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NEWS FROM THE WABASH & ERIE CANAL • DELPHI, INDIANA
June 2023



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Canal Days Features

In addition to rolling out the red carpet for our usual programming, we have a

Canal Days Festival: SATURDAY!



The grandest event of the year is upon us at Canal Park! TOMORROW (Saturday, July 1) we will celebrate Indiana's Canal Era in style from 10AM to 4PM, and it will be a full day of fun for all.

Boat Rides: *The Delphi* (pictured above) will take passengers on a narrated cruise along the last remaining navigable portion of the Wabash & Erie Canal in Indiana. This 40-minute ride is a delight for kids and adults alike. Whether you're looking to learn some history, experience the feel of canal travel, or even to enjoy the plentiful local wildlife, riding the canal boat is a must. Rides will depart the dock on the half-hour starting at 10:30, and tickets can be purchased at the Interpretive Center's front desk!

host of special activities and features coming your way for Canal Days! We extend a special thanks to the volunteers who are making all this possible!



Narrated Nature Walk: Join David McCain for an exploration of the Canal's natural treasures! At 2:30PM, meet at the Interpretive Center's main doors to take a stroll to the Red Bridge and learn about the plants and animals that make their home along this historic waterway.



Pump Organ Music: As you tour the Reed Case House, you'll enjoy sweet melodies of the pump organ, played by Joe Newlin throughout the day.



Organ Grinder Fun: Tom Baugues will demonstrate



Pioneer Village: We are fortunate at Canal Park to preserve many historic cabins and structures that each tell different stories from Hoosier history. We are also grateful for the volunteers who bring those stories to life through their crafting and knowledge! If you want to see all that the Pioneer Village has to offer, you'll definitely want to be at the park tomorrow. You can see everything from the Railroad Depot all the way to the Bowen Cabin, complete with demonstrations and tons to see and do. Check out the left-hand column for a list of activities!

with his delightful organ throughout Canal Days along the towpath at the Pioneer Village. Don't miss a chance to see the music in action!



Kids' Games and Crafts: Visit the Kuns Cabin to join the fun with crafts and games for our younger visitors (or the kids at heart!).



Food Vendors: If you're needing lunch or a snack, we've got you covered!

The French family will have hot dogs, wraps, Francie's famous pies, and more in the Summer Kitchen. The Girl Scouts will also have drink and bake sale items at their booth!

Also joining us will be Miguelito's Food Truck and Treasures in the Woods serving up their signature dishes, so make sure you come hungry!



Interactive Museum: For a complete look at the story of Indiana's canals, you have to visit the Interpretive Center's award-winning exhibits! This hands-on experience was designed with children in mind, so there are plenty of activities and things to play with! If you are a museum lover, there's also a wealth of history to read about. Make sure to get your tickets at the Interpretive Center front desk!



Reed Case House: This historic home has been lovingly restored and refurnished to its 1850's glory, and walking through is like stepping back in time to experience the life of a well-to-



We'll also have several craft vendors who will be offering their wares in the Pioneer Village, including May's Tatting (pictured below), the Hoosier Leather Guild, Busch Woodworking, Cindy's Crafty Creations, Carpenter Bee Woodworks, and more.



Last but not least, there will be special exhibits and activities in the Pioneer Village, and those include:

- Kids' activities at the General Store
- Make your own paper at the Paper Maker Shop
- Build a birdhouse at the Carpenter Shop
- Weave on an antique loom at the Loom House
- Stamp your own leather creation with the Leather Guild (next to the One-Room Schoolhouse)
- Seed beading and Lacemaking at the Interpretive Center

do family in the Canal Era. You can tour at your own pace, or you can hear from brilliant guides who share the stories of the home and its original owner, Reed Case.

Tickets for the canal boat ride are \$10 for ages 13+ and \$5 for ages 12-under. The interactive Canal Era museum and Reed Case House are \$5 each for ages 13+ or \$1 for ages 12-under. Or, you can purchase a **Combination Ticket** and save a few dollars to do all the ticketed attractions: \$17 for ages 13+ and \$5 for ages 12-under.

Historic Preservation Award



Carroll County Wabash & Erie Canal, Inc. was honored to receive recognition from the Delphi Preservation Society for the work done to restore the Little White Chapel. This award was presented at the Preservation Society's annual meeting earlier this month.



This beautiful building was once home to an active German Lutheran congregation. It currently resides in Canal Park, just across the Gray Bridge from the rest of the Pioneer Village. It is used for weddings and private events, but you can also visit any Saturday



VOLUNTEER TODAY!

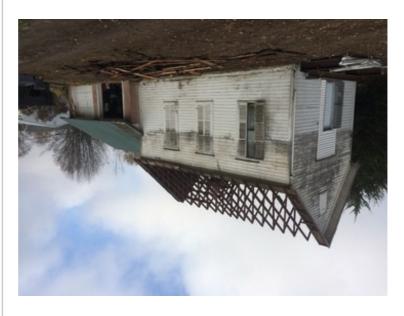
INfields Brings Local Nonprofits Together

When you consider the incredible places to visit in our part of Indiana, it's amazing how many great organizations are doing work in the areas of art, history, and nature.

Many of these organizations are small and don't have the means to create expansive marketing campaigns on their own. But working together, these organizations can make a huge impact, bringing visitors from all over!



