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Serving Winfield, Lakes of the Four Seasons, and Winfield Township since 2002

November 17, 2017

St. Mary parish benefits needy area parents with clothing and supply drive



Members of the St. Mary Catholic parish recently contributed to a clothing and supply drive to benefit the Prenatal Assistance Program at St. Clare Health Clinic. Jim Larsen, shown, a parish finance council member, spearheaded the idea a few years ago.

"Each parish group was asked to come up with an idea to benefit the community," Larsen said, adding, "I

came up with the clothing donation idea. I'm very happy with the results; each year we get a little more."

Parishioners brought the items to Sunday services and they were delivered by Larsen the following day. Also shown, from left, are Jamie Donsbach, program manager; Laura Mannion, Franciscan Health Foundation development di-

(See *St Mary's* Pg. 2)

Strack & Van Til on Broadway goes above and beyond for the 2017 Christmas season

The Christmas season is a time of the year when it becomes very apparent that unless we as a community provide assistance some families are going to go without; this can be true not only in terms of Christmas gifts but also in terms of their being able to put food on the table.

In today's world, businesses have the opportunity to choose their level of involvement in terms of providing assistance to those in need within their respective communities. Fortunately for Winfield and Crown Point, Strack & Van Til on Broadway has made a very conscious effort to assist those in the community who might be going through hard times.

Said Donald Samburg, a Winfield resident and regular



food pantry volunteer, "For many years now Strack's has allowed and promoted a food pantry bin at their store on Broadway. Frequently I pick up a full bin that goes to local area food pantries and serves to feed many hungry persons in our community. Their assistance in such activities doesn't stop there; fortunate-

ly they are big supporters of the less fortunate during the Christmas holidays."

For the Christmas season, Strack's developed a program for their shoppers that allow them to buy a prepacked bag of food and essentials and drop them into a collection bin at the store. The program has worked beyond every-

one's imagination. Already in excess of 50 bags of groceries have been purchased by very generous and caring shoppers which have been distributed to local area food pantries. By Christmas time that number will be in the hundreds.

Said Store Director Randy Standish, "We are very happy

(See *Strack's* Pg. 2)

AAA finds nearly one-third of new vehicles are missing a spare tire

In an effort to reduce weight and improve fuel economy, automakers continue to eliminate spare tires from new vehicles. According to new research from AAA, nearly one-third (28%) of 2017 model year vehicles do not come with a spare tire as standard equipment, creating an unnecessary hassle and expense for drivers. Last year alone, AAA came to the rescue to

more than 450,000 members faced with a flat tire whose cars did not have a spare tire. To avoid a roadside surprise, AAA urges drivers to check their trunk for a spare tire before trouble strikes.

"Having a flat tire can be a nuisance for drivers, but not having a spare could put them in an even more aggravating situation," said John Nielsen, AAA's managing director of Automotive Engineering and

Repair. "This can turn the relatively routine process of changing a tire at the roadside into an inconvenient and costly situation that requires a tow to a repair facility."

While new vehicles are equipped with tire pressure monitoring systems that alert drivers to low tire pressure, AAA's roadside assistance data shows that tire-related problems continue to be one of the top reasons why mem-

bers call for assistance.

Even if drivers do have a spare tire, they are often reaching for their cell phones to call for roadside assistance rather than changing the tire themselves. According to a previous AAA survey, nearly 20% (39 million) of U.S. drivers do not know how to change a flat tire.

As a replacement for a spare tire, some automakers are including tire-inflator

kits that can temporarily repair small punctures in flat tires. However, a 2015 AAA study found that tire-inflator kits have limited functionality and cannot provide even a temporary fix for many tire-related problems, including sidewall damage or blowouts. Not only are tire-inflator kits not a good substitute for a spare tire, they can cost up to 10 times more than a tire repair and have a shelf life of

only four to eight years.

