



# Huntingburg Press

SERVING DUBOIS COUNTY SINCE 1905 • IN GOD WE TRUST

## Rotary Club of Dubois County Sponsoring Students for RYLA 2025

*Theme: Ignite the Spark of Leadership*

JASPER, IN — The Rotary Club of Dubois County is excited to announce sponsorship opportunities for one high school student from each of Dubois County's high schools (maximum of four students total) to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) program this fall. The 2025 RYLA will be held October 31 – November 2 at Bradford Woods in Martinsville, Indiana. This year's theme, "Ignite the Spark of Leadership," will encourage students to discover their potential, strengthen leadership skills, and build lasting

connections with peers from across the state. RYLA is a nationally recognized program that helps students: Build confidence and communication skills Strengthen teamwork and problem-solving abilities Explore ethical leadership and decision-making Connect with like-minded peers and community leaders "This program challenges students to grow outside of the classroom while equipping them with tools that will serve them throughout their lives," said Austin Welp, the club's Youth Service's Chair. "We



are proud to invest in Dubois County youth and help prepare them for future leadership roles."

Applications are due Monday, October 13, 2025. Interested students should contact their high school guidance counselor for details. Austin Welp is also available for questions at [austin.welp@gmail.com](mailto:austin.welp@gmail.com).

com. Prospective participants can apply online by completing Steps 2 and 3 at [district6580ryla.com/participants-forms](https://district6580ryla.com/participants-forms). (Step 1 will be handled by the Rotary Club of Dubois County.) About the Rotary Club of Dubois County The Rotary Club of Dubois County is part of Rotary International, a

global network of 1.4 million neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who unite to create lasting change in communities around the world. Locally, the Dubois County club is dedicated to service projects, youth development, and initiatives that strengthen the community.



## Dubois County organizations celebrating America 250 to meet

Dubois County's America 250 Committee will meet on AUGUST 28 at 6:00PM at Current Blend in Huntingburg (307 E 4th Street).

The focus of those organizations attending is to coordinate activities to most effectively use resources. The group has already had 2 successful meetings where plans and ideas were shared.

The mission of America 250 is to commemorate the United States of America's 250th Anniversary in 2026 by planning events, projects, and celebrations.

Local organizations possibly benefiting from attendance include veterans' groups, DAR, scouting, 4-H, service clubs, Chamber of Commerce, public libraries, historical groups, local government, and interested local citizens.

The Indiana State Semiquincentennial Commission appointed the Dubois County Historical Society to be the County Connect Leader, assisting with communications between local groups and the State Commission. Local events can be listed on the statewide website, <https://www.in.gov/usa250>

For more information, contact Dubois County Historical Society president Gary Eck at [geck@eck-mundy.com](mailto:geck@eck-mundy.com) or 812-634-8001 (work).



## Memorial Hospital Foundation announces name change to Memorial Medical Center Foundation

The Memorial Hospital Foundation, a trusted pillar of community support and compassionate care, is proud to announce a new name that reflects its continued evolution

and unwavering mission: Memorial Medical Center Foundation.

This name change aligns with the hospital's updated name, Deaconess Memorial Medical Center. The Foundation's new identity includes a refreshed logo, symbolizing both this alignment and the enduring legacy of the Sisters of the Little Company of Mary, whose spirit of service and compassion remains central to the Foundation's

work. "While our name is changing, our mission remains exactly the same," said Deidra Church, Memorial Medical Center Foundation Director. "Our focus continues to be serving the health and well-being of our local community with integrity, heart, and dedication—just as we have for decades."

Importantly, the Foundation emphasizes that philanthropic gifts continue to stay entirely local, supporting patients, families, and health care programs across the eight-county

region it serves. Despite transitions in hospital ownership, the Foundation's operations remain unchanged.

Supporters who have included the Foundation or hospital in their estate plans are kindly asked to update their documents to reflect the new name: Memorial Medical Center Foundation. Donors are also encouraged to clearly specify how they wish their gift to be used, ensuring their intentions are honored well into the future.

Moving forward,

philanthropic gifts made by checks should be made payable to Memorial Medical Center Foundation. Donors can designate gifts to specific programs such as the Lange-Fuhs Cancer Center, Heart Services, The Women's Center, or one of the Foundation's 100+ restricted funds by noting their preference in the memo line. This ensures contributions are used as intended and acknowledged appropriately for tax purposes.

"We're deeply grateful for the continued trust

and generosity of our donors," said Michael Kern, Memorial Medical Center Foundation's Board of Directors Chairperson. "You make it possible for us to carry forward a legacy of compassionate care and invest in a healthier future for our community."

For more information about giving opportunities, estate planning, or the Foundation's ongoing work, visit [www.deaconessmemorial.com/giving](http://www.deaconessmemorial.com/giving) or contact the Foundation team at 812-996-8426.

VICTORIOUS

Living...in a troubled world

# One of God’s greatest gifts is rest

By Teresa LeNeave  
leneave2@comcast.net

“Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might; for there is no work or device or knowledge or wisdom in the grave where you are going” (Eccl 9:10).

We all want rest. We need rest. I find it really hard to not stay busy. Our parents (who were both great parents), did seem to have a bit of the same problem. They worked, and worked hard. But, when they played, they played hard. We didn’t sit around and watch TV at night and God knows we couldn’t watch it during the day! We went to church four times a week, every week. Unless, of course, if there was a revival then it was every night. We were busy.

In the summers, we

spent our days helping out with the “farm”, or playing in the creeks, in the pond or even climbing trees. We read books. Especially, the Bible. Every night our parents read the Bible, out loud, to the entire family.

In the winter, we went to school and did our chores, but nights were for relaxing with family, books, and Bible reading. Unless, of course, we were in church, which in those days could last well into the night. We were taught, whatever your hand finds to do, do it, with all your might. We didn’t always do that and certainly was not always obedient, but still it was a good life.

Another verse I remember well was: The soul of the sluggard desires, and hath



nothing but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat” (Prov. 13:4). We stayed busy because our parents stayed busy, and I guess I’ve carried that with me throughout my life. Not always

productive, but busy. Although, I think that’s been a greater benefit than detriment, I’ve learned that both physical and spiritual work can be difficult. Sometimes the busyness

of life can be demanding, but even then, I’ve found it hard to “do nothing”.

My grandmother used to say, “Idle hands are the devils workshop.” Growing up, I don’t think I ever knew what boredom was, so when my grandchildren say they are bored my first response is, “If you’re bored, I have a job we’ll do together.” It works every time. (As you know, even secular psychology teaches when we do something for someone else, it dissipates boredom and loneliness).

