Modern Times

Back to the Future tour spotlights mid-century homes

TRUE ORIGINALS
Authentic landmarks that inspire admiration

SAVINGS PLAN
Capital campaign strengthens our ability to save places
Recommended Reading

SUMMER APPROACHES. Whether you find yourself lounging at the beach or enjoying the comfort of your home, allow me to offer a few suggestions for your summer reading:

Late in 2022, the Indiana Historical Society released *Three Generations of the Lilly Family in Indiana: Excellence, Integrity, and Respect for People.* This is a must-read for anyone interested in the remarkable history of the Lilly Family and the many institutions they touched—including Indiana Landmarks. (indianahistory.org)

Earlier this year, Storytelling Arts of Indiana published *If These Walls Could Tell,* a transcription of 12 annual presentations on the winners of Indiana Landmarks’ Cook Cup for Outstanding Restoration. *If These Walls Could Tell* recounts the partnership between Indiana Landmarks and Storytelling Arts, a program generously written by Frank and Katrina Basile. It speaks to the human stories embedded in our restored landmarks. (storytellingarts.org)

Just off the press is an updated reprint of Thomas Taggart: Public Servant, Political Boss, 1856-1929 by Jim Fadely, historian and former board chair of Indiana Historical Society. It offers a new perspective on the late 19th-century politician known to reach across the aisle. Imagine! (indianahistory.org)

And, in case you missed it when it was released in 2020, I recommend *Indiana Landmarks Rescued & Restored,* a generously illustrated book featuring some of Indiana Landmarks’ greatest hits. (indianalandmarks.org)

Happy Reading!

Marsh Davis, President

—

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OFFICES & HISTORIC SITES

INDIANA’S AUTOMOTIVE PIONEERS

INDIANA PRESERVATION

M ost people associate Gene Stratton-Porter with her beloved 1909 novel, *A Girl of the Limberlost.* Fewer know she was a noted conservationist, photographer, and illustrator—was also interested in home design. On a trip to the 1893 World’s Columbian Exposition in Chicago, Gene and her husband Charles admired the Forestry Building. This rustic, wooden structure influenced the couple’s later log-veneered homes. Gene helped design “The Cabin at Wildflower Woods,” her home on Rome City’s Sylvan Lake, completed in 1914 and situated amid 120 acres purchased with money from her writing royalties. The lake and adjacent woods inspired her novels, nature studies, poetry, children’s books, magazine articles, and photography. Today, the property is a state historic site where visitors can learn about Gene Stratton-Porter’s life and work. It’s one of several landmarks open for special access during our Noble County Ramble on June 17. See details on pp. 16-17.

Outside the Box

Indiana Landmarks publishes a bimonthly newsletter called *Indiana Preservation* for members. To join and learn other membership benefits, visit indianalandmarks.org or contact memberships@indianalandmarks.org (317) 639-4534 or 800-450-4534. To offer nominations for Indiana Preservation, contact editor@indianalandmarks.org.

M 2 million

left to raise in Save the Irreplaceable, a $35 million capital campaign that strengthens Indiana Landmarks’ ability to save and sustain historic places around the state. Learn more on pp. 6-7.

ILLUSTRATION BY EVAN NALE

INDIANA PERSERVATION
Thoroughly Modern

AS AN ARCHITECTURAL PHOTOGRAPHER, Garry Chilluffo recognizes good design when he sees it. So, when he and his partner Craig Ware noticed a custom Ranch house faced with Brown County stone in Indianapolis’s Homecroft Historic District, he knew they’d found something special. The pair bought the house in 2018, and on July 8 it will be one of five exceptional Mid-Century Modern homes featured on Indiana Landmarks’ Back to the Future home tour, this year highlighting Indianapolis’s southside and Greenwood.

The Homecroft house dates to 1955, when Sarah and Karl Gassert purchased a double lot on Madison Avenue and hired contractor Walter Piepenbrok to build their custom dream home. The couple furnished it in high-end materials, with slate floors in the entry and den, a stone fireplace, and cedar closets. Today, the original vintage kitchen cabinetry and all three floors in the entry and den, a stone fireplace, and cedar closets.

Jeff and Beth Line own one of the 23 houses set among wooded acreage, Glennwood Homes is believed to have been inspired by the Galesburg Country Homes subdivision near Kalamazoo, Michigan. Similarly developed as a cooperative by a group of scientists—this time from Upjohn Company—Galesburg Country Homes garnered media attention in 1948-49 when the cooperative hired Frank Lloyd Wright to design the community.

