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Vol. 5 No. 9

September 2024

Evansville, IN

### Annual CCO Awards Luncheon Set For Sept. 20 At Bally's

### **SEPTEMBER 2024**

The City-County Observer's "Annual Community Awards Luncheon" Will Be Held September 20, 2024, At Bally's," Evansville in the Walnut Room. Doors Open At 11:30 a.m. lunch starts at 12:00p.m

#### The event's Keynote Speaker is **United States Senator Mike Braun.**

Master of Ceremonies for the event is State Representative Ryan Hatfield. Johnny Kincaid is the Event Coordi-

Honorees at the 2024 Community Awards Luncheon are as follows.

### State Senator Vaneta Becker selected CCO"Annual Woman Of The

Outside of the Statehouse, Becker is involved in the Indiana Commission for Women and is a member of the Advisory Board of the Office of Women's Health through the Indiana Department of Health, as well as the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Task Force through the Office of the Lieutenant Governor. She is a former member of the ARK Crisis Prevention Nursery Board of Directors, as well as a

former member of both the Commission on Excellence in Health Care and the Arc of Evansville Board of Directors. She is also a member of the United Methodist Church.

### Scott Massey selected CCO "Annual Man Of The Year"

Massey's company has secured over a dozen patents in

30+ countries, received more than \$2 million in fedresearch funding to enhance artificial intelligence control algorithms, and raised several million dollars in in-

vestment capital. Scott has also completed four tours in Africa, advising the Department of State's Mandela Washington Fellowship on hydroponic skills training, created ten highpaying jobs in Evansville, licensed proprietary designs to commercial manufacturers in the market, was named to Indiana's Rising 30, and Forbes 30 under 30 in 2024.

### Jeff Lyons selected for CCO "An**nual Community Service Award"**

In his 35+ years with WFIE, Jeff has visited every county in the Tri-State and routinely speaks 40-50 times each year at schools, community groups, and church organizations. He has been an active board

member at The Arc of Evansville since 2000, and co-wrote, produced, hosted The Really Big Show for 21 years. The show major а fundraiser ARC and raised

over 1.5 million dollars for the organization. Jeff served as an adjunct instructor at the University of Southern Indiana for 17 years and taught broadcast performance in the school's communications depart-

Vanderburgh County Circuit **Court Judge David Kiely selected** for CCO "Annual Community Serv-

Kiely created the first Veterans Treatment Court in the State of Indiana. He also acquired two magistrate positions from the state legislature for Vanderburgh County. He spearheaded and created an electronic search warrant in Vanderburgh County. Created the Vanderburgh County Therapeutic Work Release Program. It brought \$5.5 million of court space renovations to Vanderburgh County. He was awarded the James Bethel Gresham Freedom Award from the Evansville Bar. Association.

#### State Senator Jim Tommes selected for CCO"Annual Community Service Award"

Jim Tomes has been the Indiana State senator for District 49, covering Posey and part of Vanderburgh Counties, since 2010. He currently serves as the Chair of the Veterans Affairs and Military Committee, is Ranking Member of Homeland Security and Transportation, and serves on Agriculture, Local Government, and Natural Resources.

### Teamsters Local 215 President Whobrey Announces

Retirement

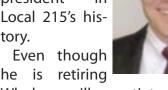
### After 32 Years In Job

### **SEPTEMBER 2024**

Teamsters Local 215 President Chuck Whobrey announced his retirement at the Union's General Membership Meeting September

Whobrey has worked for Local 215 for over 43 years and has been

president of the for local 32 years. He is the longest-serving president Local 215's history.



Whobrey will negotiate the contracts the union has with the City of Evansville that expire at the end of this year.

Secretary-Treasurer Earl Brown was selected by the Local Union Executive Board to succeed Whobrey as President.

Teamsters Local 215 has over 2,800 members and is the largest labor organization in the tri-state area.

For more information call 812-424-6471 email cwhobrey@teamster.org.

# Lauren Jones Is 'Raising The Bar'

### **SEPTEMBER 2024 By David Ketterling**

As she does nearly every morning, Lauren Jones wakes up at 4:00 a.m. and prepares to go for a run that could be anywhere from three to ten miles, sometimes in preparation for another marathon. On the morn-

ings she does not run, she is lifting weights at the YMCA. She lives on the west side of Evansville with her husband, David, two cats, and a beloved puppy, Candi. Lauren will be either the first or second person (depending on her husband

David's schedule) opening the law offices of Jones · Wallace in the Fifth Third building in downtown Evansville. She is the Firm Administrator and paralegal, and since 2019 has been Chief of Staff for the Vanderburgh County Law Department. She has been in the legal field for 30+

Lauren was the Paralegal and Chief of Staff of the Law Department of the City of Evansville from 2004 through 2011 where she demonstrated unequaled professional skills, competence and dedication as a paralegal. At that time, then-Mayor Jonathan Weinzapfel said:

"As Chief of Staff for the City Law Department, Lauren Jones shoulders a great deal of responsibility. From her work at Code Enforcement hearings to handling tort claims, we depend on Lauren to represent the City and its interests. She serves as a role model to other paralegals and helps raise the standard for the profession." In addition to her administrative

skills in coordinating the activities of members of the City Law Depart-

Commentary

Community News

ment who were in various law firms, she represented the City in prosecuting City Code ordinance violations in Administrative Hearings, which proved invaluable to the City in reducing the back log of cases, and eliminated the need for an attorney. The City's Code Enforcement Coordi-

nator, Greg Bryant, remarked at the time:

"For the past few years, I've had the opportunity to work closely with Lauren on Code Enforcement legal issues. Her client dedication and case preparedness are always there. She just ex-

udes professionalism with a can-do attitude and it has truly been my pleasure to work with her."

Lauren was the Paralegal in every jury trial for the City in that period of time from 2004 to 2011.

For a number of years, Lauren worked with a small group of dedicated paralegals from around Indiana seeking to create a statewide certification program to raise the standards of professionalism for paralegals in the Indiana Bar Association. Former Indiana State Bar Asso-

ciation President, Spence Walton, observed:

" As President of the Indiana State Bar Association in 2000-2001, we passed changes to the admission requirements allowing paralegals to join the ISBA. I have had the pleasure of working with Lauren Jones and others to establish the Paralegal Committee to enhance paralegals' roles in the Indiana legal system. Lauren has always been at the forefront of her profession to make the practice of law in Indiana not only better for parale-

gals, but also the clients we all serve." In 2014, after many years of effort and perseverance, the small group of paralegals, which included Lauren working with former ISBA President and Ethics Chair John Conlon and Indiana Appellate Court Judge Ed Najam, persuaded the ISBA Board of Governors and the ISBA House of Delegates to approve a program for registered paralegals, which ultimately was adopted by the Indiana Supreme Court. Lauren was one of the first paralegals to receive the designation of Indiana Registered Paralegal with registration number

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### CONTACT US

# Commentary

### Whobrey Served Teamsters Local 215 With Class, Dignity

SEPTEMBER 2024 By Charles L. Berger

Dear CCO Editor,

The recent announcement of the retirement of Chuck Whobrey as President of Teamsters Local 215 takes me back to when he first became the President. An article appeared on December 13, 1992, in the Evansville Courier, profiling Chuck as the new President of Teamsters Local 215.

When you review that article and you consider his career since that time, he is a person who never wandered from his path as a strong and forceful labor leader in our community. Chuck's influence has been one of a very positive influence upon our community. He helped create many different forces for change in the betterment of the working folks in our community, who he has represented and

even those who he did not represent have benefited from his leadership and courage. He has made possible better health benefits for many individuals who never would have seen them but for his leadership and negotiating savvy.

He was instrumental in creating a scholarship fund to help individuals, who are without all of the necessary financial means, to provide a higher education for their children with an additional source of funds to do so.

Chuck has always stood up for his members and for the importance of improving the conditions of the working men and women in our area of the state. While Chuck's influence will continue, his presence will be dearly missed missed.

Sincerely, BERGER & BERGER

### Evansville, A Clean City???

### SEPTEMBER 2024 By John Blair

Environmental Management announced they had designated Evansville as a "Clean City." I applaud the promises Evansville made to IDEM to "achieve" this designation since they are all clearly needed. However, it should be noted that this designation is not because we are actually "clean," only that we intend to make an effort to be. As usual for IDEM, the criteria for this award are minimalist, completely ignoring way too many dirty streets and poor air quality Evansville and the region regularly exhibit.

Recently, the Indiana Department of

In July, Indiana was found to be 49th out of 50 in quality of life. In the past, Hoosiers have notoriously had really high levels of infant mortality, toxic emissions and 100% of our streams and likes carry the dubious designation of Fish Consumption Advisories. Those FCAs warn women of child bearing age to limit their consumption of Indiana caught fish to one quarter pounder a month, lest they cause their yet to be born to have developmental disabilities due to mercury contamination.

Not long ago, Evansville was near the top of the list of "Obese" cities and last

month the Indiana Lottery introduced "Rick, from Evansville" as a buffoon, snack eating competitor "going for the Gold" in the Hoosier Lottery as he cannonballs his entrance into a swim race.

Just so you know, Evansville does have new energy. Its new administration will hopefully address serious problems that impact our health. Improved quality of life will actually be something to celebrate instead of ridicule. But until our citizens finally recognize they shouldn't throw their trash on our streets or in their neighbor's yards and we are no longer forced to breathe fouled air, any claims of being "clean" are premature.

