

# MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 6

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

June 2009

“When tongue and pen alike are free; Safe from all foes dwells Liberty” Tom Gundy

## Around Town

Homecoming was very well attended. The weather was beautiful and many people came to enjoy the festivities. The parade was a wonderful addition to this year’s festivities as were the fireworks. The Historical Tour, which stopped to view Dan Blaney’s office (and his Snow Mobile Museum) and the Scott-Lucas house, were enjoyable as were the many entertainers. Thank you to all of those who worked so hard to make this year’s homecoming a success.

\* \* \*

The Bowling Alley is currently undergoing a \$220,000 renovation. It has been completely gutted, with new electrical, heating, and air conditioning installed including an air filtration system. On June 15<sup>th</sup>, AMF is set to begin installation of the new lanes and equipment.

When finished, the bowling alley will be set up for black light bowling. For those who may not know, black light bowling is achieved by dimming the regular lights of the bowling alley and turning on special black lights. The bowling lanes, pins, balls, chairs, and even shoes will glow under the black lights. And the surfaces of the tables will glow patterns under the black lights.

The Legion is currently selling raffle tickets for \$5 to help with costs above and beyond the renovations. First place

winner will get to throw the first ball down the new lanes, second place winner will get a complimentary four hour party, and the third place winner will receive \$100 cash.

\* \* \*

Construction began at Morocco Elementary school on Tuesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, just one day after school ended for the year, after a ground breaking ceremony. Work has been progressing quickly.

\* \* \*

Jim Elijah Jr. was seen making repairs to the roof of the Scott-Lucas house just before Homecoming.

\* \* \*

The Morocco Veteran’s Memorial at Recher Park has been started. The second order of bricks will be added in time for the Independence Day holiday. Brick orders will be taken year round and added for Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Veteran’s Day. Bricks cost \$25.00 and order forms can be found at the Morocco Town Hall, Morocco Public Library, and Just In Time (Trudie Gruber’s new store next to Mel’s Diner).

\* \* \*

JB Laundry Services, the new laundromat/tanning salon at the corner of Polk & College Streets (in the former Acorn Building) is set to open any day now. It has been remodeled and looks very nice inside. In addition to self service laundry and tanning, they will offer drop off laundry services. It's nice to see another building brought back to life by a new business.

\* \* \*

Morocco now has a stoplight- in the window of T & J Bargain Bin (at the Morocco Glass and Trim building) at 205 East State Street. Tom Montemayer tells me that he's going to keep the stoplight. He hopes to have the light flashing when the store is open (but don't let that deter you from stopping should the light not be on).

## **Morocco Cooks**

### **Homemade Pancake Mix**

By: Kathy Knakiewicz

10 c. Flour  
½ c. Sugar  
2 ½ c. Dry Milk  
¼ c. Baking Powder  
1 ½ Tablespoons Salt

Combine all ingredients in a large bowl. Stir together until well blended. Put in a large airtight container. Store in a cool dry place. Use within 6-8 months.

To prepare: Mix 3 cups of pre-made mix, 2 beaten eggs, 2 c. water, and 4 tablespoons oil or melted butter.

\*Makes a large batch. May reduce if desired.

## **Potato Soup**

By: Gerald Born

1 large onion, chopped  
2 stalks celery  
1 can chicken broth  
5 medium potatoes, coarse dice  
½ teaspoon garlic salt  
1 pint milk  
1 cup half and half  
½ teaspoon salt  
1 dollop butter.

Cook the first 5 ingredients in the chicken broth until tender (approximately 20 minutes) and add the milk, half and half, and butter. Adjust the salt, more or less according to taste. Add the butter and garnish with finely chopped parsley (optional)  
Serve with crackers.

### **Tuna Cakes**

By: Gerald Born

10 soda crackers, crushed  
1 can tuna  
1 egg  
2 green onions, thinly sliced, tops and all  
2 tablespoons butter  
¼ teaspoon garlic salt.

