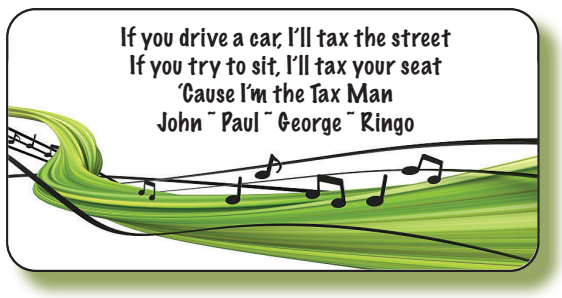

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Lake County Sheriff's Department recognizes Autism Awareness Month

In solidarity with individuals and families affected by autism, during the month of April police officers with the Lake County Sheriff's Department will wear patches and badges bearing the colorful puzzle piece design representing Autism Awareness.

"I had these badges and patches designed a couple of years ago to help promote inclusivity, education and acceptance within our community," said Sheriff Oscar Martinez Jr. "I'm passionate about making sure that individuals with autism and their loved ones feel respected and valued. We'll also be taking our message of advocacy to the streets with our patrol car wrapped in the Autism Awareness design. The colors of the puzzle you'll see emblazoned on this car and on our uniforms symbolize the diversity and complexity of the autism spectrum."

"But for me, this month is about more than signs and symbols. It's about making a difference. That's why I'm equipping officers with blue bags packed with sensory items and communication tools that can help to calm individuals in crisis or emergency situations. And we'll be sharing more about our Project Lifesaver program which offers families of people with autism and other cognitive challenges special tracking technology to find their loved ones who wander and bring them back to safety."

"I truly believe the unique ways we are advocating for Autism Awareness demonstrate our commitment to building more compassion and understanding throughout Lake County."

Indiana launches $29M Legend Fund to support entrepreneurs, small businesses access capital

The Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) recently announced the launch of the state's Legend Fund, a loan participation program designed to help entrepreneurs and small businesses gain access to funds needed to grow. The Legend Fund, fueled by federal funding awarded to Indiana through the State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI), will distribute $29 million to mission-driven local lenders to increase lending to Hoosier small businesses, with an added focus on those that have been historically underserved.

"Indiana is leading the nation in providing the ideal environment to help small businesses start, grow and innovate," said Secretary of Commerce David Rosenberg. "With even more funding and new programs like the Legend Fund, we're taking our support of the entrepreneurial ecosystem even further, ensuring all small businesses have equitable access to the tools, resources and capital needed to succeed."

The Legend Fund will support Indiana entrepreneurs and small businesses by giving lenders an incentive to provide operating capital to Hoosier-based businesses. Through the program, mission-oriented and non-traditional lenders that provide debt capital for qualified purposes to Indiana-based small businesses are eligible to have a portion of those loans purchased by the IEDC, enabling lenders to then support even more entrepreneurs and small businesses. The program's $29 million is expected to yield a minimum $50 million impact on Indiana's entrepreneurial ecosystem.

Small businesses: Connect with lenders to access funds needed to grow

Indiana entrepreneurs and small businesses are encouraged to connect with approved lenders by visiting the Community Reinvestment Fund, USA Connect Platform. The new platform – which is also accessible via ConnectIND, a digital portal and statewide listing of resources for entrepreneurs and founders – allows small businesses to view and match with participating lenders based on a business' operating capital needs and a lender's mission, focus areas and loan offerings.

The Legend Fund has already approved nine lenders through the program, meaning these organizations are ready to help Indiana entrepreneurs and founders today. These lenders include organizations such as Build Fund, Business Ownership Initiative Inc. (BOI), Cambridge Capital Management Corp., Community Investment Fund of Indiana, Flagship Enterprise Capital, Lendistry, Lynx Capital, Indiana Community Business Credit Corporation, and One Southern Indiana.

Additionally, entrepreneurs and small businesses will be able to access technical assistance at no cost to get support preparing for and accessing capital through the Legend Fund as well as through other SSBCI-supported initiatives, such

*(See **Indiana** Pg. 8)*

Department of Workforce Development receives national award from COABE

The Indiana Department of Workforce Development received the State Innovation Award for its Adult Education "Programs of Excellence" initiative. The award is bestowed annually by the Coalition on Adult Basic Education, the leading national organization dedicated to advancing the field of adult literacy.

The "Programs of Excellence" initiative, led by DWD, was created to promote the success of adult education programs across Indiana, and to encourage statewide program administrators to align with existing standards and goals.

"DWD's Adult Education team is committed to raising standards that benefit providers and adult learners," said DWD Commissioner Richard Paulk. "The Programs of Excellence designation specifically shines a light on model providers who support Hoosiers as they move to the next level in education, training, and careers. These efforts lead to a stronger workforce more prepared and capable of advancing in their careers."

In October of 2023, DWD named 17 providers as the inaugural Indiana Adult Education Programs of Excellence. For more information on those recipients, click here.

"When DWD announced the Program of Excellence criteria, the Impact Institute staff embraced the goals and strived to meet them," said Caroline Foster, the adult education manager at Impact Institute in northeast Indiana. "We focused on these goals throughout the year and often talked about different changes we could make to achieve them. We shared best practices and worked together as a team.

