

TODAY'S VERSE Psalm 37:4 Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.



FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY People who call our community their own. What makes Amanda Roush smile? "Seeing my kids smile is my No. 1 reason to smile. But I also love living in our little community and seeing so many wonderful faces out and around the Square..."

And Another Few Things... 1. Investigators looking for former employees of site of Richmond warehouse fire

The Indiana State Fire Marshal's office is looking to speak with any recent or former employees of the My Way Trading Warehouse in Richmond. The 14-acre warehouse for chipped, shredded and bulk plastics caught fire on April 11 and burned for several days, causing an evacuation of Richmond in a half-mile radius.

2. Why SpaceX rocket explosion considered successful

On April 20, SpaceX's Starship, the largest rocket ever built, took off from a launchpad in southern Texas. Around three minutes later, the rocket exploded midflight. Pourpoint says that it is important to keep in mind that this mission was considered a test launch and was never guaranteed to go perfectly.

3. Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$35 Million for National Fish Passage Projects

The Department of the Interior today announced a \$35 million investment in fiscal year 2023 funding from President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law for 39 projects in 22 states that will address outdated or obsolete dams, culverts, levees and other barriers fragmenting our nation's rivers and streams.

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Hamilton County's Own Daily Newspaper

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Boomer Bits Ask Rusty - Why Can't I Get Social Security Disability On My Own Or My Husband's Record?

Dear Rusty: I am considered disabled by State of Washington doctors, but Social Security has turned me down three times when I applied for disability saying I don't have enough work points. I am the wife of a retired, disabled veteran who served over 20 years in the US Navy. I raised three children, one of which is disabled. How do I get Social Security to accept my disability? Signed: Frustrated & Disabled

Social Security Matters This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the AMAC Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association (NSSA). NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity.

Dear Frustrated & Disabled: Social Security's criteria for disability eligibility are separate and distinctly different from any other authority such as the State of Washington. To be eligible for Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits, you must have earned a minimum number of credits on your own from working and contributing to Social Security, and that work must have occurred recently (you must have worked at least 5 of the last 10 years).

who will be contacted by Social Security's representatives.

For information, SSDI is an individually earned entitlement, thus your husband's lifetime earnings history applies only to him, and his earnings record does not extend to you for SSDI purposes (in other words, he might be eligible for early SSDI benefits on his own, but his eligibility for those benefits does not make you eligible too). Nevertheless, if your husband is collecting SSDI benefits and you are caring for your child who became disabled before age 22, or if your husband is collecting SS and any of your children are under age 16, you may be eligible for "child-in-care" spousal benefits.

children under 18) may also be eligible for dependent child benefits from him, subject to the Family Maximum.

So, to answer your specific question about how to get Social Security to "accept your disability," unless you meet the recent work test and have earned the needed credits on your own as described above, and are totally disabled, you cannot. You may wish to confirm this by discussing your situation with an attorney who specializes in SSDI matters. You can find such an attorney online by searching for "SSDI attorney near me" - just be sure to fully vet any firm you are considering.

The U.N. Comes Under Fire For Suggesting Young Kids Have A Right To Engage In Sex

By John Grimaldi

Is the U.N. saying young children have a right to engage in consensual sex-- including consensual sex with an adult? It certainly appears to have officially announced that the world needs to adopt a kinder, gentler approach to what is commonly known as "Statutory Rape" in the civilized world. If not, what does the United Nations mean when it publishes a declaration that: "sexual conduct involving persons below the domestically prescribed minimum age of consent to sex may be consensual in fact, if not in law."

The U.N. document, The 8 March Principles for a Human Rights-Based Approach to Criminal Law Proscribing Conduct Associated with Sex, is the handiwork of the International Committee of Jurists, the UN-

AIDS [the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS] and the U.N. Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

It goes on to state that "Pursuant to their evolving capacities and progressive autonomy, persons under 18 years of age should participate in decisions affecting them, with due regard to their age, maturity, and best interests, and with specific attention to non-discrimination guarantees." Although the report doesn't overtly suggest sex with minors should be legalized, it claims that children younger than 18 years of age are capable of willingly having sex with older individuals, according to the Washington Free Beacon.

The paper goes on to quote Grace Melton, who served as a public delegate on the U.S. delegation to the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women, led by former U.N. Ambassador Nikki Haley and who told the Free Beacon, "this document advocates for a lot of troubling ideas and bad policies. Not

Foot And Ankle Safety Tips For The Summer Months

(StatePoint) From the beach to the backyard, taking care of your feet and ankles in summer is essential.

"Nothing ruins summer fun faster than a problem with your feet. However, a few smart precautions can help keep you healthy and safe," says Gretchen Lawrence, DPM, AACFAS, a board-certified foot and ankle surgeon and an associate member of the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons (ACFAS).

To help you understand some of the most common summer risks to feet and how to avoid them, ACFAS is sharing these insights:

- Puncture wounds: Millions of Americans go barefoot every summer, and thousands will sustain cuts and puncture wounds. To prevent injury and infection, wear shoes whenever possible and get vaccinated against tetanus. If you do get a puncture wound, see a foot and ankle surgeon within 24 hours

Arrest Made in Shooting

A Tennessee man is in custody in connection to a deadly shooting earlier this



PAL

month in Noblesville. Ruai Ngundeng Pal, a 22-year-old Franklin, Tenn. man, was arrested by Franklin police and charged with murder and six other felonies in connection to the April 6 shooting at 21506 Raccoon Ct. in Noblesville. He is being held in the Williamson County Jail in Tennessee awaiting extradition.

Earlier this week investigators from the Noblesville Police Department appeared in Hamilton County Superior Court 5 to preliminary charges

See ARREST Page A5



Sunrise/Sunset RISE: 6:54 a.m. SET: 8:30 p.m.

High/Low Temperatures HIGH: 54 °F LOW: 34 °F

Today is...

- April Showers Day
• Earth Day
• Record Store Day

What Happened On This Day

- 1977 Optical fiber is used for telephone transmissions for the first time.
• 1945 Adolf Hitler admits defeat.
• 1906 The 1906 Olympic Games begin in Athens.