Crush the crackers and in a small bowl add the tuna, the egg, the garlic salt, and the onions. Mix and form into patties (makes 4 generous patties) and gently fry in the butter. Turn once and press down on each to assure that they are the same thickness. Serve with mustard or horseradish. Quick and easy!

### **Tuna, Italian Style**

By: Gerald Born

1 small onion  
2 tablespoons olive oil  
1 can mixed vegetables  
1 small can tomato sauce  
1 can tuna

1 tablespoon mixed Italian herbs  
(oregano, etc.)  
2 cloves garlic  
1 tablespoon sugar  
2 teaspoons vinegar

In a sauce pan sauté the onions in the olive oil until transparent. Add the rest of the ingredients and cook until the flavors meld.

## Happenings

On a recent buying trip to the southwest, Gerald Born had the opportunity of helping Barbara (Elijah) Borrett celebrate her 77<sup>th</sup> birthday in Las Cruises, New Mexico. Most of her children gathered at the local Episcopal Church, and truly surprised her, a surprise that had been over a year in the making.

Son, John and his wife and daughter, came from Oklahoma. Daughter Kathy Hewitt, who runs the beauty shop and tanning salon east of Morocco, came early and helped orchestrate the surprise. Son, Tim, who lives in Missouri, came on his motorcycle. Daughter, Patsy had returned from France to help care for her new grandchild was there with her son, Craig, as was daughter Mary, who lives in Las Cruises with her mother, was there with her friend, Terry. Two of her children were unable to attend. Most stayed for three days after the event and then left for their respective homes.

Needless to say a good time was had by all.

\* \* \*

Kelly Tuntland, Ruth Warrick, and Betty

Kessler threw a surprise birthday party for me on May 12<sup>th</sup> at Gerald Born's antique shop. It was quite the surprise, and a very delightful one at that. Guests included Trudie Gruber, Kathy Knakiewicz, Selma Smart, James, Tyler Tuntland (Kelly's son), and for a brief time, my husband and children. Thank you all so very much for the wonderful party.

\* \* \*

Gerald Born celebrated his 73<sup>rd</sup> birthday on May 16<sup>th</sup>. My husband, Dave, and I brought dinner to his home and we all enjoyed a lovely candlelit dinner that evening.

## Editorial

### *Morocco Times Changes Hands*

By: Gerald Born

After two and a half years of editing and publishing the *Morocco Times*, Ye Editor was faced with some chronic health issues which necessitated giving up the paper.

It was with much regret that this decision was reached, for it has been proven that a monthly news digest focused only on Morocco and its activities has been successful.

With over 200 subscriptions and another 75 to 100 papers distributed in the community it appears that many of these copies were passed along to friends and relatives and is probably read by at least 900 people.

It is difficult to leave such a loyal readership, but the realities of life must be recognized.

Fortunately, a young woman came on the scene about two years ago that shares my interest in history, the need for transparency in government, the belief in the diversity of opinion, the importance of community life, and who writes clearly and to the point. She also has the energy and the interest to do the job.

Yvonne Gibson is married to Dave and they are parents to two children, Miranda, 5, and a son, Gavin, 1. They purchased the Castongia house and are active in the Methodist Church and the community.

It is with sadness that I sold the paper, lock, stock, and barrel to Yvonne, who now becomes the publisher and the editor of the *Morocco Times*. However, Ye Editor will continue to write the Backward Glance column and a guest editorial from time to time, share photos of Morocco's past, and generally support the paper.

Having created and fostered the growth of the paper has been a most satisfying use of my retirement time and energy, and I want to thank all of those who have contributed to its success. Harriet Webb has been a constant help in gathering the news. Betty Kessler and Ruth Warrick have contributed articles to the paper and have shown their support in many ways. I am thankful to those who have written letters to the editor and who have offered advice to what the paper should contain. Thank you all for your support and I hope you will give the same to the new editor and publisher.

