

## KICKING OFF SUMMER ON MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND!

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# Winfield American

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May 24, 2024

## St. Mary's students participate in annual 'Ride Your Bike to School' day

Earlier this month students from St. Mary Catholic Community School in Crown Point took to the streets on two wheels to participate in the school's annual "Ride Your Bike to School Day." St. Mary students gathered at the Lake County Fairgrounds to ride to school. St. Mary's wishes to extend a special thanks to the Crown Point Emergency Management Director, Mike Wysocki, and his crew and all the parent participants for helping the young riders travel safely to St. Mary School.

St. Mary Catholic Community School in Crown Point offers grade levels Junior Pre-Kindergarten (for three-



Staff member Paul Czyszczon (far left), supervising the ride down Rosary Lane.

year-olds) through eight. The school is currently accepting new students for the 2024-2025 school year. To learn more about St. Mary's School or schedule a tour, call 219-663-0676 or visit [www.school.st-marycp.org](http://www.school.st-marycp.org).



Caroline Ploutis, Amelia Ahern, and Jessica Berns were happy to make it to St. Mary's School on two wheels.



Andrew Hernandez and Jack Ahern woke up early to participate in St. Mary's annual Ride Your Bike to School Day.



Group photo of all who participated in St. Mary's annual 'Ride Your Bike to School' day.

## Purdue University Northwest announces 2024 winners of 'The PNW Big Sell'

Three innovators were awarded investment capital for their startup pitches after earning judges' top picks in the 13th annual The PNW Big Sell pitch competition.

The PNW Big Sell is hosted by PNW's Office of Commercialization and Research and sponsored by PNW's College of Business, Northern Indiana Public Service Company (NIPSCO) and Centier Bank.

Jonathan Rose earned first place and \$10,000 for the pitch for ModMath. The application is intended to assist students with dyslexia and

dysgraphia complete math exercises with a digital interface instead of a physical writing utensil and paper.

Emily Edwards earned second place and \$3,000 for the pitch for Paradise Spreads. Edwards' business involves a collection of organic, gluten-free, plant-based spreads and snacks. Edwards previously earned second place for Paradise Spreads in the 2021 The PNW Big Sell and has received subsequent support from PNW CMEC staff for further commercialization.

Danielle Cruz-Lopez received third place and \$1,000

for Sepsis Slayers, a business that aims to reduce sepsis-related deaths within the medical field.

Ten finalists presented to a panel of four judges inside PNW's Commercialization and Manufacturing Excellence Center (CMEC). The competition was also aired and streamed on WJOB and JEDtv.

"The PNW Big Sell pitch competition provides aspiring entrepreneurs from all walks of life to present their innovative ideas for potential commercialization," said Niaz Latif, interim provost and vice chancellor for

Academic Affairs and associate vice chancellor for Commercialization and Research. "We appreciate the community sponsorship that we receive each year, which helps to recognize these talented individuals and promote potential startups in Northwest Indiana."

"The PNW Big Sell serves as a valuable opportunity to support regional entrepreneurs and forward a university goal of fostering transformative innovation for our communities," said Alexandra Moran, clinical instructor of Entrepreneurship.

"We appreciate the contestants' ingenuity and look forward to continuing to support their business goals."

Mont Handley, entrepreneur in residence and associate director of CMEC, and Moran jointly directed the event. A panel of four judges included Vincent Arcuri, professional casting director; John Fountain, professor of Journalism at Roosevelt University; Max Moses, former for-profit and non-profit director; and Alex Wisniewski, co-founder and CEO of Cultivation Connect.

A recording of The PNW

Big Sell can be viewed on-demand via subscription at [jedtv.com](http://jedtv.com). For more information about The PNW Big Sell, visit [www.pnw.edu/thepnwbigsell](http://www.pnw.edu/thepnwbigsell).

Purdue University Northwest (PNW) 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 about PNW, visit [www.pnw.edu](http://www.pnw.edu).

## NIPSCO marks Electrical Safety Month by providing electrical safety tips to customers

May is National Electrical Safety Month and NIPSCO is reminding customers of the importance of safety by providing tips and guidelines to help keep customers safe around electricity.

"Safety is at the forefront of everything we do at NIPSCO," said Orville Cocking, NIPSCO Senior Vice President of Electric Operations. "That is why it is important for everyone to understand how to safely utilize electricity to power everyday life, and how to respond when encountering an emergency."

### What to Do if You Find a Downed Power Line

Downed wires can pose serious risks, including electric shock and fire hazards.

Therefore, it is important to consider all downed wires as energized and dangerous, even if it appears that the wire is not live.

If a downed wire is encountered, follow these safety tips:

- **Stay Away and Keep Others Away:** Maintain at least 50 feet from the wire and the surrounding area. If you are in a populated area, warn others to stay away.
- **Call 911:** Call 911 and provide as much detail as possible about the downed wire and its location. Let them know if anyone requires medical attention.
- **Call NIPSCO's 24/7 Electric Emergency Hotline:** Call our 24/7 emergency number at

1-800-4-NIPSCO (1-800-464-7726). Let the operator know you have called 911 and notify them of the downed wire. Provide as much location detail as you can.

