

TODAY'S VERSE

John 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.



FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY

People who call our community their own.

What makes Dave Barker smile? "My family," said the 65-year-old Noblesville resident. He and his wife, Rhonda, have been married 39 years and have three sons, Daniel Barker and Victor Barker, and the late Jeremy Barker; and eight grandchildren, ages 4-18. He is past president of Wayne-Fall Lions Club, which is partnering with Clarksville Christian Church for a cod fish fry from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. this Saturday at the picnic shelter at Clarksville Christian Church (16600 Lehr St., Noblesville), where he is a church deacon. On the menu: "Good North Atlantic Cod Fish, fries, baked beans, cole slaw and drinks. Cost is \$12 for adults, \$6 for under age 12. Coney dogs and desserts are available. The public is invited. Carryout will be available.

And Another Thing...

1. Readers Choice

If you are one of the many who were Readers' Choice winners in our annual huge recognition promotion, you may be getting e-mails from Showmark, a company trying to sell plaques and such. Please know, that has nothing to do with our company and the actual Readers' Choice program. For years, we have produced the annual popular Readers' Choice contest and we give, absolutely free of charge, certificates suitable for framing to our winners, runner-ups and honorable mentions. We're not familiar with this Showmark group, and we certainly don't blame them for trying to wiggle in to one of the biggest contests around, we just want you to know we have never charged a penny for those recognized - and we never will!

2. Watershed Project

USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service in Indiana announced that it is awarding \$7.9 million for the Kankakee Watershed Initiative led by the Indiana State Department of Agriculture and funded by the Regional Conservation Partnership Program. The initiative's target is to install 3,000 acres of new conservation cover, two-miles of two-stage ditches, 800 acres of wetland easements and over 2,500 conservation practices to achieve nutrient reduction goals. The initiative will further efforts of conservation, restoration and sustainable use of soil, water and wildlife on a watershed scale.

This initiative brings together Indiana, Illinois and 43 partners to work to improve the overall health of the iconic Kankakee and Iroquois watersheds. The primary objective of this multi-state initiative is to accomplish nutrient reduction goals to address excess water. This is done by implementing agricultural and forest land conservation practices and voluntarily establishing wetland easements.

Private landowners can apply to participate in an RCPP project in their region through awarded partners or at their local USDA service center.

3. Braun Statement

On Wednesday, President Biden announced a plan to forgive student loan debt for millions of Americans. The plan would forgive \$10,000 in debt for people earning less than \$125,000 a year and \$20,000 for Pell Grant recipients. The plan would also change the repayment system and extend the current pause on payments through Dec. 31 of this year. Senator Mike Braun released the following statement in response to President Biden's plan: "President Biden isn't canceling debt, he's shifting it onto everyone, including the majority of Americans who chose not to get a degree. This will make inflation worse, and we should focus on getting more value out of colleges rather than giving them another reason to hike prices."

The TIMES

Hamilton County's Own Daily Newspaper

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County Commissioners Update Zoning Ordinances for Commercial Solar Rights and US 31 Overlay District

The Hamilton County Commissioners recently passed a Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) that replaces the Hamilton County Zoning and Subdivision Control Ordinances that had been in effect since 1990. "Hamilton County has grown and changed immensely since the adoption of its Zoning and Subdivision Control Ordinances some 30 years ago," says C.J. Taylor, Director of the County's Plan Commission. "The revision team took into consideration the county's recently updated comprehensive plan, road updates, land use best practices, and trending technologies in creating the UDO."

The two biggest zoning changes in the ordinance concern commercial solar projects as well as growth along the US 31 Corridor. Article 8 of the UDO establishes a Commercial Solar Energy Systems (SES) Overlay District meant to develop a process and standards for solar generated energy while also protecting prime farmland. "We've watched as neighboring counties lose thousands of acres of prime farmland to large solar installations," County Commissioner Mark Heirbrandt says. "In surveys and meetings with residents in northern Hamilton County, landowners ex-



County Commissioner Mark Heirbrandt

pressed concern about the effect commercial solar farms could have on home values, topsoil, drainage, and water quality. The updates are meant to protect northern Hamilton County's agrarian way of life." Article 8 identifies commercial solar projects as ones that "generate electricity to be sold in the wholesale market." Anyone wanting to construct a commercial solar project must

➔ See ZONING Page A8

Nickel Plate Expects to Take Lead in Studying Need for Theater Space



BETSY REASON
The Times Editor

A lack of theater performance space in Noblesville has Nickel Plate Arts organization expecting to lead the process of studying the need and developing a plan. Aili McGill, Nickel Plate's executive director, said the organization has plans to research the economic impact of performing arts assets in the City

of Noblesville. She talked about the need during her presentation on Tuesday night of Nickel Plates' annual report at the Noblesville Common Council meeting at City Hall. She said theater performances are expected to drive tax and retail revenue, and she expects to ask the City to partner in Nickel Plate's efforts to "identify what is needed most" in this "exploratory process." It's a project "we think is brewing here in town," McGill said. She's been contacted in the past three weeks "by several new theater groups that are looking at this area. So I start to see a potential project forming." She said Nickel Plate Arts is in a good position to conduct a study of Noblesville's performing arts needs. McGill counted at least 12 groups that are operating as theater groups, but she listed 15 theater groups that have connections to Noblesville. These

include The Belfry Theatre (celebrating Hamilton County Theatre Guild's 58th season), Noblesville Cultural Arts Commission (which presented its 30th Shakespeare in the Park in 2022), Attic Theatre (a 14-year-old theater that started with kids shows), Improbable Fiction Theatre Co. (formed by a group of local actors and its fiscal agent is Nickel Plate Arts), Hyperion Players (started by Ian Hauer of Noblesville), Poet Ape Production (which will have a South Alley performance in the fall of "Our Town," according to founder James Holbrook), Underdog Theatre (which has had shows featuring and directed by Noblesville High School students and graduates), Page & Stage Theatre (Indiana's only theater-for-literacy program led by Spike Wilson, a professional director with a Ph.D.), The Brick Room (which

➔ See BETSY Page A8

Cicero Kiwanis Hear from Heights' Transportation Director, Assistant Director

Featured speakers at this past Saturday's Cicero Kiwanis Club meeting enthusiastically and optimistically greeted their audience, despite it being 7:30 a.m. on a non-workday and they're barely into the 2022-23 academic year. After all, scheduling Hamilton Heights' buses, their drivers, aides (if needed) and routes amid a nationwide bus driver shortage could have these transportation directors frazzled and more than tired. Yet Hamilton Heights Transportation Director Jaymie Wickstrom and Assistant Transporta-

tion Director Dave Hildebrand, happily—and proudly—shared a behind-the-scenes look at the school corporation's transportation system. From bus and student safety to route planning and maintenance, the two covered what it takes to transport district students. It takes planning, strategizing, ongoing communication with Heights' personnel, parents, police, and highway departments to provide the roughly 1,200 bus riders safe and timely travel. Hamilton Heights' busses cover about 940 miles daily

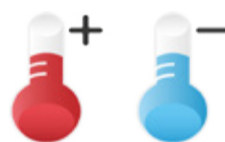
to deliver passengers to their school or home destinations. In addition to daily routes, drivers also cover athletic event trips, educational field trips, and other school activities- that's a lot of time on the road. Does Heights need bus drivers? Yes. While Heights is faring better than many schools nationwide that have had to outsource busing, Heights could always use a few more at any given time. Wickstrom and Hildebrand want

➔ See KIWANIS Page A8

The Daily Almanac



Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 7:05 a.m.
SET: 8:26 p.m.



High/Low Temperatures
High: 87 °F
Low: 64 °F



Today is....

- Thoughtful Thursday
- Kiss and Make Up Day
- National Park Service Founders Day



What Happened On This Day

- 1835 First installment of the Great Moon Hoax is published
- 1944 Liberation of Paris
- 2012 Voyager 1 becomes first spacecraft to enter interstellar space



Births On This Day

- 1930 Sean Connery Scottish actor, producer
- 1958 Tim Burton American director, producer, screenwriter

Deaths On This Day

- 1776 David Hume Scottish economist, historian, philosopher
- 2012 Neil Armstrong American pilot, engineer, astronaut, first person to walk on the moon

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OBITUARIES

- Dee Ann Bond
- Nellie June Landis
- Belvia Juanita Smith
- Patricia 'Patti' Lee Weiberg

TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Getting up at the same time every day is very important to getting good sleep. Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts. Be sure to catch his column each week in The Times and online at www.thetimes24-7.com.



HONEST HOOSIER

Happy 73rd birthday Gene Simmons of the rock band Kiss. Isn't it weird that rock icons from yesteryear are elderly citizens now?



TODAY'S QUOTE

"The only person you should strive to be better than, is the person you were yesterday."
- Matty Mullins

TODAY'S JOKE

To avoid arguments, eat chocolate chip cookies. First off, they taste good. Second, you can't hear anyone talk over the crunching.



The Times appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank **DONALD E. ROUTSON** for subscribing!



WTHR 13 7 DAY FORECAST

86 SUNNY AND WARM	64/87 POETRY BY THE SEA	67/87 MORE HUMID, STRAY STORMS	56/88 PARTLY CLOUDY	68/90 HOT, STRAY STORMS	70/90 BITEY SHIMMERS & STORMS	69/86 BITEY SHIMMERS & STORMS
WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE

OBITUARIES

Dee Ann Bond

March 13, 1947 - August 20, 2022

Dee Ann Bond, 75, of Noblesville, Indiana, passed away on August 20, 2022.

She was born on March 13, 1947 to Dean & Ruth Benjamin of Monticello, Indiana.

Mrs. Bond was a part of the "Baby Boom" after World War II and after she graduated from Twin Lakes High School, she went on to study Marketing at Indiana University, Bloomington. At IU, she was involved in IU radio, debate team and drama and graduated with honors.

After completing her bachelor's degree at IU, she worked as a Development Director for non-profit organizations including The Red Cross and United Way and then went on to become the Executive Director of a local YWCA and Women's Shelter, helping support women seeking to escape domestic violence. Mrs. Bond also taught Marketing at the University of Indianapolis. She was an advocate for women's rights, had a passion for education and focused her career on helping the less fortunate.

In November of 1989, she launched Dee Ann Bond & Associates (The Stevens Agency), her own Public Relations & Advertising firm on Monument Circle in downtown Indianapolis.

Mrs. Bond married Robert Bond in 1978 and lived in the (Acton) Indianapolis area for many years. During that time, they enjoyed traveling and the friendships they made there. Later in life, they relocated to Noblesville, Indiana where Mrs. Bond was an active member of the P.E.O. Sisterhood, an international organization supporting women's education. She was a beautiful, intelligent, successful woman who loved her family.

Survivors include her husband Robert Bond, two daughters Holly McGuire (Dan McGuire) and Heidi Raymond (Charlie Raymond); and grandchildren Hudson McGuire, Jett McGuire, Ryley Studer, Reese Studer and Finley Mitchell.

A celebration of life Open House is scheduled to be held on Saturday, October 1, 2022 from 2-4 p.m. at Nesst of Noblesville (917 Conner Street).

The family requests donations be made to Contributions to the P.E.O. Foundation | P.E.O. International (peointernational.org), an organization Dee felt strongly about.

Stillinger Family Funeral Home, Greenfield, has been honored to assist Mrs. Bond and her family.

If you would like to leave a condolence in her memory, please visit www.stillingerfamily.com.

Nellie June Landis

November 28, 1926 - August 23, 2022

Nellie June Landis, 95, of Noblesville, passed away on Tuesday, August 23, 2022 at her home.

She was born on November 28, 1926 to Ralph and Lela (Creekmore) Waterman in Noblesville, Indiana.

