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Welcome to the 34th Annual West Central Neighborhood Home & Garden Tour

We hope that by opening these beautiful, historic homes to the public, we help Fort Wayne and the surrounding area learn about the homes' architecture and interior craftsmanship. We also hope to show the community that it is still possible to live a comfortable, fulfilling life in downtown Fort Wayne. The present residents of the neighborhood make it one of the most diverse neighborhood populations in the city. It is a charming place to live, venerable and vibrant, filled with astonishing old houses and people with a strong community spirit.

#### Proceeds from the Home & Garden Tour

enable the West Central Neighborhood Association (WCNA) to further its neighborhood preservation and improvement efforts. We continue to work toward funding projects such as saving homes and historic district expansion.

#### Free horse-drawn carriage and pedicab rides

are provided by the Neighborhood Association for your enjoyment. These rides will operate along the tour route both days from 11 AM to 5 PM. Please take advantage of these free rides to move from one tour stop to another.

#### Food and Refreshments are available

at the Artsfest from a variety of vendors. The ArtsFest is on Wayne Street between Jackson and Rockhill streets.

Restrooms are available

at St. Joseph Hospital, Swinney Park Tennis Courts, and the ArtsFest.

#### Hours

The historic Home & Garden Tour hours are 11-5 on Saturday & Sunday. The ArtsFest artist booths are open 11-5 on Saturday & Sunday. The ArtsFest music runs until 10 PM on Saturday & 6 PM on Sunday.

Please enjoy the tour stops in any order. Tickets must be presented at each stop for admittance. Thank you for your support. Enjoy the tour!



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# West Central Neighborhood History

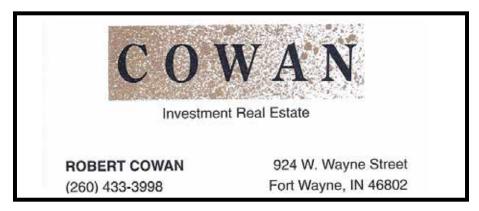
Although the West Central Neighborhood encompasses all of downtown Fort Wayne west of Calhoun Street, the heart of West Central is its residential area, the development of which began as early as the 1830s. Because of the historic and architectural significance of this area, the West Central Neighborhood was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1984 and was designated a Fort Wayne Local Historic District as early as 1985. The West Central Neighborhood was named the "Best Old House Neighborhood" in Indiana for 2010 by This Old House Magazine.

The neighborhood originally was inhabited primarily by the working class who walked to their nearby workplaces. As Fort Wayne grew throughout the nineteenth century and the local transportation system improved, the West Central Neighborhood became a favored area for the middle and upper classes as well. The original smaller, vernacular homes were replaced by larger homes designed in the fashionable architectural styles popular between 1830 and 1950.

The north side of the neighborhood, along Berry and Wayne streets and Washington Boulevard, was where many of the city's most prominent families built large, stylish homes. On the south side, situated between Jefferson Boulevard and the former Pennsylvania Railroad tracks, exists a collection of modest, small-scale cottages arranged along narrow, tree-lined, brick streets. Many workers for the businesses and various industries stretching along the south side of the railroad corridor resided there. A similar residential area exists between the railroad tracks and Taylor Street.

The West Central Neighborhood also encompasses the Broadway business corridor. This major street developed into a busy commercial area serving the daily needs of the local residents. A wide variety of shops including groceries, bakeries, hardware stores, and millineries once lined the street.

