INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
COMMUNIQUE ONLINE
A RESOURCE FROM IHS LOCAL HISTORY SERVICES

September 4, 2026

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Connect with us!
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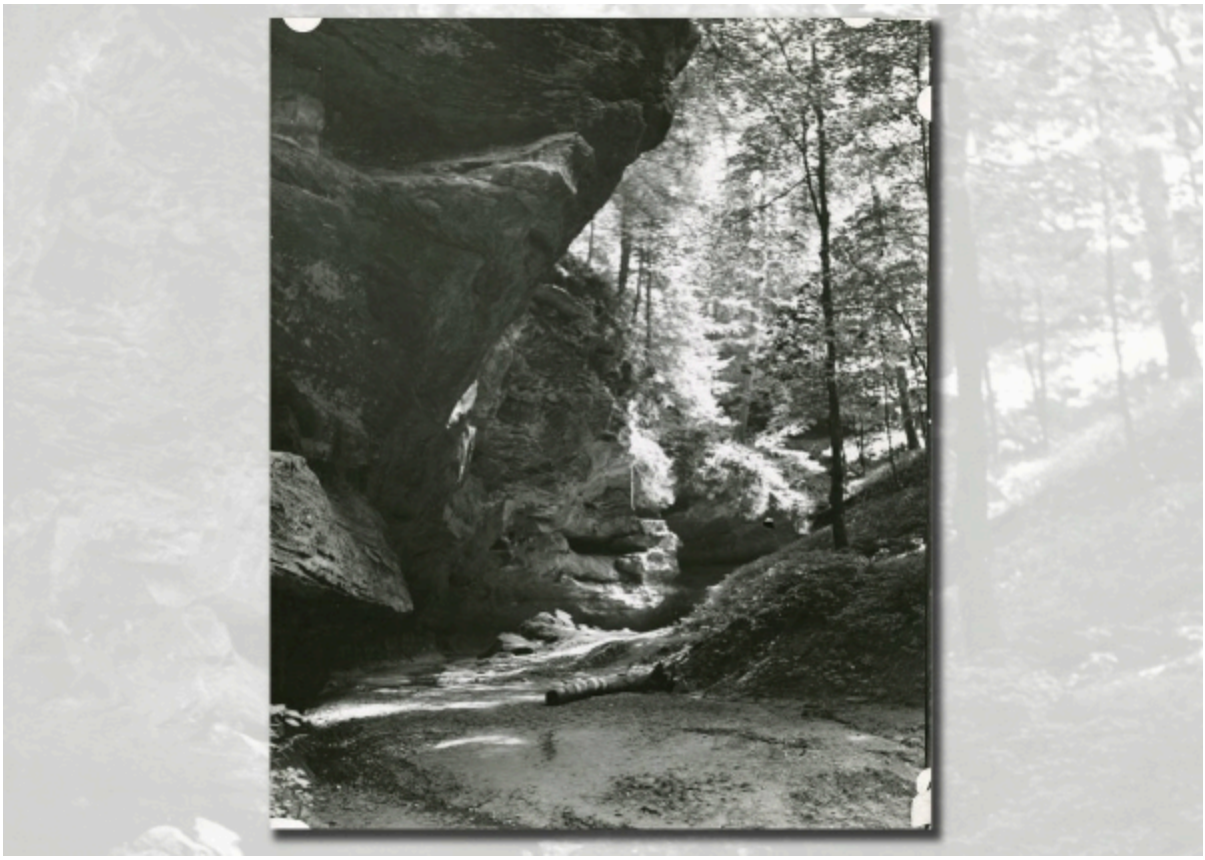
Heritage Support Grants for Indiana History Organizations
Learn more

Updates from Local History Services



Rocky Hollow, Turkey Run State Park, ca. 1930 *(Gift of Indiana Convention Center & Lucas Oil Stadium, Indiana Historical Society)*

HERITAGE SUPPORT GRANTS FOR DISASTER RECOVERY AVAILABLE SOON

A special round of Heritage Support Grants designated for disaster recovery for Indiana organizations affected by the recent storms and flooding will be available soon.