"With low-profile tires and the elimination of a spare tire, many newer vehicles are especially vulnerable to roadside tire trouble," Nielsen said. "AAA urges drivers to make it a priority to check their vehicle's equipment and know what to do if faced with a flat tire."

To prevent drivers from being stranded in the event of

(See *AAA* Pg. 2)

St. Mary teacher receives Angel Award

Second grade teacher, Mary Elizabeth Flynn, began teaching at St. Mary Catholic Community School in Crown Point in 1976. She recently became the Diocese of Gary Angel Award recipient for elementary teachers. The Angel Award is the diocese equivalent of a teacher of the year award. Named in honor of the Holy Angels – the patrons of the Diocese of Gary, is given to recognize the outstanding, creative, and innovative accomplishments of individual teachers in the Diocese of Gary. Angel Award winners receive a monetary and commemorative award and recognition from the superintendent of schools. Each winner will have the opportunity to pursue college course work through a scholarship as well.



Flynn was surprised in church in front of the entire student body when her name

(See *Teacher* Pg. 2)



Dunkin' Donuts officially opens in Winfield

On November 3, 2017, the Town of Winfield, Winfield Township, and the Winfield Community Foundation welcomed Dunkin' Donuts to the Winfield Community with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. Those pictured include representatives of Dunkin' Donuts and Nick Bellar, Town Administer; Tim Clayton, Town Council; Sean and Quinn Clayton; Jeff Beird; Billy Houston; members of the Winfield Community Foundation, and Paulette Skinner, Township Trustee. (Photo credit: Marshall Anderson)

www.winfieldamerican.com

(Teacher from Pg. 1)

was announced and the award was presented by Assistant Superintendent Tim Pivarnik. She was even more surprised to learn that several of her family members, some from out of town, including her father, had been seated in the

rear of the church to witness the presentation. It was an emotional morning for Flynn.

"Miss Flynn is one of the most dedicated educators I've ever known. She is an inspiration to all. I am extremely happy the diocese chose to

honor her in this special way. She and her aide, Mrs. Celine Henderlong make a great team," said Tom Ruiz, principal of St. Mary's School.

Pictured are Tim Pivarnik, ZoAnn Flynn, Meg Fiflis, Robert Flynn, Miss Beth

Flynn, Tom Flynn, Tom Ruiz, and Father Patrick Kalich posing for a photo of St. Mary's Angel Award recipient, Miss Beth Flynn.

(St. Mary's from Pg. 1)

rector; and patient service representatives Hillary Ray and Sandra Hoeckelberg.

The program serves needy area residents, who fall within established income guidelines. The program likewise offers free pregnancy testing, referrals and assistance with accessing community and hospital resources, along with nutritional and

pregnancy-related education and regular and supportive contacts during pregnancy. It also offers a clothing closet for expectant mothers.

The clinic and the prenatal program are under the auspices of Franciscan Health Crown Point. For more information, call 219-663-5349.

(AAA from Pg. 1)

a flat tire, AAA offers these precautionary tips:

Do not assume there's a spare. When purchasing a

new vehicle, always ask for a detailed list of equipment and whether a spare tire can be purchased.

Inspect all five tires. Check tire pressures monthly and have all tires inspected as part of routine maintenance. If your vehicle has a spare tire, be sure that it's properly inflated.

Read ahead. If your vehicle is equipped with a tire-inflator kit, read the owner's manual and understand how it works and its limitations.

Check expiration dates.

If your vehicle is equipped with a tire-inflator kit, check its expiration date. Most need to be replaced every four to eight years.

Consider roadside assistance coverage. Roadside assistance coverage can offer peace of mind when faced with roadside trouble, including a flat tire. To become a AAA member, visit AAA.com/join.

(Strack's from Pg. 1)

to be able to assist those families going through difficult financial times and that goes double during the Christmas season!"

