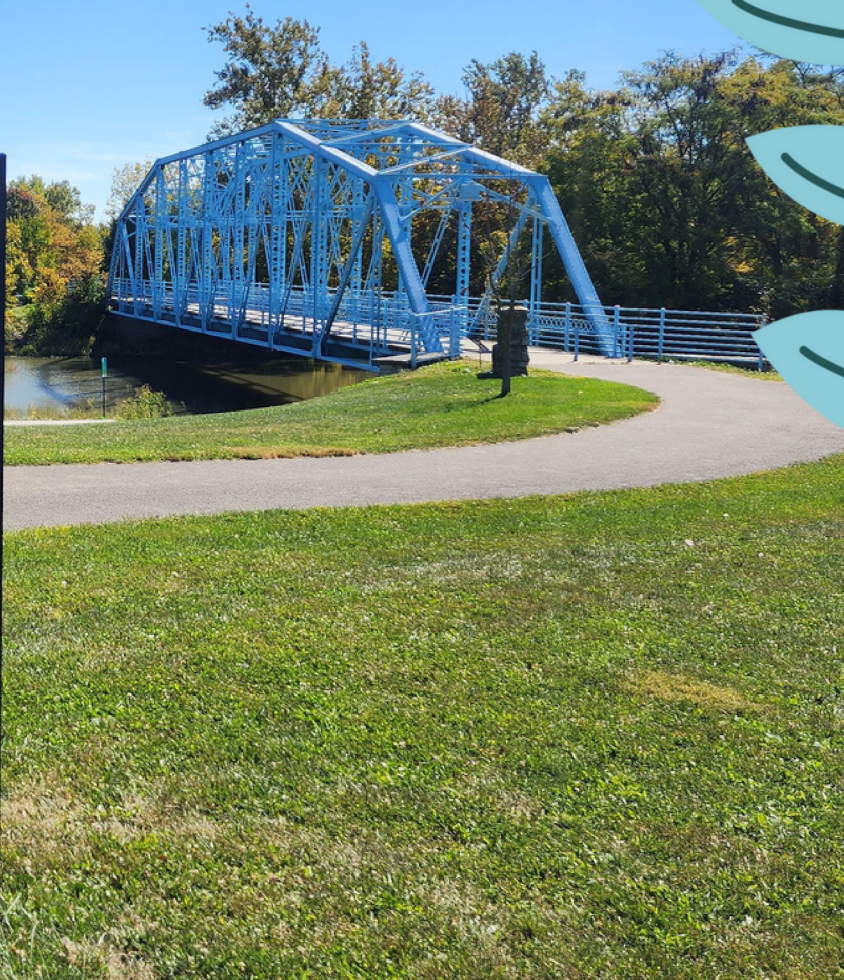




**GREENSBURG
DECATUR COUNTY**

2022 Annual Report



211 North Broadway Street, Greensburg, Indiana 47240
www.visitgreensburg.com / 812-222-8733 / info@visitgreensburg.com



GREENSBURG DECATUR COUNTY



We exist to make Decatur County a destination you'll want to visit more than once.



Decatur County will be regionally known as a playful, connected, growing, and diverse tourism destination.

2022 NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Ryan Maddux, President of the Decatur County Visitors Commission



Billed as “Our Greatest Celebration,” the Decatur County Visitors Commission underwent our biggest endeavor in 2022—that of coordinating the 200th Anniversary of the founding of Greensburg and Decatur County. The Bicentennial Celebration was a major milestone in our community’s history with over forty public events (all at no cost) including—lectures, concerts, films, a bicentennial pageant, parade, eating contest, cemetery tours, the banner project and culminating with the All Time Top 200 Athletes in Decatur County History event. It was a wide range of activities and events that were designed to commemorate our formation and celebrate our rich history and culture.

It was a team effort undertaking a celebration of this magnitude and special thanks goes out to our many community partners and sponsors whose financial gifts made the yearlong celebration possible. A big thank you goes out to our Bicentennial Coordinator, John Pratt, whose vision for this event was its driving force. A big shout out also goes to our Visit Greensburg Team, Philip, Erica and Brady, who put in countless of hours working with John fine-tuning, marketing and documenting a calendar years’ worth of events. It was a tremendous undertaking and they all deserve the community’s gratitude for the accomplishment.

Ultimately, Decatur County’s 200th Bicentennial celebration was a significant event in our community’s history that provided countless of opportunities for residents to come together and celebrate our shared heritage and culture.

Building off the momentum of the Bicentennial Concert Series, 2023 will again be a busy year for Tourism as we partner with community stakeholders (and sponsors) in presenting The Summer Concert Series at Rebekah Park Amphitheater. Hopefully these concerts will offer something for everyone as we showcase one of the newer assets of our thriving community.

2022 NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Ryan Maddux, President of the Decatur County Visitors Commission



The Decatur County Visitors Commission is committed to providing exceptional service and support to all visitors. We work diligently with our community partners to provide memorable experiences to all overnight guests and day trippers. Whether one is interested in exploring our history, enjoying the great outdoors or experiencing our local culture, there is something for everyone in Greensburg, Decatur County.

