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# MOROCCO TIMES

Vol. 3 No. 11

Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

November 2009

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

## Around Town

Once again Betty Kessler's enthusiasm for community service is evident in the Newton County Council on Aging windows (across from DeMotte State Bank) in Morocco at 104 S. State Street. Her project "Recycling Christmas" is in full swing Monday thru Friday from 10 a.m to 3 p.m All you need to do is bring in a food item for the newton County Community Services' Food Pantry and take home a gently used Christmas decoration. They also accept donations to the food pantry as well. By supporting the food pantry this holiday season, you will be reaching out to many families struggling with hardships. As always, wherever Betty goes, a hot cup of tea follows, so join her for tea and cookies and help make this a joyful holiday for all. Contact Carolyn Nantais at 219-285-0658 with any questions or for more information.

\* \* \*

Morocco author Bradley S. Hartman just released his third book "U.S. Avengers: A Cut Above." It is available online at [www.lulu.com](http://www.lulu.com) and search for Bradley S. Hartman or visit his website at [www.hartfeltbooks.com](http://www.hartfeltbooks.com) for more information. Use the code FALLREAD when you check out for 10% off.

\* \* \*

The Morocco Veteran's Memorial at Recher Park now has 153 bricks. Bricks can be purchased throughout the year for any military veteran past

or present, living or deceased. Bricks will be added for Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Veteran's Day. Bricks cost \$25, please contact Yvonne Gibson for more information.



\* \* \*

Construction continues at Morocco Elementary. The brickwork is now complete on the exterior of the building at College & Lincoln Streets. Doors and windows have also been installed. Outside, street lights have been installed and the roads are being prepped for paving.



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\* \* \*

Jill Mullikin-Deneau and her husband Scott (who were recently married on October 17<sup>th</sup>) are looking for names of couples (and photos) married at their home at 206 W. State Street. You may remember their home as the Methodist Church parsonage. Bernice Deardurff was one of the ladies married there. Your photos will be returned to you.

\* \* \*

Work at Sellers' Station continues at a rapid pace. The front (west side) of the building has been painted white and red (the primer for the red is pink). The south side of the building has been scraped, sanded, and washed and is ready to be painted white. Renewed Heritage is still looking for volunteers to help bring Sellers' Station back to its former glory. Find out more about Renewed Heritage on the web at: [www.renewedheritage.org](http://www.renewedheritage.org).



Tim Storey and Dave Gibson paint the front of Sellers' Station.

\* \* \*

Renewed Heritage is sponsoring a Vintage Dance Club. They will meet on Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the Morocco Public Library. Join them and learn how to do the Jitterbug, Square Dancing, Swing Dancing, and more. Dancers, spectators, singles, couples, friends, etc. are encouraged to come. Contact Trudie Gruber at 219-285-6074 for more information.

## Morocco Cooks

**O'Dor's Taco Bake**  
**By: Wayne O'Dor**

1 pound of hamburger meat  
1 bag of Nacho Cheese flavored Doritos  
1 container of sour cream  
8 oz. of cheddar jack cheese  
1 pouch of taco mix

Crush Doritos, put in a 12x10 baking pan. Brown hamburger meat, add taco seasoning according to package instructions. Add the taco mix to the baking pan. Then add sour cream and top with cheese. Bake at 375 degrees until cheese melts

\* \* \*

The *Morocco Times* is in need of recipes. If you would like to submit your recipe for inclusion in the *Morocco Times*, please send it to us. Our contact information can be found on the back page. Thank you.

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## Happenings

### Christmas in Morocco

**JB Laundry Service** – 202 South Polk Street, Morocco – 219-285-2057:

One bottle of Rayz, a set of Sunsets (goggles) and 10 tanning sessions: standard bed regularly priced at \$60, holiday price \$40. Stand-up tanning regularly priced at \$70, holiday price \$50. The perfect gift for the tanner in your life. Holiday prices good from November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 thru January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010.

**Just In Time** – 217 East State Street, Morocco– Open Saturdays from 9 a.m until 1 p.m.: Christmas Open House, Saturday November 28<sup>th</sup>. A new shipment of candles (soy and paraffin) just arrived including holiday scented candles in pint sized Ball jars for only \$5.95. Scented stuffed animals (bears, snowmen, etc.) are in stock and so are our handmade Christmas cards. Many inexpensive holiday decorations and gifts to choose from.