Nearby, Jeneene and Gregg West are enthusiastic about their mid-century digs after beating out multiple offers to buy the house in late 2019. Built in 1952 by Tom and Beth Hale, the house is a simpler period design, with floor-to-ceiling windows in the living room that offer a striking view over the ravine nearby. Both realtors, the Wests are avid collectors of Mid-Century Modern furniture and accessories. Their collection began with a family piece: a cedar chest by American of Martinsville that Gregg’s father gave his mother in 1957. The living room showcases two Danish American pieces by Robert Berkshire and Doris Vlasek-Hails, and by Beth herself.

Vlasek-Hails, and by Beth herself.

In the 1950s, Tourgoers can also visit the 1956 Mills House (above) saved from neglect by businessman Todd Anthony and repurposed as the Harry Cooler Conference Center, named in honor of its Indiana architect. PHOTO BY JASON WENZEL

Terrazzo floors, installing new interior systems, and overhauling the kitchen and baths while keeping original coral and green fixtures. To honor original architect Harry Cooler, Todd reopened the property as the Harry Cooler Conference Center, which hosts business retreats and small meetings.

Indiana Landmarks’ affinity group Indiana Modern sponsors Back to the Future: A Mid-Century Modern Home Tour, Saturday, July 8, noon to 5 p.m. Advance tickets are $20 for the general public, $15 for Indiana Landmarks members, and $10 for Indiana Modern members, available at midcenturytour23.eventbrite.com. Day of tour tickets cost $25. Watch indianalandmarks.org for information about tour headquarters and advance sale ticket outlets.

By Mark Dollase, Indiana Landmarks Vice President of Preservation Services
**Saving the Irreplaceable**

**BACK IN 1960, INDIANA’S civic leaders worried about the increasing loss of irreplaceable structures they saw being destroyed around the state due to neglect, new development, and lack of community resources. They formed an organization dedicated to saving meaningful historic places for future generations, beginning in Indianapolis and eventually taking the movement statewide.**

From the all-volunteer status of our early days, Indiana Landmarks has grown to become the largest statewide historic preservation nonprofit organization in the nation, and our work stands on its merits. In 2023, Indiana Landmarks is regarded nationally as an innovative leader and enviable model.

Since 2018, Indiana Landmarks’ board of directors and staff have been gathering support for *Save the Irreplaceable*, an ambitious $35 million capital campaign that will strengthen our ability to act responsively and strategically.

At our Rescue Party on April 29, Indiana Landmarks announced the public phase of the campaign, a push to raise a final $2 million to reach our goal. The party’s venue itself is a marker of our ability to act quickly in aid of threatened lands.

In April, Indiana Landmarks announced the public phase of its $35 million capital campaign to boost our efforts to save meaningful places. Among other aims, the campaign creates a capital investment fund that allows us to act quickly in aiding important landmarks such as Attica’s Cottrell Village (above).

PHOTO BY EVAN HALE

**What the Campaign Supports**

- Creating a capital investment fund to quickly intervene for threatened landmarks
- Improving functionality and accessibility at Indiana Landmarks’ historic properties
- Strengthening our Endangered Places Endowment, which supports grants to aid local preservation efforts
- Creating a Black Heritage Preservation Program
- Expanding support for Sacred Places Indiana and its work to aid congregations with historic houses of worship
- Creating a sustainable future for Frank Lloyd Wright’s Samara in West Lafayette
- Supporting ongoing operations during the campaign

In November, we gathered with Wabash community leaders to celebrate opening of Waypoint Wabash (above), a transitional facility for women recovering from substance abuse located in a rehabilitated historic home. The campaign also supported creation of a Black Heritage Preservation Program to identify and sustain African American landmarks, including Allen Chapel AME Church in Indianapolis, a recent grant recipient (below).

PHOTOS BY EVAN HALE

We’ve also received several planned gifts from our supporters, laying the groundwork for a strong sustainable future.

“We have been amazed at the generosity and passion of our donors, who see Indiana Landmarks as an organization that makes projects happen even when others believe there is no path forward,” says David Haist, board member and campaign co-chair.

“Money speaks. It can transform the loveliest of ambitions all the way to achieving the smallest needs in a community,” adds Cheri Dick, board member and campaign co-chair.

“To have this type of muscle is enviable, but with it comes high level of responsibility.”

If you’d like to join us in supporting the *Save the Irreplaceable* campaign, we welcome your gift in any amount. Contact Sharon Gamble, vice president for development, 317.822.7921, sgamble@indianalandmarks.org.

