



## August is National Family Fun Month

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# Winfield American

Vol. 18, Issue 897

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August 16, 2019

## As summer winds down and school begins, Winfield's Town Marshal offers advice on driving and child safety

By Daniel Ball,  
Winfield Police Department  
Town Marshal

As we approach the end of summer, I want to take this time to offer some reminders about safety and the start of school.

The Crown Point School Corporation has scheduled children to return to classes on August 20 of this year. This includes Jerry Ross School here in Winfield, and Winfield Elementary School just south of town.

A new feature that you will see on Randolph Street is the flashing yellow lights indicating the school zone, in the morning and the afternoon. These lights were acquired through a safety grant from NIRPC and installed in July.

The speed limit when you see those lights flashing, indicating an active school zone, is 20 mph. The normal speed on that stretch of Randolph Street is 30 mph.

Be on the lookout for all school zone signals in the region and always obey the speed limits. School buses will be picking up and dropping off children again throughout Winfield.

A new law that went into effect in Indiana on July 1 created harsher penalties for drivers who pass a school bus when the 'stop arm' is out. This includes the suspension of their driving privileges. If a driver fails to stop for a school bus arm and causes an injury or death, they face felony charges.

This new law was drafted after a crash in Rochester, Indiana, killed three children and seriously injured a fourth one last year. Watch out for school crossing guards and for children waiting for school buses on sidewalks in residential neighborhoods. And be aware of increased traffic around schools and possible changes to traffic patterns during times where children are arriving or departing from school.

Lastly, I want to remind everyone the hazards of distracted driving. As you take that last summer vacation trip or weekend get-away, remember to wear your seatbelts and not to text and drive. Distracted driving is becoming a major issue. (See *Winfield* Pg. 3)

## Indiana's DNR Forestry receives the honor of planting an 'Anne Frank sapling' at the United Nations

The Diary of a Young Girl', aka 'The Diary of Anne Frank', chronicles Anne Frank's time of hiding with her family from the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands during World War II.

A genetic ancestor of an inspirational horse chestnut tree mentioned in the book, a sapling of which was grown at Indiana's DNR Forestry's Vallonia State Tree Nursery, was recently planted by DNR Forestry's Bob Hawkins in the Peace Garden of the United Nations building in New York City. Hawkins manages the nursery.

Frank's writings mention a (See *DNR* Pg. 4)



Picture left to right are Sharon Douglas, CEO, Anne Frank Center; Olga Yatskevich, The Holocaust and the United Nations Outreach Programme; Kimberly Mann, Chief Education Outreach Section, United Nations; Bob Hawkins, Vallonia Tree Nursery, Indiana Department of Natural Resources; Thiha Myint, John Grassi, and David Pina of the Plant Engineering Section, United Nations; and Tracey Petersen, Manager, The Holocaust and the United Nations Outreach Programme.

## LOFS family hosting charity golf outing to feed local students in need; registration underway

Contributed by  
Gretchen Mercer

No one should go hungry, especially children. In Northwest Indiana, some local students rely on school lunches for their primary meals. On the weekend, they do not have enough food to stave off hunger. The term for this is 'food-insecure'. Often these same students qualify for free or reduced meals at the school. However, there are still students who do not qualify for free or reduced meals and still struggle with having enough food to eat on the weekends.

According to the US Census Bureau for 2017, Lake County was ranked

#2 in the state for students receiving free and reduced lunch. Porter County ranked #11. According to www.FeedingIndiansHungry.org, one-in-seven Indiana residents is 'food insecure', both adults and children.

To help fight child hunger in Northwest Indiana, LOFS residents Mark and Gretchen Mercer started 'NWI No Child Hungry', a tax-exempt non-profit geared to feeding local students in need on the weekends during the school year.

The program, Buddy Bags, offers single-serve, non-perishable sacked meals for Saturday and Sunday. Their Buddy Bag program was modeled after a similar

program through the First United Methodist Church in Crown Point who services schools in the Crown Point City limits. NWI No Child Hungry services students in Winfield and Hebron.

