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# Winfield American

Vol. 19, Issue 953

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September 18, 2020

## Chicago Cub Anthony Rizzo opens Purdue Northwest Sinai Forum 2020-21 season this Saturday

Anthony Rizzo, first baseman for the Chicago Cubs, and Steve Wozniak, cofounder of Apple Computer, are among the prominent speakers headlining the exciting new season of the Purdue University Northwest (PNW) Sinai Forum.

Rizzo will open the season with a livestream discussion from noon to 1:15 p.m. CDT on Saturday, Sept. 19. He will be interviewed by Dan Plesac, a Crown Point native, 18-year Major League Baseball veteran and MLB Network analyst.

Rizzo's talk is the first of two virtual events planned for fall 2020. The second is a livestream with Jonathan Rauch, a senior fellow with the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C., discussing "On Free Speech and Cancel Culture." Rauch's event is scheduled from 4 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. CDT on Sunday, October 11.

Both virtual events are free and available to the public thanks to the generous support of Sinai Forum's sponsors. Pre-registration is required to view either the Rizzo or Rauch livestreams. Sign up at www.pnw.edu/sinai-forum.

Sinai Forum will bring five speakers for in-person presentations to Northwest Indiana during fall 2021. They include Steve Wozniak, a Silicon Valley icon and philanthropist for more than 30 years who designed Apple Computer Inc.'s first line of products; Paul Nicklen, one of the world's most renowned nature photographers who creates awareness and inspires action for global issues like climate change; and Max Eisen, an Auschwitz survivor who teaches about the dangers of hatred and discrimination in society while promoting understanding between community groups.

Hosting prominent speakers has been the cornerstone of PNW Sinai Forum's renowned history. Executive Director Leslie Plesac said the forum provides audiences a unique opportunity to hear noted speakers in a town

hall-style format.

"When the pandemic altered our plans for this year, we focused on finding innovative ways to continue to bring engaging and interesting speakers to the Northwest Indiana community and beyond," Plesac said. "We are thrilled that Anthony Rizzo is taking time during the baseball season to participate in this virtual event, and equally delighted to bring Jonathan Rauch's insights to the Sinai Forum audience."

Rizzo is a three-time National League All-Star and three-time National League Gold Glove Award winner. In 2016, he led the Cubs to their 1st World (See Rizzo Pg. 7)



**Anthony Rizzo** 

## Emergency physicians urge everyone to recognize warning signs of suicide and know how to help

The American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) urges everyone to do their part to support those who may be struggling with depression or other mental health challenges by recognizing the warning signs of suicide, knowing how to help, and becoming more familiar with resources available in each community.

"Spotting suicidal thoughts or behaviors could help avoid a tragedy," said William Jaquis, MD, FACEP, president of ACEP. "Each of us will process this pandemic in our own way, but people may be more likely to experience difficult feelings during a crisis. You can be sure that if and when you need us, an emergency physician will be

there for you."

Call 911 or visit the closest emergency department in the event of a medical emergency or if there is an immediate health or safety threat. Contact a mental health professional if you, or someone you know, exhibits one or more of these warning signs:

- HopelessnessRage, uncontrolle
- Rage, uncontrolled anger, seeking revenge
- Acting reckless or engaging in risky activities
- Increased alcohol or drug use
- Withdrawal from friends, family, or society
- Anxiety, agitation, trouble sleeping or sleeping all the time
- •Dramatic mood changes Consider contacting

health professional if stress impedes your daily activities for several days in a row. Talk to the person to understand what they are thinking and feeling. Research shows that discussing suicide may reduce suicidal thoughts. Help a person at-risk by connecting them with trusted friends or family, or a mental health professional.

If emergency care is required for a suicide attempt, a physician-led care team will keep the patient safe until they are ready to go home. Prior to discharge, resources for longer-term care will be outlined as appropriate and a list of nearby experts and places to go for help will be provided as available. The care team will work with the

patient to create a written safety plan that includes their unique warning signs, coping strategies, and resources for help.

It is critical that patients try to maintain a safe environment for themselves at home. More than half (52%) of suicides involve a gun, according to research available through AFFIRM, an emergency-physician-led organization dedicated to firearm injury prevention research. Misuse of medication also poses significant risks. Ask a doctor about how to safely dispose of unused, expired or unwanted medicines. Consider taking steps to identify the best strategies for safe storage of medicafirearms or other noten.

tial home hazards. One helpful tool that encourages safe storage based on personal choices is Lock2Live, an education website developed by emergency physicians.