When we’re too busy; or too lonely; or too tired; or too bored; there is always something we can find to do. As I’ve gotten older, I’m learning to not let busyness consume my life.

Psalms 34:3 says, “O

magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name altogether”.

Magnify. The word means to make great or powerful. It’s about making God the most important thing in our lives. Sometimes we make busyness the most important thing in our lives.

So, the message for today is, relax. Accept the Sunday’s God gives us to relax. God knew we could be workaholics so he said, “On the 7th day, rest”. Don’t take your time off, lightly. It’s one of his greatest gifts to you, and to your family. Everybody needs a breather and God so graciously, gave us one: “The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath” (Mark 2:27). Whatever day your Sabbath is, take advantage of it and rest.

# The divine drawbridge

By Brandon Bramlett

The man was sickly, impoverished, and defenseless. The apothecary gave him a cordial, but it was watered-down liquor. A landowner lent him coins, but they slipped through the holes in his satchel. When wolves encircled his home, he drove them away with sticks and stones, only to suffer greater wounds each night. But his dwindling hope revived with a promising thought: “Perhaps the king shall take pity upon me.”

Legends of the king’s wisdom in medicine, abundance of wealth, and vast armory spread among the villages. The king was also known to be generous. In desperation, the man boldly sought the king’s help—something peons would never entertain. And after journeying three days, he beheld the king’s towering castle with relief, only to find the drawbridge raised. With no way inside, the man began hiking home—until he heard a horse galloping behind him.

Its rider drew close

and asked, “Friend, I saw you at the entrance of the king’s castle, appearing vexed. What burdens you?” The man initially hesitated, but finally confessed: “I am dying, famished, and plagued by wolves each night. I believed the king could help, but I dared not force my way in.” The rider nodded and said, “I shall see what may be done.” The man’s eyes glimmered with hope, and he asked: “Truly? And may I ask—who are you?” The rider smiled and answered, “I am the king’s son. Return

tomorrow.” And the horse-mounted prince rode off into the dusk.

At daylight, he returned—and there stood the king’s son beside the drawbridge. He commanded the drawbridge to lower, and sat the man on his own horse and proceeded inside. When they reached the throne room, he began to petition the king: “My lord and king, I,” but the king’s son raised his hand to silence him. “Father, this man is poor,” said the prince, “He is sick and beset by foes. And he has come

seeking your mercy.” Immediately, the king answered, “Let it be done. Fill his pockets with my own gold. Give him the healing cordial I have prepared. And arm him plentifully, that he may ward off the wolves.”

The Bible speaks of another needy man, another King, another Son, and another drawbridge. As sinners, we are impoverished beggars—sick because of sin, spiritually bankrupt, and defenseless against the wolf, Satan. But God can heal our souls,

enrich us with His grace, and equip us with weapons to withstand the devil. And we can enter the throne room of the King to receive what we need, so long as we believe that Jesus, the Prince of Peace, can bring us into God’s presence (John 14:6). God lowers the drawbridge of prayer to those accompanied by His Son. That is why the Scripture says, “Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need” (Heb. 4:16).

# Do we really want spiritual maturity?

By Dr. Billy Holland

As a messenger who presents the word of God, it’s an honor to serve. My goal in communicating is to ask the Lord what He wants me to say and to use me to do His will. For those of you who are dedicated Christians that love Jesus and

follow Him, I’m sure you also pray for this every day. I believe that we should be a lighthouse filled with God’s love and all the fruits of His Spirit, however, this does not mean we should be afraid or intimidated to speak the truth no matter how uncomfortable or unpopular. We all enjoy

inspiring stories and encouraging messages, but there is more to spiritual maturity than just selecting content that makes us feels good. There needs to be an understanding that seeking God’s truth includes a balance of faith to accept all of His commands simply because we love Him.

In the realm of Biblical instruction, we have the charismatic fiery style that boldly addresses the consequences of disobeying God, while the more modern methods calmly teach Bible stories that reflect situations within our everyday lives. With listening to all types of expository, textual, and topical preaching through the years, I believe we need all of it. To me, what’s being said is more valuable than how it is delivered. I will agree that a gifted orator is much more interesting to listen to, however it’s what we can glean from the message and apply to our lives that is most important.

A true messenger of God can serve chocolate cake if that is what God has placed on their heart, but they should also not avoid serving broccoli because they fear rejection from those who might be offended. It’s necessary for the follower of Christ to remember that we have a responsibility to relay the message as we have heard it the same as the writers of the Bible recorded what they heard the Holy Spirit speak. If we make known our own thoughts, it will not have the anointing to convict the minds and souls of the listener, but if we are determined to obey God’s voice, His life-changing words will not return void as His

perfect intentions will be accomplished. We are reminded that His words are just sounds and scribbles unless we allow them to transform us into His image. William Law is quoted, “Read whatever chapter of scripture you will, and be ever so delighted with it, yet it will leave you as poor, as empty and unchanged as it found you unless it has turned you wholly and solely to the Spirit of God, and brought you into full union with and dependence upon him.”

I’ve noticed over the years that if an individual is not a serious truth seeker, they are not as enthusiastic about learning and generally do not really care about reading or even listening. For example, if a Christian goes to church without a notebook and pen, they are not desperately concerned about remembering what they are about to hear. Since it’s been proven the average person maybe retains maybe five percent of a speech, obviously they are alright with this. When college students attend lectures by their professors, do you think they record and take as many notes as possible? Of course. A major reason we attend church is to learn and develop our spiritual understanding as this is how knowledge

and wisdom not only increases our intelligence, but also gives us the maturity and ability to teach others. Second Timothy 2:15 is not an option, “Study to present thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”

I conclude that a lack of interest in Biblical instruction reveals a lukewarm attitude toward God and our accountability to know and obey Him. We have no problem staying busy with things we want to do, but could these be intentional distractions in order to live in denial of what we need to be doing? Have we not learned that our flesh avoids the thought of self-examination and repentance, and would much rather live in deception than submit to His conviction? Satan does not care what we do, as long as we continue to live in a self-induced comfortable coma of spiritual slumber. In this late hour, the sobering truth is there is only one objective for the believer, and that is to lay down our agenda and do everything exactly as He says.

Dr. Holland is an ordained minister, chaplain, and author. Read more about the Christian life at billyhollandministries.com

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# Be the Superhero Your Child Needs: The Power of Presence, Love, and Example

By Nolan Miller, MSW, LCSW, Youth First, Inc.

We often think of superheroes as those who wear capes, possess powers, and save the world with flashy rescues. But in reality, some of the most important superheroes don't fly; they stand beside a child, quietly shaping their future through love, support, and example.