\* \* \*

Hello from your new editor and publisher! As Gerald mentioned in his editorial, I am married with two children and live in the former Castongia house. This October will mark my third year in Morocco. I was born and raised in Ohio until the age of seven when we moved to southern California. We were there for a few years then in Pennsylvania and Oklahoma for one year each before coming to Indiana. Despite having lived in several different cities, towns, and states, I very much consider Morocco to be my home.

I am close to both of my parents although they divorced many years ago. My mother lives in Hammond with her husband and she is a medical biller. My father lives in Cleveland with his wife and he is the owner of Blue Sky Bicycle Shop in Euclid, Ohio. I have a half sister who lives in Pennsylvania with her mother. She will be 11 next month.

I received my Associate's Degree in Automotive Technology (mechanics) from Ivy Tech Community College in East Chicago. I had the wonderful opportunity and experience of working at Ivy Tech for several years in the Automotive Department first as the Office Administrator and later as an instructor. After I moved to Morocco, a few months of driving to and from East Chicago was all it took for me to resign from the college.

I briefly worked at Intec before becoming pregnant with my son and deciding to stay home with my children for a couple years. It was during this time that I was really able to become active and involved in the community. Then in November, my husband was laid off from his job at Sealy (he's still

looking for work) and I found myself with a little more time on my hands. This may be the only good thing about having a husband who is laid off (although we'd both love for him to be working). I have met the most amazing people here in Morocco can honestly say there is no other place I'd rather live than Morocco.

I am very excited to be the new editor and publisher of the Morocco Times and I look forward to bringing you the Morocco Times in the same format as Gerald has in the past. I welcome any suggestions or comments you may have and hope that you enjoy reading the Morocco Times as much as I enjoy writing it.

~Yvonne Gibson

## Features

### Morocco, Finally Home

By: Bradley S. Hartman

For as long as I've lived on this planet, I've known no greater joy than childhood on it,  
Long rides in the country with Mom,  
Dad and a Buick,  
State Parks for family picnics and loads of chicken,  
Thrilled by stories of old with hero's who had my name in them.

Vacations down Route 41 through small towns,  
With Mom and Pop Motels who appreciated you came around,  
While passing through, Florida bound,  
Small diners with friendly people and good food easily found.

Each town felt like part of the vacation,

With its small town salutations,  
And warm appreciations,  
Making them remembered destinations.

Full serve stations with dinosaurs named Sinclair,  
Playing Slug Bug and Twenty Questions with each passing mile,  
Stopping at Stuckey's and Howard Johnson's for treats and some air,  
Munching and stretching cramped legs from sitting for too long a while.

Every town had a Tastee Freeze,  
Dads had to stop if he didn't want you to scream,  
Or a Jack in the Box next to Hardee's before the ice cream,  
And motels like the Hideaway where weary heads hit pillows to dream.

Mom would dawdle at the arts and crafts,  
Dad at A&W for a Root Beer Draft,  
Or reaching the Dog-N-Suds at last,  
A window tray of food eagerly passed.

Attractions on billboards promised the world,  
Billie Creek Village with Covered Bridge tours,  
Turkey Run for hiking, canoes and more,  
La Fayette with amusement parks and zoos.

Indiana Beach swore Indiana had more than corn,  
While Enchanted Forest had rides galore,  
Meet Santa Claus in a town called Santa Claus of course,  
Then explore caves called Boone on a river tour.

I miss the days of small towns being around,

Where people and buildings all stood tall  
and proud,  
Festivals and fairs in every town,  
Every season easily found.

Morocco is all this to me,  
A place my home can be,  
Where neighbors become family,  
Not just a person who lives next to me.

This is my home,  
A small town along a blue highway,  
Where pride is still shown  
Its glory about to be reborn,  
An American Heritage restored.

Morocco, I'm finally home.