"Suicide is complicated, and emergency physicians are vital partners in the collaborative effort necessary to prevent these incidents from occurring. If you ever feel like you may hurt yourself or others or you have thoughts about taking your own life, please seek help right away," said Dr. Jaquis.

If you or somebody you know experiences suicidal thoughts or behaviors, call 911 or go to your nearest emergency department. The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-8255 is

available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The service is available to anyone and all calls are confidential. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) offers additional resources for help here.

The American College of Emergency Physicians is the national medical society representing emergency medicine. Through continuing education, research, public education and advocacy, ACEP advances emergency care on behalf of its 40,000 emergency physician members, and the more than 150 million Americans they treat on an annual basis. For more information, visit www.acep. org and www.emergency-physicians.org.

## 87% of Hoosiers believe drunk people cannot be trusted to maintain social distancing

A recent survey of 3,000 Hoosiers conducted by ProjectKnow.com revealed that:

- Half believe people's alcohol consumption in bars should be limited during the pandemic.
- 1 in 10 said they have recently hugged loved ones while out drinking when they shouldn't have done so.
- Over a quarter would say something if they noticed drunk people not adhering to social distancing regulations.

According to ProjectKnow. com's summary, as humans,

most of us are used to some form of physical touch, like hugging our loved ones or shaking hands with our coworkers. However, adjusting to a socially distant life in the midst of a global pandemic requires strict discipline, which is sometimes difficult to maintain even while sober. And it's only natural to want to hug friends after months of lockdown, and of course, we may be even more affectionate after a few beers or glasses of wine. Additionally, when intoxicated, people may be less cautious about touching surfaces or keeping a safe distance in public places such as bars and restaurants, which could be disastrous in terms of virus transmission.

ProjectKnow.com, a provider of resources related to substance use treatment, carried out the poll (3,000; 21+) which revealed that a large majority of Hoosiers (87%) say they do not believe drunk people can be trusted to maintain social distancing regulations. After months of not being able to go out and drink with friends and family, many are celebrating the lim-

ited freedom a bit too much. It's perhaps no wonder some are concerned about drunk people not following pandemic protocols.

Many stores, including Walmart and Target, have implemented restrictions on the number of the customers allowed in store at one time, in line with social distancing regulations. It was found that three-quarters (75%) of respondents think groups in bars should also be limited to a certain number of people to prevent the spread of the disease. Additionally,

54% think people's alcohol consumption in bars should be limited, as being drunk means they are less likely to follow Covid-19 protocols. However, with many bars having been shut altogether for weeks, the idea of having to now limit customers could be devastating for some businesses.

