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Vol. 17, Issue 862

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December 14, 2018

Graduation ceremony for Franciscan St. Anthony's School of Echocardiography's class of graduates

The Franciscan Health St. Anthony School of Echocardiography Class of 2018 was honored during a recent graduation program at the Marian Education Center at Franciscan Health Crown Point.

The School of Echocardiography is an Associate of Applied Science degree program that prepares students for the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonographers or Cardiovascular Credentialing International examinations, which are recognized as the leading choices for credentialing in the field of cardiac ultrasound. The 22-month, hospital-based program incorporates classroom instruction, lab skills and clinical experiences in a variety of healthcare settings, which al-



low students to learn the art and science of echocardiography.

Pictured, from left, are graduates Kim Meli, Karen Lieske, Lisa Johnson, Amanda Reyes, Dwayne DeYoung, Carla Snipes-Patterson, Michelle Wiersema, Victoria Replogle,

Christina Garcia and Jennifer Hauptert. (Not pictured is graduate Ryan Hauck.)

For more information about the program, contact Lori Hult, the school's clinical coordinator, at 219-757-6132 or visit www.FranciscanHealth.org/EchoSchoolNWI.



Local student council helps fill local food pantries

Recently, the Jerry Ross Student Council delivered many bags and boxes of groceries to the Winfield Township Food Pantry and Holy Spirit Catholic Church's Food Pantry. Third- and fourth-graders delivered to Holy Spirit and the entire fifth grade delivered to Winfield Township Pantry. "Many thanks to the teachers, Mrs. Bane, Mr. Miller, Ms. Sekuloski, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Sherman, and Mrs. Trapp for helping with this wonderful gift to the community," said Winfield Township Trustee Paulette Skinner.

Purdue University Northwest among top colleges in Indiana for teacher licensing

For the first time, Purdue University Northwest's School of Education & Counseling made the Top 10 ranking of collegiate institutions issuing the most teaching licenses according to the Indiana Department of Education, Office of Educator Effectiveness and Licensing.

Coming in seventh out of the 46 institutions in Indiana granting teaching licenses, the recognition acknowledges the work of the PNW faculty, staff, university field supervisors and cooperating teachers who ensure PNW's graduates in early childhood, elementary, special education and

secondary education are well-prepared to be effective educators in Indiana classrooms.

Graduates from all of PNW's educator preparation programs are eligible for an initial teaching license upon graduation and successfully passing Indiana CORE Assessments for Educator

Licensure requirements.

The designation qualifies Purdue Northwest for a special visit from the IDOE in January, called the 'Higher Education Roadshow'.

Anne Gregory, director of PNW's School of Education and Counseling, said the roadshow will bring

wonderful resources to the program's future educators, including presentations by Indiana Teacher of the Year, Gerome Flewilling, and IDOE Director of Educator Effectiveness, Rise Regnier.

"This is an innovative way for the Indiana Department of Education to recognize the

top universities in licensing teachers," said Gregory.

Purdue University Northwest is a student-centered university that values academic excellence, supports growth and celebrates diversity. For more information about PNW, visit www.pnw.edu.

Lions Club continues to service communities, including new 'Leo's Club' for teenage Lions

LOFS Lions have been busy in service to the LOFS and Winfield communities, and can now boast of a new Leos Club (teenaged Lions), which formed this fall.

In conjunction with area vendors and community service groups, the Lions and the Leos Club recently held a successful Health Fair at Jerry Ross School.

The featured event at the Health Fair was the Children's Challenge course. Children were able to run the Warrior style course and receive Olympic style metals for winning or placing in the event. The Health Fair was the first public event for our Leos Club, who

supervised the Warriors course, did face-painting, and acted as the hosts for the Health Fair.

The Lions donated \$500 to Toys for Tots in order to support their work this holiday season. In addition, the Lions donated to all three local food banks and the Pangere Organization, which supports research for inherited retinal diseases. The Lions will provide food and gifts to local needy families for the holidays.

The Lions officially added two new members who both have a history of public service to the community. Juan has been a Lion with another club

(See *Lions* Pg. 8)



Our new Leos Club members working the face painting booth and football challenge.