**The capital campaign builds on our existing programming by strengthening our Endangered Places Endowment so we can increase the size and impact of grants that help local nonprofits assess landmarks for repairs and identify adaptive reuses. Such grants are a proven economic catalyst: from 2010 to 2015 our investment of $212,925 in grants leveraged more than $28 million in additional investment in historic properties statewide.**

*Save the Irreplaceable* also boosts our work to preserve historic houses of worship and Black heritage sites with dedicated funding. We’ve already received significant gifts allowing us to expand our Sacred Places Indiana program, growing funding for capital and planning grants to aid congregations in historic churches. And we were able to launch the Black Heritage Preservation Program in 2022, strengthening efforts to identify, save, and celebrate historic African American sites around the state.

Because we want to be exemplary stewards of the historic properties that house our regional offices and headquarters, part of the money raised by the campaign will go toward making these sites functional and accessible to all, ensuring they can be appreciated by everyone.

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Because we want to be exemplary stewards of the historic properties that house our regional offices and headquarters, part of the money raised by the campaign will go toward making these sites functional and accessible to all, ensuring they can be appreciated by everyone.
Some buildings have it, a distinctive quality old-building lovers call “a sense of place.” It’s something that can’t be artificially replicated, though plenty have tried.

Some places consciously embrace that quality, proudly showcasing their historic features to attract attention. Others are less deliberate about it, quietly channeling their history via long use, tradition, and deep community roots. In all cases, these are places where original architectural character and authentic stories combine to create something unique.

In downtown Columbus, Zaharakos is one of these genuine articles, an old-fashioned ice cream parlor that’s lured patrons for more than a century with the promise of Green River floats and Gom sandwiches. With two early nineteenth-century Mexican onyx soda fountains, a Tiffany-style lamp, 50-foot Mahogany bar, and Italian marble counter, the restaurant offers a visual feast to complement its culinary creations.

James, Lewis, and Pete Zaharako founded the Columbus institution in 1900, and members of the Zaharako family ran the restaurant for over a century, until Lew Zaharako passed away in 2006. Concerned that the fabulous interior fixtures might be sold off piecemeal, a group of Columbus residents explored purchasing and restoring Zaharakos. Eventually, local businessman Tony Moravec decided to buy the local landmark. His two-year restoration returned the place to its early 1900s grandeur, the era when the Zaharako brothers purchased two onyx soda fountains they’d seen on display at the 1904 St. Louis World’s Fair. Moravec’s comprehensive overhaul included restoring the classic fixtures and marble counter, re-installing carved tin ceiling tiles, and refinishing maple woodwork and brass chandeliers.

Since the early 1900s, patrons have flocked to Zaharakos Ice Cream Parlor in Columbus to enjoy signature treats served at an Italian marble counter alongside a Tiffany-style lamp, Mexican onyx soda fountains, and Mahogany bar. The parlor’s early twentieth-century opulence recently attracted filmmakers looking for a setting for the World War II-era film The Ice Cream Man.
After Lew Zaharako passed away in 2006, businessman Tony Moravec took up the charge to restore and expand the beloved confectionary, buying back the shop's 1908 Welte play organ (above center), and creating a museum room, banquet space, and country store (above).

PHOTO BY LEE LEWELLEN

After tracking down the California collector who had purchased the restaurant's 1908 Welte player organ, Moravec bought it back and sent the organ to Maryland to be restored. The project sparked Moravec's interest, inspiring him to renovate the building next door for a small museum of mechanical musical instruments and a display of pre-1900 soda fountains and syrup dispensers acquired from collectors around the country.

Upstairs, Moravec transformed the Zaharako family's former living quarters into a Victorian-era living space complete with dining and sitting rooms, kitchen, and bedroom. The space also houses libraries of documents related to soda fountain and mechanical music history, including rolls of music.

Last year, Zaharakos' remarkable authenticity caught the eye of film writer, director, and producer Robert Moniot, who happened upon the place during an online search for an early twentieth-century ice cream parlor to serve as the central

on Google and Zaharakos topped the search results. Captivated by photos of the place, Moniot set up a site visit and met Tony Moravec to explain his vision for the movie.

“It was like walking into the most immaculately dressed environment that you could hope for,” says Moniot. “It far surpassed anything I’d ever built on a movie set, especially on our budget. Everyone’s mouths just dropped.”

