

Utopia on the Prairie | Founded 1846



# *Bishop Hill*



Helping you

*protect*

what matters most.



**Katie Spivey**  
**Financial Advisor**

[katie.spivey@countryfinancial.com](mailto:katie.spivey@countryfinancial.com)



**Jaclyn Sedlacek**  
**Associate Agent**

[jaclyn.sedlacek@countryfinancial.com](mailto:jaclyn.sedlacek@countryfinancial.com)



AUTO | HOME | LIFE | BUSINESS | RETIREMENT

209 SE 8th Ave  
Galva, IL 61434  
(309) 932-3272

# Welcome to Bishop Hill, Illinois

Many other 'historic villages' one might visit are actually reproductions. They may have done some archeology and built new, or moved a mish-mash of historic structures to an artificial commons. But Bishop Hill is very much the same town you would have seen if you came through in a horse and buggy 179 years ago. It is a living, fully functional village with a mayor and fire department. What makes us unique is that the entire town is a registered historic landmark. The people who live here still farm the surrounding country side, cut firewood for the winter, plant broom corn in the spring, and celebrate the changing of the seasons, just as our Swedish ancestors did. Yes, we do this for the folks who come to participate, but more importantly, we do it because it is our way of living authentically. The crafts and trades that supported our fore-fathers and mothers are still a source of livelihood today. The pottery and brooms you buy are the same ones we use in our kitchens.

*Consider yourself invited to come, step into a land of authentic enchantment, and become a part of a living tradition.*



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Across from the Park and J. Gourd Pottery in Bishop Hill

**PL Johnson's**  
**Victorian Dining Room**  
 Swedish American Cooking

For Reservations,  
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 www.pljohnsons.com  
 facebook · PL Johnson's Desserts & Dining

Lunch Hours  
 11:00 - 2:00  
 Wed - Sun  
 Summer Dinner Sell

13

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*Please Join Us*

You are warmly invited to come and worship with us, and experience God's grace through our time together. We recognize that people look for God in many ways and many places. Whether you visit one of our churches in person or online, we hope you discover something here to encourage you in your spiritual journey.

**H COMMUNITY UMC**  
 Sunday | 10:15am  
 405 E Main St ♦ Bishop Hill, IL 61419

**GALVA FIRST UMC**  
 Sunday | 9:00am  
 200 NW 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave ♦ Galva, IL 61434



Avoid disappointment and call ahead.  
Check [www.visitbishophill.com](http://www.visitbishophill.com) for the most current dates and times.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- March 17** *St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef and Cabbage at The Filling Station!*  
Serving Lunch 11 am-2 pm, and Dinner 5 pm-7 pm 309-927-3355
- April 3** *Good Friday Candlelight Service | 7pm*  
All are welcomed. Contact info: Parish Office: 309 932-2460, [www.neighborsinchrist.com](http://www.neighborsinchrist.com), 405 East Main Street Sponsored By: Bishop Hill Community United Methodist Church
- April 4** *Breakfast with the Easter Bunny!*  
Reserved slots are 9 AM – 12 PM. Cost is \$15 and includes breakfast, a meet-and-greet, crafts, and an egg hunt. RSVP via Facebook Messenger or text (309)525-4226. Sponsored by Krans Kafé, 103 S Bishop Hill St.
- April 5** *Easter Sunday Service | 10:15am at Bishop Hill UMC*  
All are welcomed. Contact info: Parish Office: 309 932-2460, [www.neighborsinchrist.com](http://www.neighborsinchrist.com) , 405 East Main Street. Sponsored By: Bishop Hill Community United Methodist Church
- April 5** *Easter Lunch at The Filling Station 11am – 2pm | 309-927-3355*
- April 5** *Easter Lunch at PL Johnson's 11am – 2pm | 309-927-3885*
- April 11-13** *Spring Fling Pottery Workshop*  
Seating is limited for this 3-day, all-level hands-on workshop taught by local potter Jeffery Goard at J Goard School of Pottery. All supplies are included. Fee: \$175 (due at registration). For details or to reserve, call or text 309-883-1035. Hosted by J Goard Pottery.
- April 11-12** *Spring Fling | 10am – 4pm*  
Welcome spring and the start of tourist season in Bishop Hill! Enjoy special discounts, events, and activities at local stores, museums, and restaurants. Collect 6 signatures from participating locations to enter a gift basket drawing at the Colony Store. For details, call 309-927-3898 or email [VasaArchivist@gmail.com](mailto:VasaArchivist@gmail.com).
- April 11-12** *Exhibit Opening | 10am – 4pm*  
Opening Reception: Heritage and Community — The Vasa Order of America, New Jersey District Six. This exhibit highlights the history and contributions of the Swedish-American fraternal organization's New Jersey District No. 6. For more information, call 309-927-3898 or email [VasaArchivist@gmail.com](mailto:VasaArchivist@gmail.com). Hosted by the Vasa National Archives.
- April 11** *Colonial America Program by Barry Grove | 1pm*  
As part of America's 250th Anniversary, Mr. Grove presents a one-hour program on life in Colonial America before the Revolutionary War. Topics include daily chores, clothing (with audience participation), diet, trades, and more. This free program is open to the public in the Steeple Building. For details, call 309-927-3899 or email [bhha@mymctc.net](mailto:bhha@mymctc.net). Sponsored by the Bishop Hill Heritage Assoc..



