

November 2014

Volume 13



IBC NEWS

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ArtSmart: Indiana art and history

On October 14, 2014, Indiana First Lady Karen Pence, Perry Hammock, Executive Director, Indiana Bicentennial Commission and several officials representing the ArtSmart project spoke at the Art Museum of Greater Lafayette.

"To be able to capture a program that a teacher can take into a classroom and teach history through art is phenomenal – it kills two birds with one stone," First Lady Karen Pence said during the presentation.

"A lot of times, art is something that some of your students – who can't express themselves in other ways – can express themselves through. And to be able to see the history of Indiana through art is just phenomenal."

Visit artsmartindiana.org to learn more.



Indiana First Lady Karen Pence and several officials representing the ArtSmart project at the Art Museum of Greater Lafayette

Meet Our New IBC Intern

Sam Alderfer, a native Hoosier, is our public relations and marketing intern. "I'm excited to be a part of this once-in-a-lifetime celebration by helping promote the bicentennial to Hoosiers of all ages!"

Sam is working to help "ignite the future." He was one of the 22 seniors selected to serve on the 2014 IU Student Foundation Steering Committee to plan and execute the Little 500 – the nation's largest collegiate bike race.

He has also worked with C-SPAN in Washington, D.C., the Marion County Public Defender Agency in Indianapolis and now the Indiana Bicentennial Commission.

This December Sam will receive his B.A. in Political Science with a minor in SPEA Management.

IBC Meeting to be Held in Vincennes

November 14, 2014 9:30 am (EST)

Vincennes University president, Dick Helton welcomes the commission and the public to the Indiana Bicentennial Commission meeting:

"On December 31, 1801 a petition was sent to Congress to establish an academy or seminary of learning at Vincennes, in the Indiana Territory. It is therefore appropriate that the Indiana Bicentennial Commission meets where it all began, Vincennes University, Indiana's first college. So much of our state's rich history began at Vincennes. We look forward to continuing that trailblazing tradition as we celebrate our distinguished past as well as our promising future."

Governor Pence Announce State Partnership with ancestry.com

The State of Indiana, the Indiana Commission on Public Records, and the Indiana State Archives, through Ancestry.com will digitize and post more than 13 million birth certificates, death certificates, and marriage records for access by Hoosiers.

Completion of the project is expected by the State's Bicentennial in 2016.

Read more [here](#).



Emma St. Dennis loves to share her family history that includes her great aunt Gladys S. Young who lived in Michigantown, Clinton County, Indiana. Today we might say Gladys had her “fifteen minutes of fame” as a Hoosier poet.

My Great Aunt Gladys wrote a poem that was published in a 150th state birthday compilation titled “Indiana Sesquicentennial Poets.” When you read the poem, you can possibly picture my grandma as a small child, in Clinton County, a century ago, with her red boots!” Emma St. Dennis, Noblesville, Hamilton County

Gladys’ Poem: Paths Are for the Aged

She scorned a waiting, easy path,
To measure and explore
The depths of cold white fluffiness
Heaped there beside my door;
The need to do so evidenced
By new red boots she wore.
That wayside mystery of white
Has vanished long ago.
The small red boots – I see them still
In memory sweet to know;
They symbolize the untried way
A pioneer should go.

For Indiana’s 200th, the search is on for contemporary works by Hoosier poets to be compiled in a commemorative Bicentennial Legacy Project.

Brick Street Poetry Inc. is working with libraries and other organizations across the state to conduct calls for poetry that speaks to the character of Indiana’s 92 counties.

“Poetry is a great way to celebrate the individuality of Indiana’s 92 counties,” says Joyce Brinkman, project manager.

Learn more at www.brickstreetpoetry.org or email joycebrinkman@yahoo.com.



Dig Indiana

In 1825, one of Carroll County’s earliest settlers, Daniel Baum, built a cabin along Deer Creek outside present-day Delphi. Another cabin was later built and served as the first county courthouse.

The site is being studied by Christopher Moore, PhD, University of Indianapolis archeologist and a U Indy team along with many Carroll County locals including Tom Smith, a Baum descendant.

The survey crew manned the shovels, helped collect soil samples and sifted through sediment for traces of early Carroll County history on the Daniel Baum home.

“We can’t say that we’ve found the cabins, but I’m very optimistic that we’ve located intact deposits associated with the Baum farm,” Dr. Moore said.

“Perhaps we’ll come up with some denser deposits in future probes.”

Meet the Courthouse Cats

This duo keeps unwanted guests like birds and rodents away from the courthouse. Maintenance staff feed them and provide their penthouse apartment. Not a bad life for these furry feline helpers.

