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**CELEBRATING AMERICA'S 250 IN NEXT WEEK'S EDITION**



**Thursday, June 25, 2026**

# Journal Reporter

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**Make the Marion Skatepark Project a Reality.** The Marion Skatepark Project crowdfunding campaign is now live. We're working to create a safe, high-quality recreational space for Marion's youth, families, and community. To secure a \$50,000 matching grant, we must raise \$50,000 in community donations by July 31st, 2026. Every contribution helps move this project forward. Donate today: <http://patronicity.com/marion-skatepark> Please help spread the word!

## MFD hiring firefighters

The Marion Fire Department has opened the hiring window for firefighters through Monday, July 6th, 2026. If interested, please click the link below and follow the steps before the hiring window closes on July 6th at 4pm. Thank you.



## Purdue researchers work to accelerate cancer drug discovery with next-gen tech platform

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — Researchers at the Purdue Institute for Cancer Research (PICR) have developed a next-generation technology platform designed to dramatically accelerate one of the slowest and most challenging stages of cancer drug discovery: identifying promising compounds that could eventually become new therapies.

The automated, ultrahigh-throughput platform combines chemical synthesis, biological testing and mass spectrometry into a single integrated workflow, allowing researchers to generate, evaluate and refine potential drug candidates within the same system. The research, recently published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, represents more than a decade of development at Purdue and could help researchers move more quickly against difficult cancer targets.

"Drug discovery is a fight against probability," said Nicolás Morato, research assistant professor at

the PICR and the study's lead author. "You're searching through enormous biological space and even larger chemical space trying to find the right molecule for the right target. If you can't make compounds fast enough and test them fast enough, it becomes a battle you're going to lose."

The platform is built around desorption electrospray ionization mass spectrometry, or DESI-MS, a technology pioneered at Purdue that enables researchers to rapidly analyze and test compounds with extremely small sample volumes and highly automated workflows.

Traditionally, early-stage drug discovery involves disconnected steps handled by separate teams. Chemists synthesize compounds, biologists test them against disease targets, and researchers spend significant time purifying and analyzing results before repeating the cycle.

Morato said chemistry has historically lagged behind the automation already common in biology.

The Purdue system aims to collapse those traditionally separate stages into a single integrated workflow to rapidly identify promising drug candidates.

Many newly identified cancer targets emerging from modern genomics, artificial intelligence and computational research still lack effective drugs and therapies, said Purdue's Andrew Mesecar, the Robert Wallace Miller Director of the Purdue

Institute for Cancer Research, the Walther Professor in Cancer Structural Biology and Distinguished Professor of Biochemistry.

"The new DESI-MS platform enables researchers to rapidly screen tens of thousands of molecules against newly identified cancer targets to identify promising therapeutic candidates," Mesecar said. The technology has already played a role in ongoing cancer-related research at Purdue. Morato described one project involving a cancer-associated enzyme target in which traditional approaches had led researchers down an unproductive path for years before the DESI-MS platform rapidly revealed that a heavily studied compound was not actually interacting with the target as expected.

"It was difficult because people had invested years of work into it," Morato said. "But the platform immediately showed us the compound wasn't doing what we thought it was doing. That allowed the project to change direction much faster instead of continuing to lose time."

Researchers then used the platform to rescreen and identify stronger candidate compounds against the same target.

The work also became personal for Morato during the platform's development. Around the time the project shifted more directly toward translational drug discovery, his grandfather was diagnosed with prostate cancer.

The system can perform several stages of early drug discovery at speeds that would traditionally require days or weeks of laboratory work. In one proof-of-concept workflow described in the paper, researchers completed an integrated discovery cycle in approximately four hours.

For Purdue chemist R. Graham Cooks, whose laboratory invented DESI nearly two decades ago, the platform reflects the latest stage in a long evolution of mass spectrometry technologies increasingly intertwined with medicine and drug discovery.

"Mass spectrometry is now a very important part of drug discovery," said Cooks, a member of the PICR and the Henry Bohn Hass Distinguished Professor of Chemistry in the James Tarpo Jr. and Margaret Tarpo Department of Chemistry in Purdue's College of Science. "Every large pharmaceutical company now has hundreds of scientists whose prime instrumentation is a mass spectrometer."

Cooks said one of the greatest remaining obstacles in drug discovery is low speed.

"The Achilles' heel of drug discovery is its low speed," Cooks said. "This platform increases the speed of several distinct aspects of drug discovery."

Cooks said the technology accelerates the screening of chemical reactions, automatically analyzes reaction products through online mass

spectrometry, and allows biological testing to occur more rapidly through automation and so-called "direct-to-biology" testing that avoids lengthy purification steps.

Beyond drug development, Cooks said advanced mass spectrometry technologies are also increasingly important in cancer diagnosis and surgical decision-making. His group has spent years studying the use of mass spectrometry for identifying brain tumors and tumor margins during surgery.

"Increased speed of diagnosis is also highly desirable," Cooks said. "Intraoperative studies are promising, with metabolite profiles providing actionable information."

Morato said the broader vision behind the platform is not simply faster chemistry, but a more integrated and iterative approach to discovery — one that becomes increasingly important as artificial intelligence tools generate larger numbers of possible drug candidates.