"Shoppers who frequent Strack's know that they care for the community. Yes, to be successful it takes a

good product, good service and competitive prices but when you add in the community spirit, a company like Strack's differentiates itself and rightly receives and deserves shopper loyalty. A Big Thank You goes to Strack & Van Til!!" said Samburg.

This day in history

November 17, 1973

In the midst of the Watergate scandal that eventually ended his presidency, President Richard Nixon told a group of newspaper editors gathered at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida, that he is "not a crook."

Nixon made the now-famous declaration during a televised question-and-answer session with Associated Press editors. Nixon, who appeared "tense" to a New York Times reporter, was questioned about his role in the Watergate burglary scandal and efforts to cover up the fact that members of his re-election committee had funded the break-in. Nixon replied "people have got to know whether or not their President is a crook. Well, I'm not a crook. I've earned everything I've got." He did, however, admit that he was at fault for failing to supervise his campaign's fund-raising activities.

At one point during the discussion, Nixon gave a morbid response to an unrelated question about why he chose not to fly with back-up to Air Force One when traveling, the usual security protocol for presidential flights. He told the crowd that by taking just one aircraft he was saving energy, money, and possibly time spent in the impeachment process: "if this one (plane) goes down," he said, "they don't have to impeach (me)."

Richard Nixon resigned on August 8, 1974.

www.history.com

Got stuff for the paper?

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Community events and news items should be submitted through our website at www.winfieldamerican.com. News and event items are published free-of-charge as editorial space and time permits. **Submission does not guarantee placement.** For guaranteed placement of your community event promotion please visit our website at www.winfieldamerican.com or call our office at 219-662-8888 to place a paid advertisement.

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Public invited to shop an early Black Friday at the Porter County Expo Center this weekend

Black Friday starts early in Valparaiso. It is a shopping frenzy with people filling their cars with Christmas presents. This year, Holidaze Sell-A-Bration Arts and Crafts Show will take place on Saturday, November 18 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Sunday, November 19 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Holidaze is located at the at the Porter County Expo Center at 215 Division Road in Valparaiso. There will be over 200 vendors in the Expo building and the adjoining building. Food will be available and admission for the public is only \$2, while kids twelve and un-

der are free. Crafters from many states will be on hand, selling beautiful items for you home, and nice gifts for you family and friends. Many vendors return year after year and are proven to make this show special. The show is held in a festive atmosphere with a Christmas theme. Christmas music is played throughout the weekend. Some of the many items include ceramics, candles, florals, art work, wreaths, pet items and much more will be on display.

Many food items such as pumpkin roll cakes, dips summer sausage and more will be available for purchase. As a

Public compost sites to close for Thanksgiving holiday weekend

The Valparaiso compost site, 2150 W. Lincolnway, and the Boone Grove compost site, 546 S. 400 W., will be closed Thursday, November 23 through Sunday, November 26, for the Thanksgiving holiday weekend. Both sites will reopen Monday, November 27, for their last week of seasonal operation.

Regular hours for the Valpo site are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays. Regular hours for the Boone Grove compost site are noon to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays. Dec. 2 will be the last day of operation in 2017 for both public compost sites.

In 2018, the Valparaiso site will begin 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. off-

season hours on Saturdays beginning January 6, for residents to recycle their once live Christmas trees, wreaths and other organic holiday waste. The Boone Grove site will remain closed after December 2, until the regular season begins in the spring.

Porter County residents are encouraged to bring organic

Crown Point Winter Market to be held November 25

The public is invited to attend this year's Winter Market. The event will be held this Saturday, November 25, in the Maki Ballroom of the Courthouse located in downtown Crown Point.

The Winter Market is a place to shop for wool mit-

ten and scarves, holiday items, jewelry, handmade wooden toys, soaps, ornaments, candles, Christmas wreaths and more. For more information please check the website at www.crownpoint.in.gov or contact the Mayor's Office of Special Events at 219-662-3290.

Part of the proceeds from the show are donated to the Toys for Tots program that is ran by ABATE of Indiana. ABATE will have Santa and Mrs. Claus and some elves for the kids. Candy canes will be given to the kids who visit Santa.

