

INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY COMMUNIQUE ONLINE

A RESOURCE FROM IHS LOCAL HISTORY SERVICES

July 3, 2026

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Connect with us!

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Heritage Support Grants for Indiana History Organizations

[Learn more](#)

Updates from Local History Services



[Brookville Centennial Parade, 1916](#) (Gift of Donald Dunaway, Indiana Historical Society)

DEADLINE EXTENDED TO JULY 15 FOR IHS AWARDS

Do you know an individual or organization who does outstanding work in Indiana's state and local history? Nominate them for an [Indiana Historical Society Award](#):

- > Caleb Mills Indiana **History Teacher** of the Year Award
- > Dorothy Riker **Hoosier Historian** Award
- > Eli Lilly **Lifetime Achievement** Award
- > Hubert Hawkins **Local History** Award
- > Willard C. Heiss **Family History/Genealogy** Award
- > Indiana History Outstanding **Event or Project** Award
- > Outstanding **Collaborative Project** Award
- > Outstanding **Historical Organization** Award

We have extended the deadline to **July 15, 2026**.

[Start your nomination today!](#)

JOIN US FOR A REGIONAL MEETING IN TERRE HAUTE JULY 20

[In Your Neighborhood Meeting](#)

July 20: Terre Haute, Noon to 1:30 p.m. (EST) – Join us for a free in-person regional meeting! We'll chat about developing exhibits, and there will be time for networking and a tour of the museum. You are welcome to bring your lunch; Drinks and desserts will be provided. **Free to attend** – [RSVP Here!](#) (Hosted by the Vigo County History Center)

U.S. 250 News and History



[Liberty Bell brought to Indianapolis. 1904](#) (Bass Photo Co. Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

HAPPENING THIS WEEKEND

Statewide programs – The [Indiana Semiquincentennial Commission](#) and [Visit Indiana](#) are sharing events and programs happening across the state for the U.S. 250th.

July 4 in Indianapolis – [America's 250th in Indy – Downtown Fourth Fest](#)

Ring the bells – On July 4, churches and organizations across northern Indiana plan to [ring the bells at noon](#).

See the original Indiana Constitution – Through July 5, the [original 1816 Indiana Constitution](#) is on display in the place it was written: the Corydon Capitol State Historic Site. (WTHR)

See more programs below in the Around Indiana section.

A BIT OF INDIANA'S REVOLUTIONARY WAR HISTORY

Did you know? The [westernmost naval battle](#) of the American Revolution took place in the Wabash Valley. (WTWO)

Across Indiana Special: *The American Revolution* – Discover Indiana's surprising connections to the American Revolution on this [special episode of Across Indiana](#). (WFYI)

How the American Revolution wrote the map of Indiana – Even before Indiana became a state, its settlers were [naming places for figures from the American Revolution](#). (WISH-TV)

Revolutionaries buried in Indiana – Explore a [virtual cemetery](#) that lists gravesites of Revolutionary War veterans in Indiana. (Find a Grave)

MORE TO EXPLORE

Our Story Continues 250 – [Experience the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution](#) with full annotated text, audio narration, original document images, and more. (The National Constitution Center)

THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION – Thirteen colonies unite in rebellion, win their independence, and found the United States. [All episodes of the film are now streaming online](#). (PBS)

A free special virtual issue of *The Public Historian* – [Considering the Revolution](#) gathers five years of conversations about the content and substance of commemoration in the lead-up to the Semiquincentennial. (NCPH)

First America – Hosted by Rebecca Nagle and featuring leading Native historians, the [First America podcast](#) unveils how the founders' treatment of Indigenous nations – and their resistance – shaped U.S. democracy. (First America on Pushkin)

A British Perspective – In a new documentary, one of Britain's most famous historians [reframes the American Revolution as a 'Messy Divorce'](#). Lucy Worsley's [PBS series](#) highlights the emotional fallout of the conflict, with a focus on the British perspective. (Smithsonian; PBS)

