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Winnecke Pleased With Ammended Budget That Invests Heavily In Local Mental Health

MARCH 2022
By Lloyd Winnecke

We've spent a great deal of time over the last many months listening to community leaders and identifying significant community needs, exacerbated by the pandemic.

One such area, where we have a substantial need, is in the area of mental health. It's estimated that nearly half of the 60 million adults and children living with mental health conditions in the United States go without treatment.

That's why we propose investing some of our \$64.4 million in American Rescue Plan Act with Southwest Behavioral Health, one of the city's leading mental health providers, to renovate two spaces in order to create badly needed mental health services.

The first is a new 20-bed adult residential treatment center. This co-ed facility will be for adults needing short-term residential treatment (28-35 days) following hospitalization or crisis.

The second new program will be a new child and family services neurodevelopmental psychiatry specialty center.

The new children and family service will allow for children and adolescents with dual diagnoses to have a local treatment option. No such treatment exists here today.

We also propose investing in the new Evansville Diversion Center, a six-bed 23-hour facility at United Caring Services.

This facility is designed to assist people experiencing substance use and/or a co-occurring mental health crisis.

The City of Evansville also recognizes Easterseals as a community partner in providing mental health services. The Easterseals Rehabilitation Center has developed a Doctoral level Internship for Clinical Psychologists and a post-doctorate Fellowship for psychologists who have just completed

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CCO Launches Local Favorites Awards

MARCH 2022

The CITY-COUNTY OBSERVER is proud to announce that we are planning to launch a "LOCAL FAVORITES" award in order to recognize the most outstanding local and home owned businesses in our community sometime in April 2022.

The "Local Favorites" categories will be chosen by a group of anonymous individuals.

We will be using our "Readers Poll" as the catalyst to determine the final winner in each category. Some categories will have anywhere from three (3) to five (5) businesses for our readers to choose from.

Our "Readers Poll" will allow our subscribers three (3) business days to select their City-County Observer "LOCAL FAVORITES" winners in each category.

Our anonymous panel will be meeting in the near future to select the categories for the 2022 CITY-COUNTY OBSERVER "FIRST ANNUAL LOCAL FAVORITES" contest.

Finally, after our panel meets we will publicly announce the categories and the nominees of the 2022 CITY-COUNTY OBSERVER "LOCAL FAVORITES" and the voting will start a week later.



UE Professors Make Statement Against Bigotry In Education



MARCH 2022
 MARCH, 2022

Evansville The University of Evansville's chapter of the American Association of University Professors has today released the following statement on "Efforts to Restrict Education on Race, Gender, and Sexuality."

In recent months, legislative bills aiming to restrict education on race, gender, and sexuality in schools, colleges, and universities have been introduced in states across the country. A common priority of these bills has been the suppression of discussions of racism in classes on American history. The rationale behind these efforts is generally that education on race, gender, and sexuality must be controlled and constrained by politicians because many American schools, colleges, and universities teach those subjects in a manner that is harmful and divisive.

We, the University of Evansville chapter of the American Association of University Professors, oppose such bills. Rather than being a site for restriction and exclusion, we believe that the classroom should be an open and inclusive space in which students are taught how to engage with challenging subjects in a safe and responsible manner. This kind of teaching can only occur when such subjects are explored in their full breadth and complexity. In the cases of race, gender, and sexuality, explorations of this nature often involve the

study of historically marginalized groups, such as BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) communities, women, and LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer +) communities. Just as the teaching of the histories of these groups should be honest and accurate, the teaching of the cultures of these groups should be informed and respectful. It is when these minimum standards are not met that education on race, gender, and sexuality becomes harmful and divisive.

We also believe that legislative bills that seek to define how education on race, gender, and sexuality is offered at universities are an affront to widely endorsed principles of academic freedom. At the University of Evansville, as at many universities, the faculty has primary responsibility over such areas as curriculum, subject matter, and methods of instruction. When professors design courses, they shape

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BREAKING NEWS SCAN 24/7

Commentary

Huston And The High Cost Of Education

MARCH 2022

By John Krull
TheStatehouseFile.com

INDIANAPOLIS—Indiana House Speaker Todd Huston, R-Fishers, just taught Hoosiers a valuable lesson.

Well, “costly” might be a more accurate word than “valuable.”

He showed us just how much money there is to be made in the education-reform racket.

Recently Huston resigned his position as senior vice president for the College Board. The College Board, among other things, designs the Scholastic Aptitude Test—SAT—and Advanced Placement courses for schools.

When he quit, Huston left behind an annual salary of at least \$460,738. Given that he’s worked there for nine years, he’s made a significant fortune.

Education is not normally a path to wealth.

Both Huston and the College Board insist that his resignation had nothing to do with the speaker’s championing of House Bill 1134. Both sides said Huston departed so he could spend more time focusing on his legislative leadership responsibilities.

They said this even though Huston took the unusual step of voting for HB 1134. Normally, House speakers only vote on measures if the balloting is close or—as likely was the case here—because they want to send a message that the measure in ques-

tion is a leadership priority.

HB 1134 has become a focal point of national controversy and derision. That’s because the bill does its best to prevent Indiana students from learning anything that might involve actual learning.

It limits instruction on “divisive” topics such as America’s tortured history regarding race. It hamstring teachers by establishing onerous parent-approval processes. And, because what is considered “divisive” is so vaguely defined, it seeks to chill free speech.

In many ways, HB 1134 isn’t just anti-education.

It’s un-American.

But the varied and serious shortcomings and transgressions of HB 1134 aren’t the lessons Huston taught Hoosiers with this episode.

No, the speaker’s bit of instruction demonstrated just how structurally corrupt the education reform movement has become.

Over a two-year period, Indiana’s state government with the general fund alone will spend more than \$35 billion. More than half of that spending is devoted to education.

With that much money involved, it was only a matter of time before some people decided they were entitled to larger and larger slices of the pie. The only ones who rarely seem to get a piece are the ones doing the work.

The teachers.

The education reform movement

started with a basic argument. They contended that introducing competition—making education more of a free market—would enhance innovation in classrooms and improve student achievement.

That gave rise to an abundance of charter schools and the most extensive—and expensive—school voucher program in the United States.

But a curious thing happened.

The oft-promised improvements in student performance never materialized.

A well-entrenched and well-funded network of education-reform support enterprises, though, took root, all of them drawing sustenance from the fertile soil of taxpayer funding. Some of them were outright for-profit operations. Others were not-for-profits heavily staffed by people drawing hefty salaries.

Some as high as \$460,738 per year. Some even higher.

As these education reform entities planted themselves ever more deeply in the state’s budgeting, they began to realize that hiring or arriving at other financial relationships with state legislators was a wise investment.

Indiana’s legislature always has been vulnerable to such arrangements. Because it is a part-time citizen legislature, every lawmaker

without substantial personal wealth must have a job—and a job that allows her or him to be away from work for several months every year.

The thinking behind making legislative work part-time was that doing so would force lawmakers to stay rooted in their communities.

In reality, it created massive opportunities for companies that either do business with the state or are regulated by the state to strengthen their positions by securing the services of lawmakers to perform often vaguely sketched-out

duties. Indiana history is littered with legislators who worked in their “private” lives as vaguely defined “counsel” or in some other foggy capacity for one well-padded company or nonprofit or another.

If a teacher did anything like this—secured employment that conflicted in any way with serving students—the outcry would be immediate and immense.

But when a lawmaker—even a legislative leader such as Todd Huston—does it?

Well, that’s just another day at the office.

A well-paid day.

In fact, a very well-paid day.

John Krull is director of Franklin College’s Pulliam School of Journalism and publisher of TheState-



It’s Time To Rediscover Civility And Discourse

MARCH 2022

By Marie Williams, PHD

Whatever happened to civility? In the early 1990s, M. Scott Peck wrote a book with the title, A World Waiting to be Born: Civility Rediscovered. I have read this book numerous times and can’t count the number of copies I have purchased and given to others. I have also never forgotten many of the lessons learned from this book.

In the first chapter, Peck takes the position that civility is more than politeness and good manners. He quotes Oliver Herford (1951) who once said, “A gentleman is one who never hurts anyone’s feelings unintentionally.” In the first five chapters, he then develops a redefinition of civility as “consciously motivated organizational behavior that is ethical in

submission to a Higher Power.” He also takes the position that one must become somewhat contemplative to

be civil. Quiet reflective time, sometimes taking the form of prayer, is needed for one to behave consciously.

If you read or listen to social media or any media today, I doubt you can find much evidence of civility at all. Consciously motivating ethical behavior? Submission to a Higher Power? These concepts are hardly recognizable. Impulsive and manipulative seem to have replaced con-

scious and ethical. It seems that greed for power and wealth has become our higher power.

Our democracy in the United States has been designed to “form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity...” (Preamble to the United States Constitution). Leaders in our country have always engaged in civil discourse to make that

happen. Surely, no one has all of the knowledge and truth needed to make the best decisions. By listening, sharing information and ideas, respecting differences, and working toward consensus, we can best deal with the challenges of the day and chart a course for the future.

I would like to suggest another book that was first published in 2002, but has a new 2022 edition, Crucial Conversations: Tools for Talking When Stakes Are High, Third Edition, by Grenny, Patterson, McMillan, Swizler, and Gregory. Research since its earliest publication has only emphasized the dramatic improvements in organizational behavior when these tools are implemented. I don’t believe the stakes have ever been higher in my lifetime!



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Community

Reising Announces 1st District Candidacy

MARCH 2022

Since returning to Evansville in 2006 after a 25-year career in international business and public policy, Karen Reising has worked to improve her community as an educator and civic activist.

Karen spent 13 years at Lucent Technologies (now part of Nokia), where she sharpened her problem-solving skills and attention to the bottom line. Two decades of experience working overseas also honed a keen appreciation for American democracy — and the responsibility each of us has in protecting and strengthening it through informed and respectful participation. She believes that local government is the best place to help restore America's faith in democracy, which is what spurred her to run for a seat on the Vanderburgh County Council.



Ms. Reising is committed to serving the needs of Vanderburgh County through more effective action to deal with the drug addiction and mental health issues with which so many families are struggling. She also believes that it is essential to ramp up economic growth through better broadband penetration throughout the county and more incentives for the private sector to build renewable fuel-based energy generation. In establishing a more activist role as a member of the council, she hopes to help restore the community's faith in government through consistent outreach and engagement and to demonstrate that despite our differences, our commitment to working together is what gives America its true strength and success.

A Memorial High School graduate,

Karen obtained her B.A. in Political Science at IU Bloomington and an M.A. in Arab Studies at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. That education led to a job in D.C. representing countries in the Middle East and Africa looking to better understand the decision-making process in Washington. Her work also helped major American companies like AT&T and G.E. Power Systems win over \$400 million in contracts in Egypt financed through the U.S. foreign aid program in the late 1980s and '90s.

In 2006, she returned home to Evansville with her two children and continued to help lead Lucent's efforts to provide the nation's public safety community with a more technologically advanced, secure communications network based on wireless technologies already in use by AT&T and Verizon. Karen left Lucent in 2008 and turned her attention to supporting the local community, most notably:

- (2013-2018) Co-founder of the Global Studies program at Reitz Memorial High School, teaching courses in global studies and Arab history, culture, and basic language skills.

- (2018-2020) President, Indivisible Evansville, the local chapter of the nationwide grass-roots activist organization dedicated to protecting and expanding American progress and democracy.