Gretchen Mercer, president, said, "The buddy bag program at FUMC is genuinely helping hundreds of students in Crown Point. We saw an obvious need here and ran with it. When I was a kid, I was food insecure. My parents budgeted a certain amount of money to feed us [4 kids] and when the food was gone, it was gone. We just had to figure it out."

NWI No Child Hungry has 'buddied up' with the Church

of the Four Seasons to help store, pack, and distribute food for the Buddy Bag program.

### NWI No Child Hungry's First Annual Charity Golf Outing

12 p.m. on Friday September 27  
at the Four Seasons  
Country Club  
in Lakes of the Four Seasons.

Contact Gretchen Mercer  
**219-730-5928**

"We are very excited to partner up with COFS. We'll be bringing volunteers into the church to help store and

bag food. It's a win-win for both of us," said Mercer.

Hannah Cliver, vice president, and Cheryl Mercer, secretary, complete the board for this non-profit. Cliver grew up in a household with six mouths to feed and only her father as the sole provider.

"My father worked 12-hour days to put food on the table," said Cliver. "I can only imagine what relief a program like this would have brought. Seeing my dad work drives my passion to help others."

Cheryl Mercer has spent her life helping the local schools, especially when her sons, Mark and Brad, were students at Boone Grove.

"I love our community," she said. "This program can

help students stave off hunger so they can focus on being kids. That makes our community even better."

Mark Mercer, treasurer, noted that "Our community has already been jumping on board to help. People on Facebook and in the community have already started giving donations. Others have offered their time. It's amazing to see people come together like this."

For more information, contact Gretchen Mercer at 219-730-5928 or 'like' them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/nwinochildhungry.

NWI No Child Hungry website can be visited at www.nwinochildhungry.wixsite.com/mysite

## American College of Emergency Physicians respond to shootings in Dayton and El Paso

In response to last week's shootings in Dayton, Ohio and El Paso, Texas, Vidor Friedman, MD, FACEP, president of the American College of Emergency Physician released the following statement:

"The American College of Emergency Physician joins the nation in mourning and offers our heartfelt condolences to the families, friends and communities forever impacted by the tragic shootings in Dayton, Ohio, and El Paso, Texas, this weekend."

"News reports are numbing, and even the most well-intentioned thoughts and prayers fall short. As emergency physicians, we are on the frontlines of treating the victims of these senseless, violent acts. The frequency of firearm injuries and fatalities in this country is staggering, and there is no doubt about the threat posed to America's public health and safety."

"Firearm injuries — accidental or otherwise — should be addressed as a public health epidemic, with

investments in research and a sweeping commitment to change that matches or exceeds the level of a number of diseases, outbreaks or disorders that capture the public conscience but have exacted far less of a human toll in recent years."

In addition to their active participation in the American Foundation for Firearm Injury Reduction in Medicine — a non-profit organization founded and led by emergency physicians working to end the epidemic of gun violence through

research, innovation and evidence-based practice — ACEP supports legislative, regulatory, and public health efforts that:

- Encourage the change of societal norms that glorify a culture of violence to one of social civility;
- Investigate the effect of socioeconomic and other cultural risk factors on firearm injury and provide public and private funding for firearm safety and injury prevention research;
- Create a confidential national firearm injury

research registry while encouraging states to establish a uniform approach to tracking and recording firearm related injuries;

- Promote access to effective, affordable, and sustainable mental health services;
- Protect the duty of physicians and encourage health care provider discussions with patients on firearm safety;
- Promote the development of technology that increases firearm safety;
- Support universal background checks for firearm

transactions;

- Require the enforcement of existing laws and support new legislation that prevents high risk and prohibited individuals from obtaining firearms by any means; and
- Restrict the sale and ownership of weapons, munitions, and large-capacity magazines that are designed for military or law enforcement use.