Moravec caught his passion for the story and the role Zaharakos and Columbus could play in bringing it to life. He offered the ice cream parlor for filming and even volunteered to assist in fundraising. When Moravec passed away unexpectedly in late 2022, his family continued to support the project, which filmed at Zaharakos and around Columbus in March 2023. Moravec’s foresight in restoring the building’s upper floors proved valuable, as well. The film crew used the Zaharako family’s former apartment to stand in as living quarters for the Cahn family, who also lived above their ice cream parlor in Amsterdam. Another part of the building doubled as a Nazi office.

“I really felt like the kind of person that Tony was aligned very closely with the kind of person I imagine Ernst Kahn to have been,” says Moniot. “Both were passionate, socially engaged as businessmen, but also politically. Both seem to have had this exuberance and zest for life, and both loved ice cream.”

“It had been so important to Tony to restore Zaharakos to its original glory and make it available to both the local community and visitors from all around,” says Tony’s son Ryan Moravec. “He loved seeing family and friends enjoying the lively music and the happy atmosphere at Zaharakos. I believe he would be proud to see that restoration coming to life on screen.”

Above the restaurant, the Crystal Parlor (above right) is a Victorian-era suite available for private events. In March, the ice cream parlor and upper floors served as film stand-ins for the business and residence of Ernst Cahn, a Jewish owner of an Amsterdam ice cream parlor targeted by Nazis.

PHOTOS BY LEE LEWELLEN; JILL ANDERSON; © BIG PICTURE ENTERTAINMENT

HERE’S THE SCOOP

Zaharakos Ice Cream Parlor and Museum
329 Washington Street, Columbus
812-378-1900 • zaharakos.com

Learn more about The Ice Cream Man, including news on its premiere, at the film’s website, theicecreamman.movie.
Walking through the beer-making supplies. The owners still have the tin shop tools—cast-iron cookware, pocket knives, meat grinders, even wine and plumbing fixtures—along with an eclectic mix of items including otherwise operating retail establishments.

Sharon's grandfather, Louis Sturm, used to fashion stove pipes, gutters, and downspouts, though they aren't as effective on modern, thicker materials. In addition to serving generations of customers, the business made its mark on city history when it supplied Edison Arc electric lights for downtown when the square was electrified in 1896. The tallest commercial structure besides the courthouse when it was built, Sturm Hardware was also the first to incorporate plate glass into its wooden storefront. That storefront took a beating last September when a truck accidentally crashed through the front entry. The owners moved swiftly to repair the National Register-listed building, hiring Schmiering Construction to return the façade to its vintage appearance.

"People in town still want us here," says Jason Messmer. "We're going to keep going as long as we can."

An anchor of Jasper's courthouse square for over a century, Sturm Hardware offers customers a vintage retail experience, where advertisements and interior furnishings from the business's earliest days mingle with displays of diverse modern merchandise including hardware, cast-iron cookware, wine and beer making supplies, and other items. PHOTO BY YRISI BELLALA

Built to Last

A spiral staircase, and a pot-belly stove all add to the ambiance. A wooden rolling ladder gives access to hard-to-reach items. Period light fixtures, wooden floors creak underfoot. Glass cases and displays of early merchandise includes hardware, cast-iron cookware, wine and beer making supplies, and other items. PHOTO BY YRISI BELLALA

Pointing the way to Heaven

Long before you reach the Tyson United Methodist Church in Versailles in southeast Indiana, you'll see its towering cast-aluminum spire—a filigreed pinnacle rising 100 feet above the ground. Below the spire, the 1937 Art Deco masterpiece presents a gleaming white, streamlined contrast to the town's traditional nineteenth-century architecture. It's surely one of Indiana's most unusual religious landmarks, the legacy of Versailles native James Henry Tyson.

Tyson, a devout Methodist and co-founder of Walgreen Drug Company, wanted to share his business largesse with his home community, donating shares of Walgreen Drug Co. stock to create the Tyson Fund in 1930, a trust intended to aid in the community's social, religious, and educational well-being. Its inaugural project: Tyson United Methodist Church, commissioned in memory of his mother, Eliza Adams Tyson, a member of the town's United Methodist congregation.

Tyson's travels in Europe and the Middle East influenced the structure's forward-thinking design executed by Indianapolis architect firms McGuire and Shook. Egyptian and Classical influences are evident at the church's temple-like entry, flanked by massive columns, while other details are rumored to be inspired by the Taj Mahal.

Builders eliminated wood in the church's construction (except for furnishings), using concrete, granite, steel, glazed brick, glazed terra cotta, and glass tile. Though the congregation remains the United Methodist Church, the structure itself has been called Tyson Temple because "hammers were not heard" in its construction—a reference to Israel's Holy Temple.