“Boone” is napping on top of the sunlit dome while “Panda” keeps watch at the window.



Courthouse cats (Photos courtesy of Rene’ Stanley)

The Kind of Bicentennial History Hoosiers are Making Every Day

It's all in the timing they say. After a 19-year effort, the restoration of the Montgomery County Courthouse clock tower can finally take place -- just in time for Indiana's bicentennial celebration.

The Montgomery County courthouse has been missing its clock tower since 1941 when it was removed and its bell melted down for the war effort.

With the funding recently secured to complete the restoration project, Sandy says, "I feel like I'm on top of the world."

Passing the Torch

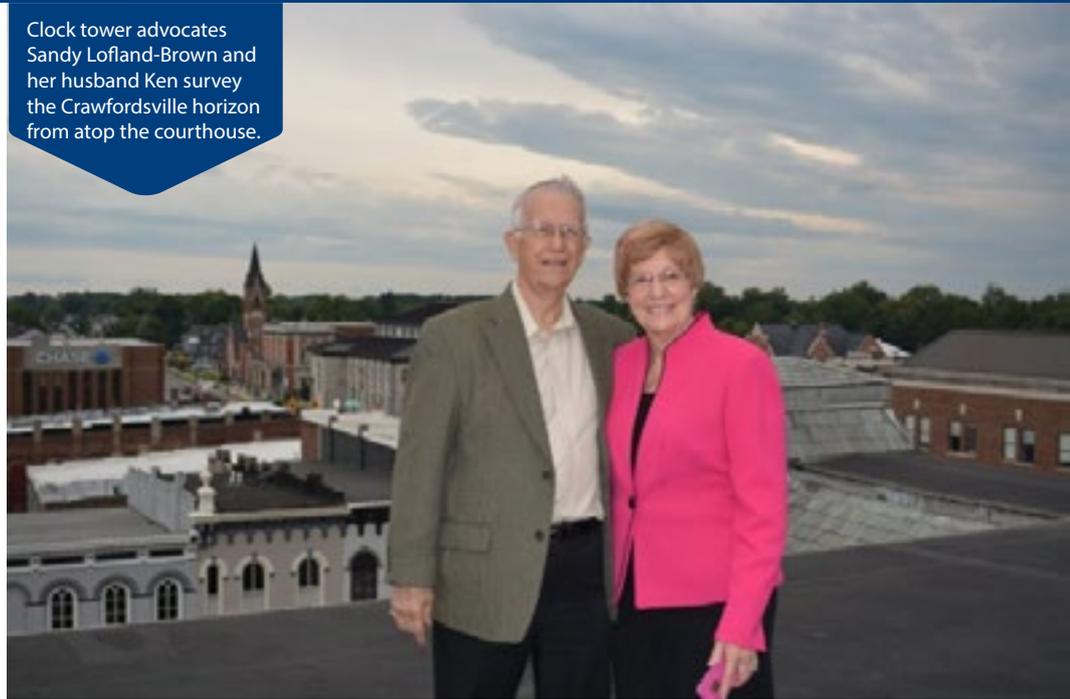
Before Crawfordsville physician Marion Kirtley passed away a few years ago, he made a last request to Sandy Lofland-Brown: "Promise me you will finish the clock tower."

Sandy was chairman of the project as a committee of the Montgomery County Historical Society. The committee has been a working and dedicated group of people.

Another staunch supporter, Olen Govens, left an estate gift to Indiana Landmarks and specified that the interest go to the Clock Tower Committee to help complete the project. Sandy kept in touch with Indiana Landmarks over the years "sending e-mails and phone calls their way."

She stayed involved with the mission despite the ups and downs of life. She lost her husband Luther to cancer. Sandy thought she'd never marry again, but a few years later met Ken Brown through an Eagle Scout project. Ken saw Sandy through five surgeries in one year to fight breast cancer by making her special meals to keep her strength. And he

Clock tower advocates Sandy Lofland-Brown and her husband Ken survey the Crawfordsville horizon from atop the courthouse.



joined Sandy in her clock tower mission.

A Sudden Turn of Events

In August, 2014, Sandy submitted an application for endorsement for the Restoration of the Clock Tower, Montgomery County Courthouse project to the Bicentennial Commission.

The bicentennial commission endorsed the project IBC-HC-13 on October 3, 2014. Sandy sent Marsh Davis, Indiana Landmarks president, an e-mail telling him about the endorsement and also that they continued to need \$140,000 to finally finish the project.

Marsh responded, "Sandy, when I saw your tower project was becoming endorsed by the Indiana Bicentennial as a legacy project, I sat up and took notice.