"ACEP also supports further research and legislation to address effectiveness and ramifications of Gun (See *American* Pg. 3)

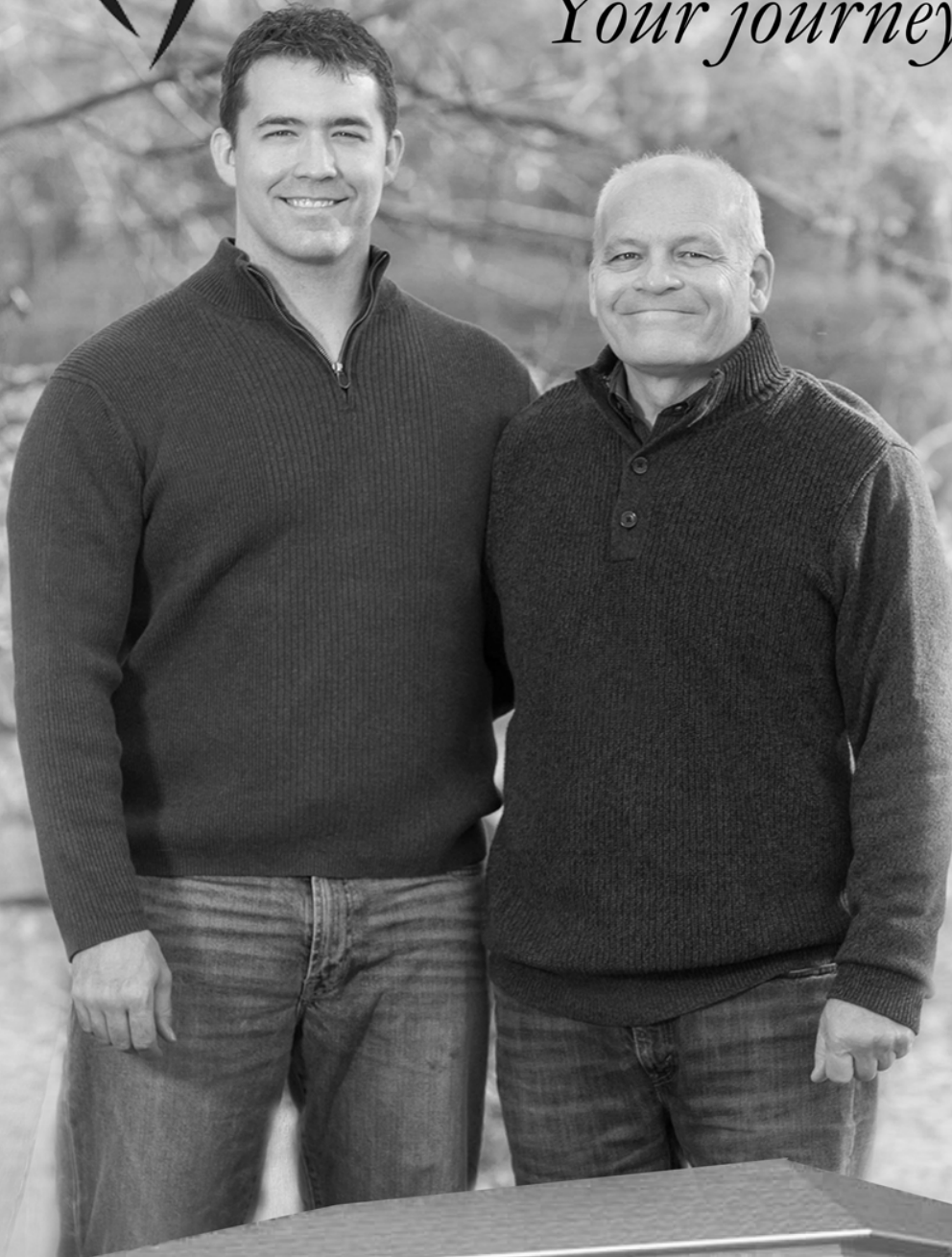
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### Crown Point concert with Marrakesh Express and Mr. Funnyman to benefit local disabled veterans

On Friday, August 23, the First United Methodist Church is bringing the VetRock concert back on the church's front lawn. The classic rock concert will begin at 6 p.m. and feature two of the Region's most popular rock bands. This is an all-ages event

and the public and families are invited to rock with Mr. Funnyman and Marrakesh Express ~ a Crosby, Stills, Nash, & Young experience, to support local, disabled veterans. This rock concert will take place on the front lawn of First United Methodist Church, located right off the Square in Crown Point at 352 South Main Street, on the northeast corner of Main Street and South Street. Concessions will be available, and all donations and proceeds will go to support the cause. The public is encouraged to attend to support these heroes. Bring blankets and chairs. In the event of rain, the concert will be moved inside the building.