Every child faces challenges. Whether it's school struggles, peer pressure, big emotions, or feeling misunderstood, the world can be overwhelming. But when a child knows there's someone who sees them, believes in them, and stays by their side, they begin to build the strength to rise above life's storms. That "someone" can be you.

*The Everyday Hero Work*

You don't need a mask or magic. You just need to show up. Listening without judgment, offering a hug when words fall short, and making time for even the smallest moments—those are your superpowers. The bedtime stories, the

car rides, the walks around the block, the simple "I'm proud of you," they all add up to something much bigger than we realize.

Children may not always remember exactly what we say, but they'll never forget how we made them feel. Your presence tells them they matter. Your encouragement tells them they can try again. Your boundaries teach them safety. And your love, especially your unconditional love, teaches them how to value themselves.

*The Struggles Are Real—and So Is Your Impact*

When kids struggle, they need a safe harbor. Life comes at them fast—friendship drama, academic pressure, big questions about identity, anxiety about the future. And while we can't shield them from every storm, we can anchor them. Your steady voice and open arms remind them that they're never alone.

Being their superhero doesn't mean fixing everything; it means walking beside them through it. Sometimes, just sitting in silence,

holding their hand, or saying, "I don't have all the answers, but I'm here," is enough to help them breathe again.

*The Legacy You're Building*

What you do today matters far more than you know. By showing compassion, staying consistent, and being honest about your struggles and growth, you model what resilience looks like. You show your child how to get back up. You teach them empathy, courage, and character.

And one day, when they're older and faced with a world full of decisions and distractions, they'll remember the strength you gave them. They'll stand taller, walk kinder, and love stronger, because a real-life superhero raised them.

Final Word: The Hero They'll Always Remember

In the end, it's not about perfection. It's about showing up again and again, even when you're tired, even when you're unsure, even when you feel like you're not enough.

Because to your

child, you are. You always have been, and you always will be. So keep going. Keep loving. Keep being the difference.

The world may never see your cape, but your child will never forget your impact.

Nolan Miller, MSW, LCSW, is a Youth First Mental Health Professional at Tekoppel Elementary School in Vanderburgh County. Youth First, Inc., is a nonprofit dedicated to strengthening youth and families. Youth First provides over 100 highly trained mental health professionals (primarily master's level social workers), prevention programs, parent engagement coordinators, and bilingual support personnel to 130 schools across 14 Indiana counties. Over 54,000 youth and families each year are served by Youth First's school-based social work and community programs that promote mental health, prevent substance misuse, and maximize student success. To learn more about Youth First, visit [youthfirstinc.org](http://youthfirstinc.org) or call 812-421-8336.



John H. Stoll

VINCENNES — John H. Stoll, age 76, of Vincennes, formerly of Gentryville, passed away on August 12, 2025, at Ascension St. Vincent Hospital in Evansville. Funeral services were held on Saturday, August 16, 2025, at Rainey Funeral Home in Dale. Burial at the Dale Cemetery. Condolences may be shared online at: [www.raineyfuneralhome.com](http://www.raineyfuneralhome.com)

Phyllis Kay Bender

ST. MEINRAD — Phyllis Kay Bender, 78, of St. Meinrad, went to be with her heavenly father on August 12, 2025, surrounded by her loving family, at Heart-to-Heart Hospice House in Evansville, Indiana. A funeral mass was held on Tuesday, August 19, 2025, at St. Meinrad Catholic Church. Burial at St. Meinrad Cemetery. Rainey Funeral Home in Dale has been entrusted with handling the arrangements. Condolences may be shared online at: [www.raineyfuneralhome.com](http://www.raineyfuneralhome.com)

Donald Rath

Donald Rath, 93, passed away at home on August 14, 2025. Funeral services for Donald Rath will be held at 1:00 p.m., C.D.T., Wednesday, August 20, 2025, at Barn Fork Church, 2411 Barren Fork Road, Tennyson, Indiana, 47637. Burial will follow at Garrison Chapel Cemetery. Rainey Funeral Home in Dale has been entrusted with handling the arrangements. Condolences may be shared online at: [www.raineyfuneralhome.com](http://www.raineyfuneralhome.com)

Diana J. Byrne

JASPER — Diana J. Byrne, age 90, of Jasper, passed away at 7:45 p.m., on Saturday, August 16, 2025, at Legacy Living in Jasper. Funeral services for Diana J. Byrne will be held at a later date. Rainey Funeral Home in Dale has been entrusted with handling the arrangements. Condolences may be shared online at: [www.raineyfuneralhome.com](http://www.raineyfuneralhome.com)

Doris J. Schroering

JASPER — Doris J. Schroering, age 81, of Jasper, Indiana, passed away at 7:35 p.m. on Wednesday, August 13, 2025, at Serenity Springs Senior Living at Northwood in Jasper, Indiana. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Monday, August 18, 2025, in St. Joseph Catholic Church in Jasper. Burial in Fairview Cemetery in Jasper. Online condolences may be made at [www.becherkluesner.com](http://www.becherkluesner.com)

Helen M. Keusch

Helen M. Keusch, Jasper IN, age 82, died on Aug 16th at Brookside Village. Friends may call from 12:00PM until 4:00PM on Friday, August 22, 2025, at the Becher-Kluesner Downtown Chapel in Jasper, Indiana. Services will take place at 4:00PM at the funeral home following visitation. Graveside services will take place at a later date. Online condolences may be made at [www.becherkluesner.com](http://www.becherkluesner.com)

Virginia V. Kapp

JASPER — Virginia V. Kapp, age 88, of Jasper, Indiana, passed away at 4:19 a.m. on Saturday, August 9, 2025, at Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center in Jasper, Indiana. A Mass of Christian Burial for Virginia V. Kapp will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, August 22, 2025, at St. Celestine Catholic Church in Celestine, Indiana, with burial to follow in the church cemetery. A visitation will be held from 9:00 a.m. until the 11:00 a.m. Mass time at the church on Friday, August 22, 2025. Condolences may be made at [www.becherkluesner.com](http://www.becherkluesner.com)

Gerald "Jerry" W. Batch

BIRDSEYE — Gerald "Jerry" W. Batch, age 81, of Birdseye, passed away on Tuesday, August 12, 2025 at The Waters of Huntingburg. There will be no public services.

Charles Edward Guillaume

LEOPOLD — Charles Edward Guillaume, 77, of Leopold, Indiana, passed away peacefully, surrounded by loved ones, on August 15, 2025, at his home. Ed was a United States Army veteran. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Monday, August 18, 2025, at St. Augustine Catholic Church with Luke Waugh officiating. Burial in the church cemetery.