Galva Public Library District  
120 NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave  
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Fax (309) 932-2280  
[www.galvalibrary.org](http://www.galvalibrary.org)  
Where Readers Go for Books!



*Avoid disappointment and call ahead.  
Check [www.visitbishophill.com](http://www.visitbishophill.com) for the most current dates and times.*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- April 11**      ***This 'N That Rummage Sale | 9am – 3pm***  
For more information, contact: [www.bholdsettlers.org](http://www.bholdsettlers.org), [bholdsettlers@gmail.com](mailto:bholdsettlers@gmail.com). Sponsored by the Bishop Hill Old Settlers' Assoc. - the proceeds benefit building maintenance projects.
- April 11**      ***Annual Bishop Hill Book Fair | 11am – 4pm***  
Meet local authors from a variety of genres, with books available for purchase. Authors wishing to participate should register early to reserve a seat at the Author Table. Held at Bishop Hill Creative Commons, 309 N. Bishop Hill Street. A portion of proceeds supports Crossroads Cultural Connections, the nonprofit behind the Bishop Hill Creative Commons. For more information, contact Jannifer Powelson at [jannifer.powelson@gmail.com](mailto:jannifer.powelson@gmail.com).
- April 11-  
May 19**      ***Bishop Hill Art Invitational***  
Come see the talents of local artists in the Steeple Building. Opening reception will be on April 11 at 5 pm. For more information contact Jeff Goard at 309-883-1035 or [potter4now@yahoo.com](mailto:potter4now@yahoo.com). Sponsored by Bishop Hill Arts Council
- April 24**      ***Valborg Bonfire and Wiener Roast | 6pm***  
Enjoy yard games, activities, hotdogs, coffee, and cocoa—free and open to the public. In case of rain, the event will move to the Vasa National Archives second level. For more information, call 309-927-3898 or email [VasaArchivist@gmail.com](mailto:VasaArchivist@gmail.com).
- April 25**      ***29th Annual Swedish Stomp & Skamproo | 7:30am start***  
Run or walk through historic Bishop Hill and its scenic country roads in this 5K event. The race begins and ends at the Colony School. Doors open at 7:30 a.m. for onsite registration and a public breakfast; race starts at 9 a.m. Hosted by the Bishop Hill Old Settlers' Association. For details, visit [www.bholdsettlers.org](http://www.bholdsettlers.org) or email [bholdsettlers@gmail.com](mailto:bholdsettlers@gmail.com).

# HENRY CO MUSEUM

*Corner of Knox and Park Streets, Bishop Hill*



OPEN DAILY 10AM TO 4PM  
May 1st through October 31st  
309-927-3528



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Avoid disappointment and call ahead.

Check [www.visitbishophill.com](http://www.visitbishophill.com) for the most current dates and times.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- May 2** ***Women's Baseball in Illinois and the Midwest by Anna Sielaff | 1pm***  
This presentation explores how Illinois played a significant role in the formation of the AAGPBL. Anna will trace the evolution of women's baseball from its 19th-century beginnings to the establishment of the league in 1943. She will discuss how the league's unique rules developed over time and highlight the teams that made history—particularly the Illinois teams. This program is one hour long, free and open to the public in the Steeple Building. For more information about the schedule of events, contact the Bishop Hill Heritage Assoc. at 309-927-3899 or bhha@mymctc.net. This event is being produced in part by the IHC Road Scholars Speakers Bureau. Sponsored by Bishop Hill Heritage Assoc.
- May 2** ***Spring Open House at J Goard Pottery | 1pm – 5pm***  
Celebrating 5 years at this location! Contact for more information: Jeff Goard 309-883-1035 (call or text). Hosted by J Goard Pottery
- May 2** ***Finnish Field Day: Hobby Horse Games | 1pm – 4pm***  
Hobby horses—also called stick horses—have delighted kids for centuries. Make your own (\$10) or bring one from home and enjoy jumps, races, and dressage-style dancing. To reserve a spot, call 309-927-3898. Hosted by Vasa National Archives.
- May 10** ***Mother's Day at The Filling Station | 309-927-3355***  
Breakfast Buffet 7 – 10 am, Lunch 11am – 2 pm
- May 10** ***Mother's Day Luncheon at PL Johnsons | 309-927-3885***
- May 15-16** ***Bishop Hill Quilt Show | 9am – 4pm***  
The 36th annual Quilt Show brings the Colony School to life with over 100 quilts on display for two days. This year's theme, "An American Legacy," features special theme quilts in the Steeple Building. Admission is \$5. Sponsored by the Prairie Queen Quilt Club and the Bishop Hill Heritage Assoc. For more information, contact Lorna Brown at 309-945-7401 or lsbrown75@yahoo.com.
- May 16** ***Bishop Hill Civil War Day***  
To honor Bishop Hill's Company D, 57th Illinois Volunteer Infantry, the village will host a free living history encampment with hourly programs. Events include an artillery demonstration, an appearance by Gen. John Logan, a Civil War Ball, a medical demonstration, an afternoon skirmish, and more. The Steeple Building Museum will also feature a special Company D exhibit. For a full schedule, contact the Bishop Hill Heritage Association at 309-927-3899 or bhha@mymctc.net. Sponsored by the Bishop Hill Heritage Association.
- May 23** ***Evening Dinner at PL Johnson's | 309-927-3885, 4pm – 7pm***
- May 29** ***Spring Fashion Show | 6pm – 8pm***  
Free, public event. RSVP by calling 309-927-3736 or FB Messenger to Krans Kafe or Entwined Boutique. Sponsored by Entwined Boutique, Hosted by Krans Kafe, 103 S Bishop Hill St.
- June 1** ***Afternoon Tea at PL Johnson's | 309-927-3885***
- June 13** ***Doodle Folk Music Festival | 10am Start***  
Celebrate Bishop Hill's first folk musician, Doodle, with a full day of free folk music in the park starting at 10 a.m.! Enjoy performances by Barry Cloyd, the Bucktown American Music Show, and more. This one-day festival is free and open to the public. For details, email bhha@mymctc.net or call 309-927-3899. Sponsored by the Bishop Hill Heritage Assoc.
- June 13** ***Honor Flight of the QC Fundraiser | 7:30am – 2pm***  
Breakfast buffet served 7:30 a.m.–2 p.m. for a free-will donation. Brown Bag Raffle: 8–11 a.m. | Live Auction: 11 a.m. For donations or volunteer info, contact Nicci Dillon at 309-927-3355. Hosted by The Filling Station Restaurant, 303 Bishop Hill Street.