For more information call 219-663-1515 or e-mail sarah@fumccp.org.

(Winfield from Pg. 1)

ing more deadly than drunk driving in U.S. Car makers are already adding more and more features to vehicles that distract drivers from what they should be doing – driving. Add to that our cell phones, GPS devices, or Bluetooth music selections, and it's a recipe for disaster. Driving is a physical activity that requires your undivided attention. Please put the cell phones down, click that seatbelt, and pay attention to the road ahead of you. Make that final summer vacation a memorable one for the fun that you have, not the tragedy that ensues.

(American from Pg. 1)

Violence Restraining Orders and Extreme Risk Protection Orders, which President Trump mentioned in his national response. ACEP will continue to convene public health and injury prevention experts to review the current state of research and legislation regarding firearm violence.”

For more information, visit [www.acep.org](http://www.acep.org).

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### Charity bowling event for area’s neediest children this Saturday for Woodstock’s 50th anniversary

The Buns Care Charity and the Buns Care Sisterhood Chapter are now accepting bowler and team registrations for the third annual Benefit Bowling Blast.

The fundraiser is being held to coincide with the 50th anniversary of 1969’s Woodstock Music & Arts Fair on Saturday evening, August 17, at Stardust Bowl III in Dyer.

With Woodstock turning 50, the theme this year is ‘All Things Hippie’. Bowlers who sign up before the end of July will receive tie-dyed event t-shirts. It is not required, but everyone is invited to embrace the hippie theme by wearing headbands, flowers, beads, peace symbols, and other accessories of the era.

Registrations are being now accepted at [www.bowlathon.net](http://www.bowlathon.net). Click on the Buns Care Charity link to register as a

team or individual online and pay via PayPal or credit card.

For \$24, each participant will receive three hours of bowling and shoe rental, the t-shirt, food and soft drinks, dessert, professional team and individual photos taken in a huge 8-foot photo booth, and chances to bid on an assortment of auction items.

Participants will be able to earn a part of the \$500 in prizes by encouraging friends and family to donate in their team’s name. Details at the event website. Lava lamps will be awarded for the best hippie costumes.

The Buns Care Charity is a 100% volunteer 501(c)3 non-profit dedicated to having a positive impact on the education and welfare of our community’s neediest children. Secure credit card donations are always appreciated and accepted at [www.bunscare.org](http://www.bunscare.org).

### The Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra announces schedule for its 2019-20 season

The Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra and Music Director and Conductor Kirk Muspratt have unveiled the 2019-20 season and the brochure is now available. The season consists of five concerts, two classical and three pops, as well as the annual Concert with Courses Gala.

“I promise each of you a season of your most requested favorites,” said Maestro Muspratt. “Please join us for a spectacular 78th season.”

After a season of following the music to a number of local venues, the symphony has announced they have a new home: The Auditorium at Living Hope Church, located at 9000 Taft Street, on the Crown Point-Merrillville border. The symphony noted they received rave reviews of this venue last year, from its intimate setting to it superb

acoustics, and are excited for everyone to experience it.

This season’s concerts are:

- **The Music of John Williams**  
Two performances: Thursday, September 19 and Friday, September 20, both at 7:30 p.m.
- **Holiday Pops**  
Featuring tenor Jesse Donner, the Northwest Indiana Symphony Chorus, Crown Point High School Choir, and Plum Grove Strings Three performances: Wednesday, December 11; Thursday, December 12; and Friday, December 13; all at 7:30 p.m.
- **Vivaldi, Rachmaninoff, & Beethoven**  
Featuring Yana Reznik, piano, and Michele Lekas, violin on Friday, March 6, 2020, at 7:30 p.m.
- **Carmina Burana & Firebird**  
Featuring Katherine Weber, soprano; Thomas Alaan, countertenor; Nick Ward, baritone; and the Symphony Chorus on Friday, April 3, 2020, at 7:30 p.m.
- **West Side Story in Concert**  
Featuring Brittany Hebel (Maria), Erich Bucholz (Tony), Kate Tombaugh (Anita), Bill McMurray (Riff), and the Symphony Chorus. Two performances: Thursday, May 14, and Friday, May 15, 2020, both at 7:30 p.m.