#### Visit us online at WestCentralNeighborhood.org

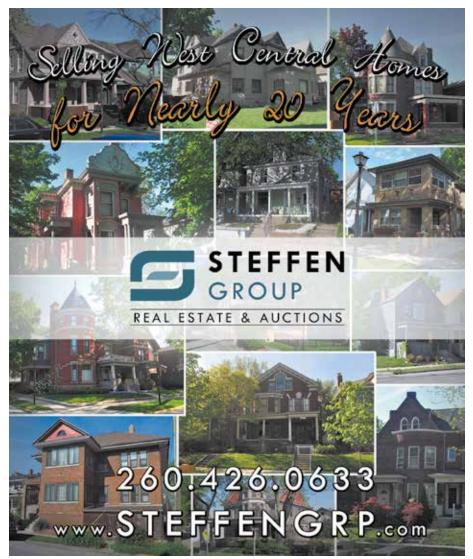




Thank you for attending our 34th annual West Central Home & Garden Tour. Year after year our goal as a neighborhood association is to bring you a diverse group of homes to inspire and show our pride by reinforcing the beauty and culture of urban living in Fort Wayne. We strive to be positive partners with our local businesses and the city government while protecting our livability as a thriving neighborhood. It truly is a great time to be in West Central with all of the positive influences happening now and over the next several years: riverfront development, possible renovation and reuse of the General Electric campus, expansion of our residential stock through newly built apartments & townhouses as well as the recent renovation of existing apartments & buildings. By keeping our neighborhood vibrant, we offer a unique advantage to our residents and friends who work, live and play downtown. Visit www.westcentralneighborhood.org or like us on Facebook to learn more about our ongoing efforts to help beautify West Central through programs such as our Street Tree Planting, Sidewalk & Curb funding and our Paint Grant programs, as well as home renovation projects. Please enjoy the Tour & ArtsFest.

Susan Smethers

West Central Neighborhood Association President



# Hmmm, let's see ... Professional remodeling vs. DIY re-muddling?



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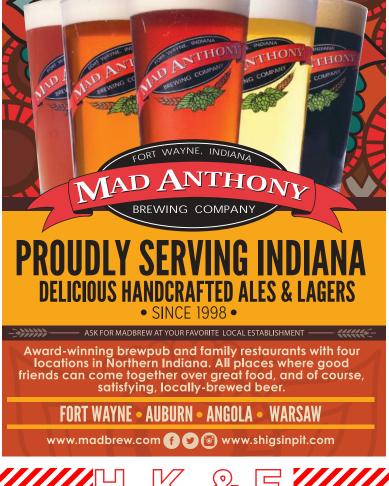
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With features such as an upper fanlight window capped with a keystone, lower multi-paned paired windows; and a pedimented portico supported by fluted round columns, this house exhibits architectural details associated with the Colonial Revival style which dominated domestic building throughout the United States during the first half of the 20th century. Its front-gabled orientation and asymmetrical front façade are somewhat unusual to the style, however.

Built circa 1905, early residents were Louis Bohne and his three children who rented here from about 1907 to 1911. Louis was born in Allen County in 1864, and came to be associated with F.H. Bohne and Brothers, a men's furnishing business. Longtime residents of the house were Fred and Margaret Church, who owned the property from 1922 to 1976. Fred was a noted musician who gave piano, organ, and voice lessons, and was also an organist and choir director at the Scottish Rite Cathedral.

This home has sat vacant for approximately 15 years. It was recently purchased and will soon become yet another West Central rehab success story. On this year's Tour, stops 3, 9 and 10 are recently finished rehab projects, and tour stop 4 is another work in progress.

West Central has a long, successful history of saving historic homes. Over the last several years, the momentum to rehab homes in West Central has become even stronger.



Steve Miranda Owner

<u>At a Glance</u> Style: Colonial Revival

Year Built: c. 1905

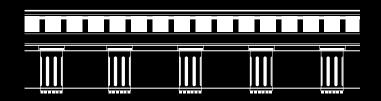
First Resident: Louis Bohne

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This double foursquare home and its sister to the west were built about 1913 by the Sauerteig family, who were already neighborhood residents and business owners when they decided to build a new home here.

The home features Arts and Crafts and Classical design details. 1301 was divided into upstairs and downstairs apartments sometime in the 1950s, as were many neighborhood homes, following a post-WWII housing shortage. Starting in 1989, owner Tom Cain restored this side of the home to a single unit as his personal residence, replicating missing moldings and art glass windows as needed, and fully restoring the interior. At the same time, he updated kitchen and baths to meet modern needs. An unfinished basement is now a cozy den.

Notably, the interior changes have been expressed as modern additions to the historic base of the house. The home is filled with Tom's lifelong collection of paintings, Asian ceramics, middle eastern rugs, and antique furniture, some of which are more than 300 years old.