Here are the criteria listed on IDEM's website as to how a community becomes a "clean" city. Leave it to IDEM to only require the completion of forms to satisfy their requirements just as they do with all the toxic pollution they permit:

### Steps to Become a Clean Community:

1. Access and complete the application form.

2. Just so you know, the signature on the application must be that of the highest-ranking public official for the municipality (for example: mayor, county commissioner, etc.). 3. Attach the completed form to an email to: clean@idem.in.gov with "Application for Clean Community Program" in the subject line.

4. You will receive a confirmation that you've received your application for processing.

5. As with all IDEM recognition programs, successful applicants must have a positive environmental compliance history. This will be determined through an IDEM environmental compliance history check process.

6. Upon successfully meeting the requirements of environmental compliance, you will be contacted by the Clean Community program manager to fill out a Clean Team & Project Information Sheet.

7. The sheet will identify your population, the number of projects required based on that population, and the name of the projects that you are choosing from the list of Clean Community pre-approved projects. This project list will be provided to you by the Clean Community program manager.

8. Once your projects are chosen, the Clean Community program manager will provide you with specific project descriptions that outline exactly what needs to be submitted to qualify for Clean Community program requirements.

9. Lastly, you will identify your Clean

Team members, a group of people in

the community who will help plan and

implement your sustainability efforts. It is recommended that your Clean Team be comprised of people from multiple departments and areas of expertise, both within the municipality, businesses, or through citizen involvement.

10. Based upon the review of the items above, you will be issued either a

Welcome or Denial Letter. A denial will explain areas of improvement needed to qualify for entry into the program.

11. Work at your own pace to complete your municipality's chosen proj-

ects.
12. A simple Annual Report is required that keeps the Clean Community program manager informed of your progress.

13. Attendance by at least one representative of your Clean Team at the Clean Community Annual Meeting is also required.

Questions or Interest in Joining? Please contact the Clean Community program manager.

# Demand Transparency And Accountability From Politicians

### SEPTEMBER 2024 By Joe Wallace

Dealing with politicians who frequently flip-flop on issues is a challenge that requires both vigilance and strategic action from the public. Political flip-flopping can undermine trust, create confusion, and weaken the democratic process. Here are several approaches the public can take to address this issue:

### Demand Transparency and Accountability

Ask for Clear Explanations: When a politician changes their stance, the public should demand a clear and detailed explanation. Understanding why a position has shifted can differentiate between genuine growth in understanding and opportunistic behavior.

. Track Voting Records: Keeping track of a politician's voting record and public statements is crucial. Various non-partisan organizations and platforms allow voters to monitor how consistent a politician is with their stated values and promises.

### **Educate and Engage**

Promote Civic Education: A well-informed electorate is less susceptible to being swayed by inconsistent messaging. Encouraging education on civic matters, critical thinking, and understanding political rhetoric can empower voters to make more informed decisions.

Engage in Dialogue: Public forums, town hall meetings, and social media platforms provide opportunities to engage directly with politicians. Questioning them in public settings about their inconsistencies can put pressure on

them to explain or reconsider their positions.

### Use the Power of the Vote

Support Consistent Candidates: When elections come around, prioritize voting for candidates who have demonstrated consistency in their principles and actions. Encourage others to do the same by highlighting the importance of reliability in leadership.

Primary Challenges: If a politician has repeatedly flip-flopped, supporting a primary challenger who better represents the voters' values can be an effective strategy. This sends a message that inconsistency will not be tolerated.

### Leverage Media and Social Media

Amplify Inconsistencies: Use traditional media and social media platforms to highlight a politician's flip-flops. Sharing articles, videos, and other content that exposes these changes can inform a broader audience and create accountability.

Fact-Check and Correct: Engage in fact-checking efforts, either individually or through established organizations. Correcting misinformation and holding politicians accountable for their previous statements ensures that they cannot easily rewrite their history.

### Promote Stronger Ethical Standards

Advocate for Reforms: Push for stronger ethical standards within political parties and government institutions. This could include stricter rules on campaign promises, clearer consequences for unethical behavior, or even legal reforms that hold politicians more accountable for their public statements.

that hold politicians more accountable for their public statements.

Support Independent Oversight: Back independent bodies or watchdog organizations that can monitor and report on political consistency. These groups can provide unbiased evaluations of

whether politicians are staying true to

la aix aa mamaitma amta

### their commitments.

Cultivate Long-term Memory
Keep Records Accessible: Historical
memory is often short in politics, but by
maintaining accessible records of a politician's positions, the public can ensure
that flip-flopping does not go unnoticed

or unchallenged in future elections.

Educate on the Impact of Flip-Flopping: Emphasize how flip-flopping can lead to unstable governance, poor policy implementation, and a lack of trust in leadership. The public needs to understand that consistency is not just a preference but a necessity for effective governance.

### **Conclusion**

Politicians who frequently flip-flop can undermine the integrity of the political process. The public must proactively hold these leaders accountable through transparency, education, voting, and media engagement. By doing so, citizens can ensure that their representatives are reliable and truly committed to the values they espouse, thereby strengthening democracy.

A politician who refuses to be interviewed raises significant red flags retransparency accountability. Refusing interviews can be a tactic to avoid scrutiny, dodge tough questions, or conceal inconsistencies in their positions. This lack of openness undermines public trust and prevents voters from making fully informed decisions. In a healthy democracy, politicians should be willing to engage with the media and the public, explaining their actions and decisions. When a politician avoids interviews, the public and the media must demand answers and continue pressing for open communication. Silence or avoidance should never be accepted as the norm by those in public office.

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### From The Front Porch To The Back Pages

SEPTEMBER 2024 By John Krull

MARION, Ohio—A little more than a century ago, this front porch was the center of the political universe.

I'm standing in front of the home of President Warren G. Harding in

a town where I spent a slice of my boyhood.

Historians routinely ranked Harding near the bottom of the list of U.S. presidents. When I first visited this home nearly 60 years ago, he came in dead last—a designation that was

unfair even then.

President James Buchanan, whose dithering indecisiveness and mixed messaging while in the White House made the Civil War unavoidable and thus encouraged fellow citizens, cousins and brothers to slaughter each other by the thousands, was without rival for the bottom slot.

Until Donald Trump came along, that is. Summoning a mob to Washington, D.C. in insurrection against the government of the people, by the people and for the people Trump took a sacred oath to defend gives Buchanan serious competition.

Harding was not a good president—and maybe not even a good man.

But his tale is a reminder that this country's history has recurring themes.

Early in his life, no one would have pegged Harding as a future president. A good-looking guy who cruised along on charm and blarney—he liked to use the word "bloviate," which became associated with him because he was a master of the practice—he always

failed upward.

His great good fortune was marrying a widow with a portfolio. She made him a newspaper publisher and put him on a path to political power. He was not the ob-

vious Republican presidential candidate in 1920. But other, more impressive

out of contention.

Harding ran when America was eager to be led by an easygoing

contenders knocked themselves

loafer.
The eight years of Woodrow Wilson's presidency had included World War I, the Spanish flu pandemic and Wilson's pinched moralizing. After years of hardship,

Americans were ready to unbut-

ton their vests.

Harding, bloviating genially, promised his fellow citizens a "return to normalcy," yet another time an American politician pledged to make America great again.

Harding's advisors, mindful of his tendency to tire, opted not to put him on the road. Instead, they had the crowds come to him. They arrived in Marion by the train load, steaming in to stand before this front porch while Harding smiled and waved. When he spoke, he said nothing of substance—often at great length.

He won the 1920 presidential

election in a landslide, the biggest since George Washington's unanimous selection.

In the White House, Harding was an inattentive administrator, more focused on playing poker and indulging in sexual dalliances than leading the nation. He had been a casual philanderer for years, in Marion engaging in an affair with his best friend's wife, thus betraying both his own spouse and his boon companion.

In Washington, he canoodled with Nan Britton, an Ohio woman more than 30 years his junior. After Harding's death, she wrote a tell-all book and said her young daughter was the late president's child. Harding's partisans vilified her as a liar, but DNA testing eventually confirmed she told the truth.

While the president romped, his

associates and hangers-on went about enriching themselves at the public trough, resulting in the Teapot Dome episode, then the greatest political corruption scandal in U.S. history. Harding died in 1923. Rumors

persisted then that his wife had learned of his hanky-panky and poisoned him. Conspiracy theories, it seems,

sprang to life even then.

After his death, news of the various scandals broke. Within five years, Republicans who had been his staunch allies pretended they'd never heard his name.

When, long ago, I was in elementary school here, my class took a tour of the home. The docent told the Harding tale up to the front porch campaign of 1920—then ended the tour.

That night, when I asked my

mother, a schoolteacher, why the

tour guide hadn't talked about the

last three years of Harding's life, Mom skipped over the late president's sexual peccadillos and instead explained in broad terms the financial scandals of the era.

That moment gave birth to my

determination to see politicians always as people, not heroes or grand figures.

Now, all these years later, on a

lovely late summer day I look at this porch and think that every era has its tumults.

And that they all somehow fade into the quiet of the past.

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.

City-County Observer posted this article without opinion. bias or editing.

# Bipartisanship Is Essential To Democracy strongest as a country only when discuss an issue with som

SEPTEMBER 2024
By Jill Long Thompson

I had the privilege and pleasure of participating in the Women's Campaign Institute hosted by Advancing Voices of Women (AVOW) again this year. AVOW is truly making a positive difference and contributing to the greater good. It is an organization that not only provides valuable information and support to women dedicated to public service, it also advances respect and civility. These are principles that are very important to the democratic process. And it promotes bipartisanship, which is essential

I believe bipartisanship is a necessary ingredient for the process of developing, adopting, and executing public policy that effectively addresses the challenges we face. We will be our

to democracy.

strongest as a country only when our elected officials listen to and incorporate the input of all, even those with whom they disagree. Why do I believe bipartisanship is essential? When we work with those who have different experiences and opinions than our own, we are more likely to understand the complexity of our challenges. And group decision-making can lead to better outcomes.

