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Silver Lining Gala Raises New Record In Donations

JUNE 2023
 A record \$417,402 was raised from the Silver Lining Gala Celebrating Youth First's 25th Anniversary, held at USI's Carter Hall on Saturday, April 22, 2023. Over 300 guests enjoyed a live auction, program, formal dinner and dancing. The organization's signature Passport to Adventure Auction was also supported online by hundreds of bidders.

The Silver Lining Gala, presented by Edward Jones, celebrated Youth First's advocates and impact over the past 25 years and set the stage for the organization's future endeavors. Paul Watzlavik, State Farm Agent, was the event's Mission Sponsor. Silver Sponsors were CenterPoint Energy, Deaconess Health System, Liberty Federal Credit Union, and VanceMitchem Public Affairs.

Proceeds from the event will fund Youth First's school social work services and prevention programs, which are the "silver lining" promise of hope for kids in stressful times. These services and programs are available to students and their families at no charge in 117 partner schools across 13 Indiana counties.

Youth First would like to thank all of the generous event sponsors, donors, volunteers and attendees for your support of this 25th anniversary celebration. The entire community benefits when we support healthy, safe, and successful youth and families.

Evansville Promise Neighborhood Receives Funding

JUNE 2023
 At the end of March, UE announced the receipt of a \$30 million grant to create the Evansville Promise Neighborhood. In partnership with 23 organizations, our community will be able to transform families in areas of concentrated need by providing wrap around care cradle to career. This page will serve as a temporary location for interested individuals to stay informed about how the effort is progressing, submit questions or ideas, and stay up to date on interesting developments from our partners. More detailed

Continued On Page 3

VCHD, NAACP Evansville Initiate 'Get The Lead Out' Screenings

JUNE 2023
 The Vanderburgh County Health Department and NAACP Evansville Branch, #3048-B announce our joint community health initiative, "Get the Lead Out," an opportunity for families with at-risk children to become more informed about lead exposure and its consequences, to be screened for lead, and to receive essential information for following up on results. Many in the community know of the risks from lead through exposure to paint chips or dust in houses built before 1978. But there are other ways families have been exposed. Lead poisoning has had devastating effects on children and families in Flint, Michigan, for instance, as a result of poor decision making and systemic biases. Locally many in the



Jacobsville area of Evansville have seen the Superfund effort to remove contaminated soil from yards and lots over the past decade, again a result of decisions made not by those living in those homes but by business and civic leadership decades ago. We at NAACP Evansville Branch and the Vanderburgh County Health Department take seriously our charge to elevate health equity and environmental justice.

Why does lead matter? Lead is a heavy metal used for centuries for a number of purposes, including plumbing, and in the past century as a fuel-additive. Lead is relatively easy to extract and use for

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Salon Redefined Latest New Business In Downtown Evansville Expansion

JUNE 2023
 Salon Redefined is Downtown Evansville's newest business held a grand opening on Friday, May 19 from 3 to 7 PM. The salon is open Tuesday through Saturday in Suite 007 of the Curtis Building at 915 Main Street.

The full-service salon offers barber services, body waxing, facials, lash care, massages, hair extensions, haircuts and coloring, and skin care services. The salon employs nine individuals, including a barber, massage therapist and esthetician, lash technician, and multiple stylists.

Sara Westerfield and Candice Schmitt are the salon operators/owners. They selected the new location, which was a salon over 10 years ago, for its central location and the space's character.

"Salon Redefined offers a welcoming atmosphere with a particular focus on client satisfaction and comfort. We strive to provide the best self-care services to expand your self-love journey," said Westerfield.

"In 2022, 38 businesses opened or expanded in Downtown Evansville. We welcome Salon Redefined and its clients to our neighborhood. We are pleased to add another health and beauty offering to our growing roster of consumer-oriented businesses," said Josh Armstrong, president, of EID.

The salon is currently accepting new customers. To book an appointment please call (812) 777-0046 or connect with them on social media: Facebook @Salon-redefined and Instagram @Salon-redefined_.



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Commentary

Another Debt-Ceiling Dance On The Volcano's Rim

JUNE 2023

By John Krull

In the debt ceiling showdown, President Joe Biden and House Speaker Kevin McCarthy, R-California, ended up making the same bet.

Each man wagered not only that the center can hold but that it still exists—that there still is a large enough core of Americans who are willing to work through differences to make this country function to make a deal possible.

That's no sure thing.

Americans are divided in ways they haven't

been for more than a half-century, since the tumultuous, even tortured 1960s. Egged on by leaders who see both profit and paths to power in encouraging division, huge swaths of the nation have become accustomed to thinking nothing but the worst of their fellow citizens.

This problem is exacerbated by decades of sophisticated gerrymandering in the U.S. House of Representatives, which has left the people's chamber stuffed with extremists from both parties. Because their experiences have prepared

them to deal only with people who already agree with them on everything, these extremists wouldn't know how to close a deal if the instructions were written in big block letters on the lid.



They're more interested in making statements than getting things done.

That's why the rabid right-wingers in the House Republican caucus pushed McCarthy, a relentlessly ambitious pragmatist cloaking himself in the garb of an ideologue, through 15 humiliating votes before installing him as speaker—even though the party had no other plausible alternative.

They made a statement, all right—one that weakened the hand they and their leader held for all the wagers ahead.

This disconnection from reality revealed itself in the eye-to-eye staring contest McCarthy entered with Biden over the debt ceiling and curbing budget deficits.

The most extreme elements in McCarthy's camp—including former President Donald Trump—

blithely dismissed the consequences of having the nation default on its debt.

McCarthy, one suspect, knew better.

He likely realized that the impact of a default, with its accompanying delayed or missed Social Security and other payments, would have hit the GOP's rural constituency with disproportionate harshness. The ardor of even the MAGA crowd for grand gestures likely would have diminished once people began to miss meals and saw property foreclosures as a realistic possibility.

This understanding undercut McCarthy's bargaining position from the beginning. It's hard to pull the trigger on the gun with which you're threatening someone else when it's pointed at your own head.

That's why the deal that emerged carried little in the way of conservative victories that couldn't have been achieved through more traditional—and decidedly less high-stakes—means.

McCarthy touted the bargain as the first time in history that spending would be cut.

But it won't be.

The deal calls for domestic spending to flatline for two years and mil-

itary spending to see slight increases. Whatever supposed budget restraint might be imposed likely will be circumvented by using funds earmarked for other purposes—pandemic spending, etc.—to supplement areas and agendas feeling a pinch.

The major concession McCarthy extracted was symbolic, one demanding a work requirement for certain benefits. In practical terms, this affects few people receiving the benefits in question and merely adds a burden for the government workers administering the program.

But it is a gesture—one that resonates with the MAGA base.

For that reason, McCarthy made it a priority.

Because, again, grand gestures often matter more to his constituency than getting things done.

The greatest overall effect of this debt ceiling/budget bargain is that Biden and the Democrats won't be able to engage in any ambitious social service spending programs for the next two years.

But, so long as Republicans control the House, such sweeping progressive ambitions never were a possibility anyway. Whatever

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Potential Ordinance Requires Inspection Of Rental Properties

JUNE 2023

By Monte Fetter

Managing Broker And President (POMA) Of Property Owners and Managers Association of Evansville

The Property Owners and Managers Association of Evansville was formed in 2010 by a group of local landlords who wanted to promote better relations between landlords and the city. Our motto is "Promoting Professionalism in Rental Management". We meet regularly with our members for education and membership networking. Oftentimes, at these meetings, one will find guests such as city officials, inspectors, and candidates. We have always promoted a good working relationship with the city, department heads, and elected officials. We repeatedly tell our members that the city has many resources that can help us and they should look to the city as a partner in our efforts to provide rental housing.

Rental ownership has many hurdles and an owner needs a lot of help if he is to survive this tough business. A

rental owner is assessed at twice the rate of property taxes as a homeowner, receives very few exemptions, invests his own time and money in what is often a thankless business, and then has to re-invest if his property is damaged. He also pays a higher mortgage interest rate, higher insurance costs and seldom is eligible to receive any grants or credits from the government. Despite this, if one can last, it does offer some long-term equity advantages for retirement.

Evansville has over 36,000 rental units (over half the city is rentals) and government cannot provide that amount of housing. We have to rely on the citizen investor to provide that level of housing and he needs to be encouraged, not obstructed. This is not a bad person, this is a good citizen, a city asset, and should be promoted and encouraged.

There is now a proposed City Council ordinance being promoted that will require every rental property in the city to be inspected, regardless of age or condition, at a cost to the owner of \$50 per unit every year.

Within the proposal is a 3-tier program that offers self-certification over a 3 or 5-year period to certain properties. This is a massive shift in the rela-

tionship we have had with the city where, now, instead of being looked at as a partner to work with, we are

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Stephanie TERRY FOR MAYOR

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- Economic Growth
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- Education

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Community

Right To Life Of SW Indiana To Hold Banquet

JUNE 2023

Evansville, IN – Right to Life of Southwest Indiana will host its annual banquet at Old National Events Plaza on Thursday, August 10, 2023, with actor Kirk Cameron as the keynote speaker. Cameron, known for the television show Growing Pains, co-produced the film Lifemark, which premiered in the fall of 2022. The film shows the value of the life of the unborn through the adoption story of David Scotton. Scotton, now an attorney and adoption advocate, will also appear at the banquet.

quet.

