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# Winfield American

Vol. 20, Issue 981

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April 9, 2021

## Couple establishes political science scholarship to honor retired PNW professor

The Purdue University Northwest Department of Political Science, Economics and World Languages has announced the creation of a future endowed scholarship, a planned gift, to benefit undergraduate political science majors.

The Donald and Ruth Reichert Scholarship in honor of Professor Doris Pierce has been established by Donald and Ruth Reichert of Elizabethtown, Ky., to provide future scholarships to undergraduate students majoring in political science. The gift honors Donald's former mentor and the couple's friend, Doris Pierce.

"I wanted to give back to the institution that gave me

my real start in life," explains Reichert, who grew up in the Hessville area of Hammond. "I especially wanted to honor my first political science professor and later lifelong friend, Doris Pierce."

Pierce, PNW professor emerita of Political Science, taught at the former Purdue University Calumet from 1962 to 1994. Pierce held both a doctorate in political science and a juris doctorate degree and taught classes in local and urban politics and public law at the Hammond campus for 32 years. She headed the Department of History and Political Science from 1986 until her retirement in 1994.

Reichert, a retired Army Lt. Col., grew up just a few miles from PNW's Hammond campus and always knew he would attend the university. "I had applied and been accepted to three other universities but ultimately knew I would choose Purdue Northwest," states Reichert. This decision would precipitate his meeting Pierce, who fostered his interest in state and local government.

"Doris had a degree in law but was interested, just as I was, in state and local government," states Reichert. "Doris was a tough but fair grader, and until I graduated and knew her personally, I never knew her political per-



Donald and Ruth Reichert



Doris Pierce, Professor Emerita of Political Science at PNW

suation. In her classes she would listen to every argument and never put down a student for a political belief

that was out of the ordinary." Reichert was so impressed by the political science professor he took five

of her classes. He credits Pierce with helping build his foundation in political science. (See *Couple* Pg. 2)

## Nipsco recognizes safe digging month and reminds customers to call 811

April has been proclaimed Safe Digging Month in the state of Indiana and Nipsco is reminding customers and contractors to always call 811 at least two business days prior to starting any digging project. Making this free call will ensure the dig site is marked with paint or flags where the approximate underground public utility lines are located.

Calling 811 is critical for your safety and can reduce the risk of serious injury. It's also the law. Not calling

could result in fines up to \$10,000 and the cost to repair any damages.

Last year, Nipsco reported over 969 instances where diggers struck their gas lines. Of those, 40 percent occurred because the person digging did not know, or failed to call 811. There is a 99% chance that there will not be any damage when completing a project if you call 811 prior to digging.

Whether you're installing a mailbox, planting trees or performing any other



outdoor digging project, NIPSCO encourages you to take the following steps:

- Always call 811 or enter a request online at 811NOW.com two business days before the start of any digging project.
- Tell neighbors, coworkers, family and friends about 811 if they discuss their plans for an outdoor home improve-

ment project with you.

- Plan ahead – Indiana 811 is always open. Just make sure you call at least two business days in advance of your project start date.
- Avoid starting projects until you're sure all lines have been marked. When you call 811, you will hear a list of companies that should respond.
- Choose another location on the property for a project if the original planned site is near utility line markings.
- If your excavation is within

two feet of any marked facility, only use hand tools or vacuum excavation with extreme caution.

- If you have hired a contractor to complete your project, confirm that he or she has made a call to 811 before doing any digging. Don't allow work to begin if the lines aren't marked.
- After the site has been accurately marked, it is safe to begin digging carefully around the marked areas.

Nipsco Recognizes Safe Digging Month

Digging without knowing the approximate location of underground utilities can result in damage to gas, electric, communications, water and sewer lines, which can lead to service disruptions and serious injuries.

By calling 811, a trained utility line locator will visit the dig site to mark the approximate location of underground public utility lines with paint or flags. Each color of paint and/or flag represents a unique type of

(See *Nipsco* Pg. 8)

## Research reveals that Indiana has a 1% homeowner vacancy rate

The U.S. is facing a severe housing shortage as the number of homes for sale hits new lows, driving up home prices and making homeownership less affordable. At the same time, buyers are eager to take advantage of record low interest rates. However, finding an affordable home in many parts of the country is incredibly challenging. According to the latest data from the Census Bureau, the homeowner vacancy rate—the share of owner-occupied housing units that are vacant and for sale—is just 1%.