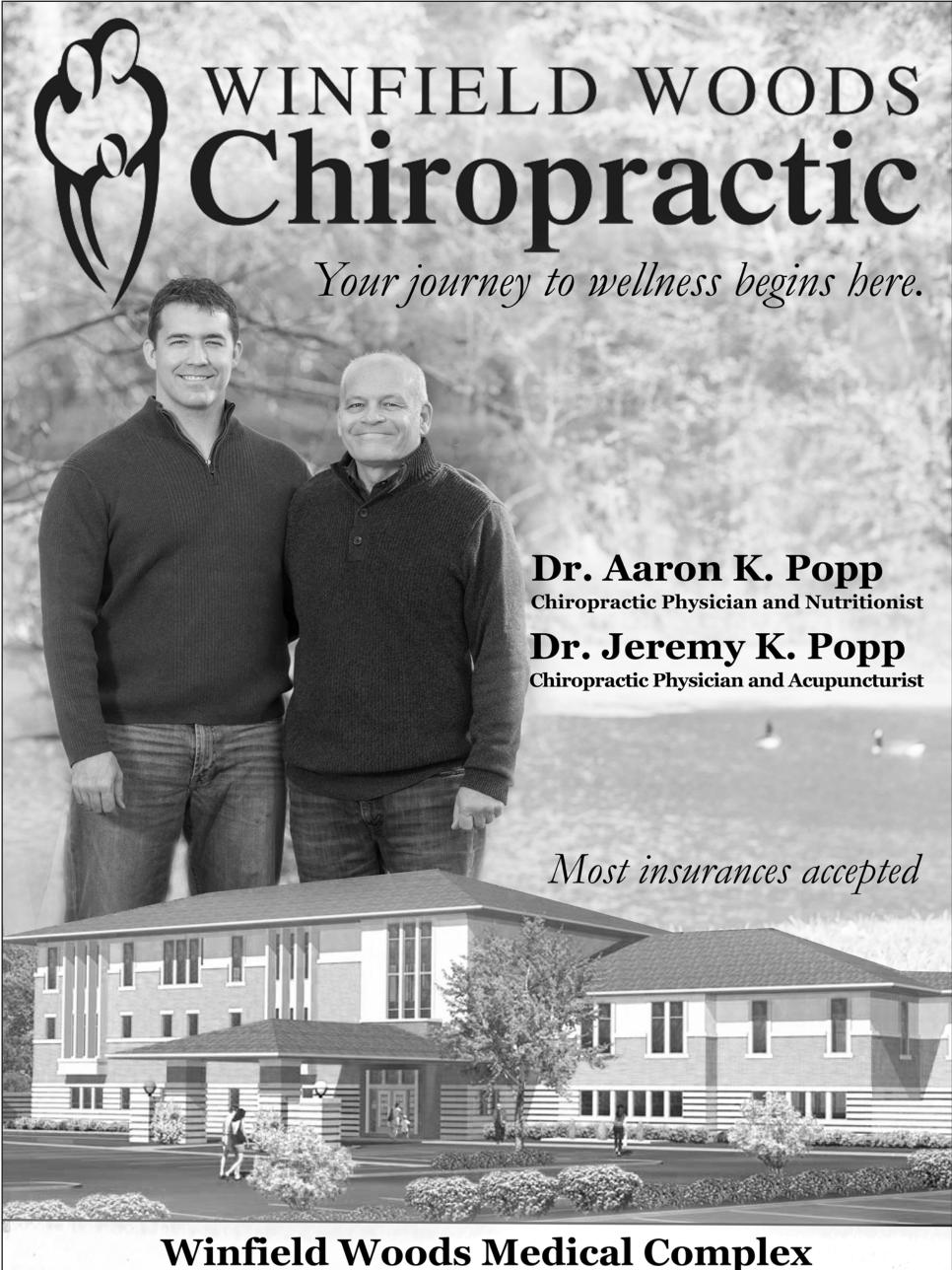
It is understandable why so many people believe drunk people cannot effectively maintain social distancing as more than 1 in 10 (12%) admit they have hugged friends and others while out drinking

recently, even though they know they shouldn't have.

More than a quarter (27%) of respondents say if they were out drinking at a bar and noticed drunken customers not adhering to social distancing, they would definitely say something about it.

When respondents were asked which establishments they are most worried about visiting at the moment due to Coronavirus, over half (51%) said it was bars. Seventeen percent said they would be most concerned about go-

(See Hoosiers Pg. 3)



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## seminar this Saturday; registration deadline today

Diet is thought to be responsible for about 30 to 40 percent of all cancers. A Franciscan Health Cancer Center dietitian will describe the role nutrition plays in cancer prevention at a free online seminar.

The seminar will be 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. CST tomorrow, Saturday, September 19. Online registration for this free event must be done by

today, Friday, September 18 diet to help lower your canat www.FranciscanHealth. org/Events.

No food or diet can prevent cancer, but some foods can reduce your cancer risk and improve your overall health by boosting your immune system. At the virtual seminar, Abby Emerick, RD, CD, CSO, a registered dietitian, will explain the benefits and examples of a healthy

cer risk. She will also share two recipes via a virtual cooking demonstration that you can try at home.

This free event is made possible with support from Franciscan Health Cancer Center, Little Red Door Cancer Agency and the Indiana Breast Cancer Awareness Trust.

### Healthy eating can reduce your cancer risk at free virtual September is library card sign-up month

Library card sign-up month, a time when libraries nationwide join together to remind parents, caregivers, and students that signing up for a library card is the first step towards academic achievement and lifelong learning.

This year, DC's Wonder Woman is embarking on a mission to champion the power of a library card as Library Card Sign-up Month

Honorary Chair. In her new role. Wonder Woman will promote the value of libraries and encourage everyone to get their very own library card.