Research findings show that legislators who work with their colleagues across the aisle are more successful and effective than those who are partisan. Working with fellow legislators who are members of the other party leads to greater collaboration and cooperation, which leads to the passage of legislation.

Bipartisanship can also lead to

better policy making. When we

discuss an issue with someone who holds a different opinion than our own, we learn something from the discussion.

Research shows that diversity improves performance, including the quality of decision-making. In a 2015 McKinsey Report on 366 companies, it was found that "those in the top quartile for ethnic and racial diversity in management were 35% more likely to have financial returns above the industry mean, and those in the top quartile for gender diversity were 15% more likely to have returns above the industry mean." Bringing together people of different backgrounds and experiences, and then incorporating their input, makes stronger.

By design, democracy is a team effort. The late J. Roland Pennock, a prominent political scientist, defined democracy as: "government by the people, where liberty, equality and fraternity are secured to the greatest possible degree and in which human capacities are developed to the utmost, by means including free and full discussion of common problems and interests." For democracy to succeed, we must work together.

Democracy is a form of government that the property and liberated the property and libe

we must work together.

Democracy is a form of government that recognizes we all have something to contribute to the governing process, as well as a right to participate in the process. It is government "by the people," not "by the person," and none of us should expect to have

the power of a dictator or an

ence and responsibility, and it is undemocratic to insist that "my way is the right way, and no other way will do."

None of us gets our own individual representative, senator, or president. We share public officials with the rest of the population, and none of us should expect or demand that an elected official's political beliefs must be perfectly aligned with our own individual beliefs. Reasonableness, inclusivity, and respect for others are defining components of successful democratic governance.

We should all approach self-governance as a bipartisan endeavor that requires us to work with everyone to find solutions. It is not just effective, it is patriotic. Cooperation, collaboration, and compromise lead to better public policy decisions and they are essential to the democratic process. Embracing bipartisanship is good for democracy and our country.

Jill Long Thompson is a former member of Congress who represented northeastern Indiana in the U.S. House of Representatives. She also served as an undersecretary at the United States Department of Agriculture and as board chair and C.E.O. of the Farm Credit Administration. She is the author of "The Character of American Democracy: Preserving Our Past, Protecting Our Future" and she produced "Across the Aisle: Why **Bipartisanship Works for Amer**ica."





# First READI 2.0 Project In Evansville Region Approved

#### **SEPTEMBER 2024**

The Evansville Regional Economic Partnership (E-REP), in collaboration with the Southwest Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA), is pleased to announce the approval of a matching grant from the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC) for The Dominion, a new mixeduse development at the intersection of State Road 66 and Grimm Road. This project, the first in the Evansville Region to receive funding from the READI 2.0 program, will feature 150 market-rate apartments, a five-story commercial building with ground-floor retail and dining, and a public plaza designed for community activities.

"Indiana, in partnership with our regions statewide, is making unprecedented investments in our local communities to improve the lives of Hoosiers today and tomorrow," said Gov. Holcomb. "In Southwest Indiana, READI is creating new, centrally located community destinations that add modern opportunities to live, work, study, play and stay. I'm confident the impacts of The Dominion and of READI 1.0 and 2.0 will create lasting positive changes in Warrick County, making southwest Indiana a premier highquality of place for business, talent and families to grow for generations to come."

Located along the Warrick Wellness Trail and near the upcoming Ohio Township Park, The Dominion will further enhance the area's growth and accessibility to recreational spaces.

"The Dominion builds on the momentum started with Ohio Township Park, a READI 1.0 project, and the investment Warrick County has made in the Wellness Trail," said RDA President Beth McFadin Higgins. "This development will connect new residents to employment opportunities, recreational amenities, shopping, and dining."







150 contemporary high-amenity market-rate apartments.

A five-story commercial building with ground-floor restaurant and retail spaces.

An outdoor community area linked to the Warrick Wellness Trail, offering a space for events and activities.

Architectural and engineering work will begin this autumn. Construction of phase one is scheduled to begin in September 2025, with completion in summer, 2027. The \$71.5 million live-work-play development is primarily funded by private developer contributions, with additional support from a \$5 million READI 2.0 grant and \$8.46 million in TIF support from Warrick County. Phase two of the project will bring additional residential units, a hotel, and more restaurant and retail spaces.

"Southwestern Indiana is eager for a live-work-play mixed-use development that brings a big-city vibe," said Scion Real Estate Development Managing Partner Philip Rawley. "With its prime location near Interstate 69 and connectivity to the entire region, The Dominion aligns with Warrick County's growth strategy and will attract Phase one of The Dominion will both residents and businesses."

E-REP, in collaboration with CenterPoint Energy, NewCarbon, Circular Venture Labs, and other partners, will utilize this award to evaluate the economic impact of converting, redeveloping, and repurposing CenterPoint's aging energy assets across the Evansville Region. In addition, E-REP will conduct research and convene local, state, and national partners to diversify energy sources and help CenterPoint Energy's and the broader regional workforce adapt to the evolving energy landscape.

"This recognition demonstrates our commitment to a diverse and resilient energy transition and continued economic development in the region," said Tyler Stock, Executive Director of Talent EVV. "We look forward to working with our partners to build our regional capacity related to energy transition."

Omar Khayum, CEO of NewCarbon, expressed enthusiasm about bringing the company's expertise to the region, stating, "I'm excited to contribute to transforming legacy infrastructure into modern, clean energy assets that will drive economic growth in the area where I grew up."

The initiative will include developing energy transition plans and training opportunities for workers moving to new roles in emerging energy sectors. It will also create a roadmap for driving economic prosperity in the Evansville Region through collaboration with local businesses, educational institutions, and government agencies. These deliverables create an exciting opportunity to build capacity and expertise related to energy transition across industry, workforce, academic, and civic partners within the region.

FOOTNOTE: Mike Roeder, Senior Vice President of External Affairs for CenterPoint, added, "This initiative will promote growth and vitaldeployment of clean energy solu- ity, further positioning the

"This investment will enhance the quality of place and opportunity throughout our region, espewith its high-quality, contemporary design," said Josh Armstrong, Chief Economic Development Officer at E-REP. "I expect the available homes and commercial spaces to lease up quickly, and I look forward to Scion Real Estate announcing phase two of The Dominion shortly."AUGUST 2024

Economic Partnership (E-REP) has been selected for award subject to negotiations for a \$100,000 grant from the Department of Energy's Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management. This marks E-REP's first Department of Energy award, positioning the organization at the forefront of energy innovation and economic development in the region. This opportunity is managed by ENER-GYWERX in partnership with DOE, a collaboration made possible through an innovative Partnership Intermediary Agreement (PIA) set up by the DOE's Office of Technology Transitions (OTT). This agreement enables ENERGYWERX to broaden DOE's engagement with innovative organizations and nontraditional partners, facilitating the rapid development, scaling, and

### WSNC Announces Honorary Grand Marshall Of Parade

### **SEPTEMBER 2024**

The West Side Nut Club fall festival parade is a time-honored tradition of the fall festival. Each year, the committee has the distinct honor of choosing the Grand Marshall of the Saturday parade. Previous grand marshals have included Gold Medal Olympians, former Hall of Fame recipients, pro-

fessional athletes, and other highprofile individuals with Evansville

The West Side Nut Club is proud to present the 2024 Grand Marshal, Al Unser Jr. The 34-time winner, including two Indianapolis 500 championships, spends a lot of time in Evansville with his wife Norma. "Selecting Al Unser, Jr. to be

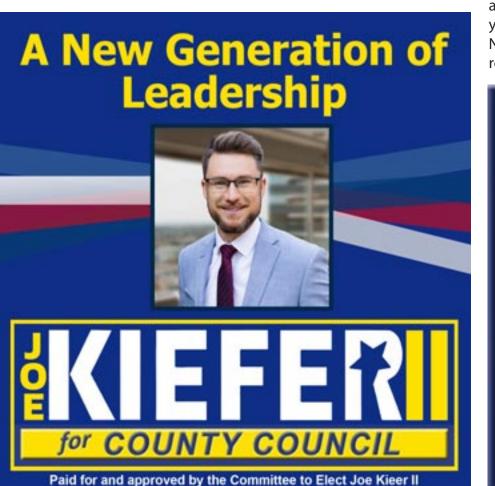
our parade Grand Marshall was a parade five and a half times, that is

perfect choice. The Indianapolis equivalent to one mile at the 500 is the largest single-day sporting event, so why not bring the two-time champion to the largest weeklong festival? Also, the '500' race has been around for over 100 years and so has the

Nut Club. Lastly, and completely ir- car down West Franklin Street. The

motor speedway?!"-Phil Cree (probably), 2024 West Side Nut Club Parade Chair.

The parade date is Saturday, October 12th, and set for a 4:30 PM CST start at Al Unser, Jr. will set the pace as the first





# Evansville Farm Families Receive Awards

**SEPTEMBER 2024** 

Evansville Region as an energy leader and our workforce for success in an innovaCongratulations to the 104 farms recently honored with Hoosier Homestead awards for being owned and operated by the same family for at least 100 years.

Farms owned and operated by the same family for 100, 150 and 200 years can qualify for centennial, sesquicentennial or bicentennial awards. Families were recognized during a ceremony at the Indiana State Fair for their dedication to the state's agriculture industry.



(pictured right), in operation Locally, the Papenmeier Farm since 1923, received a centennial

Schaefer Farm, in operation since

1869, received a sesquicentennial award.