Ms. Landis was the second of 11 children and grew up on a farm. She attended a business school in Anderson, Indiana. She was a switchboard scheduler at Riverview Health for many years before retiring. Ms. Landis loved baking, especially sugar cream pies, going to annual family reunions, collecting chickens and attending birthday dinners. She donated to food banks, clothing stores, and school supplies to local schools. Ms. Landis was an avid Hamilton Heights Huskies and Indiana Pacers Fan.

Survivors include her three children David (Janice) Young, Penny Griffie and Connie (Robert) Kline; four siblings Jane Christman, Janet Wilson, John Waterman and Jake Waterman; six grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; 15 great-great-grandchildren; and one great-great-great-grandchild.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her six siblings Joy Johnson, Ann Sigler, Jean Layton, Jack Waterman, Joe Waterman and Jerry Waterman; granddaughter Wendi Young; and great-grandchild AJ Aranda.

Private family services are scheduled to be held. The Landis family has entrusted Randall & Roberts Funeral Home with June's care.

Memorial contributions may be made to any local food bank.

Online condolences may be made at www.randallroberts.com.

Belvia Juanita Smith

February 2, 1938 - August 21, 2022

Belvia Juanita Smith, 84, of Westfield, passed away on Sunday, August 21, 2022.

She was born February 2, 1938 in Tompkinsville, Ky., the daughter of Hovie and Olean (Emberton) Jackson.

Ms. Smith received her education in nursing from the Methodist School of Nursing. She worked a number of years as Director of Nurses at Hoosier Village Retirement Community. She had a heart for people who were in their final days of life, making sure no one died alone.

In her younger years, Ms. Smith entered a contest for "Ironing Queen" and won the title. Her prize was a bicycle.

She was an avid fan of the Indianapolis Colts and enjoyed attending both Super Bowls.

Survivors include her son Jeffrey Smith; daughter Betsy Smith Riley; five grandchildren Evan Smith, Sarah Smith, Lauren Smith Osberghaus, Tayler Riley Carnahan, Adam Carnahan; seven great-grandchildren; two sisters Doris Jackson Morris and Lena Jackson Richey; brother Michael Jackson; best friend for more than 70 years Jane Brigham; and many other family members.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by other family members as well as many friends.

Ms. Smith's wishes were to not have a traditional funeral service. Her son Jeff and daughter Betsy are scheduled to host a Celebration of Life open house in honor of Juanita on Saturday, September 3, 2022 from 2-6 p.m. at 160 Straughn Lane, Westfield. Family and friends are welcome to attend, encouraged to share memories of Juanita and enjoy food and fellowship.

Memorial contributions in memory of Ms. Smith may be given to the Alzheimer's Association, 50 91st Street, Suite 100, Indianapolis, IN 46240.

Bussell Family Funerals is privileged to assist the family in arrangements.

Patricia 'Patti' Lee Weiberg

November 16, 1930 - August 16, 2022

Patricia 'Patti' Lee Weiberg, 91, of Greenwood, passed away on Tuesday, August 16, 2022 at Independence Village of Greenwood.

She was born on November 16, 1930 to Aubrey and Lenora (Quick) Greene in Chicago, Illinois.

Mrs. Weiberg was a dance teacher and owned Patti Lee Dance Studio in Lafayette. As a teen, she toured all over the country by train, dancing with the Barns and Caruthers road show.

She was a member of White River Christian Church and enjoyed volunteering and greeting at the church. Most of all, Mrs. Weiberg loved her family.

Survivors include her son Ron (Jan) Weiberg; daughter Deborah Sanders; daughter-in-law Renee Weiberg; nine grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and several nephews.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband of 65 years Lawrence N. Weiberg; son David L. Weiberg; sister Barbara Anne Greene; and son-in-law Mike Sanders.

Visitation is scheduled to be held from 6-7 p.m., with services scheduled to begin at 7 p.m., on Friday, August 26, 2022 at Randall & Roberts Funeral Center, 1685 Westfield Road, in Noblesville.

Memorial contributions may be made to Alzheimer's Association, 50 East 91st Street, Suite 100, Indianapolis, IN 46240 (www.alz.org/indiana).

Online condolences may be made at www.randallroberts.com.



Sheridan Public Library Announces September Events

The Sheridan Public Library this week released a full schedule for the month of September. These events are for all ages and offer tons of fun, so don't miss out.

Weekly Events:

- **Discovery Time (ages 0-2):** Every Thursday at 11 a.m.
- **Storytime with Wynn (ages 3-6):** Every Friday at 11 a.m.
- **Elementary Activity:** Every Wednesday at 4 p.m.
- **Teen Activity:** Every Thursday at 4 p.m.
- **Standalone Events:**
 - **Sept. 2 at 5 p.m.** - Visit SPL at Sheridan First Friday
 - **Sept. 9 at 6 p.m.** - Bingo Night
 - **Sept. 13, 27 at 1:30 p.m.** - Euchre Club
- **Sept. 14 at 6 p.m.** - Friends of the Library Meeting
- **Sept. 15-17 during Library Hours** - Book Sale
- **Sept. 21 at 5:30 p.m.** - Sheridan Readers Book Club
- **Sept. 23 at 6 p.m.** - Family Game Night
- **Sept. 26 at 6 p.m.** - Sheridan Pinners (Pinterest)
- **Sept. 29 at 6 p.m.** - Soap Making Program
- **Sept. 30 at 6 p.m.** - Family Movie Night

New services have also been made available, namely wireless printing and the Indiana Library Passport. For more information, visit <https://sheridan.lib.in.us>.

Thomas Jefferson Quote - The Rest of the Story



TIM TIMMONS
Two Cents

We often see or hear a quote attributed to Founding Father Thomas Jefferson.

Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter.

But what we hardly ever see or hear is the full context of that quote.

The people are the only censors of their governors: and even their errors will tend to keep these to the true principles of their institution. To punish these errors too severely would be to suppress the only safeguard of the public liberty. The way to prevent these irregular interpositions of the people is to give them full information of their affairs thro' the channel of the public papers, & to contrive that those papers should penetrate the whole mass of the people. The basis of our governments being the opinion of the people, the very first object should be to keep that right; and were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers or newspapers without a government, I should not

hesitate a moment to prefer the latter. But I should mean that every man should receive those papers & be capable of reading them.

I get it that some people have stopped reading already. Shoot, some stopped as soon as they saw the words Founding Father. We have become so polarized as a nation that the famous flag from yesteryear with the image of a snake and the words "don't tread on me" no longer is historical. Today, it's political.

But if we can take the politics out for a second... there's some weird stuff going on. Yeah, yeah, do me a favor and tune out the Trump devoted fanatics and the Trump haters. You'll never get an accurate picture of reality from either one.

And try, just try, to listen with an open mind for a moment. This is not a conspiracy theory. Shoot, for years I heard that the media was in cahoots. I always laughed at that one. Heck, I know these folks and believe me when I say we are nowhere near smart, or organized enough, to pull anything that complex off.

The thing is that our world is upside down today. We have a federal government spending money that not only they don't have but our grandchildren won't have. We have a president who might be a crook, has dementia or is just completely incompetent - and I honestly am not sure which. We had a (insert adjective here) event on Jan. 6 that put a blinding

spotlight on increasing frustration with business as usual inside the beltway (from all sides). We just decided to hire thousands upon thousands of men and women who will have the job of checking up on all of us and our taxes (and if anyone tells you that's not the job they are either a liar or a fool). That aforementioned federal government is publishing material aimed at emboldening adolescents into the world of transgenderism while at the same time somehow turning the notion that men might not be men and women might not be women.

And this doesn't even touch on questions like how Joe Biden got more votes than any president in history, including the popular Barack Obama. It doesn't touch on the unprecedented raid on an ex-president's home and it certainly doesn't touch on the third rail of politics right now, abortion and guns.

The world, our all-American-red-white-and-blue world, is upside down.

And yet if we go back, oh, 250 years or so, Founding Father Thomas Jefferson suggested that newspapers were a perfect watchdog to help keep things straight. Yet the hired hands in Indiana and other states are doing their best to kill the Fourth Estate.

For the record, and let me be emphatic here, I am about as biased as biased gets when it comes to newspapers. But the crazier things get the more important newspapers are.

Yes, we share with you who passes away and a gazillion other things that make up our community. But more important, most of us are not in bed with the hired hands we're supposed to be watching. And most of us (yes, "most") take an approach to this that pretty much stays in the middle and doesn't stray too far right or left. Before anyone loses their minds on that, let me repeat the word "most." No one, no group, is perfect. There are always outliers. But overall, in my heart of hearts I believe we are doing our best to be fair and honest.

The simple truth, dear reader, is that we need you. And, as Mr. Jefferson so eloquently wrote, the nation has always needed us. We're not perfect in the newspaper world, and maybe some have lost their way. From this little corner of God's country, I hope you will support the ones who haven't.

The bottom line is we're trying. We're really, really trying. When the legislature heads back in January it'd be great if you would help remind them exactly what Mr. Jefferson was talking about.

Two cents, which is about how much Timmons said his columns are worth, appears periodically on Thursdays in The Times. Timmons is the chief executive officer of Sagamore News Media, the company that owns The Noblesville Times. He is also a proud Noblesville High School graduate and can be contacted at ttimmons@thetimes24-7.com.

City of Fishers Invites Residents to Engage with Local Government Through Citizen Academies



Fishers residents are invited to explore the inner workings of local government through the City's annual Mayor's Youth Academy and Fishers City Government Academy programs. Registration is currently open for both programs and participation is free.

"These programs solidify Fishers' commitment to fostering a city of lifelong learners," said Fishers Mayor Scott Fadness. "Not only do they give residents a behind the scenes look at City operations and an opportunity to engage with civic leaders, but they also invite participants to make an impact on the community where they live, work, and play."

Mayor's Youth Academy

The free Mayor's Youth Academy program invites local high school student to work alongside Mayor Fadness and other city leaders to address important issues facing the local community. Students will go behind the scenes of city government, address thought-provoking policy questions, and explore career opportunities within the public sector.

Classes meet on Wednesdays once per month from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at various locations around Fishers. Mayor's Youth Academy participants will end the program by presenting to Fishers City Council in the spring of 2023.

Registration for the 2022-2023 Mayor's Youth Academy is open through Sept. 9. Applicants must

be a Fishers resident and a junior or senior in high school with a minimum GPA of 3.0. Students with a passion for public service are encouraged to apply.

Fishers City Government Academy

The award-winning City Government Academy takes residents 18 and older on an exclusive tour of city facilities and inside the daily operations of local

government. The fall session will kick off on Sept. 6 and will meet weekly on Tuesday evenings for nine weeks.

Registration for the Fall 2022 session of the free Fishers City Government Academy (CGA) is open through Sept. 2.

To learn more and to apply for programs, visit ThisIsFishers.com/citizenacademies.

Obituary deadline

The Times publishes obituaries daily at www.thetimes24-7.com, and in its print product every day with the exception of Sundays and Tuesdays. All obituaries must come from a funeral home. A photo may be included and should be sent as a high-resolution JPEG. Daily obituary deadline is 4 p.m. for the following day's print publication. To read more obituaries, visit www.thetimes24-7.com.



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Photos courtesy of the Noblesville Lions

Noblesville Lions Give Back in Countless Ways

(Above, left) On Aug. 19, the Noblesville Lions returned to work the Indiana State Fair supporting the Indiana Lions Foundation. The foundation recently funded a grant to help purchase new trees for NHS. The foundation will also provide funding for future grants. Photographed at the State Fair (from left to right) are Lions Julia Kozicki, Jen Carr, Tim Baker, and Jeff Kozicki.