# PRAIRIE ARTS CENTER

*brooms, rugs, wood, baskets, jewelry,  
textiles, pottery, art & more!*

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## Augustana College



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[www.swensoncenter.org](http://www.swensoncenter.org)

BISHOP HILL

## OLD SETTLERS' ASSOCIATION

*Established in 1896*



Celebrate the rich legacy of our founders  
through cultural events and activities.  
Join us; we welcome new members!

## Rent the Colony School

*Perfect for any event or gathering*  
Full Kitchen • Air-Conditioned • Wifi

Find us on [Facebook](#) or at [www.bholdsettlers.org](http://www.bholdsettlers.org)

PO Box 68 / Bishop Hill, IL 61419



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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS


- June 20** ***Midsommar Festival | 10:00am – 2:00pm***  
Enjoy music, shows, and family-friendly fun in the village park. Stay for traditional maypole decorating and dancing at the Colony School, followed by cookies and punch from the local Vasa Lodge. For details, call 309-927-3898 or email [VasaArchivist@gmail.com](mailto:VasaArchivist@gmail.com). Organized by Vasa National Archive
- June 20** ***Midsommar Respite | 10am – 4pm, during Midsummer***  
Beat the heat at the Vasa National Archives with a drink, snack, and a make-and-take clay activity. Free and open to the public. For more information, call 309-927-3898 or email [VasaArchivist@gmail.com](mailto:VasaArchivist@gmail.com). Hosted by the Vasa National Archives.
- June 21** ***Father's Day at The Filling Station | 309-927-3355***  
Breakfast Buffet 7 – 10 am, Lunch 11 am – 2 pm
- June 21** ***Father's Day at PL Johnson's | 309-927-3885, 11am – 2pm***
- July 6** ***Princess Tea at PL Johnson's | 309-927-3885***
- July 12** ***Dancing Queen: An ABBA Salute Concert | 1pm***  
This two-hour FREE concert in the Village Park is open to the public. For more details, email [bhha@mymctc.net](mailto:bhha@mymctc.net) or call 309-927-3899. Organized by the Bishop Hill Heritage Assoc.
- July 25** ***Evening Dinner at PL Johnson's | 309-927-3885, 4pm – 7pm***
- July 26** ***Antique Car Show | 7:30am start***  
Registration is 7:30-11:30 at the Colony School; Judging is noon-1:30; Award Presentation at 3:00. \$15 Entry Fee. 23 Classes Including the newer class of Swedish Cars! For more information, contact: [www.bholdsettlers.org](http://www.bholdsettlers.org), [bholdsettlers@gmail.com](mailto:bholdsettlers@gmail.com) Hosted by the Bishop Hill Old Settlers' Assoc.
- August 3** ***Afternoon Tea at PL Johnson's | 309-927-3885***
- August 15** ***Confessions of a Baseball Scout program by Tim Pletkovich | 1pm***  
Mr. Pletkovich, who began scouting amateur players at 14 and became the youngest paid scout in MLB with the Chicago Cubs by 21, shares stories and insights from his 1980s scouting career. This one-hour program at the Steeple Building Museum is free and open to the public. For details, email [bhha@mymctc.net](mailto:bhha@mymctc.net) or call 309-927-3899. Organized by the Bishop Hill Heritage Association.
- August 22** ***Bishop Hill Chautauqua | 10am start***  
Meet famous historical figures through first-person portrayals by expert storytellers in the park. This year's Chautauqua, celebrating America's 250th Birthday, highlights Founding Figures who helped shape the nation. Free and open to the public. For details, email [bhha@mymctc.net](mailto:bhha@mymctc.net) or call 309-927-3899. Organized by the Bishop Hill Heritage Assoc.
- Sept 11-13** ***Old Settlers' Day Anniversary Celebration – "Then & Now"***  
Celebrate the founding of the Bishop Hill Colony (Sept. 23, 1846) with a special weekend honoring the 180th anniversary of the colony and the 130th of the Old Settlers' Organization.
- Friday, 11th: Street dance at the Colony Inn
  - Saturday, 12th (9 a.m.–4 p.m.): 5-Year Parade, chicken meal (ticketed), annual free concert and park program, dessert social, and area school reunion at the Colony School. "Meet the Colonists" exhibit on display.
  - Sunday, 13th: Fall cruise-in to the village
- Most activities are free and open to the public (chicken dinner ticketed). For details or parade entry, visit [www.bholdsettlers.org](http://www.bholdsettlers.org) or email [bholdsettlers@gmail.com](mailto:bholdsettlers@gmail.com). Organized by the Bishop Hill Old Settlers' Association in partnership with local businesses and organizations.
- Sept 18** ***Fall Fashion Show | 6pm – 8pm***  
This FREE event is open to anyone. RSVP by - phone: 309-927-3736, or FB Messenger for Krans Kafe or Entwined Boutique. Sponsored by Entwined Boutique, Hosted by Krans Kafe, 103 S Bishop Hill St.