**Morocco Christmas Tree Lighting** – (Town of Morocco & Projects Unlimited): Sunday December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at the intersection of State & Clay Streets at dusk, join Morocco Projects Unlimited for cookies, hot cocoa and pictures with Santa before the annual Christmas tree lighting in Morocco. This year I'm told there may be fireworks as well!

Note: At the November 3<sup>rd</sup> Town Board Meeting, a request was made for the donation of a 25 foot

tall Christmas tree. If you can help, please call the town hall at 219-285-2070.

**Newton County Christmas Project** – 219-285-2247:

Plans are being made again this year for the annual Newton Co. Christmas Project. The goal of the project is to ensure that all families in the county will enjoy a great Christmas holiday. The Christmas project was started seven years ago and served 206 families during the 2008 Christmas season. Each family helped receives a well filled food basket and toys and/or clothing for their children. The parents also get to select age appropriate books for their children. This year, the families will receive hats and gloves/mittens for their families too. Donations of money (to purchase clothes and toys), toys, food, clothing, books, are greatly appreciated. Please call for more information on this wonderful project.

**Recycled Christmas** – please see page 1.

**Willow Studios** – 210 East State Street, Morocco – 219-285-8889 – [www.willow-studios.com](http://www.willow-studios.com): ½ price sitting fee (regularly \$25 now only \$12.50 for up to five subjects, \$2.50 each additional subject). One free 5 x 7 print.

\* \* \*

**Mindy (Jackson) Mathis of Morocco, is announcing her candidacy for Beaver Township Trustee on the Republican ticket for the May, 2010 Primary election.**

Mindy is a 1992 graduate of North Newton High

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School. She received a Bachelor's Degree from Indiana State University in 1996. Following college, she returned to Morocco and became employed by the Newton County Auditor's office. While working in the Auditor's office, she worked closely with township trustees by paying out township assistance. Other duties included balancing payroll books, learning the coordinates of the county, and transferring property. Currently, she is working as the Clerk of Beaver Township. She is the designated trustee when the Beaver Township trustee is out of town.

Mindy and her husband Brian are members of the United Methodist Church of Morocco, where she served as treasurer for two years. She has been the President of the Morocco Cooperative Preschool for three years. She and her husband have four children, two of which attend Morocco Elementary and one is currently in Preschool.

\* \* \*

Gerald Born recently had overnight guests, his friends Victoria & Matthew Defty, an architect who is currently working on an Indiana Temple in the Chicago suburbs. They were over on Halloween night and returned to Chicago the next day.

\* \* \*

Gerald Born shared a delightful lunch at Greenfield's with Kathleen Yoder-Rotert from Arlington, Texas who had returned to Morocco

with the ashes of her mother's husband of 35 years. She was also clearing out the family home in preparation for an auction to be held at the Rensselaer Armory on November 14<sup>th</sup>.

\* \* \*

On November 2<sup>nd</sup>, I had the pleasure of attending The Literary Club of Morocco's November meeting at the Morocco Public Library. With 13 ladies in attendance, Jane Stephens gave an informative speech on President Andrew Jackson. We had a wonderful time talking over delicious homemade goodies and refreshments. Imagine my surprise when Betty Carlson offered her back issues of the Morocco Times to anyone who wanted them (I was missing a few back issues and discovered that there was a Christmas 2006 issue that I hadn't known about). I will be passing what's left of the back issues along to Donna LaCosse for the Historical Society.

The Literary Club of Morocco will meet on December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 4 p.m. at the Morocco Public Library to discuss President Ulysses S. Grant. Each member is asked to bring a new children's book to donate for a Christmas gift. If you are interested in the Literary Club of Morocco, please join them on December 7<sup>th</sup>.

\* \* \*

Briley Alexis Iseminger was born on July 23, 2009 at 9:08 a.m. She weighed 8 lb. 2oz. Briley is the daughter of Brock and Brittney Iseminger of Indianapolis. Proud grandparents include Kent and Sheryl Neibert of Morocco and Jeff and

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Annette Iseminger of Fair Oaks.