Inside, worshipers gather under a vaulted ceiling painted blue and illuminated by reflected light to resemble a cloudless sky. Constellations and the North Star glow in gold and silver leaf, arranged to match the night sky over Versailles on the day Tyson's mother died.

Along with the church, the Tyson Fund helped finance construction of Tyson Library and the Versailles School, and the fund set up by "Uncle Jim" continues to make annual grants to aid the community to this day.

All are welcome

Tyson United Methodist Church
324 W. Tyson Street, Versailles
812-689-6976

Worship services at 8:30 and 10 a.m. every Sunday. Guided tours by appointment. For the latest information visit the Tyson United Methodist Church Facebook page.
before Indiana Landmarks acquired the property in 1974 for use as our Eastern Regional Office, investing in a multi-year restoration of the house and accompanying barn, carriage shed, smokehouse, and springhouse.

With its collection of historic outbuildings and original character—including a fireplace with a crane for cooking over the open hearth—the farmhouse checked all the boxes for the Goughs, allowing the family to fulfill their dream of owning a small farm in the area where Gentry spent her childhood.

She grew up nearby in Henry County and went to school with descendants of the Huddleston family.

The Goughs, who have restored a 1902 shingle-style house in Greenfield and a 1928 Dutch Colonial house in Cambridge City for sale on Indiana Landmarks’ website, they saw an opportunity to merge their interests.

“We couldn’t have asked for better stewards,” says Indiana Landmarks President Marsh Davis. “The Goughs’ vision for the open hearth—the farmhouse checked all the boxes for the Indiana Landmarks’ Black Heritage Preservation Program, was named the 2023 central Indiana winner of the Remarkable Women contest sponsored by Nexstar Media Inc. The award is part of a nationwide initiative to honor women who have influenced public policy, social progress, and quality of life. It comes with a $1,000 contribution to the non-profit of the winner’s choice, which Trotter has directed to go to the Black Heritage Preservation Program.

Eunice Trotter, director of Indiana Landmarks’ Black Heritage Preservation Program, was named the 2023 central Indiana winner of the Remarkable Women contest sponsored by Nexstar Media Inc. The award is part of a nationwide initiative to honor women who have influenced public policy, social progress, and quality of life. It comes with a $1,000 contribution to the non-profit of the winner’s choice.

“Helping Indiana Landmarks achieve even more by:

- Renewing your membership
- Making a donation in addition to membership
- Including Indiana Landmarks in your estate plans

For more information talk to Sharon Gambie. 800-450-4534 or visit indianalandmarks.org

Home Grown Passion

TYLER AND GENTRY GOUGH

are passionate about historic buildings and farming, so when they spotted the 1841 Huddleston Farmhouse in Cambridge City for sale on Indiana Landmarks’ website, they saw an opportunity to merge their interests.

“For years, we’d been looking for a farm where we could live forever and raise our kids and grandkids,” says Gentry Gough. “Finding the Huddleston Farmhouse was so perfect, I couldn’t believe it.”

John and Susannah Huddleston built the 14-room farmhouse in 1841 for their family of 13, using part of the home as an inn to serve travelers along the National Road. Four generations lived at the farmstead before the family sold the home in the 1930s. It served a number of uses over the years, including as an inn to serve travelers along the National Road. Four generations lived at the farmstead before the family sold the home in the 1930s.

Huddleston Farmhouse was so perfect, says Gentry Gough. “Finding the opportunity to merge their interests. Landmarks’ website, they saw an 1841 Huddleston Farmhouse in Cambridge City for sale on Indiana Landmarks purchased a 1902 shingle-style house in Greenfield and a 1928 Dutch Colonial house in Indianapolis’ Irvington neighborhood, are deeply involved in Indy Urban Acres, an eight-acre organic urban farm that supplies low-income Hoosiers with healthy fruits and vegetables. Tyler is Indy Urban Acres’ director, and Gentry is a farmer.

The family initially plans to live in Huddleston Farmhouse and use the land as a private farm to grow crops and raise animals. Eventually, they hope to employ the property as an educational site to teach historic methods of planting, cooking, and preservation.

“Our goal is to provide a place of beauty, integrity, stability, and knowledge to the community for generations to come,” says Gentry. “We’ll provide fruit, vegetables, herbs, nuts, grains, heritage meat, syrup and more.”

Indiana Landmarks is in the process of relocating our eastern office to the Reid Center (formerly the Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church) in Richmond. We sold the Huddleston Farmhouse with protective covenants safeguarding its architectural character, and we’ll put sale proceeds towards our work to help save other landmarks in the region.