The banquet draws nearly 3,000 guests annually and serves as the organization's primary fundraising event. These funds support programs and projects such as installing and maintaining Safe Haven Baby Boxes at local fire departments, providing thousands of diapers to local pregnancy resource



centers, educating students and empowering them to make healthy life choices, and unveiling the Go Mobile Clinic, a traveling pregnancy resource center which provides free services to women seeking pregnancy care in underserved areas within Southwest Indiana.

"Right to Life has always been pro-

life and pro-woman," says Mary Ellen Van Dyke, executive director for RTLWIN. "With the fall of Roe v. Wade, our organization is moving to expand its reach to help moms facing unplanned pregnancies through tangible means such as the Go Mobile Clinic, support of local pregnancy centers and programs that support those who have had abortions."

For ticket information, call the office at 812-474-3195 or visit the website at rtlswin.org.

Mesker Park Zoo & Botanic Garden Zoo Brew Tickets On Sale

JUNE 2023

Guests 21 and over are invited to the Zoo for an after-hours, wildly popular event featuring tastings of wine and craft beers! Food trucks will be available, so bring cash. There will be live music, large-scale yard games, arcade games (Thanks to Arcademie), and hangout areas. Take a ride on the wildlife carousel or ride the party tram. This year's event will be more intimate and there will be a limited number of tickets. You do not want to miss this sell-out event!

NEW THIS YEAR: EXCURSIONS

Purchase an add-on excursion that includes an exclusive alcoholic shot with a penguin feeding and/or a one-of-a-kind spirit trail

tasting through Amazonia. Excursions are extremely limited.

PRICING:

Zoo Brew Tickets: \$45.00

Chaser's Penguin Excursion: \$10.00

Spirit Trail Excursion: \$25.00

ALL PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT THE EVANSVILLE ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY, A 501(C)(3) NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION.

WHEN: June 10th, 5 pm – 8 pm | The Zoo will be closing early to prepare for Zoo Brew on June 10th. The last admission at 2 pm and guests must be off the grounds by 3 pm.

WHERE: Mesker Park Zoo & Botanic Garden, 1545 Mesker Park Drive, Evansville, Indiana

About Mesker Park Zoo and Bot-

anic Garden

Established in 1928, Mesker Park Zoo & Botanic Garden (AZA-accredited) is situated on 45-scenic acres of rolling hills and is home to hundreds of animals from around the globe. Thousands of exotic and regional botanic species adorn hillsides and animal habitats throughout the Zoo. The Zoo sees over 186,000 visitors annually; is ranked as the number one family attraction in Evansville, Indiana; and is known as Indiana's first zoo.

Mesker Park Zoo & Botanic Garden is open 365 days a year from 9 am – 5 pm, last entry at 4 pm. Standard admission for adults is \$11 and children ages 3-12 are \$10. Children aged 2 and under are free. Zoo members are free.

Mesker Park Zoo & Botanic Garden's mission is to foster the preservation of the Earth's diverse species and living systems through an active role in education and conservation in our regional and professional community. We will forge connections between people and the natural world by providing quality experiences that promote understanding and celebrate the rich tapestry of life.

The mission of the Evansville Zoological Society is to support Mesker Park Zoo & Botanic Garden through leadership, education, fund development, and volunteer services for the benefit of the people, plants, and animals it serves.

Evansville Promise Neighborhood Receives Funding

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links, lists of partners and information will be posted as we have it.

Why Promise Neighborhoods?

Promise Neighborhoods is a \$30 million federal grant program through the United States Department of Education, but it is also an approach driven by a vision, inspired by the Harlem Children's Zone. The vision of the program is that all children and youth growing up in Promise Neighborhoods have access to great schools and strong systems of family and community support that will prepare them to attain an excellent education and successfully transition to college and a career. The goal of DOE with this funding: improve academic and developmental outcomes for children in areas of concentrated poverty, and to transform those communities by identifying and increasing the capacity of eligible entities focused on achieving results for children and youth throughout an entire

neighborhood, cradle to career.

Why Evansville Promise Neighborhood?

Consistent with DOE's goals, Evansville Promise Neighborhood was conceived to advance the following pipeline goals:

Pipeline Block 1. – Improving early health and kindergarten readiness

Pipeline Block 2. – Improving student achievement and success

Pipeline Block 3. – Improving post-secondary education access, affordability, completion and success and workforce readiness

Pipeline Block 4. – Improving neighborhoods and communities

Specific results expected from the Evansville Promise Neighborhood include kindergarten readiness, proficiency in core academic subjects, successful transitions from middle to high school, high school graduation, postsecondary education/credential attainment, health and safety, stable communities, family engagement, and access to 21 st century learning tools.

How will Evansville Promise Neighborhood achieve these goals?

While the grant will not fund all entities doing valuable work in the Evansville Promise Neighborhood, MOU partners will provide targeted, evidence-based solutions to advance the pipeline goals including the following:

Early childhood home visiting

High-quality early childhood education

Free early literacy resources for families

Free adult learning programs for parents and caregivers

Prenatal and early childhood medical care

Chronic absenteeism and drop-out prevention programs

High-quality, in-school academic support programs

High-quality, outside-of-school-time programs

School social work services

High School Equivalency and job skill support

Post-secondary preparation, coaching, and exploration pro-

grams

Workforce readiness preparation, coaching, and exploration programs

Neighborhood-based employment and job skills assistance

Access to and distribution of health resources, nutrition education, and healthy food

Family stability programs

Neighborhood revitalization

Community safety and violence prevention

EPN Partner Agencies

The following table lists all EPN partner agencies, the services they will provide, and their match committed to EPN initiatives. The grant application required at least a 1 to 1 match overall (not per partner). The match amount listed includes personnel, volunteer time and effort, as well as other in-kind support services the partners will provide to EPN residents. An organization may match more (or less) than it receives. Budget Allocations from the grant to the agencies cannot be shared at UE this time.

Another Debt-Ceiling Dance On The Volcano's Rim

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progressives' dreams might have been or might be, they didn't have the votes.

And votes are the currency that counts in legislative bodies.

So, we Americans watched our leaders dance the nation along the volcano's edge for no good reason.

The deal that emerged was like most political deals—imperfect and likely to satisfy almost no one but enough to keep the nation Abraham Lincoln once called "the last best hope of earth" stumbling forward for a little

while longer.

Yes, despite our leaders' best efforts to send us tumbling over the edge, we Americans found a way to stumble forward once again.

That's politics.

FOOTNOTE: John Krull is director of Franklin College's Pulliam School of Journalism and publisher of TheStatehouseFile.com, a news website powered by Franklin College journalism students. The views expressed are those of the author only and should not be attributed to Franklin College.

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

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Community

The Growing Challenges Teachers Face

JUNE 2023

By Diana Hadley
TheStatehouseFile.com

My husband just completed 51 years as a science educator at the middle school and college levels. That number plus my 47 years as a high school and college journalism/language arts teacher totals almost 100 years in education as a couple.

Our transitions from teaching to other chapters are bitter-sweet. Sure, there were challenging times, but the overall experience was positive, and we will miss it. We have great memories working with our colleagues, our students and their parents, and we have stayed in contact with many of them years after they were part of our professional lives.

We are pleased when our students become teachers but troubled that their circumstances don't provide the satisfaction we experienced. It is important to understand why many are leaving the profession sometimes just a couple of years from when they entered it. What is different?

Some describe the challenges the pandemic created when they had to provide classes through technology rather than in person. Watching my grandson's kinder-

garten teacher keep a classroom of five-year-olds on task for hours each day through Zoom was amazing. She did it, but it could not have been as rewarding for her or the children as interacting in person.

Since the pandemic, teachers worry about their students' mental wellness and lack of interpersonal skills.

In addition, attacks on education have made teachers feel they are not respected for what they do. More and more they fear that the curriculum they develop may be challenged and they may lose their jobs over the standards-based lessons they teach.

The fact that teacher salaries and benefits are not keeping up with professionals in other areas also leads them to consider other career options.

Competition between public, charter, and private schools that some claim creates better schools—though much research shows this is not the case—results in funding and accountability concerns that can create more inequality rather than eliminate it.

Professional days for teachers and field trips that inspire students are limited today. I had students consider colleges they visited and careers they saw in person thanks to field trips.

High-stakes testing provides stress and questionable benefits as more engaging lessons are scrapped to prepare for tests. My husband's Galileo Day, a lesson during which students donated items such as watermelons and old bowling balls to drop from the roof of the school, may not have helped prepare for a standardized test, but the activity helped students understand a science lesson with enjoyable, experience-based memories.

The recent book bans may be the last straw for many teachers as they remove high-interest selections from their shelves and limit the world students can explore. Only one parent challenged a book during my 33 years at the high school level, and my yearbook, newspaper, and broadcast students reported about topics that interested them without fear of censorship as long as their coverage was accurate, responsible, and fair.