Around Indiana



[Flanner House Guild Tea, 1964](#) (Indianapolis Recorder Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

NEWS

Reminder! Applications are due July 8 for new [Indiana State Historical Marker topics](#) for the 2026-2027 marker cycle. (Indiana Historical Bureau)

The Haan Museum in Lafayette has received a [\\$9,000 Duke Energy Foundation grant](#) to turn empty storefronts into a free art experience celebrating Indiana's history. (WLFI)

The History Museum in South Bend has opened a new exhibit, [First Peoples, First Settlers: Indiana's Interwoven Roots](#). (South Bend Tribune)

Whiskey City's Liberty Theater in Lawrenceburg [wins Indiana Landmarks' Renaissance Award](#), recognizing the revitalization of long-decaying historic properties. (Indiana Landmarks)

An ABC special spotlights Indiana's [historic Schimpff's Confectionery](#) in Jeffersonville. (WHAS11)

EVENTS AND EXHIBITS

PLEASE NOTE: For in-person programs, please check with the hosting organization to confirm date, time, location, and any restrictions and/or requirements.

Upcoming:

[Canal Days Festival](#)

July 4, Delphi – Celebrate Indiana's canal heritage with historic demonstrations, canal boat rides, music, food, craft vendors, and more. (Wabash and Erie Canal)

[Fourth of July Parade and Community Photo](#)

July 4, Greensburg – The community will recreate a photo from 1918 on the courthouse lawn, and the museum will be open after the photo. (Historical Society of Decatur County)

[Fourth of July Celebration](#)

July 4, Muncie – Explore the exhibitions, visit The Orchard Shop, and experience live music and activities throughout the evening before the fireworks. (Minnetrista Museum and Gardens)

[Fourth of July Block Party](#)

July 4, Wabash – Join the museum for live music and block party activities outdoors. (Wabash County Museum)

[Voices and Votes Smithsonian Traveling Exhibit in Rush County](#)

Opening July 5, Rushville – This is the third of seven Indiana sites to host the traveling Smithsonian exhibition, Voices and Votes: Democracy in America. (Indiana Humanities; Rush County Arts and Cultural Council)

[America On Parade](#)

July 5, Vincennes – See the 1976 TV special video of Red Skelton hosting America's 200th birthday at Disney theme parks. (Red Skelton Museum of American Comedy)

[T.R.A.I.N. Display](#)

July 10-18, Fort Wayne – See an impressive model train show that highlights Fort Wayne's history. (The History Center)

[Traveling Exhibit – Driftwood: The Life of Harlan Hubbard](#)

Through July 11, Corydon – The Historical Society of Harrison County is sponsoring this traveling exhibit about Hubbard's journeys as an artist, musician, author and traveler. (Harrison County Artisan Center)

[175 Series: 175 Years of Railroads in Elkhart](#)

July 11, Elkhart – Learn about the 175-year history of rail in Elkhart. (National New York Central Railroad Museum)

[Miami Indian Heritage Days: The Miami Artist](#)

July 11, Fort Wayne – Cathy Mowry will present this month's program. (Chief Richardville House, or *akima pinšiwā awiki*)

[A Famine of Cadavers: Inside Indy's 1902 Graverobbing Syndicate](#)

July 11, Indianapolis – Public historian Chris Flook will examine the "ghouls" who robbed graves for cadavers needed by the city's medical colleges and the trials related to the scandal. (Indiana State Library)

[Woodruff Place Neighborhood Walking Tour](#)

July 11 and 25, Indianapolis – Stroll the historic tree-lined esplanades of Indianapolis's Woodruff Place on a guided tour of the city's first planned residential suburb. (Indiana Landmarks)

[Second Saturday Speaker Series: The Revolution & Beyond](#)

July 11, Vincennes – Learn what happened when the revolution ended. (Territorial Capitol, Vincennes State Historic Site)

[Mass Ave Walking Tour](#)

July 12, Indianapolis – Discover the unique history of Indianapolis's Massachusetts