Since reaching a record high of 2.9% in 2008 in the midst of the Great Recession, the homeowner vacancy rate in the U.S. has trended down-

ward. After diving to 0.9% last spring in the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic, the homeowner vacancy rate has inched back upwards. The low rate indicates a housing shortage at the national level, but tracking the homeowner vacancy rate at the metro level can help identify cities with bigger supply-demand imbalances. Changes in homebuyer preferences have resulted in large changes in vacancy rates year-over-year for some metros. The current shift towards working from home—and a shift in preferences away from crowded cities—has spurred demand for homes in smaller cities and towns.

Even before the COVID-19 pandemic hit, the construction

industry was struggling to fill a severe housing shortage. The pandemic has only made this more challenging as construction in many parts of the country has faced stoppages, and the price of materials has increased. The number of new housing units authorized, housing starts, and new housing units completed fell drastically during the 2008 housing market collapse. While these numbers have been steadily climbing since 2012, they remain well below the levels seen in 2005. The current supply of new homes has not been able to keep pace with demand.

While the U.S. is grappling with a serious housing shortage nationally, the severity of

the housing shortage varies widely by location due to factors such as affordability and local job market conditions. Overall, the Western U.S. has lower homeowner vacancy rates, indicating a lower stock of available homes, compared to the eastern half of the country. Louisiana and North Dakota have the highest homeowner vacancy rates in the U.S., at 2.0% and 1.9%, respectively. At the opposite end of the spectrum, Oregon and Utah, both with homeowner vacancy rates of 0.2%, have the lowest share of vacant homes in the country.

To determine the states with the highest (and lowest) homeowner vacancy rates, researchers at Porch analyzed

data from the U.S. Census Bureau's Current Population Survey/Housing Vacancy Survey and Building Permits Survey as well as home price data from Realtor.com. The researchers ranked states according to homeowner vacancy rates in the fourth quarter of 2020. In the event of a tie, rates from previous quarters were used. Researchers also calculated the total housing units authorized in 2020, the median home price, and the homeownership rate.

The analysis found that in Indiana, 75% of households are owner-occupied. In Q4 2020, Indiana reported a homeowner vacancy rate of 1%. Here is a summary of the data for Indiana:

- Homeowner vacancy rate Q4 2020: 1%
- Total housing units authorized in 2020 (per 10K residents): 36
- Median home price: \$199,950
- Homeownership rate: 75%

For reference, here are the statistics for the entire United States:

- Homeowner vacancy rate Q4 2020: 1%
- Total housing units authorized in 2020 (per 10K residents): 44
- Median home price: \$346,162
- Homeownership rate: 65.8%

For more information, a detailed methodology, and complete results, you can find the original report on Porch's website at [www.porch.com](http://www.porch.com)

[www.winfieldamerican.com](http://www.winfieldamerican.com)



Lake County Highway Department announces 109th Avenue road closure beginning Monday

The Lake County Board of Commissioners, through the Lake County Highway Department, has announced that the intersection of 109th Avenue and Colorado Street will be closed for intersection improvements. The closure will be in effect from 7 a.m. Monday, April 12 through 5 p.m. Monday, April 26, weather permitting.

The Lake County Highway Department's suggested detour routes are:

- **Westbound:** At 109th Avenue and State Street, take

State Street south to 117th Avenue; take 117th Avenue west to Iowa Street; take Iowa Street north back to 109th Avenue.

- **Eastbound:** At Iowa Street and 109th Avenue, take Iowa Street south to 113th Avenue; take 113th Avenue east to Benton Street; take Benton Street north back to 109th Avenue.
- **Southbound:** At Colorado Street and 101st Avenue, take 101st Avenue east to Arizona Street; take Arizona Street south to 109th Avenue; take 109th

Avenue east to State Street; take State Street south to 117th Avenue; take 117th Avenue west to Iowa Street; take Iowa Street north to 109th Avenue.

During the periods of construction, you may encounter some minor inconveniences. However, every effort will be made to minimize these inconveniences. Detour signs will be set up to help you navigate around the project.

If you have any questions, contact the Lake County Highway Department at 219-663-0525.

(*Couple* from Pg. 1)

ence that helped contribute to his 40-year success with the U.S. Army. Reichert attended the Hammond campus for two years. As there was no ROTC program on the Hammond campus at that time, he transferred to Purdue University in West Lafayette, where he graduated in 1972.