Grant funding will be available to organizations in Indiana that meet the criteria for Heritage Support Grants:

- Be incorporated in the State of Indiana as a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation;
- Reflect history as a significant component of its mission and/or propose a project that is clearly history focused (such as salvage and conservation of historical collections); and
- Have an annual budget of less than $300,000

More information about applications and deadlines will be available in next week's edition of Communique Online. If your organization is not already registered in the grant portal, you can learn more about Heritage Support Grants and register in the portal here.

Heritage Support Grants are provided by the Indiana Historical Society and made possible by Lilly Endowment Inc.

Around Indiana



Cutoff-River, Branch of the Wabash, 1839, cropped (Indiana Historical Society)

NEWS

Indiana Humanities is the new Indiana affiliate for National History Day beginning in 2026. They will release information on the 2026-2027 season as it becomes available. (Indiana Humanities)

Indiana Landmarks announces this year's 10 Most Endangered list – highly threatened Hoosier places that are too important to lose. (Indiana Landmarks)

The popular Genealogy and Local History Fair will return to the Indiana State Library on **Oct. 24**. This year's theme is “America 250: Researching Our Early American Ancestors." The fair will feature a full day of genealogy presentations and exhibitors. For questions or to register as an exhibitor, please email the Genealogy Division of the Indiana State Library at genmail@library.in.gov.

A new temporary exhibit at the Rolland Center for Lincoln Research in the Allen County Public Library shines light into the shadow of Abraham Lincoln's legacy, where his son Robert carried the weight of his father’s memory. (Friends of the Lincoln Collection)

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:

Miami Akaawiaki (Quillwork) with Claudia Hedeen
Sept. 5, Fort Wayne – This program will feature Miami Akaawiaki (Quillwork) with Claudia Hedeen. (The History Center; event at the Chief Richardville House, or *akima pinšiwa awiiki*)

Lunch and Learn: Hosted Digital Collections and Indiana Memory
Sept. 8, Indianapolis – Discover the Indiana State Library’s hosted digital collections and learn how to make the most of Indiana Memory. (Indiana State Library)

The Women's Suffrage and Temperance Movements in Indiana
Sept. 10, Crawfordsville – Presenter Melissa S. Gentry will discuss the contributions of Indiana women to the Temperance and Suffrage movements. (General Lew Wallace Study and Museum)

Intercity Passenger Rail in the Postwar Era
Sept. 12, Elkhart – Stephen Wylder explores the epic drama of intercity passenger rail in the postwar era. (National New York Central Railroad Museum)

The 32nd Door Village Harvest Festival
Sept. 12-13, La Porte – See a pioneer settlement camp, demonstrations, crafts, antique car show, and more. (DVHF)

Potawatomi, Miami and Settler History Lives On
Sept. 12, Syracuse – Discover what an ancient Indigenous trail reveals about our shared local history. (Chautauqua-Wawasee)

Plan Ahead:

Constitution Trivia
Sept. 15, Indianapolis (Indiana State Library)
Canal Society of Indiana’s Fall Symposium and Tour
Sept. 19, Bloomfield (Canal Society of Indiana)
Of the People – A Concert for America at 250
Sept. 19, Fountain City (Levi Coffin Days Festival)
Monticello Scan-a-Thon
Sept. 19, Monticello (White County Historical Society and The Indiana Album)
24th annual GhostWalk
Oct. 2-3, Zionsville (SullivanMunce Cultural Center)
Proof: A Midwest Lit Fest
Oct. 3, Indianapolis (Indiana Humanities)
A Night at the Races: Historical Horses

Oct. 3, Winamac (Pulaski County Historical Society)

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.