The rear gardens, designed and built by Tom in 2001, reflect his skills as a landscape architect and are filled with a unique collection of flowers, trees, and shrubs. They are arranged in a series of outdoor rooms, in a classic manner popularized by English garden designer Gertrude Jekyl around the time the home was constructed.

The nationally-circulated Old House Journal, local magazines, and newspapers have published Tom's work.



Tom Cain, Resident and Owner

<u>At a Glance</u> Style: Double Foursquare

Year Built: c. 1913

First Residents: Sauterteig Family



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Built circa 1861, the current owners of this gable-front house have made many recent improvements. Simple in style, architectural details include wood clapboard siding painted blue with white trim and dark red accents, one-over-one windows with fabric awnings sheltering those on the upper story of the front facade, and a leaded glass transom over the front door. The Craftsman-style front porch, with balustrades comprised of square balusters and supported by square, tapered columns, was added in the 1920s.

Stonemason Peter Weber, a native of Germany, lived here with his wife, Elizabeth, and their five children. The property remained in the family until grandson Mark Shoemaker sold it in 1919.

In early 2015, Ben & Tammy Wahli purchased this abandoned house, which had once been a GE worker's cottage. The house was originally built as a single story home, but in the late 1800s, the roof was raised 4 feet and an upstairs floor was added.

To repair the crumbling foundation and stabilize the home, they removed the rear basement and installed two 20-foot I-beams. A partially collapsed addition also had to be removed from the back of the property. After 18 months, the once abandoned house was finally transformed into a welcoming home. The restoration received an ARCHie Commendation award in 2016. The home now features picture rails, stained glass, restored flooring, and a restored chimney.

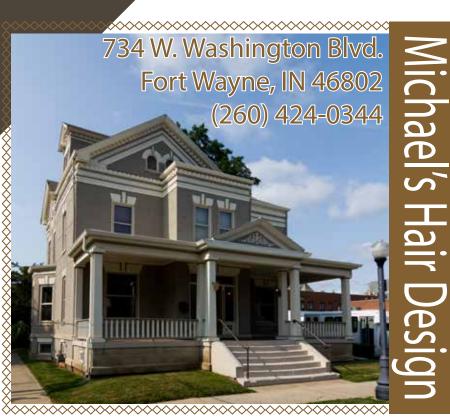


Ben & Tammy Wahli Residents & Owners

<u>At a Glance</u> Style: Gable Front

Year Built: 1861

First Residents: Peter & Elizabeth Weber





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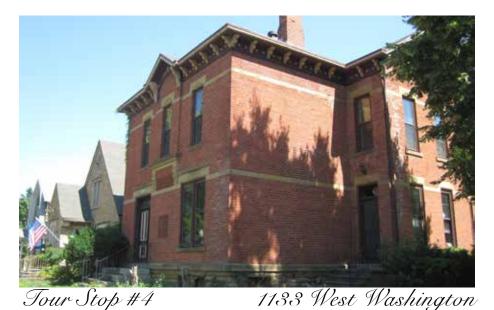
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Vacant for five years, an overgrowth of vegetation nearly made this house invisible.

Bernie Gump and his dedicated team are currently working to restore it to a single family home after having been divided into a fourplex.

Built circa 1887 for Charles Jacobs, the Italianate and Queen Anne-style brick structure features a centered gable, low-pitched roof with eaves embellished by decorative brackets.

Other features include a rusticated stone foundation; stone watertable, beltcourses, window sills, and lintels; flared chimneys; and patterned masonry panels on the main façade.

At one time, the side entrance had a covered porch, but the paneled double door main entrance still retains its glass transom displaying the pre-1902 house number of "297."

Born in Germany, Charles Jacobs arrived in the United States at age 18. He settled in Fort Wayne in 1865 where he ran a bakery business for forty years. He died in 1910, while still residing in this home, at age 78.