- (2019-2020) Board Member and President, Evansville Ballet Theatre

She is also a member of the League of Women Voters and a volunteer with Habitat for Humanity and United Way's Big Brothers and Sisters program.

Karen is married to Richard Reising, with whom she resides on Evansville's Westside. They are members of St. Benedict Cathedral parish. Their son, Drew (Buck) Reising, is a TN Titans sports talk personality in Nashville, and daughter Lilly is a freshman at IU Bloomington.

Bill Removing Child Crime Victims' Identities Passes

MARCH 2022

INDIANAPOLIS—A Senate bill removing names of minors who are victims of crimes from police logs has received bipartisan support and is on its way to a full House vote.

Senate Bill 117 passed out of the House Veterans Affairs and Public Safety Committee 11-0 Tuesday but with the requirement that the author and others address the concerns expressed in testimony.

Senate Bill 117, authored by Sen. Kyle Walker, R-Lawrence, aims to protect the identities of child victims. The bill received a hearing and a 11-0 vote of support from the House Veterans Affairs and Public Safety Committee, where lawmakers promised to look into potential unintended consequences of the bill.

Under current law, police logs only

omit the names of victims of sex crimes or sex trafficking. Walker and eight other authors and coauthors of the nonpartisan bill support extending this protection to all minors that are victims of crimes.

"What this bill would do is exempt the records and personal identifying information of minors on police logs for any public access," Walker said. "And it's supported by a wide variety of cities and towns across the state, many law enforcement professionals."

Prior to the committee meeting Tuesday, legislators amended the original bill so parents can give police agencies permission to release information and amended it to give police discretion in instances where a parent is the perpetrator of a crime against a minor. But there are still

concerns that the bill goes further than intended.

Steve Key, executive director of the Hoosier State Press Association, which represents newspapers across the state, expressed concerns that the bill could limit reporting on court proceedings, where names of minors may need to be redacted from public records. The bill could also create problems when children have gone missing or been taken by a parent.

Parents or guardians are able to release the name of a child who has been victimized, but Key said this wouldn't always solve the problems.

"I think we want to protect the privacy of the family and the information there," Key said. "But I don't think you want to tie the hands of the police department if they're in

situations where they want to release information and, for whatever reasons, they can't get ahold of family."

Key suggested that instead the bill language be amended to give individual police departments discretion on whether minors' names are included in police logs.

With the session wrapping by mid-March, committee chairman Rep. Randy Frye, R-Greensburg, said he did not want to hold the bill longer. Instead, he asked that Walker, House sponsor Rep. Steve Bartels, R-Eckerty, Legislative Services Agency staff and Key work together to fix any issues within the bill before second reading in the House.

"I trust the author and the sponsor to work with LSA and make sure that we will get this answer," Frye said.

Delta-8 Bill Takes Step Back From Marijuana Legalization

MARCH 2022

By Taylor Wooten

TheStatehouseFile.com

INDIANAPOLIS—A version of THC has been legal in Indiana since 2018, but a new bill aims to change that.

Senate Bill 209, authored by Sen. Liz Brown, R-Fort Wayne, and Sen. Michael Young, R-Indianapolis, would change references in Indiana laws to "delta-9 THC" to just "THC."

Delta-8, which is derived from hemp, was legalized federally under the 2018 Farm Bill. SB 209 would change definitions in Indiana drug schedules from "delta-9 THC," or the form of THC derived from cannabis, to just "THC." This would envelope delta-8 as well. So in essence, SB 209 aims to outlaw all forms of THC, closing the loophole that has allowed smoke shops to sell products containing delta-8 THC.

Since the legalization, farmers and retail stores have profited from the products, and Hoosiers have been able to easily get their hands on a legalized form of THC.

Jason Straw, the chair of the Indiana branch of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, or NORML, said the restriction on delta-8 doesn't just affect Hoosiers who use the

substance recreationally. It also would harm those who rely on it.

Hoosiers suffering from opioid addiction, Parkinson's disease and post-traumatic stress disorder have found delta-8 THC an effective alternative to delta-9 based medical marijuana, according to Straw.

"Delta-8 is a harm reduction tool for opioid abusers and for these patients [with PTSD and chronic illnesses]," Straw said.

Rather than getting rid of THC use among these groups, Straw said they will seek it out in other places.

"When Indiana makes a product like delta-8 illegal, they have to either go out of state—taking their tax dollars with them—to get what they need or buy cannabis illegally on the street, thus risking the quality of the product," Straw said.

The bill would have a large financial impact on hemp retailers and farmers. Straw said just one retailer he's spoken to will lose over \$1 million. The retailer owns three stores.

In the past, Gov. Eric Holcomb has said he would only be interested in marijuana legalization for Indiana if it were legalized on the federal level. But Straw says this isn't what is holding the state back.

"When I go down and I talk to people at the Statehouse, they kind of give this response of, 'Well, we just can't believe it's that good. We can't believe that it does all the things that it does,'" Straw said. "The problem is, it's a lack of education."

Straw estimates that about 40% of Republicans in the legislature support legalizing marijuana, while about 60% don't. His conversations with lawmakers have shown that they were

taught marijuana is bad and changing their minds happens one at a time.

"That's what's really holding us up," Straw said. "It's not Gov. Holcomb because he has the weakest veto, and it takes more work to get the bill to his desk than it does to bring it back and overturn."

Nineteen states have regulated or restricted delta-8 already, including neighboring states Michigan and Kentucky.



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Community

An Interview With Deputy Mayor Steve Schaefer

MARCH, 2022

By Michael L. Smith, Jr.

This series of interviews aims to find Evansville locals making a positive impact on the community through their hard work and bravery to showcase their amazing contributions.

This week I had the opportunity to speak with Steve Schaefer, Interim Parks Department Executive Director, Deputy Mayor of Evansville, and the Mayor's Chief of Staff.

QUESTION: TELL US A LITTLE ABOUT YOURSELF AND YOUR WORK AS DEPUTY MAYOR OF EVANSVILLE

ANSWER: Sure, my name is Steve Schaefer and I'm a native of Southwest Indiana. I went to St. Wendel in Posey County, grew up there, and attended Mater Dei High School. I earned my Bachelor of Science degree from Indiana University and my Master of Public Administration from the University of Southern Indiana. I worked in Washington, D.C., and Indianapolis for a time before moving back to Evansville. I currently live in Evansville with my lovely wife Ashley and my two boys Leo and Jack.

As Deputy Mayor, every day is a new challenge, but our team is made up of problem solvers and we love to find solutions. Whether it's trying to finance a big project, like the Aquatic Center or convention hotel, or tasks such as improving customer service in a city department or making sure there's mulch in the parks. It's a wide range of issues that we have to tackle. Mayor Winnecke has a frequent saying, which is "That'll go in the book!", because we have so many stories that we have seen and experienced over the years. Whether that be stories of success or stories of failure. It has been quite a rollercoaster but in the best of ways.

I also have a little bit of a unique

connection with the city of Evansville. We share the same birthday! The city is 210 years old, and I am the first Deputy Mayor in all that time. I suppose that is my claim to Evansville fame, so to speak. Funnily enough, when the City Council approved creating that position back in 2016, Zach Evans, who was writing for the Courier &

Press at the time, jokingly asked me if they would have to start putting up pictures of all the Deputy Mayors on the wall opposite all the pictures of the mayors. With a chuckle, I said, "It's not that historic, but I'll see what I can do."

I started as Mayor Winnecke's Chief of Staff from the beginning, helping manage 20+ departments. I continue that work now, as well as helping make sure major projects get off the ground and actually get completed. It's been fun, I love it. It's been a dream job. You know, I don't think there is another job that allows you to be involved in so many aspects of the community: social issues, economic development, city services. It is exhausting, it's a lot of hard work, but it is worth it. It is incredibly rewarding.

QUESTION: HOW HAS THE JOB COMPARED TO OTHER WORK YOU'VE DONE FOR VARIOUS MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

ANSWER: Well, whether it was Congressman Buschon (IN-08), Congressman Boehner (OH-08), or Congressman Hostettler (IN-08), that work on the legislative side of government has been incredibly helpful in my work now. It's a lot different on the executive side of things, being in the mayor's office and handling public works. I've worked in just about every layer of government but working in city government has been the most rewarding. That's because in city government when you make a decision, it is generally enacted in short order or will take place soon. You don't get bogged down in the

procedural aspect of things. So, it's been exciting. Lobbying for I-69, being involved in the State House, working through the legislative process, sometimes issues could get hung up due to policy differences or procedural maneuvering. Whereas on this site, you create a plan, figure out the best way to enact that plan, and get it done.

QUESTION: WHAT ARE YOU CURRENTLY TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH IN THE COMMUNITY?

ANSWER: To be honest, it is an extremely long list, one that has evolved during our time in office and will continue to evolve as we pursue projects the city both wants and needs. Of course, there are the typical, run of the mill political answers like creating jobs and lowering taxes, but I feel like those are things everybody wants. We are interested in how we can accomplish those kinds of goals, but having a plan and details is what's really important. The devil is in the details, as they say. Speaking broadly, we are interested in solving the city's problems with realistic solutions. Maintaining and building infrastructure is one part of it, whether that is roads or parks or what have you. As a city we really need those quality-of-life amenities taken care of. Educating the public about local government is another area as well.

In terms of specific projects, I would say the revitalization of Roberts Park is a big project. It's not just renovating the site where Roberts Park used to be, but it is also improvements to Wesselman, Hartke Pool, the trails out there. It is a massive project that the mayor and I are determined to get off the ground. We're spending a lot of time there. With my role as Interim Parks Department Executive Director, I've also been focused on facilitating a new Parks master plan for making improvements to our neighborhood parks. Put simply, we are rebuilding the Evansville Parks & Recreation Department.

QUESTION: HOW DO YOU JUGGLE BEING THE DEPUTY MAYOR OF EVANSVILLE, MAYOR'S CHIEF OF STAFF, AND THE INTERIM PARKS DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR ALL AT ONCE?

ANSWER: It can be exhausting. It

is time-consuming, it is hard work, but it is incredibly worthwhile. I always think of that well-known quote "You'll rest when you're dead." Or even "Make whatever you can of the time you have." Certainly, when you're in a position like this, you never know what the future holds. From the beginning days of joining Mayor Winnecke, it's been pedal to the metal. When it came to helping Evansville, we hit accelerate and we have not stopped. I don't see any yielding of that mentality in the future.

In regard to juggling all of it, the good thing is that as Chief of Staff and Deputy Mayor, I already have insight into the main projects happening in the departments and have experience trying to help them manage their workload. Projects like the Aquatic Center, which I chaired the task force, or developing plans for Roberts Park were already on my plate. I think the community will be very happy with some of the programs and initiatives being developed that will be announced in the near future.

QUESTION: HOW HAS THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IMPACTED YOUR WORKING PERFORMANCE FOR THE CITY.

ANSWER: Right, right, and you know we've actually talked about that a bit. Creating a book of best practices or something along those lines. There simply hasn't been enough time to do it yet, unfortunately. Really, the pandemic changed everything. I know everybody probably says that, but it's true. It has had a lasting impact. During the pandemic, I've chaired the mayor's "Reopen Evansville" task force. That was a comprehensive, city-wide effort to not only address the challenges of the pandemic but also plan for the "light at the end of the tunnel" so to speak. We had both community leaders and medical experts involved, with a focus on workplace safety, Covid testing, food security, and business assistance. We always had the medical professionals involved in all the decisions as we moved forward. That was key.