"This is an extraordinary contribution to the university and a vote of great confidence in the department of Political Science by one of its distinguished alumni," says Richard Rupp, PNW interim department chair of Political Science, Economics

and World Languages. "The Reicherts' planned gift will provide scholarships to Purdue Northwest students, many of whom are first-generation college students and will benefit greatly from their generosity."

"My wife and I are happy to be able to honor Doris with this endowment to help future political science students at Purdue Northwest," states Reichert.

The renewable scholarship will be awarded at a future date, to an undergraduate student attending PNW and majoring in political science. Recipients will be selected

based on financial need.

Purdue University Northwest is a premier metropolitan university dedicated to empowering transformational change in our students and in our community. Located in Northwest Indiana, near Chicago, PNW values academic excellence, supports growth, and celebrates diversity. For more information visit [www.pnw.edu](http://www.pnw.edu).

Application deadline to apply for Indiana's Hardest Hit mortgage assistance fund is May 3

The Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority recently announced that the deadline for Indiana homeowners to submit new applications for mortgage assistance through Indiana's Hardest Hit Fund is May 3.

"I encourage any Indiana homeowner having difficulty paying their mortgage payment to visit [www.877gethope.org](http://www.877gethope.org) or call 1-877-GET-HOPE," said Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch.

"From there, homeowners will be connected with one of our housing counselors who can help determine available options and if they qualify for assistance through Indiana's Hardest Hit Fund."

Indiana was one of 19 states that received money from the U.S. Department of Treasury to help homeown-

ers avoid losing their homes to foreclosure because of the 2009 housing crisis. To date, Indiana's HHF has provided more than \$182.7 million of assistance to over 11,300 Indiana homeowners.

"Early in the COVID-19 pandemic we spoke with the U.S. Department of Treasury to request the ability to help Indiana homeowners financially impacted by COVID-19 using our remaining HHF dollars," said Jacob Sipe, Executive Director of IHCD.

"With their approval, we have been able to help Hoosier homeowners remain stably housed through the ongoing public health emergency."

The U.S. Department of Treasury has set a June 30, 2021 deadline for HHF dollars to be expended by states. The May 3 deadline is nec-

essary to ensure there is sufficient time for new applications to be reviewed and a determination made prior to the deadline.

Indiana is expected to receive more than \$40 million from the new federal Homeowner Assistance Fund to provide mortgage assistance to eligible homeowners financially impacted by COVID-19. This funding is through the American Rescue Plan Act signed into law on March 11.

After the May 3 HHF application deadline passes, homeowners will be given an opportunity to subscribe and receive updates about the new Homeowner Assistance Fund, and other assistance resources should they become available, at: [www.877gethope.org](http://www.877gethope.org).



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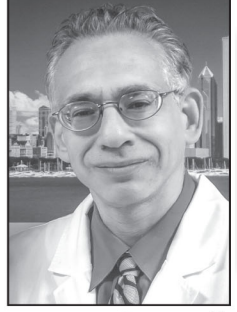
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Community events and news items should be submitted through our website at [www.winfieldamerican.com](http://www.winfieldamerican.com). News and event items are published free-of-charge as editorial space and time permits. Submission does not guarantee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