Now is the best time to sign up for a library card. The Crown Point Community Library and Winfield branch, along with libraries everywhere, continue to adapt and expand services to meet the evolving needs of our community - especially during the COIVD-19 Pandemic.

Sign up for a library card (online or in-person) and get a special edition CPCL 'Wonder Woman' library card. Children who obtain a new library card by October 31 will receive a sticker to claim a small prize.

To learn more visit www. crownpointlibrary.org/library-card-sign-up-month

#### (Hoosiers from Pg. 1)

ing to the gym, 16% said restaurant,s and 16% said movie theatres.

encing 'pandemic burnout,' and have been for months with so many aspects of life restricted or hindered," said

Stefanie Magalong, clinical director at Laguna Treatment Hospital and spokesperson restrictions such as stay-athome orders being lifted, it's important not to be too overzealous with our actions

and activities; this is still a global pandemic. Not adher-

#### "Many people are experifor ProjectKnow.com. "With a mask and social distancing

ing to guidelines like wearing will only further delay reopening our communities and extend the restrictions that are currently in place."

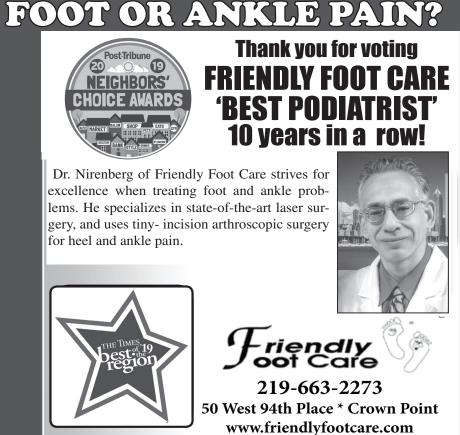
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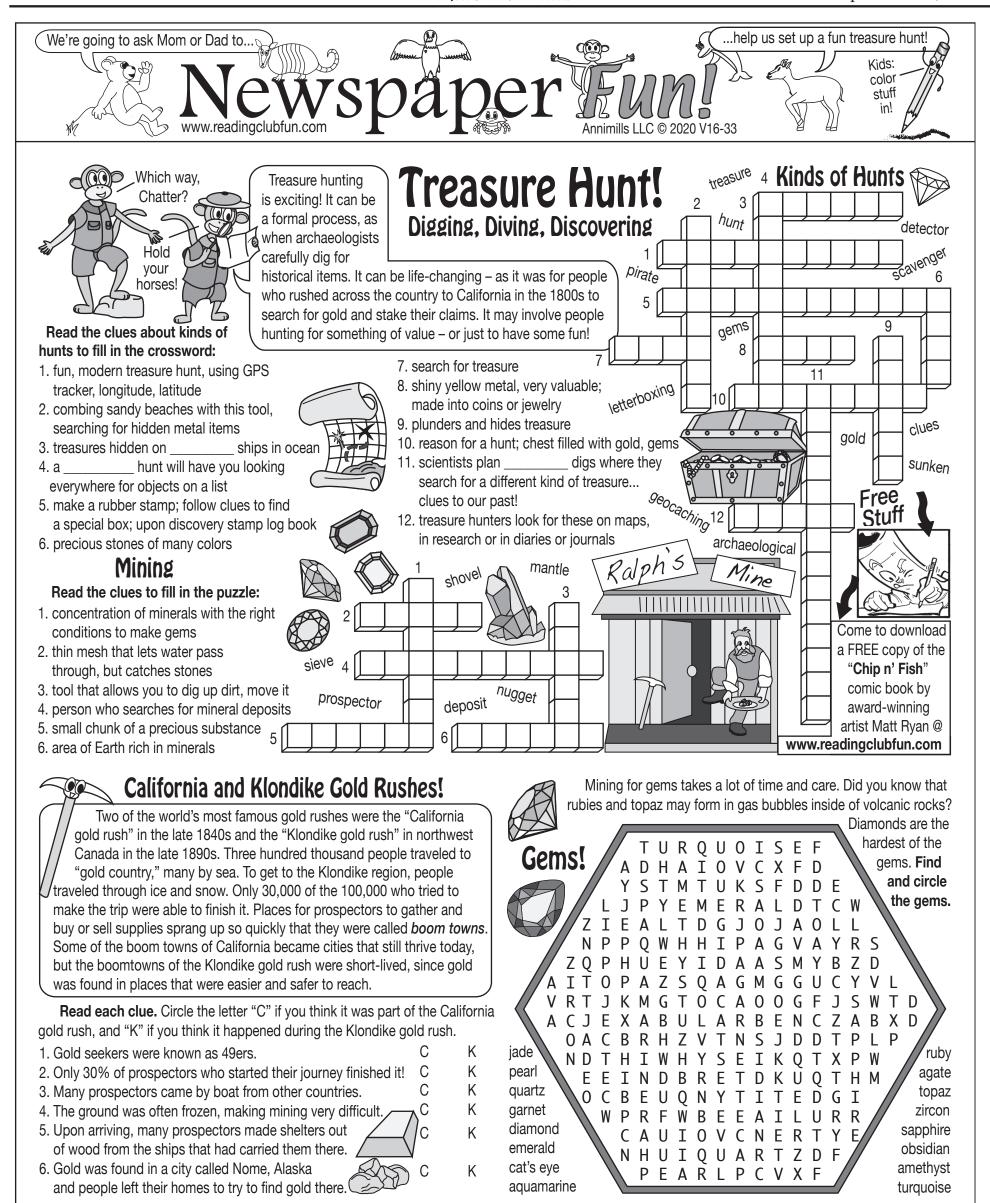


