

sold and developed into businesses or home sites. The township would grow larger with more stores and people. In 1855 Justus Bangs was the second Township Supervisor and continued to be for many years. Andrew and Mary were very busy raising nine children. This home was in their family for over 100 years. In the early 1860's Wauconda had a blacksmith shop, hotel, farm equipment store, saw and grist mill, harness shop, meat shop, stagecoach stop, a tailor and more. The towns very first business was a mercantile exchange owned by Justus Bangs until it closed in 1875. Andrew and Mary's dreams of a booming Township were coming true. Since those early days the Township has stayed strong through wars, depressions and more. Thanks Andrew and Mary for that first meeting in your home 165 years ago. Thanks for your dedication to community and government. We say to you both and your family Wauconda Township and the Wauconda Township Historical Society will do our best to preserve your home and heritage in Wauconda Township. We can be proud of what they started and know that today your Township operates as it did then in a conservative fiscally responsible way and serves the public first!

- PLEASE Look Around THE HOUSE AND ENJOY SOME TREATS!

Thankyou.

What a great night to be here! Let's try and think back to 1850, no electric, no gas, no cars, no plumbing, paths no roads, maybe weekly mail service, not much but a simple life on that first Tuesday in April in this same house! I want to say a few things in a short speech I prepared about Andrew and Mary Cook and the Township government they started at that first meeting. They came from Vermont with dreams of family and a great place to raise them. They found that in this area and purchased 380 acres and built a small log home first. They were a very special hard working couple as they built the first brick home in the township replacing their original log cabin. Or maybe they needed a bigger home to raise their nine children. So in 1850 along with the help of Mary's brother n law Justus Bangs, there is his actual safe, they held the meeting. How excited they must have been to showcase the first brick house in the township as we showcase it tonight. I am pleased and proud to be the Township Supervisor and hold another meeting here 165 years later with this Board, Andrew and Mary are smiling down on us tonight. The bricks he kiln fired here are still holding the house together. As far as the meeting I don't think it was an actual election but those who volunteered or elected each other to be part of the Township Government The town was growing in size and population. Less than 200 in 1850. These are the first officers of Wauconda Township:.....From my readings it seems as though roads and mail service are very high in importance. Andrew and Justus Bangs platted the area of Wauconda so land could be