"AI is only as good as the data you feed it," Morato said. "What this platform allows us to do is generate huge volumes of high-quality experimental data very quickly. That creates the possibility for faster cycles of prediction, testing and optimization."

By enabling rapid, large-scale generation of experimental data, the platform could help support emerging AI-driven approaches to

drug discovery.

The project grew out of support from the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences through its ASPIRE (A Specialized Platform for Innovative Research Exploration) cooperative research program. The goal of ASPIRE is to develop cutting-edge advancements in automation technology and data generation and analysis tools to rapidly create and map new chemical space against druggable biological space. The system developed by the Cooks group is among a suite of tools and technologies developed through the ASPIRE program to address a translational gap in preclinical drug development by greatly accelerating the chemical synthesis to biological testing cycle.

This technology was disclosed to the Purdue Innovates Office of Technology Commercialization, which applied for and received several patents through the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Morato said the current platform represents roughly 10 years of focused development layered atop decades of foundational Purdue research in mass spectrometry.

The team's research is part of Purdue's One Health initiative, which brings together research on human, plant and animal health. It supports the initiative's focus on advanced chemistry, where Purdue faculty study complex chemical systems and develop new techniques and applications.

# Things that go ‘boom’ in the summer night



Fireworks are staples of summer, when neighborhoods sporadically light up with multicolored splendor, and distant pops can be heard on a regular basis.

Most fireworks are made of a small tube called an aerial shell that contains various explosive chemicals, says the American Chemical Company. The shell has gunpowder and something called “stars,” which give fireworks their color when they explode.

The shell is housed in a mortar that will launch the firework into the air after a fuse is lit. Ultimately, a bursting charge of the firework explodes and ignites the black powder and stars.

If the stars are randomly placed in the shell, they will produce random patterns. But many fireworks are carefully created so that the stars are placed to allow for specific patterns when the firework explodes. The

following are some types of fireworks that surely will be lighting up night skies, courtesy of Sky Bacon Fireworks, Jake’s Fireworks, and American Pyrotechnics Safety & Education Foundation, and Pyro City.

- Brocade: This firework has a large number of trailing stars falling slowly in an umbrella pattern.

see **BOOM**, page 10



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# VICTORIOUS *Living* ...in a troubled world

## Open arms, closed arms: Two ways of meeting life

By Teresa A. LeNeave  
leneave2@comcast.net

Sarah Jakes Roberts is a New York Times bestselling author. You also know her as a pastor and speaker. She got pregnant at 13, married at 19, divorced at 22, and all while under the intense public scrutiny as the daughter of a very famous pastor. Reading about her life; it's ups and downs and how she was finally able to embrace who she was, is such an inspiration. In her book, *Power Moves: Ignite Your Confidence and Become a Force*, she shares her struggles and what it takes to get back up.

She reminded me of the two ways we meet life. There seem to be two kinds of people in the world. Not by wealth, intelligence, background, or success, but by the way they meet life itself. Some people move through the world with open arms. Others move through it with closed arms, but can you pass from one side to the other? Can you gain confidence if you



have none? She says yes you can.

The open-arms people are not necessarily happier, luckier, or more privileged. They have suffered losses, disappointments, and heartbreaks just like everyone else. Yet they possess a willingness to embrace what comes. Somehow they find ways to make peace with circumstances they never would have chosen.

Closed-arms people, on the other hand, often struggle to accept the life they have been given. They may carry a quiet resistance to reality. The job they didn't want, the relationship that ended, the dream that never materialized, the

family they were born into, the challenges they never asked for. These become sources of ongoing conflict. Their energy is spent wishing things were different.

When disappointment arrives repeatedly, closing one's arms can feel like protection. If you expect life to hurt you, embracing it may seem foolish, but Sarah says that's where you find freedom. On a Mel Robbin's podcast, "How to become the most confident version of yourself and step into your power", I heard Sarah say: You cannot heal while you are still punishing yourself.

It seems there is a hidden cost to living with closed arms.



Resistance does not stop pain; it often prolongs it. The more tightly we cling to the belief that life should have been different, the harder it becomes to appreciate what is actually before us. Opportunities go unnoticed. Relationships remain distant. Joy arrives at the door but finds no invitation to enter.

Open-arms people understand something important: acceptance is not the same as approval. Embracing life does not mean liking every part of it. It does not mean pretending suffering is good or that injustice should be tolerated. Rather, it means acknowledging reality

before deciding how to respond. They recognize that fighting against what has already happened is a battle that cannot be won.

The paradox is that acceptance often creates the possibility for change. Once we stop denying reality, we can work with it.

Most of us are not entirely open-armed or closed-armed. We move between the two states throughout our lives. We embrace some experiences and resist others. We welcome success but reject failure. We celebrate beginnings but mourn endings.

Life doesn't ask for our permission before slapping life changing circumstances on

us. It presents us with circumstances, opportunities, setbacks, and surprises without consulting our preferences. In the end, the quality of our lives may depend less on what happens to us and more on how we hold onto what happens.

The people with open arms are the ones who have learned that life, however imperfect, is still worth embracing. My sister who was diagnosed with stage four lung cancer, didn't choose it. But she is walking through it with such grace that she inspires others. Perhaps the greatest freedom we can find is not in controlling our circumstances, but in gradually opening our arms to the life that is already here and knowing God will make the best of it. He will turn what the devil meant for evil into something good. (Gen. 50:20).