Births On This Day

- 1870 Vladimir Lenin Russian politician
• 1899 Vladimir Nabokov Russian/American author

Deaths On This Day

- 1983 Earl Hines American pianist
• 1994 Richard Nixon American politician, 37th President of the United States

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See ANKLE Page A5

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HONEST HOOSIER

Happy 53rd birthday, Earth Day.



TODAY'S QUOTE

"When strangers start acting like neighbors... communities are reinvigorated." -Ralph Nader

TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

When you buy a plastic water bottle, make sure it's labeled "BPA-free." 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



TODAY'S JOKE

Why was the salad given a medal? It went above and beyond the kale of duty!

OBITUARIES

None

The Times appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank KERWIN & CHERYL KAUFMAN for subscribing!







Photo courtesy of Carmel Clay Parks

## Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation Begins Work On 2024-2028 Master Plan

Carmel Clay Parks & Recreation (CCPR) has begun work on a new comprehensive master plan, which will outline the strategic vision for the department over a five-year period through 2028. Over the next several months, CCPR will seek feedback and invites the community to be part of the process.

A master plan utilizes internal assessment, data collection, and community input to help determine how to best serve an ever-changing and growing community. The master plan incorporates input from elected officials, community leaders, key stakeholders, focus groups, the public, and

more. This feedback allows CCPR to create a snapshot in time of the wants and needs of the community.

CCPR will utilize a variety of public outreach methods:

- Attending community events.
- Hosting focus groups and public input meetings.
- Conducting a statistically valid community survey—which will be delivered to randomized residents by mail—followed by an additional online survey.

“Community feedback is key to creating a well-rounded parks and recreation master plan,” said Michael Klitzing, Director of Parks and

Recreation. “We are being intentional in our outreach efforts to ensure as many people as possible have an opportunity to participate in the process. As stewards of the community’s parks and recreation opportunities, it is important to hear directly from our residents and use that input to inform the final master plan.”

CCPR is working alongside Indiana-based PROS Consulting and Next Practice Partners to gather community input. Stay tuned to [carmelclayparks.com](http://carmelclayparks.com) and follow @CarmelClayParks on Facebook and Instagram for more information about ways to participate in the public feedback process.

## Noblesville and Carmel Lions Assist Gleaners Mobile Pantry



Photo courtesy of Noblesville Lions

On Thursday, the Noblesville and Carmel Lions combined efforts to help Gleaners distribute food to the needy at 6 Points Church in Sheridan. Good weather supported a great effort. In Photo: Carmel Lions Lane Sims, Bill Ryan, Matt Best, and Bob Yunker; Noblesville Lions Ron Williamson, Joe Connerley, and George Long



Photo courtesy of Hamilton Heights Schools

Tricia Rudy, a counselor for Hamilton Heights Elementary School and approaching her 20th year at Heights, was selected as the Husky Hero for the month of March. Pictured (l-r): Julie Griffey (HHES Principal), Tricia Rudy (HHES), and Craig and Amber Bowen (FC Tucker).

Tricia Rudy, who serves as a counselor at Hamilton Heights Elementary School, was named as a Husky Hero for March. Her primary goal is providing social, emotional, behavioral, academic support, and guidance. In addition, she helps facilitate and develop prevention and intervention programs to address common issues and problems that children face during the elementary school years. Rudy, who wears many hats in her role, is well respected and admired by her colleagues and families for her compassion, empathy, knowledge, and ability to help students reach optimal outcomes.

“Tricia Rudy is a Husky Hero for many reasons,” said Julie Griffey, who says she has the pleasure of seeing Rudy in action every day. “Mrs. Rudy’s key role at HHES is serving as one of our two school counselors. She also coordinates many programs that benefit our HHES students and their families on a weekly basis. On Thursdays you can find Mrs. Rudy in our HHES Little Husky Backpack Food Program. She organizes food going home for families every Friday afternoon. Mrs. Rudy also collaborates with members in our community to serve as lunch mentors to our elementary students. This

amazing program gives our students one more person that is vested in their happiness and success. During the day you can find Mrs. Rudy coaching students and teachers in learning how to resolve conflict, show kindness, and become the best versions of themselves. Tricia Rudy is truly a Husky Hero.”

“I love making sure students and staff are seen, heard, and loved,” said Tricia Rudy, who admits she does not like any attention directed her way. “However, I do know how important it is to recognize each other for a job well done. It means something to be recognized in a community that does a lot of good for each other. I am especially proud of working with students, teams, and HHSC groups to support our Weekend Food Backpack program. Getting food to people is one of the easiest things anyone can do to support kids and families.”

“I am motivated by change and conflict,” continued Rudy of what drives her passion for her work. “We are living in a world where change and conflict are always seen as ‘bad.’ That is only true if you accept that it is ‘bad.’ Just like failure can be the best tool for learning, conflict can be a great tool for learning peace and

restoration. As a school counselor, I am always motivated to help young people walk through conflicts and changes in their lives. It can be some of the most powerful and lasting learning.”

Rudy said this award is a reminder that there are people who deserve gratitude for what they do. “It’s not about money or recognition,” she pointed out. “It’s about a simple ‘I see you. I am grateful for you.’ I will try even harder to notice the amazing things going on at HHSC, so I can properly thank people who are making good things happen!”

“Tricia Rudy is the perfect example of a HUSKY SERVANT and so deserving of this award!” added Griffey.

Congratulations to our March Husky Hero! Thank you, Tricia for making an impactful difference in our schools and being a Husky Hero!

Do you know a Husky Hero? Nomination forms and information about this special recognition program for Hamilton Heights employees are available at: <https://bit.ly/hhschuskyhero>. The Husky Hero Recognition program is made possible through the Hamilton Heights Educational Foundation in partnership with Craig and Amber Bowen (FC Tucker). #hhedfoundation

Thanks for reading The Times!



Photo courtesy of Hamilton Heights Schools and Jen Kauffman

Hamilton Heights’ senior Evan Tilton has signed a letter of intent to wrestle for Marian University Knights in Indianapolis, Indiana. Tilton (seated) is pictured with (l-r), Bruce O’Neal, Trez O’Neal, Troy Payton, Kolton Myers, and Gary Myers.