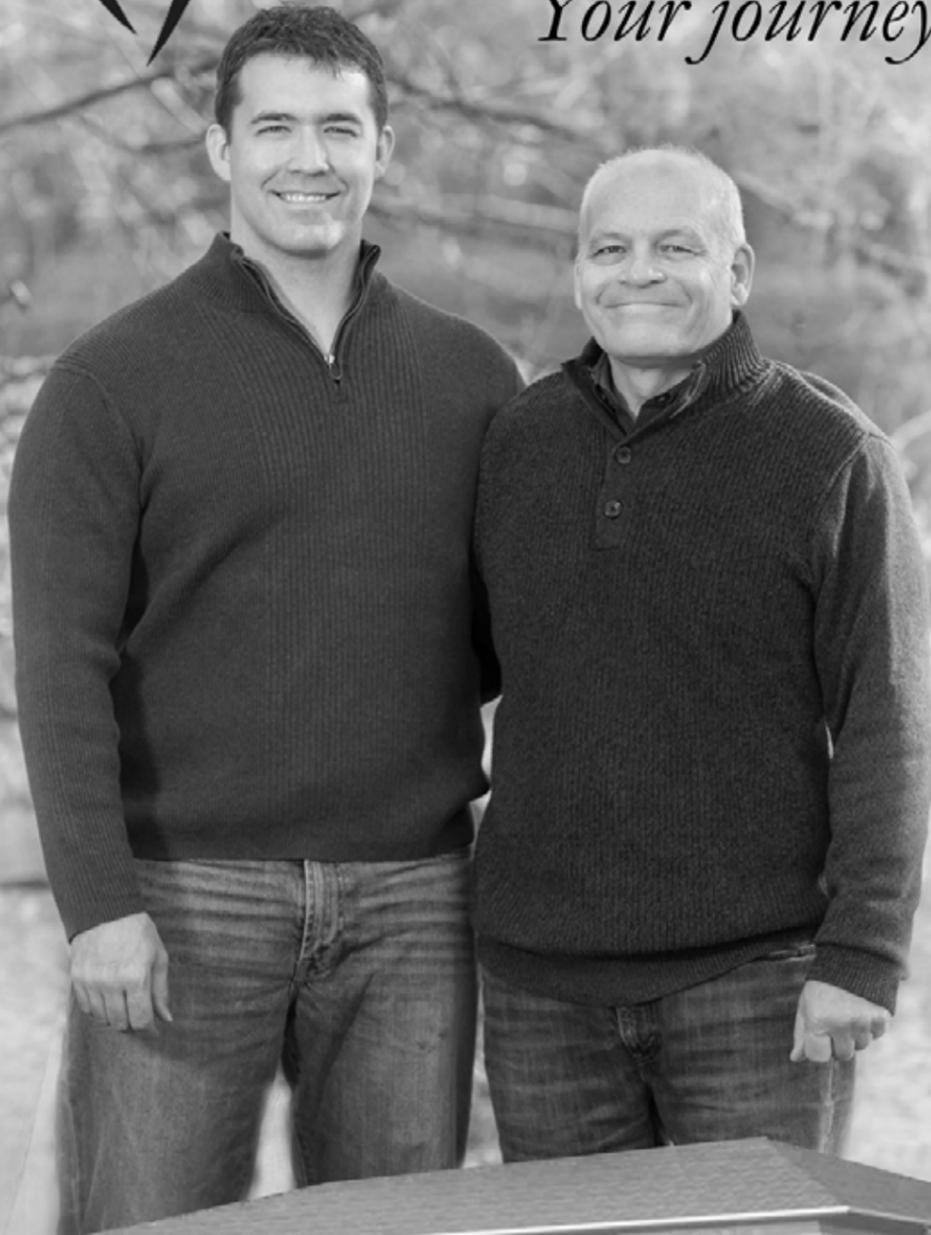


Warrior challenge winners pose proudly with their award medals. The Leos ran this as their first event.



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Across the street from Lakes of the Four Seasons

Holiday season basketball camp announced for first-graders through twelfth-graders

Pro-U announced their holiday season basketball camp for boys and girls in first grade through twelfth grade. There are three separate sessions of basketball camp which consist of three days each week on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

The Pro-U 'Drop and Shop' concept is for all campers to be in camp while their parents are shopping. All campers will receive a Pro-U camp shirt. All instruction and competition will be held at Franciscan

Health Crown Point Sports Medicine Institute, in Crown Point.