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28).

## Our world is not meant to be perfect

By Dr. Billy Holland

The Lord has given most of us a good life filled with blessings, but with me, no matter how much "stuff" we accumulate, it does not bring spiritual contentment or joy. And in all honesty, it's not supposed to. I've been around a while, and lately I'm rarely pleased with anything. I realize I'm probably too picky, but I have a standard that simply wants what I pay for. It seems no matter how much I spend, there are always details that disappoint me. For example, over the years we've had a lot of remodeling work done on our home, as most of you know, it's not cheap. The problem is that instead of skilled craftsmen who take pride in their work, there is now an army of people who try to hurry

and finish a job without the conviction of doing it right.

Another area I'm growing weary of is the food industry. In our area, there are only a few places that serve decent meals, while the overwhelming majority of restaurants have disgruntled employees, and this lackadaisical attitude shows up in their service and their products. I do not believe it's demanding too much to have an expectation to be satisfied with my purchase. Again, it's obvious in our day and age that most people do not want to work, and couldn't care less about doing what they are paid to do. Whether it be new cars, new houses, clothing, vacations, or whatever, it seems that very few things are what we dreamed they would be. Surprise: it

was never intended to. Even Solomon, who had everything, was depressed because nothing on earth can spiritually satisfy or take the place of our personal relationship with God.

I've often wondered if my expectations are unrealistic, but I just believe that when we pay for something, we deserve a quality product and quality service. It's one thing to make a mistake, but when there is no effort or concern to give people what they pay for, this is unacceptable. Controlling how we react to disappointments can help our emotional roller coasters, and when we recognize that flaws and failures will always be with us, it allows us to appreciate the small victories when they happen. How encouraging it is to imagine that many of

our loved ones, our new name, our new body, our inheritance, and citizenship, along with crowns and rewards, are all a part of our glorious and "perfect" future. How wonderful to know that heaven will be filled with endless praise, everlasting joy, perfect peace, and contentment without darkness, discouragement, or disappointment.

We are only briefly passing through this "imperfect" world, and the only thing we will take with us when we leave is an account of how we lived. It's sad but true that not everyone is concerned with their eternal destiny. We are graciously given eternal life when we repent, confess, obey, and receive Christ as our Lord who willingly paid our ransom. Billy Graham is quoted, "I will not go

to heaven because I am a preacher. I'm going to heaven entirely on the merit of the work of Christ. The most thrilling thing about heaven is that Jesus Christ will be there!" "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born-again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you" (I Peter 1:3-4).

When we talk about hope, this usually means we are wondering if something is going to turn out the way we want, but there is a spiritual hope empowered by faith where we can definitely know that God is watching and

listening, and that our prayers will be answered without having to worry or be afraid. Romans 15:13 reminds us, "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope." You see, those who trust and know God have been born again into an eternal inheritance that can never change or fail. Adam and Eve, and even the earth is under a curse, but there is coming a day when mediocrity will be no more. God has always been perfect, and in the future, we will be perfect, heaven will be perfect, and we will never be disappointed again.

Dr. Holland is an ordained minister, chaplain, teacher, and author. Read more about the Christian life at [billyhollandministries.com](http://billyhollandministries.com).

## Outdoor Truths: Balanced Believers

By Gary Miller

If you want deer on your trail cameras this time of year, then make sure you have a salt or trace mineral block out if your game laws allow. Because sodium is often lacking in spring and summer vegetation, the deer will seek these spots to fill that lack. And if you notice, most of the time they are more interested in the ground around the block than the block itself. As the sodium melts into the soil, the soil becomes a bowl

of mineral cereal that deer love. Bucks need it to help build antler growth and does need it to help provide minerals to their recently birthed fawn. But just as salt creates thirst for us, it also does that for the deer. So, water is crucial this time of year as well. It's all about balance. Food, supplements, and water. And just enough of each.

I'm reminded of a man who bought a parrot from a pet store. After several days, the bird still hadn't said

a word. Concerned, the man returned to the store. "Maybe he's lonely," the owner suggested. "Buy him a mirror." The man did, but the parrot remained silent. A few days later, he returned. "Maybe he needs something to do," said the owner. "Try a ladder and a swing." The man bought both. Still no words. Finally, the pet store owner suggested a larger cage. The man purchased it and went home. Several weeks later, the owner ran into the man at the grocery store. "How's

that parrot doing?" he asked.

The man lowered his head. "Unfortunately, he died." "He died? Did he ever say anything?" "Yes," the man replied. "Right before he died, he said, 'Didn't that pet store sell any food?'"

If I could teach Christians one thing about living around unbelievers, it would be that influence is more important than instruction, and experience is more impactful than

theology. Jesus said we are to be salt and light. Salt adds flavor. But too much salt is bitter. Light adds clarity and illumination, but too much light blinds. The impact of Jesus on our lives came as someone brought the right amount of flavor and clarity on the person of Jesus. And this balance is still the way. Any other approach is like providing a restaurant, when the real need is just a sandwich.

Join me on Zoom each Tuesday morning at 6:30 central time as

we dive deeper into this week's Outdoor Truth.