## Tilton Signs To Wrestle At Marian University

Evan Tilton, Hamilton Heights’ senior, has signed a letter of intent to wrestle for Marian University in Indianapolis, Indiana. Marian University is a member of the Crossroads League and is a NAIA athletic institution. He is the son of Amber and Shane Tilton.

It was Marian University’s campus, sports medicine program, opportunity to continue wrestling at the collegiate level, and welcoming wrestling team members that sealed the deal for this multi-sport athlete (wrestling and football). Marian is the next step in Tilton’s dream of becoming an entrepreneur. Tilton plans to major in Sport Performance and minor in accounting.

Tilton, #12, has been wrestling since he was five and has wrestled at every wrestling club in

the state. He is a two-time National All-American, a seven-time conference champion, three-time sectional champion, two-time regional champion, two-time state qualifier, placed 8th at state this season, named three times to the 1st Team All County, two times to the 1st Team All State, holds the high school record at 153-12, served two years as the Heights’ wrestling team captain, and is a member of Team Indiana.

“Evan was a solid Team Leader for the Huskies going to the High School State in Indiana,” said Gary Myers, Hamilton Heights Head Wrestling Coach. “Doing it once is very, very tough but doing it twice is amazing! Evan placed as well so that was the icing on the cake for him and Heights. I look forward to seeing

him compete in his first year out for the Knights of Marion University!

“Evan has been one of the most successful wrestlers at Hamilton Heights High School of all time,” said Athletic Director, Kurt Ogden. “He has been dedicated to wrestling since he was a youngster, and it has paid dividends. He has many accolades in the sport, the most impressive being his advancement to the state finals the past two years. His leadership in the wrestling room will be missed next year. We wish him well as he continues his wrestling career at Marian University.”

Tilton, a member of the Heights Business Professionals of America (BPA) chapter and DECA program, credits his family and coaches for his development as a student athlete.

## Noblesville Receives Eighth Consecutive “Best Community” Music Honor

Noblesville Schools announced today that they have been named a 2023 Best Community for Music Education winner by the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) Foundation. This is the eighth consecutive year Noblesville has earned the honor.

The national music education recognition highlights school districts for their outstanding efforts by teachers, administra-

tors, parents, students, and community leaders in embracing music education as a part of the core school curriculum.

Noblesville Schools is one of an exclusive group of districts to have received the honor for eight consecutive years.

Districts were selected based on music funding, staffing of highly qualified music teachers, commitment to standards, and access to music instruction.

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Photo courtesy of City of Noblesville

(From left) SMC Sustainable Development Manager Tyler Turner, SMC Vice President of Operation Chad Bosler, SMC Vice President of Administration Donny Nguyen, SMC President & CEO Kelley Stacy, Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen, Parks Director Brandon Bennett, Street Commissioner Patty Johnson and Noblesville Urban Forestry Board Members Ashley Mullis and Leslie Taljaard planted a Northern Red Oak Tree in Finch Creek Park in celebration of Earth Day on Friday. The Red Oak is a durable, native tree that grows fast, is long lasting and will provide shade to humans and shelter and food to wildlife.



Photo courtesy of City of Noblesville

SMC Vice President of Administration Donny Nguyen, SMC President & CEO Kelley Stacy, SMC Sustainable Development Manager Tyler Turner, Noblesville Urban Forestry Board Members Leslie Taljaard and Ashley Mullis, Parks Director Brandon Bennett and Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen plant a Northern Red Oak Tree in Finch Creek Park in celebration of Earth Day on Friday.



Photo courtesy of City of Noblesville

SMC President & CEO Kelley Stacy and Noblesville Mayor Chris Jensen discuss the new environmental stewardship partnership and tree planting grant program started by the two organizations.

## SMC, City Plant Tree For Earth Day

In honor of Earth Day, SMC Corporation of America officials joined Mayor Chris Jensen and members of the Noblesville Urban Forestry Board to plant a Northern Red Oak in Finch Creek Park.

The city and SMC have partnered on numerous economic drivers – from business expansion to

workforce development and attraction strategies. On Friday, they added environmental stewardship and announced plans to start a tree planting grant program, which will be led by the Urban Forestry Board.

“SMC is committed to investing in the long-term sustainability of our community,” said SMC

President, CEO, Kelley Stacy. “We’re incredibly proud to partner with the City of Noblesville and the Urban Forestry Board to create equitable access to the benefits that trees and green spaces provide. From beautifying our city streets to reducing CO2, this grant will allow our neighbors to enjoy the amazing amenities that

native species trees bring to our community.”

SMC Corporation has donated \$2,000 to the tree planting grant program, which has been matched by the City of Noblesville through Mayor Jensen using appropriated funds. More information about the program will be released this fall before grant applications open.

## Rachael Coverdale, President of Coverdale Consulting, Honored By Indianapolis Business Journal

Coverdale Consulting is proud to announce its president and founder, Rachael Coverdale, is a member of the Indianapolis Business Journal’s “Forty Under 40” class for 2023.

The “Forty Under 40” is an annual award that recognizes outstanding individuals who have achieved great success before the age of 40, and who have made significant contributions to their respective fields and communities.

“It’s such an honor to be recognized with the IBJ Forty under 40 award,” said Rachael Coverdale, President of Coverdale Consulting. “I have dreamed about this award since I first started my career. This recognition is not just for me, but for the entire team at Coverdale Consulting, they motivate me and push me to be the best version of myself every day.”

Launched in 2015, Coverdale Consulting is a full-service strategic marketing agency that has rapidly become one of the most successful firms in the state. Its results-driven and team-oriented approach finds them working in concert with several high-profile companies, creating



RACHEL COVERDALE

innovative strategies and executing strong campaigns resulting in millions of dollars of revenue and significant acclaim for its clients.

The IBJ Forty Under 40 award is a testament to Coverdale’s leadership and impact, both in the business and nonprofit sectors.

In addition to leading Coverdale Consulting, Rachael is active in nonprofit organizations in the community. She was on the board of Brooke’s Place, the Hamilton County Leadership Academy, and is currently a board Member for Nickel Plate Arts. Coverdale recently completed a leadership cohort for high achieving women, Rise & Thrive.