My grandmother was a teacher in a small rural school in the early 1900s. She had 44 first and second-graders in her class one year. There were few resources, but she was trusted to create lesson plans based on her expertise that would help students learn without government oversight and high-stakes testing.

Talking about the old days isn't usually the best direction forward,

but today's teachers and students would appreciate the old days of academic freedom and the joy of learning together.

Over the past two decades, legislators who have a super majority of power but little or no experience in education have made education policy decisions that have caused the negative results above.

Many teachers have lobbied for educational issues at the Statehouse where few teachers serve as legislators. We have had requests for meetings ignored. We have met people who traveled to testify only to be told to there isn't time to hear them. We have seen amendments added at the last minute that destroys a good bill. And we have worked for a bill for months only to see it sabotaged the last week of the session as we scan the tally sheet of legislators who had indicated their support for it.

The process can be heartbreaking.

However, as my husband and I leave the classroom and retire our red pens and lab coats, we will continue to visit the Statehouse to try to influence legislation that supports teachers and students.

Please join us.

It won't be nearly as much fun as teaching—but every bit as important.

FOOTNOTE: Diana Hadley is a retired educator.



VCHD, NAACP Evansville Initiate Lead Screenings

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industrial purposes. But lead is not easy on the human body. Lead plays NO role in normal human metabolism and is, in fact, toxic. Acute lead poisoning can result in muscle pain, weakness, difficulty concentrating, abdominal pain, constipation, anemia, and seizures. Lead exposure is potentially devastating especially for young children, whose brain development can be critically harmed by the metal. It was only over the late 20th century that compelling evidence on lead's harmful effects finally resulted in to policy change. Communities are

still dealing with the legacy of lead contamination across much of the environment.

Why does screening for lead matter? There are several risk factors in addition to the age of the home in which a family presently resides. Despite the various symptoms some may show from lead exposure, many children with elevated lead levels may look and act healthy. Identifying those cases and taking corrective steps may prevent long-term health consequences. While lead screening is recommended for all children under 7 years age and while Medicaid requires screening for

all participating children at 1 and 2 years, there are still families who may have not had updated testing. We recognize some families may have not had the chance for well-child visits lately for many reasons, including the pandemic. This community screening event sponsored by VCHD and Evansville Branch NAACP and hosted by Zion Missionary Baptist Church is the opportunity for all families to be checked.

This free event will be 6 pm on 15 June 2023 at Zion Missionary Baptist Church. Advanced registration/parental consent is encouraged. Vanderburgh County

Health Department staff will be there to answer additional questions you may have about potential lead exposure. On-site testing will be provided for eligible children and results will go to parent/caregiver within minutes.

The health department will notify doctors' offices of test results and coordinate with families on follow-up for any abnormal results. NAACP Evansville Branch Health Committee will also be there to hear family's additional concerns and connect them with the advocacy work of NAACP.

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Community

McDowell Receives 2023 M. Edward Jones Engagement Award

JUNE 2023

The University of Southern Indiana's Outreach and Engagement has awarded the 2023 M. Edward Jones Engagement Award to Charmaine McDowell, Director of Corporate Partnerships with Outreach and Engagement.

The award is given annually to an individual, group, or project for excellence in leadership, commitment to quality, tireless service and dedication to lifelong learning in fulfilling the outreach mission of USI.

Since joining USI in 1992, McDowell has passionately served the region, sharing the best of USI to benefit individual development and organizational advancement. She has developed ongoing partnerships and training to elevate safety, productivity, retention,



leadership, customer service and an improved bottom line.

"Charmaine McDowell embodies the USI Outreach and Engagement mission by connecting with the community and turning ideas into real opportunities," says Dawn Stoneking, Executive Director of Outreach and Engagement. "She is a listener, innovator, educator, and collaborator who has enhanced the bonds between the community, government, businesses, organizations and individuals, responding to their needs and fostering learning and growth."

One such partnership was the formulation of the Tri-State Industrial Safety Council (TSISC) in 2003, a collaboration of regional safety professionals to promote a cost-effective, safe work environment for owner organizations and contract

employees. TSISC, a member of the Association of Reciprocal Safety Councils, Inc. (ARSC), in partnership with USI Outreach and Engagement, offers the Basic Orientation Plus™ and Refresher reciprocal safety training programs. Since its inception, the programs have served over 120,000 contractor employees regionally. In addition, McDowell has coordinated site-specific safety training for over 48,000 contractors at TSISC owner-member companies.

McDowell's leadership and training expertise have served the manufacturing industry, particularly Toyota Motor Manufacturing Indiana (TMMI), where she has conducted training on-site for all shifts. She has provided instruction in team leader orientation and development, communication, creativity and innovation, soft skills, new engineer orientation, A-3 writing, project management, diversity, safety and other valuable learning

modules for TMMI employees.

She also serves as President on the Board of Directors for Meals on Wheels and served over 15 years on the board of Voices, an advocacy group supporting Vanderburgh County residents in long-term care facilities.

"I am pleased to be nominated for this award and honored to be selected as this year's winner," McDowell says.

The M. Edward Jones Engagement Award recognizes USI employees (current and retired), students, alumni, board members, and trustees who inspire others to engage, have made a positive impact in the USI community and the region and demonstrate tireless service and dedication to lifelong learning in fulfilling the outreach mission of the University of Southern Indiana.

For more information about the M. Edward Jones Engagement Award, visit USI.edu/jonesaward.

Potential Ordinance Requires Inspection Of Rental Properties

Continued From Page 2

looked at as the opponent. The good landlords, instead of being promoted as a good example, will now be punished for the sins of the few.

This proposal will cause a needless increase in rents to the renter, a tremendous amount of work to the owners and city inspectors, and will

result in a massive expansion of the Building Commission. But, worst of all, will be damage to the relationship between the city and local landlords. We have worked very hard to build that relationship over a number of years and, while it is still growing, it has resulted in some very progressive changes in our relations with the

Building Commission, Health Department, Human Resources, Evansville Water and Sewer, and other departments. The proposed ordinance will damage that relationship. While the motive behind the proposal may be pure, the method is too great a burden to pay. There are other ways to deal with code violators and POMA is

willing to work with the city to those ends but this proposal is just a bad idea. A good ordinance will result in a win-win but everyone will lose if this proposal becomes law.

Respectfully submitted,
Monte Fetter, President
Property Owners and Managers Association of Evansville (POMA)

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Community

CenterPoint Energy Announces Plans To Continue Enhancement Of Reliability, Safety Of Infrastructure

JUNE 2023

EVANSVILLE – CenterPoint Energy Inc.'s ("CenterPoint Energy") Indiana-based electric business today announced plans to further enhance the reliability, resiliency and safety of its infrastructure, filing a five-year plan with the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) to continue execution of the company's electric infrastructure improvement strategy.

The proposed nearly \$455 million plan, which will fund more than 300 projects, is the next phase of the modernization work originally approved by the IURC in 2017. Over the next five years, CenterPoint Energy plans to continue making strategic long-term infrastructure investments to maintain and enhance reliability and resiliency, manage life-cycle assets from aging equipment, and modernize the grid for customer benefit, while striving to safely deliver service.

"We are continuing our modernization and infrastructure investments to enhance the reliability and resiliency of our electric grid and allow for greater flexibility to meet the current and future energy needs of our customers," said Richard Leger, Senior Vice President, Indiana Electric. "Additionally, these investments will replace aging equipment, which is expected to reduce equipment malfunction, restoration costs and the number of outages our customers experience during both blue-sky days and extreme weather events."

During the first phase of the modernization program, CenterPoint Energy replaced and installed more than 220 miles of overhead conductors, 125 miles of underground conductors and 135 substation circuit breakers. Also, more than 2,600 transmission and 8,600 distribution structures were replaced or installed, and nearly 130 miles of transmission line were upgraded or installed.

The Second Phase Of Proposed Enhancements Will Include:

Overhead 12kV circuit rebuilds to replace aged conductors, poles, hardware and equipment to satisfy more robust construction standards and incorporate looping to improve



reliability and allow for alternate feeds for re-energizing customers during extended outages.

Distribution automation to minimize the outage impact and duration and allow for evolving distribution technology to accommodate both electric vehicles and distributed energy resources.

Underground rebuilds to replace aging underground bare cable with a jacketed

cable that meets current construction standards and incorporate looping technologies to improve grid resilience to provide alternate feeds for reenergizing customers during extended outages.

Wood pole replacement and treatment program to utilize inspection data of approximately 11,000 poles annually with the flexibility to address urgent and emergent situations as those are identified.

Substation rebuilds to replace aging infrastructure and reduce the risk of failure, including catastrophic failure through the replacement of transformers, breakers, relays, and communications equipment.

Transmission line rebuilds to incorporate the conversion from wood poles to steel poles and re-conductoring to increase the line capacity to allow for additional load without creating a new transmission line footprint. Additional Optical Ground Wire (OPGW) installation to allow modernization of communication systems to enable future automation.

Physical security program to increase security to protect the company's most critical assets from increased physical threat of electric grid and substation attacks.