Gary Miller  
[gary@outdoortruths.org](mailto:gary@outdoortruths.org)

Gary Miller has written Outdoor Truths articles for 23 years. He has also written five books which include compilations of his articles and a father/son devotional. He also speaks at wild-game dinners and men's events for churches and associations. Stay updated on Outdoor Truths each week by subscribing at [Outdoortruths.org](http://Outdoortruths.org)



*Stephen G Danser*

Stephen G. Danser, 76, Indianapolis, passed away at 12:05 am on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, at Greenfield Healthcare Center in Greenfield. The family received visitors from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm on Friday, May 22, 2026, at Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral & Cremation Service, Storey Chapel, 400 E. Main St, Gas City, IN. Immediately following the time of visitation, a service was held to celebrate Stephen's life at 1:00 pm with Pastor Mick Simpkins officiating. Burial took place at Riverside Cemetery in Gas City.

*Connie White*

With deep sorrow and love, we announce the passing of Connie S. White, who passed away on May 19, 2026, at the age of 64. Connie's kindness, warmth, and devotion to her family touched many lives. Though she is no longer with us, her love and memory will remain in the hearts of all who knew and loved her. She will be laid to rest at Grant Memorial Park in Marion, Indiana.

*James Michael "Mike" Willis*

James Michael "Mike" Willis, a beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend, passed away peacefully on Friday, March 27, 2026, at the age of 80. Arrangements for Mike have been entrusted to Mississinewa Chapel of Armes-Hunt Life Celebration Funeral Home and Cremation Services, 200 North 7th Street, Gas City, Indiana. A memorial service in honor of Mike will take place on May 29, 2026, at 3:00 PM at the funeral home. Family and friends are invited to gather to reflect on Mike's life, share memories, and celebrate the legacy he leaves behind.

*Erin Peacock*

Erin Peacock, 31, of Nashville, TN passed away peacefully at home on Sunday, April 19, 2026 after 14-month-long battle with neuroendocrine cancer. Celebrations of Erin's Life will be held at 1951 East 900 South, Fairmount, IN (Sunday, May 31st; 2-5 PM EST); Nashville, TN (Sunday, June 14th-Erin's Birthday); and Philadelphia, PA (June 25th). Information for these services will be announced at a later time.

*Michael Richard Kegg Sr.*

Michael Richard Kegg Sr. - April 1, 1943 — May 18, 2026 - Arrangements for Michael have been entrusted to the Fairmount Chapel of Armes-Hunt Life Celebration Funeral Home and Cremation Services, 415 South Main Street, Fairmount, Indiana 46928, where a visitation was held on Tuesday, May 26, 2026, from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m., a funeral service followed at 5:00 p.m.

*Carolyn E Beal*

Carolyn E. Beal, 79, of Marion, IN, passed away unexpectedly on May 17, 2026. Born on July 11, 1946, to the late Charles and Betty Bryant, Carolyn brightened the lives of everyone around her. Arrangements for Carolyn have been entrusted to the College Park Chapel of Armes-Hunt Life Celebration Funeral Home and Cremation Services. A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

*Robert "Bob" A. Kramer*

Robert A. Kramer, 83, passed away on May 20, 2026, in his home. There will be a private funeral mass and burial. Owen-Weilert-Duncan Funeral Home, Marion Chapel, 2722 South Washington Street, Marion, Indiana was entrusted with the arrangements.

*Chelsey R. Goble*

An obituary is not available at this time for Chelsey R. Goble. We welcome you to provide your thoughts and memories on our Tribute Wall. Owen-Weilert-Duncan Funeral Home, Marion Chapel, 2722 South Washington Street, Marion, Indiana was entrusted with the arrangements.

*Lewis F. Davis*

Lewis F. Davis - April 22, 1955 - May 14, 2026 - An obituary is not available at this time for Lewis F. Davis. We welcome you to provide your thoughts and memories on our Tribute Wall. Owen-Weilert-Duncan Funeral Home, Marion Chapel, 2722 South Washington Street, Marion, Indiana was entrusted with the arrangements.

*Our deepest condolences to those who have lost loved ones. Prayers of comfort and peace.*

## Tori Beal earns dean's list honor at Lee University

CLEVELAND, TN — Lee University congratulates Tori Beal of Marion, IN, on earning Dean's List

honors during the Spring 2026 semester. Dean's List recognition is earned by full-time,

undergraduate students with a semester grade point average between 3.7 and 4.00.

Congratulations on earning this academic achievement, Tori!

Lee University is a private, Christ-centered university located in Cleveland, Tennessee, in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains. The university's reputation as a quality institution is seen in the high caliber of faculty, students, and friends who are drawn to campus. Over the past three decades, Lee has experienced remarkable transformations including significant growth in academic programs, athletics, institutional facilities, student enrollment, and faculty expertise and diversity. For more information, visit [www.leeuniversity.edu](http://www.leeuniversity.edu)