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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS



- Sept 26-27** *Jordbruksdagarna (Agricultural Days) | 10am – 4pm*  
Enjoy traditional craft demonstrations, music, food, dancing, vendors, and children’s hands-on activities at Jordbruksdagarna (“Earth Work Days”), a 19th-century harvest festival. Free and open to the public. For details, email [bhha@mymtct.net](mailto:bhha@mymtct.net) or call 309-927-3899. Organized by the Bishop Hill Heritage Assoc.
- Sept 26** *Stew at the Colony School and “Meet the Colonists” | 11:00am – 1:30pm*  
For more information, contact: [www.bholdsettlers.org](http://www.bholdsettlers.org), [bholdsettlers@gmail.com](mailto:bholdsettlers@gmail.com) Hosted by the Bishop Hill Old Settlers’ Assoc.
- Sept 26** *Bishop Hill Community UMC Bake Sale | 10am*  
Contact: Parish Office: 309 932 2460, [www.neighborsinchrist.com](http://www.neighborsinchrist.com) , 405 East Main Street, Sponsored By: Bishop Hill Community United Methodist Church
- Sept 26-27** *Butter Making | 10am – 5pm*  
Call 309-927-3898 or email [VasaArchivist@gmail.com](mailto:VasaArchivist@gmail.com) for more information. Courtesy of Vasa National Archives
- Sept 27** *Sunday Worship in the Park | 10am*  
All are invited and Welcomed! Contact: Parish Office: 309-932-2460, [www.neighborsinchrist.com](http://www.neighborsinchrist.com) , 405 East Main Street, Sponsored By: Bishop Hill Community United Methodist Church
- Oct 10** *5th Annual Bishop Hill Pottery & Art Festival | 10am – 4pm*  
Local artists will showcase a variety of media, with free public entry. Enjoy an art competition, plus a soup dinner, pie, and ice cream for a fee. Handmade art vendors can contact Jeff to reserve a spot. Sponsored by J Goard Pottery. For more info, call or text 309-883-1035.



# J. Goard Pottery

John 6:68  
[jgoardpottery.com](http://jgoardpottery.com) \* [potter4now@yahoo.com](mailto:potter4now@yahoo.com)  
 309-883-1035  
 204 Johnson St \* PO Box 54 \* Bishop Hill, IL 61419  
 Next to PL Johnson’s

Pottery \* Demos \* Baskets \* Jewelry \* Candles \*  
 Soaps \* Textiles  
 All Local Handmade Wares

**Classroom on  
Bjorklund St. next to  
PL Johnson’s Dining  
and Desserts.**

**Classes or private  
workshops available!**

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- Oct 10-11**    ***Bargain Hunter Weekend | 10am – 4pm***  
Celebrate a bountiful fall with special discounts and activities at local businesses and museums. Collect entries to win a gift basket at the Colony Store. For details, call 309-927-3898 or email [VasaArchivist@gmail.com](mailto:VasaArchivist@gmail.com).
- Oct 12**        ***Princess Tea at PL Johnson's | 309-927-3885, 11am – 2pm***
- Oct 22**        ***Illinois History in 10 Objects by Erika Holst | 6pm***  
In celebration of America 250, explore Illinois history through 10 objects from the Illinois State Museum, each revealing the lives of people across different eras. This one-hour program at the Steeple Building Museum is free and open to the public. Produced in part by the IHC Road Scholars Speakers Bureau and organized by the Bishop Hill Heritage Association.
- Oct 30**        ***Witches Night Out | 4pm – 7pm***  
Dress in your spookiest costumes and enjoy late-night shopping at Bishop Hill's local haunts. Stop by Krans Kafe for tarot readings and an exclusive drink menu. For details, call 309-927-3736 or message via Facebook: Krans Kafe or Entwined Boutique. Sponsored by Entwined Boutique (207 N Bishop Hill St) and Krans Kafe (103 S Bishop Hill St).
- Nov 14**        ***Mountain Dulcimer Workshop by Mike Anderson | 1pm***  
Join Mike Anderson, "The Dulcimer Guy," for a free mountain dulcimer workshop at the Dairy Building (410 N. Erickson St.). Mike, a top dulcimer player with six recordings, will help beginners play and seasoned players enhance their skills. Bring your own dulcimer—some instruments will be available. No reservations needed. For details, email [bhha@mymctc.net](mailto:bhha@mymctc.net) or call 309-927-3899. Funded by the Bishop Hill Heritage Association and the Illinois Arts Council.