Avenue, a flourishing cultural and commercial corridor. (Indiana Landmarks)

Plan Ahead:

July 14-16, Fort Wayne – [Follow the Pipes](#)

July 15, Indianapolis and Online – [The House of Tomorrow Today](#)

July 17 and 18, Indianapolis – [Indiana Automotive Speedway Tour](#)

July 18, La Porte – [18th Annual Old Car Show](#)

July 25, Frankfort – [Exploring New Trails with AI](#)

July 26, Indianapolis – [Heart of the Heartland: Riley Hospital for Children](#)

July 28, Corydon – [Jessica Whitehead Presentation on Harlan Hubbard](#)

IHS TRAVELING EXHIBITS OPENING THIS WEEK

Indiana organizations can borrow professional-quality [traveling exhibits](#) from the Indiana Historical Society. You can visit exhibits at the sites below. Please check with the hosting organization to confirm open dates and times.

Auto Indiana

Through July 30, Huntington ([Huntington City-Township Public Library](#))

Indiana through the Mapmaker's Eye

Through July 30, Huntington ([Huntington County History and Education Center](#))

Hoosiers and Their Hooch: Perspectives on Prohibition

Through Aug. 2, Lawrenceburg ([Lawrenceburg Public Library District](#))

Indiana Historical Society Spotlight

INDIANA STUDENTS EARN TOP HONORS AT 2026 NATIONAL HISTORY DAY® CONTEST

Indiana students earned a first-place finish, multiple Top 10 placements, and earned additional honors at the 2026 National History Day® National Contest. [Read about the finalists and their projects here.](#)

EXHIBITS

[Freedom's Framework](#)

Now Open! – See how the ideals of the Declaration of Independence were tested as the nation expanded into the Old Northwest and confronted the challenges of liberty, equality, and nationhood.

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Independence Day Celebration – Free Admission](#)

July 4 – Learn more about our nation's history, how we celebrate our country, and reflect on what we hope the future holds. Throughout the day, see excerpt screenings of [The American Revolution](#).

[Homeschool Open House](#)

July 8 – Learn what resources are available as you plan your upcoming academic year.

[Flavors of the Heartland – Jean Lee, making Shabu Shabu with Dashi Broth | Japanese](#)

July 8 – Take a break to enjoy the stories and smells of the dishes that make up our food

heritage.

[Conversation with Chalkbeat Indiana](#)

July 8 – This panel discussion will dive into the changes around school decision-makers and school funding to ask: What's at stake for students and families across the state?

What We're Reading This Week



[Lincoln Raising the Flag, undated](#) (Indiana Historical Society, P0406)

AUDIENCE & COMMUNITY

Rethinking learning outcomes for historic sites – considering a [new framework](#) for outcomes. (Engaging Places)

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY, & INCLUSION

A planning guide for [making temporary events accessible](#) to people with disabilities. (ADA National Network)

FUNDRAISING

Following the money – [How grant dollars move through nonprofits](#). (Nonprofit Learning Lab)

LEADERSHIP & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Museum management – Turn these [challenges into opportunities](#). (Ohio Museums Association)

Aspiring leaders, [don't just network up](#). (Harvard Business Review)

NEED A BREAK?

Old Glory – Did you know that a 17-year-old designed the flag we fly today? Here are [10 fascinating facts about the American Flag](#). (National Flag Foundation)

Restoring the Star-Spangled Banner – See the fascinating story of the [1994 conservation project](#) and watch a [video of conservators at work](#) on the [giant 34' flag](#). (Smithsonian National Museum of American History)

The changing stars – Why the American Flag has had [so many different star configurations](#). (Sarah archer)

Enjoy a little red, white, and blue from across [the collections of the Smithsonian](#).