- **Wait for Assistance:** Remain calm and wait for emergency responders to arrive and safely remove the downed wire. Keep in mind that electricity can travel through the ground, trees and other objects. Never move these objects or use another object to move a downed wire.
- **Stay Inside the Vehicle:** If inside a vehicle and a downed wire falls on it, follow these instructions:
  - **Stay Inside the Vehicle and Remain Calm:** Your instincts may tell you to exit

the vehicle, but it is imperative to stay inside your car and do not attempt to exit. The car's tires can possibly

- **Report the downed power line to 911 and NIPSCO:** Await assistance from emergency responders. Do not at-

### Power Generator Safety: Use Caution and Prevent Hazards

Generators are handy when it comes to outages; however, it is crucial to make sure that everyone is taking steps to stay safe when using them. Below are some tips to follow.

- **Use Generators Outside Only:** Make sure to position the generator (especially gas-powered generators) in a well-ventilated area away from doors, windows and garages to avoid the potential for carbon monoxide entering the home.
  - **Use Only Outdoor-Rated, Grounded Extension Cords:** Look for extension cords with a GFCI
- (See *NIPSCO* Pg. 2)



act as a catalyst for electric shock.

- **Only Exit the Vehicle if You're in Immediate Danger:** If you absolutely need to exit your vehicle, exit by jumping away from the vehicle and try landing with both feet close together. Avoid making contact with the metal frame of the vehicle. Walk away by shuffling your feet.

tempt to move the wire.

Keep in mind that if you see trees near power lines, that can also pose serious risks. Sometimes after storms, branches can break and trees can fall, pulling down power lines. Treat this as an emergency and follow the tips above on what to do if you encounter a downed power line.

## Department of Natural Resources recreation and fishing guidebooks are online

Your latest guides to exploring Indiana's great outdoors are now available at your fingertips and at a DNR property near you. Indiana.

The 2024 Indiana Recreation Guide is available now at [www.on.IN.gov/rec-guide](http://www.on.IN.gov/rec-guide).

And your 2024-2025 guide

to Indiana fishing, the Indiana Fishing Regulations Guide, is available at [www.on.IN.gov/fishingguide](http://www.on.IN.gov/fishingguide).

The DNR's 2024 Indiana Recreation Guide is the source for information on state parks, state forests, lakes, fish & wildlife areas, nature preserves, state park inns, and

other DNR properties. The guide includes a great facilities chart and information about accessibility and fees.

Soon, free printed copies of each will be available at local retail outlets, state parks, lakes, and other DNR properties.

Annual entrance passes

for state park properties can be purchased in person at the gatehouse or offices of state park properties during business hours, at [www.shopIN-stateparks.com](http://www.shopIN-stateparks.com) any time, or at the Boat, Sport and Travel Show.

Indiana resident passes cost \$50. For individuals 65

years old or older, the price is \$25. Annual passes for vehicles with out-of-state license plates are \$70. Normal daily gate fees for residents at most properties are \$7 per in-state vehicle. For more information on Indiana state park properties, visit [www.stateparks.IN.gov](http://www.stateparks.IN.gov).

Fishing and hunting licenses can be purchased and printed at [www.INHuntFish.com](http://www.INHuntFish.com). They can also be purchased at retailers, county clerk offices, and most DNR properties throughout the state, as well as at the Boat, Sport and Travel Show.

## Purdue University Northwest announces wide range of summer camp programs for K-12 students

Parents looking for fun and engaging programs for their children for summer 2024 can check out more than 20 programs serving a variety of interests for K-12 students. PNW summer camps allow participants to have fun while gaining memorable hands-on

experiences.

Various camps' themes and activities will include robotics, artificial intelligence, forensics, nursing, leadership, environmental sciences, psychology, sports and more. Students can explore their areas of interest, deepen

their knowledge, meet peers with similar interests, engage with knowledgeable PNW faculty members, and build their skills for future education and work careers.

Several PNW summer camps are made possible by Lilly Endowment Inc.'s

Indiana Youth Programs on Campus. The grant supports higher education institutions in providing high-quality programming for K-12 students.

Registration is required for all camps. For a list of camp programs, additional information, updates or to register,

visit [www.pnw.edu/camps](http://www.pnw.edu/camps).

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values academic excellence, supports growth, and celebrates diversity. For more information about PNW, visit [www.pnw.edu](http://www.pnw.edu).

## Keep wildlife wild, asks Indiana Department of Natural Resources

This is the time of the year when you may start to notice nests and dens occupied by young wildlife around your home. If you do, help keep wildlife wild by remembering the following if you encounter a young animal alone.

Adult animals rarely abandon their young. Parents of-

ten leave young unattended for long periods of time to gather food and may only return a few times a day. A nest or den without a parent present does not necessarily mean that the young have been abandoned.