# Katrina Morrison Art



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## Garden Thyme

109 N. Bishop Hill Street

**Original Prints**

**Paintings**

**Handmade Jewelry**



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Garden Thyme in Bishop Hill



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[www.GardenThymeArt.com](http://www.GardenThymeArt.com)



Colony Church



Colony School



Bjorklund Hotel

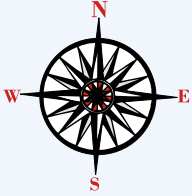


# Discover Bishop Hill

[www.visitbishophill.com](http://www.visitbishophill.com)



Kids can re-enact colonial life at Spets Stuga Playhouse.



Krans Livery Stable

### Bishop Hill Cemetery



BHHH Steeple Building

### Stroll the Enchanted Mile:

In Bishop Hill you can get everywhere from anywhere in less than a mile! Less than 5 blocks long and 7 blocks wide, you can easily stroll around the entire town, taking in more than 40 historic homes, galleries, shops, and museums. Create your own itinerary or enjoy a virtual guided tour on the Clio app.



Visit our website by clicking the QR Code



See map legend on next page -> -> ->



## Shops & Services

- 1** Summer Cottage, 661-993-0611
- 4** Hantverk Galleri, 309-927-3064
- 8** Bishop Hill Creative Commons, 309-927-3851
- 14** J. Goard Pottery School, 309.883.1035
- 16** Entwined Boutique, 309-927-3222
- 17** Peasant Works,  peasantworks
- 18** J. Goard Pottery, 309.883.1035
- 19** Prairie Arts Center, 309-927-3008
- 23** Garden Thyme, 309-373-5314
- 23** Post Office, 309-927-3595
- 25** Feathered Nest, 309-737-0260
- 31** Colony Store, 309-927-3596
- 32** H Wyatt Mercantile, 309-927-3300
- 34** Sugar & Spice

## Food & Drink

- 10** The Filling Station, 309-927-3355
- 13** PL Johnson's Desserts and Dining, 309-927-3885
- 15** The Colony Inn, 309-927-3335
- 32** H Wyatt Bakery, 309-927-3300
- 48** Krans Kafe, 309-927-3136

## Lodging

- 38** Lilla Vita Guesthouse,  
[airbnb.com/h/lillavitaguesthouse](http://airbnb.com/h/lillavitaguesthouse)

## Museums

- 11** Colony Church, 309-927-3345
- 21** Krans Livery Stable, 309-927-3899
- 24** BHHA Steeple Building, 309-927-3899
- 27** Bjorklund Hotel, 309-927-3345
- 36** Vasa Archives & Museum, 309-927-3898
- 41** Henry County Museum, 309-927-3528
- 47** Bishop Hill Museum, 309-927-3345

## Points of Interest

- 2** Dairy Building
- 3** Spets Stuga
- 6** Jansson House
- 7** Meat Storage House
- 9** Fire Station
- 12** Boys Dormitory
- 19** Colony Blacksmith Shop
- 20** Eric Krans House
- 22** Colony Hospital
- 23** Colony Carpenter Shop
- 26** Colony School
- 28** Olson Barn
- 29** Colony Residence
- 30** Colony Administration
- 37** Eric Troil House
- 39** Red Oak House
- 40** Methodist Church
- 42** BH Municipal Building
- 43** Swanson House
- 44** Jacobson House
- 45** Krusbo House

## Points of Interest

-  Open to public
-  Walk-by viewing only
-  Open Year Round\*
-  Public Restroom
-  ATM Machine

\* Events can be postponed please call to avoid disappointment.



The Bishop Hill Visitors' Guide is a publication of the Bishop Hill Arts Council. We wish to thank the **Bishop Hill Heritage Association, PL Johnson's Desserts and Dining, Lou Lourdeau, Cathy Nelson, Megan Evans, Bishop Hill Old Settlers Association, Bishop Hill Heritage Association, and Illinois Department of Natural Resources** for the use of their photos.



