



QUALITY OF LIFE BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

The Bicentennial

During the year 2008, the City of Herculaneum will celebrate the 200th anniversary of its founding by Moses Austin and Samuel Hammond.

In January 2004, a group of citizens approached the Herculaneum Board of Alderpersons asking to form a Bicentennial planning committee. The Board of Alderpersons unanimously approved the formation of a planning committee and agreed to allocate funds in the budget to support the committee.



The Bicentennial Committee held their first meeting in September of 2004 and began the discussion of which events and activities should be included in the celebration. The committee also elected two co-chairpersons, a treasurer and a secretary. The core committee of sixteen current residents and past residents has continued to meet on a monthly basis.

The planning committee has established a web site (www.herculaneum2008.com) to provide information

The regarding bicentennial plans and committee sponsored

activities. The planning committee has also selected a Bicentennial logo design to be displayed on all Bicentennial publications, memorabilia and other materials related to the celebration. Eventual plans call for the logo to be placed on all City correspondence, City-owned vehicles and other signage.

The planning committee has tentatively scheduled a four-day celebration to culminate the Bicentennial activities in October of 2008. Several ideas for inclusion in the four-day celebration have been suggested by committee members. Included are such events as parades, 3K & 10K runs, golf tournaments, car shows, fireworks display, contests, dinners, dances and other typical events often scheduled during celebrations of this type. Several of the events that occurred during the City's 175th Birthday celebration in 1983 will be incorporated into the Bicentennial.



Governor Dunklin's Grave

One of the major projects associated with the bicentennial is the publication of a history of Herculaneum book. The committee has contracted with Bell Books of Rich Hill, Missouri to publish the book. Plans call for the book to feature a written history of the City, numerous family histories, memorials and dedications. A History Book subcommittee has been formed to oversee the publication and sale of the book. As of November 2005, order forms and requests for history submissions have been mailed to approximately 1500 current and past residents of Herculaneum.

During 2005, the Bicentennial Committee has sponsored a four-day carnival and a trivia night in an effort to raise additional funds. During 2006, the committee is also planning to sponsor a circus, more trivia nights, music concerts and a carnival. The Bicentennial committee will also participate in other events in the area to promote the 2008 celebration.

Current plans call for the production of commemorative coins, postcard booklets, a cook book, commemorative postmarked cachets, calendars, shirts and caps and other Bicentennial commemorative memorabilia. A request has been made to the United States Postal Service for a special postal cancellation to be made available during the four-day celebration.



Walking trail in Herculaneum

During 2006, various subcommittees will be formed to coordinate the participation of the City's churches, schools and service organizations. The planning committee hopes to have every organization in the City participating in the Bicentennial celebration.

It is the goal of the Bicentennial Committee to sponsor events throughout 2008 leading up to the final celebration in October 2008.