On a personal level... well, let's be honest, we could talk for hours and hours about the impact of the

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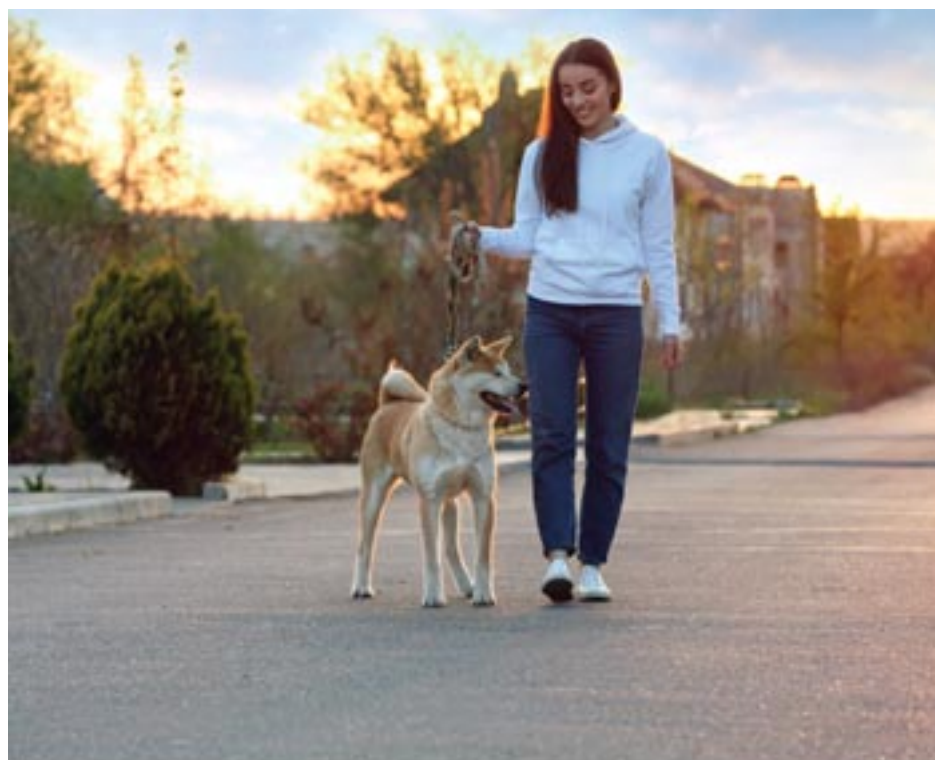
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Community

Recent Vanderburgh Co. Marriage Licenses

Issued Date	License #	Applicants
02/01/2022	2022-0000063	KYLE T ADLER (Age 34) BROOKE L PORTER (Age 26)
02/02/2022	2022-0000066	KIMBERLY RENA KING (Age 36) DAVID LEVON MCGREGOR (Age 47)
02/02/2022	2022-0000064	BRIAN R HARDMAN (Age 54) KRISTINE R LYONS (Age 52)
02/02/2022	2022-0000065	MOLLY ANNE RIVERS (Age 39) CHAD EDWARD GOLDSMITH (Age 45)
02/07/2022	2022-0000072	LILLY SIERRA HUDSON (Age 24) LLOYD NELSON WEBB III (Age 25)
02/07/2022	2022-0000068	NICHOLAS DAVID GOFF (Age 32) ABBY M SMITH (Age 31)
02/07/2022	2022-0000070	DEONDRAE CURTIS FRAZIER (Age 30) PRISCAH JEAN DORISTIN (Age 32)
02/07/2022	2022-0000069	ANTARIO NORMAN (Age 37) KARI SUTTON (Age 36)
02/07/2022	2022-0000071	JOSHUAH LEE FIELDS (Age 42) MARY NICOLE HATFIELD (Age 30)
02/07/2022	2022-0000067	JAMES L MOORE (Age 49) ANGELA D JONES (Age 47)
02/08/2022	2022-0000074	ALEXIS Z FELDER (Age 24) DARIQUE V CARTER (Age 26)
02/08/2022	2022-0000073	ENOS JR TIBNOL (Age 32) SUSAN HILAI (Age 37)
02/09/2022	2022-0000076	MARC LEE VANCE (Age 44) TARA ELIZABETH SAMUELS (Age 44)
02/09/2022	2022-0000077	JOSEPH DAVID ROBERTS (Age 30) ELIZABETH ANN CARTER (Age 29)
02/09/2022	2022-0000078	LUCAS PARTIN (Age 20) MABEL POWERS (Age 20)
02/09/2022	2022-0000075	NICHOLAS ANDREW IACCARINO (Age 34) KASONDRA JO MORRIS (Age 33)
02/11/2022	2022-0000079	DENNIS A BEDELL (Age 48) ELIZABETH NEWLAND STANTON (Age 42)
02/11/2022	2022-0000080	ANTHONY C JOHNSON (Age 43) NICOLE L JACKSON (Age 39)
02/11/2022	2022-0000081	MACKENZY LOUIS (Age 32) ELNADA DESHOMMES (Age 25)
02/14/2022	2022-0000082	ROBERT LOWERY JOHNSON (Age 61) SUSANNE B KARSHNA (Age 60)
02/14/2022	2022-0000084	BENJAMIN STEVEN BAKER (Age 32) STEPHANIE MARIE MYERS (Age 32)
02/14/2022	2022-0000086	PAUL ISAAC GOODMAN (Age 28) ALLISON MARIE HOPF (Age 29)
02/14/2022	2022-0000087	NATHAN ALLEN SMITH (Age 32) ANGELA YVONNE WILLIAMS (Age 43)
02/14/2022	2022-0000083	ZANE ALLEN GOLIKE (Age 25) KAYLA RAE BUTLER (Age 27)
02/14/2022	2022-0000085	DOUGLAS E CROWE (Age 40) CRYSTAL K PROVENCE (Age 38)
02/22/2022	2022-0000108	KIERRE FRED HILLENBRAND (Age 26) KENDALL ELAINE STROUD (Age 27)
02/22/2022	2022-0000109	STORMY RENEE' ELKINS (Age 44) ROBERT BILSKIE (Age 45)

Issued Date	License #	Applicants
02/22/2022	2022-0000106	HAIYAN XUE (Age 30) WENHUANG CHEN (Age 31)
02/22/2022	2022-0000110	TONY LEE MONKS (Age 50) ANNA CAROLINE STILLWAGONER (Age 39)
02/22/2022	2022-0000112	KENDRA RONYAE JONES (Age 35) ALTON TERCELL RIAS (Age 40)
02/22/2022	2022-0000115	ELAINE C LABRADOR (Age 39) ERNEST L ADAMS (Age 46)
02/22/2022	2022-0000113	ABBEY S GILES (Age 19) JUSTICE K MILAN (Age 25)
02/22/2022	2022-0000114	BREANNA STOVER (Age 22) RYAN SHIPLEY (Age 27)
02/22/2022	2022-0000111	JOSEPH W TURNER (Age 40) KRISTEN L STOFLETH (Age 40)
02/22/2022	2022-0000107	ADAM SMITH (Age 38) AMBER ANDERSON (Age 46)
02/23/2022	2022-0000117	MATTHEW NICHOLAS ADAMS (Age 25) TIFFANIE CHELSEA WALKER (Age 25)
02/23/2022	2022-0000116	ERICA RENEE CARPENTER (Age 30) KATIE ELIZABETH FITZGERALD (Age 28)
02/24/2022	2022-0000120	RACHEL LEIGH DOSS (Age 43) CHRISTOPHER ROBERT FLEEGER (Age 45)
02/24/2022	2022-0000119	DAKOTA ROBERT POPE (Age 28) JASMINE MARIE HAYDEN (Age 21)
02/24/2022	2022-0000121	LEONEL RODRIGUEZ VILLALOBOS (Age 31) BRENDA D BARRERA (Age 31)
02/24/2022	2022-0000118	RICHARD A LEVI (Age 41) SUSAN M COLLINS (Age 33)
02/25/2022	2022-0000123	TRAVIS WAYNE SMALL (Age 42) CHARITY LYNN BRATCHER (Age 36)
02/25/2022	2022-0000122	TAWONE RATCLIFF (Age 44) TATILLIA DAWN PHIPPS (Age 39)
02/28/2022	2022-0000126	MATTHEW ALAN GOOD (Age 31) MAKAELA CHONJONTAE BROWN (Age 26)
02/28/2022	2022-0000124	JAY ALAN OLDFIELD (Age 41) STEPHANIE NICOLE NEAL (Age 37)
02/28/2022	2022-0000125	MALLORY JOHNSON (Age 36) RYAN KEITH ADAMS (Age 36)



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Community

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ALEXANDER FUNERAL HOME

East	
John Frederick Schaeffer	Mar. 01, 1943 – Feb. 27, 2022
Hilda Holsapple	May 24, 1925 – Feb. 24, 2022
James E. "Eddie" Smith	Aug. 26, 1937 – Feb. 24, 2022
James Gray	May 22, 1935 – Feb. 24, 2022
Kathleen Sickman	Oct. 27, 1924 – Feb. 24, 2022
Gerd Helmen	Feb. 12, 1932 – Feb. 21, 2022
Carl Billings	Dec. 14, 1951 – Feb. 20, 2022
Elizabeth Stephens	Aug. 07, 1961 – Feb. 21, 2022
Kerry Gayle Davis	Sep. 09, 1962 – Feb. 19, 2022
Dorothy H. Becker	May 22, 1917 – Feb. 20, 2022
James "Jim" W. Reynolds II	Sep. 25, 1946 – Feb. 15, 2022
Michael Ray Tenny	Feb. 16, 1956 – Feb. 15, 2022
Vernon Wells	Jan. 26, 1943 – Feb. 13, 2022
John E. Marley	Dec. 20, 1941 – Feb. 13, 2022
Ronald D. Hagman	Oct. 27, 1948 – Feb. 02, 2022
Mark Louis Andre Pochon	Jan. 09, 1953 – Feb. 04, 2022
Rosario Jacinto Ranola	Sep. 17, 1933 – Feb. 07, 2022
Sue Dormeier	Jul. 26, 1954 – Feb. 06, 2022
Marlene Flemming	Aug. 12, 1952 – Feb. 03, 2022

East

Shaun Anthony Simpson	Apr. 16, 1984 – Feb. 26, 2022
Jason Garner Jarboe	Dec. 31, 1976 – Feb. 25, 2022
Dorothy Jean Haines	Oct. 02, 1932 – Feb. 24, 2022
Thomas Melvin Turpen	Nov. 09, 1939 – Feb. 23, 2022
Ronnie C. Rowley	Feb. 07, 1942 – Feb. 22, 2022
Penelope Wheatly-Smith	Feb. 15, 2022 – Feb. 22, 2022
Wilma Jean Lovell	Jun. 21, 1927 – Feb. 20, 2022
Maxine M Templeton	Dec. 06, 1936 – Feb. 19, 2022
Barbara Ann Kissel	Jan. 07, 1934 – Feb. 19, 2022
Herman Joseph Frankenberger	Apr. 13, 1943 – Feb. 18, 2022
William "Butch" Sears	Jan. 07, 1946 – Feb. 16, 2022
Robert William White	Feb. 27, 1929 – Feb. 1, 2022
Earl B. Thorton	May 29, 1943 – Feb. 14, 2022
Dorothy D. Moore	Dec. 31, 1939 – Feb. 10, 2022
Mary Jean Prevo	Feb. 11, 1938 – Feb. 11, 2022
Marjorie Tyler	Nov. 17, 1929 – Feb. 10, 2022
Richard Hogan	Oct. 14, 1954 – Feb. 08, 2022
Jetalyn "Jetti" Willett	Sep. 14, 1962 – Feb. 08, 2022
Jerry R. Gardner	Feb. 27, 1947 – Feb. 07, 2022
William Eugene Beckham	Aug. 12, 1958 – Feb. 03, 2022
Noel "Butch" Thompson	Jan. 11, 1944 – Feb. 05, 2022
Jo Nell Bright	Jun. 21, 1933 – Feb. 04, 2022