For more information Call, 219-464-9918, or email holidazeshow@yahoo.com or visit on Facebook.

debris from fall yard clean-ups and organic Halloween and fall decorations, such as pumpkins, gourds, straw, corn stalks, etc., to be incorporated into the sites' compost windrows.

For more information on the Porter County Recycling & Waste Reduction, visit www.PorterCountyRecycling.org

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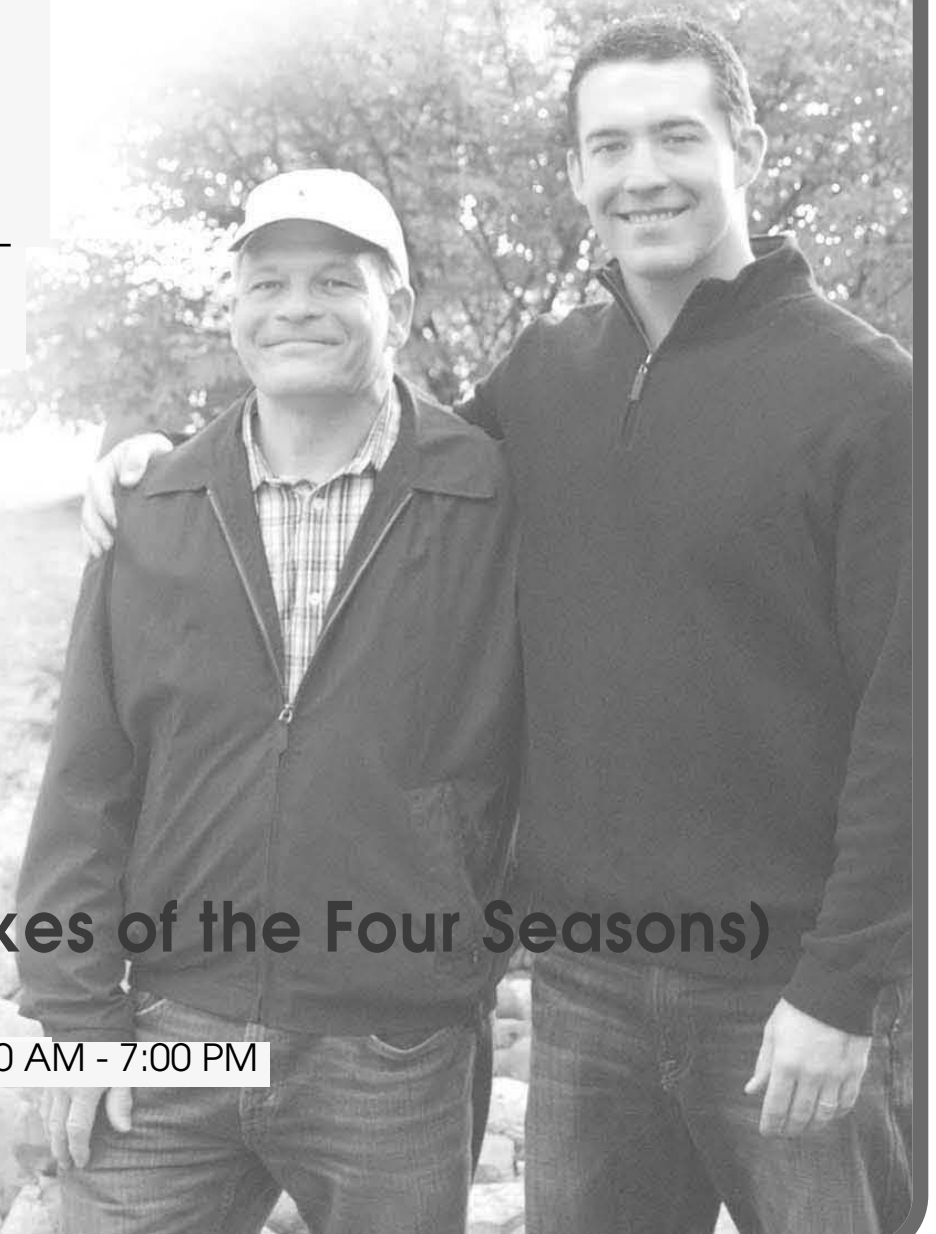
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Give thanks for good health by donating blood this holiday to offset seasonal decline

The American Red Cross encourages people to share their good health this holiday season by donating blood for patients in need.