The camp will be held January 2, 3 and 4. Session I will include grades 4 to 12 and be held from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Session II will be for grades 4 to 12 and held from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Session III will be for grades 1 to 3 and held from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

John Stroia, camp director, has 28 years of involvement with professional and college basketball and 36 years of

camp experience. The staff will consist of instructors with professional and college basketball coaching experience. The basketball camp will consist of the fundamentals of basketball.

The cost is \$85 per camper and \$50 for each additional camper from the same family. Attend two sessions in the same week for \$140 per camper and \$85 for an additional family member. Team rates are \$600 for 10 campers.

For more information call 219-775-6977.

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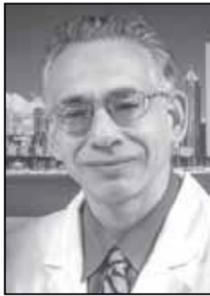
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Beta Rho offers college scholarship opportunities to qualified local candidates

The Beta Rho chapter of Tri Kappa is seeking candidates for local scholarship awards. To be eligible, an applicant must have graduated from Andean, Boone Grove, Crown Point, Merrillville, or one of the Gary High Schools and be a sophomore or higher level student enrolled full-time in an accredited college pursuing a bachelor or higher degree.

Interested candidates must have a 3.6 minimum GPA and demonstrate potential within their chosen career fields. Additional state scholarships are available in the areas of academics, fine arts and music.

A Key scholarship is available to individuals with at least a five-year gap in their education and no other un-

Indiana Department of Revenue improves process to expedite business closures

The Indiana Department of Revenue has made the process of closing a business account easier on Hoosiers. Until now, DOR required businesses to provide certain documents to verify the closure of a business, such as bank records or proof of dissolution. This extra step unfortunately resulted in many businesses never closing their accounts with DOR. To improve the process, DOR now allows businesses to close their tax accounts by simply filing a Business Tax Closure



Linda Eisenhauer, a member of Beta Rho for 56 years, presents \$6,900 in scholarship awards to Rebecca Ryan, at left, and Erica Deenihan at the chapter's summer picnic. Ashley Dziejewicki (not pictured) also received a scholarship.

dergraduate degree.

The deadline for submitting completed application packets is February 16, 2019.

Request (Form BC-100).

DOR simplified the process after analyzing the number of inactive businesses that never officially closed their accounts, which often resulted in unnecessary billing for estimated taxes owed. By reducing the amount of avoidable bills being sent, this measure will save businesses and the state time and money.

"The State of Indiana offers a simple process to open a business online, therefore closing a business should be

Contact Peggy Waluk at waluk@netnitco.net or 219-988-3639 for further information.

just as simple." said DOR Commissioner Adam Krupp. "Through feedback from our customers, we realized DOR's process needed improvement and, as a result, have a more efficient method to enable DOR to continue to try to provide Hoosiers with best-in-class customer service."

To learn more about how to close your business visit the DOR website at www.in.gov/dor and click on the "business tax" link on the menu.

Purdue Northwest offers free robotics camp January 2 to 4 to area high school students

A free three-day robotics camp is being offered to high school students over the winter recess, January 2-4, 2019, by Purdue University Northwest's College of

Technology.

Encouraging motivated students in grades 9-12 to pursue an interest in STEM fields (science, technology, engineering, and mathemat-

ics), students will participate in fun robotics activities including games and competitions that will provide valuable experience in industrial

(See *Robotics* Pg. 8)

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Indiana Department of Revenue warns individuals to be vigilant and take steps to protect identities online

With the holiday shopping season in full swing, the Indiana Department of Revenue and the Internal Revenue Service warn individuals to take extra steps to protect their tax and financial data from identity thieves while online shopping.

The holidays offer cybercriminals a chance to steal sensitive data and then quickly turn that stolen data into cash, either by draining financial accounts, charging credit cards, creating new accounts or even using stolen identities to file a fraudulent tax return for a refund.