Ronald L. Pannett

Ronald L. Pannett, 72, passed away on August 11, 2025, surrounded by his family. Ronnie requested that there be no funeral services. Huber Funeral Home is assisting his children with his wishes. Condolences may be left at [www.huberfuneralhome.net](http://www.huberfuneralhome.net)

# Museum hosts Archaeology Day September 13, 2025

The Dubois County Museum located at 2704 N. Newton Street (US 231) in Jasper welcomes Professor Michael Strezewski, a professor of Anthropology at the University of Southern Indiana, to speak on Archaeology Day on September 13, 2025, beginning at 10:30. Professor Strezewski will share his knowledge of "The Dry Goods Store: A Bit of Civilization on Indiana's Frontier"

After his presentation local collector Derrick Haas will be on hand till noon to share his knowledge of arrowheads, spear points and tools with the audience. Haas will help you identify any of your new finds.

September is Indiana Archaeology Month. The Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology (DHPA) coordinates the events to encourage learning about Indiana archaeology, universities, museums, organizations



and individuals throughout the state host a variety of programs. These can include archaeological laboratory open houses, artifact identifications, archaeological excavations, lectures on archaeological topics, and more.

About the museum

The museum is open Tuesday through Friday from 10:00

a.m.-2:00pm, Saturday from 10:00 a.m.-4:00pm and Sunday 1:00-4:00pm. Closed on Monday.

Admission of \$5 per adult, \$3 for high school students, and \$2 for middle and elementary students is charged. Visitors four and under are free. Those holding a current Dubois County Museum Membership

are granted free admission.

The Dubois County Museum is a local nonprofit organization committed to the collection, preservation and interpretation of historical artifacts and information important to the citizens of the county. Museum operations are funded by annual memberships, admissions, donations and gifts from visitors, area residents and businesses. It is operated entirely by volunteers. It is located in Jasper at 2704 N. Newton Street (US231). Call (812) 634-7733. Please allow two hours to view exhibits.

Visit the museum web site at [www.duboiscountymuseum.org](http://www.duboiscountymuseum.org). Follow on Facebook and Twitter.

Funded in part by the Dubois County Visitors Center-[www.visitduboiscountymuseum.org](http://www.visitduboiscountymuseum.org). 800968-4578.

Come see, discover, and celebrate our Heritage at the Dubois County Museum.

**INDIANA**  
Newspaper  
Group

**Huntingburg Press  
Jasper News Journal**  
ingnewspapers@gmail.com  
**812.827.2232**  
The Huntingburg Press  
Publication # 020-051  
PO Box 144 Huntingburg  
(Dubois County) IN 47542

**Huntingburg Press • Jasper News Journal**  
[www.ky-news.com](http://www.ky-news.com) • 812.827.2232  
Published weekly by: Indiana Newspaper Group, 1540 McCracken Blvd., Paducah, KY 42001.  
**Mailing Address:** 1540 McCracken Blvd., Paducah, KY 42001.

**Subscription rates** are \$51.00 County (420 zip code); \$81.00 out of county and state; 10% discount senior citizen; \$39.99 on line (subscribe on-line at [www.ky-news.com](http://www.ky-news.com)). Mail subscriptions to: Kentucky Publishing, Inc. Attn: Indiana Newspaper Group, 1540 McCracken Blvd., Paducah, KY 42001. Visa, MasterCard and Discover are accepted. Mail subscriptions are payable in advance. Late payments are retroactive to due date.

Publisher: Greg LeNeave  
Sales: Greg LeNeave, Larrah Workman  
Editor/Production: Larrah Workman  
Bookkeeping: Teresa LeNeave

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**Postmaster:** Send address changes to Indiana Newspaper Group, 1540 McCracken Blvd., Paducah, KY 42001. The Huntingburg Press (ISSN 10413421-USPS #0030002). Periodical Class Postage Paid at The Huntingburg Post Office, Huntingburg, IN 47542.



AD Corner

Q & A with



Scott Buening

Southridge Athletic Director

Q. What are your expectations or goals for the fall sports teams this upcoming season both on and off the field?

A. Each year we hope to provide our athletes and programs with the best opportunity to maximize their potential as both individuals and

as a team. I think that is the most important goal we can have as an athletic department in growing our young people as future leaders within our community/society and to give ourselves the opportunity to have success in our athletic environments as well.

Q. Were there any standout achievements, awards, or recognitions last year that you're especially proud of?

A. I think the individual/competitive achievements that stick out most from last year were Maddie Graber, Kori Hunefeld and Angelica Sierra all qualifying for last year's State Finals in their specific sports. Kori is the first female to qualify for the first even IHSAA Girls Wrestling State Finals while Maddie Graber qualified in both Cross Country and Track and Angelica Sierra in Track as well. Overall, we had many great accomplishments last year as an athletic department and looking forward to the opportunity to enjoy many more this year.

Q. Have there been any major changes or

improvements made to the athletic programs or facilities over the summer in preparation for the fall season?

A. The school corporation continues to update, enovate and improve our already tremendous athletic facilities each year. After 15'ish years, the corporation replaced the turf on Raider Field...15 years is an incredible lifespan for a turf field, so we were fortunate on that end to get that kind of longevity out of it, but it was time for it to be replaced. The track was completely milled down to its core and repaved and resurfaced/painted and was the start/finish lines were also flipped, so that they would be on the same side as the home bleachers since that was flipped a few years ago. The soccer field received dugouts for both home and visiting

teams along with concrete at it's two entrances along with a sidewalk now running to the bleachers as well. Finally, our High School Gym received a much needed face lift with new HVAC, floor, painted bleachers, sound/PA system and new scorer's table which we hope to have delivered soon. Each year our corporation continues to improve/upgrade/renovate both our academic and athletic facilities, and we are very fortunate to have a school and community that support both our joint academic and athletic ventures.

Q. "In your view, what makes participation in sports such a valuable experience for students of all ages?"

A. I could write an entire book on this question because there are that many reasons that make

the athletic experience so incredibly valuable. I think the most important aspects are the experiences that you have on bus rides, lockerroom time and just through all the time teams spend together which I think is where so many friendships grow and memories are made. The challenges that a well run athletic program provides is incredibly valuable as well. Understanding that sometimes we need to do hard things and learning that failure is an incredibly valuable tool for us to grow as both human beings and athletes are both mimicked so well in the athletic environment. Our ability to overcome the adversities in life is a skill that, in order to be successful in athletics, one must learn to navigate and work through and there is no better place to experience this through athletics.