(Above, right) On Aug. 18 the Noblesville Lions and Carmel Lions assisted Gleaners passing out food to deserving needy. This was done at the Six Point Church in Sheridan. Pictured assisting were Noblesville Lions Joe Connerley, Mark Bachar, Ron Williamson, Lyneen Burrow, Brent Burrow, and Dale Unger. Carmel Lions were Lane Sims and Bob Yunker.



Photo courtesy of the Sheridan Historical Society

Sheridan Historical Members Visit Roberts Chapel

Members and friends of the Sheridan Historical Society recently gathered at the Roberts Chapel in northern Hamilton County for a history lesson. The Chapel is part of the historic Roberts Settlement, a community founded by freed Black Americans in the early 1830's. A few descendants of the original settlers still reside in the area.

Special Hikes Offered in Stillwater-Northfork Wildlife Area, Sept. 25

Monroe Lake will offer two special hikes through the primary focus of its wildlife management program, the Stillwater-Northfork area, on Sunday, Sept. 25. Both hikes are recommended for adults.

The first hike, at 9:30 a.m., winds through the Northfork fields, an area that includes open woodlands, ponds, riparian forest, and managed levees. See several seasonal marsh areas, learn about ongoing research projects, and check



out small-scale habitat projects. Registration for the Northfork Fields Hike is at bit.ly/northforkfields-2022. Space is limited to 15 people.

The second hike, at 1 p.m., travels along the levees and boundaries of the largest seasonal wetland managed by Monroe Lake, Stillwater

Marsh. Learn about the summer crop-planting program, how the marsh is filled and drained, and other projects that support wildlife populations. This hike should take around one hour and 45 minutes. Registration is at bit.ly/stillwaterhike-2022. Space is limited to 20 people.

Registration for both hikes closes on Sept. 23, or when all spots are full. Questions should be directed to the Paynetown Activity Center at (812) 837-9967 or Jill Vance at jvance@dnr.IN.gov.

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2022 Flix and Float Schedule

 June 18th Moana G	 June 24th Finding Nemo G	 July 1st Jumanji PG-13
 July 16th Waterhorse G	 July 22nd Encanto G	 July 30th The Shallows PG-13
 August 13th The Goonies PG	 August 20th Dog PG-13	 September 3rd Top Gun PG

Cost: \$5 per person / Members get in free

Flix & Float Sponsors:
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 Troy & Alicia Tricker

Holcomb-led Delegation Advances Innovation, Economy of the Future on Taiwan Visit

Governor Eric J. Holcomb concluded an economic development trip to Taipei yesterday, fostering economic and academic ties between Indiana and Taiwan.

During the trip, the Gov. Holcomb-led delegation, including Indiana Secretary of Commerce Brad Chambers and Purdue University officials, discussed opportunities for collaboration across industry, academia and government. They also established four new partnerships designed to advance innovation, high-tech industries and the economy of the future.

"Indiana's global economy is growing, with more than 1,050

foreign-owned businesses operating here today, because of our intentional commitment to developing relationships with partners like Taiwan," said Gov. Holcomb.

"Taiwan is a world leader in chips and micro-electronics, while Indiana boasts a skilled ecosystem of engineering talent and innovators. Together, we can advance discoveries, encourage investment and power the products and solutions of tomorrow."

In Taipei, Gov. Holcomb met with Taiwanese government officials, including Taiwan President Tsai Ing-wen, Minister of Foreign Affairs Jaushieh Wu and Minister of Economic

Affairs Mei-hua Wang to strengthen innovation-driven cooperation between Indiana and Taiwan. On Monday, Gov. Holcomb solidified this commitment in a memorandum of understanding between the state of Indiana and the Taiwan Ministry of Economic Affairs.

The memorandum outlined a vision for future collaboration and established a framework to work together to advance academic cooperation, economic development and investment and supply chain resiliency in key sectors, including advanced manufacturing, agriculture, semiconductors and technology.

"Indiana and Taiwan



Governor Eric Holcomb

share a bold vision for innovation and building the future economy," said Sec. Chambers. "I'm encouraged by our progress in Taipei the last two days and am confident these new partnerships will create future-focused,

action-oriented plans for collaboration that will benefit the industries and people of both Indiana and Taiwan."

Additionally, the delegation spent time with business executives and industry leaders, including MediaTek, which announced plans in late June to partner with Purdue University to create a new semiconductor design center in Indiana. Gov. Holcomb and Sec. Chambers also met with a number of high-tech Taiwanese and global business prospects to highlight the state's leadership in future-focused industries, as well as its commitment to growing the semiconductor supply chain in Indiana.

They noted recent industry announcements from MediaTek and SkyWater Technology, as well as Indiana's new Accelerating Microelectronics Production and Development (AMPD) task force and the recent signing of the federal CHIPS Act.

This trip marks Gov. Holcomb's first trip to Taiwan, making him the first U.S. governor to visit since 2019 and the first Indiana governor to go to Taiwan in 17 years. Yesterday, he, Sec. Chambers and the delegation traveled to the Republic of Korea to bolster ties between Indiana and South Korea before returning to Indianapolis on Saturday.

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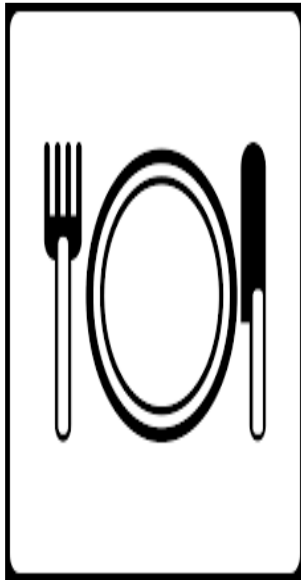
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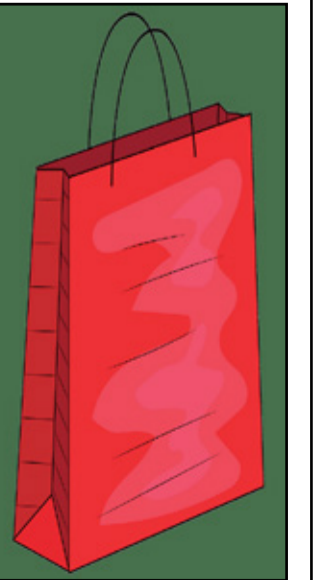
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CareSource and Elevate Ventures Invest in Managing Water Quality

CareSource, a national managed care organization, announces a \$1 million investment in 120Water, a digital water solution that helps utilities and state and local agencies manage critical water programs that protect public health. CareSource's investment, which is part of a \$3 million round that included participation from Elevate Ventures, Allos Ventures and other existing investors, was made through the CareSource Diversity & Social Impact Fund.

Recently named one of the fastest-growing private companies in America by Inc. 5000, 120Water is recognized as a leader in helping partners achieve Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) compliance. Over 400 customers across 38 states already use 120Water's Digital Water Platform.

"CareSource recognizes the significant health consequences of lead contamination in the communities we serve," said Steve Smitherman, CareSource Indiana market president. "We applaud 120Water's innovative solutions for reducing these risks and

are proud to support their work."

A 2021 survey by the National Resources Defense Council (NRDC) found Indiana, along with Illinois and Ohio, to have some of the most lead service lines in the nation. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) says there are between six million and 10 million lead service lines in the country.

"Since January, the number of water systems we're partnering with to inventory lead pipes has grown by more than 70 percent," said 120Water co-founder and CEO Megan Glover. "This investment will be used to continue to hire water quality professionals to meet the needs of our customers. It will also be used to invest in R&D and expand the functionality of our software platform, further supporting the water quality needs of utilities we serve."

"The collaboration between CareSource and 120Water is a perfect pairing to deliver public health benefits to those communities most in need of modern water quality



solutions, including communities in and around Indiana," said Phil Lodato, general counsel and chief compliance officer at Elevate Ventures. "Elevate is pleased to have helped make this high-impact connection, as well as to make a promising capital investment into an exciting, fast-growing Indiana technology company."

CareSource is a non-profit, nationally recognized managed care organization with over 2 million members. Headquartered in Dayton, Ohio since its founding in 1989, CareSource administers one of the largest Medicaid managed care plans in the U.S.

The organization offers health insurance, including Medicaid, Health Insurance Marketplace, Medicare Advantage and dual-eligible programs. Through its network of health plans, CareSource serves members in Arkansas, Georgia, Indiana,

Kentucky, Ohio and West Virginia.

The company is leading the way in serving populations with complex needs and extended its presence into 12 additional states with the acquisition of The Columbus Organization, a trusted partner to health care agencies and provider organizations in improving coordination and support for individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities and behavioral health challenges through its staffing, quality improvement and care coordination services. As a mission-driven organization, CareSource is transforming health care with innovative programs that address the social determinants of health, health equity, prevention and access to care.

For more, visit www.caresource.com, follow @caresource on Twitter, or like CareSource on Facebook.

Lt. Gov. Crouch, IDDC Present New I-465 Mural on Renovia Indianapolis Office



Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch

Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch and the Indiana Destination Development Corporation (IDDC)/Visit Indiana, in partnership with Renovia, yesterday unveiled a new 'IN Indiana' mural along the company's office wing wall facing I-465 on Indianapolis' east side.

"We are grateful for Renovia's support of the 'IN Indiana' campaign and for allowing Justin to feature his artwork on their building," said Crouch. "Renovia has a history of giving back to the communities it serves, and this is a perfect example of that. Thousands of travelers will be able to enjoy this 'IN Indiana' mural daily, and we thank Renovia for this opportunity."

Created by local artist Justin Olson of Olson Paint Studios, LLC, the mural features Visit Indiana's new 'IN Indiana' campaign, which was unveiled to the public in June. As a unique effort to tell the Hoosier state's authentic story, Visit Indiana developed an extensive customizable toolkit of resources available free of charge to everyone in the state who wants to use the new campaign.

"Since its debut, we've seen hundreds of destinations, businesses, cities and towns utilize the 'IN Indiana' campaign and make it their own," IDDC Secretary & CEO Elaine Bedel said. "'IN Indiana' aims to instill Hoosier pride among residents and promote our

state to a greater audience. Every time someone uses it helps accomplish that goal."

The following organizations also recently completed public art projects funded by IDDC:

- Develop Culver located at Lake Maxinkuckee within Culver Town Park at 819 E. Lake Shore Drive in Culver – Artist: Bridge Collective, LLC;
 - Indiana Dunes Tourism located at the Indiana Dunes Visitors Center at 1215 N. SR 49 in Porter – Artist: Ryan "Arcy" Christenson of RC Murals;
 - Kendallville Main Street located at Atz Law Office at 202 S. Main St. in Kendallville – Artist: Chris Lesley;
 - Munster Civic Foundation located at 5 Ridge Road in Munster – Artist: Lindsey Harris; and
 - Santa Claus Museum & Village located at 69 SR 245 in Santa Claus – Artist: Elizabeth Wertman.
- For more information about the 'IN Indiana' marketing campaign, visit <https://www.visitindiana.com/articles/post/indiana-destination-development-corporation-and-visit-indiana-launches-tourism-marketing-campaign/>.

Indiana Hospital Association Recognizes National Guard for Pandemic Assistance



Indiana Hospital Association

The Indiana Hospital Association (IHA) this week honored the Indiana National Guard for their unwavering support during the COVID-19 global pandemic.

During one of the most trying times in health care history, more than 1,500 Indiana National Guard members spent nearly three months assisting health care workers in hospitals and nursing homes across the state.

"Hospitalizations were at an all-time high during the months the National Guard stepped in to assist," said IHA President Brian Tabor. "Health care workers were physically and mentally exhausted and the Guard's arrival was like watching the cavalry come around the corner. Their hard work and willingness to help provided much needed relief to our frontline caregivers."