Do not hover to see if a parent has come back to its young. An adult animal will

not return if people or pets are close to the nest or den. Give the young space and only check back periodically. If you can't tell if a parent has checked on a nest, place straw or grass over the nest and return later to see if it has been disturbed.

Young wildlife should not be handled. Human scent is

unlikely to cause parents to abandon their young; however, handling young wildlife and disturbance of a nest can alert predators to the young animal's presence. Young may also carry disease or parasites they can transfer to people or pets, and are capable of biting or scratching.

Rescuing young wildlife

is legal, keeping them is not. Rescued wildlife must be given to a permitted wildlife rehabilitator within 24 hours. For a list of wildlife rehabilitators or more information on orphaned and injured wildlife, visit [www.on.IN.gov/keepwildlifewild](http://www.on.IN.gov/keepwildlifewild).

(NIPSCO from Pg. 1)

(ground-fault circuit interrupter) to avoid getting shocked if cords get wet.

• **Don't Plug a Generator into a Regular Household Outlet:** Keep the extension cord for the generator separate from the outlets in the home. Only connect individual appliances to the receptacle outlet of the generator. Otherwise, it may damage the home's wiring, start a fire and back-feed electricity into the utility system and energize a line thought to be without power. This can seriously injure or kill a NIPSCO worker because they wouldn't know the line is live.

• **Use a Different Extension Cord to Power Your Home:** Use a separate extension cord exclusively for the generator powering the home.

• **Use a Transfer Switch to Prevent "Back-Feed":** The installation of a transfer switch safely allows the home's wiring system to be easily and cleanly attached from NIPSCO's system. This allows the user to control the flow of electricity to those

circuits needed most until power is restored— such as to a fridge or furnace fan. Transfer switches require installation by a licensed electrician. If a transfer switch is not installed, shut off the main breaker of the service panel to help prevent electricity from feeding back into the power grid or household circuits, which could cause hazards.

• **Avoid Overloading the Generator:** Don't overload the generator with too many appliances and equipment. Read and follow wattage guidelines in the owner's manual.

• **Keep Children and Pets Safe:** Keep children and pets away from portable generators at all times.

• **Turn it Off Safely:** Before shutting down the generator, turn off all the equipment being powered by it.

**Ladder Safety: Ladders and Electricity Don't Mix**

Outdoor spring projects are underway, and it is important to note that ladders and electricity don't mix. When completing outside work and carrying a ladder, make sure

to use caution when carrying the ladder near overhead electrical lines. Remember these tips:

• **Stay 10 Feet Away from Power Lines:** Make sure to keep the ladder and your body away from power lines.

• **Use Fiberglass Ladders:** When possible, consider using fiberglass ladders. Electricity can travel through ladders made of metals such as aluminum and even wooden ladders, especially if they are wet.

• **Use Caution Near Trees:** Trees contain water and electricity can travel through water and harm you.

• **Be Aware of the**

**Surroundings:** Don't let any tools or materials make contact with power lines.

**Additional Electric Safety Tips:**

• **Inspect Electrical Cords and Equipment:** Regularly check electrical cords, plugs and equipment for signs of damage, such as fraying, exposed wires or cracks. Replace damaged items immediately.

• **Use Extension Cords Safely:** Use extension cords temporarily and avoid running them under rugs or carpets. Do not overload extension cords or use damaged cords

• **Keep Water Away from**

Electricity: Keep electrical appliances and cords away from water sources to prevent electrical shock.

• **Unplug Unused Appliances:** When not in use, unplug appliances to reduce the risk of fire and save energy.

• **Use Childproof Outlets:** Install outlet covers to protect children from inserting objects into outlets.

• **Avoid DIY Electrical Work:** Leave electrical repairs and installations to the licensed professionals.

To learn more about electrical safety, visit [www.NIPSCO.com/Safety/Electrical-Safety](http://www.NIPSCO.com/Safety/Electrical-Safety).

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**Across the street from Lakes of the Four Seasons**

## New Outdoor Indiana magazine features dragonflies

Outdoor Indiana magazine's May/June issue features a cover story on the 97 species of dragonflies that can be found in the Hoosier State and how to enjoy watching them.

The issue also includes an article on Tippecanoe River State Park, which is near Winamac, and the upcoming vintage camper rallies to be held at Clifty Falls and Spring Mill state parks in June and August, respectively.

Outdoor Indiana is available now at Indiana State Park Inns across the state for \$4. You can subscribe online or by phone for \$15 for one year (six issues, a 27% savings over cover price) or \$28 for two years (12 issues, a 42% savings).

Subscribe at [www.ShopINStateParks.com](http://www.ShopINStateParks.com) or by calling 317-233-3046. To read article excerpts, go to [www.OutdoorIndiana.org](http://www.OutdoorIndiana.org).