"While online shopping is easy and convenient, it is important to remain vigilant when choosing a site to spend your hard-earned dollars," said DOR Commissioner Adam Krupp. "With hundreds of new websites being created each minute, it can be hard to know how to protect yourself from cybercriminals, but DOR and the IRS can help."

Both DOR and the IRS have several tips to help individuals protect themselves while shopping online:

- Avoid unprotected Wi-Fi. Unprotected public Wi-Fi hotspots may allow thieves

to view transactions. Do not make any online purchases or financial transactions over unprotected public Wi-Fi.

- Shop at familiar online retailers. Generally, sites with the "s" designation in "https" at the start of the URL are secure. Look for the "lock" icon in the browser's URL bar. But remember, even criminals may obtain a security certificate so the "s" may not vouch for the site's legitimacy. Beware of purchases at unfamiliar sites or clicks on links from pop-up ads.
- Learn to recognize and avoid phishing emails. Look for misspellings and bad grammar. Also, remember to never click on links or

attachments from unknown or suspicious sources. Remember neither DOR nor the IRS using e-mail to send or request sensitive information.

- Keep a clean machine. Use security software to protect against malware that may steal data and viruses that may damage files. Set it to update automatically so your device always has the latest security defenses.
- Use strong and unique passwords. Be sure to use different passwords for each account and use a password manager if necessary. Experts suggest a minimum of 10 characters.
- Use multi-factor authentication.

If it is offered, set up your multi-factor authentication for accounts. This means that users may need a security code, usually sent as a text to a mobile phone, in addition to usernames and passwords.

- Encrypt and password-protect sensitive data. If keeping financial records, tax returns, or any personally identifiable information on computers, encrypt this data and use a strong password.

To learn more on how to prevent identity theft, visit the DOR's website at www.dor.in.gov and click on 'Stop ID theft' on the menu.

Registration for Purdue Extension's Illiana Vegetable Growers Symposium on January 8

The Illiana Vegetable Growers Symposium will be held Tuesday, January 8, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Central Time, at Teibel's Restaurant, located at 1775 U.S. 41 in Schererville.

This symposium, sponsored by Purdue Extension and University of Illinois Cooperative Extension Service, offers commercial vegetable growers and market farmers' opportunities to learn more about pest management, production practices, variety selection, and marketing; visit with vendors; and network with other growers.

The program is a collaboration of Purdue and the University of Illinois Extension services. Presenters will include several Extension specialists from both universities. Presentation highlights include cucurbit diseases and management, worker protection standards, blossom end rot management, and pump-

kin management effects on yield, pollinators, and natural enemies. The symposium also includes breakout sessions which will allow participants to focus on either organic production or pumpkin management.

Indiana private applicator recertification credits are available for a \$10 fee at the door. Indiana commercial pesticide applicator continuing certification hours and certified crop adviser continuing education units also are available.

Online registration is available at <https://tinyurl.com/Illiana2019>. Participants also can register at the door for \$40, but they will not be guaranteed lunch. Sponsors include Austgen Farms, Kankakee County Farm Bureau, Lake County Farm Bureau, and La Porte County Farm Bureau.

For more information, contact Nikky Witkowski at 219-465-3555.

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'A Christmas Story Comes Home' open through December 31 at Indiana Welcome Center

This holiday season, the 'A Christmas Story Comes Home' exhibit, will be on display until December 31 at the Indiana Welcome Center in Hammond. Visitors are welcome to relive favorite childhood memories of in anticipation of Christmas

as they gaze at animated window displays depicting scenes from the holiday movie classic.

The exhibit features six animated scenes from the holiday movie 'A Christmas Story'. The displays include Higbee's Department Store,

Flick's Tongue and the Triple Dog Dare, It's a Major Award, Santa's Mountain at Higbee's, The Bumpus Hounds, and A Hero's Dream.

In addition to the exhibit, visitors will have the opportunity to see a bronzed Flick

with his tongue stuck to the flag pole. This homage to the classic scene is the perfect photo opportunity in front of the Indiana Welcome Center.

The Indiana Welcome Center is located at the intersection of I-80/94 and Kennedy Avenue South

in Hammond; only 30 minutes from downtown Chicago and two hours north of Indianapolis. All events are held at the Indiana Welcome Center in Hammond and registrations are available online at www.AChristmasStoryComesHome.com.