By the end of Jan. 2022, the Indiana National Guard had provided over 52,000 total support hours at 58 hospitals across the state, from rural facilities to urban safety net hospitals.

IHA presented the Indiana National Guard with a board resolution thanking them for their service to hospitals, along with a \$50,000 donation from member hospitals and the Hahn Foundation to the Indiana National Guard Relief Fund (INGRF), which supports Hoosier guard families during deployment.

"The Indiana National Guard Relief Fund has

served our active guard members since 2003 thanks to the generous donors in our amazing state," said Marla Miller, INGRF coordinator. "Because of organizations like IHA and its member hospitals, we are able to protect our service members from financial hardships and build programming to assist them in suicide prevention, sexual assault awareness, youth and children programming, and survivor outreach."

IHA Board Chairman Brad Smith, president and CEO of Rush Memorial Hospital, said he is thankful for the Indiana National Guard's steadfast commitment that brought much needed relief to Indiana hospitals during a very critical time.

"Words cannot express the overwhelming sense of joy and gratefulness the staff experienced seeing the National Guard walk through our doors ready to help," Smith said. "I want to commend the National Guard for everything they did during the pandemic. They stepped in to aid those who typically do the healing and this allowed us to provide the best care to our patients and our communities—they were all angels on earth."

The Indiana Hospital Association serves as the professional trade association for more than 170 acute care, critical access, behavioral health, and other specialized hospitals in Indiana. IHA advocates on behalf of its members in Indiana's General As-

sembly, U.S. Congress, and with multiple regulatory agencies at the state and federal levels.

Dedicated to improving

quality, patient safety, and Hoosiers' health status, IHA holds numerous grants and facilitates collaboration among hospitals to improve outcomes. IHA also provides members with the data analytics that they need to ensure access to quality, cost-effective health care services across the state of Indiana.

To learn more about IHA, visit IHAconnect.org.

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USDA Invests \$121M to Combat Climate Change Across Rural America

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Deputy Secretary Dr. Jewel Bronaugh yesterday announced USDA is investing \$121 million in critical infrastructure to combat climate change across rural America. The investments include \$111 million for 289 projects to help people living in socially vulnerable communities.

“Rural America is on the front lines of climate change, and our communities deserve investments that will strengthen all of our resilience,” Bronaugh said. “The Biden-Harris Administration has created a roadmap for how we can tackle the climate crisis and expand access to renewable energy infrastructure. The investments we’re announcing today and those that will be made possible by historic funding from President Biden’s Inflation Reduction Act will strengthen our energy security, create good-paying jobs and save Americans money on their energy costs.”

The funding will help people in 49 states, Guam and Puerto Rico. It reflects the many ways USDA Rural Development helps rural residents, businesses and communities address economic development, infrastructure and social service needs.

These investments reflect the goals of President Biden’s Inflation Reduction Act, which addresses immediate economic needs and includes the largest ever federal investment in clean energy for the future.

For example, the Act includes \$14 billion in funding for USDA programs that support the expansion of biofuels and help rural businesses and electric cooperatives transition to renewable energy and zero-emission systems.

Background: Bronaugh highlighted a total of 415 investments that USDA is making through three programs specifically designed to help people and businesses in rural areas. These programs are Community



Facilities Disaster Grants, Rural Energy for America Program Renewable Energy Systems & Energy Efficiency Improvement Guaranteed Loans & Grants and Rural Energy for America Program Energy Audits and Renewable Energy Development Grants.

The investments will help state and local government entities, nonprofit organizations, and federally recognized Tribes construct, renovate or purchase and install equipment for essential community facilities for public use in rural areas. They also will

help agricultural producers and rural small businesses purchase and install renewable energy systems as well as make energy efficiency improvements.

The investments will likewise assist with energy audits, renewable energy technical assistance and renewable energy site assessments.

Some examples include: • Rogers Orchards, Inc., an 8th generation family farm in Southington, Connecticut, will use an \$11,221 Rural Energy for America Program Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Grant to install

LED lighting. This project will realize \$12,196 per year in savings and will replace 63,425 kWh (19 percent) per year, which is enough electricity to power five homes for one year.

• BBB Supermarket LLC in Albany, Louisiana, will use a \$20,000 Rural Energy for America Program Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Grant to install a cool roof-coating. This project is expected to save \$25,205 per year. It will replace 147,744 kilowatt hours (kWh) (12 percent of the company’s energy use) per year, which is enough energy to power 14 homes for one year.

• The Community College System of New Hampshire will use a \$91,304 Rural Energy for America Program Energy Audits and Renewable Energy Development Grant to continue a successful renewable energy development assistance program called “NH Rural Renewables.” The program emphasizes solar photovoltaic,

wood thermal energy, and energy efficiency technologies. Forty-four rural small businesses and agricultural producers throughout New Hampshire will benefit from the program.

Under the Biden-Harris Administration, Rural Development provides loans and grants to help expand economic opportunities, create jobs and improve the quality of life for millions of Americans in rural areas.

This assistance supports infrastructure improvements; business development; housing; community facilities such as schools, public safety and health care; and high-speed internet access in rural, Tribal and high-poverty areas. For more information, visit www.rd.usda.gov.

If you would like to subscribe to USDA Rural Development updates, visit their GovDelivery subscriber page at <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDARD/subscriber/new?email=&commit=Sign+Up>.

US Commerce Secretary Selects Indiana Commerce Secretary Brad Chambers to Serve on Investment Advisory Council

This past Monday, U.S. Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo announced the appointment of Indiana Secretary of Commerce Brad B. Chambers, to the U.S. Investment Advisory Council (IAC). Secretary Chambers will join a group of 34 international business and economic leaders who will advise Secretary Raimondo on how government policies and programs affect the United States’ ability to attract and facilitate foreign business investment.



Secretary Gina Raimondo



Secretary Brad Chambers

in direct foreign investment. I look forward to working with national partners and thought leaders to continue the current momentum and solidify the U.S. and Indiana as premier investment destinations.”

The United States is home to more FDI than any other country in the world, with a total stock of FDI valued at approximately \$5 trillion at the end of 2021, according to the latest data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis. FDI supports nearly 8 million American jobs and was responsible for \$397 billion in U.S. goods exports in 2019. Specific to Indiana’s efforts to attraction foreign investment, the state set a record with \$4.4 billion in new FDI year to date 2022 with a robust pipeline of potential investments.

The IAC acts as a liaison among the stakeholders represented by the membership and provides a forum for them to discuss and develop recommendations on current and emerging issues regarding FDI. The IAC surveys and evaluates the investment and investment-facilitating activities of stakeholders, identifies and examines specific problems facing potential foreign investors, and assesses the needs of stakeholders to inform the IAC’s efforts. Ultimately the IAC recommends specific solutions to the problems and needs that it identifies throughout the process.

The Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) is charged with growing the State economy, driving economic

development, helping businesses launch, grow and locate in the state. Led by Secretary of Commerce Brad Chambers, and governed by a 15-member board chaired by Governor Eric J. Holcomb, the IEDC manages many initiatives, including performance-based tax credits, workforce training grants, innovation and entrepreneurship resources, public infrastructure assistance, and talent attraction and retention efforts.

For more information about the IEDC, visit iedc.in.gov.

The United States Investment Advisory Council advises the Secretary of Commerce on the development and implementation of strategies and programs to attract and retain foreign direct investment (FDI) in the United States. The IAC can have up to 40 members who serve a two-year term. Members are business or economic development leaders representing various industries, companies, associations, regional, state and local economic development organizations, and other organizations.

The IAC is responsible for: advising the Secretary of Commerce on U.S. government policies and programs that affect FDI; identifying and recommending programs and policies to help the United States attract and retain FDI; and recommending ways to support the United States remaining the world’s preeminent destination for FDI.

For more information, visit www.trade.gov/selectusa-investment-advisory-council.

Indiana State Fair Celebrates High Attendance Numbers, Declare 165th Year as Successful

The 165th Indiana State Fair wrapped up Sunday following 18 days of summertime fun and attracted a total of 837,568 fairgoers, an increase over 2021 fair attendance.

“This year’s Indiana State Fair was a great success. We were challenged with a few days of hot summer heat, but thankful that we had mostly beautiful weather,” said Cindy Hoyer, Indiana State Fair Commission executive director. “We are proud that no other State Fair brings 4-H project work and agriculture to life like the Indiana State Fair. Thank you to our tremendous partners, from the Tom Wood Automotive Group to the hundreds of

volunteers and vendors, for another great year.”

In 2021, the State Fair shifted to a post-pandemic format, which included adding a weekend and closing weekly on Mondays and Tuesdays. With this new setup, families have an additional weekend to attend, crowds are spread out and key operational changes can be made on closed days.

State Fair officials reinforce the guest experience being at the forefront of success, including fairgoers experiencing shorter lines for events and food stands.

Highlights from the 2022 Indiana State Fair

• Despite a heat index above 90 degrees on five days, attendance numbers

were above 2021 numbers, attracting 837,568 fairgoers.

• Final numbers show that fairgoers enjoyed the Fair to the fullest extent and spent their entire day at the Fair, with many vendors and partners reporting record sales.

• 6,600 exhibitors showed or displayed a combined 45,739 animal and non-animal projects

• 62,000+ milkshakes and 32,000 grilled cheeses sandwiches were consumed from the Dairy Bar

The 166th Indiana State Fair returns July 28-August 20, 2023 (closed on Mondays and Tuesdays).

For more information visit www.indianastatefair.com.

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Indiana Department of Education Launches Statewide Math, English/Language Arts Tutoring Grants



The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) yesterday announced the launch of Indiana Learns, a statewide grant program that will provide qualifying families with up to \$1,000 to spend on math and English/language arts high-dosage tutoring and approved out-of-school academic programs for their students.

The initiative's goal is to increase access to effective, out-of-school academic support to help students recover from learning disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Parents and families play such an important role in a child's education, not only through reading to and supporting them at home, but also through additional high-quality tutoring to further support their learning," said Dr. Katie Jenner, Indiana Secretary of Education. "As we continue to make historic investments in education, this grant will increase access to tutoring opportunities for our students who need it most, regardless of a parent or family's ability to afford this additional support."

Earlier this year, Governor Holcomb signed House Enrolled Act 1251 to create a microgrant program for families that could provide additional learning support for students most impacted academically by the COVID-19 pandemic. IDOE selected The Mind Trust, an Indianapolis-based education nonprofit organization, as a partner to operate the two-year program.

"Indiana Learns is excited to connect with families, schools and community partners to share how the program can positively impact student learning," said Seana Murphy, senior director of Indiana Learns. "These tutoring grants give families the power to choose engaging, high-quality academic support for their students. We look forward to partnering with families and schools to help Hoosier students succeed."

Results of a study conducted by the National Center for Assessment in conjunction with IDOE show that students experienced a moderate to significant academic impact in English/language arts and a significant impact in math following pandemic-related learning disruptions. After one year of intensive support, results show that learning is stabilizing or recovering for many

students. However, proficiency rates for specific student populations, including Black, Hispanic, English learner students, low income students and students with disabilities, remain significantly below both pre-pandemic levels as well as their grade-level peers.

Student Qualifications

To qualify for an Indiana Learns tutoring grant, students must meet all of the following criteria:

- Legally reside in Indiana,
- Be enrolled at a traditional public, charter or accredited non-public school,
- Qualify for Federal Free or Reduced Lunch, and
- Have scored Below Proficiency in both math and English/language arts on ILEARN as a third or fourth grader in 2022.

Note: Approaching proficiency will not qualify.

Once a family has registered at IndianaLearns.org, they can manage their account and find participating learning partners in an online platform that will be available by Oct. 1. The platform will also include helpdesk resources.