For more information about Coverdale Consulting, visit its website at [www.coverdaleconsulting.com](http://www.coverdaleconsulting.com).

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### Taking Possession



Photo courtesy of HHES

Steve Stewart, owner of Iris Rubber Co., one of Cicero’s oldest continually operated businesses, readies to take possession of the latest mural painted by students at Hamilton Heights Elementary School under the direction of Art Teacher, Cheri Trachtman. The mural, created in honor of American painter, Wayne Thiebaud, will be added to the exterior of the building located on the northeast corner of SR 19 and Jackson Street in Cicero. Stewart has been growing an outdoor gallery of student artwork to share with the community for more the past eight years. Courtesy photo.

### HHES Mural



Photo courtesy of HHES

Students at Hamilton Heights Elementary school unveiled their latest work of art created in honor of artist Wayne Thiebaud. Thiebaud is an American painter known for his colorful works depicting commonplace objects, especially desserts. Artists (l-r): back row: Kellen Scaf, London Maynard, and Zeke Kikta. Front row: Arianny Peters, Jax Peters, Hayden Griffith, Jackson VanKirk, Kellen Abrams, Ben Lawhorn, Zoe Kincaid, and Meiana Garner. Artists not pictured: Stella Seall, Briley Sanford, Sydney Forresta, Elijah Bryant, Arlo Fryman, and Kylar Williams. The mural will be the most recent to be displayed at Iris Rubber Company’s growing outdoor gallery of student artwork sponsored by Steve Stewart.



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# IEDC Battles \$3 Million Mask Lawsuit Involving Federal Sting Operation

By Leslie Bonilla Muniz  
Indiana Capital Chronicle

Employees at a New York company thought they were arranging a \$2.95 million face mask delivery — of what they claimed to be 1 million authentic masks — to Indiana’s Economic Development Corporation at the height of the pandemic.

But the quasi-government agency was working behind the scenes on its own plans: helping federal agents organize an October 2020 seizure of what they said was a counterfeit product from a seller already under investigation.

Agents assured the IEDC that it wouldn’t face legal consequences for setting up the handoff and refusing to pay up for fake goods.

That didn’t stop the company — Edward Roberts, LLC, which does business as ERLifescience — from suing the IEDC for the mask shipment’s full purchase price a year later. The dispute is ongoing.

Legal action — and a pricey contract

ERLifescience’s lawsuit, filed in February 2022 in the Eastern District of New York, accuses the IEDC of breaking a contract and stealing the product.

The IEDC’s counterclaim, meanwhile, says there was never a

contract. And the agency said it was U.S. Customs and Border Control that “seized the masks and refused to give them back,” according to its counterclaim. It argued, for that and other reasons, it was immune from liability under Indiana’s Tort Claims Act.

Instead, the IEDC accused the company of committing fraud and counterfeiting.

The agency has hired Indianapolis law firm Bose McKinney & Evans to defend it — with a November 2022 contract capped at \$200,000.

Spokeswoman Erin Sweitzer said the IEDC has processed three invoices totaling \$76,000 so far. She added that the entity couldn’t comment on pending litigation.

Company says it was wronged

ERLifescience officer Matthew Dweck contacted Luke Bosso, then the IEDC’s chief of staff, in mid-September 2020 with an offer to sell the state masks, according to court filings. The two arranged a delivery of mask samples, followed by the delivery of 1 million, that month.

“I would like to put in an order ASAP,” Bosso wrote as part of those discussions, according to emails inserted into the lawsuit.

At the time, the IEDC was vetting prospective suppliers for Indiana’s personal protective

equipment inventory. The effort was intended to make masks, eye protection, hand sanitizer, gloves and disinfectant more accessible to Hoosier businesses, nonprofits and schools.

The lawsuit notes that Dweck repeatedly asked Bosso for a purchase order for over a week — and that the IEDC ultimately supplied only a number, rather than a written document.

Bosso also sent a seven-part list of terms — which said Indiana could refuse to accept the masks, but could only seize and hand them over to higher authorities if they didn’t “pass fit test standards.” Dweck agreed.

The company delivered the masks to an Indiana National Guard Association facility in Indianapolis through two October 2020 shipments, according to the lawsuit. It accused the IEDC of “falsely” claiming the product was fake and turning it over to federal authorities.

The company said it was “unaware that there was any problem” in the lawsuit. It had counsel spend “several months compiling documents” it claimed showed the masks were real, and which tracked mask movement from a Chinese factory to Indiana delivery.

“Instead of refusing delivery, defendant breached the contract by accepting the masks

and then failing to pay Plaintiff the agreed upon sum of \$2.95 per mask,” the lawsuit asserts.

Alternate timeline reveals backstage maneuvers

But the IEDC says there was never a contract.

Not only did Bosso not have the authority to enter one, it would’ve been void under Indiana law because it never got the needed approvals or appropriated funding, the IEDC argued in its response to the lawsuit.

Bosso suspected the masks were counterfeit early on in his communications with ERLifescience, according to the counterclaim.

The company sent a master distributor certificate with a date several days into the future and with several typographical errors, the filing notes. The IEDC also said it noticed “discrepancies” in the samples compared to real masks it had previously purchased.

As the company pushed the IEDC over email to get it a purchase order, emails inserted into the counterclaim show Bosso was involved in a flurry of emails with federal agencies that wanted to seize the product. Bosso repeatedly asked agents from the Food and Drug Administration and the Department of Homeland Security how to respond to the company’s emails.

They went through with

the seizure — and the company came knocking for its payment.

Payment, legal concerns Agents told Bosso not to respond, adding, “If the masks are indeed counterfeit, [Indiana] would be absolved of any legal recourse [the company] would attempt,” according to emails in the filing. Later communications indicate the masks were fake.

But the company was persistent.

“Hey Guys, They are becoming more aggressive in their phone calls and emails. I haven’t picked up the calls but they’ve called from a private number 3 times in the last hour,” Bosso wrote in a November email to the agents visible in the filing. “They’ve also sent emails about payment.”