"We focused on the success of our students. Recognition for the hard work and dedication of our staff has been great. Impact Institute's entire team felt proud of this accomplishment. We will continue to strive to achieve this again."

For the past five years, Indiana has led all 50 states in the percentage of students achieving outcomes. The state is also a national leader in high school equivalencies earned, integrated education and career training, and employer partnerships.

"Indiana Adult Education is recognized as a national leader due to our evidenced based approach to program management," said Associate Chief Workforce Strategy and Design Marilyn Pitzulo. "Programs of Excellence is an evolution of this strategy, driving it down to the local program level. The model measures strategic outcomes, promoting the use of data informed program management. As a result, funders and stakeholders can clearly see how their investment is benefiting the workforce and community."

*(See **COABE** Pg. 2)*

Indiana Department of Workforce Development Associate Chief Workforce Strategy and Design Marilyn Pitzulo (left) and Director of Instructional Design Adult Education Lara Pastore (second from right) accept the Coalition on Adult Basic Education's State Innovation Award from COBAE CEO Sharon Bonney (second from left) and Shaketta D. Thomas (right) during the 2024 COBAE National Awards in Nashville, Tennessee.

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/recguide.

And your 2024-2025 guide to Indiana fishing, the Indiana Fishing Regulations Guide, is available at 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.shopINstateparks.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.

Fishing and hunting licenses can be purchased and printed at 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.

Olthoff's bill requiring disclosure of AI use in deceptive election ads now law

The governor recently signed State Rep. Julie Olthoff's (R-Crown Point) legislation into law to crack down on political deepfakes advertisements being used to spread misinformation in elections.

Artificial intelligence websites and applications make it easy to digitally alter an individual's image, audio and video to create lifelike content known as deepfakes. Fabricated election action ads can mislead and misinform voters about a candidate. Olthoff said she authored legislation to require a disclaimer when a candidate's image, audio or video was altered without the person's consent.

"AI-generated content in political ads is a growing concern nationally and here in Indiana," Olthoff said. "Having a disclaimer will help voters more easily identify fake ads, which ultimately helps protect the integrity of our elections."

Olthoff said the new law requires a disclaimer be placed on AI-generated or digitally altered media such as audio, video or images of a candidate used in campaign communication. If a label is not included, the candidate can bring a civil action against those responsible for paying for or sponsoring the fake content.

Indiana now joins only a handful of other states with laws tackling deepfake political advertisements.

Visit Wwww.iga.in.gov for more information on House Enrolled Act 1133.

*(**COABE** from Pg. 1)*

There are more than 250 adult education class locations – in-person or online – in the state offering students opportunities to increase skills, learn English, access training, obtain industry-recognized credentials and earn a higher-paying job.

"I have been the program director of Washington Township Adult Education for nearly 17 years," said Todd DeLey of Indianapolis. "It has been difficult to communicate to our school board and district leadership the success of our program because our metrics are different from K-12. Receiving the Program of Excellence award helped district leadership understand how our program performs in relation to state goals and demonstrates the value of what adult education brings to the district and the community."

To learn more about the 2024 COABE National Awards, visit www.coabe.org/awardsandgrants.

COABE's mission is to inspire educators so adults succeed and communities thrive. The Coalition on Adult Basic Education provides leadership, professional development and advocacy for our 79,000+ members in the field of adult education. We provide a variety of services, including annual national conferences, a peer-reviewed journal, advocacy tools and over 50 new instructional webinars each year. COABE highlights excellence in the field of adult education by presenting yearly scholarships, incentive grants and prestigious national awards to feature best practices in the field. Learn more at coabe.org, or contact awards@coabe.org.

The Indiana Department of Workforce Development strengthens Indiana by understanding workforce needs, aligning resources, and providing access to services that empower Hoosiers to thrive in a changing economy. With the goal of economic security and better employment outcomes for all, DWD prides itself on acting with integrity, accountability, and respectfulness. To learn more or contact DWD visit www.dwd.in.gov.