Hoosier homestead ceremonies are conducted every spring and summer. The state has honored more than 6,000 farms since the award was established in 1976.[Visit in.gov/isda for more information on the Hoosier Homestead Award Program and to nominate a farm.]

Agriculture is an integral part of our state's economic success and so many local families help keep farming traditions alive and well. Congratulations to all the award recipients and I wish you continued success for many more years to come.

### The Marine (And Man) I Respect Most hold duties, learned how to care

**SEPTEMBER 2024 By Bob Reutter** 

Rumor has it that long ago when John Mills joined the United States Marine Corps, he was required to bring his own musket. Truth is that on May 20, 1947, a seventeen-yearold young man from Morganfield, Ky joined the United States Marine Corps and went to Parris Island, S.C. for boot camp.

After graduation John served at several different duty stations and by 1950 he was on the USS Albany (CA-123) serving on the security detail for a Navy Admiral. During a Med Cruise in June of 1950, John and every other able-bodied Marine received orders to report to Japan for service in Korea.

John was reclassified as 0336 (machine gun platoon leader) and after crash training his mostly reservist troops, made the landing at Inchon in September of 1950 with Hotel Company, 3rd Bn, 7th Marines. John was in constant action until December, during the Chosin campaign where his machine gun section helped hold the Toktong Pass open for the withdrawing Americans to escape from the Chinese encirclement. During this entemperatures gagement in approaching minus 60 degrees Fahrenheit, John received 4 bullet wounds and severe frostbite in his feet. When he was finally loaded on a truck for evacuation, the truck was struck by a Chinese mortar round and overturned, crushing John's feet and legs. He was eventually air-lifted to Japan (and finally

went 15 months of surgery on his legs. He was told they would have to amputate his feet (he refused) and that he would never walk again. Never tell a Marine what he will never do! John was given a medical discharge from the Marines and went home to Southern Indiana to start a new life.

While his military career is impressive, that is not why John is so special to me. John went to work at the Crane Naval Weapons Center in Indiana. He met a young woman from Washington Indiana at a dance and on Jan. 31, 1953 they were married. They had 4 daughters and one son (ten grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren - so far.) John and Dottie decided at the start that John would be the breadwinner and Dottie would keep the house. For the next 65 years, this arrangement worked for them. John worked for 42 years as an automotive electrician, repairing alternators and generators for many different types of equipment and vehicles. Dottie kept the house, raised the children and tended to John, helping him through bouts of PTSD from his Chosin experiences. He credits Dottie with keeping his 'balance' through the years.

In 2017 Dottie's health started to fail. Eventually, she was unable to care for herself and needed almost full-time care, transportation to three-times-weekly dialysis, and various doctor appointments. Marine John Mills, who had never cooked, shopped, washed clothes,

### Memphis, TN) where he under- or any of the myriad other house-Hatfield Thanks Constituents For Education Change Support

**SEPTEMBER 2024** 

On Aug. 14, the State Board of Edu-following categories: enlistment and

cation (SBOE) released a second draft of its proposed high school diplomas. The second draft makes significant changes, such as removing the proposed GPS Diploma and GPS Diploma Plus options.

Instead, one standard diploma will be offered

to students, but they can also work towards the Honors and Honors Plus readiness seals. Students will be able to obtain these readiness seals in the

service, employment, and enrollment.

These changes follow a public comment period in which over 8,000 educators, parents, students, and legislators voiced their feedback directly to the SBOE. I want to thank my community for

bringing forward their concerns at town halls, meetings, and in the SBOE's online survey.

for Dottie and the home. He continued to do so until Christmas Eve of 2020 when Dottie's frail body finally failed. Their children and grandchildren gathered from all over the country to share their grief and share the strength they had learned from John.

From 2010-2018 we ran a Toys for Tots program in Evansville, Indiana. We had 5 female volunteers who registered families for the program three evenings each week during the season. After driving around the area collecting toys all day, John would never leave in the evenings until all the ladies were safe in their cars. In the 20 years I

have known John, he never once said anything negative about his Queen (his name for Dottie,) never complained about having to become the homemaker, caregiver or any of the other things most 90year-old men never have to learn. John's integrity, fortitude, and caring about others are qualities that young people today would be wise

to emulate. When the idea of starting a scholarship program for our Marine Corps League Detachment was initiated, it was only natural that it should be named the Sgt. John Mills USMC Scholarship. A remarkable man and a remarkable Marine.



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### 100 Guys Who Care Have Donated Over A Quarter Million Dollars



#### SEPTEMBER 2024

A local group of men has raised over \$250,000 for local charities, and their philanthropy will continue to impact the community. 100 Guys Who Care was founded in 2018 with the simple idea of impacting non-profit organizations significantly by pooling money from a group of men to make major donations. The founding committee set the goal of collecting \$100 each from 100 men to add up to a \$10,000 donation to a single charity. Those founders, including Shawn King, Nick Stratman, Kevin Coon, and Chad Schmidt have led the over a dozen local causes.

Three non-profit groups are invited each quarter to make a presentation, and the evening ends with one of the charities collecting \$10,000. As the men arrive at the meeting, they give \$100 in cash or a check, with no payee listed. There's time for the men to socialize and speak to representatives from the three charities. After everyone eats, the presentations begin, including time for a question and answer session with each non-profit. After the last presentation, a vote is taken, and all the cash and checks collected are given to the winning charity.

The group is not incorporated, has no bank account, and has no expenses. Field and Main Bank stepped forward this year to pay for food for the gathering and provide \$500 each to the runner-up organizations.

A \$10,000 gift is significant for non-profit groups, and by pooling the \$100 donations of the men attending the meetings, the group makes a major difference for charities.

The groups that have donations of over \$10,000 from 100 Guys Who Care include:

Youth First Chemo Buddies **Highland Baseball Honor Flight** Holly's House Hangers Young & Established Santa Clothes Club Ark Crisis Children's Center Autism Evansville Warrick County CASA Borrowed Hearts Foundation Anyone can be a part of 100 Guys Who Care. The next quarterly meeting is November 21, 5:30 PM, at Venue 812.

Learn more at https://100guys-whocareevv.com/

# Paralegal Lauren Jones Is 'Raising The Bar'

Continued From Page 1 three. She has Bachelor of Science in Paralegal Studies, and is a PACE Registered Paralegal, and an Indiana Registered Paralegal. As a member of the Indiana State Bar Association for many years, she has served as Vice Chair of the Affiliate Membership Committee and a member of the ISBA Ethics Committee. Lauren served on the Board of Directors of the Indiana Paralegal Association, serving two terms as President. She also chaired the IPA Ethics Committee and was a long-serving member of its Regulation Committee. Lauren is currently a member of the ISBA, IPA, National Federation of Paralegal Association and the Evansville Bar Association Paralegal Section, where she served as the first Chairperson. Lauren has been a member of the EBA Diversity Outreach Committee. In 2013, Lauren was awarded the

standing Board Member of the Year award. In 2012, she was awarded the Indiana State Bar Association's Affiliate Committee Award. In 2010, Lauren was awarded the Outstanding Paralegal of the Year by the Indiana Paralegal Association. She also received the 2010 Evansville Bar Association's Outstanding Paralegal Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Profession of Paralegal and Dedicated Service to the Legal Community. She was the 2005 recipient of the Evansville Bar Association President's Award.

As the late and revered former Executive Director of the Evansville Bar Association, Susan Helfrich once said:

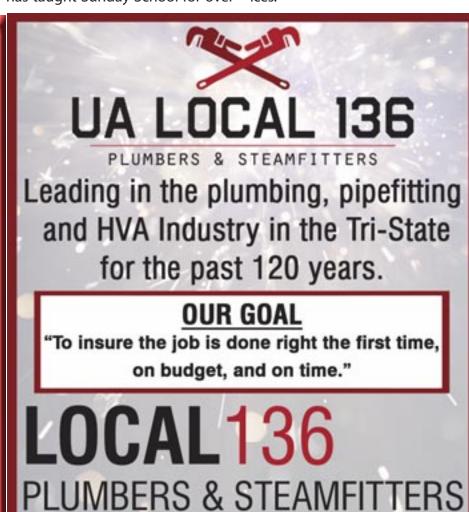
"Without Lauren's dedication, hard work, and professionalism, paralegals would not be valued members of the Evansville Bar Association." the Community Correction Advisory Board. She is a member of the Board of Directors of A Network of Evansville Women (ANEW) and has been a member for 15+ years. She currently chairs ANEW's Orientation Committee and has chaired and served on several ANEW committees. Lauren currently performs duties on the Women's Equality Day committee as well. Lauren served as a volunteer for the Vanderburgh County Juvenile Court's Teen Court Program; has volunteered for the Volunteer Lawyer Program; and has served as a volunteer paralegal for members of the military reserves who were called to active duty. She has donated many hours annually assisting charitable organizations, as well as individuals, especially youth and the elderly.

Lauren has been a member of Abundant Life Community Church in Newburgh since 1998, where she has taught Sunday School for over 25 years. Former Associate Pastor Kevin Kappler remarked before he accepted a position at another church:

"Lauren Jones has been my youngest son Kraig's Sunday School teacher for approximately a year. Lauren and her husband David have been faithful and incredibly committed to their group of students in their endeavor to deliver the Word of God and display the compassion of Christ. Not only did they take the time to personalize their classroom through painting and decorating, but they have also taken the students to several off-ground activities."

Lauren Jones has been a role model for others in the legal community through her years of commitment to raising the bar of professionalism and helping to provide a higher standard of legal services.





