

WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CAPITOL CONNECTIONS



Welcome to the October 2025 edition of *Capitol Connections*—your source for the latest news and updates from the Wisconsin Historical Society. Our mission to collect, preserve and share stories is made possible by continued support from the Wisconsin Legislature and administration. Thank you!



See What's Rising on Capitol Square

Exciting things are happening at the Wisconsin History Center construction site—from crane installation to concrete pours and an elevator core that climbs higher each day!

As construction on the future Wisconsin History Center continues to move forward on schedule, we invite you to join us for a **special beam signing event at the State Capitol—mark your calendar for Wednesday, November 12 at noon**. We are excited to gather together to celebrate the progress, partnership and state pride that has made this landmark project possible. Stay tuned for more details next week and get ready to leave your mark on Wisconsin's premier history and cultural destination that will inspire generations to come!

Interested in keeping up with the progress? Tune into the [Wisconsin History Center construction cam](#) for a live look at the site!



Celebrate the Season at Wisconsin's Historic Sites & Museums

From ghostly tales to festive traditions, there's something for everyone this fall and holiday season at our historic sites. Enjoy [Legends & Lore at Old World Wisconsin](#), bring the family to [Safe & Spooky Halloween at Stonefield](#), and experience timeless holiday charm at [A Wade House Christmas](#) or [Villa Louis Christmas Tea](#).

More Upcoming Events:

Oct. 16, 17, 18, 19: [Poe at the Point at Black Point Estate & Gardens](#) (Lake Geneva)

Oct. 16: [The American Revolution Sneak Peek and Panel](#) (Baraboo)

Oct. 23: [An Evening at Wade's Tavern at Wade House](#) (Greenbush)

Nov. 6: [Fred Risser discusses Forward for the People: The Autobiography of America's](#)

[Longest Serving Legislator](#) (Madison)

Nov. 8: Edmund Fitzgerald 50th Anniversary History Makers Tour Event (Superior)

Dec. 6-7, 13-14: Home for the Holidays at Old World Wisconsin (Eagle)

[Click here](#) to explore the full lineup of events and make history part of your seasonal celebrations!

IN THE NEWS

NPR's All Things Considered: [A record number of shipwrecks have been discovered in the Great Lakes in recent years](#)

Associated Press: [Searchers discover 'ghost ship' that sank in Lake Michigan almost 140 years ago](#)

WisBusiness: [Mineral Point Library Archives wins Governor's Award for Archival Achievement](#)

WFRV: [Wisconsin celebrates Dungeons & Dragons legacy](#)

Wisconsin Public Radio: [New children's book chronicles the near extinction, restoration of Wisconsin's lake sturgeon](#)

Travel Wisconsin: [Top 10 Things to do with Family in Wisconsin](#)

Ashland Daily Press: [Drummond Bar Stool Races to be featured in new Wisconsin History Center](#)

Waupaca County Post: [Historical Society receives top honor](#)



Photo: Recently listed in the National Register of Historic Places, the Elkhorn Bandshell was constructed in 1926.

RECENT LISTINGS

Recent Additions to the National Register of Historic Places:

- [Elkhorn Band Shell](#) (Walworth County)
- [Widmer's Cheese Cellars](#) (Dodge County)
- [Willow Drive Mounds and Habitation Complex](#) (Dane County)

Recent Additions to the State Register of Historic Places:

- [Mount Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church](#) (Milwaukee County)
- [Luling School](#) (Manitowoc County)
- [Hedeon Orchard](#) (Door County)
- [John Evenson Shipwreck](#) (Kewaunee County)
- [Clafin Point Site](#) (Door County)

Ho-Chunk Gaming & Conference Center, Baraboo
19th ANNUAL | OCTOBER 15-17, 2025

Local History & Historic Preservation Conference

Common Threads: Weaving Stories Across Time & Place

DID YOU KNOW?

Local history professionals from around the state will gather at the Ho-Chunk Gaming & Conference Center in Baraboo on Oct. 15-17 for the [19th Annual Local History & Historic Preservation Conference](#). This year's conference theme is Common Threads: Weaving Stories Across Time & Place.