You folks have been working on the project for many long years and it is time we help."

Marsh brought to the county council and commissioners a challenge grant of \$70,000 in funds to be matched by an additional \$70,000 to complete the restoration.

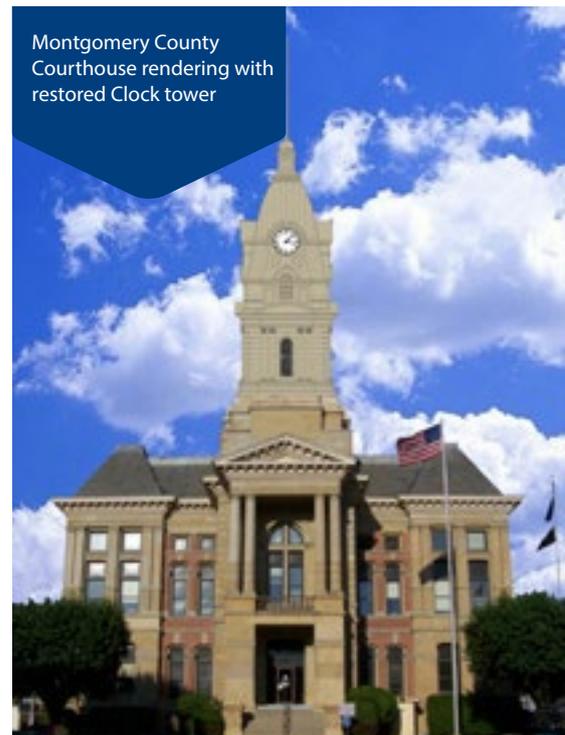
"It's foolish if we don't take advantage," stated County Councilman Aaron Morgan. "The price of projects go up every year." The council voted 6-0 to approve a match of \$40,000.

Crawfordsville Mayor Todd Barton said, "It's our downtown. We have to invest

in our downtown." The City of Crawfordsville contributed the final \$30,000 needed.

Sandy's mission to see the clock tower project completed was not for her, but for the greater good: "I've always believed we needed to restore the tower for our community and for generations to come."

Montgomery County Courthouse rendering with restored Clock tower



Pokagon State Park



"Our most popular attraction in Steuben County is Pokagon State Park. We're very proud to have it in our area." June Julien-Loff, Steuben Bicentennial County Coordinator, Angola

Pokagon's twin-track toboggan quarter-mile run is refrigerated and sleds can reach speeds of 35-40 mph.

What are Hoosier Insights?

Musings of fellow Hoosiers from across the state.

What makes you genuinely proud of your community? County? Our great State?

Share your Hoosier Insight online www.indiana2016.org/share-your-insights/

Twin Swamps Cypress Slough

Twin Swamps Cypress Slough is owned and managed by IDNR's Division of Nature Preserves.

"One of my favorite nature preserves in Indiana is Twin Swamps Cypress Slough, in the far southwestern corner of Indiana.

While most people associate cypress swamps with the deep south, their natural range actually is as far north as Vincennes. I like to say that Twin Swamps is in the toe nail of the big toe of Indiana, located in the very tip of Posey County where the Ohio and Wabash Rivers meet.

This magical preserve takes you out into the bald cypress swamp via a boardwalk where you are surrounded by these marvelous buttressed trees with their knobby "knees" protruding out of the water looking amazingly like stalagmites that are commonly found in our cave systems. Visiting Twin Swamps provides an experience unlike any other in Indiana." Mary McConnell, IBC member, McCordsville, Hancock County



Indiana Dunes

It's called nature's masterpiece for a reason.

"From our big cities to small towns, what ties us together is Hoosier hospitality. As the advertisements for Indiana point out, you can get Honest to Goodness Indiana experiences statewide.

Living in the northwest part of the state, I get to enjoy hiking at the Indiana Dunes and swimming in Lake Michigan, but within driving distance I can enjoy Notre Dame, Amish Country, Indianapolis and more." Ken Kosky, Porter Bicentennial County Coordinator, Valparaiso

Q&A with Cynthia McCabe and Melissa Brockman, Bicentennial County Coordinators

Q: What advocates are you engaging successfully to collaborate for the bicentennial?

A: Melissa, Spencer Co.: We have formed a working committee to brainstorm and research ways for the area to celebrate the state's bicentennial. Think Lincoln, Inc. is a great group of individuals interested in preserving and sharing Lincoln's legacy in Spencer County. The Lincoln family arrived in Indiana in 1816 and remained for 14 years so we have a lot to celebrate for Indiana's bicentennial!