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SOCCER RECAP

JH VARSITY BOYS FALL TO HERITAGE HILLS. On Friday, August 8th, the Junior High Boys Soccer V team fell to Heritage Hills 2-0. Heritage Hills scored off of a corner kick in the final minute of the first half. They doubled their lead in the second half when their striker got behind the Ranger defense for a goal. The Rangers fought hard against a strong Heritage Hills team but could not find a goal.

LADY RANGERS SECURE FIRST VICTORY OF 2025 CAMPAIGN. The Forest Park Lady Rangers got their first win of the 2025 campaign on Saturday August 16th when they traveled to Evansville to face PAC Opponent Mt. Vernon. Av-

ari Boeglin bagged her first goal of the season and the contest after a corner kick. Jaida Verkamp added another after a subsequent corner. Riley Hinson found the back of the net in 32' minute and Paige Memmer netted another just minutes later. The Lady Rangers went into the break with 4 goals to the good. After some second half adjustments, the Lady Rangers were able to secure their 5th goal when Paige Memmer slotted it for Anna Muller to finish. The Lady Rangers did not concede and wrapped up their first match with a solid win.

Lady Raiders Soccer : August 16th against Vincennes Rivet. Vincennes Rivet came out hard and fast to score 3 quick goals. Our ladies made adjustments and held them scoreless

VOLLEYBALL RECAP

FOREST PARK VARSITY VOLLEYBALL WINS SEASON OPENER IN 3 On Saturday, the Lady Ranger Volleyball team played their season opener against Crawford County. The Varsity came out on top in 3 sets. Set 1: 25-12, Set 2: 25-17, Set 3: 25-6. Senior Madeline Tuggle led the Rangers with 12 digs and

14 kills. Junior Avery Hill contributed 8 kills, 3 aces, and 2 blocks. Junior Natalie Thompson racked up 34 assists, 5 digs, and 1 block. Senior Mya Wehr picked up 10 digs and 2 aces. Junior Claire Warren put down 8 kills and sophomore Bailey Begle had 6 kills and a block. Senior Carli Hagedorn and Junior Felecia Eckert each contributed 6 digs with Eckert adding in an ace.

Forest Park JV dropped their first match to PAC

for the last part of the half. At halftime they learned what they needed to do and closed down Rivet's scoring opportunities and used that to move the ball up to score 2 of their own. Sophia DeKemper scored the first goal and Blondine Welp's goal followed. Unfortunately, we ran out of time and lost with the final score being 2-3. Our Raiders never gave up and that is going to make them a threat for every team we face.

Lady Raider Varsity Soccer August 18th at Corydon Central. Southridge 5 // Corydon Central 2 Great game for the Lady Raiders. The Raiders held a high intensity throughout the entire match, ensuring their win. In the first half, Blondine Welp scored a goal with an assist from Beyonce Miranda. Shortly after a PK

was called and Ellie Abaca was able to sink it to the back of the net. Following these two goals, Corydon Central was able to slip one ending the second half. Fueled by strong teamwork and momentum, the Raiders controlled the second half. Blondine Welp, Sophia DeKemper, and Beyonce Miranda each found the back of the net, sealing the victory.

Raider varsity soccer. August 18th at EVSC Southridge 3 Evansville central 5. Intense game by both teams. Southridge boys came out and started well. They held the lead at 2 to 1 going into the second half. A couple of injuries caused the momentum to shift. The Southridge boys continued to play and scored another goal making it 5 to 3 in the end. A great game all around.

rival Tecumseh, 17-25, 18-25. Stats are listed below. Kills: Lexi Berg 4, Lea Persohn 2, Anelle Warren 2 Digs: Warren 7, Persohn 5, Berg 4, Madelyn Ferguson 3 Assists: Myah Jamniczky 7, Brylee Longabaugh 5 Aces: Longabaugh 2.

Forest Park Varsity Volleyball Falls to Tecumseh 3-1. The Lady Ranger faced PAC rival Tecumseh. Unfortunately, the Lady Rangers fell 3-1. Set 1: 15-25, Set 2: 18-25, Set 3: 25-21, Set 4: 11-

21. The Lady Rangers were led by Madeline Tuggle with 12 kills, 8 digs, and 3 blocks. Junior Claire Warren contributed 9 kills and a block. Junior Natalie Thompson racked up 28 assists and two blocks. Junior Avery Hill had 6 kills, 4 blocks, and 2 aces, and Senior Mya Wehr threw in 8 digs and 2 aces. While the Lady Rangers fell short, they showed a tremendous amount of grit and growth and battled hard until the finish.



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# RANGERS START SEASON WITH A WIN



The Forest Park Lady Rangers got their first win of the 2025 campaign on Saturday August 16th when they traveled to Evansville to face PAC Opponent Mt. Vernon. Avari Boeglin

bagged her first goal of the season and the contest after a corner kick. Jaida Verkamp added another after a subsequent corner. Riley Hinson found the back of the net in 32' minute

and and Paige Memmer netted another just minutes later. The Lady Rangers went into the break with 4 goals to the good. After some second half adjustments, the Lady Rangers were able to secure their 5th goal when Paige Memmer slotted it for Anna Muller to finish. The Lady Rangers did not concede and wrapped up their first match with a solid win. The Rangers kicked off their 2025 soccer season in impressive fashion, defeating the Mount Vernon Wildcats 6-2 to move to 1-0 overall and 1-0 in PAC play. The tone was set early, as it took less than a minute for the Rangers to find the back of the net. Geo Zelaya delivered a precise pass to Hunter Osborne, who wasted no time opening the scoring and putting the Rangers up 1-0. Just nine minutes later, Parker Wolf doubled the lead with a goal in the 10th minute, capping off a dominant start. Mount Vernon responded quickly, scoring in the 11th minute to cut the lead to 2-1. However, the Rangers answered right back. In the 13th minute, Parker Wolf turned

provider, setting up Osborne for his second goal of the game to push the lead to 3-1. The first-half fireworks continued in the 18th minute, when Gabe Schemenauer added another goal off an assist from Luke Meunier, giving the Rangers a 4-1 lead. Goalkeeper Dexter Meyer recorded one save before the break to help maintain the cushion. The Wildcats came out aggressive in the second half, scoring just two minutes in to bring the score to 4-2. But again, the Rangers had a quick answer. Lucas Dooley found the back of the net in the 44th minute to make it 5-2 and restore the three-goal advantage. Hunter Osborne put the game out of reach with his third goal of the match, completing his hat trick with 20 minutes remaining. With the victory, the Rangers move to 1-0 on the season and in PAC conference play. They return to action on Saturday, August 23rd, when they travel to face Tell City at 10 a.m. ET.