*Ryan
Maddux*



**ALL IN ALL WE WILL CONTINUE, "TO MAKE
DECATUR COUNTY A DESTINATION YOU'LL
WANT TO VISIT MORE THAN ONCE."**

2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

Written by Philip Deiwert, Executive Director



“Why do you go away? So that you can come back. So that you can see the place you came from with new eyes and extra colors. And the people there see you differently, too. Coming back to where you started is not the same as never leaving.”

– Terry Pratchett, A Hat Full of Sky

What an incredible year! The Visit Greensburg team, with support from our extraordinary sponsors, community partners, and especially coordinator John Pratt, hosted nearly 50 events in celebration of the Greensburg and Decatur County Bicentennial. With a film series, lecture series, concert series, parade, streetscape banners, and more, our goal going into the year, and one that I believe we overwhelmingly accomplished, was to put on “Our Greatest Celebration.”

Other notable accomplishments from the year include:

- Partnering with the Greensburg-Decatur County Chamber of Commerce to create an updated Decatur County map that is available for the public at the Visitor Center.
- Awarding Standing Line Item Grants to partner community organizations that help support our mission of bringing visitors into Greensburg and Decatur County, Main Street Greensburg, the Parks Department, the Arts & Cultural Council, and the Economic Development Corporation.
- Honoring our commitment to the Decatur County Family YMCA Capital Improvement Campaign in making the third of five annual installments towards what will be a total contribution of \$50,000.
- Creating a scale replica of the Decatur County Courthouse in partnership with a professional LEGO builder that is on display at the Visitor Center, and also working with her to make a 29-piece smaller version of the Courthouse that is available for purchase.

2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

Written by Philip Deiwert, Executive Director



- Executive Director Philip Deiwert was accepted into the inaugural class of the Indiana Tourism Academy, a new, year-long program designed to provide education, resources, and networking needed to develop tourism professionals and help grow the industry in the state of Indiana.
- Staff attended the Indiana Tourism Association Annual Conference in Noblesville.
- Sponsoring the July 4th Fireworks Show that is hosted annually by Decatur County Parks & Recreation.
- Working with a group of Industrial Engineering students from Purdue University to begin planning for the 2024 Total Eclipse.
- Hosting a ribbon-cutting ceremony in collaboration with the City of Greensburg to celebrate the completion of the Pavillion at Pirate Park.
- Establishing memberships with organizations that will help support our efforts to bring youth sports events into the community, Indiana Sports Corp. and Playeasy.
- Collaborating with partner organizations, including the Parks Department, Community Foundation, EDC, and elected officials to visit pools and aquatic centers in neighboring communities and plan for the future of the Allen Memorial Pool at the County Park.
- Working with Main Street Greensburg and the City of Greensburg to create a plan for a Bicentennial legacy project to revitalize an alleyway in the Downtown District.

In 2023, we look forward to continuing our efforts to enhance tourism and bring more visitors into Greensburg and Decatur County. We are already working hard, along with the Arts & Cultural Council, on the 2023 Summer Concert Series that will be held at the Rebekah Park Amphitheater; we are working with the City of Greensburg, EMA, EMS, Law Enforcement, and others to plan for the 2024 Total Eclipse, where Greensburg and Decatur County will be directly in the path of totality; we continue to work on the Bicentennial Alleyway project; we will continue to work alongside community partners and support building a new aquatic center at the County Park; we have invited a travel blogger to visit our community in July; we are excited about the introduction of a print ad campaign in Travel IN Magazine throughout the year; and much, much more.

2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

Written by Philip Deiwert, Executive Director



Follow us on social media @VisitGreensburg and on our website, www.visitgreensburg.com to stay up to date with all that is happening with our organization and throughout the community.

Funding for the Visitors Commission is provided entirely through a County Innkeeper's Tax, which is levied on all overnight visitors in Decatur County. These funds, which have strict guidelines for usage, are to be used for the promotion of tourism-focused activities, striving to directly increase overnight lodging occupancy or to create positive image-building publicity for Greensburg and Decatur County. The Visitors Commission is made up of a seven-person Board with appointees designated by the Mayor of Greensburg, the Decatur County Commissioners, and the Decatur County Council. Board meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 12pm at the Visitor Center, which is located at 211 North Broadway Street in Greensburg. Those meetings are open to the public.

Philip Deiwert



**WE EXIST TO MAKE DECATUR COUNTY A
DESTINATION YOU'LL WANT TO VISIT
MORE THAN ONCE.**

MARKETING SNAPSHOT

Written by Erica Gunn, Marketing Director



2022 was a monumental year at Visit Greensburg. A year when we put most of our time and energy into making a Bicentennial Year no one in the county will soon forget. I am proud of all of the concerts, lectures, films, parade, and other exciting events we were able to share with visitors and people in Decatur County.

Our Instagram reach continued to increase by 51% during 2022, and both Facebook Visit Greensburg and Decatur County Bicentennial accounts continue to grow exponentially. The Mini Courthouse Lego Release in November was Visit Greensburg's most popular social media post.