“We couldn’t have asked for better stewards,” says Indiana Landmarks President Marsh Davis. “The Goughs’ vision for the land and its historic structures carries on the legacy and tradition of the Huddleston family and others who have cared for this important historic property.”

For more information talk to Sharon Gambie. 800-450-4534 or visit indianalandmarks.org

Organic farmers and preservationists Gentry and Tyler Gough purchased the Huddleston Farmhouse in Cambridge City from Indiana Landmarks in March. They plan to live in the 1841 house with their sons, Henry and Loren, and use the property as a private farm and educational site.

BRIEFLY NOTED

Eunice Trotter, director of Indiana Landmarks’ Black Heritage Preservation Program, was named the 2023 central Indiana winner of the Remarkable Women contest sponsored by Nexstar Media Inc. The award is part of a nationwide initiative to honor women who have influenced public policy, social progress, and quality of life. It comes with a $1,000 contribution to the non-profit of the winner’s choice, which Trotter has directed to go to the Black Heritage Preservation Program.

Annie Roof joins Indiana Landmarks as special events manager at our headquarters in Indianapolis. Roof previously worked at The Neidhammer Wedding and Events Center in Indianapolis and is a lifelong resident of the city’s Irvington neighborhood.

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SOLD

504 East O M Avenue
North Vernon
Built in 1868, this three-story corner commercial building in National Register-listed downtown historic district includes original woodwork, wood flooring, and large lot. Recent improvements include new roof and repairs to cornice, overhangs, and boxed gutters. Eligible for Federal Rehabilitation Tax Credits. Sold subject to preservation covenants.

FOR SALE

LANDMARKS ON THE MARKET
see more at indianalandmarks.org/for-sale

112 E. Main Street
Wabash
Seeking a buyer with vision to restore 2-story, 3-bedroom home built c.1900. House retains historic wood floors, doors, windows, and trim, and offers around 2,200 square feet. Complete interior rehabilitation needed, including new wiring, plumbing, kitchen, and heating and cooling. Sold “as is” and subject to preservation covenants.

916 S. Washington Street
New Castle
Built in 1870, this 2-story commercial building in National Register-listed historic district includes original woodwork, wood flooring, large lot, and front. Recent improvements include new roof, new interior, and new exterior. Sold subject to preservation covenants.

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Summer Vibes

KICK OFF YOUR SUMMER ADVENTURES THIS JUNE with three tours highlighting historic places around the state.

On June 17, Indiana Landmarks and the Noble County Convention and Visitors Bureau team up to stage the Noble County Ramble, a cross-county tour spotlighting once-threatened historic buildings adapted to new uses, including Albion’s 1888 Opera House. When plans for a gas station expansion raised concerns that the building might be demolished, Indiana Landmarks partnered with the Courthouse Square Preservation Society to buy and stabilize the courthouse anchor, selling it to Everett and Helen Newman for their law practice in 2018. The renovated building will serve as tour headquarters, where guests can purchase tickets and pick up a tour map.

In Rome City, tourgoers can visit author Gene Stratton-Porter’s picturesque “The Cabin in Wildflower Woods,” now a state historic site. While the house was being built, Stratton-Porter’s neighbors included state legislator and later governor Dan Kragt purchased the property in 1888. In 2016, local physicians Anna and Catherine Christian in West Lafayette. Local physicians Anna and Dan Kragt purchased the property in 1888. In 2016, local physicians Anna and Catherine Christian in West Lafayette.

On June 24, Indiana Landmarks partners with the LaGrange County Ramble, spotlighting the architecture and 160-year history of Herron-Morton Place Neighborhood Association to offer a walking tour of the area’s development, including Herron-Morton Place, a Quaker meetinghouse, and nine-tenths- and twentieth-century houses.

Explore Samara, one of Frank Lloyd Wright’s most fully realized Usonian designs, on regular public tours offered at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Wednesdays-Sundays, except for when the house is closed for private events.

Trades Training: Intro to Linseed Oil

Learn how to prepare and apply linseed oil, a traditional coating that achieves long-lasting coverage without the typical paint buildup. Presented by Indiana Landmarks, South Bend Tradeworks, and South Bend Historic Preservation Commission as part of a Trades Training series aimed at equipping historic homeowners with DIY knowledge and contractors with in-demand skills to offer clients with historic building repair needs. 9-11 a.m. or 1-3 p.m. $10 general public, $10 member.