Funds can be used on approved virtual and in-person tutoring opportunities listed in the online platform. Examples of qualifying expenses include: private tutoring, small group tutoring or academic-focused camps held during school breaks.

Schools and Funding Match

All qualifying and participating students will receive a one-time grant of \$500. Indiana traditional public, charter and accredited non-public schools have the opportunity to help maximize the impact of grants in their community by contributing an additional \$250 to the accounts of qualifying students in their school or corporation. When schools make this local contribution, the state of Indiana will provide an extra \$250 match, giving families a total of \$1,000 in their accounts.

Indiana Learns will provide outreach and informational resources for schools in the coming weeks. Schools can also support qualifying students

by actively encouraging families to register for and use the program.

"In MSD of Decatur Township, we strongly believe that investing resources into increased instructional opportunities for students will equal greater academic achievement," said Dr. Matt Prusiecki, superintendent of MSD of Decatur Township. "We are Decatur Proud to partner with the IDOE and The Mind Trust to give our students the strong foundation they need in reading and math, so that they can truly become tomorrow ready. With our district matching grant funds, Decatur students will have the resources necessary in support of their continued learning as an extension to the school day."

"As the superintendent of the state's largest school district — and a former classroom teacher myself — I know that tutoring strengthens subject comprehension, boosts confidence, and builds important learning skills," said Dr. Aleesia Johnson, superintendent of Indianapolis Public Schools. "This grant will make available to students additional individualized attention. It will help children who struggle to keep up and provide the extra educational boost all students need. I'm especially proud that IPS was among the first of the school districts to partner with the IDOE to provide matching grants for students and families. It's yet another way we are using our ESSER dollars to improve academic outcomes for IPS students."

"At Muncie Community Schools, we are already seeing the benefits of additional resources going toward individual student needs through our City Connects program, and I expect this new Indiana Learns program will have a similar effect," said Dr. Lee Ann Kwiatkowski, MCS director of public education and CEO. "By providing \$250 for each eligible student to receive outside tutoring, we are maximizing resources for our most vulnerable students, which should have a broader positive impact on all our learners." "Our Indiana students

and their families can benefit greatly from this financial support from the Indiana General Assembly as the focus on academic success. We all acknowledge the impact the pandemic has had on student learning, and schools, families and communities can come together to support our students," said Dr. Todd Bess, executive director of Indiana Association of School Principals. "We hope, also, that school corporations will provide the matching dollars within the grant program to further enable our students to take advantage of the academic support through state and local partners, and through our Indiana educators who can directly link the additional tutoring to classroom success."

Learning Partner Qualifications and Approval Process

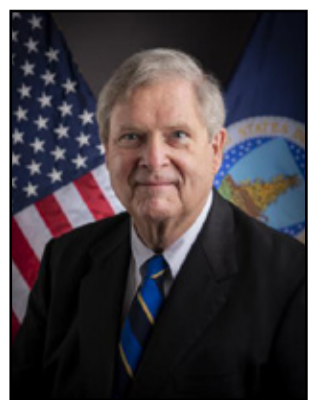
Learning partners will go through an application and approval process before being listed as eligible providers in the Indiana Learns platform. To become an approved learning partner, entities must:

- Provide services outside of regular school hours;
- Utilize credentialed educators, such as licensed teachers, retired teachers or prospective teachers currently enrolled in a teacher preparation program;
- Have the ability to measure learning and provide weekly progress reports to parents and schools;
- Be capable of maintaining a 1:3 tutor-student ratio;
- Maintain a per student cost of less than \$100 per hour/per student/per session;
- Provide a minimum of 60 minutes of support each week, and;
- Provide services on a reimbursement basis.

Learning partners will have access to a robust infrastructure of support that includes the ability to leverage an online platform that will track student use of grant funding and services received. These partners can include organizations that provide tutoring services, community groups, philanthropic organizations, higher education institutions or organizations that serve students with disabilities.

Additional information for families and interested learning partners can be found at IndianaLearns.org.

USDA to Begin Accepting Applications for \$100M in Biofuel Infrastructure Grants



Secretary Tom Vilsack

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Tom Vilsack on Tuesday announced that the USDA is accepting applications for \$100 million in grants to increase the sale and use of biofuels derived from U.S. agricultural products.

USDA will make funding available through the Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program (HBIIP). This program seeks to market higher blends of ethanol and biodiesel by sharing the costs to build and retrofit biofuel-related infrastructure such as pumps, dispensers and storage tanks.

"The Biden-Harris Administration recognizes that rural America is the key to reducing our reliance on fossil fuels and giving Americans cleaner, more affordable options at the pump," Vilsack said. "Biofuels are homegrown fuels. Expanding the availability of higher-blend fuels is a win for American farmers, the rural economy and hardworking Americans who pay the price here at home when we depend on volatile fuel sources overseas."

This additional funding follows an April investment of \$5.6 million through HBIIP that is expected to increase the availability of biofuels by 59.5 million gallons per year in California, Delaware, Illinois, Maryland, New Jersey, New York and South Dakota.

In June, USDA also announced that it had provided \$700 million in relief funding to more than 100 biofuel producers in 25 states who experienced market losses due to the pandemic.

These investments reflect the goals of President Biden's Inflation Reduction Act, which addresses immediate economic needs and includes the largest ever federal investment in clean energy for the future.

The law includes another \$500 million aimed at increasing the sale and use of agricultural commodity-based fuels.

This funding will allow USDA to provide additional grants for infrastructure improvements related to blending, storing, supplying and distributing biofuels.

Background:

Under HBIIP, USDA provides grants to transportation fueling and distribution facilities. These grants lower the out-of-pocket costs for businesses to install and upgrade infrastructure and related equipment.

The \$100 million available now will support a variety of fueling operations, including filling stations, convenience stores and larger retail stores that also sell fuel. The funds will also support fleet facilities including rail and marine, and fuel distribution facilities, such as fuel terminal operations, midstream operations, distribution facilities as well as home heating oil distribution centers.

The grants will cover up to 50% of total eligible project costs — but not more than \$5 million — to help owners of transportation fueling and fuel distribution facilities convert to higher blends of ethanol and biodiesel. These higher-blend fuels must be greater than 10% for ethanol and greater than 5% for biodiesel.

Applications must be submitted by 4:30 p.m. on Nov. 21. Visit the HBIIP webpage to learn more, sign up for webinars and apply.

Additional information also is available on Grants.gov or page 51641 of the Aug. 23 Federal Register.

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Indiana Department of Insurance Offers Tips for Combatting Identity Theft

We rely on the internet to work, bank, shop, and socialize. Our health and financial information are stored online. Connected devices control everything from home security systems to thermostats and TVs. While convenient, these connections open the door for possible malicious activity. Help manage your cybersecurity risks, such as identity theft, with these tips from the Indiana Department of Insurance.

Top Considerations

Identity theft is the unauthorized use or attempted use of an existing account, use of your information to open a new account, and misuse of your information to commit fraud.

Data thieves gain access to information from a variety of places, including your mailbox, home and business trash, public dumps, public records, and social media.

What You Should



Know

How to identify your risk

You are at risk if you store personal information on a home or work computer, or if you bank or shop online. The following scenarios may be signs of compromised data:

- You see unexpected withdrawals from your bank account.
 - You do not receive your bills or other mail.
 - You receive bills for health services you did not use, or your health plan rejects a legitimate medical claim.
- Regularly check your credit report to ensure you do not see:
- A new account you

did not open.

- Unfamiliar accounts listed.
- Negative items.

How to keep your information safe online

There are basic steps you can take to secure your information and data:

- Dispose of personal information by shredding documents using a cross-cut shredder.
- Use strict privacy settings on your computer, devices, and browsers.
- Keep passwords private, and do not write your passwords down. You may consider using a reliable password manager.
- Be mindful about the personal information you share on social media.
- Be cautious of what you download from the internet. Navigate directly to websites when you need to initiate a download. Do not download anything or click links from sites or emails that someone sends you.
- If your Social Security

number is requested by a vendor, ask why it is needed and how it will be used and protected.

- Remember that there is nothing wrong with telling someone that you are not comfortable sharing personal information.

Keeping your information safe also means ensuring your devices, including smart phones, laptops, desktops, tablets, and other devices, are secure:

- Update your software regularly.
- Change your passwords regularly.
- Use two-factor authentication.
- Use antivirus or anti-malware software to protect against malicious software that disrupts computer operations, gathers sensitive information, gains access to private computers, or displays unwanted advertising.
- Password protect your laptop to prevent unknown users from accessing it.
- Avoid opening emails

or attachments from unknown senders.

- Back up your files to an encrypted flash drive or external hard drive.

Top Things to Remember

- Regularly check your credit report for warning signs of identity theft. Indiana residents are able to get a free credit report each year. For information about how to request a free credit report, visit [https://consumer.ftc.gov/articles/free-credit-reports#:~:text=Federal%20law%20gives%20you%20the,TransUnion\)%20at%20AnnualCredit-Report.com](https://consumer.ftc.gov/articles/free-credit-reports#:~:text=Federal%20law%20gives%20you%20the,TransUnion)%20at%20AnnualCredit-Report.com)
- Any Indiana resident can request a credit freeze free of charge. There is no fee for Indiana residents to place, temporarily lift, remove or request a new password or PIN.
- Indiana residents can file an identity theft complaint with the Indiana Attorney General's office. Visit in.gov/attorneygener

al/consumer-protection-division/id-theft-prevention/complaint-form/ to find links to the form.

• The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) has resources on how to avoid identity theft. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) has an identity theft website to report incidents and develop a recovery plan.

The Indiana Department of Insurance protects Indiana's insurance consumers by monitoring and regulating the financial strengths and market conduct activities of insurance companies and agents. The IDOI monitors insurance companies and agents for compliance with state laws to protect consumers and to offer them the best array of insurance products available. The IDOI also assists Hoosiers with insurance questions and provides guidance in understanding how insurance policies work. Visit the IDOI at www.IN.GOV/IDOI.

ZONING

From Page A1



Commission Director CJ Taylor

rezone the property to the Commercial Solar Energy Systems (SES) District, which requires a public hearing process before the Hamilton County Plan Commission. As part of this process, a petitioner must, among other things:

- Conduct a soil identification study;
- Demonstrate post-construction storm water runoff volume and quality mimics or improves upon predevelopment conditions;
- Provide a minimum setback of 300 feet between solar equipment and single-family dwellings;
- Provide a landscaping screen between solar equipment and adjacent residential properties;
- Provide a process to ensure topsoil is not removed from the site during construction; and

- Completely enclose ground-mounted solar panels with a six-foot high fence and locking gate.

"We want to encourage the use of solar and renewable energy, while also protecting valuable farmland," Taylor adds. "In order to manage that we needed to put some checks and balances in place."

Article 10 of the UDO establishes a US 31 Overlay District. The Overlay District will help promote coordinated development and increased architectural standards for properties adjacent to and adjoining Dunbar Road on the west side of US 31 extending from 216th Street to 296th Street.

"This is a prime area for development in Hamilton County," adds Heirbrandt. "The new ordinance encourages capital investment and economic development in this area by promoting increased density and mixed-use developments."

The United Development Ordinance was adopted and went into effect on July 25, 2022. Copies of the UDO are available in the Plan Commission Office. A copy has also been posted to the County's website at www.hamiltoncounty.in.gov.

KIWANIS

From Page A1



Photo courtesy of Peggy Georgy

Bus drivers and school transportation plays a critical role in the lives of students, parents, and the community. In fact, school bus drivers are the most highly trained, tested, and scrutinized drivers on the road, ensuring students arrive to and from school safely and on time.

to get more drivers in training to be prepared for potential retiring drivers. Multiple drivers have been behind the wheel at Heights for 30-plus years. They are dedicated to the school and the students in their care.