Additionally, the symphony will present their annual Gala, ‘A Concert with

Courses’, featuring flights of fine music and cuisine on Friday, October 25, 2019 at 6 p.m. at the Halls of St. George in Schererville.

Join the orchestra and chorus as they entertain with light classical and movie music intermingled with delicious cuisine. The soloist will be their very own concertmaster Michele Lekas. The evening will conclude with Beethoven’s ‘Ode to Joy’. Tickets are \$165 per person and includes dinner and the concert. There will also be a silent auction. Tickets may be purchased online. Initiations (See NISO Pg. 5)

(DNR from Pg. 1)

horse chestnut tree she could see out of her window, and how it helped give her hope of surviving. In 2010 that tree collapsed due to disease. Before that happened, seed from the tree was collected. The stewards at the Anne Frank House in the Netherlands grew and distributed saplings from the seeds to numerous locations around the world.

The Anne Frank Center for Mutual Respect, which is in New York, received 11 of the saplings to donate to worthy educational organizations across the United States.

After a three-year safe-guard quarantine, the saplings were cleared for planting in January 2013.

According to Hawkins, all other saplings from the original parent tree died,

except for the three cared for by Indiana’s Vallonia Nursery. Those three saplings were originally given to The Children’s Museum in Indianapolis, which passed them on to the nursery, where they could receive better care.

In 2014, Hawkins, per request of the National Anne Frank Foundation, delivered and planted the first sapling on the Capitol grounds in

Washington D.C.

“It is growing well and has a plaque stating its historical importance,” Hawkins said.

Plans are in the works for a site for the third tree.

More about DNR Forestry’s nursery program is at [www.forestry.IN.gov/3606.htm](http://www.forestry.IN.gov/3606.htm). More information about the Anne Frank Sapling Project is at [www.annefrank.com/sapling-project](http://www.annefrank.com/sapling-project).

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# Receive ten free trees by joining the Arbor Day Foundation in August

Spruce up your landscape by joining the Arbor Day Foundation in August. Everyone who joins the Arbor Day Foundation with a \$10 donation will receive ten free Colorado blue spruce trees or 10 white flowering dogwood trees through the Foundation's 'Trees for America' campaign.

The trees will be shipped postpaid between October 15 (NISO from Pg. 4) will be mailed at the end of August.

Subscribers can 'Compose Their Own Series' by picking only the concerts they wish to attend. Options are available to attend all five concerts in

and December 10, depending on the right time for planting in each member's area. The 6- to 12-inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge.

New members of the Arbor Day Foundation will also receive 'The Tree Book', which includes information about tree planting and care, and a subscription to Arbor Day, the Foundation's bi-monthly publication.

To receive the free Colorado blue spruce trees, join online at [www.arborday.org/august](http://www.arborday.org/august) or send a \$10 membership contribution by August 31 to Arbor Day Foundation, Ten Free Blue Spruces (or) Ten Free Dogwood, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, Nebraska, 68410.

concerts remaining. Single tickets range from \$35 to \$75 each. Season brochures, subscriptions and tickets are available now by calling 219-836-0525 ext. 200 or by visiting [www.NISOOrchestra.org](http://www.NISOOrchestra.org).

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## Indiana Recycling Coalition seeks nominations for 30 recycling rock stars

The Indiana Recycling Coalition is marking its 30th year as an Indiana non-profit organization with a year-long campaign. The organization aims to celebrate its past, present, and future by recognizing key leaders, sharing member's stories of impact, and raising funds to fuel its mission of working together to strengthen the circular economy in Indiana.

As part of the campaign,

the IRC will identify and recognize 30 'Recycling Rock Stars'; individuals who have made a significant impact on the organization, its mission, and the circular economy in the state of Indiana. The IRC will be recognizing these individuals by profiling them on their website, highlighting them via social media posts using the hashtag #IRCturns30, and honoring them during

a celebration planned for June 2020.