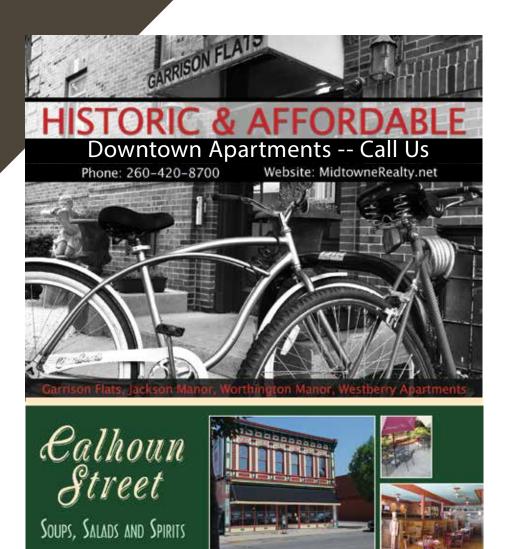


Anita & David Kuker Residents & Owners

<u>At a Glance</u> Style: Italianate & Queen Anne

Year Built: c. 1887

First Resident: Charles Jacobs



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This Richardsonian Romanesque style house was designed by Wing & Mahurin in 1893 for Robert Bell, an attorney and state senator. Contrasting smooth and rock-faced stone masonry on the exterior creates a striking effect. Other features include an open loggia above an entry porch with large Syrian arches.

On the west side of the house is a matching addition designed by architect A.M. Strauss in 1935. While in existence as a residence, the house boasted seven bedrooms, card room, billiard room, formal ballroom, and library. Outstanding hand-carved and imported hardwoods compliment the interior design.

Established in 1876 as Robert Klaehn & Sons, Klaehn, Fahl & Melton is the oldest funeral provider in Fort Wayne. The Klaehn family bought the residence in 1926 and converted it for use as a funeral home. Today, Klaehn, Fahl & Melton Funeral Home still operates from the home which Robert Bell built.





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In 1928, architect Guy Mahurin designed this building in the Spanish Eclectic style, which was popular for hotels, theaters, and other commercial buildings during the 1920s.

Architectural details of the building include a variety of arched openings, third-floor loggias, decorative terra cotta, and elaborate brickwork.

The first occupants of the building were the Chamber of Commerce Credit Rating Association and the Fort Wayne Woman's Club. The Chamber of Commerce occupied the building until 2013.

The University of Saint Francis (USF) purchased and significantly renovated the building for it to become the Keith Busse School of Business and Entrepreneurial Leadership, which opened in the fall of 2016.

It is now part of USF Downtown, which also includes the USF Robert Goldstine Performing Arts Center and the USF Music Technology Center in the former Scottish Rite building at 431 West Berry Street.



University of Saint Francis Business Center

<u>At a Glance</u> Style: Spanish Eclectic

Year Built: 1928

First Occupant: Chamber of Commerce



Congratulations on another successful year! Thank you for helping to make our Downtown so very beautiful.



We are proud to support the West Central Neighborhood, one of Fort Wayne's finest gems. Enjoy the tour!







Edmund and Adelina Bittler were the original owners of this Queen Anne house built in 1904. The front gable displays dentil molding under the eaves and fishscale shingling.

Other Queen Anne elements seen here include the two-story bay window and decorated entrance pediment.

Mr. Bittler, a native of Fort Wayne, was president and board chairman of Home Loan and Savings Association and was associated with the company for 42 years. He and Adelina were members of Trinity English Lutheran Church.

Atypical for West Central, this house features an in-ground pool in back. The current owner has relandscaped, redecorated the interior, and turned the third floor area into a recreation room.

Over the past four years, the current owner has undertaken renovations which include redesigning the backyard to integrate stamped concrete, natural stone, and landscaping to highlight the pool and patio. The exterior has also been freshly painted.



Stephanie Smith Resident & Owner

<u>At a Glance</u> Style: Queen Anne

Year Built: 1904

First Residents: Edmund & Adelina Bittler



## Strengthening the Fabric of Our Community

#### Old National proudly supports the West Central Neighborhood Association Home & Garden Tour and Art Festival

As much as we are a financial institution, Old National is a group of parents, volunteers, artists, athletes, neighbors and friends. By making investments of our time, talent and treasure, we work with you to strengthen the fabric of our community.



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Rather an uncommon style of home for Fort Wayne, this Mission-style duplex contributes to the architectural diversity of the West Central neighborhood.

The Mission style started in California in the 1890s, but never became widely popular outside the southwestern United States.

Identifying features of the style seen in this home is the smooth stucco exterior, the curve-shaped parapets, wide overhanging eaves, and porches supported by square columns.