North

Geneva "Ann" Smith	May 31, 1945 – Mar. 01, 2022
Simon J Leon Jr.	Sep. 22, 1954 – Feb. 24, 2022
Keith Smith	Jan. 07, 1947 – Feb. 21, 2022
Dorothy Wildt	May 03, 1926 – Feb. 22, 2022
Georgia H Cluck	Aug. 21, 1958 – Feb. 20, 2022
William C Sander	Jul. 25, 1925 – Feb. 15, 2022
North continued	
Bonnie M Williams	Mar. 07, 1932 – Feb. 14, 2022
Joyce Schaar	Mar. 22, 1956 – Feb. 12, 2022
Betty L Charlier	Mar. 21, 1927 – Feb. 13, 2022
Kenneth E. Hodgson	Jan. 09, 1947 – Feb. 09, 2022

BOONE FUNERAL HOME

Glenn Bowen	Feb. 21, 1950 – Feb. 21, 2022
Phyllis Brown	Apr. 13, 1929 – Feb. 27, 2022
Ben Cates	Oct. 03, 1923 – Feb. 03, 2022
Donna Ross	Sep. 16, 1936 – Feb. 24, 2022
Dwight Parker	Sep. 16, 1936 – Feb. 23, 2022
James Johan "Jimmie" Woolen	Nov. 24, 1999 – Feb. 17, 2022
Agnes "Aggie" Pfender	Mar. 17, 1930 – Feb. 21, 2022
John Chaddock, Jr.	Feb. 24, 1954 – Feb. 21, 2022
Brenda Barnett	May 23, 1943 – Feb. 21, 2022
Esther Neuendorf	May 29, 1935 – Feb. 15, 2022
Donna Scrapper	Jun. 17, 1963 – Feb. 14, 2022
Rev. Wayne F. Miller	Oct. 15, 1931 – Feb. 10, 2022
Sharisu Benson	Jul. 24, 1993 – Feb. 09, 2022
Benny Blackford	Jan. 19, 1954 – Feb. 08, 2022
C. "Ray" Holloman	Apr. 14, 1954 – Feb. 08, 2022
Constance Dee Latham	Feb. 12, 1936 – Feb. 07, 2022
Jackie "Jack" Duff Sr.	Apr. 01, 1941 – Feb. 05, 2022
Richard J. "Rick" Bullington	Feb. 20, 1957 – Feb. 04, 2022
Tom Stovall	May 12, 1951 – Feb. 04, 2022
Phillip Dill	Jan. 22, 1988 – Feb. 04, 2022
Bryce Corbin	Apr. 16, 1968 – Feb. 01, 2022

MASON BROTHERS FUNERAL SERVICES

Willie Mae Vanleer-Bledso	May 11, 1929 – Feb. 26, 2022
Margaret Robinson	Feb. 25, 1926 – Feb. 25, 2022
Timothy Travis Smith	June 20, 1963 – Feb. 13, 2022
Frank Dee-Pee Terry	Jun. 22, 1937 – Feb. 13, 2022
Geraldine Jagoe	Jan. 01, 1949 – Feb. 12, 2022
Raymond King	Nov. 06, 1963 – Feb. 11, 2022
Allen Denkins Jr	Nov. 18, 1950 – Feb. 07, 2022

Helen Elizabeth Banks
Lucretia Arnett
Edith Ann Suggs
George W. Riley
Junnell Edgerson
Darius Xavier Happoldt
James Anthony Brimm

July 01, 1933 – Feb. 07, 2022
Apr. 28, 1952 – Feb. 05, 2022
Apr. 16, 1949 – Feb. 04, 2022
Jul. 10, 1940 – Feb. 03, 2022
Sep. 09, 1952 – Feb. 03, 2022
May 28, 1991 – Feb. 01, 2022
Apr. 09, 1954 – Feb. 01, 2022

PIERRE FUNERAL HOME

Jeffrey Lee Pickett
Brenda Kay Koch
Robert Michael Bretz
Sue J. Clark
Paul D. Blondin
Erick W. Schwartz
Audrey Louise Head
Clare Marie Higgs
David Eugene Curtis
Larry E. Lutz
Sharon Lynn Baron
Lester B. Steinmetz
John H. Emhuff
Thomas Miller
Kenneth E. Fisher
Judi Diefenbaugh
Daniel Norman
Josephine Ann Peitzmeier
Stanley E. Helmer
Imelda Severina Woodward
James E. Dockery
Debra Jo Taylor
Terry Ryan Smithhart
Stephen R. Stewart
Mary Agnes Goedde
Edward E. Jackson
Patricia A. Wolf

Sep. 29, 1970 – Feb. 26, 2022
Aug. 22, 1947 – Feb. 25, 2022
Dec. 15, 1944 – Feb. 23, 2022
Jul. 07, 1936 – Feb. 22, 2022
Nov. 29, 1954 – Feb. 21, 2022
Dec. 10, 1956 – Feb. 21, 2022
Apr. 14, 1943 – Feb. 19, 2022
Jan. 11, 1964 – Feb. 17, 2022
Mar. 29, 1954 – Feb. 17, 2022
Oct. 26, 1938 – Feb. 15, 2022
Mar. 29, 1946 – Feb. 14, 2022
Jun. 25, 1944 – Feb. 11, 2022
Mar. 09, 1936 – Feb. 10, 2022
Jan. 26, 1958 – Feb. 09, 2022
Oct. 19, 1937 – Feb. 08, 2022
Sep. 11, 1954 – Feb. 08, 2022
Aug. 11, 1941 – Feb. 08, 2022
Sep. 22, 1934 – Feb. 06, 2022
May 22, 1954 – Feb. 06, 2022
Feb. 12, 1932 – Feb. 06, 2022
May 23, 1939 – Feb. 05, 2022
Jan. 01, 1955 – Feb. 04, 2022
Oct. 01, 1967 – Feb. 04, 2022
Dec. 27, 1950 – Feb. 03, 2022
Feb. 01, 1939 – Feb. 02, 2022
Dec. 14, 1943 – Feb. 01, 2022
May 12, 1935 – Feb. 01, 2022

TITZER FUNERAL HOME

North
Michael Hooper
James Boyd
Charles Schneider
James R. Loge

Apr. 30, 1949 – Feb. 28, 2022
Jun. 25, 1945 – Feb. 24, 2022
Dec. 14, 1937 – Feb. 23, 2022
Oct. 01, 1946 – Feb. 09, 2022

ZIEMER FUNERAL HOME

Ann S. Behrens
Misty Dawn (Ryan) Bonham
James Elva Moxley, Sr.
Daniel Moore
Evelyn Marie Sandefur
Charles "Buddy" Lenfers
Karen (Maglaris) Egan
Kathryn "Katie" Floyd
James "Jimmy" Michael Polk
Paul W. Lamberg
Josephine Ann Littell
Andrea Mary Tepool
Rev. Kevin Scott Fleming
David Diedrich
William Andrew "Andy" Weber
Faye Marie Allen
Diana Johnston-Latham
Joseph B. Wilson
Rev. Joseph L. Ziliak
William Perry Steele Jr.
Willa Mae (Washington) Lewis
Rita M. Miller
Stacia L. Quintero
Terry Guarini
Rod Jackson

Feb. 28, 1928 – Mar. 01, 2022
May 18, 1967 – Feb. 28, 2022
Nov. 15, 1933 – Feb. 27, 2022
Jun. 14, 1943 – Feb. 24, 2022
Nov. 27, 1952 – Feb. 23, 2022
Apr. 20, 1942 – Feb. 23, 2022
Dec. 21, 1950 – Feb. 22, 2022
Oct. 09, 1922 – Feb. 19, 2022
Feb. 20, 1969 – Feb. 18, 2022
May 30, 1952 – Feb. 16, 2022
Jun. 8, 1941 – Feb. 15, 2022
Jan. 28, 1934 – Feb. 14, 2022
Dec. 10, 1957 – Feb. 12, 2022
Nov. 19, 1952 – Feb. 12, 2022
Jun. 16, 1969 – Feb. 10, 2022
Dec. 28, 1978 – Feb. 10, 2022
Jun. 02, 1973 – Feb. 09, 2022
Jan. 21, 1950 – Feb. 08, 2022
Nov. 20, 1936 – Feb. 08, 2022
Mar. 13, 1973 – Feb. 07, 2022
Aug. 05, 1930 – Feb. 06, 2022
Jan. 23, 1928 – Feb. 06, 2022
Aug. 21, 1966 – Feb. 05, 2022
Oct. 11, 1937 – Feb. 03, 2022
Apr. 10, 1963 – Feb. 01, 2022

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Community

USI Students To Prepare Taxes Through Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program

MARCH 2022

Through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program, University of Southern Indiana students in the Romain College of Business will provide free federal and state income tax preparation on Monday evenings. The service is open to students, faculty, staff and the general public.

The sessions will be held by appointment only in the Business and Engineering Center on the following Mondays: March 14 and 21. Appointments will be available at 5 p.m. and 6:45 p.m. All participants are required to wear masks or face coverings during the visit, and social distancing protocols have been implemented to ensure the safety of both the students and participants.

"We are excited to continue to provide free tax preparation to members of our USI and surrounding community with protocols in place to ensure a safe experience for our students and clients," Dr. Brett Buelteel, Assistant Professor of Accounting and Site Coordinator for the USI VITA Program, says. "Our students are excited for the opportunity to serve our community and gain relevant, real-world experience in preparing tax re-



turns."

In VITA programs, the Internal Revenue Service partners with national and local organizations to provide tax services to individuals with low-to-moderate income at no cost to the taxpayer. Accounting students will interview and prepare the taxes of those taxpayers who make an appointment for the service. VITA sites do not prepare Schedule C business forms or Schedule E rental forms. Federal and

state tax returns are prepared at the time of the appointment, and all taxpayers must be available to sign their returns. Preparation of returns typically takes 90 minutes to complete.

Individuals are required to bring their tax information, photo identification cards and Social Security cards for themselves and any dependents. International students must bring their passports and visas as well. The IRS encourages electronic

filing and returns will be filed electronically for those who are eligible.

Please bring copies of your prior year state and federal tax returns if they are available. Your tax returns from the prior year are very helpful in preparing correct and complete current year returns. Paper returns will be prepared for those taxpayers who do not qualify for electronic filing or prefer paper returns.