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Sunday Morning 10 am
- Back Creek Friends** - 10:30 a.m., Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
- Back Creek Wesleyan** - 10:30 a.m., Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
- Fairmount Baptist Church** - 10:30 a.m., Sunday School - 9:30
- Fairmount Church of God** - 10:30 a.m., Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.  
Fairmount Friends - 10:30 a.m.
- Fairmount Wesleyan** - 9:30 a.m.  
Fairmount United Methodist - 9:30 a.m.
- Fowlerton United Methodist** - 10:45 a.m.  
Grant Church (Global Methodist) 11018 S 300 E Fairmount 9:00 a.m.
- Jones Chapel** - 10:30 a.m., Sunday School - 9 a.m.  
MorningStar Ministries, 11:00 a.m. (Jonesboro)
- Prince of Peace Lutheran Church** - 9 a.m. (Hartford City)
- One of Ten Ministries and Church** - 10:30 a.m.  
Pilgrim Holiness - 6 p.m.
- Real Community Covenant Church** - 10 a.m. - 1240 S. Adams in Marion
- Westview Wesleyan**, 11 a.m. (Jonesboro)  
Women of Hope Bible Study - Tuesday - 10 a.m.  
(Located at One of Ten on SR 26 in Fairmount. Open to all women in Grant County)
- Fairmount UMC** - Monday - 7 p.m. - Campus Life
- Fairmount UMC** - Wednesday - 10 a.m., Men and Women's Bible Study

## My Arts Place call out for performers online submission

We want to hear from YOU! Our Request for Performance Submission Forms are NOW LIVE on our website for the 2027 Eric R. Rogers Performing Arts Series and the 2027 Hudson Family Park Summer Concert Series.

2027 Eric R. Rogers Performing Arts Series  
Venue: Hall-Moser Theatre  
131 E. Walnut St  
Portland, IN 47371  
Link for submission: [www.myartsplace.org](http://www.myartsplace.org)

2027 Hudson Family Park Summer Concert Series  
Venue: Hudson Family Park Amphitheatre  
509 South Wayne St  
Portland, IN 47371  
Link for submission: [www.myartsplace.org](http://www.myartsplace.org)  
Click on "Click Here for More Information" under Hudson Family Park Summer Concert Series  
Submit your suggestions and we'll handle the rest! Our performance committee will review all submissions! We can't wait to see who/what you'll come up with!

For more information or questions on how to be involved, please contact Arts Place by calling 260-726-4809 or emailing [jcc@myartsplace.org](mailto:jcc@myartsplace.org)

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## Caring for Seniors

# How seniors can remain physically and mentally active

Growing older is often equated with slowing down. Aging may be characterized as a period of decline marked by an inability to do the things you once did, but recent data

indicates otherwise. According to a report in the journal *Geriatrics*, a far more optimistic reality awaits seniors. Nearly 45 percent of people age 65 and older

show measurable improvements in brain health, physical function or both over time when they take certain steps to promote physical and mental wellness.

### Physical activity

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends 150 minutes of moderate-intensity aerobic activity per week, supplemented by at least two days of muscle-strengthening exercises. Brisk walking or swimming can improve cardiovascular health and reduce the risk of stroke and hypertension, says the Massachusetts Council on Aging. Incorporating yoga or Tai Chi is vital for fall prevention, as it targets balance and flexibility. The CDC says improving joint mobility and balance can significantly extend the amount of time seniors can live independently. In addition, lifting



light weights or using resistance bands helps combat age-related muscle loss, which is essential for maintaining metabolic health.

### Cognitive advantages

Mental fitness is just as vital to seniors as physical fitness. According to the World Health Organization, routine cognitive stimulation enhances “brain capital,” delaying the onset of dementia and Alzheimer’s. Strategies for effective mental engagement include:

- **Learning:** Lifelong learning techniques include picking up a new language

or learning an instrument. This helps strengthen neural pathways that allows the brain to reorganize itself even in later decades.

- **Play games:** Play isn’t just for kids; games like chess or complex puzzles improve problem-solving and memory retention, according to Nixon Adult Daycare in Houston.
- **Socialize:** Isolation is a leading risk factor for cognitive decline, says the National Institutes of Health. Group activities like book clubs or community volunteering can offer emotional fulfillment and mental stimulation.

### Power of positivity

Findings from a recent Yale University study indicated seniors with a positive outlook on aging were significantly more likely to show physical and mental improvements compared to those with negative perspectives. Psychological resilience is an important tool for seniors to stay healthy.

Movement, social interaction, stimulating activities, and a positive attitude can help seniors maintain overall health.



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### NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS AND ALL OTHER PERSONS AFFECTED OF ADOPTION AND CONTENT OF RESOLUTION OF THE GAS CITY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON SAID RESOLUTION

Taxpayers of the Gas City Redevelopment District, and all other persons affected hereby, are notified that the Gas City Redevelopment Commission (“Commission”) adopted a declaratory resolution on July 24, 1995, as amended and supplemented to date (collectively, “Declaratory Resolution”), as confirmed by a confirmatory resolution adopted on October 30, 1995, as amended and supplemented to date (collectively, “Confirmatory Resolution”), establishing the I-69 Industrial Park Economic Development Area (“Area”), within the corporate boundaries of the City of Gas City, Indiana (“City”). The Declaratory Resolution and the Confirmatory Resolution are collectively referred to as the “Area Resolution.”

On May 5, 2026 the Commission adopted an amending declaratory resolution (“Amending Declaratory Resolution”) to amend the Area Resolution to: (i) expand the Area by adding the parcel identified on Exhibit A attached thereto and incorporated therein (“Parcels”) to the Area as further set forth in the map attached thereto as Exhibit B and designating the Parcels as the Solar Allocation Area (“Solar Allocation Area”); (ii) designate BR Solar Sheriff 2 LLC and BR Solar Sheriff 3 LLC each as “designated taxpayers” for purposes of capturing increases in depreciable personal property assessed value in the Solar Allocation Area; and (iii) add the projects set forth in Exhibit C attached thereto and incorporated therein in, serving or benefiting the Area to the original Economic Development Plan (“2026 Plan”), all as described in the Amending Declaratory Resolution.

