

# HENRY COUNTY 200

1822-2022



WHY?

WHEN?

WHERE?

HOW LONG?

HOW MUCH?

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## Why a 200th Anniversary Celebration?

White settlers were in our area of Indiana prior to 1822. They worked well alongside the Native Americans. In 1816, Indiana became a state, and the Natives were moved westward. Settlers here, such as Asahel Woodward and Allen Shepherd, gave some of their land to form a county seat. Henry County was surveyed and came into existence on June 1, 1822. There is no better way to celebrate our 200th anniversary than with an epic celebration. In 1972, the county pulled off a weeklong extravaganza to celebrate 150 years. It is our duty to plan and execute an equally impressive year of events. A celebration of this type will have many benefits for our community. These benefits include, but are not limited to:

- \* Widespread state and national publicity to show prospective industry and neighboring towns that Henry County is a live and growing community.
- \* Many new civic leaders will be developed in such a community-wide event.
- \* While the celebration truly will be a fun project, it will also renew real civic awareness to make Henry County a more wonderful place to live.
- \* Through mass participation we will meet many new friends and build more harmonious relations among our citizens.
- \* Retail sales will be increased. Celebrations properly handled draw big crowds and people spend money. What is good for our retailers has a beneficial effect on overall community affairs.
- \* We will teach a real lesson in Americanism. Our local history will be taken from the pages of articles written and become a living memory for all our citizens, especially our children.
- \* We will dramatize the future. A celebration focuses attention on need for future improvements.
- \* We will help local projects and inspire confidence with financial success.

## When a 200th Anniversary?

Henry County officially became a county on June 1, 1822. Tentatively, we would like to celebrate all year long in 2022 with smaller township events and the standard town festivals throughout the year and a week offering different events in June 2022 (May 30-June 5, kicking off with the Memorial Day parade?).

## How We Go About It

In 1972, a corporation was formed to direct the Sesquicentennial. Do we form a 501(c)3 nonprofit for our Bicentennial?

Is 7 days too much? The real question should be is 7 days enough. We have a great template to go by from 50 years ago. Do we have the manpower and resources? The possibilities are endless, but we need a great number of great people to lead and support. We can pull together and present a week's worth of celebrating this awesome county, take a look back at what has happened and look forward at what is to become. The key word is "celebration." A 200th Anniversary deserves an epic celebration!

Possible events:

Parade	Pageant	Homecoming Day	Children's Day
Ladies' Day	Pioneer Day	Business/Industry Day	
American Heritage Day		Music Concert	Fireworks
Then/Now Windows	Retail Sales Events	Festival/Fair	
Wall Art/Mural	Outdoor Church observances	Sports/Games	
School Day	Cruise-In	Outdoor Movie	

## What sounds fun to you?

## Where the Money Comes From

Being properly organized and managed, this celebration has the potential to raise much-needed funds. Thankfully, the Indiana Historical Society has funding options in the form of their Heritage Support Grants, which we can apply for in March 2021. The City of New Castle/EDC has some money to help get the ball rolling. We will need financial support (working capital) to begin planning in earnest.

Ideas for initial working capital:

Sponsorships

Memberships

Donations

Loan

## NOTES