A decline in donations occurs from Thanksgiving to New Year's Day when donors are busy with holiday activities and travel. However, patients don't get a holiday break from needing lifesaving transfusions. In fact, every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood.

By giving blood or platelets, donors may give patients more time – and more holidays – with loved ones. Make an appointment to give blood by visiting www.redcrossblood.org or calling 1-800-733-2767.

Lake County
Crown Point
• 11/19/2017: 12:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m., Momentum Church, 2200 North Main Street
Hammond
• 11/29/2017: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., Fitness & Recreation Center, 2300 173rd Street
Hobart
• 11/27/2017: 2:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m., Hobart Community Center, 111 E Old Ridge Road
Merrillville
• 11/18/2017: 8 a.m. - 12 p.m., Merrillville Blood Donation Center, 791 East 83rd Ave
• 11/20/2017: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Merrillville Blood Donation Center, 791 East 83rd Ave
• 11/27/2017: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Merrillville Blood

Porter County
Hebron
• 11/30/2017: 8 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Hebron High School, 509 S. Main Street
Portage
• 11/27/2017: 11:30 a.m. - 5 p.m., St. Peter Lutheran Church, 6540 Central Ave.
Valparaiso
• 11/18/2017: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., Boys & Girls Club of Porter County - Valparaiso, 354 Jefferson St.
• 11/20/2017: 1 p.m. - 7 p.m., St. Teresa of Avila, 1604 Lincolnway
• 11/28/2017: 12 p.m. - 7 p.m., Valparaiso University - Harre Union, 1509 Chapel Drive

Santa and Mrs. Claus are coming to the Crown Point Square next Saturday

Mayor David Uran's Office of Special Events invites the public to attend this year's Santa Claus Parade as Crown Point welcomes in Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus for the season.

The Santa Parade is on Saturday, November 25, and begins at 10 a.m. Santa will arrive by helicopter at the Pointe Plaza and then he and Mrs. Claus will ride a fire truck down Main Street directly to the Courthouse on the Square.

They will be available to visit with families and children until 4 p.m. as well as every Saturday and Sunday until Christmas from 12 to 4 p.m. Also joining the parade this year are Poppy and Branch from the movie Trolls. Poppy and Branch will be available to visit at 9:30 a.m. prior to the parade. To view Santa's complete schedule for the Courthouse visit www.crownpoint.in.gov.

For more information regarding the Santa Parade or the Winter Market contact the Mayor's Office of Special Events at 219-662-3290.



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Volunteer tax preparers needed to help elderly and low income residents file income taxes

The United Way of Porter County is seeking volunteers to help elderly, moderate-to-low income Porter County residents file their federal and state income taxes for the 2017 tax year.

If you ever wonder how to make a difference and help people in your community, then becoming a tax volunteer may be just right for you. The IRS is looking for people who will provide free tax help in 2017 through a program called Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA).

You will receive all the tax training you need so you can help others file their tax return. IRS printed materials are supplied include a volunteer resource guide used both in training and certification, and later with the clients.

For the second year, the IRS is using the online version of "TaxSlayer" a program that may be familiar to taxpayers who currently prepare their own taxes.

According to local VITA site coordinator, George Kuebler, at the United Way of Porter County, "previous tax preparation experience, while useful, is not as prerequisite to do the program. The training materials guide the volunteers through tax law and instructions in how to you the TaxSlayer program."