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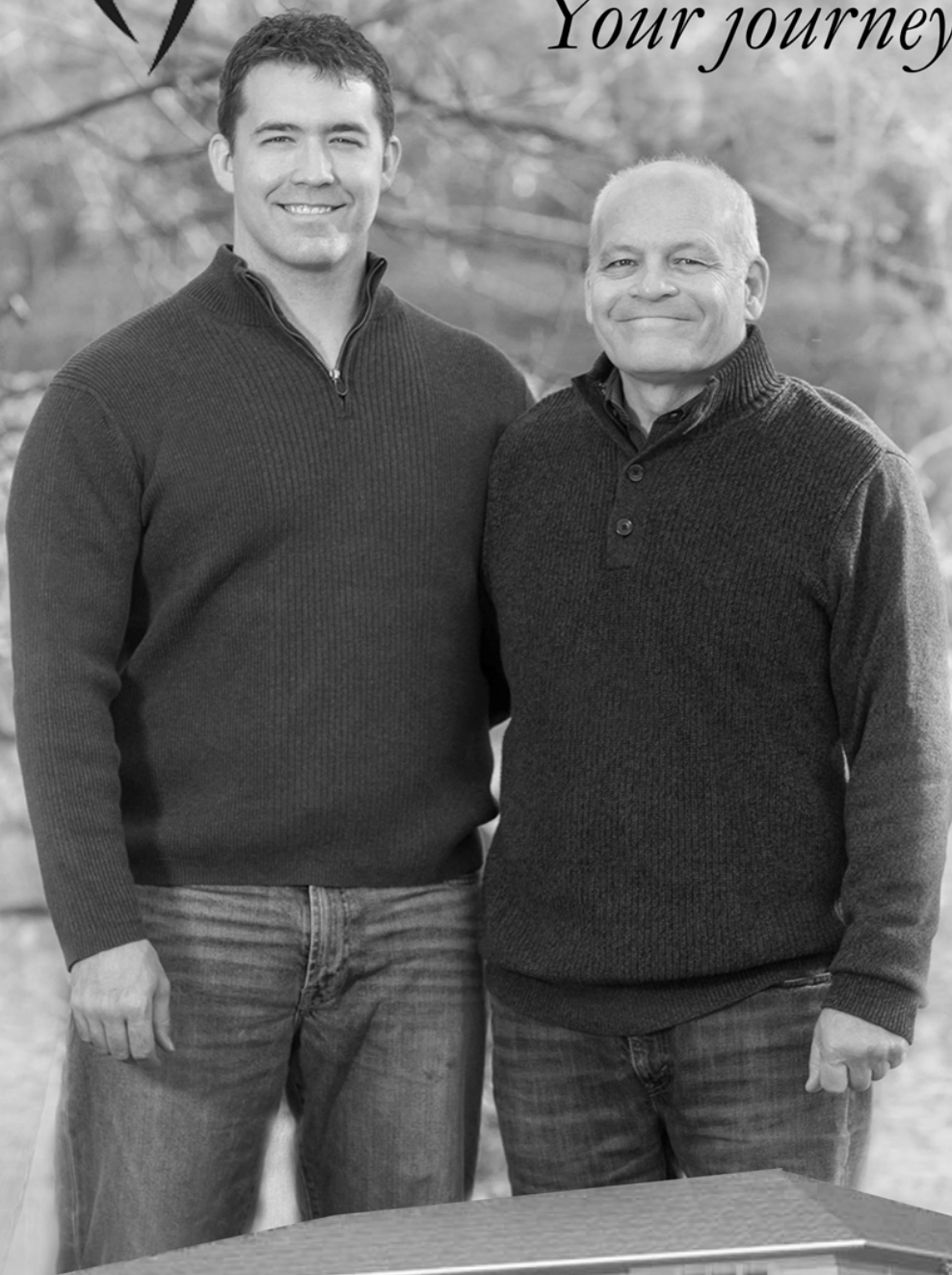
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## Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra conducting Spring Concert Series

The Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra and Music Director and Conductor Kirk Muspratt are 'Bringing Back the Music' with a Spring Concert Series. The series consists of concerts held at the Auditorium at Living Hope Church, located at 9000 Taft Street, on the Crown Point-Merrillville border.

The concerts are all 70 minutes with no intermission. Both in-person and virtual tickets will be available to all events.

In-person tickets will be limited with general admission, socially distanced seating.

ing. Temperatures will be taken at the venue upon entry and masks must be worn for the duration of the performance and at all times while on church property.

Virtual ticket buyers will receive a private link to watch the performance live the night of the show, then a follow up link will be sent to a recorded version of the concerts to be enjoyed for one month. In-person ticket buyers will also receive the recorded link.

### Brass Quintet

Travel the world with a lively collection of Brass music featuring Jazz, Movie, Classical,

Americana and more. Friday, May 14, 7:30 p.m. *Tickets on sale April 12.*

### Chamber Orchestra – The Return of Kirk

Maestro Muspratt returns to conduct this small orchestra through a mix of folk, dance, ballet, opera, movie and patriotic music. Friday, June 18, at 7:30 p.m. *Tickets on sale May 17.*

In-person tickets are \$30 per person and virtual tickets are \$15. For more information about repertoire and to buy tickets visit [www.NISOchestra.org](http://www.NISOchestra.org).

## Indiana's CollegeChoice 529 savings plans surpass 400,000 accounts, reports treasurer

Treasurer of State Kelly Mitchell recently announced that the number of funded accounts in the state's tax-advantaged CollegeChoice 529 education savings plans has surpassed 400,000. This milestone marks a net increase of more than 136,000 accounts since her tenure began in November 2014.

During this same period, assets have grown by \$3.3 billion to \$6.2 billion, and the average account balance has risen to over \$15,000, up from just under \$11,000.