Samara Tours

April-Nov., West Lafayette

Explore Samara, one of Frank Lloyd Wright’s most fully realized Usonian designs, on regular public tours offered at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Wednesdays-Sundays, except for when the house is closed for private events. $20/general admission; $18/Indiana Landmarks member; $5/child (ages 6-11); free to children age 5 and under.

Visit indianalandmarks.org/tours-events to RSVP and receive information on upcoming events. All event times are eastern unless otherwise noted.
Logs to Lustrons Talk and Tour
May 5–6, Indiana Dunes National Park
On May 6, Indiana Landmarks partners with the National Park Service to present the annual Logs to Lustrons tour, featuring 15 sites and 7 interiors highlighting a century of architecture in the Indiana Dunes, 9 a.m.–3 p.m., Central Time. Tourgoers park at Indiana Dunes Visitor Center, 1215 N. State Road 49, Porter, and join a ranger-led group tour on busses, with last tour bus departing at 1 p.m. $30/general public, $25/member, free for children under age 16 with RSVP.
The evening before the tour, experts offer background on the park’s history and preservation, including a deeper look at the heritage of the Calumet Region during a talk at the visitor center. 7–9 p.m. Central Time. $15/general public, $10/member.

Affiliate Council Meeting
May 23, Indianapolis
Indiana Landmarks affiliates are invited to an interactive discussion on practical fundraising led by Angela White, CEO of Johnson, Grossnickle, and Associates. Following the talk, Indiana Landmarks staff will share about its Local Leadership Challenge program, which provides a matching grant to help qualifying organizations host a full-time director. 10 a.m.–1:30 p.m. $15/person payable at door covers lunch. RSVP required.

Conversations in Indiana African American History and Culture
May 25 and July 27, Indianapolis and online
Freetown Village presents historians, researchers, and educators sharing their knowledge of Indiana’s Black heritage, followed by a question-and-answer session. Sponsored by Indiana Landmarks’ Black Heritage Preservation Program and IUPUI Africana Studies. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. at Indiana Landmarks Center and talk begins at 6 p.m. in person and online. Free with RSVP.

First Friday
June 2, Indianapolis
Our Rapp Family Gallery hosts a free art show, 6–9 p.m., featuring the work of WeAreIndyArts Collective and friends. Guests will also have an opportunity to see Indiana Landmarks’ restored headquarters.

Black Heritage Juneteenth Concert
June 19, Indianapolis
A special concert at Indiana Landmarks Center celebrates Juneteenth and Indiana’s Black heritage. Featured acts include local contemporary gospel group Men in the Fire, R&B group The Downstroke Band, and improv comedians Act A Foo, with emcee Thomas J. Griffin. Sponsored by Indiana Landmarks’ Black Heritage Preservation Program. 6–8 p.m. $25/ general admission. VIP tickets cost $50/person and include premium concert seating and a pre-concert reception in the Rapp Family Gallery highlighting work by Black artists.

Noble County Ramble
June 17
See restored Noble County landmarks on a go-at-your-own-pace ramble, highlighting heritage in Albion, Rome City, and Wolcottville, including a repurposed opera house, a dairy barn turned winery and event center, the Gene Stratton-Porter State Historic Site and nearby 1888 Sower House, and a c.1840 private home. Local food offerings will be served at tour sites. 10 a.m.–3 p.m. $35/general public, $30/member. Check-in at Everett and Wolcottville. $13/member, $8/child ages 6-15; and free to children age 5 and under.

Behind-the-Scenes Tours
Get an exclusive peek at spaces not normally open to the public at West Baden Springs Hotel on a two-hour tour beginning at 2 p.m. on select Thursdays, March–December.

Indiana Automotive
June 24, French Lick & West Baden Springs Tours
Discover the fascinating history of two turn-of-the-century hotels and their award-winning restorations on daily guided tours.

FRENCH LICK & WEST BADEN SPRINGS TOURS

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Indianapolis Tours

City Market Catacombs
Join a guided tour of the remains of Tomlinson Hall, hidden beneath the Indianapolis City Market. Tours begin on the market’s second floor and include a brief history of the building’s developments. Tours offered on select Saturdays: May 6 & 20, June 3 & 17. Tours depart every 15 minutes from 10 a.m.–2:45 p.m. Advance ticket required. $15/general public; $12/member; $10/child (ages 6-15); free to children ages 5 and under.

City Market Catacombs After-Hours
Order a beverage from the Tomlinson Tap Room before the tour begins. Adults-only ($21+) tour of the Indianapolis City Market Catacombs. Offered on select Thursdays: May 11 & June 22. Tours depart from 6-7:30 p.m. $20/general public; $17/member; $15/child (ages 6-15); free to children 5 and under.