"Training a can be accomplished the volunteers own rate, leading them to the required certification to participate in the program," Kuebler added. "Volunteers can decide how much time they want to contribute during the tax preparation season that usually starts about February 1 and concludes

near the April 15 deadline." "Some retiree volunteers take time off for vacation during this period, and resume their participation when they get back," he added. "There are no too few hours, and the number of hours are up to the volunteer."

The online training begins in mid-November at which time the printed materials will be available to assist in the course completion.

No prior experience needed. You'll receive self-directed specialized training online and can serve in a variety of roles. If you are fluent in another language, you may be able to help those who speak that language.

Free tax law training and materials. You'll learn how to prepare basic tax returns and learn about tax deductions and credits that benefit eligible taxpayers. These include credits such as the Earned Income Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit and Credit for the Elderly.

Volunteer hours are flexible. Volunteers generally serve an average of three to five hours per week. The United Way of Porter County program is usually open from late-January through the tax filing deadline in April.

Continuing education credits for tax pros. Enrolled Agents and non-credentialed tax return preparers can earn

credits when volunteering as a VITA instructor, quality reviewer or tax return preparer. As a volunteer, you'll join a program that's helped millions of people file tax returns at no charge for more than 40 years. Your help will make a difference. It's people helping people. It's that simple.

Some of the volunteer roles needed at the United Way of Porter County tax preparation location include: Greeter/Screeners - As a greeter/screener you'll greet everyone visiting the site. You'll screen taxpayers to determine the type of assistance they need and confirm they brought all the necessary documents to have their

tax returns completed Appointment Scheduler - As an appointment scheduler, you'll assist taxpayers in scheduling their appointments prior to arrival. Appointments are made via phone and email. (Tax law certification is not required for above two positions).


Tax Preparer - After successfully completing your tax law certification, as a volunteer tax preparer you will provide free tax return preparation for eligible taxpayers using electronic filing software. Tax law certification is required for this volunteer role.

Quality Reviewer - Quality reviewers conduct a quality review of all tax returns completed by volunteer tax preparers, ensuring that ev-

ery taxpayer receives quality service and an accurate tax return.

Kim Olesker, president & CEO of United Way of Porter County, encourages residents to take advantage of this powerful volunteer opportunity where "you can directly impact lives by providing free tax preparations to those who may otherwise not file taxes due to the cost of tax preparation."

Preparation of 2017 taxes is scheduled to begin at the United Way of Porter County, 951 Eastport Centre Drive, Valparaiso in late January 2018. For more information contact George Kuebler, VITA Supervisor, at 219-464-3583, ext. 128 or e-mail to george@unitedwaypc.org.




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Classified ads must be submitted by Sunday at 3 p.m. to run in that Friday's Winfield American. Submit your ad online at www.winfieldamerican.com.

Home and Office Cleaning
Crown Point and Munster. Permanent positions available with an established home and office cleaning company. We have openings for home cleaning positions weekdays from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm and office cleaning positions early evenings and Saturdays. Low stress, easy dress code, active relaxed work. Valid drivers license, reliable car required. Must agree to a criminal background and drug test. Earn \$9.00-\$12.00 per hour with possible advancement to trainer, estimator, and field supervision. We are hiring for our Crown Point and Munster locations. For details call Constant Clean Maid Service in Crown Point at 219-662-6243 or in Munster at 219-836-2650. (808)

Fire Force Volunteers Needed
Lakes of The Volunteer Fire Force is in need of more dedicated volunteers to join our ranks. Have you ever thought of being a part of something bigger than yourself? Want to help your community by giving back through service? Please call 219-662-7576 and speak with Chief Campbell.