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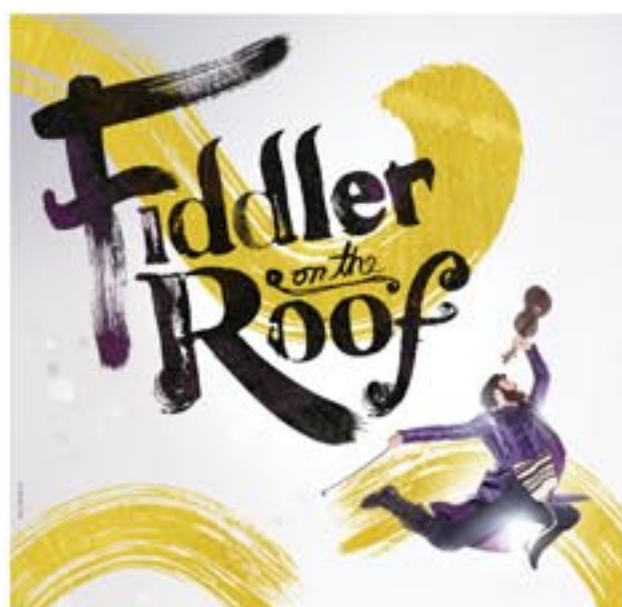
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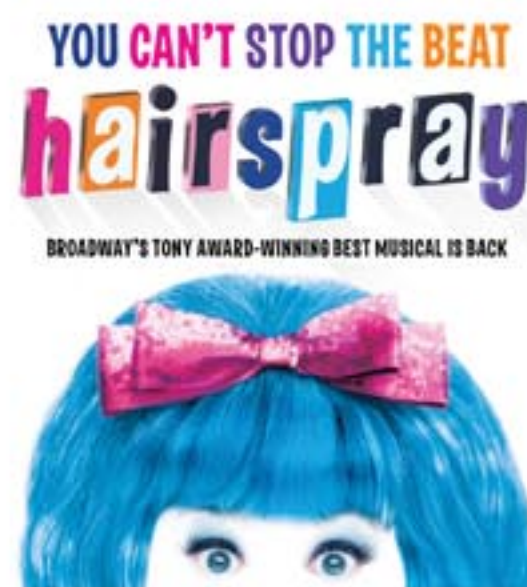
#122

**on Pollstar's 2021
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Theatre Venues!**
Check out our family friendly Spring line up!

Fiddler on the Roof
March 23, 2022 • 7:00 PM

Featuring the Broadway classics "Tradition," "If I Were a Rich Man," "Sunrise, Sunset," "Matchmaker, Matchmaker" and "To Life," FIDDLER ON THE ROOF will introduce a new generation to this uplifting celebration that raises its cup to joy! To love! To life! Tickets start at \$38.00 + applicable fees and tax.


Alton Brown
March 31, 2022 • 7:30 PM

Get ready to unmask the craziness... The Masked Singer National Tour is LIVE in your city in 2022, bringing the #1 show on television to the next level with celebrity guests and a spectacular live show! Tickets start at \$39.75 plus applicable fees and tax.


HAIRSPRAY
April 20, 2022 • 7:30 PM

You Can't Stop the Beat! HAIRSPRAY, Broadway's Tony Award-winning musical comedy phenomenon is back on tour! Join 16-year-old Tracy Turnblad in 1960's Baltimore as she sets out to dance her way onto TV's most popular show. Tickets start at \$38.00 + applicable fees and tax.


Zach Williams with Anne Wilson
March 24, 2022 • 7:00 PM

Join Zach Williams and special guest Anne Wilson for a night of music and ministry that will fill your heart and have you singing along all night long! Grammy award winner Zach Williams and his signature blend of southern rock, country, and faith-filled songwriting are truly unlike anything else in Contemporary Christian music today! Eat & Greet Dinner VIP Packages available. Tickets start at \$22.75 + applicable fees and tax.


My Name is NOT Mom
April 21, 2022 • 7:00 PM

My Name is NOT Mom takes audiences on a hilarious journey through motherhood with internet sensations Tiffany Jenkins, Meredith Masony and Dena Blizzard. This special live event features stand-up comedy, storytelling and videos from their online community as well as audience interactions to create an up close and personal experience. Tickets start at \$33.00 + applicable fees and tax.


NEWSBOYS - Stand Together Tour
April 24, 2022 • 7:00 PM

Three of the biggest names in Contemporary Christian Music will embark on a 22-city tour next year, making a stop in Evansville at The Plaza on April 24, 2022. Newsboys will hit the stage with special guests Danny Gokey and Mac Powell. Tickets start at \$19.75 + applicable fees and tax.


Jeremy Camp - I Still Believe Tour
April 28, 2022 • 7:00 PM

GRAMMY®-nominated singer songwriter Jeremy Camp announced the I Still Believe Tour with guests Riley Clemmons and Jordan St. Cyr. The tour will stop at the Old National Events Plaza on April 28, 2022 and features some of the artists' biggest hits! Tickets start at \$25.00 + applicable fees and tax.


Baby Shark Live! 2022 Splash Tour
May 6, 2022 • 6:00 PM

Baby Shark Live! is a state of the art enchanting kids spectacular. In this one of a kind concert experience young fans will be dancing in the aisles as Baby Shark and friends, go on fun adventures to learn and meet new friends! Tickets start at \$28.00 + applicable fees and tax.


The Masked Singer
May 31, 2022 • 7:30 PM

Get ready to unmask the craziness... The Masked Singer National Tour is LIVE in your city in 2022, bringing the #1 show on television to the next level with celebrity guests and a spectacular live show! Tickets start at \$39.75 plus applicable fees and tax.

Tickets available at [ticketmaster.com](https://www.ticketmaster.com) or The Plaza box office 812.437.8300

oldnationaleventsplaza.com

Education

EVPL Announces 2022 Book Sale Schedules

MARCH 2022

Evansville, IN – The Evansville Vanderburgh Public Library Foundation will hold their annual Spring Mini Book Sale on Saturday, March 5 and Sunday, March 6.

The sale will take place in the Browning Rooms at EVPL Central. Hours of the sale are Saturday, March 5 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm and Sunday, March 6 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm.

Hundreds of items, including books, movies, and CDs, will be available for purchase from \$0.50-\$2.00. All proceeds from this sale

are used to support youth programs and services, the community lecture series, emerging technologies, collections, staff engagement, and special library projects and initiatives. New this year, a credit card payment option will be available with a minimum purchase of \$10.

The EVPL Foundation Summer Book Sale will be held August 6

and 7 and the Fall Mini Book Sale will be held November 12 and 13.

The Evansville Vanderburgh Public Library Foundation is 501(c)3 established to support Evansville Vanderburgh Public Library. Foundation Board Members are engaged and activated community members. Working in partnership with Library Leadership and Library Trust-



ees, Foundation Board Members support the Library through fundraising, volunteering, and advocacy.

The Evansville Vanderburgh Public Library has served our community for more than a century. With eight locations throughout Vanderburgh County, immediate access to hundreds of thousands of digital resources, and a dedicated team of library professionals, EVPL strives to create opportunities for you to discover, explore, and connect with your library.

Indiana Health Department

Changes Covid-19 Dashboard



Indiana Department of Health

MARCH 2022

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana Department of Health (IDOH) today announced changes to its COVID-19 data dashboard to better reflect the current state of the pandemic and a shift in school reporting requirements.

Effective today, the unique individual positivity rate and unique individuals tested fields will be removed from the dashboard at www.coronavirus.in.gov. In addition, a new Indiana youth COVID-19 dashboard, reflecting cases, hospitalizations and vaccinations in Hoosiers ages 0 to 19, will be published. This dashboard will replace the current school dashboard effective Monday, Feb. 28.

State Health Commissioner Kris Box, M.D., FACOG, said the changes reflect the evolution of the pandemic, the availability of home test kits and recent updates to school guidance.

“Throughout the pandemic, we have been committed to providing accurate and timely data to help Hoosiers make the best decisions

for themselves and their families,” Box said. “Due to the increased availability and use of home tests that are not reported to the state, the unique individual positivity and unique individuals tested fields no longer provide an accurate reflection of COVID-19 testing in our state.”

Box noted that schools are no longer required to report cases to the state health department, making the current school dashboard obsolete. The new youth dashboard will better reflect the impact of COVID-19 on children up to age 19, she said.

Hoosiers in need of COVID-19 testing can find a site at www.coronavirus.in.gov. Individuals seeking a COVID-19 vaccine can visit www.ourshot.in.gov or call 211 to find a location.

Visit the Indiana Department of Health at www.health.in.gov for important health and safety information, or follow us on Twitter at @StateHealthIN and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/StateHealthIN.

Summer Camp Sign-Ups Open

MARCH 2022

Beginning today, non-members can register for our fun-filled day and weeklong summer camps at the Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites.

With camps filling up at record speeds this year and waitlists already in motion, please be

sure to register as soon as you can. Camps at the Indiana State Museum include DIY Décor, Culinary Trip Around the World, Refashion, H2Whoa!, plus many more!

Because your camper's health and safety is a priority, we have COVID-19 protocols in place to provide your

camper with a safe summer experience. Learn how we're staying safe here.

Don't miss unique summer camps at select state historic sites throughout

the state. Discover NEW camps like Camp Half-Blood and Cooking Through the Ages at Angel Mounds State Historic Site

(Evansville). Teens can explore Indiana's natural wonders during a week-long camp at Gene Stratton-Porter State Historic Site (Rome City). Ten different day camp options at T.C. Steele State Historic Site (Nashville) are sure to satisfy your camper's curiosity, and so much more!



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Education

“Anti-CRT” Education Bill Returns to Senate

FEBRUARY 2022

By Taylor Wooten
TheStatehouseFile.com

INDIANAPOLIS—Despite teacher protests, a House bill that has been dubbed “anti-CRT” legislation is now on its way back to the full Senate.

House Bill 1134 has been the subject of scrutiny from teachers since it was introduced in January. In the Wednesday Senate Education and Career Development meeting, it passed 8-5.

Updwar from teachers and other education advocates led to the initial watering-down of the bill by the Senate committee. During the committee vote, Sen. Jean Leising, R-Oldenburg, said talking to her constituents and officials at the Indiana Department of Education led to her “no” vote.

“I have superintendents that are opposed, I have corporations that are opposed, I have numerous teachers that are opposed,” Leising said. “I have people on the right who are expressing their concerns that this bill doesn’t go far enough.”

Leising said the bill was the most difficult vote in her time on the Senate Education and Career Development Committee.

“For me today, the only correct vote is a no vote,” Leising said.

Sen. Fady Qaddoura, D-Indianapolis, said hundreds of thousands of people are unhappy with HB 1134, partially because they do not trust the context provided by the House.

“The premise, the context and the entire initiative from the House, the target itself was made up to silence people,” Qaddoura said.

Sen. Eddie Melton, D-Gary, also provided a passionate “no” vote on the bill.

Melton said he asked Indiana Attorney General Todd Rokita why he wrote the Parent’s Bill of Rights, which has been cited as a contributor towards critical race theory arguments. Melton said Rokita’s response did not justify moving forward with the legislation.

“Just because something makes us uncomfortable, should not be prevented for discussion,” Melton said. “No one in here is accusing any white person for being a slave owner or anything connected to that history. However I still feel the benefits of it, or the impact of it.”

Amendment adjusts curriculum committees, adds summer study committee

Teachers with the Indiana State

Teachers Association speak with Rep. Timothy Wesco, R-Osceola, about House Bill 1134 on February 10. The ISTA-opposed bill passed in the Senate Education and Career Development Committee on a 8-5 vote Wednesday.

An additional amendment from Sen. Linda Rogers, R-Granger, would require the curriculum advisory committees to send information to the Department of Education and the Indiana General Assembly. If parents ask to review materials, the committee would be required to respond. The committee would also be allowed to review guest speaker materials.