One apologized for the situation becoming “a hassle” and wrote that he would have an undercover federal agent posing as an IEDC employee email the company “in a more confrontational tone” about the discrepancies.

“In the end, I’d imagine you would just want [ERLifescience] to stop contacting you,” he concluded.

The company then dealt an agent claiming to be “Casey Donoghue, the Consulting Director of Marketing Analysis at the IEDC.”

The agent sent this email “Given the lack

of verifiable proof that the goods in question are authentic Harley Commodity products, I cannot in good conscience recommend the furtherance of any business dealings with your company. Please be advised that all products received from ERLife have been turned over to Customs and Border Protection.”

The masks were supposed to be N-95 masks manufactured by Guangzhou Harley Commodity Limited in China.

Current state The U.S. seized millions of counterfeit masks over the course of the pandemic — with 18 million in the first three months of 2021 alone, according to CBP. But it’s unclear how Indiana will fare after its role in such an operation.

A federal judge in November rejected an attempt to move the case to Indiana. The IEDC and ERLifescience went to mediation in February this year.

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# Gov. Holcomb Announces 2023 STEM Team Students

STEM Team Highlights Top Indiana Students in Science, Technology, Engineering, And Math. Governor Eric J. Holcomb and the Indiana Department of Education today announced the four members of the Governor's 2023 STEM Team. This prestigious award recognizes outstanding high school students who have demonstrated exceptional talent and accomplishments in the fields of science, technology, engineering, or math (STEM).

"I continue to be impressed by the students selected for my STEM team, not only for their commitment to academic success but also their eagerness to make a positive impact on fellow Hoosiers, communities, and our state," said Gov. Holcomb. "As opportunities for STEM education continue to grow, I want to commend our students for seizing these opportunities to improve their future, as well as our passionate educators for their work to prepare students for all that lies ahead."

In addition to being selected as a member of the Governor's STEM Team, each student is awarded a \$1,000 scholarship deposited into an Indiana CollegeChoice 529 Direct Savings plan, administered by the Treasurer of State,

and a letterman jacket identifying them as members of the Governor's STEM Team.

"As we continue to expand access to high-quality STEM education, these students exemplify the potential that exists for all Indiana students to unlock skills that will serve them throughout their life path," said Dr. Katie Jenner, Indiana Secretary of Education. "The skills they are learning today - from problem-solving to critical thinking to communication - will be important regardless of the career they choose and will prepare them to be innovators and leaders who will help drive our state's future economy."

The members of the 2023 Governor's STEM Team are:

**Science:** Ethan Kiang, Bloomington High School South, Bloomington

Ethan has worked on research regarding climate and temperate forests at Indiana University's Novick Lab. His project aims to compare the effects of soil moisture and atmospheric drought stressors on temperate forest trees. He is currently working on his first authored paper about the subject. While Ethan is undecided on which postsecondary institution he will attend, he plans to major in Environmental

Engineering or Biogeoscience.

**Technology:** Brinna Porat, Center Grove High School, Greenwood

Brinna's passion for robotics started at a young age. She has held leadership positions in FIRST Robotics and volunteers at several local, state, and national robotics competitions. Through this work, she has learned how to build, design, and drive robots and work with several technology programs, including computer-aided design (CAD) and Adobe products. Brinna plans to major in Health Sciences or Biomedical Engineering upon graduation.

**Engineering:** Katie Essex, Southport High School, Indianapolis

Katie has a passion for aviation and recently completed a physics internship through IUPUI to expand her knowledge. Along with flight, Katie also has a passion for her community. She created Mini-Movers, a program that provides modified ride-on cars to young children with disabilities so they can move independently. By graduating a year early, Katie can continue her flight certifications and attend Purdue University for Professional Flight Technology.

**Mathematics:** Katherine Yu, Carmel High School, Carmel

Katherine volunteers at an assisted living facility near her home, and that helped her realize the lack of independence caused by chronic illnesses. Her research efforts in glaucoma and Alzheimer's disease using CRISPR inference sparked a passion for improving health for all. Katherine plans to study Biomedical Engineering so that she can give people who suffer from chronic illnesses their freedom back.

In addition to the four members selected for the Governor's STEM Team, eight students received honorable mentions:

• **Science**  
 Luke Reynolds, Marian High School, Mishawaka  
 Isabella Bradburn, Shelbyville Senior High School, Shelbyville

• **Technology**  
 Alexandra Tauriainen, Lawrence Central High School, Indianapolis

Sarah O'Farrill, Hanover Central High School, Cedar Lake

• **Engineering**  
 Chelsea Gonzalez, Pike High School, Indianapolis

Hailey Huser, Martinsville High School, Martinsville

Benjamin Myers, Washington High School, Washington

• **Mathematics**  
 Corbin Dowden, Huntington North High School, Huntington

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS AND ALL OTHER PERSONS CONCERNING THE ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION OF UNOBLIGATED LOCAL INCOME TAX REVENUES BY THE SHERIDAN TOWN COUNCIL AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION

Notice is hereby given by the Sheridan Town Council (the "Council"), that the Council will consider the following appropriation of the unobligated balance on deposit in the General Fund which has been determined to be necessary and which is in addition to all appropriations provided for in the existing budget and levy. Such revenues will, pursuant to this additional appropriation, be utilized to support the Department of Public Works in the amount of Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) and will be used allocated as follows:

Garage and Motor 22013000222	\$30,000.00
Repair and Maint 220130003621	\$30,000.00
Street Machinery 22013000451.014	\$20,000.00
Capital Outlays 22013000490	\$90,000.00
Capital Outlays Tools 22013000480.001	\$20,000.00
Total	\$190,000.00
	MVH
Supplies and Repairs 2204500359	\$20,000.00
Capital Outlays 22045000451.014	\$2,000.00k
Capital Outlays Tools 2204500451.015	\$20,000.00
Total	\$60,000.00
	PARKS

Notice is further given that the Council, on May 1, 2023, at the hour of 6:00 p.m. local time, in the Sheridan Community Center, 300 E 6th St, Sheridan, IN 46069, will receive and hear remonstrations from persons interested in or affected by the proceedings pertaining to the proposed appropriation of unobligated local income tax revenues and will determine the public utility and benefit of the proposed additional appropriation. At the time fixed for the public hearing, or at any time prior thereto, any person interested in the proceedings may file a written remonstrance with the Secretary of the Council. At such hearing, which may be adjourned from time to time, the Council will hear all persons interested in the proceedings and all remonstrances that have been filed. After considering this evidence, the Council will take final action with respect to such additional appropriation.