812.423.8043

### Evansville To Pay \$49,400 To Clean Pearl Cleaner Site Debris

### **SEPTEMBER 2024 By Jay Young**

The city plans to pay \$49,400 on behalf of the owner of the old Pearl Cleaners site to clean the property from debris left by a fire and partial demolition.

The Board of Public Safety agreed Aug. 14 to hire Stemaly Excavating to complete the job after the owner ignored City orders to clear the property.

The City started a process to target the company after an investigation by the City County Observer identified Eric N. Morgan as the owner of the entity that holds the property.

The Pearl Development LLC., no relation to the former dry cleaning business, hasn't paid property taxes since it purchased 428 NW Third St. in 2022. County records show about \$46,000 in taxes and fines are due.

City officials say the company hasn't responded to their inquiries, which were sent to an Evansville residence that public records show is not associated with the business. Even after Morgan was evicted from that address, his attorney this year told the Indiana Department of State that the business still oper-

Under current procedure, the City will send the cleanup invoice to that address and then pay the contractor if nobody responds. If the City isn't reimbursed, it will place a lien on the property. These liens are rarely paid.

City officials haven't said if they



will pursue legal action to force payment from the owner.

This property is scheduled for tax sale this fall, which starts a years-long process that could result in Vanderburgh County taking the property.

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# Education

## USI Conference To Focus On Strengthening Healthcare

#### **SEPTEMBER 2024**

The Strengthening the Healthcare Team Conference is returning to the University of Southern Indiana on Friday, September 13 in the University Center on campus.

conference "This provides strategies for effective teamwork and communication among healthcare professionals to enhance patient outcomes," said Dr. Anita Hagan, Director of the Center for Health Professions Lifelong Learning in the College of Nursing and Health Professions at USI. "This year, we are happy to announce that our keynote speaker is Lisa Reich, a partner with Healthcare Plus Solutions Group, which was co-founded by Quint Studer, a healthcare leader and author who spoke at USI a few years ago."

Reich, a registered nurse, has over three decades of experience in leading, working and consulting in healthcare. She has led coaching engagements for organizations ranging from critical access to large academic health systems and has worked extensively with many types of healthcare organizations including acute care, ambulatory, emergency/urgent care, medical practices, behavioral health and substance use treatment centers.

Hagan said the conference will be a dynamic and interactive experi-



ence for a variety of healthcare professionals wanting to improve interprofessional teamwork and communication.

The enrollment cost is \$140, with discounts available for graduate and undergraduate students. Registration information can be found at USI.edu/conferences/strengthening. For more information, email usi1nhpcert@usi.edu, or call 812-461-5217 or toll-free 1-877-USI-HLTH (874-4584).

Continuing Education Information: The University of Southern Indiana designates this activity for

6.0 contact hours. CE hours will be available for nurses, physicians, pharmacists, social workers and health facility administrators. CE hours will also be available for Indiana licensed marriage and family therapists, occupational therapists, occupational therapy assistants, mental health counselors and dental professionals.

In support of improving patient care, the University of Southern Indiana Center for Health Professions Lifelong Learning (CHPLL) is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), and the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

The University of Southern Indiana has been approved by the Indiana State Board of Health Facility Administrators as a sponsor of continuing education programs for health facility administrators.

# Promise Neighborhood Connects Families With Resources

### SEPTEMBER 2024

Families with children aged five and under will be connected to early health and education resources at the first "Little Kids, Big Promise" event hosted in collaboration with Evansville Promise Neighborhood (EPN) partners. The event will take place on Saturday, September 7 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Evansville Vanderburgh Public Library East (EVPL), located at 840 E Chandler Ave, Evansville, IN 47713.

"Organizations participating in this event help young children-from birth through age 5-be healthy and ready to learn," said Becca Scott, EVPL Director of Communications and Community Impact. "Each day at EVPL, we connect people to information and resources they need. As an EPN program partner, we are pleased to host this event at EVPL East to connect families to the many free re-

sources offered by our community."

The free event will also include



giveaways and fun activities for children, provided by partners from the Early Health and Education focus area within the EPN. EVPL staff will also provide storytimes featuring stories, songs, movement, and play at 10:30 a.m. and noon.

"This is a great opportunity for families to connect directly with community-based organizations and resources that are readily available in the Evansville Promise Neighborhood," said Derek McKillop, Director of the Evansville Promise Neighborhood. "It is great to see all of our community partners come together, and we can't wait for the opportunity to connect with families."

Participating organizations will share information about services and provide enrollment in programs that serve families with children under age five. Participating organizations include:

Building Blocks

Dream Center Evansville

Evansville Vanderburgh Public Library

Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation

Memorial Community Development Corporation

Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Ohio Valley

United Way of Southwestern Indi-

Vanderburgh County Health Department

partment
YMCA of Southwestern Indiana

YMCA of Southwestern Indiana
The Evansville Promise Neighborhood is a strategic partnership with
23 community-based organizations
focused on 12 census tracts and six
EVSC schools in the city's urban
core. The EPN strives to build a sustainable framework of collaboration to expand high-quality
services and support in the Evansville community.

Offer cannot be combined.

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(ask for details)

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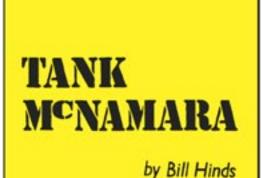
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# Comics & Puzzles























### Universal Crossword

#### Edited by David Steinberg February 18, 2024

#### ACROSS

- 1 Commotion "Adopt, don't shop" org. Song for one
- 13 NBA great Thomas
- **15** Perforated part of some packages Caused
- 18 Kitty looking for a fur-ever home
- 19 Specimen for dendrochronology **21** Rump
- 22 That dude's Alpha (kids born from
- 2010-'25) 24 Name shared by two Spice
- Girls 25 People to see:
- 29 Marine habitat
- 32 Juicy gossip
- "Heavens!" 35 Strike poses
- at a photo shoot, e.g. **37** 24-hr. cash
- source 38 Early years
- 39 One might be found under a kippah
- 41 Přecisely 42 Downed 43 Unpleasant realities
- 46 UFC sport Pilgrimage to Mecca, as some spell it
- 48 Director Lee 50 Lowlife

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- 55 It may be decided by a field goal
- 57 Homophone of "sweet"
- 58 Event with a music round, often.
- 59 Slight
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- DOWN
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1080p, say

- 3 Historical method for riding a horse while wearing a skirt
- 4 Fill to capacity
- 5 High-(easii) excitáble)
- 6 Round part of a hammer
- "The Amontillado"
- 8 Multi-episode storyline
- 9 Sword material
- 10 Aquatic animal for which Puget Sound transit cards are named
- "You're not telling the truth!"
- 12 Make a choice
- 2019 Megan Thee Stallion hit whose title contains a season

- 16 "This has to be some elaborate
- joke" "What You Own"
- musical 24 Parent celebrated
- in May 26 Like a tennis
- match at deuce Word before
- "mouth" or "training" 28 Resistor unit
- Like bhangra and palak
- paneer Winter hrs. in Ohio
- "How relaxing!"
- Acronym for the best ever **35** CEO's
- "Overnight" breakfašt
- aegree, onen grain

- 37 Co. that once put free trial CDs in cereal boxes
- 40 FedEx Cup's grp. **41** Serving platter **44** "If you don't
- eat your broccoli, l'Il confiscate your phone,"
- 45 Tattle
- 46 Smelling damp 49 Avarice
- 50 BBQ side made with
- cabbage 51 "Downton Abbey"
- countess **52** Keep
- 53 "Sign me up!"
- 54 Teenage actress Cruise The Twilight
- Zone" channel 56 \_\_\_\_ economy

9/24

### Find The **Answers To** This Month's

Puzzle on Page 14

### Themeless Sunday 73 by Sarah Sinclair and Rafael Musa

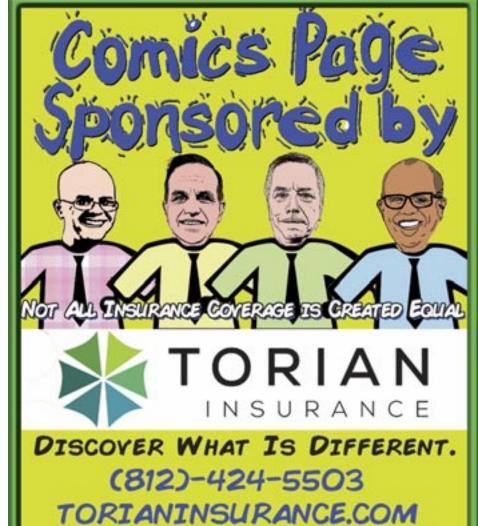
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# Sudoku Pacific

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box

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# Education

### Documentary Students Remember Sen. Lugar's Civility

#### **SEPTEMBER 2024**

In April 2018, almost a year to the day before he died, former U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar, R-Indiana, visited the campus of Franklin College to watch an hour-long documentary about his life.

"Richard Lugar: Reason's Quiet Warrior" had been created by students from the Pulliam School of Journalism, and after airing on WFYI, it would go on to be nominated for a regional Emmy. Through interviews with friends, family, colleagues and the man himself, it painted a portrait of the Eagle Scout, lifelong Rotarian, school-board commissioner, Indianapolis mayor and U.S. senator as unassuming, dignified to the point of formality, ambitious, but with an enduringly idealistic vision of public service.

"Donald Trump took office in 2016, and we were really starting to see that shift, such a shift into division," says Shelby Thomas, then Shelby Mullis, a Franklin College sophomore on the documentary team. "To talk to somebody who was all about bipartisanship, who made so many changes and had such a big impact ...

"To be able to talk to him—it was so interesting."