But dedication alone does not get someone in the driver's seat.

Potential bus drivers must take four test tests to get a permit, pass a CDL physical, participate in on-site training and take a class on school bus safety. Interested? For more information, contact Director Jaymie Wickstrom via phone at 317.984.8404 or email at jwickstrom@hhschuskies.org.

About the Cicero Kiwanis:

The Cicero Chapter of

the Kiwanis International as a part of a non-profit global organization with members who are dedicated to changing the world, one child and one community at a time. In the greater Cicero-area community, the Cicero Kiwanis provide scholarships to local high school students, support local schools through donations to various programs and manpower, provide food and assistance to local food pantries, support families and individuals in need or in crisis and help the community-at-large through donations to Riley's Children's Hospital. Weekly meetings begin at 7:30 a.m. on Saturdays at the Red Bridge Community Park Building in Cicero.

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BETSY

From Page A1



The Times photo courtesy of Betsy Reason

Aili McGill is executive director of 10 years with Nickel Plate Arts, which is celebrating its 10th anniversary with a Diamond Gala in September.

- Surveys and conversations with all of the existing theater groups that are currently producing shows or events in or around Noblesville. "We want this to be as inclusive as possible and will use several methods to spread the word and try to make sure that no one is missed," McGill said.

- Inclusion of perspectives from community-focused musical groups, such as the Hamilton County Community.

- An analysis of the other Indiana Cultural Districts' theater and performing arts assets, including how structures were financed and funding sources for operations.

- An analysis of theater and performing arts assets in similarly-sized communities in other parts of the Midwest.

- Work with Hamilton County Tourism and other partners to identify audience trends and needs.

- An analysis of current construction/development projects that currently include or could include performing arts space.

"Our goal would be to share our findings with all of the groups and partners involved, as well as staff and elected officials at the City of Noblesville and Fishers," McGill said.

The timeline for this project, she said, is two to four months.

"We've already had some preliminary conversations with several theater groups and other interested parties and hope to schedule more formal conversations starting in September," McGill said. "Things will have to go on hold as we gear up for and recover from our fundraiser (gala), but then can resume in early October, with the goal of having a final report to share in late December or January. Our timeline will be dependent upon everyone else's availability, so it is, of course, subject to change, but it's something that we want to prioritize and work on as quickly as our inclusive and collaborative process will allow."

The Nickel Plate Artists 10th anniversary Diamond Gala will celebrate 24 nominees on the evening of Sept. 21 at Conner Prairie in Fishers, an event sponsored by Smith's Jewelers in downtown Noblesville. McGill is also celebrating 10 years as executive director with Nickel Plate Arts.

In Nickel Plate's annual report, McGill also offered statistics on the organization's arts economic impact. According to the Americans for the Arts, in 2021, Nickel Plate Arts generated more than \$517,000 in household income, supported 26 full-time equiva-

lent-hour jobs, generated more than \$31,000 income for local governments, worked with more than 1,000 artists, had nearly 11,000 visitors to its campus or Noble-Made gift shop, and had 122,626 people engaged with Facebook posts, sold more than \$37,000 in art, and provided more than \$58,000 in resources to other organizations.

In other Nickel Plate news in 2022, the nonprofit relaunched Second Saturdays and Art of Business, are heading up Squirrel Stampede and working with owners of the Lacy Building (former home of Kirk Hardware) to plan new studio spaces. Also, upcoming is Day of the Dead, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Nov. 1 working with the local "Mexican community," McGill said. Also planned are events for Small Business Saturday on Nov. 26, which includes live music, merchant specials and pop-up shops, and Lighting of the Square by the Noblesville Chamber of Commerce at 6 p.m.

For tickets to the Sept. 21 Nickel Plate Arts Gala fundraiser, \$125 per person, \$1,000 for a table or eight or \$1,250 for table of 10, or more information, visit <https://nickelplatearts.org/>

Contact Betsy Reason at betsy@thetimes24-7.com.



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IFacts Fun

47 Lawrence

Number Stumpers

- 1. What percentage of the county's people live in Bedford? \geq
- 2. How old is Lawrence County? \leq
- 3. How many live in the county, but not in Bedford? \geq
- 4. What is the population density of the county? \leq

Answers: 1. About 29 percent 2. 201 Years 3. 32, 721 People 4. 103/sq mi

Did You Know?

- Lawrence County was formed in 1818 from land given by Orange County. It was named for Capt. James Lawrence, who uttered the famous words "Don't give up the ship." after being mortally wounded during the War of 1812.
- The population in 2010 was 46,134 with 13,413 residing in the county seat, Bedford
- The first trace of settlement in Lawrence County was near Leesville, however, Bono was the first settlement in the county.
- According to the 2010 census, the county has a total area of 451.93 Square miles

Got Words?

Lawrence County is home to Spring Mill State Park in Southern Indiana. What impacts do you think the state park has on leisure, business and tourism for the county's residents?

Handwriting lines for the 'Got Words?' section.

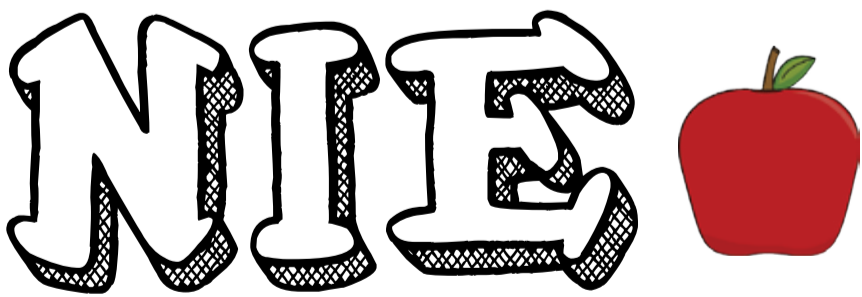
Word Scrambler

Unscramble the words below!

- 1. WRLACNCE
- 2. RDFBEDO
- 3. SMEJA
- 4. NOOB
- 5. ELLIVSEEL

Answers: 1. Lawrence 2. Bedford 3. James 4. Bono 5. Leesville

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THURSDAY

Indiana the Strong

Thursday, Aug. 25, 2022

A10

National Security Innovation Brings Deputy Secretary of Defense Kathleen Hicks to Purdue

Purdue University's strength in state-of-the-art aerospace technology, energetic materials, semiconductors and hypersonics research stands as a testament to the university's future in U.S. national security and demonstrates why U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense Kathleen Hicks and her advisers visited campus Thursday (Aug. 18) on a tour of essential research facilities.

As a central hub for innovation, Purdue attracts talented faculty who drive high-tech manufacturing and facilitate quality job placement for students. Projects including the High-Speed Propulsion Laboratory and the multifaceted Hypersonics Applied Research Facility (HARF) mark national security advances and reflect interest and investment by partners in industry and government.

Hicks received a firsthand look at Purdue's national security focus at the Maurice J. Zucrow Laboratories, Birck Nanotechnology Center and other facilities during a campus tour.

"Purdue is deeply honored to welcome the deputy secretary and her team to a campus that



is proud to contribute in any way it can to the cause of our national security," Purdue President Mitch Daniels said. "We are investing heavily in the infrastructure, human and physical, to design, test and develop the systems necessary to protect the freedoms Americans enjoy. As home to some of the world's most brilliant researchers in areas critical to the national defense, Purdue has a special capacity and, therefore a duty, to do its part, and we will.

Throughout her travel, Dr. Hicks focused on linking the department's resources to our nation's strategic priorities, including the pacing threat of our near-peer global competitors, and ensuring Department of Defense remains the world leader in cutting-edge innovation.

Purdue's investments

in hypersonics and aerospace technology position the university as a compelling partner for national defense projects from industry and government. Hypersonics is a critical area of focus under Purdue's Next Moves, strategic initiatives designed to advance the university's competitive advantage.

Purdue already has established excellence in other key research areas considered critical to national security, including microelectronics. Strategic initiatives such as the first comprehensive Semiconductor Degrees Program are intended to prepare a next-generation workforce for industry, while a separate partnership with SkyWater Technology will result in a future state-of-the-art semiconductor manufacturing facility.

The University began expanding its footprint as a national security hub more than two years ago with announced plans to develop the first quiet Mach 8 wind tunnel in the world. It will partner with the already existing Mach 6 tunnel on campus as well as a hypersonic pulse (HY-PULSE) reflected shock/

expansion tunnel, and the establishment of the Purdue Applied Research Institute, a new, nonprofit research arm of the university.

The High-Speed Propulsion Laboratory announced in April was preceded by projects such as Hypersonics Applied Research Facility (HARF), which will house both the Mach 8 and the HYPULSE reflected/shock expansion tunnel as well as the Hypersonics Advanced Manufacturing Technology Center (HAMTC).

In February, Purdue was selected by the Air Force Research Labs (AFRL) as the lead academic partner and headquarters for the AFRL Regional Research Hub - Midwest. The selection puts Purdue at the center of dozen academic and 50 industrial partners in 12 states that are working to further research and development in critical areas of national security.

The abundance of new facilities has brought with it new industry partnerships and investments at Purdue, including Rolls-Royce, GE Additive, Dynetics, Lockheed Martin, and Boeing.



CANDLES Presents "An Evening Of Light"

CANDLES Holocaust Museum and Education Center will play host to a dinner - "An Evening of Light" - at the Indiana Historical Society in downtown Indianapolis on Saturday, Oct. 22, 2022.

The evening will feature cocktails, dinner and two prominent Holocaust educators as guest speakers: Dr. Michael Berendaum & Dr. Stephen D. Smith.

Dr. Berendaum is a scholar, professor, rabbi, writer, and filmmaker specializing in Holocaust studies. Dr. Smith is a University of Southern California Visiting Professor of Religion and Executive Director Emeritus of the USC Shoah Foundation.

"As Indiana's only Holocaust Museum, we felt it was important to get speakers with not only vast knowledge of

the Holocaust but who also knew Eva Kor," Troy Fears, CANDLES Executive Director, said. "Both men spent time with Eva and will share their personal insights."

The evening will also include the presentation of the Terry Fear Holocaust Educator in Action Award. This award is for an Indiana educator who teaches a Holocaust unit, seeks opportunities to improve the world, and supports student's understanding of the Holocaust using best practices. Nominations are still being accepted until Sept. 1, 2022.

Tickets for "An Evening of Light" are \$125 and can be purchased online at www.candlesholocaustmuseum.org. Indiana Historical Society is located at 450 West Ohio Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202.

Purdue Leads \$2.7M USDA-Funded Conservation Partnership

The U.S. Department of Agriculture has announced \$197 million for 41 locally led conservation projects through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP).

The Farmers Helping Hellbenders project, led by Rod Williams, Purdue University professor of forestry and natural resources, and Nick Burgmeier, Purdue Extension wildlife specialist/Help the Hellbender project coordinator, will receive \$2.7 million to improve hellbender habitat in a four-county region in south central Indiana, the only remaining habitat for hellbenders in the state, by expanding the use of agricultural conservation practices to decrease sedimentation in local rivers systems.

Fourteen contributing partners will assist in the project: Mesker Park Zoo and Botanic Gardens, Fort Wayne Children's Zoo, Indianapolis Zoo, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, Crawford County Soil and Water Conservation District, Floyd County Soil and Water Conservation District, Harrison County Soil and Water Conservation District, Washington County Soil and Water Conservation District, Crawford County Cattleman's Association, Harrison County Cattleman's Association, Washington County

Cattleman's Association, Cryptobranchid Interest Group, The Nature Conservancy and Wallace Center at Winrock International.