## Features



Aladdin "Marsden" Catalog Photo



"Marsden" on S. Lincoln St. in Morocco

## Aladdin Kit Homes

Tim and Tina Vanderborg recently sold their beautiful home located at 415 South Lincoln Street (across the street and to the north of the GVT home featured last month). The Vanderborg's lived in this home for approximately 13 years.

I'm told their home was originally the home of Eva Baird and, between Eva Baird and the Vanderborg's, The Bannons lived there. Mr. Bannon was 93 years young when he sold the house to the Vanderborg's.

The house (which I will refer to as the Vanderborg's home) was built in 1916 or 1917. It has three bedrooms, 2 baths (one was a later addition), and a formal dining room. There is a fireplace in the living room and beautiful built-in book cases between the living and dining rooms.

There was once a pot bellied stove in the kitchen and a coal furnace in the basement. Tina tells me she still finds coal anytime she plants flowers or mows the grass. The home has beautiful wood floors throughout. Most are original and are believed to be Harlequin Pine which is now extinct. Tim tells me that sunken ships in the Great Lakes carrying Harlequin Pine are dug up for their extinct cargo.

When asked why they purchased the home, Tina replies "the woodwork, the oldness. It feels 'homey,' that's why I bought it."

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Built in book cases

Adding to the beauty and character of the Vanderborg's home are the original windows (with ropes, pulleys, and weights) that all work well. The house has its original front door,



Original door knob  
original hardware throughout, and original five panel wood doors.

Tina says her heating bills were "awesome," they averaged about \$150. a month and there's no need for air conditioning in the summer unless it's "super humid" as the house was built with cross ventilation in mind. I was there on a warm August afternoon and it was very comfortable in their home with just the windows open.

As they loaded boxes into their truck, Tim & Tina said they will miss their home of 13 years. Tina hopes the new owners will keep the house in its original condition, preserving the charm, beauty, and character for generations to come.

## Lawrence Bannon

Lawrence Bannon was the principle of the Morocco School from 1956-1961 when he became the superintendent of the North Newton School Corporation. During his time as superintendent, the Lake Village school was built- the first school built in the NN school district since 1921. The NN High School building was also erected while he was superintendent. In addition, he opened and organized the new administration office in downtown Morocco during his time as superintendent. Mr. Bannon's second wife owned a nursery and decorated the yard of their home with beautiful flowers which can still be seen there today.

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## Aladdin Readi-Cut Houses

It is believed that the Vanderborg's home is indeed a kit home. I was told it was a Sears Kit Home by several people. I think most people refer to all kit homes as "Sears Kit Houses" like most people call tissues "Kleenexes." After much research, I believe the Vanderborg home is an Aladdin "Marsden" kit home.

Aladdin Readi-Cut Homes was based out of Bay City, Michigan and began offering complete kit homes by mail order in 1906. They are believed to be the first company to offer complete pre-numbered "kit" homes by mail. By 1916, Aladdin was publishing 100+ page full color catalogs complete with hard covers. They offered several styles of homes which changed each year to reflect current housing trends. Between 1910 and 1940, they offered 450 different models of homes.

Aladdin went out of business in 1981, having sold approximately 75,000 kit homes during the 75 years they were in business.

## Backward Glance By Gerald Born

### Jim Johnson's Blacksmith Shop

Tim Storey recently purchased the Gibson Repair Shop, formerly the Printy building, and before Printy had connected the Harris Creamery (later an implement business) and Jim Johnson's blacksmith shop into one complex, adding a central connecting building between them, there

were two buildings in the complex. Jim Johnson's blacksmith shop was the long building to the north of the complex. The Harris Creamery was the brick building to the south.

During the past couple of weeks, the front of the blacksmith building, which was sadly in need of repair has been removed and reconstructed by Dale Wynn. As Dale and his crew worked their magic removing the old bricks, cleaning off the mortar and relaying them, a flood of memories came rushing back with each brick, since the old shop was one of my childhood haunts, as we lived across the street from the blacksmith shop.