## LOFS Lions Club looking for more volunteers to help serve Winfield and surrounding areas

Our chapter is LOFS LIONS and our motto is 'WE SERV'E. We serve the communities of LOFS (Lake and Porter County), Winfield Township, and West Porter Township.

Consider joining our chapter. We welcome you to visit us at our general meetings, which are usually held 6:30 p.m. the second Wednesday of each month at the LOFS Lakehouse Restaurant.

Board Meetings are held the first Wednesday and a social gathering is usually held the fourth Wednesday of the month.

Contact any Lion member or one of the present officers: Yolanda Hernandez, President. Tom Snowden 1st Vice. Danny Moynihan, 2nd Vice. Jeanette Titoff, Secretary. Chuck DeLasCasas, treasurer.

Our aim is To Serve!

## Crown Point Community School Corporation details Summer Nutrition Assistance Program

If your household income is less than 185% of the Federal level, the school aged children in your household may be eligible for a new program called SUN Bucks. Households that have been notified of eligibility by Direct Certification do not need to apply.

Participating families will receive \$120 for each eligible child on a card that you can use to buy food during the summer at grocery stores, farmers markets, and other authorized retailers. If you think your children are eligible, you can get SUN Bucks by filling out a simple application. To apply for SUN Bucks at [www.indiana-sunbucks.com](http://www.indiana-sunbucks.com). Applications will be accepted until Friday, August 16, 2024 in order to get benefits for this summer. If you need assistance filling out an application, or if you have questions, submit a ticket to the online help form: [www.idoe.atlassian.net/service/customer/portal/11](http://www.idoe.atlassian.net/service/customer/portal/11).

You will need to provide your child's name, school, date of birth, along with

the names of other people in your household, your household income, and address where you would like the benefit card to be sent. You will not need to provide any documentation to apply. Receiving Summer EBT will not affect children or families' immigration status.

In addition to SUN Bucks

the children under 18 years of age in your household can also receive free meals during the summer at a summer meal site. You can call 1-866-3-HUNGRY or 1-877-8-HAMBRE (or text 914-342-7744 with the keyword "summer meals") to find the location closest to you. Find more information

by visiting the SFSP Site Finder.

If you have questions, you can contact the CPCSC Food Services Department at 219-663-3371



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### *This week in history*

**May 25, 1961**

President John F. Kennedy announced to Congress his goal of sending an American to the moon by the end of the decade and asks for financial support of an accelerated space program. He made the task a national priority and a mission in which all Americans would share, stating that it will not be one man going to the moon; it will be an entire nation.

On April 12, 1961, the Soviet Union had become the first country to send a man into space with the successful mission of Yuri Gagarin in the spacecraft Vostok 1. On May 5, American Alan Shepard flew into space, but did not orbit the earth as the Russian cosmonaut had. Not to be outdone by America's Cold War rivals, President Kennedy pledged in 1961 to support an American space program that would eventually dwarf the Soviet program in technological achievements and investment.

In a speech before Congress he urged Congress to mobilize financial resources to speed up the pace of the space program's progress, insisting that America should go into space because whatever mankind must undertake, free men must fully share.

Kennedy's vision did not become a reality until six years after his assassination. On July 20, 1969, Apollo 11 commander Neil Armstrong became the first human to walk on the moon.

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


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### DIRECTOR PROFILE: LARRY GEISEN



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Attended St. Mary's School and graduated from Crown Point High School in 1984

Graduate of the Purdue University School of Management in 1988

Member of the Crown Point Rotary Club and Board Member of the Crown Point Community Foundation


Enjoys coaching baseball and basketball, playing golf and spending time with wife Kim, children Alle, Anthony and Nicholas



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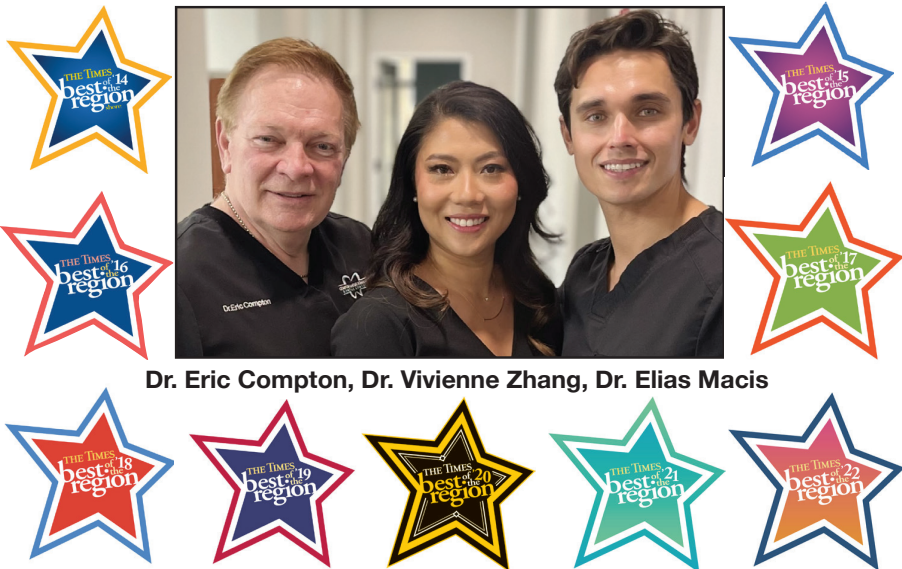
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## HOW ARE YOU SLEEPING?