May 9, 2009  
©Bradley S. Hartman  
As featured at Hartfelt Books  
www.hartfeltbooks.com

\* \* \*

### **Money Saving Tips** **By: Kathy Knakiewicz**

In these uncertain economic times that we are living in, everyone is looking for ways to save money. Here are a few ideas my family and I use:

- Have a leftover night once a week (if you cook a full meal every night, you may need to have one in the middle of the week and the one for a weekend lunch). It is a wonderful way to clean out the fridge and the kids love having choices.
- \*Please discard anything that has an odd color or smells funny.
- Replace expensive cleaners with homemade ones. Instead of counter cleaners, floor cleaners, and window cleaners use ones that you can make

yourself. For counters and glass you can use an old fashioned mixture of vinegar and water. For the floors just bleach and water.

(Editors note- we use a fifty percent solution of peroxide and water, spray it and then spray apple cider vinegar over it. It kills more germs than bleach.)

-Reduce trips. Instead of running to the next town to buy a gallon of milk and bread, walk to our local grocery store. You will be surprised how much gasoline this will save.

I hope someone has found these tips useful. None of these are my own but from wonderful women who did it all before us. God Bless.

### **Letters to the Editor**

Dear Mr. Born:  
I so enjoy reading the Morocco Times newspaper. I get this newspaper as a gift from my grandmother Ruth Doty, who by the way is 95 years old as of her last birthday March 6, 2009, and is still going strong as ever. This is so nice to receive because I am so far away from what will always be my home Morocco, and there are so many nice articles and news. I look forward to getting it each time.

Regarding the January 14 issue of the Morocco times and the old picture of the Morocco High School football team. I believe the missing person in the picture to the far right is my dad Robert Doty, the minute I saw that picture I called my grandma and said that looks like the side of Dad's face. Dad played football for Morocco all 4 years of High School graduating in 1953. He was on the first string all 4 of those years, and played

with all of those mentioned in the article. Morrie Goodnight was the quarterback.

My grandma and I have talked and she cannot remember who the coach was but did remember all of the rest of the names.

Anyway, I just wanted to add that little tidbit to the mystery.

Thank you,  
Susan Doty

P.S. There is no mistaking my Dad's ears- ha ha!  
Thank you Susan for shedding some light on that mystery. I'm glad you enjoy the Morocco Times!

\* \* \*

Dear Gerald,

Enclosed please find my check for the paper for a year.

My sister-in-law sent me several copies last month and I decided I'd like to get the paper too. Please excuse my scribbles- I don't have a computer and have little interest in learning to operate one- my typewriter needs a new tape and so I use my pen and paper!!

I hope I can get some of the stories of Vic Carlson- maybe they are in this bunch of papers she sent me. My husband Norbert Brown could have told some interesting things of the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War too.

Helen L. Styck Brown  
Class of 1946

Helen, Vic Carlson put together a book

of his war (and other) stories. He and Betty may still have a few. They do charge the cost of getting the books printed but they are well worth it.

## **Backward Glance**

By: Gerald Born

A flood of memories were released when the article on Morocco's new Elementary School was written a couple of months ago. Not only did they bring back images of the building and its classrooms, but also the teachers who taught us and the events of our elementary education.

At one of the reunions of our class it came as a shock to learn that many hated their teachers and did not have a good word to say about them. This was difficult for me to understand, for I liked all of my elementary teachers and had learned a great deal from them. I tried to find a common thread that they all had that made their teaching effective.

What I remembered and appreciated so much was that all read aloud to us. They were each very different, but that was the common thread that opened the vast world beyond Morocco to me.

Frances Langford was our first grade teacher. I remember her as dressing in a very feminine manner with lots of ruffles and style. Besides teaching reading and writing, she read to us *Snow White* and *Rose Red*, and although she did not stay long in Morocco, she had an impact on my future. She moved to Tollison, near Gary, and my best friend, Ronnie Puett also moved there and was taught by her.