Other accents include single Palladian windows over the porch roofs, modillions under the front eaves, and a soft color scheme of cream, tan, and pink.

Research suggests that this duplex was built circa 1910 for Theodore Thieme, although he never lived here. Thieme was best known in Fort Wayne for opening Wayne Knitting Mills in 1891, which was the first factory for the production of hosiery in the United States.

In 1920, Fred and Mary Vance and their children Helen and Fred lived at 1229 W. Berry Street while John and Jane Ewing lived in the east duplex at 1227 W. Berry Street.



Pete & Nancey Weaver Residents & Owners

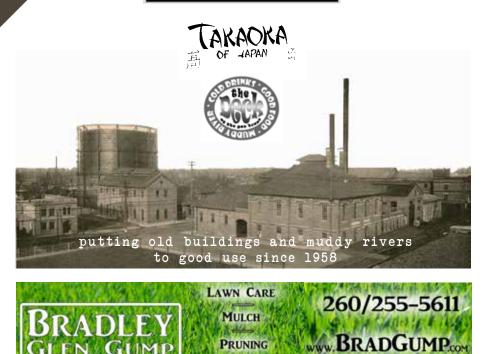
> <u>At a Glance</u> Style: Mission

Year Built: c. 1910

First Residents: Fred & Mary Vance

## "Why in the world wouldn't you just build something new?"

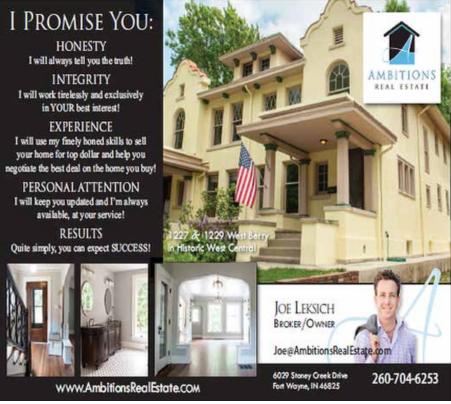
THE GAS HOUSE



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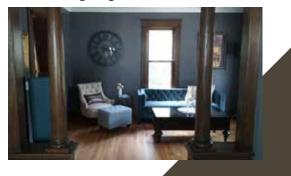


Constructed circa 1908, Sylvester and Bertha Sutton lived in this Queen Anne style house from 1909 to 1913 after purchasing it from the City and Suburban Building Company. Exterior design features include a front gable accented with arch detail and fish-scale shingles; a transom over the front door; and a leaded glass upper sash in the front, first story window. This primarily wood clapboard house, with integrated front porch supported by two, square posts, sits on a foundation of cast blocks.

Sylvester Sutton was born in Huntington, Indiana, in 1868, and while living in this house, worked as a physician for the J.W. Kidd Company, a mail-order medical business. He married Bertha Seidler in 1907, with whom he had a son, James. At age 96, Sylvester passed away, and is buried alongside Bertha in Lindenwood Cemetery.

This house was on last year's West Central Home Tour as a work in progress. When Ashley and Brad Radtke visited the beautiful homes on the Tour in 2015, this home stuck out like a sore thumb that needed an astounding amount of work. W ith Bernie Gump's team of dedicated restorers, they dedicated a year of work that produced the fantastic result which is on display this year.

Many hours were poured into restoring the woodwork and windows to their original glory after years of wear and layers of paint. Additions to the house include the master bedroom expansion, sitting room off the kitchen, and the renovation of the back yard which includes multi-tiered decking and a new garage.



Brad & Ashley Radtke Residents & Owners

<u>At a Glance</u> Style: Queen Anne

Year Built: c. 1908

First Residents: Sylvester & Bertha Sutton

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> Wait Until Dark (Thriller) September 30 October 1, 7, 8, 14, 15

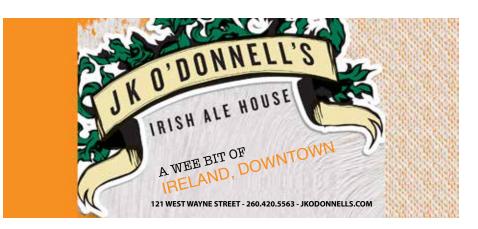
The Cemetery Club (Comedy) November 25, 26 December 2, 3, 9, 10, 11\*, 16, 17 (\* 2:00 PM Sunday matinee)