Lugar soon will be honored with a new statue to stand in the center of Richard G. Lugar Plaza, the twoacre space between East Washington Street and the City-County Building in downtown Indianapolis. Its unveiling happens 10 a.m. Tuesday, several blocks away at Bicentennial Unity Plaza, on Pennsylvania Street at Gainbridge Fieldhouse. Former U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice will deliver remarks.

For Thomas, the timing of this latest memorial is also appropriate, just months before a bitterly parti-

June IO, 2000: A childa November II, 2008: The us. They do not conten ought not be 5I percent if they can majority through outres a learning o rhetoric, bipartisan al thoughtful argument. Na not simply a civic nice real terms.

san presidential election. She wracked her brain to think of something contentious Lugar might have said during her several trips to Washington, D.C., to help interview him and could not.

"I don't remember his comments about the political climate of that time, but I think it's because he was not one who ... he was not one to shame," she said. "Whatever he said was very tame if he said anything at all."

While Lugar is remembered as the two-term Indy mayor who envisioned Unigov, as Indiana's longest serving congressman and as one of the men behind the Nunn-Lugar program to reduce nuclear weapons, the young journalists who briefly worked with himwhile also working at the Indiana Statehouse with TheStatehouse-File.com—were struck by his tone.

Then Franklin College freshman Erica Irish served as a transcriptionist and researcher on the documentary, listening to all the team's recorded interviews with Lugar and even hunting down his writings from his high-school newspaper—spending a long time with his words.

"To me, Lugar most exemplified the power of communication in building consensus," she says. "He spoke at many points in his life about the necessity of staying in the room with—and listening to the people who disagree with you. We can't write each other off simply because of policy disagreements. Without disagreement and debate, policy will never serve ev-

Clayton Taylor of WFYI and John Krull, director of Franklin College's Pulliam School of Journalism and publisher of The Statehouse File, served as co-executive producers of the documentary. Krull also was writer and narrator. Joel Cramer, J.D., a Franklin professor of journalism, was field producer for the 11student team. "'Reason's Quiet Warrior' pre-

sented several gifts," says Krull. "The first, of course, was that it provided

on video a complete telling of Richard Lugar's story. But the greater gift was the impact it made on the students who worked on it. In addition to enhancing their skills, it gave them a much broader understanding of the ways the world works."

After Franklin graduation and a stint in daily newspapers, Thomas landed in the office of Gov. Eric J. Holcomb as deputy director for drug prevention, treatment and enforcement.

"I think obviously The Statehouse File was my introduction to government and politics. Prior, I could tell you who the governor was ... But it wasn't until The Statehouse File—it really taught me the basics,"Thomas said. "But it was these really personal experiences I got that solidified my interest in public

"To be able to hear from Lugar himself all of those times we interviewed him, it just really solidified—that's the type of public servant you want be."

# **UE FORWARD Reaches \$100 Million Milestone**

### **SEPTEMBER 2024**

The University of Evansville (UE) embarked on its boldest fundraising endeavor yet: FOR-WARD, The Campaign for the University of Evansville. The largest campaign prior was the

UEnvision 2 0 1 0 Campaign that generated \$82.5 million. Today, thanks to the incredible generosity m a n y alumni doand

nors, the

mental achievement- surpassing the FORWARD Campaign's \$100 million mark, with a remarkable \$103,400,168 given so far toward the \$125 million goal.

University celebrates a monu-

This University of Evansville was built on a foundation of philanthropy. In 1917, driven by an unwavering belief in the power of education, the Evansville community, led by George

Clifford, raised \$500,000 in just

19 days to relocate Moores Hill College to Evansville. At the this unimaginable achievement laid the cornerstone for what would become Evansville College. That spirit of philanthropy continues to fuel the

University today. The Cam-

paign for University of Evansville will build on the university's traditional strengths while transforming UE to meet the

changing needs of tomorrow's students. FORWARD is driven by three major campaign pillars: Powering a Transformational, Accessible Education; Bringing Academics to Life; and Fueling Faculty who Discover, Teach and Mentor. Specifically, the campaign has made possible the transformation of Wheeler Concert Hall, the creation of a new Mental Health and Wellness Clinic and the

Emily M. Young Assessment

Center, the establishment of named endowed faculty chairs, facilities improvements baseball and softball fields, academic program support, and the addition of more than 34 new endowed scholarships. "This Campaign milestone

would not have been possible without the generosity and leadership of so many of our friends and community partners," University President Christopher Pietruszkiewicz. "While we still have work to do,

we celebrate each of these donors for their commitment to educational excellence and loyalty to the University of Evansville. Our heartfelt thanks to Campaign Co-chairs Randy Alsman, Paul Jones '71, and the National Campaign Steering Committee, whose leadership has been instrumental to the campaign's success thus far."

Efforts continue to push toward realizing the comprehensive vision of the campaign.



# **Sports**

### USI Releases 2024-25 Men's Basketball Schedule

#### **SEPTEMBER 2024**

University of Southern Indiana Men's Basketball revealed its 2024-25 schedule, beginning with a visit to DePaul University November 4. The 2024-25 home opener is slated for November 7 when USI hosts Bucknell University for the first of 15 contests at Screaming Eagles Arena this year.

Following the home opener versus Bucknell, the 2024-25 home non-conference schedule includes South Dakota State University (November 22), Indiana State University (November 25), East/West University (December 1), and

cember 15).

The home portion of the Ohio Valley Conference schedule will feature Tennessee State University (December 19), the University of Tennessee at Martin (December 21), Morehead State University (December 31), Lindenwood University (January 16), Western Illinois University (January 18), Tennessee Tech University (February 1) the University of Arkansas Little Rock (February 6), Southeast Missouri State University (February 8), Eastern Illinois University (February 20), and Southern Illinois

Shawnee State University (De- University Edwardsville (February at Tennessee Tech (January 2) 20).

> The Screaming Eagles have a challenging road slate following the season-opener at DePaul. USI follows up the trip with a visit to Marshall University (November 11) to begin three-straight on the road, continuing to Bellarmine University (November 13) and Purdue University Fort Wayne (November 16). The final non-conference game of 2024-25 is a trip to Southern Illinois University (December 7).

> In OVC play, this year's conference road slate includes stopovers

SEMO (January 9), Little Rock (January 11), SIUE (January 23), EIU (January 25), Morehead State (January 28), WIU (February 13) Lindenwood (February 15), UT Martin (February 27), and Tennessee State (March 1).

In the history of the USI Men's Basketball program, the Eagles are 112-123 all-time versus the 2024-25 opponents. USI is 99-69 against former GLVC-rivals Bellarmine University (53-46) and SIUE (46-23). The Eagles are playing Bellarmine for the first time since the Knights moved to Division I in 2020.

## Trailblazers Close Out 2024 Blazer Classic With Big Sweep

#### **SEPTEMBER 2024**

The Vincennes University volleyball team closed out the 2024 Blazer Classic Saturday afternoon at the Physical Education Complex.

VU split their two games on the day after dropping a hard-fought match against No. 20-ranked Eastern Florida State College 21-25, 19-25, 19-25 before closing out the weekend tournament with a sweep over Ellsworth Community College 25-9, 25-18, 25-

The Trailblazers began the morning of the final day of the Blazer Classic with a very tough test against No. 20ranked Eastern Florida State College.

The Titans got the early advantage in set one before the Blazers rode the momentum of a 13-2 scoring run to take a 17-12 lead.

away at this VU lead before grabbing the momentum back with a 7-0 run ultimately leading to the Titans closing out the first set 25-21.

Eastern Florida State would chip

VU looked to bounce back and even the match in set two and found themselves ahead early with an 11-7 lead.

Eastern Florida State again answered back to take a 15-13 lead before the Blazers tied the game at 18-18.

Eastern Florida State then closed out the second set strong by scoring seven of the final eight points to take the set 25-19 and gain a 2-0 match

Set three was another tightly contested back-and-forth battle with VU holding a 15-14 lead midway through the set before the Titans came away on an 11-4 run to close out the set and the match over the Blazers 25-19.

The VU offense was led by sophomore Isadora Dias (Rio Grande de Norte, Brazil) who returned to the lineup in a big way with 14 kills and eight digs against the Titans.



Sophomore Laura Tavares (Merida, Venezuela) continued her big season with seven kills, one dig and one set assist.

Sophomore Elisa Dalla Pozza (Vincenza, Italy) continues to be a force in the middle with four kills, two blocks and one dig.

Freshmen Martyna Sadowska (Pila, Poland) and Karen Kodi (West Carrollton, Ohio) round out the VU offense with Sadowska ending with two kills and two blocks and Kodi getting one kill and one dig.

Sophomore Dylan DeCoursey (Montgomery, Ind.) and freshman Rylee Edwards (Fairfield, III.) stepped in at the setter position for sophomore Libby Mehringer (Jasper, Ind.) who was out of the lineup Saturday.

DeCoursey led the way in the first match of the day with 13 set assists and two digs, while Edwards finished with 10 set assists, three digs and two

Sophomore libero Grace Flexter (Oblong, III.) ran the VU back row defense with five digs, one set assist and two aces, while freshman Brooklyn Summers (Loogootee, Ind.) rounded out the VU box score with four digs in the match.

"Against a team like that you just have to be able to score," VUVB Head Coach Gary Sien said. "Not having Libby out there was a challenge for us. She ran a one-setter offense Friday and had some pretty good numbers and did a really nice job of running our offense. Anytime you have even one new setter out there, it's going to be challenging."

"I think that playing a team like Eastern Florida State and playing them tough is good for us," Sien added. "Not only because of the level of competition we are going up against, but it validates the fact that we can play with a team like that."