Help Wanted - Automotive Technician
In an effort to increase our level of service to our customers, Crown Point Auto Repair is adding TECHNICIANS to our team. If you know of, or have friends or family that you feel would be a good addition to the Crown Point Auto Repair team, have them stop in at 1510 N. Main Street, Crown Point, IN, and talk to Bill or Tim. They can also call the shop at 219-663-1847 or Bill's cell at 708-305-3666 for an appointment. (808)

For Sale - 1998 Mitsubishi 3000GT
Black sports car, 5-speed, good condition, needs little work, 128k miles, new high-performance tires, owner moving out of state. Car located on East 101st Avenue near Winfield. \$2,300. Call 219-663-3306. (808)

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Annual holiday tree lighting celebration to be held November 24 in Crown Point

The public is invited to the City of Crown Point's Annual Tree Lighting Celebration and Tank Ceremony on Friday, November 24, at 5:30 p.m. on the east side steps of the Old Courthouse. The community is invited to share in the free ceremony that will bring in the holiday season. The Crown Point High School Choir will be performing traditional holiday songs and a performance by the Harmony Hand Bells. Mayor Uran will be lighting the official city tree, whose lights are sponsored by the City of Crown Point, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 697, MJ Electric, Illini Hi Reach and the Lake Courthouse Foundation. Hot refreshments for all are sponsored by Wittenberg Lutheran Village of Crown Point. Directly after the tree lighting ceremony, all are asked to proceed north on Main Street to the Tank Memorial Area, and join the city in lighting the memorial tree in support of our troops at approximately 6:15pm. For more information on the Annual Holiday Tree and Tank Lighting Ceremonies contact Mayor Uran's Office of Special Events at 219-662-3290.

Indiana Youth Ballet's production of 'The Nutcracker' to be held this weekend

Indiana Youth Ballet has announced the upcoming production of The Nutcracker Ballet, to be performed on Saturday and Sunday, November 18 and 29, at Lowell Senior High School Auditorium, located at 2051 East Commercial Avenue in Lowell. Saturday shows are at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday's show is at 2 p.m. Northwest Indiana's longest running Nutcracker features delightful scenery including a twenty-foot growing Christmas tree, exciting choreography, beautiful costumes, and, of course, our amazing cast of over 100 young dancers from across Northwest Indiana and Illinois. Families can enjoy this time-treasured classic that is kid-friendly and supports the arts in Northwest Indiana. Tickets may be purchased at the door or in advance via www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3115045. For additional information visit www.indianayouthballet.com.

High schools invited to participate in Poetry Out Loud as November 30 deadline nears

The Indiana Arts Commission and the Indiana State Library recently announced the invitation to Indiana high schools to participate in the 2018 Poetry Out Loud competition. Poetry Out Loud is now accepting commitments from Indiana schools to participate in the 2018 recitation process. Schools can learn more about the competition on the Indiana State Library website www.in.gov/library/5580.htm. For general information about the national program and competition, visit www.poetryoutloud.org. School sign-up will be open until November 30. Initial competitions are held at the high school level to determine one student to represent the school in state final competition February 17, 2018, at the Indiana State Library. Local competition must be judged by the same criteria use in the state and national events. The state champion receives a \$200 cash prize and an all-expenses paid trip to Washington, D.C. to compete in the Poetry Out Loud National Finals in April. The state champion's school receives a \$500 stipend to purchase poetry books. A total of \$50,000 in scholarship awards and school stipends will be awarded at the Poetry Out Loud National Finals, with a \$20,000 college scholarship awarded to the national champion. Poetry Out Loud is a partnership between the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the Poetry Foundation. The program encourages the study of great poetry by offering education materials and a dynamic recitation competition to high school students across the country.

Winfield Township Food Pantry needs help

The Winfield Township Pantry needs help. The pantry needs cereal, oatmeal, soup, cake mix, and pasta. They are also putting Thanksgiving baskets together for those in need in the community. They need stuffing mix, canned sweet potatoes, canned gravy, and canned fruit for the baskets. Bring donations to the Winfield Township Trustee's office located at 10645 Randolph between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Call 219-663-7027 for more information.