When we are small our universe is very limited, and so it was with me before the beginning of the Second World War. We had just recently moved into the house on the southwest corner of Beaver and Clay streets, the current residence of Pam Gossett. I had just turned four at the time. We called it the Cox house, for it was owned by Lawson and Eva (Herriman) Cox, who had moved to Enos to open a filling station and cafe. My world consisted of that small block with its family residences and a couple of nearby businesses. To the west lived Charley and Myrtle (Murphey) Russell. Charley was very old and not too well. He reminded me of one of the men on the box of Smith Brothers Cough Drops, for he had a long beard, just like they had. Mertie, who I called "Russell" always, had fresh baked cookies or a cake that she offered when I would visit with her, and she talked to me as though I were an adult, which made me feel very good. Diagonally on the northeast corner lived Sam and

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Margaret (Kain) Herron. Sam, too, was up in years and not very active. Margaret, who I called “Herron” would allow me to tag along with her as we hunted the wild asparagus and morel mushrooms that grew along the railroad track of the old C.A.S. In fact this track became one of my favorite haunts, for it always held surprises and treasures. Going in a northwesterly direction one could reach the north end of town where the quaint log house of Mrs. McConnehay was located. Along the way I would pass the Dexter House and the place where Mrs. Minnie (Harshbarger) Reagon lived. She and her husband, Milo, had lived next door to my grandparents when they were on the farm so I often stopped to chat. When I went in the opposite direction heading southeast I first came to the coal and gravel bins owned by the lumberyard. These concrete structures, which were open to the elements, held tons of coal, building gravel, sand and other wonderful materials that held the fascination of a child for hours.

Before reaching State Street, there was the elevator on the east side of the tracks and the lumberyard on the west side along with the old depot. Although the line was almost defunct by the time we moved (though I do remember a couple of steam engines that came through), occasionally a “doodle-bug” would appear. This strange looking contraption was a small open four wheeled vehicle propelled by two men pumping a two-handed see-saw that gave power to move it on the tracks. I never did know what they were looking for, perhaps checking the

tracks for repairs.

The center of my universe, however, was Jim Johnson’s blacksmith shop which was located just south of Mrs. Kain’s house on the east side of Clay Street. Mary Kain was Margaret Herron’s mother. It was located in an old cement block building that I thought had always been there. I was fascinated by the noises, sights and smells that emulated from the building. I could see the yellow sparks fly as red hot iron was struck on the anvil. The rhythmic stroke of the hammer could be heard from our house across the street. I don’t remember how I happened to venture into the place, but probably my curiosity just got the best of me and one day I overcame my shyness and just walked in and asked if I could watch.



Jim, a big barrel of a man, whose arms had grown immense with the swinging of the hammer, looked at me and pointed to an old

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metal chair that stood near the door. He was a man of few words and seldom spoke to me, but I sensed that he didn't mind me being there and was glad to have some company. He just went on with his work and left me to enjoy the sights, sounds and smells of the place. In the northeast corner of the room was a raised forge that he kept going all day. Over it was a hood that carried the smoke and fumes to the outside. In front of the forge stood the anvil placed on a wooden block that raised it to a convenient height for working. From the ceiling hung the pliers, pincers, rods and tools that he used in handling the red hot metal. Nearby was a huge vat of water used to cool the iron metal.

Another forge was located on the floor and was used to heat larger and heavier pieces that could not be raised to the height of his other forge. It was not used often, but it was obviously needed. From hooks and bars overhead hung winches and pulleys used on larger objects that were too heavy to be handled by just one man.

Being a modern blacksmith, Jim Johnson also had acetylene torches with which he could weld metals. That was about his only accommodation to modern ways, for in every other facet of his shop, it was like stepping into a shop of 50 or a 100 years ago.

The interior of the blacksmith shop was dark and foreboding. Everywhere you looked there was black, from the charcoal to the iron tools that had grown even darker with the years. The leather apron and the boots Jim wore were black.

Although the place had a lot of clutter, it was swept clean every night and the work area freed of obstacles, so that Jim could move from one station to another, which he did with great skill. It was almost like watching a carefully choreographed dance. He went effortlessly from the forge, where he pumped air into the fire till it started to glow red, picked up the piece he was working on, carefully laid it on the forge, putting it into the reddest part of the fire and waited until it too glowed red, and then to the anvil where he shaped or repaired the part that was defective. The sparks would fly from the object as he struck it with his hammer or shaped it with other tools. Then he would quickly immerse it in a bath of water which hissed as a puff of steam escaped from the cooled object and it returned to its original color. An acrid sulfur smell filled the air.