*Avoid disappointment and call ahead.  
Check [www.visitbishophill.com](http://www.visitbishophill.com) for the most current dates and times.*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Nov 20** *Entwined's 11th Anniversary Sip & Shop | 4pm – 6pm*  
Grab your girlfriends for a fun sip and shop! Giveaway entries available! Call 309-927-3736 or use FB Messenger of Entwined Boutique for more details. Hosted by Entwined Boutique 207 N Bishop Hill St.
- Nov 27-29** *Julmarknad (Christmas Market) | 10am – 4pm*  
Explore traditionally decorated shops and museums, meet Swedish folk characters, and enjoy special music, Swedish foods, unique gifts, and more. For details, email [bhha@mymctc.net](mailto:bhha@mymctc.net) or call 309-927-3899. Organized by the Bishop Hill Heritage Association.
- Nov 27-28** *Annual Cookie Walk | 9am – 3pm*  
Buy cookies by the pound while supplies last. Holiday photo sittings will be available on Saturday the 28th for a fee. For more information, contact: [www.bholdsettlers.org](http://www.bholdsettlers.org), [bholdsettlers@gmail.com](mailto:bholdsettlers@gmail.com)
- Nov 27-28** *Advent Wreath Making | 9am – 3pm*  
During this FREE workshop, you can learn about Advent, ways to celebrate, and create an Advent wreath with your family to take home. Contact info: Parish Office: 309 932 2460, [www.neighborsinchrist.com](http://www.neighborsinchrist.com)  
Sponsored By: Bishop Hill Community United Methodist Church
- Nov 27-29 & Dec 5-6** *Make and Take Dala Horses | 10am – 4pm, while supplies last*  
Paint a wooden Dala horse here or take supplies home to paint later. Cost: \$5 ornament or \$7 standing horse. Reservations recommended to ensure supply. Call 309-927-3898 or email [VasaArchivist@gmail.com](mailto:VasaArchivist@gmail.com) for details. Hosted by Vasa National Archives
- Dec 5-6** *Julmarknad (Christmas Market) | 10am – 4pm*  
Experience the sights, sounds, and aromas of Christmas past in Bishop Hill. Swedish folk characters roam the village, with special music, Swedish food specialties, handmade wares, and antiques. Don't miss the Chocolate Walk at the Commons on Saturday. For details, email [bhha@mymctc.net](mailto:bhha@mymctc.net) or call 309-927-3899. Organized by the Bishop Hill Heritage Association.
- Dec 11–12** *Lucia Nights (Festival of Lights) | 6pm – 9pm*  
Experience a Swedish holiday with luminaries, candles, free music, Lucia girls serving drinks and sweets, and open shops and museums. Soup Supper at Methodist Church, 4–7 pm both nights. Christmas Tree Lighting: Dec 11, 6 pm. FREE Barn Dance: Dec 12, 7 pm at the Colony School. For details, email [bhha@mymctc.net](mailto:bhha@mymctc.net) or call 309-927-3899. Organized by the Bishop Hill Heritage Association.



## Join the Bishop Hill Arts Council

Since 1982, BHAC has supported the arts and artisans that reflect the traditions of Bishop Hill. The BHAC produces and distributes the annual visitor's guide, hosts the [visitbishophill.com](http://visitbishophill.com) website, and utilizes print and TV media to market Bishop Hill. The BHAC yearly provides funding for events such as Midsommar, Julmarknad, and Lucia Nights. As financing permits, the BHAC sponsors concerts, workshops, and classes. By joining the BHAC, you can help support the arts and ensure the economic vitality of Bishop Hill. The BHAC meets the second Wednesday of each month at 9 a.m.

Individual members receive: Special discounts offered at participating stores and voting privileges.

Business members receive: Promotion on BHAC website & Facebook page, verified listing in visitors guide, voting privileges at meetings.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Business or Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Category: Individual (\$25) \_\_\_\_\_ Business (\$75) \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks out to Bishop Hill Arts Council, and mail with this form to BHAC, Attn: Membership, PO Box 47 Bishop Hill, IL 61419. For more information, contact BHAC at [artscouncilvents@gmail.com](mailto:artscouncilvents@gmail.com).



## Planning a wedding? A Family Reunion? A

**corporate retreat**, bus tour, dog show or baby shower? Bishop Hill can offer space and atmosphere! The 1861 Colony School, the 1854 Dairy Building, Krans Kafe, H. Wyatt Bakery and the Bishop Hill Commons are available to rent. The Vasa National Archive and the Steeple Building have space as well. Contact them directly for rental information. Looking for food to go with that rental? The Filling Station, Krans Kafe, H. Wyatt Bakery, and PL Johnsons can make it for you. Contact them directly for menu options.

### **EVENING MEALS in Bishop Hill:**

**The Filling Station** 10 serves dinner every Friday. **The Colony Inn Tavern** 15 has pizza and pub foods, but other nights it is recommended that you make reservations at one of the many restaurants that are within a short drive.



## *Ongoing Events....*

### **Concerts at the Commons**

Join us for our weekly concert series with some of the best bands touring the world—from Ireland to Peru, Nashville to Austin and all points in between. These family friendly concerts are great fun and you get to see Grammy winning artists in an intimate setting. Full schedule at [visitbishophill.com](http://visitbishophill.com) Look under the “Listen” tab or contact John Taylor at [john.r.taylor@gmail.com](mailto:john.r.taylor@gmail.com). Potluck at 6pm. Music at 7pm.