Dated: April 17, 2023

Elizabeth Walden  
 Clerk-Treasurer of the Town of Sheridan  
 TL20336 4/22 It hspaxip

## ARREST

From Page A1

against Pal. Investigators said Pal was the man who accompanied Grayson Aubrey Rhue to the residence before shots were fired that fatally wounded Rhue. At the time, officers from NPD said they were trying to locate another person they believed wore a mask and gloves. Police reported they did not believe the shooting was a random act.

In addition to murder, Pal is charged with two burglary with a deadly weapon charges, two armed robbery charges, intimidation and pointing a firearm at another.

Police said the investigation is continuing. They ask anyone with any information to contact Det. Spencer Flowers at sflowers@noblesville.in.us.

## ANKLE

From Page A1

and don't swim until it's healed. Bacteria in oceans and lakes can cause infection.

• **Pool problems:** Always wear flip flops or other footwear in locker rooms and on pool decks to prevent contact with bacteria and viruses that can cause athlete's foot, plantar warts and other problems.

• **Sun damage and skin cancer:** Don't overlook your feet during your sun protection routine. Feet get sunburned too, and melanoma on the foot or ankle is more likely to be misdiagnosed than on any other part of the body. A study published in "The Journal of Foot & Ankle Surgery" reported the overall survival rate for melanoma of the foot or ankle is just 52%, in sharp contrast to the 85% survival rate for melanomas on other areas of the body. Apply sunscreen to the tops and bottoms of feet and limit sun exposure. Dr. Lawrence notes, "If you spot abnormal moles or pigmented skin, including under toenails, visit a foot and ankle surgeon. Early detection and treatment could save your life."

• **Pains and sprains:** Summer sports can lead to arch pain, heel pain, ankle sprains and other injuries. Proper footwear with heel cushioning and arch support is essential, particularly on uneven surfaces, such as sandy beaches or hiking trails. If injury occurs, use the RICE approach: rest, ice, compression and elevation to ease pain and swelling. Any injury that doesn't resolve within a few days should be examined by a foot and ankle surgeon.

• **Mower risks:** Some 25,000 Americans sustain injuries from power mow-

ers annually, according to the U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission. Many of these injuries are preventable. Always cut the grass in protective shoes or work boots and keep children away during this chore. Never mow a wet lawn or pull the mower backward, and always mow across slopes, not up or down them.

• **Travel concerns:** Sitting for long stretches can increase the risk of dangerous blood clots. "Whether road tripping or flying, regularly stretch your legs and pump your feet to circulate blood. Wearing compression socks for longer travel is also a good idea," says Dr. Lawrence.

• **Diabetes complications:** If you have diabetes, prolonged hot and humid weather can lead to numerous foot woes. Any type of skin break has the potential to get infected if it isn't noticed right away, and exposure can cause dry, cracking skin. Inspect your feet daily and wear closed shoes whenever possible. Swelling is another hot-weather risk, potentially making shoes fit tighter which can cause blisters. Compression stockings may not sound appealing in hot temperatures, but they can reduce swelling and help prevent poor circulation. Finally, never go barefoot in summer. Impaired nerve sensation can make it hard to detect just how hot surfaces are. Just a few minutes walking barefoot on pavement to grab the newspaper can cause third-degree burns.

For more information and to find a foot and ankle surgeon near you, visit FootHealthFacts.org, the patient education website for the American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons.

## JOHN

From Page A1

only does it suggest that minors may be mature enough to consent to sexual activity, but it also asserts that 'criminal law may not in any way impair' the so-called right to abortion or to 'gender-affirming care.' [It] illustrates some of the consequences of the progressive left's expansion of what constitutes 'human rights'."

As one observer put it, "Worse yet, the UN report effectively and insidiously provides adults who engage in sex with underage children an affirmative defense against committing statutory rape ... Indeed, the report, in effect, suggests it is no longer criminal conduct

and detracts from the protections accorded an under-age girl or boy against intimidation to say it was consensual."

The reaction to the "The 8 March Principles" came under fire on the social media site, Twitter, says Fox News. In its coverage of the report, Fox quoted a Twitter post by women's rights activist Michelle Uriarau of Melbourne, Australia, who wrote "This hideous UN report ... seeks to decriminalize sex - even between children and minors. Evil." The report also quoted Canadian Olympic gold medalist Theo Fleury who succinctly declared, "The UN is full of pedophiles!!!!"

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# WEEKEND

## In The Home

A6

Weekend, April 22-23, 2023

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# SUSTAINABILITY IN SCHOOLS

7 ideas for engaging students, communities in green initiatives

**FAMILY FEATURES**

At the center of many communities, schools can play an important role in promoting sustainable behaviors. Teaching earth-friendly behaviors is one aspect, but schools can also take steps to facilitate sustainable practices within the school system and the community.

Beyond protecting the climate and environment, sustainable practices offer multiple benefits, including improving student health and enhancing the community. These green changes can make a meaningful and lasting impact.

**Start a Recycling Club**

For communities without a city-wide recycling program, a student-run operation can be highly successful. Engaging students in the planning and oversight of a social service project equips them with leadership experience while showing them firsthand the impact a small group can make.

**Look at Propane Buses**

Diesel school buses are not only expensive to operate, but they pose a risk to children's health and the environment. According to the Propane Education & Research Council, with propane school buses, the classic cloud of black smoke emitted from the tailpipe is nonexistent. Propane school buses also provide a quieter ride than diesel buses, which means it's a safer ride. What's more, propane reduces harmful emissions that cause asthma, bronchitis and other respiratory illnesses by up to 94% compared to diesel.

