 which have historic significance. The report will contain pictures, locations, and information on sites within each township. The museum will be assisting and is looking for photographs and suggestions from our members.

For Sale at the Museum

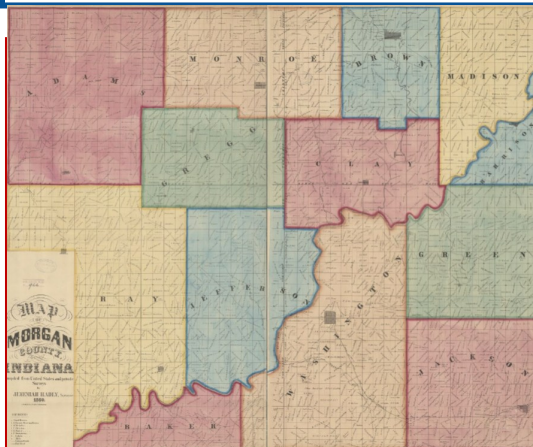
Volume I, A Collection of Stories and Poems, Morgan County, Indiana, containing stories, poems, and pictures about Morgan County residents, written by Morgan County people. The spiral bound, 57 page book is \$15.

This project was spearheaded by Paul North. A second volume is being proposed, possibly highlighting current Morgan County citizens.





America 250 Celebrated
Ron Vail, Volitta Fritsche, Darrell French, and Niki Shields,
 museum members worked as re-enactors at the Pioneer Day held May 2 at the Old Wilbur Schoolhouse . Patty Dow helped Vickie Stephany with a flower and herb workshop for 4-Hers sponsored by the Morgan County America 250 and Martinsville American Legion Post 230. Attendees enjoyed music, a display of poultry, American Revolution soldiers, a blacksmith, a tinsmith, pioneer crafts, and Betsy Ross sewing the flag. Soup beans and potato soup with cornbread and various pies were served.



The Shape We Are IN

Morgan County was organized in 1821 and Adams and Monroe Townships were larger. See 1860 map on the left.

Two townships became smaller. See 1875 map on right.



A story in the Greencastle Banner, March 29, 1860 tells of the change in the northwest corner along Mill Creek. “Judge Cowgill decided at the recent session of the common Pleas Court in this place, that the petition of a portion of the citizens of Morgan county praying to be, hereafter, a part and parcel of “Putnam” should be granted. Therefore all that portion of Morgan lying North of Mill Creek is, for all legal purposes and interest considered a portion of Putnam county.” On March 14, 1861 the Banner reported that the State Legislature had passed an act defining the boundary between Morgan and Putnam counties, being the creek. It was stated that residents had become tired of trying to get to the Morgan County seat in Martinsville when the creek flooded and prevented passage.