"400,000 is another tremendous milestone in a program that has grown by leaps and bounds during my seven years in office," said

Treasurer Mitchell. "We continue to receive overwhelmingly positive feedback from parents and students around the state, and I am so proud of the work being done by the Indiana Education Savings Authority."

CollegeChoice 529 provides families with flexibility (See 529 Pg. 8)

## Alzheimer's Association hosts virtual legal and financial program for Northwest Indiana

As Tax Day nears, families and individuals across the country are taking a closer look at their finances. During this time, the Alzheimer's Association encourages people to proactively plan for the financial impact of Alzheimer's – one of the most expensive diseases in the country. About 110,000 Hoosiers are living with Alzheimer's and another 215,000 family members are serving as unpaid caregivers.

To help Hoosiers plan for the future, the Alzheimer's Association Greater Indiana Chapter is hosting a two-part virtual program on legal and financial planning April 21 and April 28 at 5 p.m. CT.

Disease-related costs can jeopardize a family's financial security, and many families and caregivers make enormous personal and financial sacrifices. The 2021

Alzheimer's Association Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures report found some staggering results:

- In 2020, the lifetime cost of care for a person living with dementia was \$373,527.
- Average out-of-pocket costs for health care and long-term care services not covered by Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance exceed \$10,000 annually.
- Nearly half (48%) of care contributors must cut back on their own expenses – including basic necessities like food, transportation and medical care – to afford dementia-related care, and 43% cut back on savings.
- Nearly two out of three people incorrectly believe that Medicare helps pay for nursing home care, or were unsure whether it does.

"After a diagnosis of Alzheimer's or another de-

mentia, families can feel overwhelmed," said Julie Collins, Alzheimer's Association Greater Indiana Chapter program manager for Northwest Indiana. "Understandably, these important issues are often pushed aside, but planning for the future can actually help reduce stress on both the person with the disease and their family members."

Topics covered during the two-part program will include tax deductions and credits, legal documents and what they mean, how to find legal and financial assistance, practical strategies for making a long-term care plan and government programs that can help pay for care.

Registration is free and available at [www.bit.ly/NorthernLAF](http://www.bit.ly/NorthernLAF) or the Alzheimer's Association 24/7 Helpline at 800-272-3900.

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~ Obituary ~ Timothy F. Bugno, Sr.

Timothy F. Bugno, Sr., age 56, of Merrillville, went home to rest in the arms of Jesus Wednesday, March 24, 2021. He is survived by his loving mother Joyce, children Tim Jr. (Jenn) and Michael “Tyler”, granddaughters Monroe and Harper; sister

Christine (Eric) Buchmeier. He was preceded in death by his father Frank M Bugno. Tim was well-liked and will be greatly missed by many friends and co-workers. He was retired from People’s Gas, Chicago, IL and most recently worked part-time at

Car Quest. A visitation took place on Monday, March 29, 2021 at Burns Funeral Home, 10101 Broadway, Crown Point, IN. Funeral was held Tuesday, March 30, 2021 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, 509 W Division Rd, Valparaiso IN. [www.burnsfuneral.com](http://www.burnsfuneral.com).

Pro basketball coach to speak virtually next Wednesday at empowerment event

Indiana native and Vanderbilt University Women’s Basketball Coach Stephanie White knows a thing or two about what it takes to be an authentic leader who can build a team of champions. During an upcoming webinar hosted by NWIWA, the former WNBA coach plans to share what she’s learned throughout her professional athletic career with attendees from all kinds of different industries.

Those wishing to attend the virtual event can register at [www.nwiiwa.org](http://www.nwiiwa.org). Tickets are free for members and \$25 for non-members.

Applications now available online for the next Crown Point Community Foundation grant cycle

The Crown Point Community Foundation is accepting grant applications online. Grants from the CPCF’s Unrestricted Funds will be made to nonprofit organizations and community projects which serve the South Lake County area. Fields of interest which will be considered for funding include Animal Related, Arts and Culture, Community Improvement, Economic

Development, Education, Environmental, Food/Nutrition/ Agriculture, Health and Human Services, Housing and Shelter, Public Safety, Recreation, Religion Related, and Youth Development.

Eligible organizations may apply for grants on the CPCF online grant platform. Grant applications will be accepted through June 1, 2021. To apply for a grant visit [www.cpcf-grants.communityforce.com](http://www.cpcf-grants.communityforce.com).