## Rangers Cross Country traveled to Borden for season opener

The Forest Park Ranger Cross Country team opened their season today at the Warpath Cross Country Invite in Borden, Indiana. The boys' race kicked off the event with 67 runners toeing the starting line. Senior Owen Troesch led the Rangers with a strong performance, finishing 15th overall with a time of 18:33—a 17-second improvement on his personal record. Freshman Xavier Berg impressed in his high school debut, finishing 24th with a time of 19:21. Sophomore Marcus Berg also ran well, finishing 37th in 21:06, just 19 seconds off his personal best. Senior Camden Cole showed significant improvement from last year's race at Borden, running nearly a minute faster to place 42nd with a time of 22:06. On the girls' side, the

Rangers were without last year's Warpath Invite individual champion, Riley Hinson, who traveled with the soccer team to a match in Evansville. Despite the nearly 100-degree heat index, the girls competing today put forth a strong effort. Sophomore Kendal Gehlhausen led the way, finishing 17th with a time of 23:21. Close behind was freshman Addi Evitts, placing 25th in 24:10. Sophomore Delainey Auffart was the third Ranger to cross the finish line, placing 34th in 26:33. Sophomore Kendall Fischer battled the heat and finished 53rd with a time of 31:11. The Rangers will return to action this Thursday at their home invite. The boys' race will start at 6:00 PM, followed by the girls' race at 6:30 PM.



### TENNIS RECAP

**Southridge Varsity Boys tennis wins their season opener** and PAC match against Boonville 3-2 on Aug 18th. Broghan Fuhs Aidan Wibbeler, Heith Steckler and Jackson

Buse led the wins and the two losses went into tiebreakers #1 singles: Broghan Fuhs (S) vs Brannon Hancock (B) 6-2,6-1 #2 singles: Aidan Wibbeler (S) vs Markston King (B) 6-0,6-0 #3 singles: Brayden Wilz (S) vs Gavin Vollman (B) 3-6, 6-2,6-

10 super tiebreaker #1 doubles: Heith Steckler/ Jackson Buse (S) vs Mason Wall / Braydon Young (B) 6-0,6-0 #2 doubles : Clay Sickbert/Jack Keusch (S) vs Dylan Dick/Dillon

Nickens (B) 4-6,6-7(3-7) tiebreaker JV 1-0 1 singles : Riley Kaeck (S) 8-0 winner 1doubles: Riley Kaeck / Ryley Messmer(S) 8-2 winners



Outside hitter Brooklyn Vanderheide delivered seven kills for Southridge during a junior varsity high school volleyball match versus Mount Vernon on Saturday, Aug. 16. photo courtesy of Southridge High School Volleyball

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## Coaches Corner

### Q & A with



Forest Park boys Tennis Coach

**Q. What are your expectations or goals for the fall sports teams this upcoming season both on and off the court?**  
A. My expectations and goals for this tennis season are to compete with everyone, win the matches we are supposed to, get better each and every day, and have fun while doing it. After an amazing season last Fall with four seniors graduating, we have a young group of guys that are eager to get on the courts and play. We've never had any problems off the courts, and I look to keep that going with all of these student-athletes.

**Q. Were there any standout achievements, awards, or recognitions last year that you're especially proud of?**  
A. Our Fall 2025 season was filled with team and individual achievements. All four of our seniors (EJ Brosmer, Brock Schuler, Korbyn Persohn, & Christian Oldham) had winning records to lead the team to a 15-3 season. The team was able to win 15 straight matches after their first two matches of the season. We beat multiple teams that we lost to the year prior. We also won the North Harrison Tournament for the second year in a row. One of our biggest team

accomplishments was winning a share of the Pocket Athletic Conference for the first time since 2016. We also had our 1 Singles player, EJ Brosmer, win individual Sectionals and make it to the championship round of the Regionals. EJ also was named an IN Allstar for Tennis. We had three boys get All-District honors and one with All-PAC honorable mention honors. Overall, a very successful season.

**Q. Have there been any major changes or improvements made to the athletic programs or facilities over the summer in preparation for the fall season?**  
A. We were able to build a new tennis building in the Winter/Spring of 2025, which has helped us stay more organized. It has given us a lot more space to store our equipment.  
**Q. "In your view, what makes participation in sports such a valuable experience for students of all ages?"**  
A. As a graduate of Forest Park and now a coach at FP sports have been a very valuable experience that I will never forget. Being a member of the Tennis and Basketball teams in high school gave me so many memories and life lessons that have always stuck with me. Kids in High School and Junior High School need to get out and participate in as many sports as they can. With Forest Park being a small 2A school, having multiple-sport athletes is very important for school and player success. It's not just about playing the sports, but also the team aspect of becoming better with working with groups, learning to communicate, and learning to adapt to tough situations on and off the courts. I will always advocate for students of all ages to get involved in sports and find which ones best fit each player.

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HOOSIER HIGHLIGHTS



Coaches Corner  
Q & A with  
*Maggie Kilian*  
Heritage Hills Cross County Coach

**Q. What are your expectations or goals for the fall sports teams this upcoming season both on and off the field?**

A. Expectations for each team this year is to improve from our finishes at conference from last year. The boys team were third place and the girls team was sixth. Our boys team has a chance this year to better that place and compete for the championship. The girls have gained some more runners after losing quite a few seniors last year, so they are working towards improving their place. For goals, our boys team

is going to be working towards making it to regionals as a team this year. Last year, Gunner Lubbehusen and Gavin Shields were our individual qualifiers for the boys. The girls team has a goal of qualifying more individual runners to regionals. We are excited to get the season started and see our success.

**Q. Were there any standout achievements, awards, or recognitions last year that you're especially proud of?**

A. Some standout performances that I was proud of from last year

were Gavin Shields placing 14th at conference and being all conference along with also qualifying for regionals as an individual. Gunner Lubbehusen qualified for regionals as an individual, which was a great achievement and performance for him. On the girls side, Hayley Arnold was an individual regional qualifier and she worked very hard to get there. A few of our seniors also had standout achievements and they were Aiden Mattingly who was the individual conference champion, Molly Meyer was all conference and an individual regional qualifier, and Anna Deorto was an individual regional qualifier.

**Q. Have there been any major changes or improvements made to the athletic programs or facilities over the summer in preparation for the fall season?**

A. Over the summer, our athletic programs have been continuing to do what we do best. We have been putting in the work, and getting prepared for the upcoming fall season. It will be an exciting year for all patriot teams.

**Q. "In your view, what makes participation in sports such a valuable experience for students of all ages?"**

A. I think participation in sports is so valuable for students of all ages because it teaches them so many life lessons that they would not learn without their sport. They learn time management, how to be a good teammate, how to be a good leader, working hard, and they are able to learn what they are successful at which helps build confidence. Starting students in sports at a young age is so beneficial because they are able to figure out which sport they really enjoy and want to get better at.



