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August 2013 / NEWS FROM THE WABASH & ERIE CANAL • DELPHI, INDIANA



**"LIKE" US!**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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**Community Awareness  
Day**  
**Sat, Aug 17, 11am-3pm**

From free blood pressure checks to wildlife rescue, come out to experience the best of our community organizations and learn how you can make a difference!

[More info>](#)

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**Indiana Bicentennial History  
Train Visit**  
**Thurs-Sat, Oct 17-19**

Don't miss out when the [Indiana Historical Society rolls into Delphi!](#) Details coming soon.

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**Harvest Festival & Boat  
Season Closing Weekend**  
**Sat, Oct 19**

### **IN THIS ISSUE:**

- Gray Bridge update
- Canal Days recap
- Summer Fun At Canal Park

## **Gray Bridge Will Soon Come To Life**



These freshly painted massive parts are ready to be erected into their original form. Then it will be known as the Gray Bridge. It will span from one side of the Canal to other, near where the Bike Shop is located in Canal Park (background far right). Serving as a foot bridge, it will ultimately connect trails in Canal Park to downtown via the City's planned Gateway Trail.

The bridge erection has begun ([check our Facebook page](#) for photos on the progress), and by fall this old iron bridge will become an icon for all to appreciate. Lots of volunteer labor by the M-W-F crew has been completed in the 15 months since we received five semi trailer

More details to come as we prepare to celebrate autumn and dock the *Delphi* for winter.

## BIKE AND BOAT RENTAL!



[Noble Bikes at the Canal](#) is pleased to offer bikes, kayaks and paddleboats for rent to enhance your fun at Canal Park. Don't miss their tasty concessions, either! Find them at the dock-side ticket booth and bank barn, right here in Canal Park!

## HELP US CREATE THE TOTAL CANAL EXPERIENCE!



Bring history alive by sponsoring an exhibit or interpretive panel.

[Find out more>](#)

## [BECOME A MEMBER](#)

loads from the replacement site over Big Walnut Creek in Putnam County.

## Summer Fun At Canal Park



We were recently delighted to host 42 youth from 35 world countries who are participants in The Benjamin Franklin Transatlantic Fellows Summer Institute at Purdue. They came to learn about early transportation history, work as volunteers on a section of trail and to ride the canal boat.



Mike Luenz, one of the many Canal Association docents, explains a piece of canal construction history at the display of the skull of "Bullet the Mule." This artifact is one of the archaeological finds from the Irish Construction Camp alongside the southern trail system. Mike's wife, Pam, also entertained the students as the Schoolmarm in the 1838 One Room Schoolhouse.





Your financial partnership restores and preserves a rare, important piece of early American history and provides hands-on learning opportunities for people of all ages.

[JOIN TODAY!>](#)

## [VOLUNTEER](#)



We have many volunteer opportunities to suit your skills and time!

[Find out more>](#)



The students went out to the southern trails to experience volunteerism as they prepared to improve a section of eroded trail. Last spring's flooding had caused extensive damage to the trails along Deer Creek and the Wabash.



Fresh stone is spread on areas where caked mud and washouts had been. This trail borders Deer Creek accessible from Trailhead Park via suspension footbridge. The students worked the morning on trails and then enjoyed a sack lunch in Canal Park before enjoying more of the sights.

## **Good Crowds For Canal Days**



Children get a chance to hit the nail and actually make a birdhouse to take home from the Carpenter Shop during our recent Canal Days. Here Rob Lawson holds the cedar boards together as the young fellow hammers away at a nail. Despite some rain early in the weekend, we had wonderful crowds and gave just over 300 people a ride our replica canal boat, the *Delphi*.

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The Wabash & Erie Canal Association  
1030 W. Washington St.  
Delphi, IN 46923  
US

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