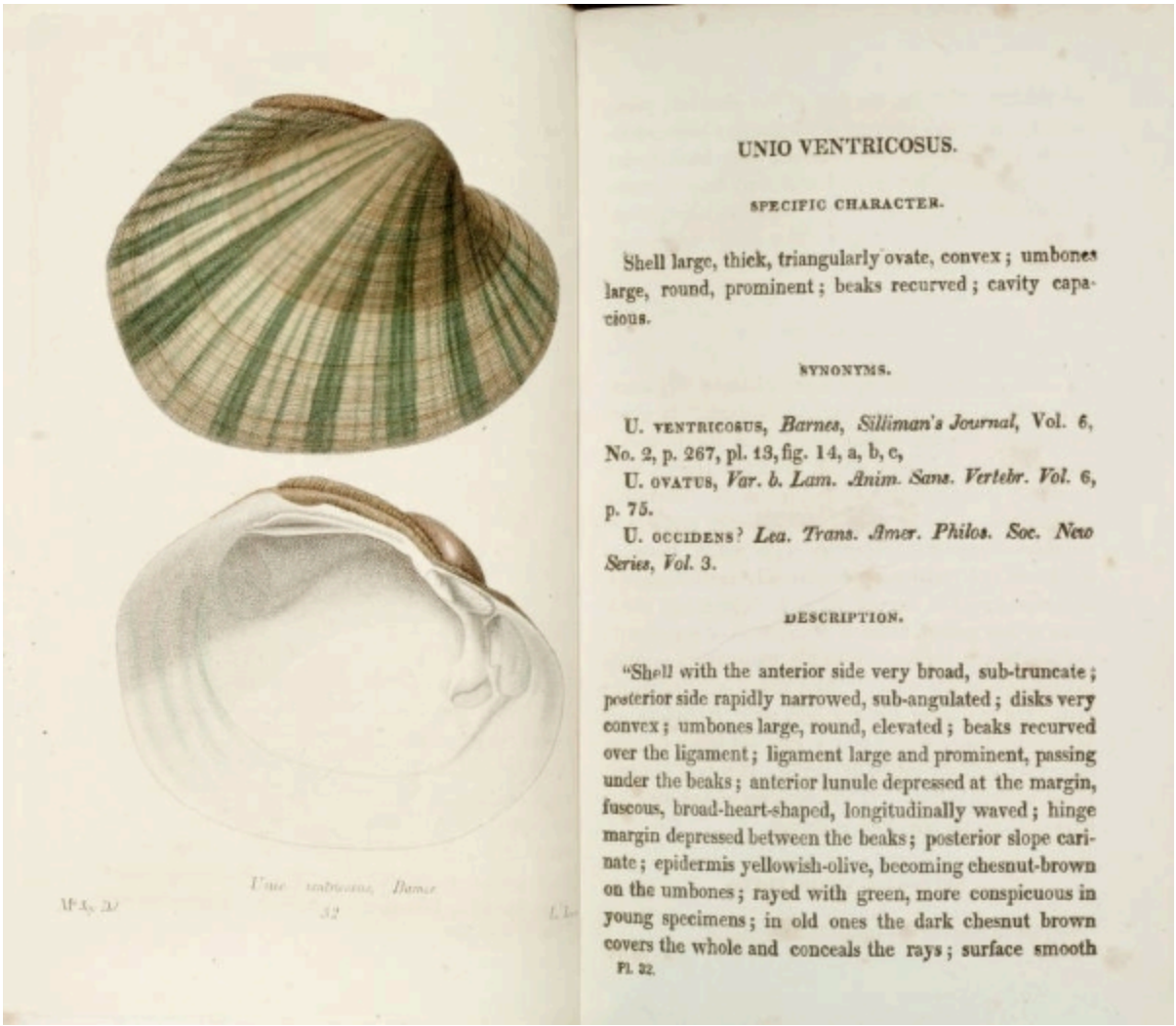
From Pencils to Pixels: Hoosier Cartoons and Comics
Through Sept. 20, Spencer (Historic Tivoli Theatre)

Hoosiers and Their Hooch: Perspectives on Prohibition
Through Sept. 29, Petersburg (Pike County Historical Society)

Securing the Vote: Women's Suffrage in Indiana
Through Oct. 1, East Chicago (East Chicago Public Library)

Auto Indiana
Through Oct. 4, Marion (Marion Public Library Museum)

What We're Reading This Week



UNIO VENTRICOSUS.