In this proposed plan, CenterPoint Energy is requesting recovery of the

capital expenditures of investments made in 2024 through 2028. State law allows energy companies to prepare and submit infrastructure modernization plans with gradual cost recovery for which the IURC has ultimate approval rights and oversight authority. If the grid modernization plan is approved as is, the typical residential customer using 1000 kWh per month is expected to see an annual increase of approximately \$3 per month on bills under the Transmission, Distribution, and Storage System Improvement Charge (TDSIC). No increase is expected until November 2024.

"As we look toward our customers' future energy needs, we understand affordability is important. We are continuously modeling and balancing bill impacts, while executing on these necessary reliability and resiliency infrastructure improvements," said Leger. "These projects will allow us to utilize ever evolving technologies, which is expected to result in enhanced reliability, fewer outages and improve restoration response for years to come."

Today's filing does not impact natural gas bills, nor is it related to CenterPoint Energy's recently announced Integrated Resource Plan preferred portfolio.

Forward Looking Statement

This news release includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. When used in this news release, the words "anticipate," "believe," "continue," "could," "estimate," "expect," "forecast," "goal," "intend," "may," "objective," "plan," "potential," "predict," "projection," "should," "target," "will" or other similar words are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements

are based upon assumptions of management which are believed to be reasonable at the time made and are subject to significant risks and uncertainties. Actual events and results may differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. Any statements in this news release regarding future events, such as approval of CenterPoint Energy's proposed plan, CenterPoint Energy's ability to executed on the proposed plan, including the proposed scope of projects and anticipated benefits, the extent to which and timing of CenterPoint Energy's ability to recover costs to implement the proposed plan, the amount and expected impact to customer's bills, and any other statements that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements. Each forward-looking statement contained in this news release speaks only as of the date of this release. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those indicated by the provided forward-looking information include risks and uncertainties relating to: (1) the impact of pandemics, including the COVID-19 pandemic; (2) financial market conditions; (3) general economic conditions; (4) the timing and impact of future regulatory and legislative decisions; (5) effects of competition; (6) weather variations; (7) changes in business plans; (8) continued disruptions to the global supply chain and increases in commodity prices; (9) legislative decisions, including tax and developments related to the environment such as global climate change, air emissions, carbon and waste water discharges; (10) CenterPoint Energy's ability to execute on its initiatives, targets and goals and operations and maintenance goals and (11) other factors, risks and uncertainties discussed in CenterPoint Energy's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022, CenterPoint Energy's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2023 and other reports CenterPoint Energy or its subsidiaries may file from time to time with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

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Comics & Puzzles

TANK McNAMARA
by Bill Hinds

Bashers Marketing

WE'RE HAVING A SEASON TICKET CRISIS. WITH THE EASE OF GETTING LAST-MINUTE TICKETS USING AN APP, PEOPLE DON'T WANT TO COMMIT.

I PROPOSE WE HAVE A MEMBERSHIP PLAN INSTEAD OF SEASON TICKETS.

CONTINUE.

WE SELL MEMBERSHIPS THAT ALLOW A CERTAIN NUMBER OF GAMES TO ATTEND DURING THE YEAR.

NOT THAT UNUSUAL.

ALL-BUT ALONG WITH THEIR SEATS, THE MEMBERSHIP ALLOWS ACCESS TO A GYM WE BUILT AT THE CLUB LEVEL, WITH WINDOWS SO THEY CAN WATCH THE GAME AS THEY WORK OUT.

GO FOLLOWING THE HEALTH CLUB MODEL, FANG WILL PAY FOR THE MEMBERSHIP BUT STOP SHOWING UP?

AND IF THEY AREN'T USING THE SEATS, SOMEBODY ELSE CAN STILL PURCHASE THEM.

GET FUZZY

by darby conley

AW, FOR THE LOVE OF STRING! ARE YOU TRYING TO KILL ME?!

...WHAT?!

YOU SMELL LIKE THE SLUDGE LEFT OVER AT A WATER TREATMENT PLANT.

BUCKY, YOU'RE ALWAYS COMPLAINING ABOUT HOW SATCHEL SMELLS.

YEAH. FUNNY HOW THAT WORKS, INNIT? I WONDER WHY I DO THAT.

WHAT KIND OF DOG ARE YOU, AGAIN?!

PART LABRADOR, PART CHINESE SHAR PEI.

SO "LABRADOR" IS CLEARLY AN ELLIS ISLAND SPELLING OF "BAD ODOR." I BET SHAR PEI MEANS SZECHUAN FUNKHOUND.

IS THE CHINESE CHARACTER FOR SHAR PEI A DOG WITH STINK LINES WAFTING UP FROM IT?

LAY OFF, I DON'T EVEN SMELL HIM.

I'VE HEARD OF THIS. YOU'VE LIVED WITH HIM SO LONG YOU HAVE DOG SMELL STOCKHOLM SYNDROME.

...YOU HAVE STINKHOME SYNDROME, ROBERT.

Universal Crossword

Edited by Anna Gundlach March 5, 2023

- ACROSS**
- 1 In favor of
 - 4 San Antonio team
 - 9 "pig" ("Charlotte's Web" message)
 - 13 Unrefined metal
 - 14 Lose your nerve
 - 15 Little darlings
 - 16 Compartment where a trucker sits
 - 17 Even more vulgar bit of advice?
 - 19 State named after the 30-Down people
 - 21 "Blue (Da Ba...)" (Eiffel 65 hit)
 - 22 Like lawns
 - 23 "You can't be ___!"
 - 25 Hair salon sound
 - 26 Positive affirmation to one's curves?
 - 31 And others: Abbr.
 - 33 Use a peeler
 - 34 "Please, dig in!"
 - 35 Fish or cut ___
 - 36 Guilty feeling
 - 38 Create
 - 39 "Eww!"
 - 40 Get data from, as a hard drive
 - 41 Milky Way manufacturer
 - 42 Chimney cleaner from Santiago, say?
 - 46 Cutlass automaker, for short
 - 47 Fly fishermen, for example
 - 51 Slowly, in a symphony
 - 54 Country with the calling code +1
 - 55 Fencing blade
 - 56 People who are grumpy about how unpleasant the trail is?
 - 59 Actor McKellen
 - 60 Sheeplike
 - 61 "The Backyardigans"
 - 62 Includes on an email
 - 63 Hankerings
 - 64 UFO pilot
 - 65 ___/her
- DOWN**
- 1 "Keep your eye on the ball!"
 - 2 Give a TED Talk, e.g.
 - 3 Concrete-reinforcing rod
 - 4 UV-blocking stat
 - 5 All square
 - 6 Except if
 - 7 Religious ceremony
 - 8 Coll. or univ.
 - 9 Colorful Latin American shawl
 - 10 Feed bag food
 - 11 CT scan alternatives
 - 12 Award such as Best Female Athlete with a Disability
 - 15 Obtain (from)
 - 18 Pay no attention to
 - 20 Drum set component
 - 24 Word after "essential" or "mineral"
 - 25 Poetry competition
 - 27 Apples in the classroom
 - 28 Daily planner's length
 - 29 Trees symbolizing strength
 - 30 Native of 19-Across
 - 31 A pop
 - 32 Polynesian carving
 - 35 Pen name?
 - 36 Veteran sailor
 - 37 ___ Christian Andersen
 - 38 Butcher block wood
 - 40 Repair, as an old coat
 - 41 Tom's "Sleepless in Seattle" co-star
 - 43 Username/password combos
 - 44 Pungent green condiment
 - 45 Make possible
 - 48 Heroic sagas
 - 49 Get through to
 - 50 Feel
 - 51 "Hey, sailor!"
 - 52 Plunge into a pool
 - 53 Related (to)
 - 54 River between Europe and Asia
 - 57 1099-MISC expert
 - 58 Jr., to a Sr.

Find The Answers To This Month's Puzzle on Page 14

Sudoku Pacific

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

			3	1				
5	1		7		4	6		
			4	5	9			
1	6	2					4	
	2		1		7			
4				8	5	1		
	5	7	2					
7	4		8		6	2		
		4	5					

6/23 DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Greetings! by Winston Emmons

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13				14						15			
16				17						18			
19			20		21					22			
23			24					25					
			26					27			28	29	30
	31	32						33					
35					36	37				38			
39				40						41			
42				43					44	45			
			46						47		48	49	50
51	52	53						54			55		
56								57			58		59
60								61					62
63								64					65

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Education

UE Institute For Public Health Partners With Young & Established To Fight Food Insecurity And Obesity

JUNE 2023

A state grant targeting the fight against food insecurity and obesity in Vanderburgh County has been funded thanks in part to the work of UE's Director of the Institute for Public Health and Associate Professor Dr. Su Jin Jeong.

Dr. Jeong submitted a grant application in November on behalf of the Evansville non-profit Young & Established. Founded by activist

Courtney Johnson, Y&E works to better the community primarily through the inspiration and motivation of the youth.

"The University of Evansville's Institute for Public Health was proud to partner to assist Young & Established by submitting this grant that will ultimately assist our community's youth in understanding the value of food nutrition and incorporating a robust program

that combats food insecurity," said Dr. Jeong.

The grant valued at \$450,000 will provide two years' worth of funding for work related to food insecurity and obesity. With the funding, the goal is to accomplish three programs including a backpack and food pantry program, a community garden and farmer's market, and cooking classes for children who are part of the Y&E

mentorship program.