The Amending Declaratory Resolution, 2026 Plan and supporting data including a map describing the Area and the Solar Allocation Area have been prepared and can be inspected at the office of the Clerk-Treasurer, City Hall, 211 Main Street, Gas City, Indiana.

Notice is further given that the Commission will hold a public hearing on July 7, 2026 at the hour of 5:30 p.m., local time, in the City Hall, Gas City, Indiana, to receive and hear remonstrances from persons interested in or affected by the proceedings pertaining to the Amending Declaratory Resolution. At the time fixed for hearing or at any time prior thereto, any person interested in the proceedings may file a written remonstrance with the Secretary of the Commission in the office of the Clerk-Treasurer, City Hall, Gas City, Indiana, by 4:00 p.m. on July 7, 2026. At such hearing, which may be adjourned from time to time, the Commission will hear all persons interested in the proceedings and all remonstrances that have been filed. After considering this evidence, the Commission will take final action by either confirming, modifying and confirming, or rescinding the Amending Declaratory Resolutions.

Dated this 25th day of June, 2026.

GAS CITY REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

(6-25-26\_JR\_HSPAXLP)

## 7 benefits of socialization for seniors

One of the primary lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic was how challenging social isolation can be. Social isolation often goes overlooked, but it’s a key contributor to poor mental health.

Experts state that it is increasingly important for adults to maintain an active social life as they age. There are many benefits that come from staying engaged and socializing with others. The following is a look at seven ways socialization benefits seniors.

1. Regular social interactions can help older adults avoid depression, anxiety and feelings of isolation, according to Integrecare, a senior living company.
2. Social engagement can help reduce the risk of cognitive decline and dementia because socializing helps to keep the mind sharp through new experiences.

3. Socialization often revolves around an activity that gets seniors up and moving. While being sedentary is alright on occasion, consistently sitting or laying around can lead to high cholesterol, weight gain and high blood pressure. A 2019 study published in *The Journals of Gerontology, Series B: Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences* determined that older adults who interacted with people beyond their usual social circle of family and close friends were more likely to have higher levels of physical activity, greater positive moods and fewer negative feelings.

4. Regular social interaction may compel seniors to embrace healthier eating habits. Social events expose seniors to different types of food, which can help them get the nutrients they need to live healthy.

5. Regular socialization can help seniors feel they are needed and have a sense of purpose, which can boost self-esteem. Engaging with others often means contributing to a community, and that can be satisfying.

6. Getting out and interacting with others can serve as an informal wellness check, potentially alerting family and friends to issues that may need attention.

7. Getting outside and interacting with others can open seniors up to new hobbies. Whether that is participating in a new sport or joining a club, there are mental and physical advantages to engaging socially.

Socialization is an important factor in seniors’ overall wellness, and one that should be discussed along with diet, exercise and illness management.



## Seconds Save Lives

Calling 911 is critical for lifesaving help. Driving yourself (or someone else) can be dangerous.

- **Immediate medical care on the way**  
Paramedics can provide CPR, oxygen, medications, bleeding control, and defibrillation right at the scene.
- **The hospital is alerted in advance**  
Emergency rooms prepare before you arrive, saving precious time.
- **You stay focused on survival**  
Driving while injured, panicked, or in pain puts everyone at risk.

# Hoosier farmers committed to soil conservation

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana Conservation Partnership (ICP) recently announced the results of the conservation transect survey, which estimated Hoosier farmers planted 1.58 million acres of overwinter living covers.

The conservation transect is a visual survey of cropland in the state. It is conducted between March and May each year by members of the ICP, including the Indiana State Department of Agriculture, USDA Natural Resources

Conservation Service, Indiana's Soil and Water Conservation Districts and Purdue Extension, as well as Earth Team volunteers, to estimate agricultural conservation practices implemented post-harvest by private land owners throughout the state.

Overwinter living covers, such as cover crops and small grains, provide environmental benefits that include increasing organic matter, improving water infiltration, and adding living roots to the soil for more months of the

year. Other covers, like legumes, serve as natural fertilizers.

This year's survey data estimated that 1.79 million tons of sediment was prevented from entering Indiana's waterways, which would fill about 17,000 train freight cars. In addition, the results estimated 70% of row crop acres were not tilled and nearly 16% of row crops had reduced tillage on them over the winter. This early spring survey is not intended to quantify pre-planting tillage.

"Cover cropping and reducing tillage have

become important conservation tools for Hoosier farmers to help keep their soil healthy and thriving in the winter months," said Don Lamb, Indiana State Department of Agriculture director and Boone County farmer. "I applaud our Division of Soil Conservation, along with partners in the Indiana Conservation Partnership, for their commitment to advancing the mission of conservation stewardship, and I encourage fellow farmers to implement these important practices."

The conservation transect does not differentiate between cover crops and small grains. On a typical year, Hoosier farmers plant fewer than 300,000 acres of small grains, which means the majority of the estimated 1.58 million acres is represented by cover crops.

