

## STAFF REPORT

**DATE:** April 11, 2025  
**TO:** Joliet Historic Preservation Commission  
**FROM:** Jayne M. Bernhard, Secretary to the Joliet Historic Preservation Commission  
**SUBJECT:** National Historic Preservation Month (May) Events and Activities

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### **BACKGROUND**

May is National Historic Preservation Month. During this month, the City and its partners have promoted our meaningful historic places, older neighborhoods, and people who in have dedicated their time to preserving places that matter. Joliet's older neighborhoods and historic buildings enhance Joliet's authenticity, sense of place and quality of life.

### **DISCUSSION**

Working with the Historic Preservation Commission, staff intends to implement the following four programs during this special month:

- Places Matter Facebook Campaign – now in its fifth year, this popular media campaign draws attention to our meaningful historic places, older neighborhoods, and people who in have dedicated their time to preserving places that matter.
  - When – daily during the month of May
- Annual Historic Preservation Awards Program – Staff will work with the Mayor's Office to bestow this award via a Mayoral proclamation.
  - When – May 6 or May 20
- Presentation on Historic Preservation to the City Council – Staff intends to deliver this annual presentation to City Council, highlighting historic preservation activities that have occurred or are in-process.
  - When - May 6 or May 20
- “Stone and Steeples” Architectural and History tour – Co-sponsored with the Joliet Area Historical Museum, this bus tour will feature up to five stops: All Saints Greek Orthodox Church (confirmed), St. Peter Lutheran Church, St. John's Catholic Church, University of St. Francis Motherhouse, and Bishop's Hill Winery. This tour draws on research from the St. John's Neighborhood Historic Resources Survey, and the implementation of this tour was a recommendation from this project. The Joliet Area Historical Museum and Joliet Historic Preservation Commission last co-sponsored a similar “Limestone” tour in 2017.
  - When – Saturday May 10<sup>th</sup>. 9:00 AM to 1:00 pm