The amendment would add third-party mental health support surveys in schools to the list of items requiring a parental opt-in. It would also address concerns about students needing parental permission for mental health services in instances where a parent is causing mental health issues by tightening the language. It would also have a summer study committee that would look into mental health services and parental consent in schools.

Amendment 34 passed 8-5, with no testimony heard in committee. Sen. Dennis Kruse, R-Auburn, joined the four Democrats in the committee in voting against the amendment.

Rogers’ amendment was the only one accepted by the committee, despite Democrats filing ten others to the divisive bill.

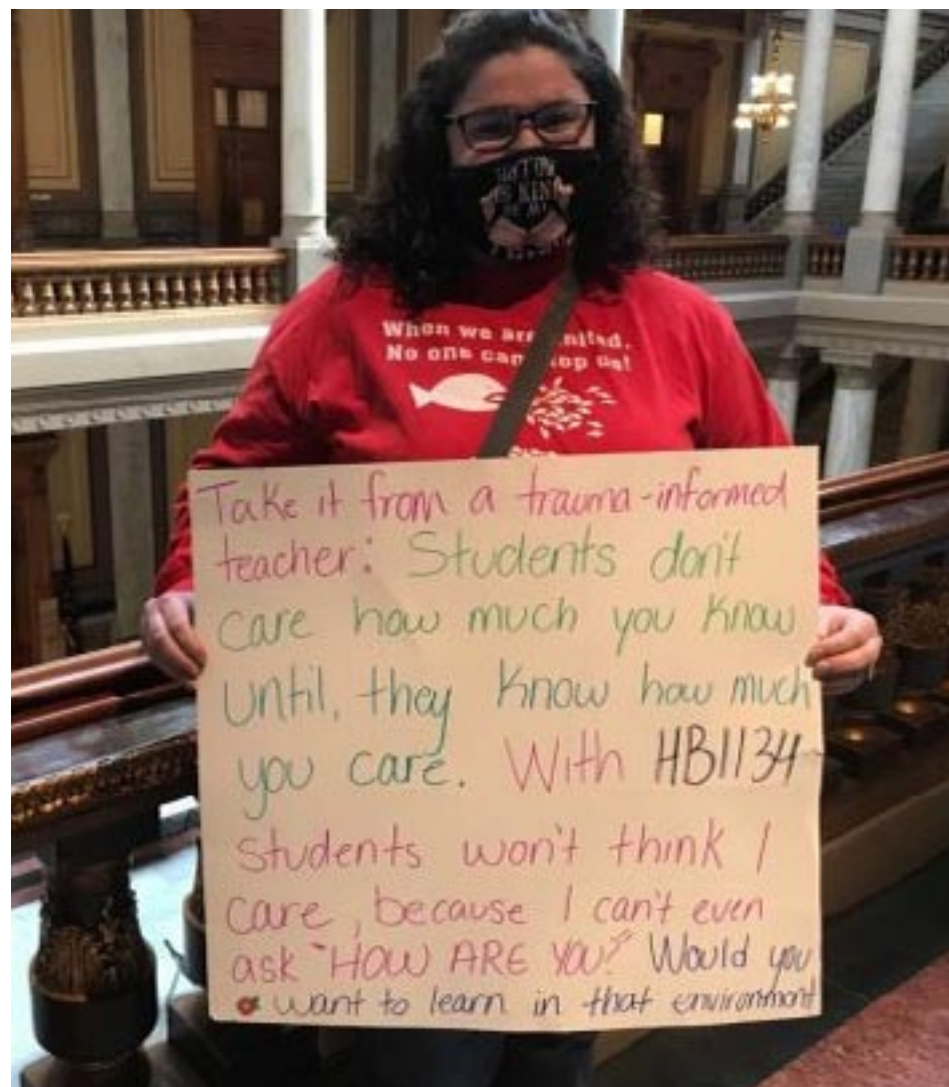
Senate Democrat efforts to amend HB 1134 fail

Committee discussions of the controversial HB 1134 ended with the acceptance of more Republican-authored amendments watering down the original bill and rejection of several Democrat-authored amendments.

An amendment requiring schools to teach Black history was authored by Melton. Melton said the amendment would mirror current Indiana statute about teaching the Holocaust. The amendment nearly made it into the bill, receiving a 7-6 vote. Republicans Sen. Kyle Walker, R-Indianapolis and Sen. Scott Baldwin, R-Noblesville, voted in favor of the amendment.

Melton, a member of the Indiana Black Legislative Caucus, sounded tearful as he expressed disappointment that the committee did not pass the amendment.

“What I’m asking today is, before this bill hits the floor, that this body



and your colleagues when you go and caucus, seriously think about the message that you are sending when we can’t pass a simple amendment to teach our children about the sins of this country,” Melton said.

Sen. J.D. Ford, D-Indianapolis, authored two amendments for the bill. One, which Ford said would allow the bill to ensure transparency for parents, would remove everything in the bill except for the requirement for schools to utilize a learning management system that is accessible for parents. The other amendment authored by Ford would remove mentions of the Department of Education in the bill, which Ford said would ensure local control. Both failed.

Qaddoura proposed in an amendment that the entire bill be moved to a summer study committee. This failed 9-4.

Shelli Yoder, D-Bloomington, authored five amendments on the bill. The amendments would send the topic of student mental health to a summer study committee, ask the IDOE to create a model for ideal parent participation in schools, codify constitutional anti-discrimination into state law, apply the legislation to charter and private schools and ensure the legislation cannot affect advanced placement or dual credit classes. All of these amendments failed.

Bill previously “watered down” by amendment

The bill previously was watered down with an amendment from Rogers, which removed language encouraging civil action against teachers for violation of the bill, removed many of the “divisive concepts” found in the initial bill and required that parents have access to school learning management systems instead of requiring that educators post all materials and lesson plans online. Common learning management systems include Google Classroom, Canvas and Moodle.

Despite the amendment, over 200 people signed up to testify on the bill, with about 90% of them against, according to Senate Education and Career Development Committee chairman Jeff Raatz, R-Richmond. The Indiana Coalition for Public Education also hosted a Day of Action to bring teachers together against the bill and others making their way through the Indiana legislature.

The amended bill will now be sent back to the full Senate. If it is passed and returned to the House, its future is uncertain.

Last week, author Rep. Anthony Cook, R-Cicero, said he did not agree with many of the changes Rogers’ amendment made to his bill.

“We have about 10 things that are in this. About six of them I can agree with,” Cook said. “More than likely because it moves it into a better position.”

Ivy Tech Will Continue To Offer Free Textbooks

MARCH 2022

EVANSVILLE, IN – Sue Ellspermann, president of Ivy Tech Community College, has announced it will continue to cover the cost of required textbooks for all eligible students in the 2022-23 academic year. This is the second year textbooks will be provided at no cost to students, through the college’s Ivy+ initiative. The announcement was made at the Feb. 9 State Board of Trustees meeting in Indianapolis.

“Continuing to find innovative ways to lower costs for our students is an important part of the overall value we are providing to students and to our community,” Ellspermann said. “We know that the cost

of textbooks are often a limiting factor for our students, and we are pleased to be able to provide free textbooks for another year.”

In fall 2021, more than 55,000 students received free textbooks for a savings to students of over \$14 million. In spring 2022, more than 47,000 students have already enrolled and will receive similar savings.

Ivy Tech’s Ivy+ tuition program also continues in 2022-23, providing a new tuition model for full-time students. When students take at least 12 credit hours a semester, they pay a flat rate and can add additional credit hours for no additional cost. The flat rate

encourages full-time students to take additional courses each term, helping them graduate faster and save money. As part of the Ivy+ tuition program, part-time students

will see their tuition frozen in 2022-23 at the same rate as the previous academic year and will pay the lowest per-credit-hour fee in the state.



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Education

UE Receives \$1.9 Million Shepard Estate Gift

MARCH 2022

EVANSVILLE, IN (02/08/2022) The University of Evansville (UE) has received a \$1.9 million gift from the Nancy Shepard Estate, with a designation to three separate areas within the UE Music Conservatory.

Nancy Shepard, who hailed from southern Illinois, attended Evansville College for elementary education. Halfway through college, she decided to change her major. In 1968, she graduated with a Bachelor of Music Education. After marrying her husband, Wesley, she earned a Master of Arts in 1971. She would spend the next three decades of her career as a band di-



rector for schools, instilling a love of music in thousands of students.

The gift will fund three areas: the Nancy L. Shepard Endowed Scholarship for Wind and Percussion Students, the O. Wesley Shepard Memorial Scholarship, and the Nancy L. and O. Wesley Shepard Endowed Guest Artist Series.

The Nancy L. Shepard Endowed Scholarship for Wind and Percussion Students will provide financial assistance for music education majors who wish to pursue a career as a band director. The O. Wesley Shepard Memorial Scholarship was established by his friends and former students upon his retirement in

1972. The scholarship supports students who are clarinet or music education majors and are part of the University band.

As husband and wife, Nancy and Wesley were deeply involved in music and saw its purpose in expanding the minds and talents of students. They believed guest artists could have a positive impact on college music programs. The Nancy L. and O. Wesley Shepard Endowed Guest Artist Series will be utilized annually to welcome guest artists of significant stature to UE. The artist will work with students in the classroom or through master classes, and they will hold a music performance available for the enjoyment of the local community.

"Our Music Conservatory is tremendously grateful for the generosity of Nancy Shepard and her passion for music that will benefit our students for years to come,"

said Ken Steinsultz, co-director of the UE Music Conservatory and director of bands. "We are equipping music educators of the future who will carry on Nancy's legacy and help generations of students, just as she did in her own career."

The UE Music Conservatory is a community of students and artist-teachers working together to achieve artistic excellence and professional results. Curriculum combined with active learning gives students the extensive experience needed for any degree offered, including music education, music therapy, and more. The Community Conservatory provides creative outlets for locals, including private lessons, the Suzuki method, summer camps, community ensembles, and classes. Become a member today at evansville.edu/community-conservatory.

USI Offers New Online Marketing MBA

MARCH 2022

The University of Southern Indiana is excited to announce it is expanding its existing Master of Business Administration online programs to include a new concentration in Marketing.

Designed specifically to accommodate the lifestyle demands of working professionals, the Marketing MBA is delivered 100% online, via accelerated eight-week courses and is affordably priced at \$12,900*, with no hidden fees. This MBA is 30 credit hours and can be completed in as few as 11 months. A GMAT/GRE waiver is available for students with a 3.0 undergraduate GPA or with a 2.5

undergraduate GPA and three years of professional work experience.

In this AACSB-accredited program, students will develop strategic and tactical marketing expertise through focus on digital marketing, apply consumer behavior models and advanced analytical techniques, gain the knowledge and skills necessary to grow brands, build stronger customer

relationships and grow revenue, and become effective marketing leaders in any organization.

Applications are now being accepted for terms beginning March 14, 2022.

USI also offers MBA concentrations in a number of other areas including:

- MBA with a concentration in Accounting Online
- MBA with a concentration in Data Analytics Online
- MBA with a concentration in



Engineering Management Online

MBA with a concentration in Human Resources Online MBA with a concentration in Health-care Administration Online MBA with a concentration in Project Management Online Master of Business Administration General Graduate degree programs at USI continue to see record enrollment, in part due to accelerated and flexible online programs like the MBA, which are meeting the needs of students balancing school, work and life responsibilities.

* Tuition and fees are subject to change without notice by action of the USI Board of Trustees.