There are two practical energy choices for clean student transportation: propane and electric. However, a propane bus costs one-third the price of an electric bus, allowing school districts to replace their aging diesel fleets three times faster than with electric. In addition, propane has a range of 400 miles, meaning even sizable vehicles, like buses, can go the distance to provide a reliable ride.

**Clean with Natural Products**

Especially in the wake of a global pandemic, cleaning standards in most schools are exceptionally high. However, many of the heavy-duty disinfectants and other cleaning agents used in schools and other public areas can be filled with chemicals that negatively affect air quality and further harm the environment when they wash into surrounding areas, including streams and rivers.

**Plant a School Garden**

Locally sourced produce offers numerous benefits, from providing an affordable food source for families in the area to minimizing costs associated with food production, including transportation and packaging. Beyond the social and environmental perks, gardening is a valuable life skill that can also be easily woven into academic lessons such as science, math, social studies and even art.

**Take Advantage of Natural Light**

In many cases, classrooms that are well-illuminated by natural light filtering through windows don't need to run overhead lights throughout the day. Leveraging the warmth of the sun's rays can also be helpful in providing natural heat during colder months.

**Replace Light Bulbs**

In areas where the school does rely on energy-based lighting, environmentally friendly bulbs make a lot of sense. Not only do eco-friendly bulbs align with a school's commitment to sustainability, but they're also generally more cost-efficient to operate, which means the district can save money on energy expenses.

**Celebrate Environmental Holidays**

Engaging students and capturing their interest can also mean tapping into the delight that comes with classroom parties and special events that offer a break from the regular school routine. Hosting assemblies or organizing special events in honor of environmental holidays can pique students' interest and inspire them to take a greater interest in adopting sustainable habits.



### A Program Geared for Sustainability

In an effort to provide school districts with more environmentally friendly transportation, the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean School Bus Program is providing \$5 billion over five years (2022-2026) to replace existing school buses with zero-emission and low-emission models.

The program prioritizes high-need, low-income, rural and tribal school districts. As an affordable, available energy source that provides fleets with a range of up to 400 miles on a single refuel, propane autogas is a viable option for each of these prioritized demographics.

In 2022, the EPA solicited rebate applications for \$1 billion for zero-emission and low-emission school bus rebates as the first funding opportunity. The \$1 billion paid for 2,350 electric school buses. The funding also awarded 109 low-emissions propane buses.

However, the same amount of money distributed for electric buses could have helped fund as many as 29,000 propane buses, assuming each bus received the \$30,000 incentive from the program.

The 2,350 diesel buses the grant replaced with electric will reduce nitrogen oxide emissions by 665 metric tons per year and carbon dioxide emissions by 36,870 metric tons. If the funds went toward the 29,000 propane buses to replace diesel, it would have reduced nearly 10 times the amount of nitrogen oxide emissions and three times the amount of carbon dioxide emissions.

This year, parents can start the conversation with their school transportation officials about clean propane buses so they'll be ready to apply when the time comes. Learn more about how parents can start the conversation at [BetterOurBuses.com](http://BetterOurBuses.com).

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# WEEKEND *Travel or stay! and Play*

TIM TIMMONS, Publisher @ JOE LARUE, Vice-President of Readership @ MELISSA MEME, Account Executive @ BETH HEDGE, Business Manager

## Indiana Humanities To Host New Statewide Film Tour

Indiana Humanities will host a six-city tour of Liminal: Indiana in the Anthropocene, a new work by Hoosier filmmakers. Liminal is a meditative, aerial look at our state as an example of the geologic period known as the Anthropocene — the time during which humans have had a substantial impact on our planet.

The tour is part of the Uneathed initiative, Indiana Humanities' multiyear environmental theme that asks Hoosiers to consider how we affect the environment and how the environment affects us.

"We're looking forward to bringing this film to communities across the state and creating an opportunity for Hoosiers to think about and discuss our impact on the environment," said Megan Telligman, director of programs at Indiana Humanities. "We hope the film sparks conversations about the legacy we humans will leave behind."

Created by Hoosier filmmakers Zach Schrank and Aaron Yoder, Liminal was filmed entirely with drone cameras by Indiana Aerials and is accompanied by an original score written by Grammy-nominated Fort Wayne composer Nate Utesch of Metavari.

Zach Schrank is a ninth generation Hoosier, sociology professor and director of the Center for a Sustainable Future at Indiana University South Bend. He teaches social theory, consumer society and environmental sociology courses. In 2020, he co-directed the documentary Big Enough, Small Enough: South Bend in Transition, which is available for streaming through Hoodox, a platform featuring exclusively nonfiction, Indiana-based films.

Aaron Yoder is a South Bend, Indiana, native with passions for aviation, technology and photography. He founded Indiana Aerials in early 2017 as a drone service provider in northern Indiana and to foster the growth of aerial data capture techniques.

The evolution of Metavari's work in electronic music has defined the career of Fort Wayne, Indiana, composer Nate Utesch. The musician and Grammy-nominated art director (Smashing Pumpkins, Phoebe Bridgers, Weezer, Sharon Van Etten, etc.) has led the band for over a decade. Metavari is best known for their career-defining Record Store Day titles on the famed Belgian label One Way Static Records; the synth-heavy

reimagining of Fritz Lang's Metropolis, and ABSURDA, the pioneering collection of music for the short films of David Lynch.

Screenings are free and open to the public. While advance registration is requested, a ticket does not guarantee a seat. Seats are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Doors will open 30 minutes prior to start time.

