

## Ferdinand brightens the winter blues

**A**fter a long winter of dreary days, a small town in southern Indiana shakes off the winter blues with a colorful celebration sure to brighten any gardener's attitude.

The annual Herb and Garden Days in Ferdinand celebrates all things spring. From April 15-17, this popular event for gardening enthusiasts will feature herbs, perennials, patio furniture, annuals, hanging baskets, garden décor and more at retail locations throughout town.

The celebration kicks off on Friday night with the Herb and Garden Days Dinner. After a delicious meal in the lovely Harvest Moon Bed and Breakfast, a master gardener will give a short presentation.

Then on Saturday and Sunday, visitors can stroll through town and browse for just the right addition to their garden. Artisans will sell hand-crafted items on the lawn of the historic Wollenmann home at 1150 Main St. And there will be free tours of the magnificent Monastery Immaculate Conception, which dates to 1867 and is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Ferdinand is located on Highway 162 just north of Interstate 64. For details, call (812) 367-2908, or visit [www.ferdinandindiana.org](http://www.ferdinandindiana.org). ●

AAA.com

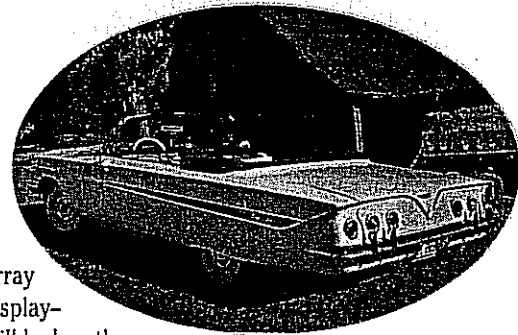
## Easter car show goes golden in St. Louis

**T**he Golden Anniversary of the Concours d'Elegance auto show will gleam in St. Louis as hundreds of rare, notable and interesting cars from the earliest days of automobiles sparkle in the Easter sunshine.

In its 50<sup>th</sup> year, the event has become a tradition that recalls the infancy of automobiles when St. Louisans would stream into Forest Park on Easter to show off their cars. This year's event will be held on April 24 in the Upper Muny parking area of the park.

Among the array of vehicles on display—none of which will be less than 25 years old—will be a striking red-and-white 1961 Chevrolet Impala convertible, the type of car that was new when the first Easter Concours was held. The car is featured in a poster that will be available for purchase at the show.

As car enthusiasts walk among the vehicles, they'll see beautifully restored production models as well as hand-built antiques that are examples of exquisite craftsmanship. The



This 1961 Chevrolet Impala will be among the hundreds of cars on display at the show. Horseless Carriage Club of Missouri photo

event is sponsored by AAA and hosted by the Horseless Carriage Club of Missouri, the oldest and largest vintage car club of its type in the Midwest.

The show is held from about 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Visit [www.hccmo.com](http://www.hccmo.com) for more details, or leave a message at (314) 991-HONK (4665). ●

## Giant City State Park celebrates big birthday

**G**iant City State Park is celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the completion of its impressive lodge and cabins, but during this birthday year, visitors will surely see that the structures are merely the icing on the cake of this wondrous park.

Nestled in the Shawnee National Forest just south of Carbondale in southern Illinois, the park is an outdoor lover's paradise. Eons of geological faulting and folding have molded huge sandstone bluffs that resemble giant streets, which were the inspiration for the park's name. And during the spring, the park

is clothed in a lush garment of fern, moss, hundreds of species of wildflowers and trees.

Visitors will marvel at the picturesque landscape from eight wilderness trails in the park, which also features rock climbing, camping, fishing, picnic shelters and horse trails.

Illinois acquired more than 2,100 acres for the park in 1927

and since then it has grown to encompass 4,000 acres. The Civilian Conservation Corps completed the lodge and 12 cabins in 1936.

The rustic beauty of the lodge can be found in its multi-hued sandstone and white oak timbers. The lodge has been remodeled over the years, but great care was taken to preserve its original architectural elements. In addition to the 12 historical cabins, 22 newer cabins were added.

For details about the park, call (618) 457-4836, or visit [www.dnr.state.il.us](http://www.dnr.state.il.us). For reservations in the lodge, call (618) 457-4921. ●



The lodge was completed in 1936. Illinois Department of Natural Resources photo