A: Cynthia, Warren Co.: We contacted county leaders and continue to hold meetings for interested community members. Our wonderful volunteers include people from the community foundation, commissioners, courthouse, historical society, learning center, libraries, dulcimer group, and master gardeners.

Q: How do you continue to engage bicentennial partners in your county?

A: Melissa: We have approximately 20 committee members with representatives from small and large businesses, nonprofits, tourism businesses, and more. The Spencer County Visitors Bureau is working closely with the community foundation and chamber to spread the word so other residents can get involved.

A: Cynthia: To date we have 10 enthusiastic committee members. We are seeking to engage a variety of volunteers through meeting invitations, newspaper coverage, and word of mouth.



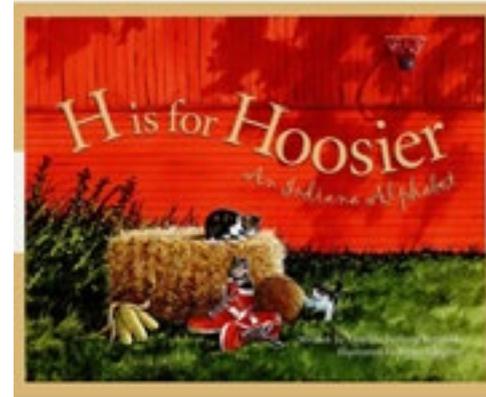
Warren County Legacy Projects

Indiana History Timeline Emphasis Warren County

An interactive timeline for people of all ages to learn about Indiana history.

"H is for Hoosier"

At the local library, children will make a craft inspired by the Hoosiers and facts from this book.



Dulcimer Concert of Early 1800s Music

The bicentennial concerts will focus on music of the time period and themes relating to the Wabash River.

Warren County's Natural Heritage

Students and the public are invited to photograph various natural formations and fauna throughout the county to be displayed permanently at the county courthouse.

Spencer County Legacy Projects

"A project is in the works for the Lincoln impersonators' national conference in 2016 to be held at the Lincoln National Memorial," said Jack Kroeger, member of the Lincoln Bicentennial Commission.

Santa Claus Lincoln Discovery Trail

A 12-foot wide trail and support facilities in and around Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial and Lincoln State Park.

Lincoln: A Pioneer Tale Theatrical Production

A signature musical production that depicts the historical events of Abraham Lincoln's Indiana youth.

The Indiana Years & Between Friends

Two plays: 1) The young life of Abraham Lincoln 2) A series of letters portrays the friendship between Pres. Lincoln and generals Grant and Sherman written by Fr. Gavin Barnes, a Benedictine monk, St. Meinrad Archabbey.

Experience Honest to Goodness Indiana



The 28 "pointed" Confederate and 22 "rounded" Union stones lay side by side at Greenbush Cemetery

"The Blue and Gray Ball"

November 8 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Fairfield Township
Lafayette Country Club
1500 South 9th Street, Lafayette, IN 47905

A fundraiser to help restore and preserve the Greenbush Cemetery in Lafayette, Indiana. The cemetery, founded in 1848, is the final resting place of 5 Revolutionary War Veterans, and over 200 Civil War Veterans (Confederate and Union). Tickets are \$50 and are available at www.greenbush.fairfieldtownship.us

Indiana Bicentennial Commission Meeting

November 14 9:30 am - 11:30 am
Vincennes University – Fort Sackville Room, Beckes Student Union Building
1101 North Second ST, Vincennes, IN 47591
Meeting is open to the public.

Bicentennial Brown Bag Lunch

& Discussion
November 19 11:30 am - 1:00 pm
Local History Services, Indiana Historical Society
Historic Madison - Grogan Hall, St. Michael the Archangel church
521 E. Third ST, Madison, IN 47250

Indiana turns 200 years old on Dec. 11, 2016. How will your local history organization celebrate Indiana's Bicentennial?

Join the LHS Team and other local history organizations for a brown bag lunch and discussion about what your organization or region might do for the Bicentennial. Host sites will provide drinks and dessert. You'll bring your own lunch.

For more information contact:
Stacy Klingler
Email: sklingler@indianahistory.org
Phone: (317) 233-3110

Christmas of Yesteryear

November 21 5:30 pm - 9:30 pm
Yellow Trail Museum
Hope Town Square
Main Street, Hope, IN 47246

Hope starts the Christmas season off right as the town is lighted, strolling carolers travel around the square, shops are open, the museum offers a huge bake sale and Christmas cookie decorating. There will also be a live nativity, door prizes and even carriages that will provide a ride into Hope's past as we meet costumed characters from the past. Don't miss the fun!