The CPCF awards grants from the unrestricted community funds held in the CPCF Unrestricted Fund three times a year. The three application cycles are February 1, June 1, and September 1. Only one grant application per organization or agency will be eligible within a 12-month period. The CPCF Grant Committee reviews all applications.

~ Obituary ~ Sheila Ann O’Toole

Sheila Ann O’Toole, age 85 of Merrillville, passed on March 24, 2021 peacefully in her sleep. Sheila was born in East Chicago on May 7, 1935 to Bern and Leota O’Toole. She was raised in Highland, Indiana, and graduated from Griffith High School, class of 1953, and went on to receive a bachelor’s degree from Purdue University in 1957. She was a member of the Alpha Xi Delta sorority at Purdue and was an active alumnus at the time of death. Sheila retired after a suc-

cessful career from Illinois Bell/AT&T after more than 25 years and subsequently made her home in northwest Indiana where she enjoyed her many friends and family. She loved gardening and was a long-time member of the Brantwood Garden Club and achieved the status of Master Gardener. She also loved collecting teddy bears and was affectionately known as “SheBear.” Sheila is survived by her three children: Sue (Jim) of Coatesville, Pennsylvania, John (Jane) of

Crown Point, Indiana, and Jim (Deb) of Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan. Sheila also leaves behind 12 grandchildren: Ashley, Riane (Brett), Peter (Abi), Erica (Nick), Alicia, Rachel (Eric), Kristi (Brandon), Alexandra (Leif), Daniel, Jacob, Jamie, Jacey and 8 great-grandchildren. The visitation took place on Saturday, April 3, 2021 at Burns Funeral Home, 10101 Broadway, Crown Point, IN. [www.burnsfuneral.com](http://www.burnsfuneral.com).

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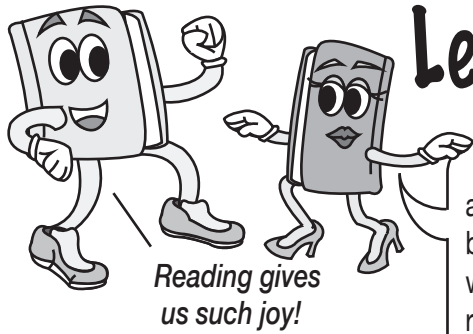
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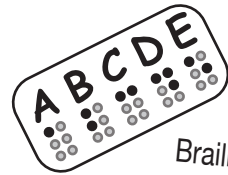


## Learn to Read! Read to Learn!

We read using our eyes. We use the alphabet. People who cannot see well or are blind can read Braille, a system of raised dots, with their fingers. People who are deaf may read lips or fingers spelling out hand signals, in addition to the printed word.

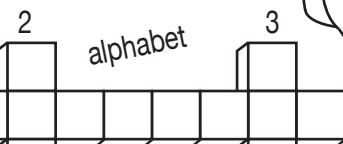
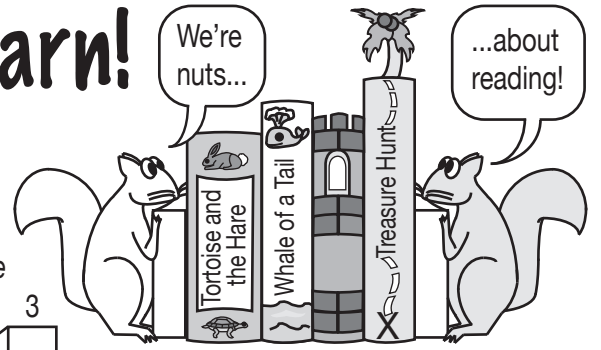
Read the clues about reading to fill in the crossword puzzle:

- 1.) We read using the letters of the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2.) When we read \_\_\_\_\_ we are able to share stories.
- 3.) We read for fun and to \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4.) We read signs by seeing the words or \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5.) We read words, \_\_\_\_\_ and paragraphs.
- 6.) We read using our \_\_\_\_\_.
- 7.) Some people, who cannot see well or are blind, may read using \_\_\_\_\_, a system of raised dots.
- 8.) We learn new words and \_\_\_\_\_ when we read.
- 9.) We read from the left side to the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 10.) We can read about places we can \_\_\_\_\_ to and places we might not.
- 11.) We read music by reading the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 12.) People who are deaf may read finger \_\_\_\_\_, or hand signals as well as the printed word!