**(Continued on page 10)**

To my young mind this place was magic and I visited the shop whenever possible.

Since there was an Amish settlement in Jackson Township, the sight of buggies drawn by a single horse was a familiar sight on the streets of Morocco. A hitching rail behind the Baptist church provided a place for their tether, especially on Saturday when they came to town to shop. They wore rather somber colors. The women dressed in black with wonderful blue aprons and large black bonnets, and the men always wore broad brim hats and had suspenders that fastened to buttons. They were frequent

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visitors at Jim Johnson's blacksmith shop, for their horses needed to be shod and their buggies needed repair.

To the south of the entrance were two large doors that could be opened to admit a vehicle. I remember them bringing in a buggy and jacking it up to remove a wheel. The floor forge had been made ready for this job and Jim proceeded to remove the metal band that went around the wheel. Putting it in the floor forge he proceeded to heat the ring and to repair the break that had appeared in it. While it was still hot, but not to the point of burning the wood, he slid it back around the wheel and allowed it to cool so that it contracted and held fast to the wheel. The process of shoeing a horse was just as interesting. Jim had a wonderful way with horses. They seemed to know that he was going to make their jobs easier. They held their hooves very still as he took them into his firm hands, lifted a leg with one hand and placed it in his lap, cradled it in his apron, and proceeded to remove the nails from the shoe. Never once did I see a horse try to kick him. Often times he would have to trim excess from their hooves smooth the nicks and make them ready for a new shoe. Just as often a repair was needed for the shoe and it would go into the forge to be carefully heated and new, metal added for the repair. Or he might make a shoe from scratch and that was the most fun to watch, for it brought into play all of his skill and his craft. Shaping the curve around the pointed end of the anvil called for many tools and a good eye and steady hand in order to get the proper shape.

James Christopher Johnson was born March 24, 1885 at Lake Village, the son of Christian and Ellen (Whitcomb) Johnson and was reared in the Beaver City community. A few years after he married Minnie Zoborosky, the daughter of George and Mrs. Minerva (McCulloch) Zoborosky in 1908 they moved to Walkerton and he established a blacksmith shop there, returning to Morocco in 1920. He continued the blacksmith trade at Morocco until he retired in about 1950. He then worked part time at Schneider for a while. Jim and Minnie, who was a fragile woman with bird-like features, lived very modestly in the house on the southwest corner of Main and North streets in a house once occupied by Orley Johnson, who was unrelated. Their house was always very nicely kept and they always had a big garden at the rear of the house. They lived a very quiet life, but I have met few who seemed to be as satisfied with the work they were doing and seemed to enjoy every minute of their work.

They had two daughters, Miss Nettie Johnson of Chicago, and Mrs. Flora Roadruck of Zionsville and one foster daughter, Mrs. Mavis Best of Argo. Anna Larson of Morocco was his sister. Minnie came from a large family, which will be discussed at a later time. Jim Johnson died after falling from the roof of his house where he was making repairs. He was 71.

**Government In Action  
Morocco Town Board Meeting Highlights  
November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009**

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- Rick McCann was not present.
- Cub Scouts, Gabe Gonczy, Lane Deal, and Calden Spiker, of Pack 3159, Wolf Den # 1 lead the Pledge of Allegiance earning them a bead. Four beads earn them a badge.
- John Sturgill reports that they have been working on the layout of the new system for the Hydrant & Main project one block at a time. The finished layout should be finished by the end of the week and will include CAD drawings of the entire system. In the process, they found drain tiles they didn't know they had.
- John Sturgill reassured the town that if a road is harmed during the project, it will be replaced/reconstructed. He explained that the crews are paid by the linear foot thus reducing the need for costly road repairs.
- The final design should be finished and approved by the end of November to submit for permits and approval with Rural Development.
- Bidding on the project should begin in December with a 30 day bidding window.
- Steve Egly, Battleground, Indiana Town Council President, returned with a quote of \$5,200 to digitize the Town of Morocco's ordinances. The quote was based on 472 pages to convert. This was tabled until next meeting to make sure they had everything included.
- Conservation Officer Matt Tholen discussed the National Archery in School Program (NASP) with the Town Board. It is a program to bring a youth archery program to Morocco. The cost of the program includes all materials and training needed to run a successful archery program including 12 bows, five dozen arrows, five

targets, and instruction for the archery teachers. The program costs \$3,050 but the National Wild Turkey Federation has a \$1,250 grant available to help with costs. The board voted to approve the program. A committee is needed to help run the program. Please contact the Town Hall if you are interested.