The University of Evansville's Institute for Public Health was included in this grant as a technical advisor. The grant disbursement begins this summer.

The full grantee list can be found online at the following website: <https://www.in.gov/health/files/Indiana-Health-Issues-and-Challenges-Grantee-List-2023.pdf>

USI To Celebrate 2024 Total Solar Eclipse With On Campus Solarpalooza 2-Day Event

JUNE 2023

The University of Southern Indiana is excited to announce a free and open to the public multi-day event, Solarpalooza, culminating with the Total Solar Eclipse on April 8, 2024. The event will begin at 7 p.m. Sunday, April 7 with a talk by trailblazing electrical engineer and retired NASA astronaut Joan Higginbotham in the Screaming Eagles Arena as part of the Romain College of Business Innovative Speaker Series, followed by a full day of experiential learning and engagement on Monday, April 8—the day of the eclipse. USI will be in the direct path of the moon passing between the sun and Earth, darkening skies in totality for over three minutes around 2:02 p.m.

With more than 1,400 acres of campus, USI will offer unobstructed sky views and access to educators and exploration that uniquely position the University as the prime location for viewing the eclipse and a day of solar system excitement. Activities will appeal to current and prospective students, alumni, and the broader community, with music, food trucks, expert presentations from the 16th annual Interdisciplinary Colloquium, "Eclipse," and hands-on learning opportunities.

"Our campus will provide space for science and celestial enthusiasts, along with casual observers, to spread out and enjoy this historic event in a festival atmosphere," said Dr. Kent Scheller, USI Professor of Physics and event organizer.



"For the second time in seven years, our campus will be at the center of one of the most unique and awe-inspiring events we'll ever experience"

During the last solar eclipse in 2017, when Evansville experienced 99.04% totality, more than 700 students from elementary and middle schools across the region viewed the event from campus and participated in educational programming. "What we're planning for the 2024 total eclipse is going to be so much bigger," said Scheller. "You're going to want to save the date."

A full event lineup and agenda will be released over the summer. For more information and updates on Solarpalooza at USI, visit USI.edu/solarpalooza.

Astronaut Joan Higginbotham, Sunday, April 7

Joan Higginbotham will take the stage at the Screaming Eagles Arena at 7 p.m. Sunday, April 7, for her presentation, "Breaking Barriers: An Astronaut's Inspiring & Winding Road to Space," followed by a moderated Q&A. Doors will open at 6 p.m.

Higginbotham's presentation will take the audience aboard her STS-116 space shuttle mission to the International Space Station (ISS) and will explore how preparation, passion and perseverance were key to her successful voyage into space. She will also reveal lessons learned along her inspiring journey.

In 2006, Higginbotham flew aboard Space Shuttle Discovery, becoming the third African American woman to travel in space. On the 13-day mission, the seven-member crew continued construction of the ISS, embarking on four

space walks with Higginbotham operating the station's robotic arm.

She has been widely recognized for her accomplishments, honored by President George W. Bush at the 81st White House Black History Month Celebration and featured in Alicia Keys' Superwoman video. Higginbotham is also the recipient of the National Space Medal, the Adler Planetarium Women in Space Award, and the NASA Exceptional Service Medal, and was named one of Savoy Magazine's Top Influential Women in Corporate America and one of Essence Magazine's Top 50 Women, among other accolades.

She began her career at NASA in 1987 as an aerospace technologist at the Kennedy Space Center (KSC), Florida, where she worked her way through numerous promotions and actively participated in 53 shuttle launches during her nine-year tenure.

Selected as an astronaut candidate by NASA in 1996, she reported to the Johnson Space Center and was assigned various technical duties including testing modules of the ISS for operability, compatibility and functionality prior to launch. Higginbotham has logged more than 308 hours in space, retiring in 2007 after 20 years with NASA, joining Marathon Oil to manage their corporate social responsibility office and the Bioko Island Malaria Control Program in Equatorial Guinea, Africa.

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Education

The Shield, USI's Student-Run Newspaper Awarded Multiple Honors By The ICPA

JUNE 2023

The Shield, the University of Southern Indiana's student-run newspaper, was awarded multiple honors by the Indiana Collegiate Press Association (ICPA) as part of its 2023 Spring Contest.

Overall publication awards were determined by the results of individual award winners from each participating organization.

"The students of The Shield staff represent some of the hardest working, passionate and determined among us, and these awards speak to the fruits of that labor," says Ben Luttrull, Student Publication Manager/Advisor and Instructor in Journalism. "Not only is this a celebration of their effort, it confirms the USI community benefits from high-quality, professional journalism and a robust, strong student press. I'm extremely proud of the entire staff and am thrilled to see them build on this for years to come."

Listed below are Online, DII Newspaper and Advertising awards. Please note, ICPA does not use NCAA divisions for its awards. For the purpose of the Newspaper category, awards are based on enrollment. The Non-Newspaper categories (Online and Advertising) are not separated by division. All institutions compete in these categories.



Online

Use of Social Media: Second Place
Special Presentation, USI to go Division I: Second Place

Online Publication of the Year: Third Place

Online Publication of the Year: Third Place

Email Newsletter: First and Third Place

DII Newspaper

Feature Page Design, Maliah White: First Place

Sports Page Design, Maliah White: First Place

Informational Graphic, Maliah White: First Place

Cover Design, Maliah White and

Quinton Watt: Second Place

Overall Design, Maliah White: Second Place

Feature Reporting, Tegan Ruhl: Third Place

Staff Editorial, Shelby Clark: Third Place

Editorial Cartoon, Elizabeth Harris: Third Place

Advertising

Display Ad, Kyla Dagaton: First Place

Electronic House Ad, staff: Second Place

General Media Kit/Marketing Package, The Shield Business Team and Shelby Clark: Second Place

House Ad, staff: Third Place

"The student staff at The Shield is so honored and proud to represent the University of Southern Indiana. Our mission, as The Shield, is to serve the students and the campus community with factual information, entertaining content and a forum for discussions that reflect their unique interests and ideas," says Shelby Clark, Editor-in-Chief of The Shield. "As the University's independent student publication, The Shield is completely student-led and operated. These awards are the direct result of student vision, labor and dedication to excellence and servitude. We are humbled and honored to serve the campus community."

Blunt Named Dean Of USI's Pott College Of Science

JUNE 2023

Dr. Shelly Blunt has accepted the position of Dean of the Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education at the University of Southern Indiana. The announcement was made Tuesday, May 16 by Dr. Mohammed Khayum, Provost, and is effective June 1, 2023.

"Dr. Blunt has an impressive record of accomplishments in leading change through strategic thinking and organizational acumen. Her leadership approach embodies a commitment to collaboration, exceptional outcomes and alignment with an organization's values and mission," Khayum says. "I am confident Dr. Blunt's leadership capabilities, experience, and student-centric focus combined with her extensive knowledge of USI's policies, processes, and procedures will enhance the growth and impact of the Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education and the achievement of the University's mission."

As Dean of the Pott College, Blunt will report to the Provost and exercise broad responsibilities for leadership and management of the College, its programs, finances and people.

Blunt has served as the Interim Dean for Pott College since January 2023. She previously served as Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and as Associate Dean for Pott College. She currently serves on the Science Education Foundation of Indiana Board, and the Medical Professions Academy Advisory Board and has served on numerous state-wide committees for the Indiana Commission for Higher Education.

Her research interests revolve around directed metalations in organic synthesis, STEM education, academic advising, and student success and persistence. Blunt has generated

over \$4.5 million in external funding to support her research interests. This work aligns with Pott College's mission to recruit and retain students in STEM fields and led to the establishment of the Southwest Indiana STEM Resource Center and the development of the Early Undergraduate Research and the Pathways Leading to Undergraduate Success in the Sciences programs. Her efforts in STEM education in southern Indiana earned the Celebration of Leadership Regional Impact Award in 2010 for the University.

Blunt has been actively involved in undergraduate advising, served as a University Advising Fellow for five years, and has received the Outstanding Advisor of the Year and the Phenomenal Women of USI awards. Other accomplishments under her leadership include the creation of first-year advising centers in each of USI's academic colleges, the successful implementation of a new general education core, the development of a University-wide first-year seminar class and the implementation of state-wide articulation agreements.

She earned her undergraduate degree at Truman State University and her doctoral degree in chemistry from the University of Iowa.

The Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education, one of four colleges at the University of Southern Indiana in Evansville, Indiana, enrolls students across a number of programs, including Engineering, Teacher Education, Mathematic Sciences, Biology, Chemistry, Geology and Physics, and Kinesiology and Sport. Engineering, Civil Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Manufacturing Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering programs at USI are accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET.



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30 CenterPoint employees and their families volunteered at the event



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Education

UE's Center For Innovation & Change To Expand Reach

JUNE 2023

EVANSVILLE - The University of Evansville (UE) has announced an expansion of the Center for Innovation & Change (CIC) to better serve the regional community.

