



Museum of the Berkeley Springs

A Message from the President...

It has been a challenging year for the Museum.

While we're thrilled that the state of West Virginia has chosen to invest a considerable amount of money upgrading and renovating the 200-year-old building in which the Museum is located, that work severely limited our activities in 2019. The Museum was closed most of the year, not able to open until September. And then there was the cleaning to remove dust and debris. In the couple months the Museum has been back open on weekends, we've been able to tell our story to hundreds of visitors and groups including one from the Smithsonian Institution.

This coming year - 2020 - promises to be a blockbuster for our newly painted Museum. We plan to add or expand exhibits highlighting two historical superstars with links to our area - Daniel Morgan and David Hunter Strother. Once complete, they'll add to a Trifecta of Generals along with George Washington.

On behalf of the Museum Board of Directors, I invite and encourage you to visit the Museum often through this significant year in the history of our town and county. Bring your friends, neighbors and family.

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"David Hunter Strother was the most famous illustrator and travel writer of the 19th century, known to millions. He was our most illustrious resident and landowner since George Washington."

The Museum of the Berkeley Springs is open weekends from late March until mid-June, daily mid-June through mid-August, and weekends from mid-August through late November.

Hours: 11am-4pm.

Private tours are available by appointment.

DAVID HUNTER STROTHER "PORTE CRAYON"

The Museum is honored and grateful to receive financial assistance from the Strother Family Foundation, coordinated by Strother descendant George Fenwick, to expand and enhance our existing Porte Crayon exhibit.

The Museum has received digital versions of more than 15 Strother illustrations of Berkeley Springs and its people from the Strother Collection at West Virginia University. One of the images is Mountaineer Rankin which Strother claimed was his favorite; we plan it as a life-size stand-alone. In addition to the images, there will be a timeline of Strother's life and text describing his significance both to the local area and the nation. Our banner headline will read: David Hunter Strother was the most famous illustrator and travel writer of the 19th century, known to millions. He was our most illustrious resident and landowner since George Washington.

Once completed, the Museum will host a reception and a talk about Strother.

Morgan County Bicentennial

Morgan County was established on February 9, 1820. The Museum has taken the lead, along with the County Commission and a number of other locales and organizations in staging a yearlong celebration.

The Museum plans a Morgan County exhibit that will include a timeline of the two centuries as well as information about the county's namesake, Daniel Morgan. Among numerous other activities are a series of oral history recordings and video documentation of various events. July 6 has been designated by the County Commission as Morgan County Day with a public celebration in Berkeley Springs State Park.

The Museum has planned a series of Bicentennial lectures monthly from April through November to be held at the Ice House. The lecture series focuses on economic sectors over history that impacted the culture and life of the county. The list includes hotels, railroads, tanneries, sand mining, Civil War, and tomato growing and canning. One of prime lectures is with Albert Zambone, author of the 2018 biography: Daniel Morgan, a Revolutionary Life.



GEN. DANIEL MORGAN,

FROM THE ORIGINAL PICTURE IN THE ROTUNDA OF THE CAPITOL, WASHINGTON.

Historic Roman Bathhouse Turns 200

The newly discovered Bath Trustees Minutes revealed that the generally acknowledged date for the Roman Bathhouse of 1816 was in error. The completion date of the Bathhouse was actually 1820. The Museum plans to assist Berkeley Springs State Park with its celebration through an historic lecture on the building. The Museum also plans to correct the date of the Bathhouse in several locations on the exhibit of park structures.



**Your tax deductible donation
helps us keep our doors open
and history alive.**

2020 Membership Form

- ☐ I want to support the Museum. Here's my \$15 Individual Membership donation.
- ☐ My family supports the Museum. Here's our \$25 Family Membership donation.
- ☐ I would like to be a Museum Trustee. Here is my \$150 Membership donation that will also entitle me to two free tickets to the annual Historic Gala.
- ☐ Please add me to your list of Museum Sponsors! My \$250 Membership donation also entitles me to four free tickets to the annual Historic Gala.
- ☐ Please accept this additional donation of \$_____ for the Museum Exhibit Fund.

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Museum Membership Donations may be mailed to the
Museum of the Berkeley Springs, P.O. Box 99, Berkeley Springs, WV 25411
or paid online through our website: www.MuseumoftheBerkeleySprings.com

We thank you in advance for your support and generosity.