For more information contact:
Email: johnsonbarb@yahoo.com
Phone: (812) 371-7969

African Studies Association

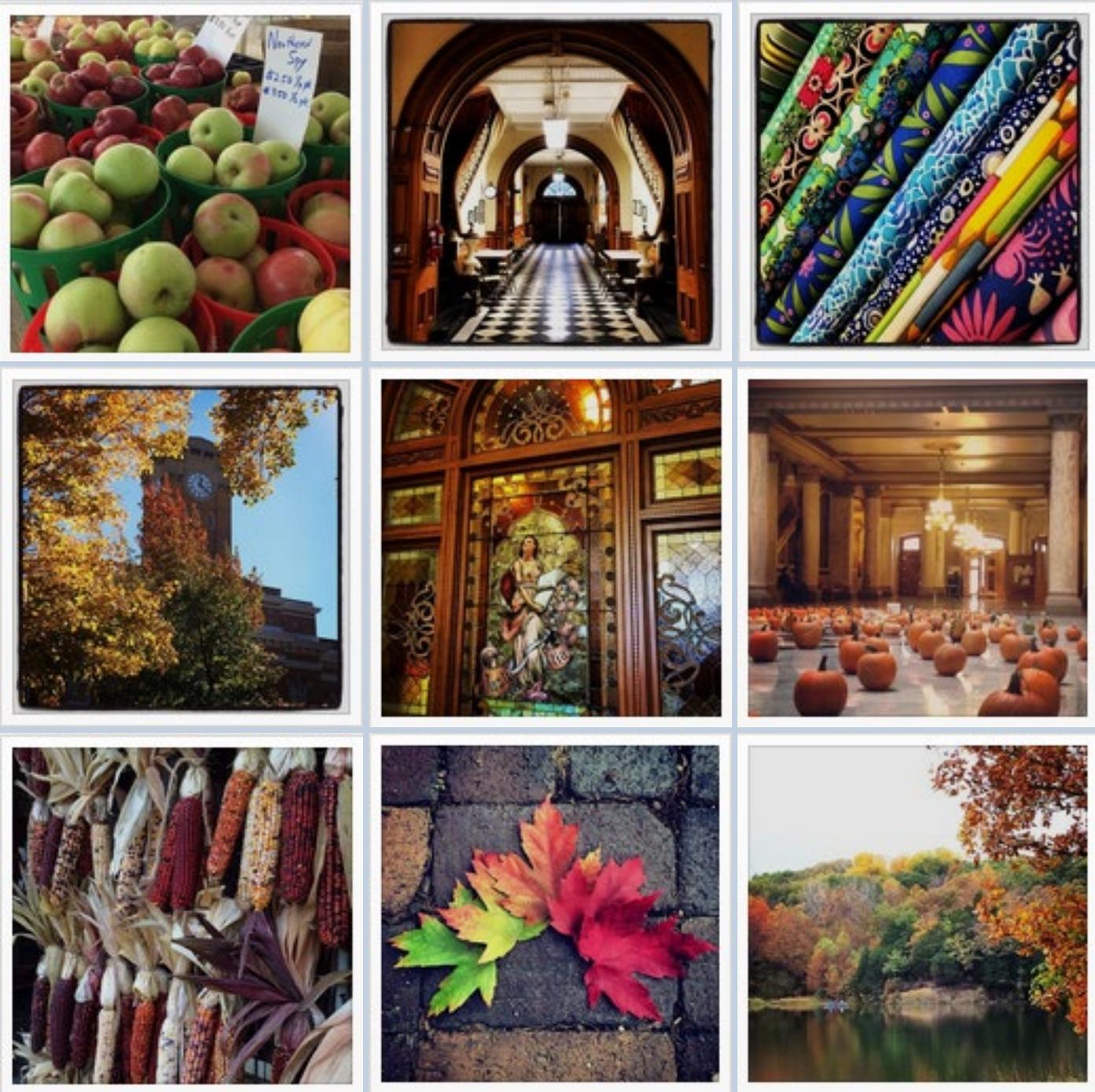
K-12 Teacher Workshop

November 22 8:30 am - 12:45 pm
African Studies Association Outreach Council
JW Marriott Hotel - Grand Ballroom 10
10 South West ST, Indianapolis, IN 46204

ASA TEACHER WORKSHOP 2014

Enrich your classroom with well-rounded knowledge about Africa. Nationally recognized Africa specialists will share their knowledge of current topics and provide free teaching resources. Keynote address: Professor Toyin Falola, incoming ASA President. Participation is free and includes access to the exhibit hall and to conference presentations.

Visit www.indiana2016.org/events-programs/events



To see more colorful fall photos of Indiana, follow us on Instagram  [Indiana2016](#)

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