If you or someone you know **SNORES** nightly and has one or more of the following symptoms, it's best to see a doctor.

- REPEATED SNORING INTERRUPTED BY PERIODS OF SILENCE
- FALLING ASLEEP WHEN YOU SHOULDN'T AT WORK, WHILE DRIVING, ETC.
- RESTLESS SLEEP
- MORNING HEADACHES
- IRRITABILITY
- DEPRESSION
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We're going to a family picnic.

Kids: color stuff in!

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## Remember On Memorial Day



Memorial Day is a day to remember. We especially want to remember and honor people who have served and died in service to our country. Across our country we build, name or do things to honor people we want to remember. These memorials can be anything from a prayer service to a bridge! They help to keep memories alive. They let us cherish our freedom.

Fill in the puzzle with the names of things and places that honor our leaders and war heroes:

- Mount \_\_\_\_\_ in South Dakota has the faces of four presidents carved on a granite cliff.
- The USS \_\_\_\_\_ (Hawaii) is a floating memorial where the ship was sunk in Pearl Harbor.
- A beautiful marble building in Washington, D.C. with a statue of our 16th president seated inside is called the \_\_\_\_\_ Memorial.
- Many U.S. heroes are buried in the \_\_\_\_\_ National Cemetery in Virginia.
- This four-sided pillar in Washington D.C. is 555 feet high. It honors our country's first president and is called the \_\_\_\_\_ Monument.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ Statue shows Marines raising the U.S. flag after a World War II battle.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ Veterans Memorial in our nation's capital is a black-granite wall engraved with the names of service men and women who died or are missing in the Vietnam War.
- Fort \_\_\_\_\_ in Maryland defended our country against the British in the War of 1812. The battle moved Francis Scott Key to write "The Star Spangled Banner."
- The Tomb of the Unknown \_\_\_\_\_ in Arlington National Cemetery is dedicated to Americans killed in our wars, but whose bodies could not be identified.
- This circular building in D.C. with a statue of our third president is called the \_\_\_\_\_ Memorial.
- Dedicated in 2004, the \_\_\_\_\_ II Memorial in Washington honors those who served, the 400,000 who died, and those who supported our nation in that war.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ National Military Park marks a terrible battle that marked the Civil War's turning point. Abraham Lincoln made a famous famous speech here.

2 Gettysburg

3 Vietnam

4 Soldier

5 Iwo Jima

6 Arlington

7 Rushmore

8 Lincoln

9 Washington

10 McHenry

11 World War

12 Jefferson

Arizona

R. I. P.

I think my doctor is a veteran...

I think your doctor is a veteran and a veterinarian!

## A Famous Memorial

The memorial below is in Washington, D.C. It was built to honor a special president.

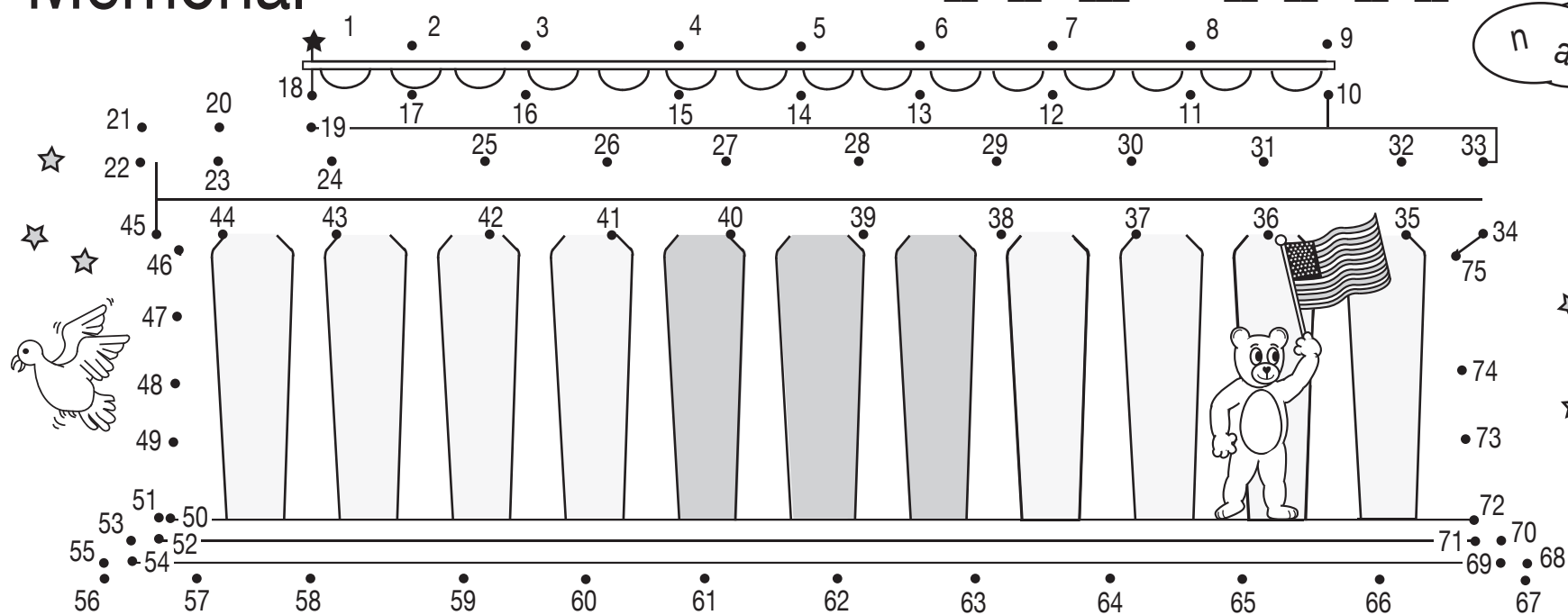
Follow the numbered dots to see it. Look at clue # 3 above to see its name.