IU Health Awards Ivy Tech Grant To Expand Nursing

MARCH 2022

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – Indiana University Health, the state's most comprehensive physician and hospital network, has awarded Ivy Tech Community College an \$8.75 million grant to expand its nursing program and increase nursing student enrollment. The grant will be used for investments necessary to support expanded enrollment, such as faculty and staff recruiting and compensation, educational equipment and supportive services for students.

"Our healthcare systems in Indiana are in critical need of skilled nurses, and Ivy Tech is well-positioned to deliver on this need," said IU Health Executive Vice President and Chief Nurse Executive Jason Gilbert. "Cur-

rently there are qualified applicants each year in Indiana who are turned away from nursing schools due to limitations on teaching space, clinical placement availability and faculty resources. It is incumbent upon health systems, working with our educational partners, to support an expansion of the educational pipeline to allow more qualified students to become professional nurses. This partnership with Ivy Tech is a significant step toward expanding healthcare delivery to Hoosiers for generations to come."

Labor market data from Emsi/Burning Glass estimates there are 4,300 annual openings for nurses today, with a need for another 5,000 nurses by 2031. That leaves a gap of 1,350

nursing graduates to meet Indiana's need with current educational resources. The expanded nursing program at Ivy Tech will increase nursing admissions by 600 students annually by 2025, contributing significantly to filling the gap.

Ivy Tech currently offers nursing programs at 18 of its 19 campuses, with a program planned to launch at the remaining campus – Hamilton County — by early 2023. Ivy Tech currently graduates more than 1,300 associate-degree nursing students every year, more than any other institution in Indiana and the largest in the nation. Additionally, more than 90 percent of Ivy Tech nursing graduates stay in Indiana.

"This grant will be a huge step in

helping Ivy Tech meet the needs of our health system partners in a real and practical way," said Sue Ellspermann, president of Ivy Tech. "Our ability to educate nurses and keep them in our state will create real value for our economy and the health of Indiana. We're very proud to partner with IU Health and appreciate its investment in our program."

Ivy Tech has been developing a plan for increasing nursing enrollment that includes investments in equipment, supplies and faculty, as well as tools to better support nursing students in their academic success. The College estimates those investments will require \$8.7 million in recurring costs over three years as well as \$12.1 million in one-time costs.



THE PEOPLE'S COMMISSIONER

If you have questions, concerns or suggestions pertaining to county governmental issues contact me.

Ben Shoulders

812-435-5241

bshoulders@vanderburghgov.org

Paid for and Authorized by Shoulders for Commissioner

Sports

Aces Receive MVC Championship Rings

MARCH 2022

EVANSVILLE, Ind. – One of the most impressive accomplishments in recent University of Evansville athletics history was brought to the forefront on Saturday afternoon when the Purple Aces women's golf team received their rings to commemorate their 2021 Missouri Valley Conference Championship. The ceremony took place at halftime of the UE men's basketball game at the Ford Center.

Each member of the team took part in the design of the ring over the course of a process that took a few months to complete. The final design of the ring is something the team is proud of and is one that will give them a keepsake to commemorate the accomplishment for the rest of their lives.

Over the course of the design process, the Aces players did not leave any stone unturned. From examining all design options and possibilities to studying rings that were designed in previous years, the UE team put in the effort and the result is stunning.



Incorporating a snowflake into the design was a must for the girls. On the final day of the MVC Championship, snow was falling throughout most of the day at Bogey Hills Country Club in Saint Charles, Missouri. It was falling just as hard as it was at any other point when the teams finished the final round of play. Evansville and UNI needed one final hole to decide the championship with the Aces coming home victorious – with the snow continuing to come down.

As a way to incorporate the snowflake into the sport, the side of the ring features a snowflake

with golf clubs interlocked into the design. That side of the ring features the name of each player/coach on the top and the Missouri Valley Conference logo on the bottom.

Utilizing both UE logos was another important aspect of the design. With the Aces script logo being prevalent on most of the equipment and uniforms for the team, the mark was featured on the top of the ring with stones surrounding it. The interlocking UE logo is featured on the other side of the ring along with the slogan "History Made". Evansville's school

colors were incorporated into the top of the ring with purple and orange stones circling it.

Members of the team were excited about the design as it encompassed the team aspect of the accomplishment. It was not about any individual numbers or scores, it commemorated a team accomplishment and a moment that will be remembered not just at the University of Evansville, but around the entire MVC for many years to come.

At Saturday's ceremony, the team was on hand including championship medalist Sophia Rohleder, Allison Enchelmayer, Carly Frazier, Taylor Keating, Alyssa McMinn, Caitlin O'Donnell and Mallory Russell. Head coach John Andrews along with former head coach Jim Hamilton and Assistant Strength and Conditioning Coach Fernando Garcia-Villegas also received rings. Andrews was named the MVC Coach of the Year and would pass the honor along to Coach Hamilton.

USI Volleyball Team Receives Their Rings

MARCH 2022

EVANSVILLE, Ind.—University of Southern Indiana Volleyball players from the 2020-21 GLVC Tournament championship team was honored at halftime of the USI-Lindenwood University men's basketball game.

The Screaming Eagles will receive their championship rings during an official ring ceremony.

USI finished the COVID-altered season with a 17-4 record en route to capturing their first GLVC Tournament title since 2004. The Eagles also earned their first-ever national ranking, landing as high as No. 12 in the AVCA Top 25 Coaches' Poll during the regular season before finishing the year ranked No. 15 in the final poll.



Southern Indiana Athletic Conference 2021-22 All Conference Girls Basketball Teams

First Team

Jaidn Green (12) – North (PLAYER OF THE YEAR)

Natalie Niehaus (12) – Castle

Jordan Coon (12) – Castle

Amiyah Buchanan (11) – North

Emily Mattingly (11) – Memorial

Dani Kroeger (12) – Vincennes Lincoln

Second Team

Kennedy Wenger (12) – Mater Dei

Chloe Cardinal (12) – Vincennes Lincoln

Sophie Johnson (10) – Memorial

Kyrisha Hay-Swope (12) – Castle

Jalyn Shelby (11) – North

Kaliah Neighbors (12) – North

Honorable Mention

Alyssa Haynes (12) – Reitz

Kate Breeden (12) – Mater Dei

Avery Kelley (10) – Memorial

Lydia Bordfeld (11) – Memorial

Devyn Barton (12) – Castle

Mya Johnson (12) – Central

Megan Kain (12) – Castle

Matea Bradfield (9) Reitz

Sports

USI Softball Games Will Be On FloSoftball

March 2022

EVANSVILLE, Ind.—University of Southern Indiana Softball fans not making the trip to Florida to watch the Screaming Eagles at The Spring Games this week can see the games live or on-demand on FloSoftball. Live state updates also will be provided at GoUSIEagles.com.

The Eagles (10-6) have eight games scheduled during their trip to Winter Haven. USI opens the trip Friday with games against St. Cloud State University (9 a.m. (CST)) and the University of Central Missouri (1:30 p.m.).

USI continues the trip Saturday with games against Winona State University (8 a.m.) and No. 17 Minnesota State University-Mankato (10:15 a.m.).

Following an off day, the Eagles are back at it Monday with games against Lynn University (2:45 p.m.) and Ferris State University before finishing their stay in the Sunshine State Tuesday with games against No. 7 Grand Valley State University (9 a.m.) and Ashland University (11:15 a.m.).



From Florida, the Eagles head back to Indiana to open Great Lakes Valley Conference play with a double-

header against No. 5 University of Indianapolis March 11 at 11 a.m. (CST) in Indianapolis. That doubleheader

will be carried on the GLVC Sports Network

UE Swimming & Diving Wraps Up 2022 MVC Championships

March 2022

IOWA CITY, Iowa – The 2022 Missouri Valley Conference Swimming & Diving Championships wrapped up on Saturday night with four members of the University of Evansville earning honorable mention all-MVC honors, as seniors Jessie Steele (Houston, Texas/Klein), Fae Keighley (Johannesburg, South Africa), and Maggie Franz (Mundelein, Ill./Mundelein) and junior Sage Moore (Lexington, Ohio/Lexington) all garnered all-Valley laurels.

Steele earned honorable mention all-MVC honors by placing fourth overall in the 100-yard Freestyle with a personal-best time of 50.39, cutting over six-tenths of a second off of her career-best time and moving her into the third-fastest position in UE history. Franz placed sixth and Keighley placed eighth in the three-meter diving competition with scores of 236.00 and 225.95, respectively, to earn honorable mention all-MVC honors. While Moore finished eighth in the conference in the 200-yard

breaststroke with a time of 2:20.59 to earn honorable mention all-MVC honors.

"This was a great way to close out the Valley Championships, with the highlight of the night being Jessie finishing fourth in the 100 free with a big drop in time," said UE head swimming coach Stuart Wilson. "Overall, the team has been great all season, and it is a fitting way to end the year by going out with a bang!

"I want to thank our seniors for representing UE with heart and pride! You made a mark on the program, and I know that every one of them will be successful in their next step in life."

Overall, Evansville produced one first-team all-MVC performer in junior Maya Cunningham (Yakima, Wash./Eisenhower) and eight honorable mention all-MVC competitors at the 2022 Valley Championships. Evansville also had success in the Valley's "B Finals" for a majority of the week, and that continued on Saturday, as both Cunningham and jun-

ior Sarah Jahns (Lilburn, Ga./Parkview) won the "B Finals" races in the 200-yard Butterfly and 200-yard Backstroke events, respectively.

While the main portion of the 2022 swimming and diving season concluded Saturday night with the MVC

Championships, a select few Purple Aces have qualified to compete in the CSCAA National Invitational Championship, which will take place in March in Elkhart, Indiana. A full list of competitors for the NIC will be announced at a later date.



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Sports

CCO Supports USI Moving To NCAA Division I

MARCH 2022

By City-County Observer Staff

The University of Southern Indiana (USI) campus on Evansville's Westside has been transformed during the last few decades from a commuter campus to a fully equipped campus with state-of-the-art classrooms, advanced degrees, student housing, and a plethora of athletic facilities that are only exceeded by big nationally recognized programs. USI has an outstanding listing of successful graduates in our midst.

USI has always been competitive in every NCAA Division II intercollegiate that they participate in and starts most years with realistic visions of winning another national championship in multi-sports.

If the USI Trustees elevate the

athletic teams to NCAA Division I, Evansville may become one of the smallest markets to have the distinction of being home to two Division I teams. That is a worthy distinction for the people down at "Visit Evansville" to tout as worth a visit.

We feel that the University of Southern Indiana is most certainly NCAA Division I ready as NKU, Bellarmine, or any of the other teams that have made the transition. From a facilities per-



spective, USI already has established an impressive collection of on-campus facilities that many NCAA Division I universities would love to have. Millions of dollars have been invested and much will be expected.

The City-County Observer would like to encourage USI to grab for the brass ring and become Evansville's second NCAA Division I athletic program. This move will have positive impacts on campus life and even will serve to enhance ac-

ademics and the future recruiting of student-athletes.

Go for it USI. The alumni, student-athletes, coaching staff, faculty and staff, student body, and the people of our region will be proud that you did!

Finally, we would like to publicly recognize the efforts of the charismatic USI President Ronald S. Rochon, the visionary USI Board of Trustees Chair Ronald Romain and his board members, and USI Athletic Director Jon Mark Hall and his staff for the outstanding work they quietly did behind the scene to ensure that USI will be in a position to continue to provide our community with the educational, economic, cultural, and athletic offerings that will make us proud in years to come.