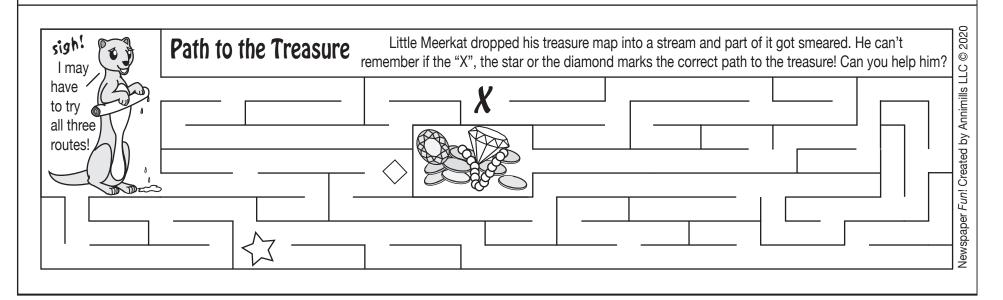
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4 Winfield American September 18, 2020





## Funding available for electric vehicle projects; proposals due September 23

The Indiana Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Trust Program announced today that approximately \$6.15 million in funding is available for projects focused on improving Indiana's statewide electric vehicle (EV) charging network. Proposals may include plans focused on a single statewide EV charging network or regional, local, or individual charging network installations.

Funding is available for both direct-current fast charge (DCFC) and Level 2 (L2) equipment. Indiana anticipates awarding cooperative agreements subject to the availability of funds and the quality of proposals received.

The application deadline for the electric vehicles request for proposals is September 23, 2020 at 4 p.m. CDT. Grant applications must be submitted via email to VWTrust@idem.IN.gov. Visit www.idem.IN.gov/vwtrust for more information and details on how to submit an application.

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~ Joe & Maureen Wideman, LOFS

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~ Letter to the Editor ~

## Sheriff expresses pride in officers

I am extremely proud of Lake County officers who showed compassion and professionalism in helping children in apparent distress earlier this month.

On September 2, 2020, Officer Christopher Akey was dispatched to a home in Crown Point for a 9-1-1 hang-up call. Officer Ryan Fay was off duty, but responded because he was in the area. Officer Fay was the first on the scene. When he arrived, he could hear a child inside crying and screaming, "Mommy, where are you?" Officer Fay spoke to the child through the door and asked her to open the door. Once comfort and calm the 6-yearold and her 2-year-old sister. Fay checked the residence for any other children or adults who may have needed medical attention. The 6-year-old girl told the officer about a 6-month-old who was asleep in a back bedroom.

Officers Christopher Akey, Kyle Kranz and Grant Traxler arrived at the scene to assist and try to identify the parents and determine their location. The 6-month-old girl began to scream, and Officer Fay picked her up from her crib and rocked her to try to soothe her. Officers Kranz, Traxler and Akey found doc-

inside, the officer was able to uments in the home with information on the mother and possibly the father, as well. Officers relayed the information to a dispatcher who contacted the mother.