Cora Kalfise, the second grade teacher, was single and always presented a trim

and professional image to her pupils. She read to us *Pinocchio*, and it too had an impact. She and her mother lived down the street from us on Beaver street and would later marry Dennis McDonald, who taught the fifth grade. He came to Morocco after World War II and had previously taught at Roselawn.

Mrs. Smith, a strict disciplinarian dressed the part and appeared very tailored and severe to her pupils. As long as one did what she demanded, there were no problems. She read to us *Why the Chimes Rang*.

Bethel Murphey, who taught the fourth grade class in the large room on the second floor was also very strict, but also engaged her pupils in projects that encouraged their imagination. I remember participating in one such project. In a large sand box we created a replica of a Dutch landscape, complete with dikes, windmills, and tulip fields in the lowlands that had been reclaimed for the sea. It was a great way to learn geography.

I remember her as being very clean and polished and also her penchant for rapping the knuckles of those who sassed her. She read to us *The Little Lame Prince*.

Dennis McDonald, our fifth grade teacher, had recently returned from a stint in the Navy and besides reading *Penrod* to us recounted being stationed in Florida and riding his motorcycle in the Everglades. Later, he married Cora Kalfise and they became fixtures in the community. Mac had a large garden each spring and they attended square dances at Lomax's Lazy-L ranch. They built their retirement home in Abe

Poole's garden lot on Beaver Street and lived there the remainder of their lives.

Clifford James, the sixth grade teacher, read to us *King Arthur and his Knights*. I remember constructing a castle and all of its walls and buildings out of saw dust and paste to illustrate the story. The stories somehow made all of the growing pains seem better and provided us an escape into a reality that was far from our own. Clifford and Verna opened a small grocery on 114, which later he and his son, Gene, operated.

It would be interesting to hear from you about your teachers and the things you most remember about your schooling in Morocco.

## **Government In Action**

### **Morocco Conservancy District Highlights of the Meeting on 6/1/09**

- \$8,432.18 in checking account.
- The county waived the fee for the sewer tap (for the elementary school drainage to the town retention pond). "We won't charge them, they won't charge us for the sewer tap," said the board.
- Three claims were paid.
- Property taxes: spring installment was paid (\$1,603.88). Fall will be paid when more money is in the bank "we have borrowed all that we can borrow" said Sherri Rainford. Noting that \$45,000 has already been borrowed.
- Bev Johnson was present to discuss her drainage issue (water in her basement). Hers is one of four houses in a row experiencing drainage issues.
- Grade school sewer project is done, they are waiting for their \$10,000 connection fee from the school. Dr.



Barker said “I don’t think the money will be a problem”.

- Dr. Barker was there to thank the board for all that they’ve done to make the school project a reality.

- Selma Smart’s home is done after 17 months. Her yard was tilled and new grass planted.

- Rick McCann has had water issues on his property for two years. Issues which have taken a backseat to other projects since he didn’t want people to think he received special treatment because he was on the board. A motion was made to move forward with Rick’s project up to \$12,500 then it would require another motion.

- Budget- the board may want to consider raising the budget so they don’t have to “operate then borrow, operate then borrow.” They don’t owe a \$235,000 bond so there should be room to allow for a larger budget.

### **Morocco Town Board Highlights of Meeting 6/1/09**

- The town will save around \$100.00 a month by switching to a different company (IKON) for their printing and copying needs. They will be getting a color copier/printer with toner and maintenance included for \$176.00 a month. The town currently does not have color printing capabilities.

- The board voted to borrow nearly a half a million dollars to get started on the water hydrant/main project. They anticipate receiving funds from Rural Development to cover the costs of the project which they will use to pay off the loan. The loan is to get the project “shovel ready” quicker.

- The town is mowing four, soon to be five properties that have “no owner.” They are foreclosure or Sheriff’s sale

properties.

- 26 letters were sent out for tall grass.