- The USDA audited the Sewage Plant, it went “really well” said Town Manager Randy Decker.
- College street is to be paved by the end of the month.
- A reverse 911 meeting was to be held later in the week at the government center. (To call people in an emergency).
- On Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>, there was a water main break on Grove Street which has since been repaired. While it was being repaired, 63 residents were on a boil water order.
- Town Marshal Shuan Wynn had 28 calls for service, made 1 arrest, issued 5 warnings, and 2 citations.
- Shaun Wynn asked for a donation to the Craig Blann Memorial Scholarship Fund that was established to help college bound Newton County High School Seniors seeking to further their education in the Criminal Justice field. The town donated \$500 to this cause.
- The town is looking into a golf cart ordinance.
- New lights were installed on the “Welcome to Morocco” signs. They are energy saving bulbs.
- The Planning Commissioner reports that a local builder wants to build a home that is only 872 square feet (the state mandated minimum is 960 square feet). They don't want to turn away new growth but the minimums must be followed. Exceptions are rare and have only been granted

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once in Newton county.

- A Building Commissioner (pays \$3,000 a year) and planning commissioner (pays \$25 per monthly meeting) are needed, please contact the Town Hall for more information.

- An unsafe building ordinance was introduced to the board. It is similar to Indiana code 367-9.

- Resident Betty Carlson expressed concern with the parking at the NE corner of State & Clay Streets near the thrift store. When larger vehicles are parked there, smaller cars can not see to back out. Betty also expressed concern about drivers “racing” down West Street at College. She wondered if a stop sign could be installed to slow traffic at that corner.

-The Town voted to approve funding to have fireworks at homecoming again this year.

- Newton County Sheriff's Deputy David Hoaks requested a donation from the town to help the Newton County Police Department pay for a second K-9 unit. The initial costs for the purchase of the dog, training, and special equipment for the police car would cost between \$16,000 and \$20,000. The town donated \$2,000 as did Mt. Ayr. Deputy Hoaks is a Morocco resident and the dog will reside with him 24/7.

- The Masonic Lodge (who were not present) asked for a donation of \$13,000 to help with, what were believed to be costs of roof and other repairs to their building. This request was tabled until the next meeting.

On Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup> (possibly at 7 p.m.), a Rise 20/20 meeting is scheduled at the Town Hall. I encourage you to attend this meeting as it is focused on ways to make Morocco a better place to call home. Come share your ideas and suggestions and get fired up for Morocco! Please call the Town Hall for more information.

\* \* \*

Taco nights are back at the American Legion Post 146 in Morocco! Wednesday evenings from 5:30-7:30 p.m. tacos are served at the Legion for \$1.50 each. The Legion is also in need of volunteers to help with taco night. If you are interested in helping please call 219-285-6286.

\* \* \*

The 1<sup>st</sup> annual Craig Blann Memorial Scholarship Fund Hog Rost, Silent Auction, and New Year's Eve Party will take place on December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009 at the Beaver Township Community Center in Morocco.

Dinner will be served from 6-8 p.m. In addition to dinner, the silent auction will continue throughout the evening, music will be provided by DJ Chad Wynn, there will be door prizes, a 50/50 drawing, and a champagne toast at the stroke of midnight. Admission is \$15 per person or \$25 per couple. Please call Shaun Wynn at 219-869-1777 or Janet Blann (days) 219-613-5431 (evenings) 219-285-2760. Tickets will also be available at the door.

## Community Calendar

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Proceeds will go to the Craig Blann Scholarship Fund for college bound Newton County High School Seniors seeking to further their education in the field of Criminal Justice.