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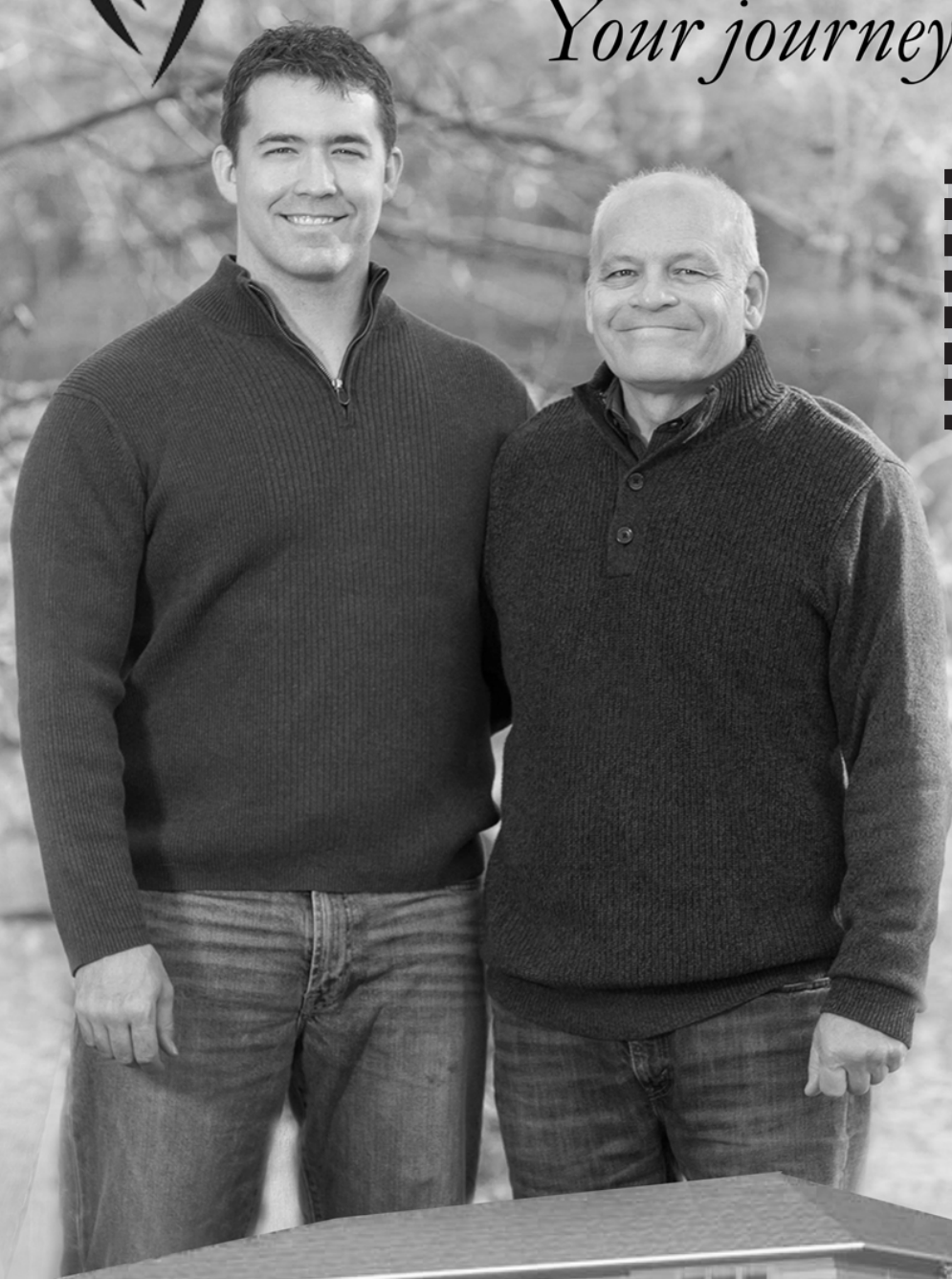

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Across the street from Lakes of the Four Seasons

Community Healthcare System unveils new name: Powers Health

Following two decades of dedicated service under the name Community Healthcare System, a new chapter begins July 1, 2024, with the introduction of Powers Health. This new name marks a strategic evolution, uniting the brand under one clear and distinct identity. While the name changes, the system's commitment to exceptional, compassionate care remains steadfast.

Not a Merger, but a Unifying Step

Especially in healthcare, a name change can cause concern. Powers Health is an evolution of Community Healthcare System, not a merger or acquisition. It is a deliberate step toward presenting our organization as an integrated system of care — offering seamless and comprehensive services across all facilities.

"We will continue to invest resources throughout Northwest Indiana by building new facilities and expanding services," said Donald P. Fesko, CEO of Community Foundation of Northwest Indiana, Inc., parent company of Community Healthcare System. "With the support of some of the area's most talented medical professionals, we are proud to have earned numerous national accreditations and distinguished recognitions for high-quality care and innovative technology."

Vision and Expertise: Recognizing the Legacy of Donald S. Powers

The new name honors the impactful legacy of Donald S. Powers, a visionary community leader who, along with four land developers, donated five acres and his own funds to help build the flagship Community Hospital that serves as an anchor of the community. His tireless efforts laid the foundation for the strong integrated system.

He was one of the original Directors and President of Community Foundation, which became Community Foundation of Northwest Indiana, Inc. in 2001, parent company of Community Healthcare System.

Powers was dedicated to bringing advanced healthcare services to Northwest Indiana. When his wife was diagnosed with cancer, they had to travel hundreds of miles away from home to receive the higher-level care she needed. He vowed to build a healthcare system so that other families in the area would be able to access specialty care and treatment close to home.

As a Navy fighter pilot, he was proud to fight for our country and community. Known as a decisive, humble leader, he donated his time and resources to numerous charitable organizations.

With numerous healthcare systems – including some in Indiana – also using Community in their names, the name Powers Health establishes a distinct identity, reflecting itself as a leader in advancing healthcare.

Continued Medical Leadership

Powers Health is an integrated system where primary care physicians offer easy access to specialty and advanced care in Northwest Indiana. A few highlights:

- Cancer: Patient-centered, highly advanced breast and lung programs, low-dose CT scans and dedicated nurse navigators.
- Heart: Northwest Indiana's most comprehensive heart programs, offering advanced treatments such as transcatheter aortic valve replacement (TAVR) and endovascular aneurysm repair.
- Neuroscience: The full-service program offers a range of specialists in advanced neurological disorders.
- Orthopedics: Total hip and knee replacements, advanced techniques for shoulder surgery and Joint Commission-certified advanced spine surgery.
- Rehabilitation: Extensive subspecialty care, along with advanced diagnostic capabilities for physical therapy, occupational therapy and imaging.
- Stroke: The area's only Joint Commission-Certified Comprehensive Stroke Center and freestanding inpatient rehabilitation center.