Learning Opportunities



[*Children's Enactment of Betsy Ross Making Flag. 1932*](#) (Martin Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

IN INDIANA

Upcoming:

[Fundraising for Small Nonprofits](#)

July 9-10, Indianapolis – Learn how to Efficiently use your time and existing resources to achieve your fundraising goals. \$199. (Lilly Family School of Philanthropy)

Plan Ahead:

July 16, Indianapolis – [Indiana Main Street 101 Training](#)

FREE WEBINARS & VIRTUAL LEARNING

Plan Ahead:

July 13 – [Know Your Donors: Designing and Leveraging Insights from the Perfect Donor Interview](#)

July 13 – [Running Lean Without Running Empty](#)

July 16 – [Inside the HBCU Radio Preservation Project](#)

July 20 – [Beyond the Report: Turning Your Evaluation Data into a Fundraising Asset](#)

July 21 – [Practical Approaches to Immersive Digital Experiences in Museums](#)

July 28 – [AASLH History Hour: Civic Practice](#)

VIRTUAL TRAINING

Upcoming:

[Effective Volunteer Management: Recruitment, Training, Retention, Committees & Managing Difficult Volunteers](#)

July 7-14 – Learn strategies for recruiting, training, and managing volunteers. \$375. (Nonprofit Learning Lab)

[Digitization: Planning for Success](#)

July 9 – This session covers digitization project stages; selection criteria for converting different types of collections; and handling considerations for vulnerable media. \$110. (NEDCC)

Plan Ahead:

July 13 and 20 – [Effective Communications on a Shoestring Budget](#)

July 14 – [Caring for Scrapbooks](#)

July 16 – [Unlocking Your Site's Membership Potential](#)

July 22 – [Association of Midwest Museums Conference Virtual Day](#)

IN-PERSON TRAINING

Upcoming:

[Smithsonian National Education Summit](#)

July 14-16, Washington, D.C. and Online – This free event brings together leading education experts to explore instructional strategies and resources that empower educators and their learners. (The Smithsonian)

Plan Ahead:

July 26-29, Chicago, Ill. – [Association of Midwest Museums Conference](#)

Sept. 16-19, Providence, R.I. – [AASLH-NCPH 2026 Joint Conference](#)

Funding Available



[Social Circle Fourth of July Picnic, 1905](#) (Indiana Historical Society, P0226)

UPCOMING DEADLINES

[Historic Preservation Fund – Underrepresented Communities Grants](#)

Due July 7 – Grants are available for projects including surveys and nominations of historic sites associated with communities underrepresented in the National Register. (National Park Service)

[Grants For Arts Projects](#)

Due July 9 – This grant program funds projects across a wide range of disciplines, including arts education, dance, folk and traditional arts, literary arts, music, theater, visual and media arts, and more. (National Endowment for the Arts)

[Community Development Block Grants: Planning Grants](#)

Due July 12 – Grants are available for planning, including Historic Preservation Plans, Downtown Revitalization Plans, Feasibility Studies, and more. (Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs)

PLAN AHEAD

Due July 13 – [Tru Vue Conservation & Exhibition Grant](#)

Due July 15 – [2026 People-First AI Fund](#)

Due July 17 – [CenterPoint Energy Foundation Grants](#)

Due July 31 – [New Dollars/New Partners Program for Sacred Places Indiana](#)

Local & Regional Job Openings



[Crowd Gathered to Hear Speaker in Front of Indiana State Normal School, 1890](#) (Martin Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

LOCAL

The Indiana Historical Society is hiring!

See open positions [here](#).

[Wylie House Museum Services Coordinator](#) (part-time)

Bloomington – Indiana University Bloomington

[Executive Director](#)

Carmel – Carmel Clay Historical Society

[Museum Educator](#)

Crawfordsville – Carnegie Museum of Montgomery County

[State Archives Assistant](#) (part-time)

Indianapolis – Indiana Archives and Records Administration

REGIONAL

[Executive Director](#)

Arthur, Ill. – Illinois Amish Heritage Center

[Support Assistant](#)

St. Paul, Minn. – Minnesota Historical Society

Orphans Corner

Do you have an item you would like to donate to an Indiana museum or nonprofit? We'll list it here! Email us at col@indianahistory.org, and we'll list it for you!

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Some exceptions may apply.

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