Braille

alphabet



sentences

learn

ideas

pictures

travel

notes

right

spelling

eyes

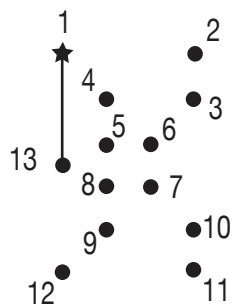
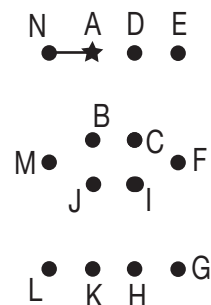
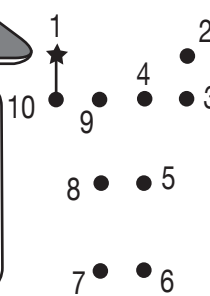
aloud

### What Word Do We Use the Most?

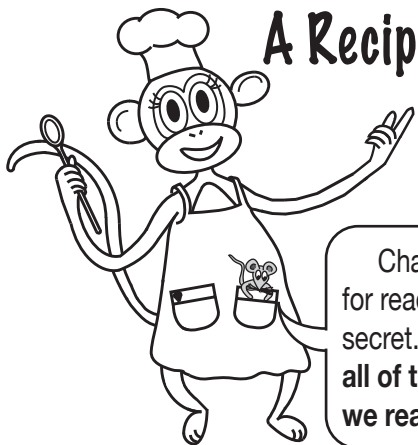
Do you know what word is used the most in written materials?



There are 3 letters in my puzzle. Connect dots in the first one by following the numbers. Then, follow the alphabet in the middle one. Finally, connect the numbered dots of the last letter to see the word we use the most.



### A Recipe for Reading!



Read for fun!

Read to learn!

Chatter's recipe for reading is not a secret. **Find and circle all of these items that we read every day:**

#### We Read:

- |          |         |                 |
|----------|---------|-----------------|
| recipes  | labels  | announcements   |
| poetry   | maps    | bulletin boards |
| symbols  | charts  | invitations     |
| signs    | flyers  | directions      |
| notices  | letters | newspapers      |
| websites | books   | magazines       |
| articles | diaries | instructions    |
| comics   | plays   | scrapbooks      |

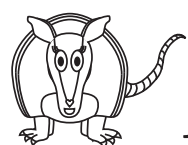
I love puzzles!



### Read Right! Read Left!

We read English words and sentences from left to right. The languages of Arabic and Hebrew are read from right to left.

Here are some fun English words that can be read in both directions and still have meaning for us. **Study the words and fill in the vowels that make sense:**



CAN YOU READ FROM LEFT TO RIGHT?

?TFEL OT THGIR MORF DAER UOY NAC

1. k \_ \_ p = p \_ \_ k

2. st \_ p = p \_ ts

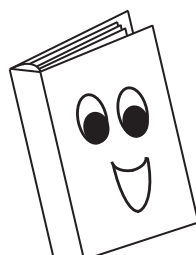
3. p \_ ls = sl \_ p

4. t \_ p = p \_ t

5. st \_ r = r \_ ts

6. l \_ v \_ = \_ v \_ l

I love to read!



Books!

7. n \_ w = w \_ n

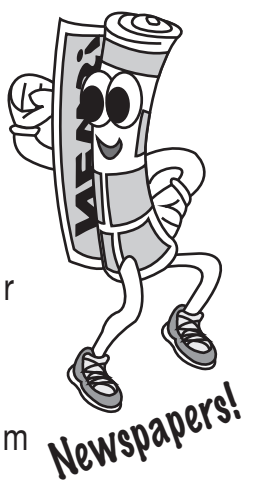
8. n \_ t = t \_ n

9. s \_ w = w \_ s

10. r \_ \_ d = d \_ \_ r

11. b \_ t = t \_ b

12. m \_ \_ d = d \_ \_ m



Newspapers!



# 'Coolest Thing Made in Indiana' competition recognizes manufacturing tradition

The Indiana Chamber announced the 'Coolest Thing Made in Indiana' competition to celebrate the state's long manufacturing history. Companies entered in the tournament will face off in a single-elimination bracket format.

"While Indiana is known for its sports prowess, agriculture and Hoosier Hospitality, we're also the most manufacturing-intensive state in the nation," says Kevin Brinegar, Indiana Chamber president and CEO. "This competition is a fun way to celebrate our

manufacturers and pair that with our affection for tournament basketball."