The Benefits of Powers Health Integrating as One System of Care

Here is what patients, employees and other stakeholders can expect to see:

- Unified identity: Powers Health oversees the system's expertise and patient-centered care approach.
- Shared excellence: Don Powers' vision lives on, unifying talented medical professionals for better patient outcomes and employee opportunities.
- Sustained reputation: Powers Health will continue to provide high-level care to our patients.

The Hospital Names Remain the Same

The names of the acute care hospitals, Community Hospital, St. Catherine Hospital and St. Mary Medical Center, will not change. They will work together to provide care under Powers Health. The care delivery site names that will change should offer more clarity and consistency across the system. These include:

- Community Stroke & Rehabilitation Center name changes to Powers Health Rehabilitation Center.
- All location-based or hospital-based health center names change to Powers Health Outpatient Center.
- Community Care Network, Inc. name changes to Powers Health Medical Group.

Powers Health understands that change can raise questions. Our system is committed to transparent communication and will actively engage with employees, patients and the community throughout this transition.

Please visit www.COMHS.org/PowersHealth to learn more and for answers to frequently asked questions.

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This week in history

April 17, 1815

Heavy eruptions of the Tambora volcano in Indonesia were letting up by this day in 1815. The volcano, which began rumbling on April 5, killed almost 100,000 people. The eruption was the largest ever recorded and its effects were noted throughout the world. There had been no signs of volcanic activity in Tambora for thousands of years prior to the 1815 eruption. On April 10, the first of a series of eruptions that month sent ash 20 miles into the atmosphere.

Five days later, Tambora erupted violently once again. So much ash was expelled that the sun was not seen for several days. Flaming hot debris thrown into the surrounding ocean caused explosions of steam. The debris also caused a moderate-sized tsunami. In all, so much rock and ash was thrown out of Tambora that the height of the volcano was reduced from 14,000 to 9,000 feet.

The worst explosions were heard hundreds of miles away. The eruptions of Tambora also affected the climate worldwide. The eruption was blamed for snow and frost in New England during June and July that summer.

Ten thousand people were killed by the eruptions, most on Sumbawa Island. In subsequent months, more than 80,000 people died in the surrounding area from starvation due to the resulting crop failures and disease.

www.history.com

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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CPHS teacher awarded scholarship to study in Greece

Crown Point High School Latin teacher Angela Taraskiewicz has been awarded the Katherine Keene scholarship to attend the 2024 Summer Session at The American School of Classical Studies in Athens. The Summer Session is a highly competitive academic program open to undergraduate and graduate students, high school teachers, and university professors whose research and teaching involves the study of ancient Greek and Roman archaeology and material culture.

Taraskiewicz said she applied to the program because she studied abroad in Greece during college, which impacted both her research and career path.

"I wanted to get closer to the archaeology I studied in my research but was never actually able to visit in person and learn from other experts in the field," she said. Her Ph.D. thesis explores how childbirth rituals at kourotrophic sanctuaries in ancient Greece served to help reintegrate the mother and child back into the community following childbirth.

"Although I teach Latin at Crown Point High School, not ancient Greek, the two areas of study are not as isolated as they may seem. The program will allow me to revisit a wide range of Greek sites and museums and re-consider the Greek and Roman material, all of which I hope will enhance my classroom teaching and how I coach my Certamen teams."

Founded in 1925, the six-week program provides a unique opportunity for scholars from all over the world to learn from eminent archaeologists and art historians on-site at various spots throughout Greece including Athens, Thebes, Corinth, Delphi, Olympia, Mycenae, Sparta, and all of Crete. "Greece is a country with a rich cultural and historical heritage: the people are welcoming and hospitable, the landscape is breathtaking, and the food is fantastic," Taraskiewicz said. "Walking through Athens, one is constantly reminded how waves of historical events and cultural interactions have combined to create our modern landscape."

Angela Taraskiewicz

(***Indiana*** *from Pg. 1)*

as seed and pre-seed funding rounds through Elevate Ventures. The IEDC is currently soliciting proposals from technical assistance providers and expects to be able to offer this service to small businesses by the summer. In the meantime, small businesses looking for support in preparing to meet with a Legend Fund lender are encouraged to leverage their local Indiana Small Business Development Center office.

Lenders: Support Indiana small businesses as a Legend Fund lender

Mission-oriented and non-traditional lenders, such as Community Development Financial Institutions, local revolving loan funds, and other specialty lenders, are invited to apply to become approved lenders. Legend Fund lenders that provide debt capital for qualified purposes to Indiana-based small businesses are eligible to have a portion of those loans – typically up to 49% of an eligible loan – purchased by the IEDC, freeing up capital and enabling lenders to support more entrepreneurs and small businesses. Learn more and register today at www.iedc.in.gov/ssbci/ssbci-join.

Technical assistance providers: Help small businesses apply for SSBCI funding

In addition to launching the Legend Fund, Indiana is committed to helping entrepreneurs and small businesses access and apply for this new funding by providing no-cost technical assistance.