Individuals and organizations are encouraged to nominate individuals who have made a significant impact on the circular economy in Indiana, which includes the topics of recycling, waste reduction, reuse, composting, and rethink-redesign. Areas of impact include education, philanthropy, innovation, advocacy, community im-

pact, and program implementation.

Nominations are due August 31.

Forms can be found at [www.indianarecycling.org](http://www.indianarecycling.org). Once on the website, click on the 'News' tab, then select 'Latest Posts'. The link to the nomination form can be found within the article.

IRC Executive Director Allyson Mitchell states, "There are community leaders and unsung heroes

all over Indiana from diverse backgrounds and perspectives, working to improve sustainable materials management in various roles, organizations, and in-

stitutions. We look forward to sharing their stories and recognizing their efforts as we mark this milestone moment for the IRC."

## Obituary ~ Mary Lou Ingham

Mary Lou Ingham, age 92 of Crown Point, passed away August 4, 2019. She was a longtime member and volunteer at Church of the Four Seasons, Winfield. Mary Lou was a talented seamstress, gardener, painter, and enjoyed ceramics. She was truly the heart of the family. Mary Lou will be deeply missed by all that knew and loved her. She was preceded in death by her loving husband of 69 years- C. Frank Ingham; granddaughter- Kristina Komenich; brother- Freeman Russell; sister- Jean. Mary Lou is survived by her children- Bruce (Kay) Ingham, Kevin (Marla) Ingham, Julie (Mike) Heeg, Terri (Bret) Muldner; grandchildren- Kara Komenich, Andy and Alex Ingham, Evan and Nicole Heeg;



great-grandchildren- Nolan and Peyton Sullivan. Private funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Burns Funeral Home, Crown Point. Cremation will precede the service. A private interment will take place at Church of the Four Seasons Memorial Garden. [www.burnsfuneral.com](http://www.burnsfuneral.com)

## Lymphedema seminar offered in Crown Point on Tuesday, August 27

A lymphedema seminar led by a certified lymphedema therapist will be held at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, August 27, at Franciscan Health Crown Point Breast Care Center located at 1201 South Main Street in Crown Point.

This quarterly seminar, which is sponsored

by the Franciscan Health Rehabilitation Services, is geared toward individuals who are experiencing swelling or are at risk for swelling following lymph node biopsy, radiation, or other disorders.

For more information, call 219-662-5770.

## Inaugural South Shore Beer Fest featuring Indiana breweries to be held September 21

The Brewers of Indiana Guild has announced the Inaugural South Shore Beer Fest, a new fundraiser and beer festival scheduled for Saturday, September 21, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Whihala Beach in Whiting, Indiana.

South Shore Beer Fest directly benefits the Brewers of Indiana Guild and its member breweries and offers regional craft beer enthusiasts the opportunity to enjoy 3 oz. samples of hundreds of Indiana craft beers from 45+ Hoosier breweries and guests while engaging directly with the brewers who made them.

Features and benefits of South Shore Beer Fest include 3 oz. samples from 50+ Hoosier breweries and guests; local vendors offering entertainment, games, shopping and food; and \$3 from every ticket purchase will benefit a TBD local charity partner.

Participating breweries include 10-56 Brewing Company, 18th Street Brewery, 2Toms Brewing Company, 3 Floyds Brewing Company, 450 North Brewing, Bare Hands Brewery, Black Acre Brewing Company, Broad Ripple Brewpub, Burn 'Em Brewing, Byway Brewing Co. Chapman's Brewing Company, Creatures of

Habit Brewing Co., Crown Brewing, and Deer Creek Brewery.

Also, Devil's Trumpet Brewing, Fountain Square Brewery, Hop River Brewing, HopLore Brewing, Indiana City Brewing Company, Ironwood Brewing Co., Junk Ditch Brewing Company, Kekionga Cider Company, Mad Anthony Brewing, Maidens Brewery & Pub, Metazoa Brewing Co., Misbeehavin' Meads, New Day Craft, New Oberpfalz Brewing, Off Square Brewing, and Plat 35 Brewery.