SPECIFIC CHARACTER.

Shell large, thick, triangularly ovate, convex; umbones large, round, prominent; beaks recurved; cavity capacious.

SYNONYMS.

U. VENTRICOSUS, *Barnes, Silliman's Journal*, Vol. 6, No. 2, p. 267, pl. 13, fig. 14, a, b, c,
U. OVATUS, *Var. b. Lam. Anim. Sans. Vertebr. Vol.* 6, p. 75.
U. OCCIDENS? *Lea. Trans. Amer. Philos. Soc. New Series, Vol.* 3.

DESCRIPTION.

"Shell with the anterior side very broad, sub-truncate; posterior side rapidly narrowed, sub-angulated; disks very convex; umbones large, round, elevated; beaks recurved over the ligament; ligament large and prominent, passing under the beaks; anterior lunule depressed at the margin, fuscous, broad-heart-shaped, longitudinally waved; hinge margin depressed between the beaks; posterior slope carinate; epidermis yellowish-olive, becoming chesnut-brown on the umbones; rayed with green, more conspicuous in young specimens; in old ones the dark chesnut brown covers the whole and conceals the rays; surface smooth

Fl. 22.

Early Scientific Study of Shells, 1832 (Indiana Historical Society)

RESOURCES & NEWS FROM THE FIELD

Reflections from AMM 2026 – museums are more than windows to the past. (Association of Midwest Museums)

Rethinking how we find and interpret women at historic sites. (Engaging Places)

A new report, *Changing Tactics, Changing Targets: The Evolving Nature of Museum Heists* examines the uptick in aggressive museum break-ins over the past year across Europe. (European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation)

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ACCESSIBILITY, & INCLUSION

Four ways to make early learning spaces more accessible for all children. (IFF)

COLLECTIONS CARE

Dataloggers demystified: an updated guide to environmental monitoring. (CCAHA)

LEADERSHIP & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

The journey to best practice: lessons from commercial misfires. (Association for Cultural Enterprises)

The three laws of AI governance. (AAM)

NEED A BREAK?

An ancient sea once split North America Down the middle. The beautiful multicolored ammonite shells from its waters are so perfectly preserved that they still shimmer today. (Smithsonian Magazine)

Watch a mesmerizing video of a monumental iceberg in Greenland doing a somersault. (This is Colossal)

The most remote place on Earth has space junk and a sea monster. (Atlas Obscura)

Learning Opportunities



Montrose Science Group, 1945 (Martin Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

IN INDIANA

Upcoming:

Fall Nonprofit Series

Sept. 5-26, Indianapolis – This is a series of free, in-person workshops on a variety of nonprofit management topics including developing a board of directors, strategic planning, fundraising, and more. Free. (Indianapolis Public Library)

OCRA Community Engagement Summits

Through Sept. 23 – The Office of Community and Rural Affairs is hosting Community Engagement Summit meetings around the state. Session topics will include placemaking, local community successes, OCRA programming, as well as the opportunity to network with fellow community leaders. $25; includes lunch. (OCRA)

- Huntingburg – Sept. 9
- Wabash – Sept. 15
- Noblesville – Sept. 23

Plan Ahead:

Preserving Historic Places Conference

Sept. 29-Oct. 2, Franklin (Indiana Landmarks, DHPA, and IU)

Indiana Constitutional Symposium

Nov. 5, Indianapolis (Indiana State Archives)

FREE WEBINARS & VIRTUAL LEARNING

Upcoming:

What is STEPS and Can It Help My Site?