The Jasper Lady Cats golf team captured 2nd place at the Christmas Lake Golf Course tournament. Their dedication and hard work paid off with a strong team finish.




Jasper Wildcats looked strong in the scrimmage at Washington • In the Varsity 50 minute session, we lead 2-1. • In the JV's 30 minute session we lead 4-0. • Washington won the PK shootout 4-3.

photo by Alicia Mehringer



The Southridge High School volleyball team attended camp at the University of Louisville in July.  
photo courtesy of Southridge High School Volleyball



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Southridge High School Football			
Date	Opponent	Time	H/A
8/22	at North Posey	7:30	A
8/29	at Washington	7 PM	A
9/5	Boonville	8:30	H
9/12	at Heritage Hills	7:30	A
9/19	Gibson Southern	7:30	H
9/26	at Mt. Vernon	7:30	A
10/3	Tell City	7:30	H
10/10	Princeton	6:30	H
10/17	at Forest Park	7:30	A

Jasper High School Football			
Date	Opponent	Time	H/A
8/22	at Evansville Mem.	6:30	A
8/29	at Evansville Harrison	7:30	A
9/5	Evansville Reitz	6:30	H
9/12	Evansville Bosse	7:30	H
9/19	at Evansville Mater D	7:30	A
9/26	Evansville Central	7:30	H
10/3	Castle	6:30	H
10/10	Evansville North	7:30	H
10/17	at Vincennes Lincoln	7:30	A

Forest Park High School Football			
Date	Opponent	Time	H/A
8/22	at Mt. Vernon	7:30	A
8/29	Perry Central	7:30	H
9/5	Washington	7 PM	H
9/12	Tecumseh	7:30	H
9/19	at South Spencer	6:30	A
9/26	at Pike Central	7 PM	A
10/3	North Posey	7:30	H
10/10	at Tell City	7:30	A
10/17	Southridge	7:30	A

Southridge High School Volleyball			
Date	Opponent	Time	H/A
8/21	Tell City	6:30	H
8/25	at Pike Central	7:15	A
8/28	Boonville	6:45	H
9/2	at Gibson Southern	6:30	A
9/4	at Springs Valley	6 PM	A
9/11	Evansville Christian	6 PM	H
9/11	Evansville Mater D	7 PM	A
9/18	Forest Park	5:30	H
9/22	at Loogootee	6:30	A
9/23	at North Posey	6:30	A
9/25	Jasper	6 PM	H
9/29	at Tecumseh	6:30	A
9/30	Evansville Central	7 PM	H
10/2	South Spencer	6 PM	H
10/7	at Heritage Hills	6 PM	A
10/9	Northeast Dubois	6 PM	H

Southridge High School Boys Cross Country			
Date	Opponent	Time	H/A
8/26	Raider Invitational	6 PM	H
8/30	Dennis Bays War. Inv.	8 AM	A
9/4	Alan Hopewell Inv.	7 PM	A
9/9	Tri County Inv.	6 PM	H
9/13	Eagle Classic	8:30A	A
9/27	Nike Twilight Inv	10 AM	A
10/4	PAC XC Champ.	7 PM	A
10/11	IHSAA Sectional	10 AM	A
10/18	State Tournament (R)	TBD	A
10/25	State Tournament (St)	TBD	A

Jasper High School Girls Cross Country			
Date	Opponent	Time	H/A
8/26	Raider Invite	6 PM	A
9/6	Columbus North Inv	10 AM	A
9/9	Tri County Inv	6 PM	H
9/13	Eagle Classic	8:30A	A
9/27	Jasper Inv	10 AM	A
10/4	Nike Valley Twilight	6 PM	A
10/11	SIAC Conference	10:30	A
10/18	IHSAA Sectional	10:30	A
10/25	IHSAA Regional	11 AM	A

Forest Park High School Coed Cross Country			
Date	Opponent	Time	H/A
8/23	Harrison Inv	6 PM	H
8/30	Columbia N Classic	10 AM	A
9/6	NE Dubois Quad	9:30A	A
9/16	Trinity Tourn	6 PM	A
9/20	Jasper Inv	7:30A	A
9/27	PAC Tournament	10 AM	A
10/11	State Tourn. Sect	9:30A	A
10/18	State Tourn. Reg.	10:30A	A
10/25	State Tourn.	TBD	A

Jasper High School Volleyball			
Date	Opponent	Time	H/A
8/21	at Evansville Central	7 PM	A
8/26	Heritage Hills	6 PM	H
8/28	Evansville Bosse	6 PM	H
8/30	Bloomington Tourn.	TBA	A
9/2	at Castle	6 PM	A
9/4	at Evansville North	6 PM	A
9/6	Providence Inv	9 AM	A
9/9	Vincennes Lincoln	6 PM	H
9/16	Barr-Reeve	6 PM	H
9/18	at Northeast Dubois	6 PM	A
9/22	at Floyd Central	6:30	A
9/23	at Evansville Mater D	6 PM	A
9/25	at Southridge	6 PM	A
9/27	Martinsville Artesian	9 AM	A
9/30	at Evansville Harrison	6 PM	A
10/2	Evansville Memorial	6 PM	H
10/6	at Forest Park	6 PM	A
10/11	Wildcat Inv TBA	9 AM	A

### HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER

## Heritage Hills rolls past Princeton 9-1

#### Staff Report

LINCOLN CITY — Heritage Hills rolled past Princeton 9-1 in a girls’ high school soccer season opener on Saturday, Aug. 16.

The Lady Patriots excelled throughout the girls’ high school soccer match.

Heritage Hills controlled each half, gradually pulling away to win convincingly. The Lady Patriots led 4-0 at halftime.

Finishing strong, Heritage Hills outscored Princeton 5-1 in the second half.

The Lady

Patriots benefitted from a balanced offensive attack. Addie Asbury (two goals, one assist), Lexi Perez (two goals), Cora Lasher (two goals), Elsa Gelarden (two goals), Adi Canen (one goal, one assist), Sylvia Windell (two assists), Iyla Kress (one assist) and Kate Hinshaw (one assist) each contributed offensively for Heritage Hills in its convincing victory.

Defensively for Heritage Hills, goalkeeper Olivia Cook recorded one save while limiting Princeton to one goal.