Failure: A Love Story (Comedy) January 20, 21, 27, 28 February 3, 4 Getting Sarah Married (Comedy) March 10, 11, 17, 18 March 24, 25

> Funny Little Thing Called Love (Comedy) April 28, 29 May 5, 6, 12, 13

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Built circa 1877 for Joseph and Elnora Hughes, this red brick house exhibits a mixture of Italianate and Queen Anne style elements. Joseph Hughes owned Joseph Hughes and Co., manufacturers of linseed oil. In 1877, he married Elnora Bash whose family owned Bash Seed and Feed located downtown on the Landing. This home stands next to those built by Elnora's brothers Charles (1114 West Wayne Street) and Winfred (1128 West Wayne Street).

Around 1895, major changes to the house included adding the prominent square tower and an addition to the back. Other architectural features include a double-door, beveled main entry with a pedimented roof supported by square, brick columns; and two side porches. Slate shingles on most of the roof and the front gable, dentil moldings, decorative brackets, and carved stone lintels provide additional interest.

The house was split into five apartments in 1935. It suffered significant fire damage in 2012 and was boarded up until Steve & Shirley Oyer obtained the property in June, 2014. The total renovation, which took a year to complete, blended the historical details with a more contemporary style. The main house now consists of the entire first floor and the front half of the second floor. A separate executive apartment suite utilizes the the back half of the second floor and the entire third floor.

The Oyers utilized existing interior doors, door frames, and trim, and were able to place them throughout the renovated spaces. The original staircase and two hand-carved fire place casings were untouched during the fire and were able to become a focal point in the living room and what is now the master bedroom.



Steve & Shirley Oyer Residents & Owners

<u>At a Glance</u> Style: Italianate & Queen Anne

Year Built: c. 1877

First Residents: Joseph & Elnora Hughes **27** 

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Emmet and Ella McDonald were the first to own this house, built circa 1881 and designed in the Stick style of architecture, which was popular between about 1860 to 1890.

Identifying architectural features utilized here include the steeplypitched, cross-gabled roof; decorative knee braces; and most significantly, wooden wall cladding interrupted by "stickwork" characterized by patterns of vertical boards raised from the wall surface for added emphasis.

Original interior features include the corner fireplace in the foyer and leaded glass windows.

Born in Allen County in 1842, Emmet McDonald was associated with various enterprises in his lifetime including the Jenney Electric Light and Power Company (although he does not appear to have been related to Jenney Electric founder R.T. McDonald), Indiana Machine Works, the Fort Wayne Trust Company, Carnahan & Company (wholesale dealers in boots and shoes), and a trucking company.

With Ella, whom he married in 1873, he had two sons and a daughter. He died at age 94 at Adams Lake in Wolcottville, Indiana.



Residents: Alicia Pyle & Megan Browning Owner: John Silverman

> <u>At a Glance</u> Style: Stick

Year Built: c. 1881

First Residents: Emmet & Ella McDonald 29



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# 2016 Salon Show

# Juried Exhibition of Traditional Oils

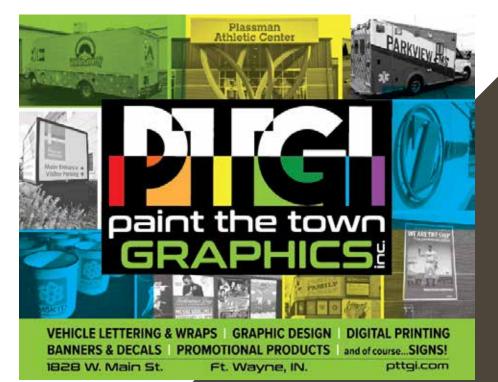


Castle Gallery Fine Art Opening Reception / Awards Ceremony: Friday, September 30th, 5:30-9 p.m.

> This national juried show presented by Oil Painters of America will include 300 paintings for sale by OPA Members and Master Artists through October 29.

1202 W. Wayne St., Fort Wayne, IN 46802 Phone: 260-426-6568 www.castlegallery.com Gallery Hours: Tues.-Sat., 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.