In June 2023, Faculty Director Dr. Derek Jones will transition to the new role of Director of Field Innovation for the Center for Innovation & Change. In addition to designing workshops and professional development opportunities through the CIC, Dr. Jones will work with high schools throughout southeastern Indiana to develop social innovation programs that will equip high school students with the tools they need to improve their communities in innovative and meaningful ways. He will also work with these programs to help students develop projects for the University of Evansville's High School Changemaker Challenge (sponsored by Toyota).

Dr. Jones also plans to build a regional information-sharing network that will give participating students and faculty access to up-

dated research on the science, methods, and ethics of innovation and design, as well as to allow them to share information and support one another in their change-making journey. Dr. Jones will be regionally operational, but also returning to Evansville once a month to continue support for Evansville-based ChangeLab faculty and K-12 Changemaker teachers.

Dr. Jones is no stranger to the University. He received a BA and BFA from UE in 2003. He served as an officer in the Army after graduating, and then went on to earn an MA in Philosophy from the University of Houston in 2007 and a PhD in Philosophy from Indiana University in 2013. As a member of the UE faculty, he directed the Cognitive Science program from 2013-2023 and served as Faculty Director for the Center for Innovation & Change (CIC) from 2021-2023, helping shape ChangeLab programming through a faculty lens and expanding Design Thinking capac-

ity. His academic interests include the psychology of creativity, skill acquisition, the philosophy of technology, and embodied cognition, and he has published a book and several articles on topics in these areas.

Dr. Jones sees his new role as a practical extension of his previous academic work.

"It's no secret to young people that the world could be quite a bit better than it currently is, but many are uncertain of how to do anything about it. I am excited to have the opportunity, not only to help students throughout our region think critically and creatively about how the world could be better, but also to give them the confidence and the tools they need to enact positive, sustainable change," said Dr. Jones.

"This move allows the University of Evansville to strategically expand what Toyota has made possible for young people in this area through the Changemaker Challenge," said Erin Lewis, Executive Director of the CIC. "No longer will

proximity to our office define whether or not a young changemaker can receive support. Dr. Jones will be a bridge between our university and our community, surfacing dozens of students who will find a home at UE, while still supporting our current faculty. We couldn't be more excited about this innovative new era."

K-12 schools interested in talking to Dr. Jones about developing a changemaker pipeline should contact him directly at DJ4@evansville.edu.

The University of Evansville's Center for Innovation & Change serves as a resource for the campus and community to innovate for a more just, prosperous, and sustainable world. With a commitment to empowering all learners, the Center facilitates ChangeLab programming, design thinking training and workshops, local and global Changemaker Challenges, and Global Scholars, and is the home for the Evansville Promise Neighborhood administration.

20 Indiana Educators Selected To Bring Arts And Creativity Activities Into The Classroom

JUNE 2023

INDIANAPOLIS - The Indiana Arts Commission (IAC) announced that 20 educators from across the state have been chosen to participate in a new program centered on bringing arts and creativity into the classroom. This prestigious program invites top educators to participate in hands-on training sessions followed by the implementation of a full semester of arts activities in the classroom.

The Indiana Educator Fellowship for Creative Teachers is a program of the IAC in partnership with the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) that celebrates and supports outstanding educators throughout the state in implementing creativity-centered innovation in the classroom.

Research shows creative teaching strategies, also known as arts integration, improve student engagement, student learning retention, and student literacy skills.

"We selected some of the most energetic, innovative educators



across the Hoosier State to participate in this fellowship," said Stephanie Haines, Arts Education and Accessibility program manager at the IAC. "It is exciting to meet with so many inspired educators who are ready to integrate arts and creativity into the classroom to the benefit of their students."

The 2023-2024 Creative Educator Cohort is as follows:

Anna Grant, Jasper High School (Dubois County)
Brittany Bleicher, Northside Middle School (Delaware County)
Darlene Rosario-Reese, Block Middle School (Lake County)

Emily Crapnell, Noblesville West Middle School (Hamilton County)
Franklin Oliver, University High School (Hamilton County)
Hailey Hutzell, Fairview Elementary (Wayne County)
Heathar Bradbury, Clay High School (St. Joseph County)
Jacquelyn Greer, Muncie Central High School (Delaware County)
Jennifer Gonzalez, Clarence Farrington School 61 (Marion County)
Jennifer Stahl, West Washington Jr./Sr. High School (Washington County)
Josie Engdahl, Anderson Inter-

mediate School (Madison County)

Kaylene Huntsman, Shelbyville Central High School (Shelby County)

Lori Vandeventer, Eastern Greene High School (Greene County)

Nicole Brubaker, Manchester High School (Wabash County)

Paul Satchwill, Batesville High School (Ripley County)

Rachel Campbell-Maher, Christ the King Catholic School (Marion County)

Rebecca Harris, White River Valley Middle School (Greene County)

Rita Eblin, Washington High School (Daviess County)

Stephanie Dodd, Franklin Central High School (Marion County)

Susan Stewart, Riverside Elementary School (Clark County)

The fellows will attend a series of virtual learning sessions and will receive two days of immersive, hands-on training in connecting creativity to state standards, access to a fully funded in-school creative arts residency, and a \$1,000 honorarium.

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Sports

5 USI Softball Players Named To CSC All-Academic Team

JUNE 2023

EVANSVILLE – University of Southern Indiana Softball junior outfielder Mackenzie Bedrick (Brownsburg, Indiana), senior outfielder Emma Tucher (New Palestine, Indiana), senior infielder Rachel Martinez (Chicago, Illinois), senior utility Allie Goodin (Evansville, Indiana), and senior infielder Jordan Rager (Fishers, Indiana) were named College Sports Communicators Academic All-District for NCAA Division I. Bedrick and Goodin earn their second Academic All-District Awards, and Tucher, Martinez, and Rager earn their first Academic All-District Awards.

To be eligible for the CSC Academic All-District Award, the student-athlete must be a starter or important reserve with legitimate



athletic credentials and at least a 3.5 cumulative grade point average (4.0 scale). They must have reached a sophomore athletic and academic standing at the institution and must

have completed at least one full academic year at the institution.

Bedrick, a nursing major, led USI Softball in 2023 with 31 runs scored while hitting .308 at the plate, sec-

ond-best on the team. Bedrick, who started all 44 games in centerfield, had a season-high three hits back in February against the University of

Continued On Page 13

Roberts Hits For Cycle, Ties UE Single-Season Homer Mark

JUNE 2023

CHICAGO, Ill. – In one of the top individual games in school history, University of Evansville graduate outfielder Eric Roberts hit for the cycle on Thursday night, including launching a grand slam to tie UE's single-season home run record, to power the Purple Aces past the UIC Flames, 9-8, at Curtis Granderson Stadium in Chicago, Illinois.

"What an amazing night tonight by Eric," said UE head coach Wes Carroll. "Cycles are extremely rare,

and to be able to do it with a grand slam included, and have that be the home run that ties the school record is really special. I couldn't be happier for Eric right now.

"And, up and down our lineup, I thought that we had a lot of guys step up tonight. It was good to see Simon Scherry barrel up a few balls, and we could definitely use him getting hot over the next week or so in the conference tournament. But, we had other guys step up and produce a lot of qual-

ity at-bats, and hopefully, we can keep that going the rest of the weekend and beyond."

Scherry got Evansville on the scoreboard first with a solo home run in the second inning to answer a first-inning run by the Flames. Roberts then began his historic night in the third inning with a one-out triple and came around to score on a sacrifice fly by fifth-year first baseman Chase Hug.

After the Flames tied the game at 2-2 in the bottom of the third in-

ning, Evansville exploded for six runs in the fourth inning to take a lead it would never lose. Scherry would lead off with a double, and after a walk and an error loaded the bases, sophomore catcher Evan Waggoner and sophomore outfielder Ty Rumsey delivered back-to-back RBI singles to give UE a 4-2 lead. Roberts then launched an opposite-field grand slam down the left field line to give UE an 8-2 cushion, while tying Ed Kothera's

Continued On Page 13



SUMMER EVENT GUIDE

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Introducing Explore Evansville, formerly known as Visit Evansville! We're excited to unveil our new name, which reflects our commitment to providing even more events, travel resources, and services to benefit our beloved local community and the visitors who enjoy our vibrant city! Get ready to embark on unforgettable adventures and discover all that Evansville has to offer with Explore Evansville by your side.

Stay in the loop with the Explore Evansville newsletter by scanning the code below!



