



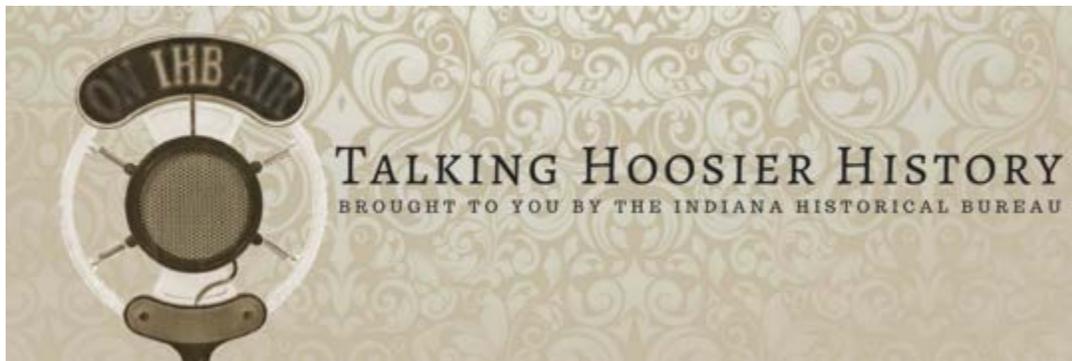
INDIANA HISTORICAL BUREAU

• PRIMARY SOURCE NEWSLETTER •



Spring 2017 | News from the Indiana Historical Bureau

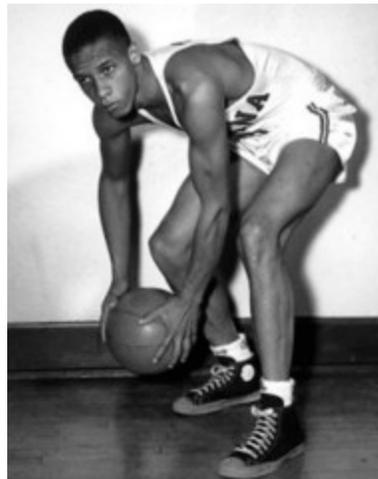
## TALKING HOOSIER HISTORY



The first episode of Talking Hoosier History was released on March 1, 2017. Talking Hoosier History is an Indiana history podcast produced by the Indiana Historical Bureau. A new episode exploring the stories of the people and events that shaped the Hoosier State is released each month. You can find Talking Hoosier History on iTunes, Stitcher, Soundcloud or on our [website](#)! Follow Talking Hoosier History on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to get live updates and behind the scenes sneak peeks in between episodes. If you like what you hear, rate and review the podcast to help us improve and grow.

### **Episode One // Bill Garrett and the Integration of IU Basketball**

In 1948, African American Hoosier Bill Garrett made his varsity debut at Indiana University, directly challenging the Big Ten ban on black players. In [Episode One](#) of Talking Hoosier History, we tell Bill Garrett's story starting with his high school basketball career where he led the Shelbyville Golden Bears to the IHSAA state basketball championship and ending with his induction into the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame.



### **Episode Two // Physicist Melba Phillips vs. the Atomic Bomb and the Cold War**

During her prestigious career, Hoosier physicist Melba Phillips developed a key quantum theory with J. Robert Oppenheimer, worked for peace in the new Atomic Age following WWII, and was persecuted as an alleged communist during the McCarthy Era. Learn more about her story in [Episode Two](#) of Talking Hoosier History.

### **Episode Three // George Washington Julian vs. Slavery**

In a career spanning half a century, radical Hoosier politician George Washington Julian worked to end slavery in the United States. Working through various political parties, he maintained his abolitionist views in the face of adversity and helped push the Lincoln administration towards the 13th Amendment. Learn more about Julian in [Episode Three](#) of Talking Hoosier History.



## **STATE HISTORICAL MARKER UPDATES**

### **Apply for a new marker**

# APPLY TODAY



APPLICATIONS FOR 2018 MARKERS NOW BEING ACCEPTED!  
APPLICATIONS DUE JUNE 23

Is there a person, event, or organization that you would like to see commemorated with an Indiana state historical marker? **Make sure you submit your application by th June 23 deadline.** Applicants will be notified about whether or not their topics were approved by the Indiana Library and Historical Board in mid-August.

For information about the application process or to download a copy of the 2017-2018 Marker Application, see <http://in.gov/history/3926.htm>.

Just a reminder: IHB has condensed the application process this year. We eliminated the Intent to Apply prospectus, and made it a one-step application process, so it's easier than ever to apply!

Please see our marker [Guidelines and Procedures](#) for an overview of the marker application process, costs, and information on topic requirements and restrictions. Don't forget to check out our [Marker Research Checklist](#) when preparing the application for suggestions on where to locate primary source material to support the application.