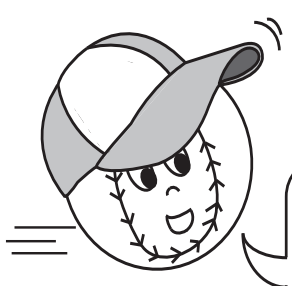
Indiana businesses and non-profits that can help small businesses access capital – such as qualified bookkeepers, accountants and financial experts – are invited to submit proposals to participate in the IEDC's technical assistance program. Providers will support one-on-one advising and group training opportunities in areas such as cash flow projections, QuickBooks, accounting and more to help small businesses prepare and apply for loans through the Legend Fund and through other SSBCI-supported initiatives, such as seed and pre-seed funding through Elevate Ventures.

The IEDC anticipates funding nearly $950,000 in technical assistance proposals. Interested vendors may review the RFP and further details here and apply by March 22, 2024.

The Legend Fund is one part of Indiana's efforts to accelerate startup growth and invest in underserved small businesses through SSBCI. In 2022, the IEDC was approved for $99.1 million in federal funding through the program to support Hoosier entrepreneurs, startups and small businesses by expanding venture capital and creating this new loan fund. Indiana will receive $86 million and will be eligible to receive another $13 million when the state meets expected targets for the initial allocation. At least 37% of this funding will be allocated to traditionally underserved small businesses and entrepreneurs, encouraging greater equity in access to capital for Hoosier businesses. Learn more at www.iedc.in.gov/ssbci.

The Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) is charged with growing the State economy, driving economic development, and helping businesses launch, grow and locate in the state. Governed by a 14-member board chaired by Governor Eric J. Holcomb, the IEDC manages many initiatives, including performance-based tax credits, workforce training grants, innovation and entrepreneurship resources, public infrastructure assistance, and talent attraction and retention efforts. For more information about the IEDC, visit www.iedc.in.gov.

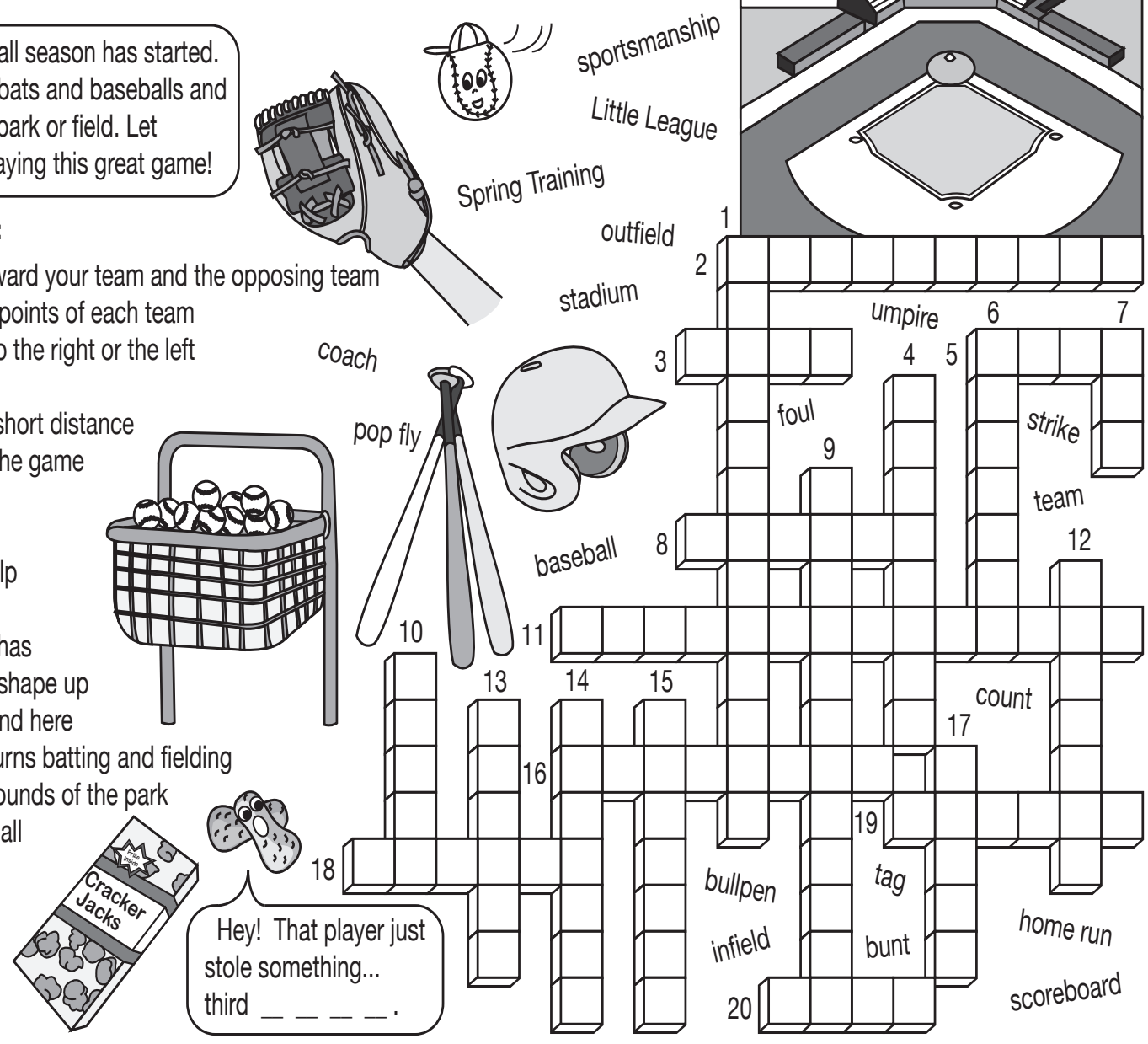
Baseball Fun for Everyone!