CELEBRATE AND REMEMBER

- June 3 | River City Pride Festival & Parade | Downtown Evansville
- June 3 | June Boom | Vanderburgh County 4H Fairgrounds
- June 16 | Pride Music Fest | Haynie's Corner Arts District
- June 16 - 18 | Juneteenth Community Block Party | 1673 Culver Ave 47713
- June 17 | Pride In The Park | Garvin Park
- June 17 | Juneteenth Negro League Memorial Game | Bosse Field
- June 19 | Juneteenth Free Day | Angel Mounds
- July 4 | Fireworks On The Ohio | Riverside Drive

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES & FESTIVALS

- June 10 | West Side Nut Club Cruise-In | West Franklin Street
- June 10 | Zoo Brew | Mesker Park Zoo & Botanic Garden
- June 23 | Shriners Fest 2023 | Riverside Drive
- July 8 | Historic Tour of Angel Mounds | Angel Mounds
- July 8 | WNIN Jazz Fest | WNIN Studio
- July 29 | Evansville Farmers Market | Washington Square Mall

WEEKLY & MONTHLY FAVORIES

- June 2 & July 7 | Haynies Corner First Friday | Haynie's Corner Arts District
- June 8 & June 15 | Wine Down To The Weekend | Reitz Home Museum
- Every Saturday (May- Aug) | Franklin Street Bazaar | West Franklin Street
- June 17 & July 1 | On The Roof Concert Series | Arts Council of Southwestern Indiana
- June 15 & 29, July 13 & 27 | Music In The Park | Various Locations

FAMILY FRIENDLY SHOWS

- June 9 | Blippi The Wonderful World Tour | Old National Events Plaza
- July 13 - 16 | EVSC Presents: The Addams Family | Old National Events Plaza
- August 1 & 2 | Bluey's Big Play | Old National Events Plaza
- September 29 | ENCANTO: The Sing-Along Film Concert | Old National Events Plaza



OLD NATIONAL

Events Plaza

Sports

Roberts Hits For Cycle, Ties UE Single-Season Homer Mark

Continued From Page 12

1987 single-season home run record with his 20th home run of the year.

UIC would not back down though, scoring two runs each in the fourth and fifth innings to claw back within two runs at 8-6. Roberts then manufactured a run in the seventh inning to give UE back a three-run lead, as he led off with an opposite-field double, advanced to third on a wild pitch, and came around to score on an RBI single by senior outfielder Mark Shallenberger to give UE a 9-6 lead.

Roberts would clinch the cycle in the top of the ninth inning with a solid single to right-center field. It is the second cycle in three seasons for Evansville, as former Purple Ace Kenton Crews had UE's last cycle against Butler during the 2021 season. Unfortunately, Roberts was

stranded at third base, as UE not only scored nine runs, but left 13 men on base. But, junior closer Nate Hardman worked a six-out save for his ninth save of the season to make a winner of graduate reliever Michael Parks (5-2) and help UE win the series opener.

Overall, Roberts went 4-for-5 with three runs scored and four RBI to lead Evansville. Scherry also went 3-for-5 and finished a triple shy of the cycle, while senior third baseman Brent Widder and fifth-year outfielder Danny Borgstrom had two hits each. Eight of the nine UE starters came through with hits.

With the victory, Evansville improves to 32-21 overall and 14-11 in the Missouri Valley Conference. The Purple Aces moved into a tie with Southern Illinois for third place in the Valley standings



thanks to the win and a Southern Illinois loss at Murray State on Thursday. UIC, meanwhile, saw its seven-game winning streak come to a close with the loss, and dropped to 26-22 overall and 12-13 in the MVC. The two teams will continue the series on Friday night at 6 p.m. in a game that can be

seen live on ESPN+ and heard live on 107.1 FM-WJPS and the Old National Bank/Purple Aces Sports Network from Learfield. If Evansville wins on Friday night, the Purple Aces will clinch a top-four seed in next week's MVC Tournament and earn a first-day bye in the eight-team tournament.

5 USI Softball Players Named To CSC All-Academic Team

Continued From Page 12

Evansville and a season best three RBIs at Spring Games in March against Long Island University. Plus, Southern Indiana's leadoff batter made multiple highlight reel plays and catches patrolling centerfield. The junior outfielder moved inside USI's top five all-time for career stolen bases with 50.

Tucher made 39 starts this season as part of a strong outfield unit defensively. With two outfield assists in 2023, the senior raised her career assists total to 14. She also sported a .971 fielding percentage this season. The health administration major scored eight runs and brought in three more. Tucher also provided a boost on the basepaths as a pinch-runner in key situations.

Martinez started all 44 games for USI at second base, batting .264 with two home runs, 17 RBIs, and 11 runs. On the Screaming Eagles' final day of the regular season on May 6, the senior had a season-best three hits against Tennessee Tech University. Her season-high of two runs came in the same game. Both of her home runs came within the first couple weeks of the conference season. Martinez had three multi-RBI games in 2023. With a triple this season, the nursing major moved inside USI's top 10 all-time for career triples with seven. At the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament, Martinez had two doubles and two RBIs.

Goodin was named All-Ohio Valley

Conference First Team and OVC co-Player of the Year after a strong year at the plate for the Screaming Eagles. Starting all 44 games, Goodin was second in the OVC with a .412 overall batting average while also ranking second with 16 doubles and 40 RBIs. The senior paced the league in conference play with a .442 batting average and 30 RBIs. On April 23 at Tennessee State University, Goodin had two home runs and five RBIs in a 5-1 win for Southern Indiana. Her multi-home run game was the first by a USI player this season and the fourth such game in Goodin's USI career. In the Screaming Eagles' 8-7 win in game 2 against Tennessee Tech University on May 6, Goodin had a clutch two-run home run that tied the game 7-7 before USI won in walk-off fashion. A management major, Goodin had a season-high four hits in late March against Southeast Missouri State University. This season, Goodin moved into the top ten in USI Softball's all-time history with 19 career home runs. She also surpassed 100 career RBIs, sitting just outside the top ten in USI history. Plus, Goodin closed out the 2023 season earning Ohio Valley Conference All-Tournament Team accolades after batting .500 with a home run and three RBIs in USI's three games at the OVC Tournament.

Rager, a health services major, started all 44 games at shortstop for USI this season. The senior hit .269 with 11 RBIs and 13 runs, finishing

the season with a 13-game on-base streak. In Southern Indiana's conference-opening weekend at Morehead State, Rager had a season-high three hits and two RBIs on March 11. The shortstop had a strong finish to the season, getting a hit in 12 of the last 13 games. At the OVC Tournament, the shortstop hit .364 with three runs, a double, and an RBI. Rager is top-10 all-time in USI history with seven career triples.

All five Screaming Eagles were awarded Academic All-Great Lakes

Valley Conference accolades multiple times during their USI careers.

As a team, USI concluded the 2023 season having made history on multiple fronts. USI Softball competed in its first season as an NCAA Division I program, accumulating 21 total wins and 13 Ohio Valley Conference wins, leading to a third-place finish. While many firsts were achieved, the 2023 season ended with the Screaming Eagles' first berth and postseason win in the OVC Championship Tournament.

RE-ELECT **missy mosby**
CITY COUNCIL - 2ND WARD

2ND WARD CITY COUNCIL

A lifelong resident of Evansville, Missy understands the issues facing our city & the 2nd Ward.

Missy has fought for:

- Quality of life concerns in our city.
- Continued, proper funding for our police and fire departments.
- Improving and preserving our parks and pools.

CITY COUNCIL - 2ND WARD

A Vote for Missy is a Vote for

- Public Safety • Parks
- Pools • And People

Paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect Missy Mosby, Krista Lockyear, Treasurer

NOW HIRING

Confinement Officers

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PAUL GREEN

CITY COUNCIL-AT LARGE

As head of the IBEW Local 16, Paul has helped thousands of Union Workers and their families. Now he wants to help the citizens of Evansville!

Paul cares about:

- Working Families • Mental Health
- The Less Fortunate • City Budgets
- Paul is Pro Business

Paul Green wants to make
Evansville
a better place to live!

Paid for by Friends of Paul Green, Jeanie Bennett, Treasurer

Obituaries

May Vanderburgh County Obituaries

For complete obituary go to the Funeral Home's Webpage

ALEXANDER FUNERAL HOME

East

Norbert Loehrlein	Jul. 19, 1932 – May 02, 2023
Glenna Ann Leach	Mar. 01, 1949 – May 06, 2023
Troy Montell Meriwether	Dec. 10, 1971 – May 04, 2023
Russell "Rusty" E. Hill	Dec. 16, 1959 – May 08, 2023
Brian John Mann	Nov. 23, 1961 – May 08, 2023
Jordan Michael King	Aug. 19, 1998 – May 15, 2023
Re'Donna Johnson	Apr. 13, 1963 – May 20, 2023
Norma Hanebutt	Jan. 10, 1921 – May 22, 2023
Robert W. "Bob" Fleeger	Sep. 07, 1933 – May 23, 2023

West

Marion L Amos	Nov. 20, 1939 – May 01, 2023
Marelda J. Payne	Sep. 21, 1958 – May 01, 2023
Dolores M. Adams	Jun 06, 1935 – May 04, 2023
Bernice "Bunny" Poag	Nov. 24, 1930 – May 06, 2023
Darrell William Palmer	Dec. 16, 1960 – May 08, 2023
Cindra "Cindy" Hellenberg	Nov. 01, 1961 – May 18, 2023
Martha G Sanford	Mar. 12, 1925 – May 19, 2023
Ronald E. Mattingly	Dec. 04, 1934 – May 25, 2023
Ruth Coulter	Sep. 10, 1938 – May 31, 2023