Which president has a statue that honors him inside this building?

A \_ r \_ h \_ m \_ i \_ c \_ l \_

b o a l

n a n



## A Folding Memorial

On Memorial Day weekend, I will be in a "flyover" at the town parade. The parade is ending at a War Memorial in the town center.

This puzzle about memorials shows a "folding memorial" that we carry with us! It has a picture of a great leader on it.

Find and circle these things we use or name to remember special people:

- |               |         |      |
|---------------|---------|------|
| hospital wing | library | ship |
| school        | garden  | coin |
| bridge        | statue  | bill |
| theater       | street  | park |
| museum        | service | farm |

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H O S P I T A L W I N G I E D F F D S

T R D C V H J H T F V D E S A A K J H

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ONE DOLLAR

### Franciscan Health Crown Point hosting doula workshop

Franciscan Health Crown Point is hosting a doula certification workshop over two weekends in June, with needs-based scholarship applications being accepted to cover the registration fees.

Doulas are trained professionals who provide continuous physical, emotional and informational support to

their clients before, during and shortly after childbirth. A doula may help communicate a woman's birth plan, create a comfortable environment during delivery or simply provide general support a family may seek during this pivotal time. A doula does not perform clinical tasks.

The Franciscan Health

Crown Point Family Birth Center offers doula services to families free of charge via a volunteer doula program.

The doula certification workshop will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Central on June 22-23 and June 29-30 at the Franciscan Health Main St. Outpatient Center's Marian Education

Center, 1201 S. Main St. in Crown Point. Participants must attend all four days to receive a certificate of completion.

The workshop includes the Introduction to Childbirth and Birth Doula Training courses and all other in-person instruction required toward certification as a birth doula

with DONA International. The cost for the workshop is \$500 and is payable within four days of registration. Registration includes directions on how to provide payment to Franciscan Health Crown Point.

The Franciscan Health Foundation has generously supplied funds for a limited number of needs-based scholarships to cover the

cost of the workshop. Those interested in applying may contact Franciscan Health Crown Point Doula Program Coordinator Louise Albrecht-Mallinger via email at birthdoulalouise@gmail.com or by phone at 219-746-9134.

Registration is available online and must be complete by June 12. An additional workshop will be offered in the fall.

### Should estate plans be equal or fair?

When you're creating your estate plan, your biggest priority may be taking care of your family — your spouse, grown children, grandchildren, and other loved ones. And as you think of where you want your assets to go, you also may be thinking about how to be fair — but is that the same as treating everyone equally?

In estate planning, "equal" doesn't always mean "fair." Let's consider some factors that can help explain the difference:

- Need — It's highly unlikely that the individuals you want to include in your estate plan — especially your adult children — have the same family and financial situations. For example, you could have one child who is extremely successful and has no children of their own, while another child earns much less income and supports three children. Clearly, your two adult children have vastly different financial needs — so, you need to consider whether you want to treat them equally or fairly. If you decide you want to treat them fairly, you may want to divide your assets in a way that provides more help to the child who needs it most.
- Abilities — You may well have some assets that you believe are more suitable for one child over another.

This can be especially true if you are planning on passing on a family business. If you know that one child is the most capable of running the business or has been primarily involved in the business, then you may want to give that child control as a next-generation owner. Yet, this may not seem fair to another child, who might also express interest in the business, so you may want to look for ways to provide this child with enough assets to help make the overall inheritance more equal.