### **Art Workshops at The Commons**

Weekend and weekday hands-on workshops for kids and adults throughout the year. Follow us on FB or call **309-927-3851** for upcoming events.

### **Trivia at The Colony Inn**

Every other Friday at 6:30pm. Last Saturday of the month at 2pm.

### **Sunday Service at Bishop Hill Community United Methodist Church**

Every Sunday at 10:15am.



Avoid disappointment and call ahead.

Check [www.visitbishophill.com](http://www.visitbishophill.com) for the most current dates and times.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Dec 11–12** **Closing Reception | 6pm – 9pm**  
During Lucia Nights. Info: 309-927-3898 or [VasaArchivist@gmail.com](mailto:VasaArchivist@gmail.com).
- Dec 19** **Brunch with Santa and the Grinch | 9am – 12pm**  
Reservations required. \$15 includes breakfast, meet-and-greet, and make-and-take crafts. RSVP via Facebook Messenger to Krans Kafe or text 309-525-4226.
- Dec 19** **J Goard Pottery Christmas Open House | 1pm – 4pm**  
Enjoy homemade treats and warm drinks while shopping for gifts. Info: Jeff Goard, 309-883-1035 (call/text).
- Dec 19** **Colony Store Customer Appreciation Day | 10am – 4pm**  
All customers receive 10% off; Bishop Hill Heritage members 20% off. Refreshments served and gift basket giveaway.
- Dec 24** **Christmas Eve Service | 9pm**  
Candlelight service with Scripture, prayer, and carols at Bishop Hill UMC. Open to all. Contact Parish Office: 309-932-2460, [www.neighborsinchrist.com](http://www.neighborsinchrist.com), 405 E. Main St. Hosted by Bishop Hill Community United Methodist Church.
- Dec 25** **Julotta | 6am – 7:30am**  
Yule before dawn, the 56th-annual candlelit service at the historic Colony Church. Traditional readings and hymns in Swedish and English. Coffee-and-rusk reception to follow. Free and open to the public. Hosted by Bishop Hill State Historic Site, 309-489-1440.
- Dec 28** **Winter Tea at PL Johnson's | 11am – 2pm**
- Dec 31** **New Year's Evening at PL Johnson's | 309-927-3885, 4pm – 7pm**  
Reservations required.
- Jan 1, 2027** **New Year's Day Swedish Smorgasbord | 11am – 2pm**  
The Filling Station Restaurant. 309-927-3355.
- Feb 13, 2027** **Valentine's Dinner at PL Johnson's | 309-927-3885, 4pm – 7pm**  
Reservations required.
- Feb 14, 2027** **Valentine's Day Dinner at Filling Station | 5pm – 7pm**  
The Filling Station. 309-927-3355.
- Feb 15, 2027** **Princess Tea at PL Johnson's | 309-927-3885, 11am – 2pm**
- Mar 17, 2027** **St. Patrick's Day Corned Beef & Cabbage**  
Lunch 11 am–2 pm, Dinner 5–7 pm at The Filling Station. 309-927-3355.



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## Bishop Hill:

Like the Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock and the Quakers who followed William Penn to Pennsylvania, the Jansonists were a group of Protestants who fled oppression seeking religious freedom on the shores of America. Eric Janson was known as the Wheat Flour Messiah. He had a debilitating illness cured by a miracle that reshaped the rest of his life. He began preaching about our personal relationship with the Lord, not one filtered by the state religion. After being jailed for his beliefs, he fled Sweden with more than 1000 followers. These people sold everything they owned, some families were divided, and they took the arduous journey across the North Atlantic to America in 1846.

They sent a scout ahead to purchase property in what was then the western wilderness of Illinois. The first winter they lived in dugouts along the creek. Cholera claimed the lives of many. They soon built a church for worship, large dormitories for housing, a bakery and a brewery to feed their growing numbers. They built industry: brooms, buggies, and woven rugs for income. They built a community that shared the wealth harvesting the bounty of the land. They built a hospital, a school, and administrative offices. More than a town, they built what became a successful economic enterprise that valued the labor of women and men, and educated their children.



# Steeped in History

The preaching and philosophy of Eric Janson is too complex for these few paragraphs, except to say that his convictions inspired many and caused consternation among more than a few. He was murdered in the Henry County Courthouse over a quarrel with his cousin's husband. The community was then managed for a number of years by a board of trustees. The community was eventually dissolved and the holdings were divided among the members with women and children also receiving shares of property, unusual in the 1860's.

Bishop Hill became a hub for thousands of Swedish immigrants who eventually settled much of the Midwest, from Galva to Galesburg, Minnesota to North Dakota.

At the turn of the last century many of the colony buildings were falling into disrepair. The Old Settlers, The Bishop Hill Heritage Association and the State of Illinois stepped up to save the buildings still standing. Throughout the 1970s restoration and preservation became the call to arms. With help from the Swedish Royal family, descendants of the hardy pioneers and thousands of hours of volunteer labor, Bishop Hill became a thriving community once more. With tens of thousands of visitors every year, visitors from all 50 states, Sweden and other Scandinavian countries, Bishop Hill has a well-earned reputation as a place to step out of the hustle and bustle and back to a simpler time. Truly a Utopia on the Prairie, it is the kind of place where it is easy to expect enchantment!