During the last quarter we began planning the 2023 Rebekah Park Amphitheater Summer Concert Series. This will be a fun and amazing set of events that will draw people both inside and outside of Decatur County. I look forward to all the fun planned for Decatur County in 2023! Stay tuned and please visit visitgreensburg.com/events/concerts-and-live-music for the announcement of concerts for 2023. Also, please follow us on Facebook and Instagram to see other community events going on.



Erica Gunn

**DECATUR COUNTY WILL BE REGIONALLY
KNOWN AS A PLAYFUL, CONNECTED,
GROWING, AND DIVERSE TOURISM
DESTINATION.**

2022 BOARD MEMBERS



RYAN MADDUX, PRESIDENT



KUYHLIA HULSBOSCH, VICE PRESIDENT



STEPHANIE HOEING, SECRETARY



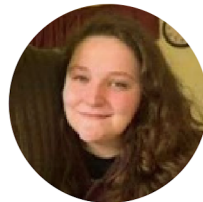
DANIEL FAYETTE, TREASURER



DARREN COVINGTON



JOANN BURKHART



HANNAH RODE

2022 STAFF MEMBERS



PHILIP DEIWERT
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



ERICA GUNN
MARKETING DIRECTOR

2022 BICENTENNIAL EVENTS

FRED CRAIG FILM SERIES

THE HOOSIER SCHOOLMASTER,

A 1924 SILENT FILM, ACCOMPANIED BY JAY WARREN

AN AMERICAN TAIL,

A DON BLUTH & FRED CRAIG CLASSIC FEATURING PHILLIP
GLASSER (FIEVEL)

TOILET PAPER SOLDIERS,

Q&A WITH DIRECTOR, BRADY DOMINGO, AND FORMER GDN FILM
CRITIC RYAN MADDUX

FRANKENSTEIN, SARA KARLOFF Q&A VIA ZOOM

JERRY WILLIAMS CONCERT SERIES

PIANO CONCERT, STEVE HECK, GHS CLASS OF 1971

**MEMORIAL DAY PATRIOTIC CONCERT, TOM DAUGHTERY SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA**

CIRCLE CITY SOUND

LARRY SPARKS (BLUEGRASS HALL OF FAME)

TROUT FISHING IN AMERICA

KELTRICITY

ALAN COCHRAN AND THE CRESTLINERS

NUTTIN' FANCY

RIDERS IN THE SKY

CARNEGIE QUARTET

SLAMMER JAZZ

THE KLABERHEADS

TOP HAT BLUES REVIEW

ABE LINCOLN REENACTMENT & THE INDIANA WIND SYMPHONY

HOLIDAY CLASSICS, GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA

2022 BICENTENNIAL EVENTS



CLEO DUNCAN LECTURE SERIES

BOUND FOR PASSAGE: THE STORY OF AN INDENTURED SERVANT,
MAGGIE DELANEY

A HISTORY OF RAILROADS IN DECATUR COUNTY, LARRY RUEFF
ERNIE PYLE, RAY BOOMHOWER OF INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
GERALD CARBONE, RHODE ISLAND "GENERAL NATHANAEAL GREENE"
ROBERT ALLISON, BOSTON, STEPHEN DECATUR
JOSHUA CLAYBOURNE OF EVANSVILLE "ABRAHAM LINCOLN"
STEPHEN DECATUR

DECATUR COUNTY AND THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD,
WILLIAM O. SMITH

JOHN WILDER: MILLRIGHT, FOUNDRY MAN, INGENIOUS INVENTOR,
PHILIP JACKSON

ADDITIONAL CELEBRATION EVENTS

BICENTENNIAL PAGEANT
FORMER CINCINNATI REDS PITCHER, BRONSON ARROYO
MEDAL OF HONOR COMMEMORATION
VETERANS CEMETERY TOUR
PAT SMITH BICENTENNIAL PARADE & FOUNDERS WEEK
COMMUNITY SPELLING BEE
NATIONAL BEANS & FRANKS DAY EATING CONTEST WITH
MICHELLE LESCO (NATHANS HOTDOG EATING CHAMPION)
REVOLUTIONARY WAR VETERAN'S CEMETERY TOUR
HISTORIC HOMES TOUR
ALL TIME TOP 200 DECATUR COUNTY ATHLETES RECOGNITION
DECATUR COUNTY BICENTENNIAL BANNER PROJECT

CONNECT WITH US



WEBSITE

[VISITGREENSBURG.COM/PLAN/VISITOR-GUIDE](https://visitgreensburg.com/plan/visitor-guide)



Check out our website and download the free VISITOR'S GUIDE

The *Beyond the Tree Tower Podcast* includes storytelling about people, places, and events that make Decatur County, Indiana unique.

[VISITGREENSBURG.COM/PODCAST](https://visitgreensburg.com/podcast)



Tune in to
listen:



BEYOND THE TREE TOWER PODCAST

E-NEWSLETTER

SUBSCRIBE



Staying up-to-date doesn't have to be time-consuming.

For hassle-free updates, trends, and tips, sign up for our monthly newsletter.

FOLLOW US @VISITGREENSBURG