This film is recommended for viewers over the age of 12

Film dates, locations and registration links are as follows:

Saturday, April 22 | 6:30 pm Eastern

St. Joseph County Public Library, 304 S. Main St., South Bend, IN 46601

Features live performance of film's score by Metavari

RSVP: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/liminal-film-tour-st-joseph-county-public-library-south-bend-tickets-533937420197>

Friday, April 28 | 7 pm Eastern

Fort Wayne Cinema Center, 437 E. Berry St., #1, Fort Wayne, IN 46802

Features live performance of film's score by Metavari

RSVP: <http://prod1.agileticketing.net/websales/pages/info.aspx?eventinfo=372390~0bb24c4e-68fc-4134-93d8-632f7693ab64&epguid=d0a3bbee-03b5-4ee4-a280-5a57d364756e>

Wednesday, May 3 | 7 pm Eastern

Richard E. Peeler Art Center, DePauw University, 10 W. Hanna St., Greencastle, IN 46135

Features live performance of film's score by Metavari

RSVP: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/liminal-film-tour-depauw-university-greencastle-tickets-600588896557>

Tuesday, April 25 | 7:30 pm Eastern

Kan-Kan Cinema and Brasserie, 1258 Windsor St., Indianapolis, IN 46201

RSVP: <https://www.goevent.com/Kan-KanCinemaandBrasserie/e/LIMINAL>

Thursday, June 29 | 5:30 pm Central

Historic New Harmony Athenaeum, 401 Arthur St., New Harmony, IN 47631

Features live performance of film's score by Metavari

RSVP: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/liminal-film-tour-historic-new-harmony-atheneum-tickets-53392985757>

To view the film trailer, visit <http://liminalmovie.com>.

## Traverse City Shares National Spotlight With New Pure Michigan Campaign

A new national television campaign that promotes Michigan as a prime travel destination will add a Traverse City focus next week.

The new "Keep It Fresh" campaign by Pure Michigan started airing late last month around the country. The ads beckon travelers to Michigan's beaches, cultural events and a wide range of activities. A new Traverse City commercial will join the national campaign Monday. The ad focuses on the freshwater coastline, Sleeping Bear Dunes, golf and the panoramic beauty of the region. The national campaign includes a cross-section of television, digital, print, radio, and social media.

Pure Michigan became a leader in destination marketing by first launching an ad campaign in 2006. Today, Pure Michigan is one of the most recognized travel brands in the country.

"Keep It Fresh reflects the vibrancy and fun of Traverse City," said Traverse City Tourism President, Trevor Tkach (Tah-koch). "By partnering with Pure Michigan on this campaign we are able to introduce

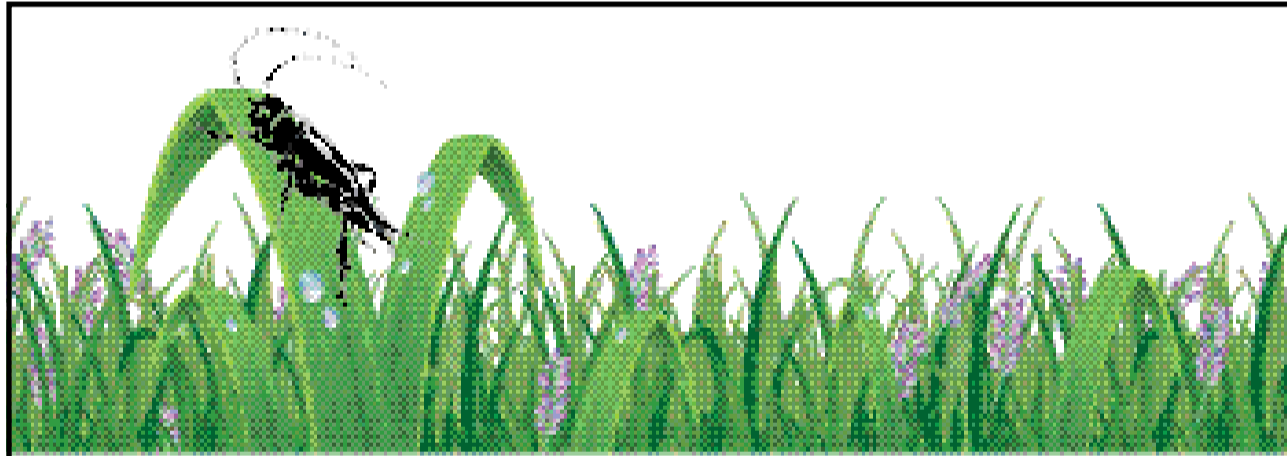
the region to travelers who respect and value the magnificent natural resources that are available."

Michigan native, Tim Allen, continues his role as narrator of the ads, but for the first time the campaign introduces Detroit poet Jessica Care Moore as a second voice in the commercials.

"Travel is one of the best ways to gain fresh perspective and expand your thinking," said Travel Michigan Vice President, Dave Lorenz. "The 'Keep It Fresh' campaign is an invitation to experience something different and feel renewed in Pure Michigan."

In addition to a national television audience, targeted regional campaigns will include Atlanta, Chicago, Milwaukee, Minneapolis and other locations.

The new Traverse City ad is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EnV-FukZiDk8&t=30s>. Get more information about Traverse City at: <http://www.traversecity.com/>. Pure Michigan travel information is available at <http://www.michigan.org/>.



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## Spring Mill To Host Village Wine Tasting Experience

Spring Mill State Park will host its first Village Wine Tasting Experience on April 29 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. in its Pioneer Village near Mitchell in southern Indiana.

Four wineries will offer drinks at the event: French Lick Winery, Hunters Ridge Winery from Salem, Carousel Winery from Mitchell, and Monkey Hollow Winery from St. Meinrad. Products from the wineries will be available for cash purchase.

In addition to the wine tasting, there will be appetizers, music, interpretive programs, photo opportunities, and other activities.

Advance registration is required and can be made by stopping by the Spring Mill office or calling 812-849-3534 between 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. daily. Cost is \$20, and payment must be made at the time of registration. The park entrance fee of

\$7 for in-state vehicles and \$9 for out of state vehicles applies. All attendees must present their ID at the time of arrival. The last day to register is April 25.

Participants not staying at the park's campground must have a designated driver who is also 21 or older. The driver will not be charged admission but can participate in all aspects of the event that are not the wine tasting. Those staying at the campground for the event must use the provided shuttle to get to the event and pay the \$20 admission cost. There will be no designated drivers from the campground.

For more information on the event, contact Colletta Prewitt, interpretive naturalist, at 812-849-3534 or [cprewitt@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:cprewitt@dnr.IN.gov).

Spring Mill State Park (on.IN.gov/springmill) is at 3333 State Road 60 East, Mitchell, 47446.



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