Visit [www.in.gov/isda/divisions/soil-conservation/conservation-transect/](http://www.in.gov/isda/divisions/soil-conservation/conservation-transect/) to view the full report and learn more about the survey.

###

ABOUT ISDA  
The Indiana

State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) reports to Lt. Governor Micah Beckwith, Indiana's Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development. Major responsibilities include advocacy for Indiana agriculture at the local, state and federal level, managing soil conservation programs, promoting economic development and agricultural innovation, serving as a regulatory ombudsman for agricultural businesses, and licensing grain firms throughout the state.

## Applications open for 2027 Veteran Farmer Award for Excellence

The American Farm Bureau Federation, with support from Farm Credit, is seeking applicants for the Veteran Farmer Award of Excellence. The award recognizes U.S. military veterans or service members for excellence in farming or agriculture and positively impacting local communities.

The honoree will receive a \$10,000 cash prize plus reimbursement in travel and other expenses incurred for him/her and one guest to attend the 2027 American Farm Bureau Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina, Jan. 8-12. "We're proud to

shine a spotlight on veterans for their service to our nation and their meaningful contributions to agriculture and their communities," said AFBF President Zippy Duvall. "We sincerely appreciate the sacrifices of veterans and active duty service members who protect our freedoms, and we're pleased to honor their continued service to our country in agriculture."

Retired Army Command Sgt. Maj. Matthew Rutter of South Carolina was the recipient of the Veteran Farmer Award of Excellence last year. Rutter served 22 years in the Army, where



photo credit: AFBF Photo, Mike Tomko

his service included leading intelligence operations across Europe and the Middle East. Rutter co-founded the nonprofit Project

Victory Gardens to help veterans transition to civilian life with renewed purpose and hands-on agricultural skills. He

also developed Farmer Bootcamp, a nationally recognized training program for veterans interested in learning about agriculture.

Veteran Farmer Award of Excellence applications are due by 11:59 p.m. Eastern on Sept. 1. Applicants are not required to be Farm Bureau members. The national award recipient will be recognized by AFBF through various outlets and should be willing to share their story and represent the veteran farmer community. The recipient will be notified in mid-September, with the winner being recognized publicly on Veterans Day – Nov. 11. Learn more and apply at <https://www.fb.org/initiative/afbf-veteran-farmer-award-of-excellence>



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 <p><b>DU6307</b> 2013 Komatsu PC360LC-10 excavator JULY 2</p>	 <p><b>FC2725</b> 2014 Case 580 Super N backhoe JULY 7</p>	 <p><b>FG0415</b> 2015 Caterpillar 930K wheel loader JULY 2</p>	 <p><b>DU6269</b> 1985 Chevrolet K10 pickup truck JULY 1</p>	 <p><b>FG0419</b> 2022 Caterpillar 299D3 tracked skid steer JULY 2</p>

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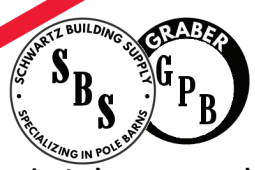
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(two) NEW Sudenga drive over



**BOOM,**  
from page 2

It's one of the most common firework effects.

- **Cake:** Sometimes called a "repeater" or a "multi-shot aerial," a cake is a firework that has a single fuse used to light several tubes in sequence. They fire at a rapid pace and can sometimes feature more than 1,000 shots. Cakes are often used as part of a show's finale.
- **Chrysanthemum:** This is a spherical break of colored stars that leave a visible trail of sparks.

- **Crossette:** A crossette is a shell that contains several large stars that travel a short distance before breaking apart into smaller stars with loud crackling sounds. This creates a criss-crossing effect.
- **Dahlia:** This shell produces a starfish-like shape when it bursts.
- **Firecrackers:** These are more about bang than flash. They lay on the ground, and when the fuse is lit, will go off one after another with a loud bang.
- **Fish:** These produce an aerial

effect that seems like several objects swimming through the air and only lasts a few seconds.

- **Fountains:** These fireworks shoot between four and eight feet into the air and are very colorful. They are sometimes called "driveway items" or "safe and sane" because they don't propel like other fireworks and may be safer for novices.
- **Pistol:** A pistol features a center sphere of stars that burst in a spherical shape. Pistils contain an outer sphere of stars as well.



- **Roman candle:** This firework has a paper tube that shoots flaming balls out of one end of the tube.
- **Strobe:** Similar to other fireworks with a spherical break shape, this has the added effect of blinking components that makes it appear like shimmering water in the sky.
- **UFO:** This firework spins very fast and lifts high into the sky, where it bursts into a special aerial effect. They're sometimes called helicopters, sky flyers or planes.

There are many different types of fireworks that add bang and color to evening celebrations.