While waiting for her to arrive, Officer Traxler observed that the 6-month-old needed a diaper change. Officer Traxler changed the baby's diaper with the help of her 6-year-old sister. Officer Kranz sat with the 6-year-old and 2-year-old while the children attempted to find their favorite television show. The mother eventually returned to the home. Special Victims Unit detectives are now investigating the case. Charges are pending. The Department of Child Services has also launched an investigation.

The level of care and concern these officers showed demonstrates their desire to help improve the lives of the public they serve. They stepped in where help was needed and did what they could to ensure the wellbeing of the children in this case. I applaud them for a job well done. I will be issuing an official commendation for these officers.

Sincerely, Lake County Sheriff's

Sheriff Oscar Martinez Jr., Department

## **Indiana Welcome Center offers identity services** for state and federal verification and services

Center, located at 7770 Corinne Drive in Hammond now offers state and federal identity services Monday through Thursday by appointment. Services in-TSA Precheck clude and Enrollment; TWIC (Transportation Worker Credential); Identification **HAZMAT** (Hazardous

The Indiana Welcome Materials) Credentials, Birth Certify, digital fingerprinting, personal history checks and more.

> IdentoGO Centers provide convenient, fast and accurate Live Scan fingerprinting services that may be required by a government agency or for employment. Trained Enrollment Agents ensure paperwork is in order, take

fingerprints and process the request quickly. Results are returned in days rather than weeks. Other fingerprinting services include adoption, banking, childcare, construction industry, financial services, health care and more.

IdentoGo employees are trained for maximum efficiency and accuracy and employees undergo comprehensive background checks. Employees also receive ongoing training and provide the customer with the highest level of security.

Appointments can be scheduled at www.identogo. com or by calling 1-844-321-2124. You can set an online appointment by date, time or location that fits your sched-

## LWA unemployment benefits to be paid beginning week of September 21

The Indiana Department of Workforce Development will begin making Lost Wages Assistance (LWA) payments to eligible claimants beginning the week of Monday, September 21.

LWA is funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide \$300 per week to supplement unemployment benefits for those who have an unemployment benefit amount of at least \$100 and are out of work due to COVID-19.

LWA funding will only cover the six-week period from the week ending August 1 to the week ending September 5. No LWA funding will be available to states beyond that time period.

Indiana will make payments the week of September 21, covering the period of August 1 to September 5, for those eligible. For those

claimants with issues holding payment, DWD will make payments, pending funding availability, once eligibility is established.

Since March 8, DWD has paid a total of \$4.9 billion to nearly 670,000 Hoosiers.

The DWD serves the worker and the employer to ensure workplace success. DWD is committed to innovating and invigorating Indiana's economic future by providing WorkOne Career Centers, Unemployment Insurance, Labor Market Information, Regional Workforce Strategies and Professional Training. Through these services, DWD is able to develop a premier workforce that enables Indiana employers to flourish and entices businesses from outside our state to relocate to Indiana.

## <u>General</u>

Submit your general classified ad or real estate classified ad online at www.winfieldamerican.com.

#### Hungry? We can help!

Trinity Free Methodist Church Food Bank 8650 Grand Blvd. Merrillville, IN 46410 Monday from 3-7 p.m. Tax deductible donations accepted at www.trinityfmc.org Registered 501 C. Non-profit. (954)

#### **Uniroyal Laredo Tires, Great Condition**

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#### **Help Wanted – Automotive Technician**

In an effort to increase our level of service to our customers, Crown Point Auto Repair is adding technicians to our team. If you know of, or have friends or family that you feel would be a good addition to the Crown Point Auto Repair team, have them stop in at 1510 N. Main Street, Crown Point, IN, and talk to Bill. Or call the shop at 219-663-1847 or Bill's cell at 708-305-3666 for an appointment. (950)

#### Fire Force Volunteers Requested

Lakes of the Four Seasons Volunteer Fire Force, which serves LOFS, Winfield, Winfield Township, and the WPTFP district, is always in need of more dedicated volunteers to join our ranks. Want to help your community by giving back through service? Please call 219-662-7576 and speak with Chief Gikas, or he may be e-mailed at chief@lofsfire. com. (950)

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## Purdue Northwest donors support students during Day of Giving; raise over \$600,000

Purdue University Northwest received more than \$606,137 in contributions from more than 360 generous supporters during the 2020 Purdue Northwest Day of Giving on Wednesday.

