

News and Updates

The Ambassador House & Heritage Gardens Renewal Begins!

The Ambassador House & Heritage Gardens is on its way to new life. After years of preparation, research and planning, the renewal of the home and development of surrounding heirloom gardens has officially begun. Thanks to the Fisher Town Council, who provided bond funding to help the project get underway.

Restoration begins!

MD Rowe Construction of Indianapolis has been hired to do the outside and inside renovation of the 2½ story Greek Revival home which is over 176 years old. When construction is complete the home will be ready to furnish with Victorian era items and begin its function as an educational center and museum to Fishers history. The anticipated date for the Ambassador House completion is late 2007.

Gardens will be planted!

The home will be surrounded with 1 ½ acres of Victorian era heirloom gardens reflecting the heritage of the Harris's, the home's most prominent residents. Additional bond funding is available to help plant the gardens, and the bidding process will begin soon. The gardens will feature fragrant plantings of heirloom roses, perennials, annuals, and wildflowers. White picket fences with stone corner posts and brick lined pathways will lead visitors from the porch area to the rose arbor, heirloom vegetable bed, grape arbor and orchard. The centerpiece of the gardens is a sunken patio surrounded by terraced gardens. The home and gardens will host educational programs, community events such as ice cream socials, and be available to accommodate up to 500 people for public and private activities. The anticipated completion date for the gardens is spring of 2008.

A place to learn about Fishers heritage

As an educational venue, The Ambassador House will help to tell the story of Fishers, from its pioneers and Ambassador through today's history makers. Programs are being planned in conjunction with Hamilton Southeastern Schools to bring the stories of the home's former inhabitants to life. Museum exhibits focused on local heritage are also planned.

A peaceful sanctuary

Nature lovers and gardeners alike will enjoy a sanctuary within suburbia in the Victorian era heirloom gardens surrounding the house. Arts, cultural and civic organizations and the community will be able to use the house and gardens as a performance, exhibition and meeting place.

Additional funding and volunteers needed

Donations needed

Although the Town is funding the project through a bond, the funds must be repaid over time. Additionally, the bond funds do not cover all of the landscaping, any furnishings, museum items, programs, events, educational materials, administrative expenses, maintenance or staffing. Which is why community support is so necessary and thoroughly appreciated. A list of naming and recognition opportunities is listed under the "How can you help" page. The Historic Ambassador House & Heritage Gardens, Inc. is a non-profit 501C3 organization. In-kind donations are also accepted. To access a donation form, please click [here](#). For additional information, phone Pam Newell, Executive Director, 842-5513.

Volunteers needed

If you have a special interest in history, gardening, architecture, and museums or have other organizational skills talents and leadership ability, we encourage you to volunteer. Please contact us about the opportunities available to share your talents. Board meetings are open to the public, and are generally scheduled the second Thursday of each month at 7am in the Fishers Train Station. A posted notice confirms the meetings 48 hours in advance at the Town Hall. Please call Pam Newell, Executive Director, for additional information. - 842-5513.