- There are two leaning NIPSCO utility poles. One at the corner of Lincoln & Walnut and one on Walker north of College. The pole numbers will be called in to NIPSCO for repair.

- The minutes from the last meeting were approved.

- The town owes \$7,000 on police car that they would like to pay off.

- Clean up day was a “huge hit” said Randy Decker. Ward Reps. and community service workers were on hand to help.

- The pool, which holds 250,000 gallons of water, was filled. The plant ran for 16 hours straight during which time, a water main broke. It was the same main that broke last winter. To fix it, a nine block area would be without water. The town is getting supplies on hand to fix it if and when it breaks again.

- Mosquito spraying began the first week of June.

- Town Marshal Shaun Wynn was at the Police Academy and could not be at the meeting.

- The Utility Board will be reviewing the sewer debt billing fees. All homes in Morocco must pay this fee unless the building and foundation have been removed, regardless of whether or not they use water/sewer/trash services.

Only when one can mow over and not around a foundation, will the fee stop.

- Project Pride was a success.

- Ward Rep. Jim Elijah was on hand to report that things were going well. The town was cleaning up well. He was the only Ward Rep. able to attend the meeting.

- Ward Rep. Dale Kressen was in an accident last month. His truck tipped over with a load of gravel.

- Homecoming was a huge success.

There were 40 cars in the Pinewood Derby, hopefully 80 next year. Pedal Tractor pull and the parade were good. Food and fireworks were great. Thank you to the homecoming committee for a job well done.

- The bowling alley remodel is coming along. 80% of the wiring, heating, air conditioning, and filtration are complete. The back of the building is on. AMF will be in on the 15<sup>th</sup> to begin installing equipment and lanes.

- Raffle tickets for the bowling alley are available at the Legion for \$5.00. Prizes include the first ball thrown on the new lanes, a four hour party, and \$100 cash. Proceeds will help keep costs down for the first year after the remodel.

- Karen Ross asked about landfill tipping fees, specifically why they aren't being used to pay for the sewer debt. She made an appointment to talk to Bob Gonczy about the fees. They are a matter of public record and Bob would be more than happy to talk to her (and anyone else interested) about where they go and why.

- Tipping fees generate between \$14,000 and \$35,000 a month and were used to purchase new meters and software for the water/sewer department.

- Next meeting will be July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 7 p.m.

## Community Calendar

Betty Kessler will be 93 years young on June 18<sup>th</sup>. I think it's safe to say that Betty has been an inspiration to all of us.

**Happy Birthday, Betty!**

\* \* \*

A Farewell Dinner for Pastor Jack Scott and his wife Suzy will be held at the Morocco First United Methodist Church

after worship on Sunday June 28<sup>th</sup>. The church will welcome new minister, Gregory Waggoner, on or about July 1<sup>st</sup>.

\* \* \*

The Morocco Farmers Market is set to kick off on Saturday, July 11<sup>th</sup> at 8 a.m. It will run each Saturday from 8-11 a.m. at Betty Kessler Park in downtown Morocco until October.

## Transitions

As of press time, there have been no transitions to report over the past month.

## This and That

### Brothers in the Military

By: Cleva Whaley

PFC Derek Hyde, currently stationed with the 325<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment 1<sup>st</sup> BA 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division in Fort Bragg, NC. He completed basic training at Fort Benning, GA in August 2008. He has attended JRTC training in Louisiana and is a qualified combat life saver. Hyde's current job is a saw gunner (saw-squad fully automatic weapon). He will be attending Ranger School in September. Hyde's plans also include air assault, jumpmaster, and EMT school, all of this will earning a business management degree from the American Military University (AMU).