Gifts to PNW, as designated by the donors, will be used to support student scholarships, academic programs, athletics and other

#### State tree nursery will pay for certain collected tree seeds

the required tree species, and

cannot be infected with dis-

ease or infested with insects.

within PNW.

strategic initiatives. The

Dean of Students Emergency

Assistance Fund "We Care"

campaign, which was created

by the Office of the Dean of

Students and the Office of

Institutional Advancement to

assist students who are fac-

ing challenges presented by

the global pandemic, had the

most donations of any area

Indiana's state tree nurstion planting within the state. ery in Vallonia will pay you Each year much of the seed to collect certain tree seeds the nurseries use is supplied throughout the state if the by collectors from all over seeds meet DNR specificathe state. DNR Forestry pays seed collectors on the basis of tions. "pure live seed." That term Each year the nurseries, part of the DNR Division means the seeds must be from

DNR Forestry's goal is to produce 2-3 million seedlings each year for conservation plantings. Because of natural factors, achieving that goal requires planting about 8.5 million seeds. DNR Forestry, which operates the nurseries, orchestrates statewide seed collection with the goal of (See Seeds Pg. 8)

"This considerable sup-

port for the 'We Care' cam-

paign to support the urgent

needs of students shows that

despite the challenges of this

unique time, our alumni, fac-

ulty, staff, and friends came

together, with small and large

gifts, to help our students,"

said Lisa Goodnight, vice

chancellor for Institutional

Advancement. "We truly

thank everyone who participated in the PNW Day of Giving. Your donations will directly benefit students who are feeling the greatest impact from the coronavirus pandemic, and those who have financial needs to complete their education."

Hammond residents Richard and Donelle Weiss added \$50,000 to their previous \$100,000 gift in support of the Athletics Strength and Conditioning program. Donelle, a former PNW staff member, and Richard, who frequents the PNW Fitness Center, are supportive members of the community.

"We like PNW Athletics and their commitment to sport and academics," Richard Weiss said. "This is our small way of helping."

Goodnight said many PNW alumni and supporters of Purdue Northwest contributed to the success of Purdue Northwest Day of Giving. In addition to the Weisses' generous gift, other significant donations to PNW during Day of Giving included:

Robert Milos, a longtime supporter of the PNW College of Nursing, made a \$64,000 gift to the College of Nursing with an additional challenge match of up to \$15,000 for contributions to the college made during Day of Giving.

Horizon Bank gave \$50,000 to establish the Robert Dabagia Scholarship Fund in the PNW College of Business.

Gifts received by PNW contributed to a single day giving total exceeding \$42 million across the entire Purdue system.

For more information about PNW, visit www.pnw.

#### (Rizzo from Pg. 1)

of Forestry, plant millions

of seeds to produce tree and

shrub seedlings for conserva-

Series Championship in 108 years. Rizzo was named the recipient of the 2017 Roberto Clemente Award, annually given to the player who best represents the game of baseball through extraordinary character, community involvement, philanthropy, and positive contributions, both on and off the field. Rizzo overcame Hodgkin's lymphoma in 2008 and established The Anthony Rizzo Family Foundation in 2012 to support pediatric cancer patients and their families. Rizzo is considered by many to be one of the most respected players in Major League Baseball.

Rauch is a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution in Washington and is the author

of seven books and many articles on public policy, culture, and government. He is a contributing writer for The Atlantic and recipient of the 2005 National Magazine Award, the magazine industry's equivalent of the Pulitzer Prize. Rauch, who is currently working on a book tentatively titled The Constitution of Knowledge will join us to discuss the idea of cancel culture and the "unending battle" for free speech.

The mission of the Sinai Forum at Purdue Northwest is to enlighten, inspire and entertain audiences with affordable, exceptional programming in a town hall setting. The forum was founded in 1953 by Sylvia Bankoff, her husband Dr. Milton Bankoff, and a small group of community members in Michigan City, Ind. Since then, Nobel Prize winners, former heads of state, Pulitzer Prize winners, political commentators, scientists, nationally recognized media personalities and famous performing artists have graced the Sinai Forum stage. The forum has been under the stewardship of Purdue University Northwest since 2006. For more information, visit www.pnw.edu/ sinai-forum.