## Transitions

### Almeta Mae Atkinson

Almeta Mae Atkinson, age 82 of Morocco passed away at Rensselaer Care Center on Thursday, October 15, 2009. She was born in Hammond, Indiana on November 15, 1926 a daughter of the late Nick and Ricca (Couse) Ferguson and had been educated at the Hammond Public Schools. She had resided in Morocco for 57 years moving there from Hammond. On July 13, 1952 in Morocco she married Bernard Atkinson. He died on January 31, 2002. She was an Avon Representative for over 35 years retiring in 2007. She was affiliated with the Morocco United Methodist Church and was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary for over 36 years. Almeta helped to start the "Methodist Thrift Shop" and was a former member of the Newton County Home Ec. Clubs, the Bunko Club and served in many church activities. A son, Terry A. Atkinson of Morocco survives. Her husband and parents preceded her in death. Visitation will be held on Monday, October 19th from 5 until 7 P.M. at Steinke Funeral Home Brunton Chapel in Morocco with funeral services at 7 P.M., Pastor Jack Snell officiating. Interment will be at a later date at Oakland Cemetery in Morocco. Family suggests memorials to that of Donor's Choice.

### Robert W. "Bob" Stone

Robert W. "Bob" Stone, age 81, of Lake Village, Indiana passed away on Thursday, October 29, 2009. Robert is survived by six children: Robert W. (Lynn) Stone II of Lake Village, Roxanne M. (Scott) Wortley of Akron, IN, Rebecca A. (Jeffrey) Spurgeon of Demotte, Douglas E. Stone of Lake Village, Raymond E. (Lori) Stone of St. Charles, MO and Kenneth L. (Robin) Stone of Dyer; 15 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; two sisters: Barbara Krugar of Bradenton, FL and Joann Whaley of Ft. Lauderdale, FL; and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his wife, Marion in 2005; two daughters: Deborah Ann Stone in 1952 and Jessica Ann Stone in 1957; two brothers: Don in 1969 and Kenneth in 2002; two sisters: Marge Woodman and Helen Hagen, both in 2009. Mass of Christian Burial will take place on Tuesday, November 3, at 11:00 a.m., at St. Augusta Catholic Church in Lake Village, IN with Father Stephen Snoich officiating and burial following at Lake Village Cemetery in Lake Village, IN. Visitation will be held on Monday from 3:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at Sheets Funeral Home & Cremation Services, 604 E. Commercial Ave., Lowell, IN. Mr. Stone was a retired pipefitter with Local # 597 in Chicago and an avid bluegrass musician. He was a member of St. Augusta Catholic Church, Lake Village Grange #2386 where he served as Master, and American Legion Post #375, all in Lake Village.

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\$2.00 per issue

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Yvonne Gibson, Editor and Publisher

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



Photo provided by Gerald Born

\* \* \*

1917 Morocco High School Football Team:  
Top Row, far right: (Coach?) Ross Hagen (Betty Kessler's father).  
Top Row, fifth: (Captain?) Chester Travis  
Middle Row, far right: Lloyd Brunton  
Bottom Row, far left: Clay Baird

To my surprise and delight, Mr. Ron Davis shared some wonderful vintage photos with me which I have included below. (The picture of the 1917 Morocco High School Football Team was provided by Gerald Born, all others are courtesy of Mr. Ron Davis.)

\* \* \*

## This and That

Snowbirds, please make sure I have your correct winter address along with the months you would like your issues sent there. I try to publish around the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month so that issues generally arrive between the 16<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

(I found an article in the November 1917 Morocco Courier that lists the following on the MHS football team: Lean Moore, Van Smith, LaVerne Henry, Walter McGregor, Victor Carlson, Earl Doxzen, Raymond Rust, Lloyd Deardurff, Ernest Purkey, Charles Bassett, and Coach Walk Atkinson, recognize anyone?)

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1956 Bowling Team: Helen Hillis, Helen Warne, Mike Warne, Lela Cox, and Sue Davis.