Feel free to [email us](#) if you have any questions as you are preparing the application.

## Spring 2017 Marker Dedications



Thanks to everyone who attended one of our marker dedications this spring! We dedicated four new markers in March and April and we were thrilled to see so many people come out to commemorate this Indiana history with us. The four markers that were dedicated included:

- [Indians Murdered 1824](#) in Pendleton (Madison Co.)
- [Passenger Pigeon Extinction](#) in Metamora (Franklin Co.)
- [Integrating Basketball](#) in Bloomington (Monroe Co.)
- [Branch McCracken in Monrovia](#) (Morgan Co.)

Interested in learning more about these important topics in Hoosier history? See the links above for additional information about each. You can also read blog posts written by IHB staff about the extinction of the [passenger pigeon](#), [Bill Garrett](#) and the integration of Big Ten basketball, and IU basketball player and coach [Branch McCracken](#).

## Upcoming Marker Dedications

We have several other dedication ceremonies coming up over the next few months and we'd love to see you at them! All dedications are free and open to the public. Follow us on [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#) to learn about upcoming events!

Upcoming dedications include:

- Little Sisters of the Poor (Indianapolis, Marion Co.) – Saturday, May 20 at 10:00 a.m.
- Steele Home, Studio, Gardens (Nashville, Brown Co.) – Saturday, May 20 at 2:00 p.m.
- Adrian Parsons, Indiana's Soybean Pioneer (Avon, Hendricks Co.) – Saturday, June 10
- [Kenneth Rexroth](#) (South Bend, St. Joseph Co.) – Thursday, June 29
- Better Homes of South Bend (South Bend, St. Joseph Co.) – TBD
- Red Skelton (Vincennes, Knox Co.) TBD
- Creek Chub Bait Company (Garrett, DeKalb Co.) – Saturday, August 12
- Erwin G. "Cannonball" Baker (Indianapolis, Marion Co.) – TBD

## Marker Survey

It's that time of year again! We're hoping the rain finally lets up so that we can begin work on our annual marker survey. This year we are focusing our efforts on the North region of the state. This includes the following counties:

Lake, Porter, LaPorte, St. Joseph, Elkhart, LaGrange, Steuben, Newton, Jasper, Starke, Marshall, Kosciusko, Noble, DeKalb, Pulaski, Fulton, Whitley, Allen, Benton, White, Cass, Miami, Wabash, Huntington, Wells, Adams, Warren, Tippecanoe, Carroll, and Howard

If you live in these counties or will be traveling through them this summer, please [send us photos](#) of the state historical markers you come across! Don't have a phone or camera on you? Not a problem! We'd still love to hear if the markers in this region are standing or are in need of repair. To find a listing of the markers in each county, see:

<http://www.in.gov/history/markers/3819.htm>

## CELEBRATING GEORGE W. JULIAN'S 200TH BIRTHDAY



George W. Julian was born on May 5, 1817 in Centerville, Indiana. For his 200th birthday, the Indiana Historical Bureau collaborated with the Richmond/Wayne County Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Centerville-Center Township Public Library, the Irvington Historical Society, and the Irvington Branch of the Indianapolis Public Library to celebrate. In the photo to the left, see State Representative Dan Forestal introduces House Concurrent Resolution 52 commemorating Julian's birthday.

### Birthday party at the Irvington Library

On May 6, 2017 IHB, the Irvington Historical Society, and the Irvington Branch of the Indianapolis Public Library hosted a celebration of George W Julian at the library. IHB director Chandler Lighty, IHB staff member Jill Weiss, and Marion County Historian Steve Barnett gave talks about Julian and his legacy followed by some lively conversation and refreshments. It was great seeing so many people



take time on a Saturday afternoon to learn something new!

## BLOGGING HOOSIER HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

IHB staff, along with several guest bloggers, have been working hard to bring you fantastic and informative posts for our blog, [Blogging Hoosier History](#). Here are some highlights:



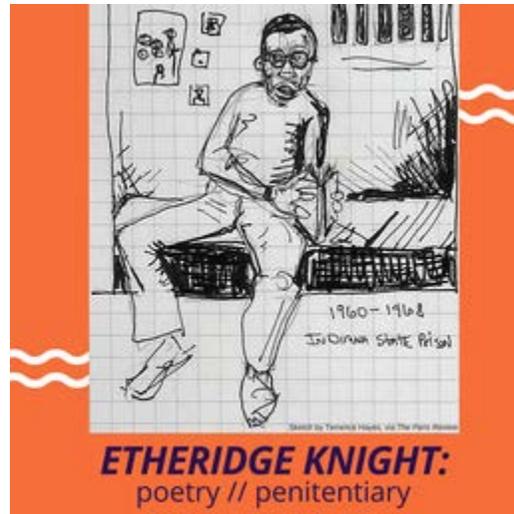
### Ongoing Bee Line Railroad Series

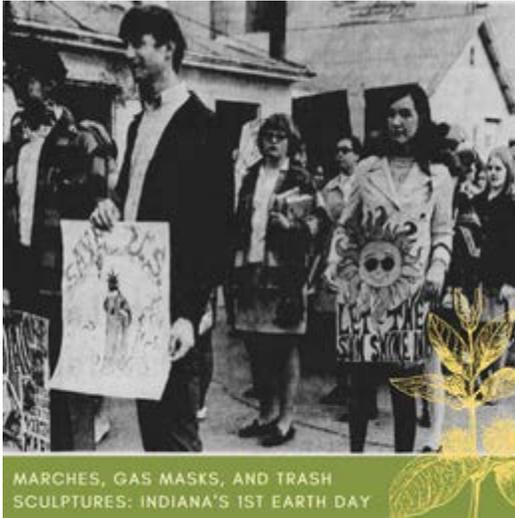
Guest blogger Andrew Olson has been writing a multi-part blog series exploring the rise and fall of the Bee Line Railroad in Indiana. Start your trip through the series with "[The Bee Line Railroad: At the Dawn of the Midwest Railroad Era](#)." There are currently five installments of the series available and three more are forthcoming.

### Etheridge Knight: "can there be anything good come out of prison"

"The more oppressive the system you live under, the louder the poets scream," poet Etheridge Knight contended in 1989.

In [this post](#) on Blogging Hoosier History, learn about the formative years of the award-winning poet, who began nourishing poetry, rather than his drug addiction, at the Indiana State Prison in Michigan City.





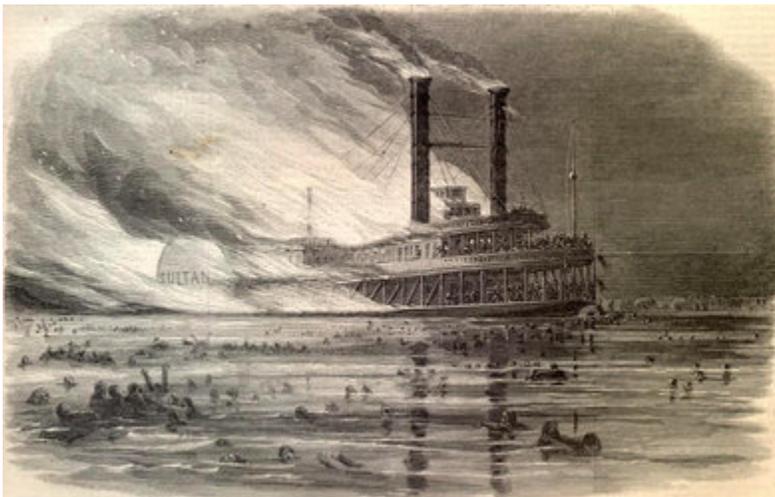
### Marches, Gas Masks, and Trash Sculptures: The First Hoosier Earth Day

Indianapolis Mayor Richard Lugar proclaimed April 22, 1970 as “a day for contemplation, conversation, and action to halt and reverse the impending crisis of the decay of man’s environment.” Throughout Indiana, Hoosiers acted to raise awareness about the imminent pollution crisis. Learn about the first Hoosier Earth Day on Blogging Hoosier History.



## SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to see these great posts and more.



### Sultana Disaster

On April 27, 1865, on the heels of the bloodiest war in American history and the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln, the greatest maritime disaster of U.S. history took place on the Mississippi River, just north of Memphis Tennessee.

The Sultana, a steamboat laden with

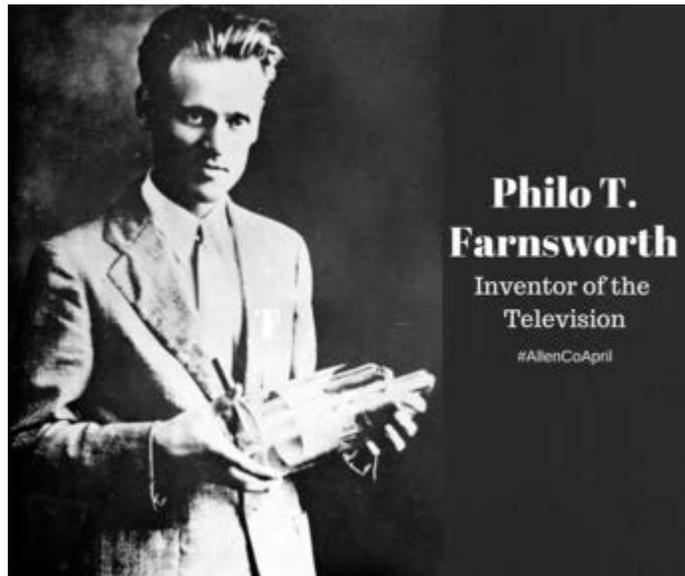
over 2,000 paroled Union prisoners of war, left Vicksburg, Mississippi on the night of April 24, 1865. Although the official capacity of the steamer was just 376, greed led Captain Cass Mason to squeeze 2,400 men on board. The government was offering \$5 for each soldier and \$10 for each officer transported up the Mississippi. With such a heavy load and a hastily repaired boiler, the boat lumbered up the river until, in the early hours of April 27, one boiler exploded, followed by the remaining two just after. In the aftermath, scores of smaller vessels participated in rescue missions and saved many lives. The water was cold, though, and many who survived the blast died of hypothermia. An estimated 1,700 passengers died in the tragedy, most from Indiana, Ohio, Tennessee, Michigan, Kentucky, and West Virginia.