• Practicality — In some instances, you might think you can meet both the "fair" and "equal" criteria. Suppose, for instance, that you have a cabin or other vacation home that you think two of your children could share. In theory, this joint ownership might sound good, but in practical terms, it could cause problems. Are both children equally willing and capable of paying taxes and upkeep on the cabin or vacation home? What if one child wants to sell their share? And then, there's the question of who gets to use the property at various times of the year. All these issues should be resolvable, but they can also cause great stress within the family.

There's no simple formula

for solving the fair-versus-equal dilemma. But keep this in mind: Communicating your wishes to your loved ones while you are drawing up your estate plan can help reduce confusion — and hopefully lead to fewer hard feelings — when you are no longer around. By their nature, fairness and equality issues related to estate plans can trigger a range of emotions, and addressing these feelings beforehand can help provide a great service for your loved ones.

You might also find that some objectivity can be valuable. That's why, when creating your estate plan, you may benefit by working with a team of professionals, including your legal, financial and tax advisors.

When developing your estate plan, you might well strive for equality and fairness but above all, you want to get things right. And careful planning, open communication and appropriate guidance can help go a long way toward this goal.

*This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor, Pat Hedge at 10618 Randolph St., Winfield, IN 46307; 219-663-5999. Edward Jones, Member SIP*

### Career scholarship account application now open for Indiana high school students

The State of Indiana is now accepting applications for students to participate in the Career Scholarship Account (CSA) program during the upcoming school year. The first-in-the-nation CSA program provides \$5,000 annually for tenth through twelfth grade students enrolled in eligible work-based learning programs, including internships, apprenticeships, applied learning experiences and credential attainment experiences.

"In K-12 education, we have an incredible opportunity to help every student find their purpose, know their value and understand the possibilities for their life's path," said Dr. Katie Jenner, Indiana Secretary of Education. "In order to maximize the four years of high school, we must work together to ensure more students have access to quality experiences that set them up for success, including high-quality work-based learning and educational attainment opportunities. Indiana's CSA program is one way to remove barriers, such as transportation, and ensure more students have the opportunity to experience careers and earn a credential of value while still in high school."

Indiana's CSA program

provides all students the opportunity to explore their interests, gain hands-on experience and build skills that will ensure a seamless transition from high school to higher education and quality careers. CSA funds can be used to cover eligible expenses in the following categories:

- Enrollment fees for courses, sequences, apprenticeships or programs of study;
- Career coaching and navigation services;
- Postsecondary education and training;
- Transportation and equipment; and
- Certification and credentialing examinations.

"Career exploration through work-based learning programs is incredibly valuable to a student's journey to determine their ideal pathway after high school," said Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education Chris Lowery. "As students receive more flexibility to participate in these hands-on experiences, Indiana's CSA Program will remove potential barriers and increase opportunities for students to discover possibilities for education and training beyond high school."

Through a coordinated cross-agency effort, the Indiana

Department of Education approves eligible programs, the Indiana Commission for Higher Education approves eligible providers and the Treasurer of State approves eligible students and provider expense reimbursements.

"We are really excited to see how Career Scholarship Accounts will continue to provide great alternative career paths for our students," said Daniel Elliott, Indiana Treasurer of State. "With apprenticeship programs gaining momentum, this is another example of how Indiana is leading the way in offering more options for school choice, ensuring that everyone can find the path that's right for them."

Students at any Indiana high school are encouraged to apply. Applications for the 2024-2025 school year will be accepted through Tuesday, October 1. Visit the student resources page for additional information on the CSA program, eligibility requirements and to access the student application.

Additional details on how funds may be used can be found at [www.in.gov/tos](http://www.in.gov/tos)

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### Obituary ~ Lauren "Yoyo" Marie (nee Keiser) Dixon

Lauren "Yoyo" Marie (nee Keiser) Dixon passed away on May 7, 2024, at the age of 43. Lauren was the firstborn child of Karla and Jeff Keiser. Her birth at St. Anthony Hospital filled their heart with joy on March 7, 1981. Lauren graduated from Crown Point High School in 1999 where she was an exuberant member of the color guard. She continued her studies at IUN in Gary for the next 2 years. On May 22, 2010, Lauren

married Jonathan Dixon. Her childhood dream of the perfect wedding came true for her at Aberdeen Chapel in Valparaiso. The sun truly shone on her that day. Lauren and Jonathan were the proud pet parents of Isobel, Freya, Odin, Bellatrix, Biscuit, and Gravy. Sadly, they lost 2 beloved pets, Bocephus and Spartacus. Lauren loved her pets, and they were treated better than most people. Lauren was an avid gamer

and Jonathan built her a state-of-the-art studio for her to game in style. She was an aspiring streamer which opened the door for her to embark on her final job as a technical support professional. Lauren is survived by her loving husband- Jonathan; parents- Karla and Jeff Keiser. She was big sister to Kelly Keiser and Sandon "Sandy" Keiser; sister-in-law to Sandy's wife Brittany Keiser, and Auntie Yoyo to Kelly's son- Evan,

and Sandy and Brittany's son- Urijah. Also survived by mother-in-law- Deborah Dixon; brothers-in-law- Eric Dixon, Benjamin (Karen) Dixon and their daughter- Riley Dixon. Lauren was preceded in death by her maternal grandmother- Leona Vilianoff and her paternal grandparents -Donald, and Girlie Keiser. Visitation too place on Thursday, May 9, 2024 at Burns Funeral Home, 10101 Broadway,



Crown Point IN. The Mass of Christian Burial was held on Friday, May 10, 2024 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, 509 W Division Rd, Valparaiso, IN 46385. Interment Calumet Park Cemetery. www.burnsfuneral.com. Contributions may be made to your local animal rescue or humane society.