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The Vasa Order is a fraternal organization that promotes Swedish and Scandinavian history, culture, and traditions in America and Canada. We feature changing exhibits on the Vasa Order and general Scandinavian topics.

109 S. Bishop Hill St. \* Bishop Hill, IL 61419  
309-927-3898 \* VasaArchivist@gmail.com  
VasaArchives.com \* VasaOrder.com

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# OLOF KRANS: *Bishop Hill's Painter*

Olof Krans, Illinois's foremost folk artist, journeyed with his family from Sweden to join the Bishop Hill Colony at the age of 12.

As his contribution to the 50th anniversary celebration in 1896 of the founding of the Bishop Hill Colony, Krans painted his childhood memories of communal life.

The remarkable Olof Krans Bishop Hill Collection can be viewed at the Bishop Hill Museum. **47** Currently 91 of Krans's paintings are on exhibit, making this the largest collection of Olof Krans folk art in the world. Additional Krans paintings are on exhibit at the Bishop Hill Heritage's Steeple Building Museum. **24**



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773.728.8111 [museum@samac.org](mailto:museum@samac.org)

# Colony Store

31

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309-927-3596



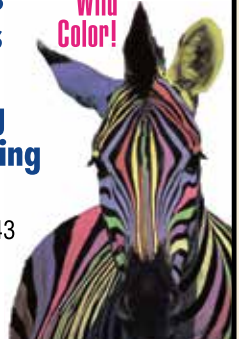
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**The organizations of Bishop Hill work together** to preserve this special 19<sup>th</sup> century community for the many visitors who come from all over the world to explore and experience what Bishop Hill has to offer. Bishop Hill organizations depend on volunteers to make things happen. Special event weekends, tours, gardening, ticket taking, cleaning, renovating and the publication of this visitor guide can only happen with the dedication of our volunteers. Consider volunteering once a week, once a month or for one event and help to preserve and nurture this unique historical town.

### **Bishop Hill Heritage Association**

*PO Box 92, Bishop Hill, IL 61419 • 309-927-3899*

The Bishop Hill Heritage Association was organized in 1962 with the original goal of saving the Colony era buildings that were in disrepair and restoring them to functional use. They continue to maintain these historic properties and the culture unique to Bishop Hill. The administrative office, museum and archives of the BHHA are located in the 1854 Steeple Building. The BHHA also manages the 1908 Krans Livery Stable museum and the 1854 Dairy Building which is used for workshops and concerts and is also available to rent for meetings and get togethers. Admission is free, but donations are appreciated. The BHHA also offers group tours by appointment. Become a member at [www.bishophillheritage.org](http://www.bishophillheritage.org)

### **Bishop Hill Old Settlers' Association**

*PO Box 68, Bishop Hill, Illinois 61419*

The Old Settler's Association was organized in 1896 to observe the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Bishop Hill Colony. In 1953 they purchased and restored the 1861 Colony School. The schoolhouse, kitchen and grounds are maintained by the group and are available to rent for meetings, parties and special occasions. [www.bholdsettlers.org](http://www.bholdsettlers.org)

### **Bishop Hill State Historic Site**

*P.O. Box 104, Bishop Hill, Illinois 61419 • 309-927-3345*

The State of Illinois has been an active partner in Bishop Hill's preservation since 1946 when the village donated the Colony Church, 1848, and Village Park, est. 1853, to the People of Illinois. The Colony Hotel, 1852-1861, Colony Barn, c. 1856-1860, Boy's Dormitory, 1847, and the Bishop Hill Museum have been added to the site. Today the site is administered by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

### **Henry County Historical Society**

*202 South Park Street, Bishop Hill, Illinois 61419*

The history of Henry County, Illinois is close at hand when you enter this one story museum housed in a former school house. Displays are nicely organized and catalogued to make your visit one that won't be forgotten. You will find items that were typical of historic Henry County, including a steam engine, tools, clothing and quilts. The museum also displays a replica general store, a harness shop, and professional offices. [www.henrycountyhistoricalsociety.net](http://www.henrycountyhistoricalsociety.net)

### **Vasa Order of America National Archives Inc**

*109 South Bishop Hill Street, Bishop Hill, Illinois 61419 • 309-927-3898*

The Vasa Archive preserves the records of the Vasa Order of America, a Swedish-American fraternal organization with lodges through the US, Canada and Sweden. The Vasa Archive collects genealogical information on Vasa members and their families. Visitors can utilize the archive's records to conduct their own genealogical research or hire the archivist to conduct the research for them. Assistance is available for those doing their own research. Visitors can listen to over 1,400 of Lennart Setterdahl's Swedish Immigrant interviews. Space for meetings and special events is available for rent.

### **Bishop Hill Arts Council**

*PO Box 47 Bishop Hill, IL 61419 • 309-927-3064*

For more than three decades the Bishop Hill Arts Council has promoted the arts and artisans that reflect the traditions of Bishop Hill. The Arts Council produces this visitors' guide, sponsors performing and visual arts events and activities throughout the year.



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