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Winfield American

Meals on Wheels seeks volunteers who wish to make a difference

Meals on Wheels delivers meals throughout Northwest Indiana five days per week. If you are looking to make a difference in your community, help us deliver meals in your neighborhood.

Meals on Wheels is having orientation-training on Wednesday, November 22, at 1 p.m., at their offices at 8446 Virginia Street, Merrillville.

Training lasts one hour and ends with a tour of the building.

Call Volunteer Manager, Joan Vith, at 219-756-3663 to reserve your seat in our next training session. According to Vith, "Volunteers can make a big difference in the lives of their neighbors by delivering proper nutrition to those in need. We always look for drivers throughout Lake County. We cannot meet our mission without



the invaluable services of our volunteers."

Founded in 1977, Meals on Wheels of Northwest Indiana is non-profit serving Lake County, Indiana. Meals on Wheels delivers meals to those in need five days a week using community volunteers. More information about Meals on Wheels can be found at www.mownwi.org.

Northwest Indiana Symphony presents Holiday Pops; final performance at Star Plaza Theatre

Celebrate the holidays symphony style as the Northwest Indiana Symphony and conductor Kirk Muspratt present their annual "Holiday Pops" on Thursday, December 7, at 7:30 p.m. at the Star Plaza Theatre in Merrillville. The concert will feature guest vocalist Jesse Donner, the Northwest Indiana Symphony Chorus, directed by Nancy Menk, the Hobart String Orchestra, and the Crown Point High School Chorale. Also, regular attendees know to keep an eye out for Santa.

The annual Holiday Pops has become a favorite way to start off the festive season. With a mix of classic and contemporary holiday music and the Chorus-led carol sing-along, you're sure to hear all your favorites. This will be the Symphony's last concert at the Star Plaza Theatre so share this seasonal tradition with your family. Tickets range from \$29 - \$69

and students are \$10.

Bring a donation of any non-perishable food item to the concert to benefit the Northwest Indiana Food Bank. Food items can also be dropped off at the Symphony offices in the Center for Visual and Performing Arts in Munster, at the Women's Association's Festival of Trees Luncheon in the Center on November 29, and at the Youth Orchestra Concert on December 3 at Morton High School in Hammond.

INDOT offers scholarships, jobs to engineers in training

The Indiana Department of Transportation is offering civil engineering students scholarships of up to \$3,125 per semester, and paid employment during summer breaks and upon graduation.

Students must be accepted or enrolled full time in one of Indiana's certified civil engineering schools and apply using the form at www.INDOTScholarship.IN.gov. Applications for the 2018-19 school year must be submitted by December 31, 2017.

INDOT's scholarship program uses federal funds to offer \$3,125 per semester or \$2,083 per trimester for up to five years of post-secondary civil engineering education. Scholarship funds can be applied to educational expenses, fees and books. In return, recipients will work for INDOT in full-time, paid positions during their summer breaks and upon graduation.

Students must be accepted or enrolled full time in one of Indiana's Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) certified civil engineering programs. Eligible programs include Indiana University Purdue University Fort Wayne, Purdue University, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, Trine University, University of Evansville, University of Notre Dame and Valparaiso University.

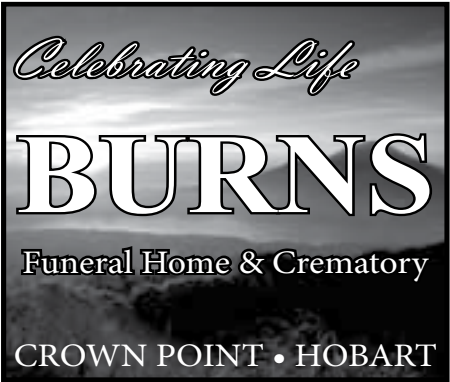
Students or parents with questions may contact Talent Development Specialist K.D. Thurman at talentmanagement@indot.in.gov or 317-234-8551.

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