Listen to the NPR story about The Sultana [here](#).

### **Philo T. Farnsworth**

Did you know that the inventor of the electronic television lived and worked in Fort Wayne, Indiana for many years?

Philo T. Farnsworth was born in Utah but moved to Idaho with his family at the age of 13. There, he taught himself scientific concepts and began inventing tools that helped with household chores. According to an account from Farnsworth's wife, Elma, young Philo first conceived of a method to transmit images electronically in 1921 at the age of 14.



After watching a field being plowed by horses, he observed the straight lines made by the plough and thought “he could build the image like a page of print and paint the image line after line . . . with the speed of the electron, this could be done so rapidly the eye would view it as a solid picture.”

On September 27, 1927, Farnsworth transmitted an “electronic television image” of a black line, becoming the “first to form and manipulate an electron beam.” In 1939, the Farnsworth Television and Radio Company opened for business in Fort Wayne. The company remained in Fort Wayne until 1949, operating seven plants in Indiana at one point. After selling FTRC, Farnsworth turned his attention to an invention to control fusion in order to create an unlimited form of energy. IN pursuit of this goal, he moved to Provo, Utah in 1966.

Learn more about the successes and struggles of Philo T. Farnsworth on [Blogging Hoosier History!](#)

## **County of the Month Series**

IHB has continued its "County of the Month" series, with [#MonroeCoMarch](#) and [#AllenCoApril](#). Now, we're in [#MontgomeryCoMay](#). Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to

get history tidbits about a new county every month! Upcoming counties of the month include:

- Jasper County June
- Jackson County July
- Adams County August
- St. Joseph County September

Don't see your county yet? Don't worry; over the coming months and years we will cover all 92 of Indiana's counties!

## EVENT UPDATES



### **Hoosier Women at Work: Science, Technology, and Medicine**

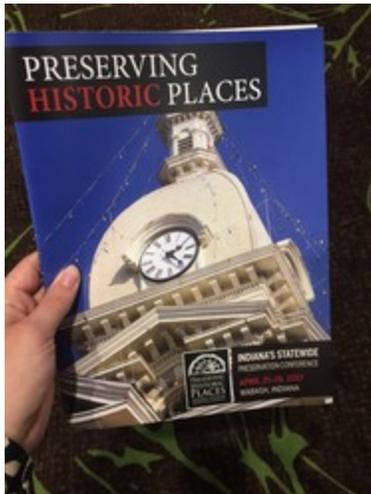
Thank you to all who came to the second annual Hoosier Women at Work conference, a women's history symposium, on April 1, 2017.

Speakers explored and expanded our knowledge of women's contributions to Indiana's science, technology, and medical fields. Did you miss the conference? Review the happenings with the hashtag #INwomenwork and listen to the keynote address [here](#).

### **NCPH 2017 in Indianapolis**

During the 2017 National Council on Public History annual meeting, IHB staff worked to bring Hoosier history to all who attended. Lindsey Beckley and Casey Pfeiffer lead a State Historical Marker Tour, Justin Clark and Jill Weiss hosted a pop-up exhibit for [Hoosier State Chronicles](#), and IHB was in the exhibit hall promoting the Indiana State Marker Program, [Talking Hoosier History](#), and our other great programs. The conference was a great learning experience for us and we thank NCPH for such a great opportunity.





### Preserving Historic Places Conference

The annual Preserving Historic Places meeting was held in Wabash, Indiana on April 26-29. IHB collaborated with the Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology to provide the book and souvenir shop for the event. We were happy to be able to explore the town of Wabash and forge new connections with those in the preservation community!

## STAY CONNECTED TO HISTORY



Check out [Blogging Hoosier History](#) for more in-depth posts about Indiana's past. Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#), where you can find Hoosier history facts, stories, and resources. Leave us comments too. We love hearing from you!

Did you miss the WINTER issue? Read it [here](#).