VU looked to bounce back and close out the weekend strong in their second match of the day when the Blazers took on Ellsworth Community College from Iowa.

Vincennes was able to jump on the Panthers early in set one, using a massive 20-3 scoring run to pull away and take the opening set 25-9 over Ells-

Set two was more of a back-andforth battle with the two teams even at 15-15 before the Blazers closed out the set with a 10-3 run to take set two 25-18 and gain a 2-0 match lead.

Vincennes built an early lead in set three, leading 17-11 before Ellsworth began to chip away at the VU advantage.

The Panthers would continue to battle and cut the deficit down to a single point at 21-20 before the Blazers closed out strong by scoring the final four points of the match to take set three 25-20 and end the weekend with a sweep.

VU was again led by the sophomore hitting duo of Laura Tavares and Isadora Dias. Tavares led the Blazers against Ellsworth with 12 kills and three blocks, while Dias posted a double-double with 10 kills, 11 digs, one ace and one block.

Elisa Dalla Pozza also had another big game at the net with seven kills, five blocks, two aces, one dig and one

set assist to really fill out the box score. Freshman Paulina Fister (Tuszyn, Poland) and Martyna Sadowska each finished the weekend with three kills, with Fister adding three digs and Sa-

dowska getting two blocks. Karen Kodi rounds out the VU of-

fense with a pair of kills in the match. Rylee Edwards and Dylan DeCoursey continued to run the VU offense well at the setter position, with Edwards leading the way with 15 set assists, four digs and two aces, while DeCoursey finished with a doubledouble of 12 set assists, 10 digs and

The VU defense was again run by libero Grace Flexter who finished with a team-high 15 digs to go along with five set assists, while freshman Ashley Earp (Mattoon, III.) added seven digs, one set assist and one ace.

two aces.

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### Thunderbolts Sign Forward Kevin Hu

### **SEPTEMBER 2024**

The Evansville Thunderbolts and Head Coach/Director of Hockey Operations Jeff Bes are pleased to announce the signing of forward Kevin Hu for the 2024-25 season. The Thunderbolts begin the 2024-25 season at Ford Center on Friday, October 18th as they host the Knoxville Ice Bears.

Hu joins the Thunderbolts following two dominant seasons of senior hockey with the Plattsville/Woodstock Lakers of the WOSHL between 2022-2024, in which Hu won league MVP honors in back-to-back years by scoring a whopping 72 goals and 113 points in 44 regular season games. The Mississauga, Ontario native previously played junior hockey for the London Lakers of the

GMHL in 2015-16 and 2018-19, along

with the St. Thomas Stars of the

GOJHL between 2016-2018. Follow-

ing his final season of junior hockey, Hu began playing senior hockey with the Tillsonburg Thunder of the WOAA in 2019-20 before the onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic, at which point Hu had finished with 3 goals and 9 points in 6 games with Tillson-

burg. "I feel that I am a well-rounded forward with strong offensive awareness but can also be relied upon in key defensive situations," replied Hu when asked about his style of play. "Looking into playing in the SPHL, the Thunderbolts organization popped out to me as a tough team to play against while also having a great team environment to be a part of, and I have heard nothing but great things about Ford Center and the other facilities in Evansville. I'm very excited to get started and to contribute as much as I can for the team!"

# **Sports**

# Evansville Announces 2024 Cross Country Schedule

#### **SEPTEMBER 2024**

The University of Evansville cross country team has released its 2024 schedule highlighted by one home meet and two returning meets.

"This year's schedule will keep a sense of familiarity with many opportunities to face strong competition ahead of the conference championship," says Head Coach Dylan Anderson. "We are also thrilled to be hosting at Angel Mounds again alongside the Evansville Sports Commission and USI. The roster this year is very young and talented, so I am excited for them to dive right in and to see what we can accomplish this season."

The Purple Aces will begin their cross country season at the end of the month at Eastern Illinois on Friday, August 30th. It will be the first time UE returns to Charleston in six years for a cross country meet.

Three weeks later Evansville will return to action at the John McNichols Invite, hosted by Missouri Valley Conference (MVC) member Indiana State on Saturday, September 21st. It will be the fourth straight year that the Aces will run the LaVern Gibson Championship Cross Country Course at the Invite.

UE then returns to another familiar meet on Saturday, October 5th at the Live in Lou Classic. Hosted by Louisville, Live in Lou is one of the

Aug. 30th - EIU Walt Crawford Open Charleston, Ill. Sept. 21st - John McNichols Invite Terre Haute, Ind. Oct. 5th - Live in Lou Louisville, Ky. Oct. 18th - Angel Mounds Invite Evansville, Ind. Nov. 1st - MVC Championships Cedar Falls, Iowa Nov. 15th - NCAA Regional Akron, Ohio **CROSS COUNTRY SCHEDULE** 

largest cross country meets in the United States. The 2024 meet will be Evansville's fourth straight appearance running at E. P. "Tom" Sawyer State Park.

The Aces will host their only home meet of the season on Friday, October 18th at Angel Mounds. This season will be the second to last at Angel Mounds Cross Country course for the Aces as they host the Angel Mounds Invitational.

UE will then attend its furthest meet of the season at the MVC Cross

Falls, Iowa. Hosted by Northern Iowa, Evansville will run at Pheasant Ridge Golf Course for the team's final conference action on Friday, November 1st. The Aces then wrap up the season

at the NCAA Great Lakes Regional Championship in Akron, Ohio. Postseason action for UE will be hosted by the Mid-American Conference on Friday, November 15th. UE returns most of its men's team

from 2023, including top distance runner Samuel Lea (Worchester, son with a Top 15 program finish at the NCAA Great Lakes Regional in Madison, Wisc. Lea ran a 32-minute 10K for the 12th fastest finish in Evansville history. The Aces only return two of their 2023 women's runners in area student-athletes Kyndall Anthis (Patoka, Ind. / Princeton Community HS) and Avery Stephens (Newburgh, Ind. / Castle HS). UE also welcomes a large freshman class of 10 new runners with six new members of the men's roster and four new members of the women's

### Country Championships in Cedar England.) Lea finished the 2023 sea-Final Additions To 2025 Baseball Staff

### **SEPTEMBER 2024**

University of Southern Indiana Baseball Head Coach Chris Ramirez completed his staff for 2025 with the addition of Nick Mayerhofer as an assistant coach and Bryce Stober as director of baseball operations.

Mayerhofer follows Ramirez from Lenior Rhyne University where he was an assistant coach in 2024, helping the Bears to a team .322 batting average and a team .963 fielding percentage. He also was the hitting and third base coach in 2024 for the Kalamzoo Growlers, which won the 2024 Northwoods League championship, during the summer.

"I am extremely excited to bring Nick on as our third assistant coach," said Ramirez. "Not only has Nick coached with me before, but he was also my shortstop at the University of Illinois Springfield. He is a very talented young infield coach and will do a great job working with Coach (Brandon) Krennrich on the recruiting trail."

Prior to beginning his coaching career, Mayerhofer was a four-year starting shortstop for UIS and helped the Prairie Stars to an appearance at the 2022 NCAA Division II Baseball Championship. The Stars also made four NCAA II Midwest Regional appearances and had a 183-49-1 (.789) record during his four seasons.

As a player at UIS, Mayerhofer ranks second all-time in games played (191) and assists (334); third all-time in games started (163) and walks (86); fifth all-time in runs scored (155); ninth in RBIs (106); and 11th in total bases (235).

receive updated news daily.



after five seasons at Lenior Rhyne as a utility player, seeing action at catcher, left field, right field, center field, and designated hitter. He helped lead the Bears to a South Atlantic Conference championship and an appearance in the NCAA II Tournament after Lenior Rhyne won a school record 46 games.

A lifetime .311 hitter, Stober finished his Lenior Rhyne career ranked first in sacrifice hits (34); second in putouts (960); third in stolen bases (49); and fifth in games played (189).

"I have had the pleasure of coaching Bryce the past five seasons at Lenoir-Rhyne," said Ramirez. "Bryce's

Ramirez said, "I could not be more pleased and excited about how the coaching staff has come together. We have a great mix of experience and youth that will bring a high level of energy and professionalism to USI Baseball.

"Most importantly, having previously played or worked together, we care for and have complete trust in each other both on and off the field," continued Ramirez. "This is a coaching staff that talented players will want to play for."