For more information about PNW, visit www.pnw.

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Winfield American



## **Apply for Indiana Private Lands Access reserved hunts by September 21**

Hunters can apply for reserved gamebird hunting opportunities on private property through the Indiana Private Lands Access program until September 21. Formally known as the Access Program Providing Land Enhancements, the Indiana Private Lands Access program offers quail, pheasant, and woodcock hunting opportunities on private property. Draw result notifications will be emailed within two weeks of the application deadline. Successfully drawn applicants will be al-

(Seeds from Pg. 7)

throughout the state.

diversifying the seed source.

Such diversification allows

the nursery to grow seedlings

that will be well adapted

to grow into mature trees

Some of the seeds being

sought, and the price per

seed offered, include black

oak, black walnut, pin oak,

red oak, shumard oak, white

oak, bur oak, chinkapin oak,

swamp chestnut oak and

swamp white oak. See the

table below for current pric-

lowed two hunting partners. All regulations and bag limits apply.

These hunts are allocated through the online reserved hunt system. The online application is the only way to apply. Hunters may apply for one hunting period. Although the hunting period is two days, selected hunters may only hunt one day of the two-day period.

You can register for this hunt and check the status of the draw at www.on.IN.gov/reservedhunt.

The Indiana Private Lands

Some pointers for collectg:

- Always call first to see if the seeds you plan to collect are still needed. Collect only seeds and fruit – no leaves, sticks, or trash.
- Keep species separate if you're not certain that two (or more) trees are the same species, keep them in separate containers.
- If you are not certain if you have the proper species, email a photo of the seed/ fruit, leaves, bark, and twigs to the address below for

Access program offers financial incentives to landowners who allow controlled public access hunting on their private lands. Wildlife biologists also work with landowners to establish and improve wildlife habitat.

For more information about the Indiana Private Lands Access program, please visit www.wildlife. IN.gov/9572.htm.

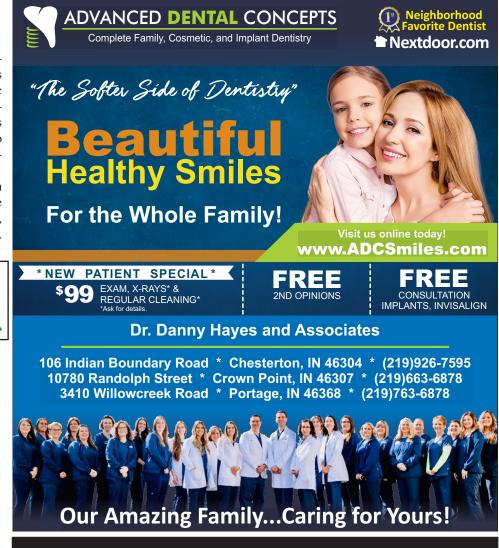


identification.

time.

- Most of the listed species are ripe and ready to collect when they fall off the tree.
- Healthy acorns (with the exception of bur oak) will fall free of the cap. Keep the seeds/fruit cool until you can deliver it to the office an air-conditioned basement is good for a short period of

Contact the Vallonia Nursery at 812-358-3621 or vallonianursery@dnr.IN.gov for more information.



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## This day in history

### **September 18, 1973**

Future President Jimmy Carter filed a report with the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, claiming he had seen an Unidentified Flying Object in October, 1969.

During the presidential campaign of 1976, Democratic challenger Carter was forthcoming about his belief that he had seen a UFO. He described waiting outside for a Lion's Club Meeting in Leary, Georgia, to begin, at about 7:30 p.m., when he spotted what he called "the darndest thing I've ever seen" in the sky.

Carter, as well as 10 to 12 other people who witnessed the same event, described the object as "very bright (with) changing colors and about the size of the moon."

Carter reported that "the object hovered about 30 degrees above the horizon and moved in toward the earth and away before disappearing into the distance."

He later told a reporter that, after the experience, he vowed never again to ridicule anyone who claimed to have seen a UFO.

During the presidential campaign of 1976, Carter promised that, if elected president, he would encourage the government release "every piece of information" about UFOs available to the public and to scientists. After winning the presidency, though, Carter backed away from this pledge, saying that the release of some information might have "defense implications" and pose a threat to national security.

www.history.com

#### DIRECTOR PROFILE: MICHELLE KATSAROS



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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