1936 Enos School

The back reads:  
Ronald Davis  
Second Grade, 7 years and 7 months.  
Phil Merrill, 1936  
First grade- Audrey Bingham, ?, Norma

Bingham, ?, ?, Donnie Styck (and below the question marks is: Betty Harper)  
Second Grade, Melissa Perkins, Bob Lomax, Donnie Severs, Don Harper, Ronald Davis, Floyd McMillian, ?  
Third Grade, Helen Styck, Dayne Griffin, Phyllis Potts, Babe Severs, ?, ?, Johnny Brunton  
Front Row, Fourth Grade, ?, Glenwood Perkins, Mick Bennett  
Enos School



Enos School 1935

The back reads:  
Ronnie Davis Enos School  
Front row left to right:  
Don Harper, George Ainworth, RL Davis, Boomer Baker, Donnie Severs, John Brunton  
2<sup>nd</sup> Row, Melissa Perkins, Helen Styck, Phyllis Potts, ?, Mick Bennet, Babe Severs, ?, Ruth Baker  
3<sup>rd</sup> row, Bob Lomax, Mike Bennit, ?, ?, ?, ?, Glenwood Perkins, Dewayne Griffith  
1935  
(I left the spellings as they appear on the photos)

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\* \* \*

If you have older/vintage pictures of Morocco or pictures that are Morocco related, please share them with us. We will publish them in the *Morocco Times* as space allows. We will promptly return your original photos to you or you can e-mail them to us.

\* \* \*

**Back issues** of the *Morocco Times* are available. If you are looking for a certain issue, please let me know. I have most back issues in stock at limited quantities. The cost for each back issue is \$2.00 and I will mail them to you with the next issue of the *Morocco Times*.

\* \* \*

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## Jessie

By: Bradley S. Hartman  
Chapter IV

She thought it was the most wonderful thing in the world to be able to lay in a tub filled with warm water. The way the water sparkled and moved under the room's fluorescent light, reminded her of stars on a crisp winter's night. The lapping of the water against the tub made her smile as a fading thought of a sandy beach briefly brought a feeling of Déjà Vu with it. She knew this sound. It was familiar to her in more than a casual way. People floated through her thoughts following a young man who was saying something she couldn't hear even though his words seemed important to them.

With a pull of the chain she listened as the water gurgled and burped down the drain until she was seated in an empty tub before she got out and dried herself. Walking into the bedroom, she opened the closet and found a dozen pairs of jeans hanging next to a dozen plain blouses in various colors as well as the same number of T-shirts folded on the shelf above.

Her skin was flawless and pale as she stood there looking at her newfound belongings, never thinking it was unusual they were there as she grabbed a T-shirt and jeans. Going to the tiny dresser near the room's door, she took out a pair of white underwear, which was the only color choice there and never once was shocked to find a Dove walking across its top.

At the sound of bells floating on the air, Jessie walked to the kitchen and grabbed a cold bottle of water before heading out to the world of Morocco. Stepping out of the musty hallway to her new apartment, she felt the sun's rays bathe her in its warmth and on the breeze another chime from the bells. Following the breeze, she found herself in front of a large building with a sign in front of it proclaiming it as the 'House of God', which made her smile as she heard voices coming from within.

Upon entering she only found half of what the sign promised outside as she saw the house all around her, yet couldn't see God or hear him in the words of the man shouting from the stage where everyone was looking. She found it peculiar that all these people would prefer to be enclosed in a building listening to a man's perspective on God, when God had given them a beautiful day outside and a million examples of his love. Stepping back outside, shaking her head in wonder, Jessie raised her eyes to the sky and spoke softly.

“Father, why do they not see and listen to your gifts? Why do they prefer being kept inside a man made building when you have created a world such as this? Are they unaware Father that you are everywhere and your words and wishes are in every one of them? Why do they not listen to their own hearts to find you instead of someone on a stage?” With eyes closed, the look of confusion on her face turned into a smile. “I will try, promise.”

“Jessie?” At the sound of her name she turned to see Yvonne coming out of the church.

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“Why’d you leave?”

“I needed to talk to God.” She stated simply.

“And you couldn’t do that inside the...”

“I wanted to be sure he heard me and since I knew he wasn’t in there, I came outside where I knew he’d be.” Jessie smiled as they walked away from the building. “Besides with that man talking so loud, I’d never be able to hear him in there anyway.” Yvonne found herself holding back a laugh at her words.

Don’t miss Chapter V  
Of  
Bradley S. Hartman’s  
First Epic Serial Fantasy  
“JESSIE”  
Coming in December

All characters appearing in this work are fictitious. Any resemblance to real persons, living or dead is purely coincidental.

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