Visit that website for a complete list of special events, contests, hours of operation, and directions. The Welcome Center gift shop offers an array of movie memorabilia including the infamous leg lamp.

Indiana Department of Natural Resources state park permits now available for 2019

Annual entrance permits, horse tags, off-road cycling permits, and lake permits for 2019 are on sale now at DNR Division of State Parks property offices. These passes and permits could be holiday gifts for outdoor lovers and are a wise self-gift, too.

With a daily entrance fee of \$7 per car at DNR properties, in-state visitors who buy a pass can make their money back on their eighth visit.

Annual entrance and Golden Hoosier permits can also be purchased at any of the seven state park inns. All of the permits are also available online at www.stores.innsgifts.com/permits.

All permits are good from January 1 to December 31 of year issued. The types of permits that can be purchased are:

- \$50 Annual Entrance Permit: Admits noncommercial vehicles, driver and passengers to DNR properties that charge a gate fee. More at www.stateparks.IN.gov/5062.htm
- \$70 Non-resident Annual Entrance Permit: Admits non-Indiana resident noncommercial vehicles, driver and passengers to DNR properties that charge a gate fee. More at www.stateparks.IN.gov/5062.htm
- \$25 Golden Hoosier Passport: For Indiana residents who are

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time of purchase and disabled individual must be present in the vehicle at time of use); admits noncommercial vehicle, driver and passengers.

This day in history

December 14, 1909

Workers placed the last of the 3.2 million 10-pound bricks that pave the Indianapolis Motor Speedway in Speedway, Indiana. Since then, most of that brick has been buried under asphalt, but one yard remains exposed at the start-finish line. Kissing those bricks after a successful race remains a tradition among Indy drivers.

In 1908, Carl Fisher decided to build a five-mile track that would give carmakers a safe place to test and show off their vehicles. The original plans for Fisher's "motor parkway" called for a three-mile "outer" loop and a two-mile course through the infield, but they were hastily redrawn when someone pointed out that such a long track would not fit on the parcel unless all the grandstands along the straightaways were eliminated. As a compromise, Fisher and his construction superintendent decided to build a 2.5-mile banked oval with grandstands on all sides.

The first race at the new Motor Speedway, a motorcycle race on August 13, 1909, was a disaster; driver Wilford Bacuque and his mechanic were killed when their Knox flipped over and bounced into a fence post. Then, three more people died when driver Charlie Merz shredded a tire and went flying into the stands.

The speedway kept its brick track for nearly 50 years. Today, the speedway has an asphalt surface.

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Winfield American 

(Lions from Pg. 1)

in the region and Bob has worked with the Rotary club in another state. Both

new members exemplify our motto, "We Serve." For more information,

or if interested in becoming a Lion, contact Linda Kroner at 219-765-3990

for the Lions Club or Pam Van Kirk for the Leos Club at 775-560-7267.



New Lions Bob and Juan pose with their sponsors at their installation, Lion Linda and Lion Chuck, along with the regional governor for the Lions.

Lion Linda with Jim Atkinson from Toys for Tots and Lion Chuck with the Pangeres.

(Robotics from Pg. 4)

robotic programming and robotic simulations to offer greater insight into STEM disciplines and careers.

"The camp is very 'hands-on' and will expose students to many fundamental concepts concerning robotics and industrial robot components, safety and programming," said PNW Assistant Professor of Mechatronic Engineering Technology Maged Mikhail.

Over the three days the camp will take place from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Room 134 of the Commercialization and Manufacturing Excellence Center building, 7150 Indianapolis Blvd. on the Hammond Campus.

Registrations must be made online at www.pnw.edu/et and received by December 16. For additional information please call 219-989-2471 or email et@pnw.edu.



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Crown Point resident, member of the Winfield Chamber of Commerce

Funeral Director with Geisen Funeral Homes for over 13 years

Monument Representative for Geisen Funeral Homes

Crown Point Tri-Kappa member, Co-Chair for Crown Point 4th of July Parade

Enjoys spending time with her husband Gus and daughter Ella

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