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# Obituaries

# August Vanderburgh County Obituaries

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#### Eas

James R. Alvey
Patty Delores Jones
John David Daugherty
Sarah "Sally" L. McGinness
Jerry A. Linzy
Dorothy N. Hemp
Shirley J. Ealum
Arthur Hart, Jr.
Connie Ann Horstman
Debby Drone
Larry Wayne Miller

Russell W. McLeod

Mar. 29, 1955 – Aug. 08 2024 Nov. 20, 1933 – Aug. 09, 2024 May 05, 1943 – Aug. 09, 2024 Dec. 26, 1929 – Aug. 10, 2024 Jan. 22, 1944 – Aug. 12, 2024 Jul, 08, 1947 – Aug. 14, 2024 Oct. 11, 1938 –Aug. 15, 2024 May 05, 1930 – Aug. 20, 2024 Nov. 24, 1946 – Aug. 23, 2024 Mar. 05, 1962 – Aug. 27, 2024 Jun. 26, 1977 – Aug. 26, 2024

Nov. 17, 1938 – Aug. 05, 2024

Nov. 27, 1929 – Aug. 06, 2024

Mar. 28, 1938 - Aug. 07, 2024

Apr. 04, 1941 – Aug. 10, 2024

Jan. 18, 1959 – Aug. 10, 2024

Sep. 17, 1954 – Aug. 13, 2024

Feb. 19, 1939 – Aug. 14, 2024

Feb. 15, 1946 – Aug. 14, 2024

May 03, 1938 – Aug. 17, 2024 Dec. 19, 1939 – Aug. 18, 2024

Oct. 06, 1944 – Aug. 19, 2024

Sep. 08, 1955 – Aug. 19, 2024

Apr. 28, 1932 – Aug. 23, 2024

Dec. 27, 1927 – Aug. 25, 2024

Nov. 12, 1930 – Aug. 26, 2024

Apr. 28, 1949 – Aug. 26, 2024

Dec. 05, 1949 - Aug. 29, 2024

Dec. 26, 1936 - Aug. 31, 2024

Apr. 12, 1933 – Aug. 04, 2024

### Jan. 11, 1944 – Aug. 04, 2024

Alice Dorothy Goff Cecile D. Hersh Donald E Greer James Irvin Splittorff Carolyn Sue Zuber Terri Sue Lupton Stephen Duane Blaxton Donald Virgil Bolin Sr. Richard Dale Roudybush Deanna G Horstketter Nancy Elise Whitsell Donna Mae Krowl Ron Barclay Wilma D. Deutsch Eloise E. Strupp Rose Marie Krause Karl Victor Dosch Ronnie Farmer Raymond William Boerner

North

Mary Sue Porter
Donald Lee Ross
Gary Steven Dorsey
Lee McCutchan Riggs
Patty Ann Hill
Sylvia E. Gross
Wilma Heilman
Brian L. Seals

Gladys Simmons

Mar. 08, 1944 – Aug. 07, 2024 Nov. 28, 1956 – Aug. 11, 2024 Jul. 12, 1954 – Aug. 13, 2024 Apr. 05, 1938 – Aug. 16, 2024 Aug. 31, 1929 – Aug. 19, 2024 Jun. 23, 1926 – Aug. 25, 2024 Jul. 30, 2929 – Aug. 28, 2024 Apr. 30, 1961 – Aug. 29, 2024

Nov. 23, 1924 - Aug. 03, 2024

Mar. 22, 1939 - Aug. 04, 2024

Feb. 01, 1930 - Aug. 05, 2024

Oct. 08, 1948 – Aug. 05, 2024

Mar. 20, 1944 – Aug. 06, 2024

### **BOONE FUNERAL HOME**Jun. 18, 1951 – Aug. 01, 2024

Alfred Mueller
Dixie Adcock
Barbara Case
Stephen Bugher
Sharon "Sam" Luzader
Patty Smith
Perry "Dan" Kunce
Danny Sutton
Rose Mary Allen
William A. "Bill" Agnew
Dennis Shira
Ashley S. Ashley
James(Jim)A.(Sonny) Hines, Sr.

**Betty Puchner** 

Jun. 12, 1930 – Aug. 09 2024 Sep. 10, 1973 – Aug. 13, 2024 Oct. 26, 1948 – Aug. 14, 2024 Dec. 10, 1941 – Aug. 18, 2024 Feb. 13, 1933 – Aug. 18, 2024 Jul. 17, 1947 – Aug. 23, 2024 Jul. 18, 1984 – Aug. 27, 2024 Jun. 05, 1930 – Aug. 27, 2024 Aug. 29, 1943 – Aug. 29, 2024

### **BROWNING FUNERAL HOME**

Richard "Rick" Lee Smith
Eugene "Gene" L. Higginson
Brylee Leeann Miles
Mildred Frankenberer
Betty Joann Beavin
Elizabeth "Liz" Ann Schuta
Clarence Eugene "Big C" Bowen

May 17, 1947 – Aug. 01, 2024 Jul. 02, 1948 – Aug. 02, 2024 Aug. 02, 2024 Jul. 31, 1937 – Aug 03, 2024 Jun. 15, 1942 – Aug. 03, 2024 Nov. 18, 1930 – Aug. 03, 2024 Jan. 18, 1939 – Aug. 05, 2024 Michael "Mike" Paul Martin Ellen Blesch John Edwin Waters Kathy "Shorty" Sue Trafford Ralph Steven "Steve" Littrell Sr. Jeffrey R. Pritchett Elizabeth "Liz" Ann Underhill Carl E. Russell Emma "Janie" Ramsey Rodney Dee Smith Matthew Michael Syroney Mark A. Clodfelter James Keith Schultheis Wayne Robert Burdge Jane Ellen Buttrum Delbert Charles"Charlie"Ritzert Thomas Patrick Mooney, Sr. Janice Eileen Meyer Colt Russell Kissel "Ducky"

Steven Wayne Skelton

Dec. 17, 1957 - Aug. 07, 2024 Nov. 13, 1948 - Aug. 07, 2024 May 07, 1941 – Aug. 07, 2024 Mar. 12, 1956 – Aug. 08, 2024 Jun. 10, 1952 - Aug. 09, 2024 Jan. 06, 1955 - Aug. 15, 2024 Oct. 14, 1964 - Aug. 15, 2024 Dec. 31, 1962 – Aug. 16, 2024 Jun. 06, 1929 – Aug. 17, 2024 Oct. 24, 1935 – Aug. 18, 2024 Oct. 08, 1954 – Aug. 19, 2024 Nov. 21, 1999 - Aug. 20, 2024 Jun. 25, 1963 – Aug. 24, 2024 Oct. 31, 1952 - Aug. 26, 2024 Mar. 18, 1941 – Aug. 27, 2024 Mar. 01, 1929 – Aug. 28, 2024 May 16, 1955 – Aug. 28, 2024 Mar. 04, 1935 - Aug. 28, 2024 Oct. 21, 1946 – Aug. 28, 2024 Jul. 24, 1990 – Aug. 29, 2024

### **MASON BROTHERS FUNERAL SERVICES**

Kevion KeChay Mann Shanae L'Shaun Edmonds Alexandria "Yaya" Fleming Michael Anthony Grissett Terence "Boo" Leonard Ardia Alexander Earldern Kenneth Jordan Herbert Johnson, Jr. Larry Darnell Wells, Jr. Charles Thomas Vance Jun. 12, 2001 – Aug. 04, 2024 Jun. 08, 1973 – Aug. 09, 2024 Aug. 15, 1993 – Aug. 10, 2024 Jun. 25, 1959 – Aug. 12, 2024 Mar. 16, 1982 – Aug. 13, 2024 Jan. 15, 1936 – Aug. 15, 2024 Nov. 01, 1936 – Aug. 17, 2024 Aug. 20, 1957 – Aug. 21, 2024 Mar. 02, 1977 – Aug. 23, 2024 Oct. 22, 1945 – Aug. 25, 2024

### PIERRE FUNERAL HOME

Mary Louise Weinzappe Terry Alan Babb Kevin Lee WIldeman Elizabeth Ann Daily Raymond E. Allega Charles R. "Skip" Egan James N. McBride Laura L. Richter Ralph C. Winstead Caleb Joel Townsend Martha Pratt Jeffrey R. Brumitt Rosemary Anna Muensterman Kevin Ray Arnold Robert J. Froehle Mary Jo Kirchoff Peggy Louise Koester Paula D. Criswell David Evan McGary Holly Jo Wells

Apr. 18, 1939 – Aug. 01, 2024 Aug. 24, 1947 - Aug. 03, 2024 Apr. 16, 1966 – Aug. 04, 2024 Oct. 29, 1938 - Aug. 04, 2024 Nov. 02, 1944 – Aug. 05, 2024 Aug. 23, 1944 - Aug. 07, 2024 Jan. 18, 1935 – Aug. 11, 2024 Sep. 17, 1964 – Aug. 12, 2024 Aug. 08, 1940 - Aug. 13, 2024 Aug. 26, 2005 - Aug. 17, 2024 Aug. 02, 194 – Aug. 18, 2024 Mar. 21, 1971 – Aug. 19, 2024 Apr. 27, 1925 – Aug. 20, 2024 Dec. 23, 1958 – Aug. 22, 2024 Sep. 05, 1938 – Aug. 22, 2024 Sep. 10, 1952 – Aug. 23, 2024 Aug. 06, 1932 - Aug. 23, 2024 Feb. 10, 1966 - Aug. 23, 2024 Aug. 03, 1996 - Aug. 25, 2024 Feb. 28, 1979 – Aug. 26, 2024

#### ZIEMER FUNERAL HOME Aug. 02, 2024

Robert Bruce Youngblood Mickey Jacobs Anita J. "Nikki' Kissel Mary Ellen Coker Joyce M. Wilhite Robert Dwight Tyner Donna Ewing Stephen L. Kollker Laura L. Wagner Mary Jane Ames Blenda G. Taylor Sarah A Luecke Marlene A. Gregory

George Murphy III

Judy E. Broerman

Shelia Shaw

Jan 07, 1944 – Aug. 02, 2024 Sep. 01, 1951 – Aug. 04, 2024 Aug. 12, 1927 – Aug. 06, 2024 Dec. 17, 1955 – Aug. 06, 2024 Nov. 04, 1929 – Aug. 07, 2024 Apr. 23, 1945 – Aug. 09, 2024 Jun. 18, 1934 – Aug. 09, 2024 Mar. 03, 1935 – Aug. 09, 2024 Aug. 28, 1952 – Aug. 11, 2024 Jun. 26, 1942 – Aug. 12, 2024 Sep. 28, 1966 – Aug. 12, 2024 Feb. 17, 1947 – Aug. 13, 2024 Sep. 07, 1947 – Aug. 14, 2024 Jun. 24, 1932 – Aug. 15, 2024

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