Older brother, Ssgt. Matt Hyde, currently stationed with the 4GN 320<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment 4<sup>th</sup> Brigade Combat Team 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (AASLT) in Fort Campbell, KY. He just returned home from Afghanistan in March. That was his 2<sup>nd</sup> deployment in

four years. He also served one year in Iraq, November 2005-November 2006. While deployed, Hyde was promoted to Staff Sgt. Hyde will be transferred from Fort Campbell in January 2010 after being stationed there for five years. He will then be stationed at Fort Sill, OK. That is where he completed basic training. Hyde will be Fort Sill's newest Advanced Individual Training Instructor (AIT).

Derek and Matt Hyde are both graduates of North Newton High School. They are the sons of Lori and Bill Batchelor of Morocco, grandsons of Cleva and Calvin Whaley of Morocco, Pat and Tim Kinnaird of Rensselaer and Melvin Batchelor of Wolcott. And the great-grandsons of Beatty Whaley of Brook.

### **The Story of the Morocco Courier Part One**

By: Gerald Born

The Morocco Courier has been a continuing institution in the community for over 100 years. Since its founding in 1877, with Edward E. Maxwell as editor, until the present time, it has provided the people of Morocco and those who have Morocco connections with a chronicle of the events that have shaped the town and surrounding area. The First Edition, published on Saturday, September 15, 1877 proclaimed itself to be the daily courier and its price was five cents. Most of the paper was devoted to the news of the fair held at Morocco's Fiar Grounds, which was then in progress, with a number of advertisements.

In a recent letter from Shep Humston of Australia I learned that it was his great-grandfather's brother, Dr. Milton Humston who put up the funds to start

the paper. Shep's great-grandfather, Dr. Charles Morehead Humston began his first practice in Morocco, later moving to Beverly, Ohio, where he married Jessie Fearing McIntosh, a socially prominent young lady of that town.

Dr. Milton Humston had arrived in Morocco soon after completing his studies at the Kentucky School of Medicine at Louisville in 1866. The son of Charles Morehead and Susan Morehead (Triplett) Humston, he was also a first cousin of Dr. Charles Ephiram Triplett Sr., Morocco's first doctor. He was born on a farm about two miles west of Port Royal, Henry County, Kentucky on November 3, 1838.

Dr. Humston's resident still stands, the former Henry Brandt home. Dr. Humston also kept a deer park for his entertainment. It covered a number of acres and was fenced, starting at the corner of Old 41 and State Street, it continued west to the corner of Clay Street thence north to Beaver Street and the old Handley house, thence east to Old 41 and south to State St. It did not contain some of the lots on the north side of State Street, such as the old Methodist Church, but went behind these lots. Contained within the compound were deer, buffalo, wild birds, and an assortment of other animals found on the prairie. Dr. Milton Humston married L. Amanda Nichols of LaGrange, Kentucky, the daughter of Elijah M. and Mary Ann (Overstreet) Nichols and had five children... Charles Nichols, George Goldsmith, Llewellyn Claud, Ada Burnace and Benzoni. Mrs. Humston died July 3, 1878 and he continued his practice at Morocco until 1883 when he moved to Goodland.

So it is to Dr. Milton Humston we owe the credit of having enough faith in the fledgling town of Morocco to invest in its future and to provide future historians with a printed record of the town's history. Unfortunately a number of volumes of the early years were lost in a fire that occurred in the Morocco Courier office some 20 years ago, but there still remains a vast store of the past, without which much of the history of Morocco could not be written.

A glimpse of this rich past was provided in the paper of January 24, 1913... Courier Now Located In Its Own Building... New Courier Block on North side of State Street consists of four rooms and basement... First Time The Courier Ever Owned Its Own Building.

"The Courier office and printing plant has now moved to its new location on the north side of State Street in the Courier block which consists of four rooms, three fronting on State Street and one, the press room, in the rear. The latter and part of one of the front rooms has cement floors. The middle room is occupied by the Courier office, stock room and type room. (It will be remembered that in one of our earlier articles a fire was reported to have happened in this location in 1912. The space being described lies east of Ira Murphey's store and west of the Porter furniture store, which later became Hancock's Funeral Home and at one time housed the Annex.)