Yay! The baseball season has started. Grab your gloves, bats and baseballs and head for the yard, park or field. Let everyone join in playing this great game!

Read the clues to fill in the crossword puzzle:

1. playing the game with a good attitude toward your team and the opposing team
2. large wall in the stadium that records the points of each team
3. when a ball hit by the batter flies too far to the right or the left
4. sphere covered in white leather
5. to hit the ball lightly so that it rolls only a short distance
6. sunken room the team gathers in during the game
7. the runner steps on the base
8. official in charge of enforcing the rules
9. group that sets rules and guidelines to help young children play organized baseball
10. the number of balls and strikes a batter has
11. period when baseball players warm up, shape up
12. the basemen, shortstop, and pitcher stand here
13. each game has 9 of these, teams take turns batting and fielding
14. a hit that goes so far that it leaves the bounds of the park
15. place we visit to watch a game of baseball
16. players here are on guard for big hits
17. person who trains the team
18. after 3 of these, a batter is out
19. ball that travels high in the sky when hit
20. nine players working together



What should you know about long-term care?

We all hope to remain healthy and independent throughout our lives – but life can be unpredictable. If you were ever to need some type of long-term care, would you be financially prepared?

Long-term care encompasses everything from the services of a home health aide to a stay in an assisted living facility to a long residence in a nursing home. You may never need any of these kinds of care, but the odds aren't necessarily in your favor: Someone turning age 65 today has almost a 70% chance of needing some type of long-term care services and support in their remaining years, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

And all types of long-term care can involve considerable financial expense. The median annual cost for a home health aide's services is more than $60,000 per year, and it's more than $100,000 per year for a private room in a nursing home, according to Genworth, an insurance company. Furthermore, contrary to many people's expectations, Medicare usually pays very little of these costs.

Of course, some people expect their family will be able to take care of their long-term care needs. But this may not be a viable strategy. For one thing, your family members simply may not have the skills needed to give you the type of care you may require. Also, by the time you might need help, your grown children or other family members might not live in your area.

So, you may need to protect yourself and your loved ones from the potential costs of long-term care. Basically, you've got two main choices: You could self-insure or you could transfer the risk by purchasing some type of long-term care insurance.

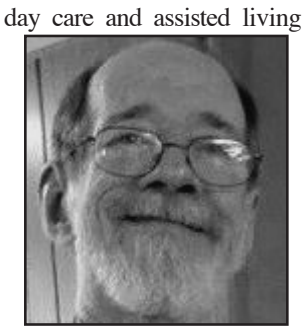
If you have considerable financial resources, you might find self-insuring to be attractive, rather than choosing insurance and paying policy premiums. You may wish to keep an emergency savings or investment account that's earmarked exclusively for long-term care to help avoid relying on your other retirement accounts. But self-insuring has two main drawbacks. First, because long-term care can be costly, you might need to plan for a significant amount. And second, it will be quite hard to predict exactly how much money you'll need, because so many variables are involved – your age when you start needing care, interest rates or inflation, the cost of care in your area, the type of care you'll require, the length of time you'll need care, and so on.

As an alternative to self-insuring, you could purchase long-term care insurance, which can provide benefits for home health care, adult day care and assisted living and nursing home facilities. However, you will need to consider the issues attached to long-term care insurance. For one thing, it can be expensive, though the younger you are when you buy your policy, the more affordable it may be. Also, long-term care policies typically require you to wait a certain amount of time before benefits are paid. But policies vary greatly in what they offer, so, if you are thinking of buying this insurance, you'll want to review options and compare benefits and costs.

In any case, by being aware of the potential need for long-term care, its cost and the ways of paying for it, you'll be able to make the appropriate decisions for your financial situation, your needs and your loved ones.

This content was provided by Edward Jones for use by Pat Hedge, your Edward Jones financial advisor at 10618 Randolph Street, Winfield, IN. 219-662-5999.