This is the premise behind INfields, a new collective of local nonprofits who are collaborating to make our part of the state a destination for lovers of art, history, and afternoon during Canal Season to hear more about what church was like in Indiana during the Canal Era for German Lutherans.



The original roof was removed to allow the church to fit under utility lines, and a new roof was installed once the church was in Canal Park. Other additions included an accessible ramp into the back door, plus heating and cooling capabilities!



The DPS award was presented to Dan McCain, which is particularly fitting since the Monday-Wednesday-Friday Crew was responsible for bringing the church back to life. In many ways, the Little White Chapel encapsulates so much of the good that a community can accomplish together. The original spirit and form of the church was preserved, while adding some modern components that ensure it will be well-kept and functional for many years to come.

This Machine Is "Sew" Unique!

nature.

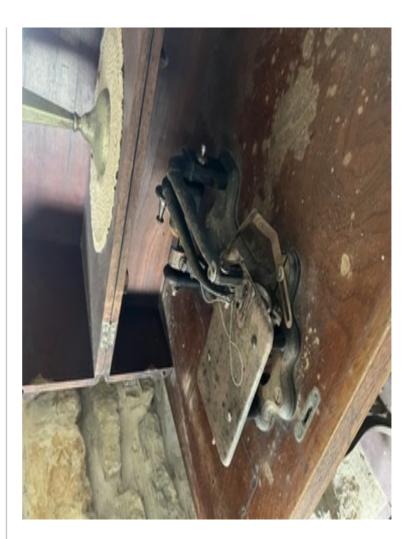
For now, the group is informal and has been sharing resources and discussion, but already the partnership has been beneficial for the Canal and others.



Karah Rawlings, executive director at Wolf Park, first formulated the idea, and she invited the Canal to participate. The group includes several other organizations, like the Tippecanoe Battlefield Museum, the Farm at Prophetstown, the Flora Community Club, and others!

Visit Lafayette-West Lafayette generously granted funding to allow the group to continue its efforts and create tangible resources that member organizations can use to attract more visitors to their venues.

For instance, the Wabash & Erie Canal can offer terrific school tours and Saturday afternoon programming, but when combined with the programs at the Farm at Prophetstown or Wolf Park, there are many more possibilities for out-of-town (and out-of-state!) tourism.



If you stop by the Fouts Cabin for Canal Days (or any other Saturday during Canal Season!), you really have to check out the amazing sewing machine inside!

We look forward to cultivating this new partnership, and we hope it will yield great results for the organizations <u>and</u> the communities they serve!

Did you know...?



You can hold your wedding, corporate meeting, or birthday celebration at the Canal Center?



We offer a variety of options for each different type of event. We offer free wifi and can accommodate up to 300 guests!

Save your date today!



Thanks to Our Business Supporters!

We are fortunate to have many generous businesses in the community who place great value on preservation, education, and recreation.



Bill Young of the Wabash Weavers Guild was doing some work on the machine, and thankfully he let us have a peek at what he was doing. He said that he it is perhaps the oldest sewing machine he has ever seen, and its design is certainly unique. If you have need of any services offered by the businesses below, we strongly recommend you reach out to them! They are all wonderful organizations who care about the community they serve!

Festival Sponsors (\$1000)

 Horizon Veterinary Service

Bronze Supporters (\$500)

- Camflo
- Carroll-White REMC
- Indiana Packers
- H&R Block of Crawfordsville

Community Supporters (\$100+)

- Brick & Mortar Pub
- Collisions Unlimited
- D-K Construction
- Deiwert Insurance
- Fieldings Jewelry & Time
- Helms Lawn
 Specialists, Inc
- Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance
- Pizza Hut Delphi
- Visit Lafayette-West Lafayette

If you'd like to add your business to this list, please email: director@canalcenter.org for information about sponsorships.



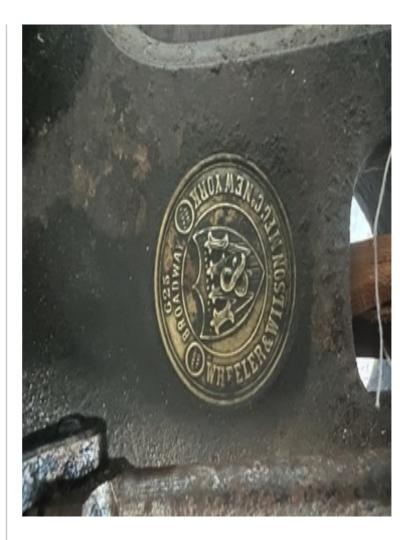
For a complete list of activities



Like other antique sewing machines, it is foot-operated via a belt mechanism. But unlike other sewing machines, the fabric is fed from left-to-right of the user instead of the more modern front-to-back direction.

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The machine is overall in remarkable condition for its age, and Bill hopes to restore it to full working condition. It may require fabricating parts that are no longer being produced since Wheeler & Wilson Manufacturing seems to have closed their doors a over a century ago. But overall Bill seemed pretty upbeat about this exciting project!

This is just one small part of the ongoing adventure to preserve and share history with visitors, and it's central to who we are. It takes a generous community of donors with these historical treasures that other generous volunteers can rehab and share! Not many communities can offer the same level of dedication to local and state history, and we are forever grateful for the donors and volunteers who make it happen!

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