The program kicks off in October, but businesses can register now to be notified when they can officially enter. To participate, a company does not need to be headquartered in Indiana, but the product entered must be manufactured in the state. Companies are limited to having one product nominated.

"We want to hear from companies that make all kinds of things," Brinegar adds. "Businesses who have

been around for decades or budding entrepreneurs. Our goal is to showcase the wide variety of manufacturing efforts taking place in the state that have helped our economy thrive."

Winners will be chosen through public fan voting, with the products receiving the highest votes in each matchup moving to a subsequent round. The number of votes received will be reset at the beginning of each round.

All companies in the tournament field will receive recognition. Those reaching the

Final Four will receive prizes – with the champion earning a trophy, a feature article in the Indiana Chamber's statewide BizVoice magazine and an invitation to appear on the Indiana Chamber podcast, among other benefits.

Indiana joins fellow Midwestern states Illinois, Kansas, Michigan, and Wisconsin in recognizing its manufacturers with a 'Coolest Thing Made in' competition.

Learn more about the 'Coolest Thing Made in Indiana' contest at [www.indianachamber.com/coolestthing](http://www.indianachamber.com/coolestthing).



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Winfield American



(529 from Pg. 4)

and choice when it comes to saving for education after high school. Funds can be used at any eligible school or qualified apprenticeship program, both in- and out-of-state. Accounts grow tax-deferred and distributions are tax-free as long as the money is withdrawn to pay for qualified education expenses like tuition, books, computers, equipment and fees.

Indiana taxpayers may also be eligible for an annual state income tax credit of 20 percent of contributions to their CollegeChoice 529 accounts, worth up to \$1,000 each year (\$500 for married couples filing separately).

“We know that the flexibility of CollegeChoice 529 is just one of the reasons families invest with us. The fact that dollars saved can be used for practical qualified expenses like registered apprenticeships and certificate

(Pandemic from Pg. 1)

underground utility. The color code guide can tell you which colors indicate which type of utility and where to avoid digging. The utility flags may be removed once the project is fully complete. See the complete color code guide at [www.nipsco.com/811](http://www.nipsco.com/811).

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For more information about 811, visit [www.nipsco.com/811](http://www.nipsco.com/811).

programs, as well as traditional college, means a lot to Hoosiers. You’re not locking your dollars into a program, but opening the door for your child’s potential,” said

Marissa Rowe, executive director of the program.

For more information, visit [www.collegechoicedirect.com/plans](http://www.collegechoicedirect.com/plans)

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### Help Wanted – Automotive Technician

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## Jerry Ross C.A.F.E. online auction to be held April 28 and 29

Winfield Jerry Ross Community Advocates for Education is hosting a public online auction. Starting Wednesday, April 28 at 4 p.m. through Thursday, April 29, ending at 8 p.m. Located on [www.Facebook.com/groups/WinfieldJerryRossCAFEOnlineAuction](http://www.Facebook.com/groups/WinfieldJerryRossCAFEOnlineAuction)

Pick up for winners will be Friday, April 30 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Jerry Ross Elementary School.

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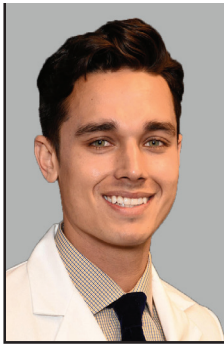
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## This week in history

**April 12, 1770**

On this day in 1770, the British government moved to mollify outraged colonists by repealing most of the clauses of the despised Townshend Act. Initially passed in 1767, the Townshend constituted an attempt by the British government to consolidate fiscal and political power over the American colonies by placing import taxes on many of the British products bought by Americans.

Colonial anger culminated in the deadly Boston Massacre on March 5, 1770. Also on March 5, Townshend’s successor (Townshend died soon after proposing the act), Lord Frederick North asked Parliament to repeal the Townshend Acts except for the duty on tea; he considered all the duties bad for trade and, thus, expensive for the British empire.

Charles Townshend, the chancellor of the Exchequer, was notoriously conservative in his understanding of colonial rights. The chancellor also undermined the colonial judiciary by increasing the power of the British navy’s vice-admiralty courts over American colonists and initiating an American Board of Customs Commissioners charged with enforcing his new import taxes.

Riotous protest of the Acts often invoked the phrase “no taxation without representation.” Colonists eventually decided not to import British goods until the act was repealed and to boycott any goods that were imported in violation. The Townshend Act was repealed on April 12, 1770.

[www.history.com](http://www.history.com)

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