Winnecke Pleased With Ammended Budget

Continued From Page 1

their doctoral degrees.

An investment in Easterseals will expand the organization's psychology testing and counseling capacity by four times.

The City proposes investing in SWIRCA & More, the region's preeminent organization focusing on enhancing the quality of life and independent living for those who are aging, people living with disabilities, and caregivers. With our senior population growing at a rapid rate,

seniors are going to outpace SWIRCA's existing services 3 to 1 in the next four years. That's why we propose assisting SWIRCA with a major expansion of their current building.

The City of Evansville is also pleased to increase funding to its Affordable Housing Trust Fund in order to help create additional affordable living units within the city.

There is an estimated gap of 1,500 affordable housing units in Evansville. Our housing needs assess-

ment/analysis of impediments to fair housing choice, shows this gap.

The City of Evansville is pleased to collaborate with the Evansville Regional Economic Partnership on Talent 2025, a regional initiative to increase our population and improve our talent base.

We want our workforce to be prepared for jobs and careers of the future. We want a resilient economy that can bounce back after routine downturns, or a major crisis like COVID-19. We want to ensure equi-

table opportunity for every family regardless of race, history or circumstance. We have to improve the quality of the place for a healthier, more fulfilling lifestyle.

It's important to note that each of these proposed investments is qualified expenditures of the American Rescue Plan Act.

We have other community investment plans that we will present to the city council in the weeks ahead that will have equally important impacts on our city.

An Interview With Deputy Mayor Steve Schaefer

Continued From Page 4

pandemic. The craziness of it all. I mean it feels like so much time has passed since it all started. When I had my boys at home, doing virtual learning, it was tough and it's really a test of anyone's patience to have to navigate that. It certainly opened my eyes to how fragile life is, and it opened my eyes to the importance of one's credibility. Making decisions with accurate information, with the best intentions, should be the goal of any elected official or any leader in the community. The pandemic really shined a light on how important that is.

QUESTION: WHAT DROVE YOU TO PURSUE A CAREER IN POLITICS

ANSWER: Public service, first and foremost. It has been a driving force throughout my career. My mother loves telling a story about me in second grade at St. Wendel. I dressed up as the President of the United States. I was originally going to go as an attorney but on the way to school, Ronald Reagan was giving a speech that was playing on the radio. It inspired me and gave me the idea to switch my costume, and I even convinced one of my classmates to change their costume to be a Secret Service member for me. So, it really started young, my passion for public service. I did speech and debate in school as well. I even remember meeting Governor Orr on a visit to my parent's school and coincidentally, my parents both had John Hostetter as a student. I also worked in D.C. and once you work in the Capitol you kind of get hooked. It's the center of politics

and government in our country and the energy there is contagious. Obviously, the routes I have taken have changed, and while I was and still am a public servant, working for the city just means so much more. You see and better understand how it all works, how it all fits together.

QUESTION: WHICH PROJECT ARE YOU MOST PROUD OF TO HELP EVANSVILLE FORWARD

ANSWER: Well, Interstate 69 is a project that comes to mind as impacting more than just Evansville. It impacted the region and the entire state. I will never forget working with Governor Daniels and the legislature to pass Major Moves which was the \$3.8 billion allotments that jump-started the new interstate. It took so much time and effort and so much of our lives to get that started. It is a credit to so many others in the community as well, not just me. I just happened to be leading the Hoosier Voices for I-69 coalition at the time.

Here in Evansville, I hope my family is most proud of my public service, whether it's my work leading the "Reopen Evansville" task force or my work making the Deaconess Aquatic Center a reality. Bringing in the Ohio Valley Conference tournament here to Evansville's Ford Center is another significant win. I currently still chair the Evansville Sports Corp and we took that OVC tournament from Nashville to Evansville in 2018. That was awesome, especially since Ja Morant was a star attraction that brought Magic Johnson and other celebrities to the Ford Center.

Right now, what I'm particularly proud of, and what I hope others

will be proud of, is how I am helping rebuild the Parks Department. Our parks are precious, and they should be in the best shape possible.

QUESTION: WHAT CAN OUR COMMUNITY DO TO BETTER SUPPORT OF COMMUNITY

ANSWER: Staying positive is huge, as well as getting involved wherever you can. Asking questions is key. When you bring ideas forward, do so in a constructive manner. Something everybody seems to have trouble with is making a concerted effort to understand both sides of an issue, so we all need to work on that. Supporting a city can happen in so many ways, whether it's supporting your church, your school, a community

organization, it really comes down to getting involved. I would also say, becoming educated on your local government and elected officials. You need to not just see a name that you recognize at the ballot box but know what they are about and what they stand for. Make sure that if you vote for them, they are going to govern in the way that you see fit. If they're not, then bring it up and have that crucial conversation.

QUESTION: IF MAYOR WINNECKE DECIDES NOT TO RUN FOR RE-ELECTION DO YOU HAVE ANY INTEREST IN RUNNING FOR HIS SEAT?

ANSWER: My primary interest is

Continued on Page 16

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Vote on May 3rd!

Entertainment

Newsboys To Play ONEP April 24

MARCH 2022

Evansville, IN – Three of the biggest names in Contemporary Christian Music will embark on a 22-city tour next year, making a stop in Evansville at The Plaza on April 24, 2022. Tickets go on sale today at 11 AM.

Industry veterans, Newsboys will be joined by Danny Gokey and Mac Powell for a night of music with a shared purpose. "The last couple of years have been tough for everyone and we have really missed coming together with our fans to worship and celebrate with one another every night. We're looking ahead to the new year, excited for what's to come, and we can't wait to continue to reunite with our fans across the country and stand together in unity," said Michael Tait, lead singer of Newsboys. In the 26 years since the release of Hell is for Wimps, the Christian rock band has continued to exert a massive influence on the music industry and draw music-loving audiences from around the world. In October 2021, the band celebrated the release of their 20th studio album Stand.

American gospel singer Danny Gokey was a finalist on season 8 of

American Idol and quickly became a favorite of millions. Following Idol, his first album My Best Days debuted at #4 on the Billboard Top 200 album chart. He has celebrated a series of #1 album releases spawning singles like "Hope In Front of Me," "Rise," "The Comeback," "Love God Love People," and RIAA Certified Gold singles "Tell Your Heart to Beat Again" and "Haven't Seen It Yet." Danny has cemented his place on the radio charts with multi-week, multi-chart top-ten runs in the US, Canada and now Latin markets with his Spanish singles. He has been honored with three Grammy nominations, three wins as KLOVE Male Vocalist of the Year and two Dove Awards.

After two decades of success, including 4 Grammy Awards and 24 Dove Awards, with Christian rock band Third Day, Mac Powell has transitioned to a thriving solo career. His most recent record, titled New Creation, debuted at #3 on Billboard's Top Christian Album Chart in October of 2021. American Songwriter notes, "Mac Powell's distinctive vocals are a staple of the Christian music genre, whether it's within his work with the Grammy-winning rock band Third



Day or out on a solo venture."

The STAND TOGETHER TOUR is an Awakening Foundation Event. Fans and AE Insiders can take advantage of a 20% discount on tickets when

they purchase by December 25th and use the code INSIDER. For details and tickets please visit www.awakeningevents.com.

Monster Jam® Arena Championship Series East



MARCH 2022

EVANSVILLE, IN This is. Monster Jam™! The most action-packed motorsports experience for families in the world today returns to Evansville for an adrenaline-charged weekend at Ford Center on Saturday, April 23 and Sunday, April 24, 2022. Monster Jam®, celebrating its 30th anniversary this year, features

world-class athletes locked in intense competitions of speed and skill. Tickets are available on www.ticketmaster.com with Monster Jam Preferred Customers able to purchase advance tickets starting today, January 11, before tickets go on-sale to the general public on January 18. Fans can still sign up for free to become a Monster Jam Pre-

ferred Customer and get exclusive access to the pre-sale offer code.

The Monster Jam Pit Party will be held in Evansville on Saturday and Sunday. At the Monster Jam Pit Party, fans can see the massive trucks up close, meet their favorite drivers and crews, take pictures and enjoy other family-friendly fun. This unique experience is the only place that allows people to get up close access to the Monster Jam teams and get an insider's look at how these trucks are built to stand up to the competition.

Evansville fans will witness heated rivalries, high-flying stunts and fierce head-to-head battles for the Event Championship. Engineered to perfection, the 12,000-pound Monster Jam trucks push all limits in Freestyle, Skills, Donuts and Racing competitions. The Arena Series East Champion will receive a highly cov-

putting on a spectacle, constantly innovating and always entertaining.

The black and green wrecking machine, the legendary Grave Digger® which is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year, will be competing, driver TBA. Armando Castro gets behind the wheel of El Toro Loco®, while Brianna Mahon in Whiplash® and fan-favorite Coty Saucier returning in Dragon™, look to lock in the championship.

Monster Jam drivers are trained, world-class male and female athletes who have mastered not only the physical strength and mental stamina needed to compete, but the vital dexterity to control 12,000-pound machines capable of doing backflips, vertical two-wheel skills and racing at speeds up to 70 miles-per-hour to produce jaw-dropping, live motorsports action seen around the world.

Schaefer Interview

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continuing to do great things for the city of Evansville, and right now that is best achieved with Lloyd Winnecke as mayor. Now I know some people may have wanted a different answer, but that's how I truly feel. I love my job, and I have so much respect and admiration for my friend who is leading our great city. All I can think about right now is doing the job in front of us and doing it to the best of my abilities.

QUESTION: ENDING THIS INTERVIEW ON A LIGHTER NOTE. I HEAR THAT YOU ARE A BIG SUPERMAN FAN. WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE SUPERMAN COMIC OR MOVIE?

ANSWER: Oh man, yeah, that's tough. I go back to the original Superman films, to be honest. Lately, with DC trying to compete with Marvel, it's just been hard. I love Marvel as well, and they are dominating the superhero universe with their movies. For example, Spider-man is my son Jack's favorite, and we are actually building the Daily Bugle LEGO set at home

right now. Jack is always asking me who my favorite superhero is after each of these movies and shows, and it is always Superman. That'll never change. I like the old Superman comics, including the series of issues where he died and then came back in the '90s.

Steve Schaefer is a father, husband, Interim Parks Department Executive Director, Deputy Mayor of Evansville, and the Mayor's Chief of Staff.

Prior to his work on behalf of Evansville, Steve worked extensively in the public sector with business, education, government, and community initiatives. As Vice President of Public Policy for the Chamber of Commerce of Southwest Indiana, Steve worked closely with former Governor Mitch Daniels and state legislators on the passage of the Major Moves legislation.

He obtained his Bachelor of Science degree from Indiana University and his Master of Public Administration from the University of Southern Indiana.

UE Professors Unite Against Bigotry

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the course content to draw upon their areas of expertise and they use their teaching experience to choose the best teaching methods for that content. This means that, when complex subjects like race, gender, and sexuality are investigated in the classroom, those investigations are led by professors trained in those subjects who know how to select suitable class materials, to facilitate nuanced discussions, to conduct engaging in-class activities, and to set relevant assignments. For politicians with

no teaching experience and no scholarly background in the subjects of race, gender, and sexuality to be making decisions regarding how those subjects are taught is not in the best interest of students.

The official core values of the University of Evansville include integrity, intellectual curiosity, inclusive community, and education for the whole person. In offering this statement, we reaffirm those values, and we express our opposition to any and all efforts to infringe upon them.

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