Obituary ~ John L. Fullerton



John L. Fullerton, 70, of Lakes of the Four Seasons (Crown Point, Indiana) unexpectedly passed away on Sunday, March 31, 2024 at home. A memorial service will be held 4:00 p.m. Friday, April 5th at Trinity Free Methodist Church, Merrillville, Indiana, with a dinner to follow. Graveside services are 11:00 a.m. Saturday, April 6th at Greenmound Cemetery, Keithsburg, Illinois. In lieu of flowers, the family ask memorials be directed to Trinity Free Methodist Church, 8650 Grand Blvd. Merrillville, Indiana 46410. Dennison Funeral Home, Aledo, Illinois is assisting the family. John Lee was born March 21, 1954 in Galesburg, Illinois the son of Curtis and Emily Chandler Fullerton. John graduated from Westmer High School in Joy, Illinois and went on to complete his undergraduate studies at Illinois State University in Normal, Illinois. He worked as a CPA for a number of companies including BP and himself. John never married but spent his time volunteering to further the gospel of Jesus Christ. He regularly took part in "Feed the Flock" which is an outreach of the Congregations of Merrillville Ministerial Association, to provide meals to the less fortunate. John also delivered donuts to local police stations. He used his CPA skills to serve his community as treasurer for Lakes of the Four Seasons for several years as well as being treasurer at Trinity FMC for nearly twenty years. John was well known as a person that served others and gave generously at every opportunity. He was known to many young people as "Uncle John" and was always ready to provide transportation to horse riding lessons, doctor appointments, school, or the grocery store. He treated everyone with kindness and dignity. John strongly believed in serving God by serving others in Jesus' name. In his younger days, he enjoyed going on cruises as well as annual fishing trips with his buddies. He will be greatly missed by his community, family, and friends. John will be remembered for far more than just his love of raisin toast. Those left to cherish his memory are his sisters: Amelia Helm and Augusta (Rob) Woodley; nieces and nephews: Becky (Brett) Jones, RJ (Savannah) Woodley, and Rachel Helm; as well as several great nieces and nephews and great great nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents. Online condolences may be left at www.dennisonfuneralhome.com.

The Family Folklore Foundation's Project: 1933 World's Fair-Y Tales

Family Folklore Foundation, Inc. announced that they can accomplish their goals via the Indiana Arts Commission, the National Endowment for the Arts, and South Shore Arts. Their 501C3 non- profit educational organization's mission is to educate people of all ages about the global village via field excursions and media projects, then in turn sharing our learning with the greater public.

Their volunteer participants enhance their social skills, critical thinking skills, problem solving skills, writing skills, media production skills, and dramatic expression. In short, they've learned to be better communicators as they become more self-realized.

Their current project, "The 1933 World's Fair-y Tales", will have a positive effect on the community of Northwest Indiana as well as their virtual friends. They'll celebrate the 90th Anniversary of the 1933 Chicago World's Fair and the movement of the Century of Progress buildings to the shores of the Indiana Dunes National Park in Beverly Shores, Indiana.

They will present our live radio play "If Houses Could Talk" to hundreds of people at the Indiana University Northwest Main Stage Theater in the new Fine Arts Building on Friday, April 19 at 11 a.m. The cost is $3 for students and $5 for non-students.

There will be colorful visuals from the fair, a scenario of the five houses crossing the lake in a barge pushed by Josephine the Tugboat, and a puppet show of dune flora and fauna. (Cash only.) This show is wonderful for World's Fair buffs, and students since it includes achievement concepts of language arts, state, country, and world study standards.

The experiences will appear in their book, "Family Folklore Musings: The 1933 Chicago World's Fair-y Tales" ($10) and on www.canva.com. (Cash only.)

Because of the generosity of our elected officials, they can share their amazing world class experience. If you would like more information about our doings, check out the links at www.famfolkfound.org and www.facebook.com/familyfolklorefoundation.

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Crown Point High School's Business Professionals of America to compete at national conference

Thirty-one students from Crown Point High School's BPA chapter recently competed at the BPA State Leadership Conference in Indianapolis. The conference was attended by nearly 1,300 delegates from across the state to vie for top honors in business, finance, technology, marketing, and health administration skills competitions. Students also attended leadership seminars and received awards for community service activities and competitive events.

Twelve students will attend the National Leadership Conference in Chicago on May 10-13th, competing in computer modeling, digital media production, entrepreneurship, fundamental accounting, health research presentation, and parliamentary procedure team. These students all placed in the top three in judged events and the top five in tested events at the state level. Student Miles Warren was elected to serve in the role as the President of Indiana BPA.

Attending the national competition will be Ari Bairaktaris - Parliamentary Procedure Team; Jake Baumann - Computer Modeling; Aiden Couwerhoven - Parliamentary Procedure; Mason Erbini - Parliamentary Procedure Team; Panagiotis Mattingly - Parliamentary Procedure Team; Jerzy Mayer - Torch Statesman and National Officer Candidate; Xzavier Menchaca - Fundamental Accounting; Mary Mumaugh - Health Research Presentation; Parker Niksch - Parliamentary Procedure; Devion Outten - Parliamentary Procedure; Cesar Querimit - Parliamentary Procedure; and Trent Tillich - Parliamentary Procedure Team.

Student competitors were Ari Bairaktaris, Jake Baumann, Jacob Boron, Lilly Caddick, Daniel Calvo, Noah Chapko, Nathan Collins, Aiden Couwenhoven, Mason Dunn, Mason Erbini, Mauricio Garcia, Josh Gorney, Aaron Graddy, Emma Lembcke, Aiden Matthews, Panagiotis Mattingly, Jerzy Mayer, Calum McCaskill, Xzavier Menchaca, Mary Mumaugh, Marko Nastovich, Parker Niksch, Devion Outten, Sonny Pape, Jackson Pugh, Cesar Querimit, Tristin Smith, Trent Tillich, Emma Vandenburgh, Miles Warren, and Ian Whitmer.

