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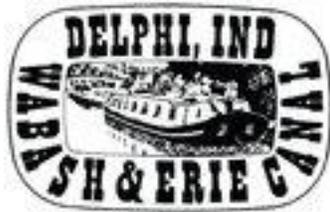
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Currents



JUNE 2015 / NEWS FROM THE WABASH & ERIE CANAL • DELPHI, INDIANA



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**SUMMER CANAL
JAMS**

June at the Canal

Volunteers help keep the Canal Beautiful



Twenty Carroll High School Seniors ready to graduate were committed to doing community service. The group arrived at Freedom Bridge and Plaza for their access to the Canal's Monon High Bridge Trail. Plans are developing for a major addition to this popular trail.



June 26th, 7:00pm: Don Roberson and the Cutler Country Band

July 24th, 7:00pm: Kyle Knoth and Michael Lee Jones



May ended with 'the sound of music' and brought many to the Summer Jams in Canal Park. Kyle Knoth and Mike Jones provided the pleasing music and the crowd enjoyed a beautiful evening. Thanks to organizers Marlita Joseph and Liz Irwin for their efforts.

High Bridge & the Monon Trail



The Monon High Bridge itself (for which the trail is named)



The order of the day for the Carroll students was to remove trailside vegetation and rake the stone surface.



Pruners and loppers were used generously to remove overhanging branches. The disposal of vegetation clipped from trailside stems and trees was facilitated by moving the vegetation far enough offside the trail to let Mother Nature help with disposal (rot away).

will soon have ownership transferred to the Canal Association and after initial stabilization work of one of the supports will be turned over to Heartland Heritage Inc. and Deer Creek Township for further grant work of decking and placing hand railing on the span. High Bridge is Indiana's second highest and third longest rail trestle and a spectacle to behold.



Board members of an affiliate organization, Heartland Heritage Inc. are directing an effort to secure land purchase money for a trailhead for the Monon Trail from the Department of Natural Resources. Mark Becker, right, a DNR official is inspecting the proposed trailhead landscape for possible acquisition.

Gateway Trail



Landscaping at the north end of the City's new Gateway Trail helps make the transition of joining the new entrance to Canal Park over the restored Gray Bridge (far background). Efforts to plan, purchase plant materials and do the planting came from Master Gardener Linda Cooper. She has found several other local/regional gardeners that have come to Canal Park also to plan, plant and weed the many beautiful plots. Are you interested in



As the morning progressed to near noon the crews had accomplished their tasks and they headed back to the bus. Satisfaction prevailed in that those involved got a sense of pride that they "made this trail a better place"

M-W-F Crew



The Monday-Wednesday-Friday crew continues to work on the restoration of the Leiters Ford Depot at the back of Canal Park. Money for the disassembly at the original site in Fulton County and moving in sections two years ago came from Deer Creek Township. More recently the restoration costs for lumber, windows, roof and paint came from a Tippecanoe Arts Federation (TAF) grant utilizing money from North Central Health Services (NCHS). The project should be complete by mid-summer.

helping? Call Linda at 765-237-8717

Sponsor and Exhibit



It takes 'teamwork' with many kids to struggle and move the 'Pull Me' boat. The model is heavy, made from solid wood and rides on a set of iron beams. As an exhibit it was built a couple years ago by the MWF crew for the Daughters of John and Mary Rhine. They donated money to build the outdoor exhibit. If you would like to be involved with creating a lasting memorial or sponsor a special exhibit we have plenty of plans and ideas to offer. Check with Dan McCain 765-412-4308

VOLUNTEER AT CANAL PARK!



Volunteers make our popular canal boat rides possible. Here Dan McCain crew member and Mary Cray narrator are in costume as the boat approaches the dock. Other volunteers that run the boat (it takes two) are coordinated by Capt. Steve Gray. He is asking for more help for this year's tours. If you are interested in becoming crew for this venture contact him



Inside Al Auffart (far trainmaster's room) and Dave Smith work on resetting the bead board interior for the passenger section of the building. Lots of scraping and painting will be done also by the MWF volunteers.



A color scheme outside is being contemplated for authenticity and attractiveness. Shades of green prevailed in the Erie Lackawanna system on their buildings. Several medium greens are painted in swatches. Do you have a thought of which (light board 'n batten and dark trim or vice versa) colors will look best?

at steve1948@aol.com or
[765-427-2912](tel:765-427-2912).

BECOME A MEMBER



Mike and Pam Luenz are Life Members and they also like to come to Canal Park and help us with "acting out" the Canal era. Mike likes to tell stories or converse with the crowd and Pam is often found in the One Room Log Schoolhouse as the Schoolmarm.

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!

Did you know...



Did you know you could



Bill and Shirley Willard came from Rochester to pick up the restored cart made with loving care by the MWF crew. Originally the Willards, quite involved up there with historical matters, had brought to us last year the 'gear' for two carts with the notion that we would restore both sets of gear and give them back one of the completed ones. That plan worked – they got their cart thanks to the MWF crew and a long winter to work inside.

Transportation Festival Highlights



Transportation Festival day came and dozens of antique cars, tractors, wagons, a sleigh and even snow mobiles were brought to Canal Park to celebrate all forms of 'transportation' used in the past. This Model T 'school hack' was like hundreds that were built in Delphi by the Bradshaw family. They are Indiana's oldest continuously operating company and today are known as Delphi Body Works.

hold your wedding, party, meeting or conference at the Canal?



We offer a variety of options for each different type of event. We also have free wi-fi and can accommodate up to 300 guests!

[Save your date today!](#)

Help us pass the good news!



Docents in costume like Jim Staggs entertain our visitors in many ways. Jim is part of the crew for our Canal Boat and is also involved with the Delphi Preservation Society and their restoration of the fabled Opera House. If you would like to volunteer to be a docent or crew like Jim and get the 'feeling' of being from a time past, leave a message for Volunteer Coordinator Cecilia Henning at our Canal Center 765-564-2870 or email her at lchen53@embarqmail.com

Other News



Dozens of truckloads of fine crushed limestone has been trucked and spread on our trails this Spring by Tom Patrick. Stone donated by US Aggregates' local quarry and has been appreciated for many years on the ten miles of trails developed by the Canal Association since 1988.



A Canal Officers meeting recently brought the six officers to the table to discuss preliminary budgeting. Our fiscal year ends June 30 and we are planning for a very active year ahead. We derive our finances by donations, memberships, grants, and income from our conference center, boat rides, RV space rentals and festivals. Pictured: Frances French, Secretary; Vicki Sickler, VP of Operations; Al Auffart, VP of Finance; Annadell Lamb, VP of Administration; and Steve Gray, Treasurer. President Dan McCain not in the picture.



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