

Spread the Spirit...Happy 190th Birthday Hancock County!

It seems almost daily that I attend meetings where I am reminded of how important it is to keep placemaking a top priority for our community. With a vibrant economy and excellent schools, our county is rapidly growing in numbers. To assist in the effort, HCCF encourages citizens to grow in their appreciation for the county in which they live, its rich history, and the desire to strengthen its future through giving and service during its birthday month of March.

Please join citizens of all ages by participating in one or more of the following ways:

Learn and Appreciate! Hancock County has a very interesting history! Did you know that Hancock County was named for John Hancock, prominent signer of the Declaration of Independence, and established on March 1, 1828? Visit the Historical Society display at Chapel in the Park, pick up a copy of the locally authored book, *Images of America Hancock County Indiana*, at HCCF's office or the Library.

Encourage! Take a moment to talk with your children and grandchildren about their home county, and be sure to ask them what they've been learning at school. This month, HCCF's youth board has delivered curriculum relevant to the history and the location of Hancock County to teachers in all schools. Trivia, flag coloring sheets, and information regarding service and philanthropy is included.

Give Where You Live, Grow Where You Live! The appreciation of Hancock County's history and identity is tied closely to the concept of investing in its future through the Spirit of Community Funds at HCCF. These permanent grantmaking vehicles allow organizations that serve our community to grow in strength and in their ability to deliver programs now and for generations to come. Visit our website to learn more.

Show your pride! HCCF would love to provide you a beautiful Hancock County flag. If you are interested in displaying one at your home or workplace, please contact us!

Know Your Hancock County Flag Facts:

The Hancock County Flag, designed by a Leadership Hancock County Class in 2004, is steeped in meaning. The colors and symbols all reflect the proud heritage of our community.

GREEN + YELLOW = *County's Agricultural Heritage*

WHITE STRIPE = *National Road (US 40)*

CENTER WHITE DISK = *Progress & Prosperity*

9 GOLD STARS = *The Nine Townships*

1828 = *The year the County was formed*