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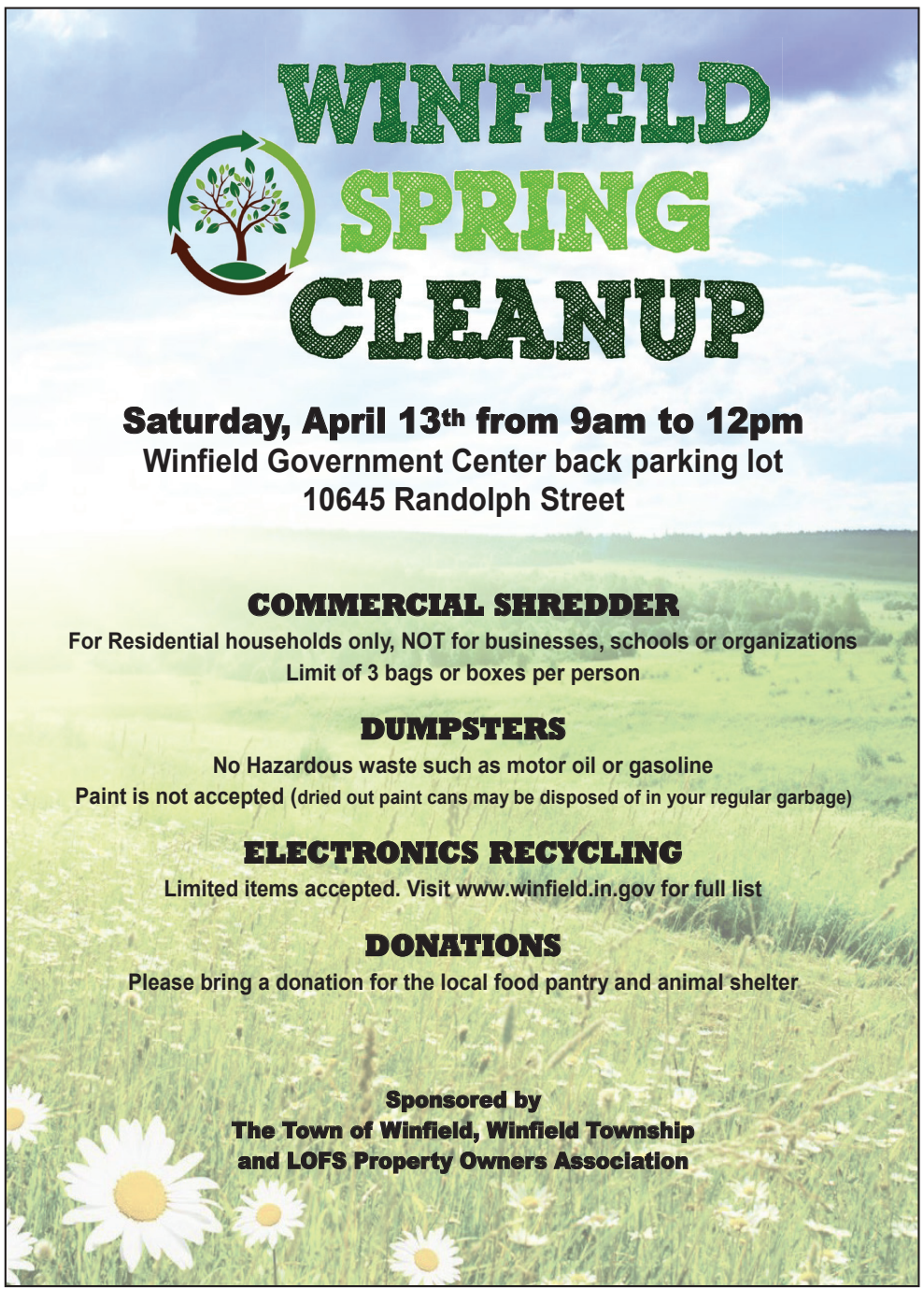

WINFIELD COMMUNITY CLEANUP DAY

Saturday, April 13, 2024 – 9 am to 12pm
Winfield Government Center – back parking lot

Please review the following information before heading to the event.

SHREDDING

For **personal papers** with a limit of 3 bags OR boxes per person. Business shredding will not be allowed. Paper clips and staples are ok. No metal batteries, electronics, or other non-paper material can be in boxes or bags brought for shredding.

DUMPSTERS

For **residential** debris only, **NO** construction materials.

ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

We do not accept anything with Freon, beryllium, or mercury
Other NOT Accepted Electronic Recycling Items include:

Adhesives, Paints, Chemicals of any kind	Lead-acid Batteries
Aerosol Cans	Live Ammunition
Air Conditioning Units	Mercury Thermometers
Audio and Video Cassettes	Microwaves, Toasters, and other Small
Bathroom Devices (electric razors,	Kitchen Appliances
toothbrushes, etc.)	Needles of any sort
Carbon Monoxide/Smoke Detectors	Pre-lit Christmas Trees
CDs and DVDs	Pressurized Canisters of any kind
Dehumidifiers	Refrigerators, Stoves, and other Large
Gas Powered Tools	Kitchen Appliances
General Rubbish	Software
Glass, Christmas Light Bulbs, etc.	Thermostats
Humidifiers/Dehumidifiers	Toys
Lamps/Light bulbs	Vacuums and Floor Cleaners
Lava Lamps	

DONATIONS

Please make sure donation items are non-perishable and not expired. Accepting food donations for people and pets! Also accepting monetary donations.