Sept. 9 – Learn about AASLH's STEPS program, a self-paced, self-assessment program for small- and mid-sized organizations. (AASLH)

Social Media Boot Camp
Sept. 9-10 – This two-day webinar series combines Social Media 101 and 102 topics, and includes more resources for you to elevate your social media presence. (Firespring)

Plan Ahead:
Caring for Born-Digital Collections: Digital Collection Management
Sept. 14 (Connecting to Collections Care)
An Introduction to Agentic AI for Nonprofits
Sept. 16 (Nonprofit Tech for Good)
Museums on Call – Case Studies in Healthcare Partnerships
Sept. 23 (AMM)
AASLH History Hour: Understanding Governance
Sept. 29 (AASLH)

VIRTUAL TRAINING

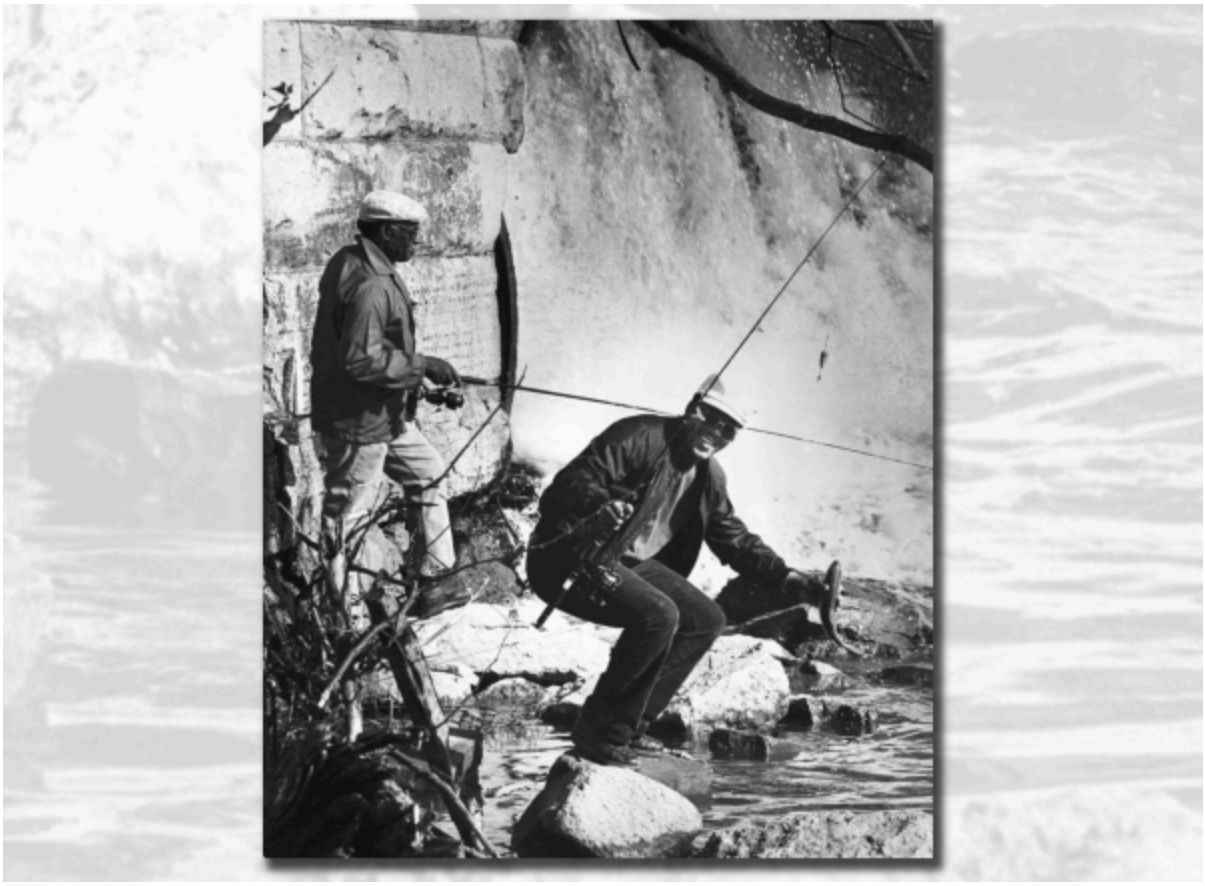
Upcoming:
From Measurement to Meaning: Using Evaluation to Improve Programs
Sept. 10 – Learn about evaluation as an ongoing process of inquiry that helps organizations notice change, make sense of emerging patterns, and adapt while the work is still unfolding. $50; free for members. (Nonprofit Learning Lab)

