



# Indiana Bicentennial Commission News

## February 2014, Vol. 4

### Bicentennial BIZ Team 2016's January:

**10** ArtSmart Indiana presentation: Harnessing the power of technology to educate youth about Indiana history through art.

**10** Team 2016 visits Montgomery Co., C of C, Economic Development, CVB and Crawfordsville Mayor Todd Barton.

**14** Hancock Co. visit by Team 2016 at the James Whitcomb Riley Home. Met with Dave Scott, Bicentennial County Coordinator, Hancock Historical Society, Greenfield Main Street, CVB, county historian, Arts and Cultural Council, etc.

**16** Team 2016 visits CRANE, Martin Co., to talk about its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2016 and potential partnership events.

**17** Indiana Bicentennial Commission Board Meeting. Marilee Springer gave Governor's Office Presentation.

**22** Met with Indiana Historical Society regarding Bicentennial Brown Bag Lunches for 2014. 1<sup>st</sup> event APR 28 [www.indiana2016.org](http://www.indiana2016.org) calendar.

**27** Team 2016 met with Vigo County leaders about forming their local committee.

**28** Conservation Day at the State House: Board members, co-chair, Becky Skillman and Sen. Jim Merritt presented on the Indiana Bicentennial Nature Trust.

**31** Team 2016 visited Parke County and met with Miami tribal leaders regarding Miami Development Project to open potentially in 2016.



### **James S. Hinton, the first African American legislator elected in Indiana to the Indiana House of Representatives – 1881**

Hinton promoted the Republican "party of Lincoln" to African American voters in Tennessee and Indiana. He served as a presidential elector, 1872, and was the first African American to hold a state office when he was appointed a Trustee of the Wabash and Erie Canal, 1874-78.

"Let us be consistent in all our actions. Asking nothing for ourselves which we are not willing to yield to others." Quoted from *Speech Delivered by JS Hinton at Woods Hill, Vigo County...July 4, 1876.*

### **Rep. Julia Carson, the first black and first woman to represent Indianapolis in Congress - 1996**

Carson had a long career of public service, which culminated in her tenure as a U.S. Congresswoman for Indiana. She championed children's issues, women's rights and efforts to reduce homelessness.

One of Carson's crowning legislative achievements was the bill she authored and introduced to award the Congressional Gold Medal to civil rights activist Rosa Parks. Carson, along with President Clinton, presented the medal to Parks. Additional legislation championed by Carson allowed Parks to lay in honor in the Capitol Rotunda -- the first woman to be given the honor when she died in Oct. 2005.

"Public Office is not private property. Public officials must maintain sensitivity to the needs of the citizens who made them public officials in the first place...." Quoted from Indianapolis Recorder, Jan. 31, 1976 IUPUI Digital Collection.

### **Celebrate "Hoosier Insights"**

**Online platform connects Hoosiers as "One Indiana"**



As we prepare for our state's 200th birthday, a collection of "Hoosier Insights" will connect Hoosiers in a way that wasn't possible at the time of Indiana's centennial or sesquicentennial: A unique take on 200 years of Hoosier lore and Indiana legacy.

'Hoosier Insights' is an online platform from which Hoosiers can share what they love about Indiana: Their county, about being a Hoosier, a favorite Indiana moment, historical site, state park, festival or get-away destination. To share one's take on "all things Hoosier" and to gain from the insights of others from across Indiana, visit the official Indiana Bicentennial Commission website - [www.indiana2016.org](http://www.indiana2016.org). Sharing what makes Hoosiers genuinely proud can bring us closer together as "One Indiana".