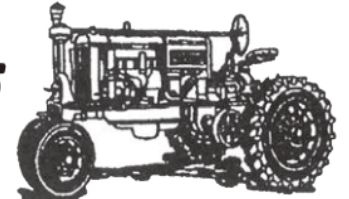
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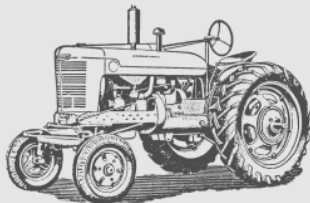
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<b>Membership required for Exhibitors (\$15)</b>	<b>FREE BARREL TRAIN RIDES &amp; BOUNCE HOUSE FOR KIDS</b>	<b>TRADING POST &amp; SWAP MEET</b> Bring Your Unwanted Items We Will Sell Them For You	<b>AUCTION SUNDAY 1:00 PM</b>
		<b>4-H TRACTOR DRIVING CONTEST AT 10 AM SUNDAY THE 28TH</b>	<b>CAMPER SPACE AVAILABLE FOR \$25/night Free Primitive Camping</b>



*In Partnership With*

## MORGAN COUNTY FAIR & MORGAN COUNTY ANTIQUE MACHINERY ASSOCIATION TRACTOR PULLS

**WHEN: JULY 10**  
Starting at 5pm  
Pits Open at 2pm



**WHERE:**  
MORGAN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS  
1749 Hospital Drive, Martinsville, IN

**\$20 HOOK FEE**

**NATPA RULES**

**PAYOUT FOR EACH CLASS**

1st - \$100 2nd - \$50 3rd - \$25

**CONTACT JEFF BUSTER WITH QUESTIONS**  
**(317) 549-5743**

### THE GRANDSTAND GATES

\$10 general admission  
\$20 to enter pits

**Antique Classes**  
3500 lb. 6500 lb.  
4500 lb. 7500 lb.  
5500 lb. 9000 lb.

T/C 4000 5mph  
T/C 4500 5 mph  
T/C 5000 5 mph  
T/C 5500 5 mph

F/C 4750 8 mph  
F/C 5250 8 mph  
F/C 5250 12 mph  
F/C/ 5500 12mph

**Indiana Farm Stock Puller Classes**  
12000 # NA 6mph  
12000 # NA 8mph  
12000 # Turbo 12 mph

**Out of Field Farm Stock**  
10,000#, 12,000 #  
and 14,000 #  
Turbo and NA

**For more information, contact:**  
**Jeremy Bright @**  
**765-346-0490**

## Vintage Car, Truck, Motorcycle & Tractor Parts & Antiques Swap Meet

**Friday, June 26 and Saturday, June 27th**



**Tread Trimmers Coffee & Cruise-In**

Morgan County Fairgrounds  
**Sat., June 27th - 8 am to 2 pm**

### SATURDAY, JULY 18TH

**Tractor Drive Leaving the Morgan County Fairgrounds at 9 AM**

**All are Welcome - Must be able to Run 10MPH**  
**Fish Fry Lunch Included**

**GOOD FOOD AVAILABLE ALL DAY • FREE ADMISSION • FREE ENTERTAINMENT • FREE PARKING**

## SCHEDULE of EVENTS

### THURSDAY, JUNE 25th

7:00 AM Setup Begins

### FRIDAY, JUNE 26th

Food Opens at 8 AM Served All Day

7:00 AM Registration and Set-up Opens  
8:00 AM Vendors Open for Business  
9:00 AM Opening Ceremonies  
10:00 AM Working Exhibit Demonstration  
1:00 PM Tractor Dyno Opens  
2:00 PM Working Exhibit Demonstration  
3:00 PM Tractor Games  
4:00 PM Skillert Toss/Nail Driving Contest  
5:00 PM Working Exhibit Demonstration/Cruise-in Opens  
6:00 PM Tom Fiddlerly at the Gazebo  
9:00 PM Cruise-in Ends

### SATURDAY, JUNE 27th

Food Opens at 8 AM Served All Day

7:00 AM Registration and Set-up Opens  
8:00 AM Vendors Open for Business  
9:00 AM Opening Ceremonies  
10:00 AM Working Exhibit Demonstration / Motorcycle Ride Leaves Fairgrounds / Touch A Truck / Tractor Begins  
11:00 AM Tractor Teeter Totter Competition  
12 NOON Straw Search For Kids  
12:30 PM Kids Pedal Tractor Pull Registration Opens  
1:00 PM Kids Tractor Pedal Pulls/Farmers Market Ends  
2:00 PM Working Exhibit Demonstration / Pet Adoption Ends / Touch A Truck / Tractor Begins  
3:00 PM Pedal Tractor Games & Races  
4:00 PM Adult Pedal Tractor Pulls

5:00 PM Working Exhibit Demonstration  
6:00 PM Tom Fiddlerly at the Gazebo

### SUNDAY, JUNE 30th

Food Opens at 8 AM Served All Day

7:00 AM Breakfast  
8:30 AM Church Service  
10:00 AM Slow Tractor Drive / Working Exhibit Demonstration  
1:00 PM Auction Begins

**We will also be at the Morgan Co. Fair July 10th-18th!**

### CONTACT INFORMATION

JEREMY BRIGHT, Pres/Sponsors	765.346.0490	PHIL RAWLINS, Auction	765.346.3267
GARRETT WILSON, VP	765.516.3368	RONNIE BAUGH, Swap Meet	317.752.8554
BECKI HAMILTON, Treas	317.797.2367	KERRIE OWENS, Craft Show	317.318.0384
SUE BOSWORTH, Sec/Flea Market	317.445.6800	KAREN SCHOOLCRAFT, Food Court/Concessions	317.358.5307
HANK BOSWORTH, Camping	317.538.4151	CARL "FRITZ" VAUGH, Tractor Games	812.720.0952
JOHNNY SCHOOLCRAFT, Auction	765.346.2551		

Free Parking / Free Admission  
Morgan County Antique Machinery Assoc