### Purdue University Northwest to offer Master of Social Work degree

Purdue University Northwest (PNW) will begin recruiting students for its new Master of Social Work (MSW) program that is expected to enroll its first cohort in fall 2025.

PNW's MSW program will prepare advanced generalist social workers who are well-qualified to meet social services needs in our metropolitan region.

"Engaging individuals as

partners in the helping process is key to social work," said Anne Gregory, dean of the College of Humanities, Education and Social Sciences at PNW. "If you are someone interested in building and strengthening relationships in ways that promote, maintain and enhance the well-being of individuals, families, organizations and our communities, then the PNW MSW program

is for you."

The MSW curriculum will center on anti-oppressive social work practice that advocates for social, racial, economic and environmental justice for all vulnerable populations. After completion of PNW's MSW degree, graduates will be eligible for social work licensure (LSW).

MSW graduates earn qualifications to begin careers in

sectors such as mental health, government, hospitals, schools, deaddiction centers and advocacy agencies.

"Our stellar social work faculty are very excited to offer the MSW program at PNW," said Shreya Bhandari, professor of Social Work and director of PNW's MSW program. "We are currently working on gaining initial accreditation with the Council on Social Work Education, the body that accredits social work programs across the nation."

MSW students at PNW

will be able to leverage synergistic connections between other related graduate programs at the university, including PNW's Counseling, Couple and Family Therapy, and Psychology programs. PNW has offered a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work program since 2016 that is accredited by the Council on Social Work Education.

To learn more about PNW's MSW program, visit www.pnw.edu/msw. Applications will be accepted through January 15, 2025.

More information about graduate studies at PNW is also available at www.pnw.edu/graduate-studies.

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 about PNW, visit www.pnw.edu.

### All you need is love – and a seat at American English's concert benefiting Cancer Resource Centre

Come together for an American English concert benefiting Cancer Resource Centre in Munster.

The well-known Beatles tribute band will perform at 7 p.m. Friday, June 21 at Theatre at the Center, 1040 Ridge Road in Munster.

American English features Eric Michaels as Paul McCartney, Jim Irizarry as

John Lennon, James Paul Lynch as George Harrison, and Tony Giangreco as Ringo Starr.

Tickets are \$40 and available at TheatreAtTheCenter.com or 219-836-3255.

All proceeds go to Cancer Resource Centre, a program of Community Cancer Research Foundation, which is dedicated to improving

the quality of cancer care in Northwest Indiana and surrounding communities. All Cancer Resource Centre services are offered free of charge to those affected by cancer, as well as their loved ones.

For more information about Cancer Resource Centre and its services, visit www.mycrcf.com.

### Franciscan Health Diabetes Prevention Program scheduled

Franciscan Health is offering prediabetic patients the opportunity to help prevent or delay type 2 diabetes with its year-long Diabetes Prevention Program.

Franciscan Health's 12-month Diabetes Prevention Program follows guidelines recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that have proven to prevent or delay type 2 diabetes.

Diabetes is one of the top 10 leading causes of death in the U.S., impacting more than 37 million American adults. Few realize type 2 diabetes can be prevented or delayed with lifestyle changes, like those implemented through the Franciscan Health

Diabetes Prevention Program.

Groups meet for 16 weekly sessions and six monthly follow-up sessions with a trained lifestyle coach, who guides participants in practices to help build energy and confidence, lose weight naturally and reduce stress and anxiety.

Program goals include reducing body weight by 5% to 7% and increasing physical activity to 150 minutes per week.

The program is only open to participants 18 years old and older who have been diagnosed as prediabetic, not those who have previously been diagnosed with type 1 or type 2 diabetes. They must also have a body mass index greater than 25. Those who had a previous diagno-

sis of gestational diabetes or a screening result indicating a high risk of type 2 diabetes are also eligible to participate.

A free informational session is scheduled for Wednesday, June 5 at 5 p.m. Central in the third floor conference room at the Franciscan Hammond Clinic, 7905 Calumet Ave. in Munster. Sessions are scheduled to begin June 12 and will take place from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Central at the same location.

The cost of the year-long program is \$99. Registration is required and space is limited. To register for the class and for more information contact Amy Lambert at amy.lambert@franciscanalliance.org or call 219-306-4745.

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