Decoding Downtown
Explore historic downtown Indianapolis and stories hidden within the relaxed, adults-only (ages 21+) tour of the Indianapolis City Market Catacombs. Offered on select Saturdays: May 6 & 20, June 3 & 17. Tours depart every 15 minutes from 10 a.m.–2:45 p.m. Advance ticket required. $15/general public; $12/member; $10/child (ages 6-15); free to children ages 5 and under.

Downtown Safari
Discover animals in architecture and sculpture while exploring downtown Indianapolis. Guides share stories and symbolism behind these creatures and how they connect to the city’s history. May 15 & July 22. Tours depart at 2 and 2:30 p.m. $8/general public; $5/member; $5/child (ages 6-15); free to children 5 and under.

Monument Circle Historic District
On select Saturdays, one-hour guided walking tours explore Indianapolis’ most recognizable district, highlighting how and why these blocks have become a symbol of the city. Tours depart at 10 a.m., Noon, and 2 p.m. on June 3 & 17 and July 11, 15, & 29. $10/general public; $8/member; $5/child (ages 6-15); free to children ages 5 and under.

Twilight Tours
Costumed charac- ters depict famous guests at West Baden Springs during its heyday in the ‘teens and ’20s. Tours depart at 7 p.m. on May 20, June 17, and July 22. Tickets cost $25/adult; $20/member; $10/child ages 6-15. Advance ticket purchase required.

Indiana Auto- mative Tour
June 24, Lafayette
Indiana Landmarks’ affinity group Indiana Automotive leads a day-long automotive-themed tour, including a visit to an exclusive private collection with rare Indiana-made vehicles. In downtown Lafayette, tourgoers will have lunch at the Art Deco-style Lafayette Theater. The day ends with a guided tour and reception at Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Samara. $110/general public; $100/Indiana Landmarks member; $90/Indiana Automotive member.

Modern Talk and Tour
July, Indianapolis
On July 8, see five mid-century houses on IndianaLandmarks’ south side on Back to the Future: A Mid-Century Modern Home Tour, sponsored by Indiana Landmarks’ affinity group Indiana Modern. Noon–5 p.m. Advance tickets cost $20/person. See p. 4. Before the tour, a talk at Indiana Landmarks Center offers deeper insight into Modern design. Visit our website for more details.

HERRON-MORTON NEIGHBORHOOD TOUR
June 24, Indianapolis
On a walking tour of Herron-Morton Place Historic District, tour guides highlight landmarks and share stories from the neighborhood’s diverse 160-year history. Sponsored by Indiana Landmarks, Herron-Morton Place Neighborhood Association, and Indy Pride. Timed tours depart beginning at 10 a.m., with the last tour leaving at 3 p.m. from Herron High School, 110 East 16th Street. $30/general public; $25/member; $20/child (age 6-11); free to children 5 and under. Ticket price includes a milkshake.

Back to the Future: A Mid-Century Modern Home Tour
June 24, Indianapolis
On a walking tour of Herron-Morton Place Historic District, tour guides highlight landmarks and share stories from the neighborhood’s diverse 160-year history. Sponsored by Indiana Landmarks, Herron-Morton Place Neighborhood Association, and Indy Pride. Timed tours depart beginning at 10 a.m., with the last tour leaving at 3 p.m. from Herron High School, 110 East 16th Street. $30/general public; $25/member; $20/child (age 6-11); free to children 5 and under. Ticket price includes a milkshake.
THREATS TO INDIANA’S HISTORIC BRIDGES inspired Indiana Landmarks to name spans statewide to its 10 Most Endangered list in 2001 and form a task force to brainstorm preservation solutions. The collaboration led to a forward-thinking programmatic agreement with several state and federal agencies to survey and identify the state’s most significant bridges, ensuring outstanding-rated historic examples would be saved.

To continue the good work, Indiana Landmarks’ Historic Bridge Initiative, supported by the Efroymson Family Fund of the Central Indiana Community Foundation, has been nominating historic bridges around the state to the National Register of Historic Places, a move that provides rehabilitation incentives and an extra level of review when federal funding is involved in roadwork that may threaten a bridge. This May, during Historic Preservation Month, we invite the public to help us choose which historic span to nominate next. Cast your vote on our website, indianalandmarks.org, for one of four candidates (pictured), and look for an announcement on the winner in our next issue.

Cast Your Vote

PHOTOS BY (CLOCKWISE) TODD ZEIGER; TOMMY KLECKNER; © HISTORICBRIDGES.ORG; GREG SEKULA

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