Additionally, Pokro Brewing Co., Shoreline Brewery, Sour Note Brewing, St John Malt Brothers Inc., St. Benedicts Brew Works, Sun King Brewing Company, Switchyard Brewing, Taxman Brewing Company, Triton Brewing Company, Upland Brewing Company, Windmill Brewing, Zorn Brew Works Co., MashCraft Brewing and more will be participating.

South Shore Beer Fest general admission tickets are \$35 through September 2; after that date, the cost is \$40. Designated Driver tickets are \$10. For more information on South Shore Beer Fest, visit [www.drinkin.beer/southshorebeerfest](http://www.drinkin.beer/southshorebeerfest).

Tickets are available at [www.etix.com](http://www.etix.com).

## General Classifieds

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### Handyman Services

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### Help Wanted - Home and Office Cleaning

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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. (905)

### 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](mailto:chief@lofsfire.com). (905)



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Indiana prisoners training with IUPUI program to become peer health resources

Public health researchers at IUPUI are training some Indiana prisoners to become health resources and advocates for their peers as part of a worldwide program to improve health among underserved populations.

The Richard M. Fairbanks School of Public Health at IUPUI's ECHO Center is the first site to replicate Project ECHO's prison peer education program, launched in 2009 in New Mexico. Project ECHO, or Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes, is an innovative videoconferencing approach to sharing medical knowledge and training health care providers.

IUPUI's Indiana Peer Education Program ECHO team is training people who are incarcerated to become peer health educators. Graduates of the program can then pass on knowledge to their peers about common health conditions affecting prison populations, including infectious diseases such as hepatitis C, staph/MRSA skin infections and tuberculosis; mental health issues such as suicide risk, depression and anxiety; HIV and

other sexually transmitted infections; diabetes; and addiction.

These peer educators communicate strategies to reduce risky behaviors and serve as key resources for health information within the prisons, in addition to developing skills in self-efficacy, responsibility and leadership that can carry over into their lives after incarceration.

Andrea Janota, program coordinator at the ECHO Center, said the Indiana Peer Education Program's model is that "prison health is public health."

"Over 95% of people who are incarcerated will return to their home communities," Janota said. "The Indiana Peer Education Program ECHO is a train-the-trainer model that provides an extraordinary opportunity to improve not only the health of people who are incarcerated, but also the health of their families and communities."

Twenty men from the Correctional Industrial Facility in Pendleton and the Plainfield Correctional Facility completed the 40-hour peer education training program in June and have

begun hosting weekly health education workshops with their peers.

Janota said the peer health educators are talented and energetic facilitators who are able to use their lived experiences to reach their peers in ways that those who have never been incarcerated cannot. In addition to supporting health and safety in prisons, the program provides trainees with much more than health education.

"It provides the chance to be part of something, to be part of a community," she said. "While the program prepares peer educators with a strong understanding of health topics and preventative measures, it also helps them develop a professional skill set that is applicable anywhere in the workforce."

The Indiana Peer Education Program is a collaboration between the ECHO Center at IUPUI, Step-Up Inc., the Indiana Department of Corrections, and the Viral Hepatitis Program at the Indiana State Department of Health.

Indiana Chamber of Commerce seeks applications for 'Best Places to Work' in Indiana

Hoosier companies can now apply for the Indiana Chamber of Commerce's annual Best Places to Work in Indiana program.

Marking its 15th year, this program honors top organizations in the state as determined through employer reports and comprehensive employee surveys.

Companies need to have at least 15 employees in Indiana to be eligible. Out-of-state parent companies are also eligible to participate if at least 15 full-time employees are in the state.

We know employers from all over the state strive to be the best in their respective industries while fostering an inclusive environment for their workforces," says Indiana Chamber President and CEO Kevin Brinegar. "We are urging these companies to participate in the Best Places program so they can be recognized for their accomplishments, as well as learn valuable confidential information from their team to further strengthen their culture."

Employers must complete a questionnaire and employees fill out an anonymous engagement and satisfaction survey. All companies that apply will receive a thorough report analyzing strengths and opportunities for improvement in their workplace culture.

The Best Companies Group, which oversees similar programs in other states and large cities, is responsible for the selection process.