"All of the rooms are finished in oak stained hard pine and hemlock with painted and calcimined walls, double floors and metal ceilings.

"The three front rooms are equipped with skylights and the Courier office and plant is heated with steam, the boiler for which is located in the 12 x 50 foot basement.

"The east room has been rented to W.S. Ahern and the west one to George Flowers for a bakery.

"All the rooms are electric lighted and the presses are equipped with individual motors.

"We feel some degree of pride in these new rooms and especially in the fact that the Courier is now located in its own quarters, a pleasure it has never before enjoyed during its nearly 40 years of existence.

"When the present management bought the Courier it was located in the rear of a frame building. As soon as possible we moved it into the Gragg brick building, (later the Hagen building) where it was housed for four years. The thing most needed there was more light. This necessity we have in the new building, having a full glass rear as well as front and skylight.

"It has been a tremendous task to move, place and adjust the heavy machinery and it has been a great burden to get off a paper this week. Defects in type work or press work are due to difficulties incident to moving and getting the machinery out of alignment.

"We invite all our readers and others to call on us in our new quarters."

Editors Note: Since writing last week's article on the *Morocco Courier*, new information has come to light in a

history printed in October 1939 that puts the founding date two years earlier than reported.

The first issue of the paper now appears to be 1876 when Ed Graham founded the paper. Two years later Ed Graham sold the paper to Ed Maxwell and that issue was called Volume one, Number one.

This new information also raises the question as to which editor Dr. Milton Humston backed with funding, since it could have been either gentleman.

The following history starts with the very beginning of the paper and picks up the previous article about midway through. The balance of this history is composed of excerpts from the *Morocco Courier* which detail the changes of ownership and editorship of the paper. It appears that the first *Morocco* (if that was its name) was published in 1876. Not much is known of its first editor, Ed Graham, though he reportedly went west and returned later to revive the paper on May 12, 1880 after it had suspended publication for awhile.

The tantalizing mention of the first paper being printed on an old army press whets our interest, but no further details were are given. Presumably the press was used during the Civil War and had probably been purchased reasonably. A whole story could be written on such a theme. G. Born 1939-October 19.

History: *Courier* first printed on army press in 1876. Now settled in new and modern building.

The *Courier* is now in its new home.

Moving of the paper into a new and

permanent home will recall to the minds of old settlers of several locations and various managements since it was founded in 1876 by Ed Graham.

Moving an old hand press and some type into a building long since torn down in the west part of town, this early day journalist published the first issue in 1876, month and day now unknown.

Its first years, like those of most small town newspapers, were a struggle for existence. Money was scarce; it was hard to get any news; advertising was but poorly paid for. Only the ingenuity of the early day printers who resourcefully completed the printed page from a smattering of ill suited equipment made it possible to issue our early country newspapers. To these pioneers who paved the way for the hundreds of community newspapers, we of the present day must render due homage.

The *Courier* has survived many hard years since that first issue in 1876, but it has depicted the life of this community ever since; it has recorded the history of the town in the making.

Graham published the paper for two years and sold it to Ed Maxwell. The latter after a short time ceased publication, but Graham, who had gone west, returned and revived the sheet in the early 1880s.

Early records are incomplete, but a faded issue which still remains in our files bears the name of Frank Davis at the

masthead in the year 1892. Some time during these years, Sam Bartholomew edited the paper. It was sold to A.E. Chizum who in turn sold it to Sidney Schanlaub. "Bartholomew and a man named Brown worked for my uncle when I first came to Morocco," said W.O. Schanlaub, who inked for the old army press when a mere lad.

Sid Schanlaub, who owned and operated the *Courier* from 1893 until 1905, was a writer of marked ability, humor being one of his long suits. The circulation of the *Courier* grew and the old army press was replaced with a Washington hand press... an improvement then... but now considered a museum piece among the followers of the art of Franklin.

(Continued in next month's issue)