North

Daniel Clements	Aug. 01, 1962 – May 01, 2023
Wanda Cage	Jun. 27, 1935 – May 04, 2023
Glenn A Howell	Jul. 28, 1929 – May 05, 2023
Lori Kutlich	Sep. 28, 1941 – May 10, 2023
Dr. Shirley G Price	Jun. 21, 1922 – May 14, 2023
Emma "Diane" Burden	Feb. 11, 1948 – May 18, 2023
Patrick D. Casalena	Feb. 15, 1950 – May 19, 2023
Daniel Pietrowski	Dec. 03, 1947 – May 20, 2023
Judith N Thompson	Oct. 27, 1946 – May 25, 2023
Gary N. Gann	Jul. 30, 1957 – May 29, 2023
Susan J. Barron	Feb. 02, 1946 – May 31, 2023

BOONE FUNERAL HOME

Doris Woolsey	Oct. 21, 1937 – May 01, 2023
Johnathan Monzon-Gomez	Dec. 31, 1989 – May 04, 2023
Carl Bozsa	Sep. 25, 1943 – May 05, 2023
Warren McCullough	Dec. 14, 1937 – May 05, 2023
Gilna Brownfield	Mar. 01, 1939 – May 05, 2023
Marilyn Summers	Oct. 26, 1942 – May 06, 2023
Andrea (Breidenbach) Bell	Jan. 27, 1942 – May 06, 2023
Ruth Sanderfur	Apr. 04, 1942 – May 06, 2023
Herschel Seifert	Oct. 30, 1950 – May 08, 2023
Mary Elizabeth "Betsy" Stearns	Feb. 23, 1934 – May 08, 2023
Wanda "Ruth" Wathen	May 29, 1938 – May 10, 2023
Brenda Mayhugh	Feb. 27, 1944 – May 13, 2023
Margaret Spence	Jan 4, 1927 – May 13, 2023
Richard Reinhart	May 13, 1951 – May 14, 2023
Billy Gammon, Jr.	May 06, 1983 – May 14, 2023
Richard "Dick" Myers	Nov. 08, 1929 – May 17, 2023
Timothy James "TJ" Schafer, Jr	Sep. 27, 1982 – May 18, 2023
Ted Bernhardt	May 03, 1958 – May 21, 2023
Joshua Herndon	Feb. 09, 1982 – May 24, 2023

Tilford Wallace "Wally" Golden	Nov. 17, 1937 – May 25, 2023
Debra "Debby" Wells	Nov. 16, 1952 – May 27, 2023
Karen Griggs	Dec. 12, 1959 – May 28, 2023
Ronald Shanks	Feb. 03, 1944 – May 30, 2023

MASON BROTHERS FUNERAL SERVICES

Mr. Zachary Harris	Oct. 17, 1961 – May 01, 2023
Mrs. Claudia Bell-Higgins-Hay	May 30, 1937 – May 05, 2023
Arthur Bostick	Dec. 08, 1945 – May 13, 2023
Glen Green	Dec. 17, 1961 – May 14, 2023
Jimmy Durante Johnson	Jan. 23, 1961 – May 16, 2023
Lillie Russell Taylor	Sep. 03, 1960 – May 18, 2023
Timothy Lamar Hardin	Apr. 28, 1966 – May 21, 2023

PIERRE FUNERAL HOME

Leo G. Weinzapfel	Nov. 28, 1933 – May 02, 2023
Robert M. Dezember St.	Feb. 15, 1944 – May 03, 2023
Louis C. Buschkill	Jan. 27, 1947 – May 06, 2023
Clifford Ivo Melchior	May 21, 1928 – May 07, 2023
William R. Grisham	Jan. 18, 1930 – May 08, 2023
John V. Goebel	May 09, 1944 – May 09, 2023
Francis F. Spahn	Apr. 06, 1937 – May 09, 2023
Catherine Marie Jefferson	Dec. 24, 1961 – May 10, 2023
Karen Darnall Fleck	Feb. 08, 1958 – May 15, 2023
Wayne D. Cheshire	Apr. 14, 1937 – May 15, 2023
Norma Brizius	Dec. 13, 1941 – May 16, 2023
Marilyn Crickmer	Dec. 10, 1941 – May 16, 2023
James Anthony Hart Jr.	Aug. 27, 1959 – May 17, 2023
Doris Jean Dycus	Aug. 25, 1950 – May 17, 2023
Patricia Gail McDaniel	Feb. 14, 1950 – May 21, 2023
Gwen Eileen	Nov. 25, 1950 – May 25, 2023
Julie Ann Kruse	Apr. 15, 1969 – May 26, 2023
John Martin Lee	Sep. 01, 1940 – May 30, 2023
John William Dezember III	Nov. 25, 1934 – May 31, 2023

ZIEMER FUNERAL HOME

Georgetta Durham	Jun. 30, 1948 – May 01, 2023
Debbie Ann (Krack-Blair) Hurt	Sep. 20, 1960 – May 02, 2023
John "Mike" Yancey Sr.	May 29, 1952 – May 03, 2023
Connie Gayle Kinkle	Apr. 04, 1946 – May 03, 2023
Gary S. Phipps	Jul. 03, 1954 – May 04, 2023
Christy (Christa) Susi Carroll	Oct. 06, 1932 – May 09, 2023
Mary Ann Yestingsmeier	Aug. 11, 1949 – May 11, 2023
Marion J. Weis	Apr. 05, 1934 – May 15, 2023
Robert Pope	Oct. 01, 1956 – May 17, 2023
Donald Ray Cassidy	May 12, 1941 – May 19, 2023
Donald Keith Worman	May 10, 1946 – May 20, 2023
Jennifer Laurel Murr	Feb. 01, 1983 – May 20, 2023
Stephen N. Perry	Aug. 01, 1949 – May 21, 2023
Kathy J. Erdmann	Aug. 28, 1952 – May 25, 2023
Doris June Reagan	Jun. 01, 1930 – May 26, 2023
Susan "Susie" W. Fox	Feb. 12, 1931 – May 26, 2023
Angela R. (Orth) Marx	Jan. 05, 1938 – May 27, 2023
Jackie R. Rueger	May 18, 1940 – May 27, 2023
Mary Ann Snyder	Feb. 07, 1951 – May 29, 2023
Michael K. Broshears	Mar. 24, 1945 – May 29, 2023
Diane "Dee Dee" Leitch	Feb. 23, 1938 – May 29, 2023

Sudoku Puzzle Answer June, '23

4	9	8	6	3	1	2	5	7
3	5	1	9	7	2	4	6	8
6	2	7	8	4	5	9	3	1
5	1	6	2	9	7	8	4	3
8	3	2	5	1	4	7	9	6
7	4	9	3	6	8	5	1	2
1	6	5	7	2	9	3	8	4
9	7	4	1	8	3	6	2	5
2	8	3	4	5	6	1	7	9

F	O	R		S	P	U	R	S		S	O	M	E	
O	R	E		P	A	N	I	C		D	E	A	R	S
C	A	B		F	I	L	T	H	I	E	R	T	I	P
U	T	A	H		D	E	E		G	R	A	S	S	Y
S	E	R	I	O	U	S		S	N	I	P			
			H	I	P	S	I	L	O	V	E	Y	O	U
	E	T	A	L			P	A	R	E		E	A	T
B	A	I	T		S	H	A	M	E		M	A	K	E
I	C	K		R	E	A	D			M	A	R	S	
C	H	I	L	E	A	N	S	W	E	E	P			
			O	L	D	S		A	N	G	L	E	R	S
A	D	A	G	I	O		U	S	A		E	P	E	E
H	I	K	I	N	G	C	R	A	B	S		I	A	N
O	V	I	N	E		P	A	B	L	O		C	C	S
Y	E	N	S			A	L	I	E	N		S	H	E

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JUNE 2 & 3



Receive PRINTED ENTRIES by checking in at any Promotional Kiosk any time between 10AM – 9:55PM CT each day.

5:15PM – 10PM

1 WINNER EVERY 15 MINUTES WILL RECEIVE \$500 FREE SLOT PLAY!



SUNDAY, JUNE 11

DRAWINGS AT 2PM, 2:30PM, 3PM & 3:30PM CT

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14

DRAWINGS AT 7PM, 7:30PM, 8PM & 8:30PM CT

FRIDAY, JUNE 23

DRAWINGS AT 8:30PM, 9PM, 9:30PM & 10PM

5 WINNERS EVERY HALF HOUR WILL WIN FREE SLOT PLAY!

JUNE 16 – 18



A TOTAL OF 153 WINNERS!

WIN UP TO \$250 FREE SLOT PLAY, \$5,000 CASH OR \$10,000 CASH!



JUNE 24

1:45PM – 9PM CT

2 WINNERS EVERY 15 MINUTES WILL RECEIVE \$250 FREE SLOT PLAY!



JUNE 30

4:15PM – 9PM

1 WINNER EVERY 15 MINUTES WILL RECEIVE \$500 FREE SLOT PLAY!



JUNE 29 – JULY 1

24 WINNERS RECEIVE UP TO \$1,000 IN FREE SLOT PLAY! 3 WINNERS PLAY FOR \$1 MILLION!



EACH MONDAY IN JUNE



DINING OPTIONS



ENJOY FINE DINING THURSDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY FROM 5PM
Reservations Recommended



TAP HOUSE IS OPEN 6 DAYS A WEEK, WEDNESDAY – MONDAY, FROM 11AM!
Must be 21 years of age or older to dine at Tap House. Closed on Tuesdays.



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