ArtsFest

During the Tour, please join us for two afternoons of exceptional, live entertainment, fantastic food and drinks, and a bevy of creative and unique artisans:

Saturday S	September 10
1:00 PM to 1:45 PM	Ft. Wayne Ballet Youth Co.
2:00 PM to 3:00 PM	Vandolah
3:30 PM to 4:30 PM	Adam Baker & The Heartache
5:00 PM to 6:30 PM	D Ferren & The Sad Bastards
7:00 PM to 8:00 PM	The B45's
8:30 PM to 10:00 PM	James & The Drifters
Sunday	September 11
12:00PM to 12:45 PM	Howling Soul Orchestra
1:00 PM to 2:00 PM	Austin Johnson
2:15 PM to 3:15 PM	Colin Boyd Trio
3:30 PM to 4:15 PM	Belle & The Strange
4:30 PM to 6:00 PM	West Central Jazz Quartet

ArtsFest is located on WAYNE and UNION STREETS between Jackson and Rockhill streets. For reference, please refer to the map on the back of this brochure. ArtsFest and the Mad Anthony Food & Beverage area are FREE and OPEN TO THE PUBLIC of all ages. Must be at least 21 years of age to purchase alcohol. Thank you for being responsible and respectful of our neighborhood and its residents. *Enjoy!* 



It is with great pleasure that the West Central Neighborhood Association would like to thank all the artists and vendors participating this year. It is their creativity, art, and friendliness that helps tremendously in making the ArtsFest so interesting, beautiful, and successful.

#### Made possible by:





The ArtsFest has been an integral part of our West Central Home and Garden Tour for many years. From a small, intimate gathering of friends and artists and musicians hosting the event in a selected backyard during the Tour to a full-scale event located on our West Central streets, the ArtsFest now encompasses dozens of artists, wellknown musicians, and local food vendors.

The expanded ArtsFest garnered the Downtown Improvement District's award for "Best Event of the Year" in 2009. Our all-volunteer ArtsFest committee has once again put together an exciting array of local and area artists, musicians, and food vendors for your enjoyment as you tour our beautiful historic homes. Browse the booths of our artists and select a one-of-a-kind treasure for your home or as a unique gift.

This year our artists include the following:

Tami Affolder & Nikky Affolder-Walker [Family Affair Arts & Crafts] Dana Babcock [Hope House Beads of Hope] Kelly Benton [Shutter Bomb Photobooth] **Edison Black** MacKenzie Brockhaus [Chandelears Jewelry Designs] Laurel Burke Jim & Tiffany Craig [Salamonie Products] Susie Crace [Wrist Art] **Deana Croussore** Tracy Degitz [Dawg e Bag] Greg Duncan Jim Goetsch [Third World Fair Trade Shoppe] Terri Gray [Lady Luck Gems] **Diane Groenert** Faith Harless [BeadRageous] Pat Harris **Tammy Harris** Kathy Hopper Phyllis Hughes [PH Unique Jewelry] Greg Jacobs [TekVenture] Jill Kaufman Jonathon Kaufman Abigail Kennedy [Bells & Whistles] Kelly Kruse [Kelly Pottery Design] Andie & Laura Landrigan [Andie's Pearls/Junebug Studio] Julia Langmeyer [JA Art Studio] **Julie Lepper** Alicia Lewis [Noonday Jewelry] Randy Martin [Caricatures by Randy] Michelle Monge [Chaotic Contessa Designs] **Don Osos** Cathy Parrott [Parrott Pottery] Larry & Diane Penix & June Deardorff [Window Wonders] Lori Proffitt [Creations by LO LO] Dawn Quick [Donnibelle Studio] **Jane Roth Katie Saunders** Mike Scherman [General Scherman Photography] **Emily Simpson Sarah Sites** John Slick [Inside the Tree] **Rex & Brenda Springer [RBS Creations]** Sue Stalter Steffen Group Nancy & Jeff Stump [Stump's Pottery & Paintings] **Raymond Till [Raymond Art** 

Please help us say THANK YOU! to our homeowners, sponsors, advertisers, entertainers, vendors, and volunteers. Without their participation and gifts, this event would not be possible:



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HANK YOU!



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