Plan Ahead:
Strategies to Secure General Operating Funds
Sept. 17 (GrantStation)
Accessibility by Design: Empowering Staff for Human-Centered Change
Sept. 29 (AAM)
Strengthening History Communication: Reframing the Value of History and Your Institution
Sept. 30 (AASLH)

IN-PERSON TRAINING

Plan Ahead:
Fantastic Futures 2026 Conference
Sept. 15-17, Washington, D.C. (A.I. for Libraries, Archives & Museums)
AASLH-NCPH 2026 Joint Conference
Sept. 16-19, Providence, R.I. (AASLH and NCPH)
National Preservation Summit
Sept. 22-24, Washington, D.C. (National Trust for Historic Preservation)
Association for the Study of African American Life and History Annual Conference
Sept. 23-27, Hampton Roads, Va. (ASALH)
Ohio Local History Alliance Annual Meeting: We the People: America 250
Oct. 2-3, Columbus, Ohio (OLHA)

Funding Available



White River fishing, 1983 (Indianapolis Recorder Collection, Indiana Historical Society)

FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Community Development Block Grants: Construction Grants
Due Oct. 4 – The state CDBG program offers competitive grants to units of local government to support rural areas. Within the CDBG program, there are five types of Construction Grants designed to enhance community resilience and livability, including Main Street Revitalization and Public Facilities (which can include historic preservation projects). (Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs)

Digitizing Hidden Collections: Amplifying Unheard Voices Grants
Due Oct. 20 – This is a grant competition for digitizing rare and unique content stewarded by organizations in the United States. (Council on Library and Information Resources)

UPCOMING DEADLINES

Preserving Black Churches Grants
Due Sept. 11 – Preserving Black Churches grants ranging from $50,000 to $500,000 are intended to preserve historic houses of worship and advance preservation activities. (National Trust for Historic Preservation)

PLAN AHEAD

Cornelius O'Brien Lecture Series Funding for Indiana Organizations
Rolling deadline (IU Committee on Historic Preservation)
Robert Lehman Foundation for Visual Arts Exhibitions and Programs
Due Sept. 15 (Robert Lehman Foundation)
Scholarly Editions and Translations Grants
Due Sept. 16 (NEH)
Lewis-Houghton Civics and Democracy Initiative
Due Sept. 18 (Library of Congress)

J.W. Couch Foundation Grants
Due Sept. 25 (J.W. Couch Foundation)
Bank of America Art Conservation Project™ Grants
Due Sept. 30 (Bank of America)
Historic Preservation Education Grants
Due Sept. 30 (Indiana Humanities)
Wendy Shadwell Conservation Grant for American Prints
Due Sept. 30 (American Historical Print Collectors Society)
Matters of Religion Grants
Due Oct. 31 (Indiana Humanities)
CSA Small Museum Collection Care Grant
Due Nov. 1 (Costume Society of America)

Local & Regional Job Openings



Group at Park, Circa 1895 *(Gift of Christopher Wright, Indiana Historical Society)*

LOCAL

Angel Mounds Program Developer
Evansville – Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites

Early Childhood Senior Program Manager
Indianapolis – Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites

Museum Operations Manager (Part-Time)
Noblesville – Sheriff's Residence & Jail Museum, Hamilton County Historical Society

For a full job description and application instructions, email info@hamiltoncoinhs.com.

REGIONAL

African American Inspiring History Supervisor
Dearborn, Mich. – The Henry Ford

Interpretation & Education Programs Manager
Dearborn, Mich. – Fair Lane Estate

Neville Public Museum Director
Green Bay, Wis. – Brown County

Head of Archival Collections & Institutional Repository
Milwaukee, Wis. – Marquette University

PAID INTERNSHIPS

Archives Intern
Cleveland, Ohio – Brittingham Library, The MetroHealth System

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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