For much of the last 16 years, Williams and his team have researched Eastern hellbenders, spearheading regional conservation efforts and advancing hellbender captive propagation - the rearing of this ancient animal in captivity and their eventual return to the wild.

Sedimentation is a major cause of hellbender decline and reduced sedimentation will increase available habitat for hellbenders, mussels and aquatic macroinvertebrates. This project will also address soil and nutrient loss, also concerns for agricultural producers. The targeted conservation practices and systems have been shown to have long-term benefits for agricultural systems and operations.

"Through this initiative, focused on Crawford, Floyd, Harrison and Washington counties, we expect to improve water quality and aquatic wildlife habitat," Burgmeier said. "Simultaneously, we hope to improve soil retention and nutrient availability to crops by helping farmers implement practices such as cover crops, riparian buffers, grassed waterways, etc. Additional benefits will include

increases in riparian and pollinator habitat and increased protection for karst habitat through the selected targeting of sinkholes."

After five years of breeding efforts, Williams' partners at the Mesker Park Zoo in Evansville, Indiana, successfully bred Eastern hellbenders naturally in captivity in October 2020, signifying the culmination of a long and collaborative effort to breed and restore this endangered species to its native environment.

"Wildlife conservation, as a science, is complex," Williams said. "This RCPP project builds upon 16 years of partnerships, from university researchers to Extension educators, zoos, nongovernmental organizations and state agency professionals. Each partner brings a special talent, community asset, and passion to Eastern hellbender conservation. This project will highlight how conservation professionals can pair with landowners to the benefit of all. We are very excited about moving forward."

Eastern hellbenders, the largest salamanders in North America, breathe through capillaries near the surface of their skin, absorbing oxygen directly from the water. This requires high-quality streams, and the species has struggled

to survive after decades of declining water quality and habitat degradation.

Characterized by flat bodies and heads and slimy, blotchy brown skin with folds along the sides and long tails, Eastern hellbenders live in shallow, fast-flowing, cool, rocky rivers and streams across the United States from New York to Georgia and as far west as Missouri and Arkansas. At maturity, the species can measure approximately two feet long.

Williams' hellbender lab is also actively collaborating with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources and Indiana Division of Fish and Wildlife as well as several other partners across 13 states on conservation projects and educational opportunities for teachers and children.

As part of each project, partners offer value-added contributions to amplify the impact of RCPP funding in an amount equal to or greater than the NRCS investment.

"RCPP puts local partners in the driver's seat to accomplish environmental goals that are most meaningful to their community. Joining together public and private resources harnesses innovation that neither sector could implement alone," Indiana NRCS State Conservationist Jerry Raynor said.

Cherkauer Appointed Director of IWRRRC

Effective Sept. 1, Keith Cherkauer, professor of agricultural and biological engineering, will assume the role of director for the Indiana Water Resource Research Center. The IWRRRC, one of the 54 Water Resources Research Institutes established under the authority of the federal Water Resources Research Act, is housed on Purdue University's campus.

Linda Prokopy, department head of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, will step down as director of the IWRRRC after six years of serving in the role.

"Keith is the perfect person to take the center to the next level," Prokopy said. "He has spent his career at Purdue focused on water issues relevant to the state, and he is very much in tune with stakeholder needs. I have confidence that he will help to raise the profile of the work the center does throughout the state."

The IWRRRC's three main goals are to support water research in the state, train future water

scientists and disseminate research results to water managers and the public. Over the years, the IWRRRC has funded numerous research projects that enabled both junior and senior scientists at universities throughout Indiana to conduct studies that led to publications and future competitive grants.

As the new director, Cherkauer said he is interested in getting the IWRRRC more involved in outreach across the state, aiming to engage residents with the center's research. Building a stronger bridge between water researchers and public water resource managers around Indiana is just one of the ways he plans to achieve this.

"While fundamental research will continue to be a core focus at the center, I would like to see the IWRRRC take on a larger role disseminating those results throughout the state," Cherkauer said. "Getting more people involved in state water resources research helps ensure that no one is feeling left out of the overall efforts."

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THURSDAY

Indiana the Strong

Thursday, Aug. 25, 2022

A11

State of Indiana and Lilly Endowment Announce \$111M Investment to Support Early Literacy For Hoosier Students

Last week, Governor Eric J. Holcomb and Indiana Secretary of Education Dr. Katie Jenner joined Lilly Endowment Inc. to announce the state's largest-ever financial investment in literacy, expanding Indiana's commitment to support literacy development for Hoosier students. This combined investment from the state and Lilly Endowment of up to \$111 million will support early literacy development using proven teaching strategies aligned with the Science of Reading.

The state will: Support the deployment of instructional coaches to schools throughout Indiana;

Offer stipends to teachers who participate in professional development focused on the Science of Reading;

Provide targeted support for students who need the most help in improving their reading skills; and

Create a literacy center focused on Science of Reading strategies.

Lilly Endowment has approved a grant of up to \$60 million for this effort. These efforts will support the state's goal of having 95 percent of Indiana's students achieve a passage rate on IREAD-3 by 2027.

"Lilly Endowment's incredible investment to-day represents a long-term commitment to Indiana's long-term success," said Governor Holcomb. "Reading is fundamental to each student's lifelong opportunities, and it's foundational to the core of our state's future. This immense investment will make an enduring impact on our youngest generation of Hoosiers, empowering them with fundamental skills that they will carry with them throughout their lives."

The stakes are high because more Indiana students must read well in order to support their long-term academic success and the success of the state's future. Results from Indiana's statewide third grade reading assessment, IREAD-3, indicate that nearly one in five Hoosier students (18.4 percent) have not yet mastered foundational reading skills by the end of grade three. These foundational skills set the groundwork for more robust reading comprehension, which is essential for future learning in later grades and throughout life.

More concerning is the fact that the most recent scores from the state's summative assessment for grades three through eight (ILEARN) and NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress) – tools which measure deeper reading proficiency – indicate that even more Indiana students will need additional support in order to read and comprehend increasingly

complex materials, conduct research and write effectively.

In 2022, only 40.7 percent of Indiana third graders and 41.1 percent of Indiana fourth graders passed the English/Language Arts portion of ILEARN. Learning gaps in reading proficiency persist as demonstrated by 2019 NAEP results: only 17 percent of Black students, 24 percent of Hispanic students and 24 percent of students from low-income households scored proficient or better. "Far too few Indiana third graders have the necessary reading skills that they will need for future academic and life success," said N. Clay Robbins, chairman and CEO. "Although we understand that many factors affect reading achievement, we are compelled by the research showing that Science of Reading strategies can help all students learn to read better and address equity gaps in reading. Knowing the important contributions teachers make every day in their classrooms, we want to make sure they are fully supported in this important work to help students learn to read well."

Lilly Endowment's grant, in addition to IDOE's investment of approximately \$26 million in Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds, aims to provide Science of Reading focused instructional support for educators in partnership with the University of Indianapolis' Center of Excellence in Leadership of Learning (CELL) and the Hunt Institute.

The Science of Reading is a research-based strategy that integrates instructional practices with efforts focused around phonics, phonemic awareness, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. Decades of child development and brain research emphasize the need for all of these components to be taught to students to ensure they have the reading skills necessary for future academic and life success.

These funds will: Provide support to educators through instructional coaching in the Science of Reading – Through funding from the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE), 54 schools across the state are piloting the Science of Reading instructional coaching this fall, with recruitment, oversight and training provided by CELL. With the additional financial support from Lilly Endowment, IDOE expects to expand the reach of this effort to about 60 percent of elementary schools by the end of the 2025-2026 school year. Schools can opt-in to instructional coaching based on student need and school interest.

Provide targeted sup-

port for Indiana students experiencing the greatest reading challenges – Many students experience reading challenges, including students in special education, students of color, students whose primary language is not English and students from low-income households.

Establish a literacy center at IDOE focused on the Science of Reading – IDOE will recruit additional staff to provide Science of Reading technical assistance to schools, including resources through the Indiana Learning Lab. The literacy center will serve as a one-stop-shop to oversee literacy efforts, manage research and evaluation efforts and maintain quality technical assistance for educators.

Provide stipends for teachers who participate in professional development regarding the Science of Reading – As Indiana's early elementary school educators work to implement the Science of Reading in classrooms across the state, IDOE will provide financial incentives of up to \$1,200 per teacher to allow them to opt in to additional training.

The state's team will work with the Hunt Institute, which has nationally recognized expertise in the Science of Reading, to provide training and content for teachers. In addition, an advisory panel of national experts in Science of Reading will regularly advise IDOE on all of these efforts.

Future teachers entering the state's elementary school system should be prepared to use Science of Reading instruction in their classrooms as well. To that end, in addition to the \$60 million grant to IDOE, Lilly Endowment will make available up to \$25 million to support Indiana's colleges and universities incorporate or enhance Science of Reading methods into their undergraduate elementary teacher preparation programs. Lilly Endowment will provide further information about this initiative to Indiana colleges and universities in the coming weeks.

"We know that students first learn to read, and then they read to learn," said Dr. Katie Jenner, Indiana Secretary of Education. "This shift typically occurs after a student's third grade year. However, in Indiana, too many of our students are concluding third grade without foundational reading skills. Fewer still have the reading skills necessary for long-term academic success. As a state, including our schools and community partners, we must lean-in to urgently and intentionally address this challenge. In partnership with Lilly Endowment, we have an unprecedented opportunity to provide Indiana's

educators with the support and tools they need to truly move the needle for Indiana students, ensuring all students receive the foundational reading skills that make all other learning possible, both in the classroom and beyond."

About Lilly Endowment, Inc.

Lilly Endowment Inc. is an Indianapolis-based, private philanthropic foundation created in 1937 by J. K. Lilly and his sons, Eli and J.K. Jr., through gifts of stock in their pharmaceutical business, Eli Lilly and Company. While those gifts remain the financial bedrock of the Endowment, the Endowment is a separate entity from the company, with a distinct governing board, staff and location. In keeping with its founders' wishes, the Endowment supports the causes of community development, education and religion. Although the Endowment funds programs throughout the United States, especially in the field of religion, it maintains a special commitment to its hometown, Indianapolis, and home state, Indiana.

About CELL Created in 2001, the Center of Excellence in Leadership of Learning (CELL) at the University of Indianapolis focuses on helping educators transform learning, teaching, and leadership across all of Indiana's K-12 schools and universities. CELL's work has set them apart by being the leading convener and advocate for innovative education change in Indiana. By providing leadership that is both cutting-edge and action-oriented, CELL is able to foster change across the entire educational ecosystem. Through strategic public and private partnerships, CELL enables high-quality innovations and opportunities for all of Indiana's schools, educators, and students.

About Hunt Institute The Hunt Institute has over 20 years of working to provide an equitable education to every child. In 2016, after 16 years as a nonpartisan leader in K-12 education policy and political leadership, The Institute evolved to broaden its policy focus to encompass the full continuum, from prenatal care and early childhood to postsecondary education and the workforce. Most recently in 2019, The Institute expanded its services to include professional development with local school districts to bridge policy to practice. In alignment with our core beliefs, The Institute creates meaningful platforms to engage policymakers across our work. We are unapologetic about the importance of equity—in educational access, quality, and opportunity—and it is at the core of the work we do.

DNR

Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Reserved Hunt Applications Opened Up on Monday

This past Monday, hunters became able to apply for a variety of reserved hunts via on.IN.gov/reservedhunt.

The online method is the only way to apply for the hunts listed below. No late entries will be accepted. Applicants must possess a hunting license that is valid for the hunt for which they apply.

Hunters will be selected through a random computerized drawing. Applicants can view draw results online within two weeks after the application period closes. An email will be sent to all applicants when draws have been completed.

Applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. ET on Sept. 23:

Fish & Wildlife Area (FWA) Waterfowl Hunts: Participating FWAs include Goose Pond, Hovey Lake, Kingsbury, Kankakee, and LaSalle. Province Pond Wetland Conservation Area, managed by J.E. Roush Lake FWA, will also participate.

FWA Deer Hunts: Deer Creek and Fairbanks Landing FWAs will host firearm season hunts.

State Park Deer Hunts: State Parks participating include Brown County, Chain O'Lakes, Charlestown, Fort Harrison, Harmonie, Lincoln, McCormick's Creek, Ouabache, Prophetstown, Shades, Shakamak, Summit Lake, Tippecanoe River, and Whitewater Memorial. Trine State Recreation Area and Cave River Valley Natural Area will also participate.

National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) Deer Hunts: Properties participating include Big Oaks NWR and Muscatatuck NWR will host hunts for archery, firearms, and muzzleloader deer hunts.

November Game Bird Area (GBA) Hunts: Participating GBAs in northern Indiana are in Benton, Jasper, Newton, Warren, and White counties. Hunters may choose from a variety of dates. These hunts are not put/

take pheasant hunts.

Indiana Private Lands Access (IPLA) Hunts: IPLA will offer reserved hunts for game bird and deer on private lands.

Additional hunting opportunities:

Camp Atterbury (National Guard property) is not allocating deer hunting opportunities through the Indiana DNR reservation system. For details on how to apply for hunting opportunities at Camp Atterbury, see atterbury.isportsman.net. Email questions to ng.in.inarnrg.mbx.hunting-program@army.mil or call 812-5261499, ext. 61375.

Please note that for opportunities allocated through the Indiana DNR reservation system, only one application per hunt is allowed. No changes can be made once an application is submitted.

The application process is consolidated into the online services website along with licenses, CheckIN Game, and HIP registration. An online account is not required to apply, but a Customer ID number is needed.

In this system, hunts without a registration fee will follow the same process as those with a fee. To register for hunts with no fee required, applicants will be asked to "Add to Cart," "Proceed to Checkout," and "Place Order." If the transaction total is \$0, the applicant will not be asked to enter credit card information. Applicants must place an order to submit their application.

To view draw results, applicants can log into their online services account or click "View hunt draw results" at on.IN.gov/reservedhunt, which also includes additional information. From there, applicants should select "Click here" under Reserved Hunts to see the status of registered hunts. The link will only show upcoming hunts that an individual has registered for. Logging into an account online is required to see the full history of past hunt registrations.

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Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD) Confirmed in Franklin County Deer

The presence of Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD), which is not known to infect humans, has been confirmed in Franklin County white-tailed deer, after the Indiana DNR sent samples of dead deer found in the county to Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study labs.

EHD is a viral disease that affects white-tailed deer. It is common in the United States and has been present in many states for decades, including Indiana. Indiana deer die from EHD every year.

EHD is transmitted to deer from infected midge flies, commonly called no-see-ums or biting gnats. After becoming infected, deer often develop a fever and die within 36 hours. Infected deer often seek bodies of water



to relieve their fever and then die nearby. Some deer recover. There is no evidence EHD has negative effects on deer that do not become infected.

Cases of EHD typically peak in the late summer and early fall but decline quickly after the first frost, when insect populations are greatly reduced.

Several reports of suspected EHD are actively being received by DNR, primarily from counties

in the southern part of the state, and DNR is monitoring the situation. There is no known effective treatment or control for EHD in wild deer populations. At this point, it is not expected that this outbreak will affect deer hunting season.

Signs of EHD in deer can include:

- deer walking in circles
- general weakness
- loss of fear of hu-

mans,

- swollen or blue-tinged tongue
- swollen eyelids
- swollen neck or head
- respiratory distress

"If you see a deer acting strange or if you find multiple dead deer in a single area, we would like to hear about it," said Michelle Benavidez Westrich, wildlife health biologist for southern Indiana.

To report a suspected case, go to on.IN.gov/sickwildlife. Due to the high volume of reports, a DNR biologist will only contact individuals who submit a report if more information is needed; however, all reports are valuable for tracking purposes.

For more information, including maps of suspected EHD cases, see on.IN.gov/ehd.

Invasive Spotted Lanternfly Now in Northern Indiana

Seen in July in Indiana's Huntington County, the invasive spotted lanternfly has officially migrated to northern Indiana, just one year after its initial sighting in Switzerland County.

Cliff Sadof, professor of entomology and Purdue Extension fellow, said this migration poses a significant agricultural risk to wine grape growers and honeybee and walnut tree producers. While the spotted lanternfly feeds on over 100 different types of plants, Sadof said, the insect can reproduce only when feeding on walnut trees, grape vines or tree of heaven.

Elizabeth Long, Purdue University assistant professor of horticulture crop entomology, said one of the best defenses that wine grape growers can take against the spotted lanternfly is learning to identify the life stages of the insect and remaining vigilant inspecting for them.

"Several of the insecticides grape growers currently use for other insect pests will also knock down the spotted lanternfly, so there is no need to make additional sprays as a preventative at this time," Long said. "Looking to next season, the same strategy is needed. Keeping an eye out for spotted lanternfly hitchhikers and avoiding moving items that are likely to accidentally move insects along are key. Spotted lanternfly populations feeding on wine grape vines can severely reduce winter hardiness or kill the crop all together.

Brock Harpur, Purdue assistant professor of entomology, said bee keeping equipment can also provide

the perfect spot for spotted lanternflies to lay eggs, allowing the insect to travel around the state.

"It is imperative for beekeepers to keep a careful eye out for signs of the spotted lanternfly in their area and on their equipment," Harpur said. "Should the spotted lanternfly become established in all parts of Indiana, it is expected that honeydew, the secretion that spotted lanternfly leave behind, will become part of our late-summer honey harvest."

Bees make good use of any honeydew they collect, Harpur said, but that isn't desirable. If a colony does collect honeydew, a beekeeper may notice the honey has a smokey taste and smell and is less sweet than a typical honey. The honeydew tainted product has a darker brown color and a notable aftertaste.

Though the full-grown adults have beautiful coloring and patterns, spotted lanternfly eggs resemble a splash of mud, making them easy to overlook on large vehicles traveling from state to state. Homeowners should, therefore, also remain vigilant in keeping populations in check, Sadof said, as the honeydew secretions from the insect are frequently spread across homes and structures and are extremely difficult to remove when dried.

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources asks all residents to search for and report spotted lanternfly sightings. Anyone spotting the insect should photograph it and send the image and location to DEPP@dnr.in.gov, or call 1-866-No-Exotic.

Indiana Agriculture Advocates Honored For Leadership, Passion

Purdue Extension Women in Agriculture recognized three Indiana agriculture leaders at the Indiana State Fair on Aug. 4.

Karen Plaut, the Glenn W. Sample Dean of the Purdue College of Agriculture, and Angie Abbott, assistant dean of Purdue University's College of Health and Human Sciences and associate director for Purdue Extension, honored the recipients of the Purdue Extension Women in Agriculture 2022 awards.

"It is a pleasure for Purdue Extension to spotlight women who are committed to the success of Indiana agriculture. The recipients' hard work and dedication to their communities and the agriculture industry is evident in all they do," Abbott said.

Purdue rising senior, Savannah Bordner, received the Emerging Women in Agriculture Leadership award, which recognizes the accomplishments of a high school or undergraduate student who has made a positive impact on agriculture. Bordner is studying agriculture economics at Purdue while serving as a Purdue College of Agriculture ambassador and in Purdue's Old Masters Program. She recently



traveled on a Purdue study abroad program with two Purdue Extension educators to study the rural development of Ireland while also learning about fisheries and agri-tourism.

Bordner has completed four internships in her career, including at Ag Reliant Genetics, as a production agriculture marketing intern with John Deere, a sales and marketing agronomic intern at LG Seeds and a commercial sales intern with Corteva Agriscience. She was a 10-year 4-H member and served as the Indiana state FFA northern regional vice president, during which she visited middle and high school classrooms to share her passion for agriculture. As a state FFA officer, she also traveled to Washington, D.C., to discuss agriculture policy issues with representatives.

The Purdue Extension Women in Agriculture Leadership Award recognizes a woman in an agribusiness or poli-

cymaking position who has actively influenced Indiana agriculture. Katie Glick, practice group director for Ice Miller LLP, was honored with the 2022 award. Glick and her husband, Brett, live on their family farm in Columbus, Indiana, with their two daughters. The family owns and operates their private seed company, L&M Glick Seed, selling corn, soybean and wheat seeds directly to customers and the wholesale market. They also have a cattle operation and grow corn, soybeans, wheat and double crop soybeans.

In 2011, Glick joined the Indiana Soybean Alliance, Indiana Corn Marketing Council and Indiana Corn Growers Association as the public affairs and industry relations director. She worked with industry professionals and lobbied on behalf of Indiana corn and soybean farmers. Glick has served as an advocate for Indiana agriculture throughout her career including presenting at the National FFA conference and writing for a blog and the hometown newspaper. Glick is a 10-year 4-H member and continues to support the Indiana 4-H Foundation and local 4-H efforts in Bartholomew

County.

The Purdue Extension Women in Agriculture Achievement Award recognizes women who are directly involved in a home farm operation. Joelle Orem of Howard County is the honoree for 2022. With her husband and family, she helps manage Orem Farms, a beef cattle, grain crops and custom hay production operation. She works with Barn2Door, an e-commerce platform that offers web stores for farmers, as a marketing development expert. Orem helps farmers improve their brand strategy through social media and marketing. She recently joined Purdue Extension's Women in Agriculture team to assist with event planning and creative projects.

The Purdue Extension Women in Agriculture awards committee was chaired by Beth Vansickle, an Extension educator in Madison County, and Lindsey Moore, senior litigation officer at Farm Credit Mid America. The Purdue Extension Women in Agriculture team provides educational opportunities and resources for women in the agriculture industry and coordinates the Midwest Women in Agriculture conference.

Registration Now Open for Purdue Digital Ag Showcase

Join Purdue experts for the Digital Ag Showcase on Sept. 8 at the Beck Agricultural Center in West Lafayette. Participants will learn about cutting-edge research related to data-driven agriculture, see demonstrations featuring practical applications and tools that can be used on their farming operations and tour campus research facilities focused on digital agriculture.

"The day will be packed with demonstrations and highlights the work happening at Purdue related to data-driven agriculture," said Dennis Buckmaster, professor of agricultural and biological engineering and dean's fellow for digital agriculture. "You will be able to get your hands on new sensors, learn about free, practical tools for collecting and analyzing data, and network with researchers, Extension specialists and graduate students leading the way in applications of UAVs, sensor deployment, decision-making and automation."

Topics to be covered include:

- Using drones (UAVs) in row crops, including low-input, high-efficiency scouting.
- Demonstrations of

Purdue's field phenotyping capabilities.

- Improved management approaches for soybean and corn.
- Introduction of GROW, a new web app for corn producers to monitor the physiological state of their corn fields.
- Replacing the "dashboard notebook" with digital field records.

Participants can choose to take campus tours to visit with Purdue faculty in their research spaces, including the Agricultural and Biological Engineering Building, Creighton Hall of Animal Sciences and the Ag Alumni Phenotyping Facility.

For those interested in private pesticide applicator (PARP) and commercial applicator credits, continuing certification hours will be offered in categories 1, 11, 14 and RT. Purdue Extension specialists will offer a one-hour workshop providing UAV demonstrations of pest scouting, soil nutrient monitoring, herbicide applications, benefits of precision ag applications of chemicals, and anhydrous ammonia safety.

Registration is requested by Sept. 1 as lunch will be provided. Register at purdue.ag/digitalagshowcase.

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