Winners are chosen in four groups: small companies of between 15 and 74 U.S. employees; medium companies of between 75 and 249 U.S. employees; large companies of between 250 and 999 U.S. employees; and major companies with 1,000 or more U.S. employees.

The application deadline is Friday, November 15. To apply, visit [www.bestplacestoworkin.com](http://www.bestplacestoworkin.com).

Indiana Archaeology Month commemorative t-shirt and poster package deal now available for \$10

The Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology has announced that this year's commemorative t-shirts for Archaeology Month are available for purchase.

The design includes a pottery sherd from the Angel site, and two historic artifacts recovered from another site, in Evansville.

The shirts are 100% cotton, white, short sleeved, and \$10 each.

Quantities are limited and are available in sizes from small to 2XL.

For mail orders, call 317-232-4200 or 877-463-6367. Shirts may also be purchased in the Department of Natural Resources Customer Service Center in the Indiana Government Center South, Room W160A, in Indianapolis.

Each purchase will also include a commemorative poster. DHPA staff will also have the shirts available for

purchase at the events they attend during the month.

Baseball tryouts coming this Sunday, August 18

Tryouts for 13u baseball will be held on Sunday, August 18, at 2 p.m. at the LOFS Little League Fields. Call or text Doug Hoover at 219-775-1612 with questions.

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*This day in history*

**August 16, 1977**

Music icon Elvis Presley died in Memphis, Tennessee, at 42 on this day in 1977.

When Presley was 19, he paid \$4 to record a few songs as a present to his mother. Sam Phillips, the owner of the studio, was intrigued by the rough, soulful quality of his voice and invited Presley back to practice with some local musicians. Afterwards, Phillips agreed to release the rendition as a single on his Sun Records label. The recording went to the top of the local charts, and Presley's career was launched.

In 1955 Sun Records sold his contract to a major record label, RCA, for a record \$40,000. His first record for RCA was "Heartbreak Hotel," which made him a national sensation in early 1956. He followed this up with the double-sided hit record "Hound Dog" and "Don't Be Cruel." In September 1956, Elvis appeared on The Ed Sullivan Show, and teenagers went into hysterics over his dynamic stage presence, good looks, and simple but catchy songs.

In 1958, Presley was drafted into the U.S. Army and served an 18-month tour of duty in West Germany as a Jeep driver. All five singles released during this period, which were recorded before he left for the Army and meant to keep his name in the public's mind, eventually became million-sellers.

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**Northwest Indiana native Dr. Lauren Hansen is the newest member of Advanced Dental Concepts**

Dr. Lauren Hansen was born and raised in Northwest Indiana and is a 2010 graduate of Griffith Senior High School. Hansen, who began her undergraduate studies at IUSB on an athletic scholarship for basketball, completed her undergraduate degree at IUPUI in Kinesiology.

Following undergrad, she attended and received her DDS degree from the Indiana University School of Dentistry.

Dr. Hansen is a certified Invisalign provider and offers complete family and cosmetic dentistry for patients of all ages. She enjoys developing relationships with her patients, based on trust and compassion. She is focused on providing education and quality, comprehensive patient-centered dental care.



**Dr. Lauren Hansen**

Outside of dentistry, Hansen enjoys spending time with her family, including her three little nieces. She loves being active, boating, and spending time outside. She also enjoys sports and is a big supporter of Chicago teams.

Advanced Dental Concepts is located at 10780 Randolph Street in Winfield, Indiana. The office can be reached at 219-663-6878.

**Blood drive at Franciscan Health Crown Point on August 26**

Donors are sought for the Franciscan Health Crown Point on Monday, August 26. The Crown Point blood drive will be from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Hospital Annex

Cafeteria located at 1201 South Main Street.

Crown Point donors will receive a voucher to redeem an official NFL-licensed Chicago Bears long sleeve

shirt as a 'thank you' gift.

Appointments are encouraged and can be scheduled by going online at [www.ht.heartlandbc.org/donor/schedules](http://www.ht.heartlandbc.org/donor/schedules) or by calling

1-800-786-4483 and choosing your preferred time. Walk-ins are also welcome.

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