Northeast Dubois-Jeeps Coed Cross Country			
Date	Opponent	Time	H/A
8/21	Forest Park Inv	6 PM	A
8/23	Corydon Cent. Inv	8:30 A	A
8/26	Southridge Inv	6 PM	A
9/4	N Harrison Iv	6 PM	A
9/9	Tri County Iv	6 PM	A
9/13	Evansville Mater D	10:30A	A
9/16	NE Dubois	6 PM	H
9/20	Crawford Co	10 AM	A
9/27	Jasper Inv	10 AM	A
10/4	Barr-Reeve Inv	10 AM	A
10/11	Blue Chip Conf.	10 AM	A
10/18	IHSAA Sectional	TBD	



### HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL

## Forest Park defeats Crawford County in freshman match

#### Staff Report

FERDINAND — Forest Park defeated Crawford County in a high school volleyball freshman match on Saturday, Aug. 16.

It was a season opener for the Lady Rangers.

Finishing strong, Forest Park pulled away to defeat Crawford County 25-7 in the final set.

Forest

Park excelled throughout the match. Multiple players produced for the Lady Rangers.

Adrian Reckelhoff (two aces, three kills), Adalee Hopf (one ace, one dig, six assists, one kill), Tenley Blessinger (one ace), Kynlee Schuetter (one ace, one kill), Brooklyn Fleig (two aces, one dig), Madelyn Ferguson (one dig) and Jessa

Berg (one kill) each made an impact for Forest Park in its win.

Forest Park is scheduled to visit Boonville for its next match on Saturday, Aug. 23. The start time for the Forest Park-Boonville match is 11 a.m.



Forest Park High School Volleyball			
Date	Opponent	Time	H/A
8/23	at Boonville	11:30	A
8/25	at South Spencer	6 PM	A
8/26	Evansville Mater D	7 PM	H
9/2	Pike Central	6 PM	H
9/4	at Paoli	6 PM	A
9/9	at Northeast Dubois	6 PM	A
9/11	Loogootee	6 PM	H
9/15	Princeton	6:30	H
9/16	Tell City	6 PM	H
9/18	at Southridge	5:30	A
9/23	at Perry Central	6:30	A
9/25	at Washington	7 PM	A
9/29	Heritage Hills	6 PM	H
10/2	North Posey	6:30	H
10/6	Jasper	6 PM	H
10/9	at Gibson Southern	6:30	A

Northeast Dubois High School Volleyball			
Date	Opponent	Time	H/A
8/21	at Loogootee	6 PM	A
8/23	at Eastern Greene	9 AM	A
8/23	at Sullivan	11:30	A
8/25	Tecumseh	6:30	H
8/26	at Evansville Christian	6:30	A
8/28	North Knox	6 PM	H
9/2	at Perry Central	6:30	A
9/4	North Daviess	6 PM	H
9/9	Forest Park	6 PM	H
9/11	Vincennes Rivet	6 PM	H
9/13	TBA		
9/16	at Springs Valley	6 PM	A
9/18	Jasper	6 PM	H
9/22	Bloomfield	6 PM	H
9/23	at South Knox	6 PM	A
9/25	Shoals	6 PM	H
9/29	at Paoli	6 PM	A
9/30	South Spencer	6:30	H
10/2	Orleans	6 PM	H
10/6	at Pike Central	6 PM	A
10/7	Barr-Reeve	6 PM	H
10/9	at Southridge	6 PM	A

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### HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL

## Jasper defeats Loogootee

The Lady Wildcats opened the season with a win over Loogootee at home! The varsity team won 25-12, 25-14, 24-26, 25-13. Kate Eckerle led the charge with 15 kills, and Kendall Corbin added 13 kills while hitting a career high 0.579. Halle Recker paced the Cats with 37 assists, and Nora Breitwieser led the defense with 14 digs. Haley Atkins served up 4 aces in the win.

The JV team won 25-17, 25-12. Katelyn Young led the team with 7 kills and Finley Cook added 5 kills in the win. Lilly Bajorek led the team with 14 assists, and Stella Knies led the defense with 7 digs and 6 aces.

See more fall sports  
schedules next week!

# Museum hosts storytime on September 13th

Submitted by  
**Kathy Bachman**  
Museum Publicity  
Volunteer

The Dubois County Museum will host Storytime for our young visitors on Saturday, September 13, 2025, beginning at 10:30 a.m. The Theme is in conjunction with Archaeology Day being held at the museum this same morning. Young visitors will hear Ms. Carrie Holdsworth read stories about Archaeology, finding things, create theme related crafts and participate in a special archaeology dig. Storytime will be held in the Little Pioneers Area at the museum.

About the museum  
The museum is open Tuesday through Friday from 10:00 a.m.-2:00pm, Saturday from 10:00 a.m.-4:00pm and Sunday 1:00-4:00pm. Closed on Monday.



Carrie Holdsworth leading storytime

Admission of \$5 per adult, \$3 for high school students, and \$2 for middle and elementary students is charged. Visitors four and under are free. Those holding a current Dubois County Museum Membership are granted free admission.

The Dubois County Museum is a local nonprofit organization

committed to the collection, preservation and interpretation of historical artifacts and information important to the citizens of the county. Museum operations are funded by annual memberships, admissions, donations and gifts from visitors, area residents and businesses. It is operated entirely by volunteers. It is located in Jasper at 2704 N. Newton Street (US231). Call (812) 634-7733. Please allow two hours to view exhibits. Visit the museum web site at [www.duboiscountymuseum.org](http://www.duboiscountymuseum.org). Follow on Facebook and Twitter. Funded in part by the Dubois County Visitors Center-[www.visitduboiscounty.com](http://www.visitduboiscounty.com)-800968-4578. Come see, discover, and celebrate our Heritage at the Dubois County Museum.

## Evans Elementary launches nation’s first Promise Neighborhood ChangeLab in partnership with UE

EVANSVILLE, IND. — Evans Elementary began the new school year by making history in the EVSC (Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation). In the first week of classes, the school launched the nation’s first-ever K-12 ChangeLab program, empowering every student, not just those who already see themselves as leaders, to share ideas for meaningful change in their school and community. ChangeLab, an award-winning initiative from the University of Evansville (UE), is known for connecting university students with real-world community projects. The Evansville Promise Neighborhood (EPN) initiative allows UE and the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation (EVSC) to give ChangeLab to K-12 students for the first time. From July 20-21, representatives from all six EPN schools collaborated with UE’s Center for Innovation & Change (CIC) to design their first projects. The

mission was simple yet powerful: ask every student what they would improve in their school or neighborhood, and then design a plan that will help them bring those ideas to life. During the training, Evans Elementary’s leadership team created the first-ever Changemaker Journal: a hands-on tool printed and provided to every student to document their actions and progress throughout the year. Each class selected one idea to pitch to the entire school. After a week-long design process, students proudly presented their proposals on Friday, August 8 at an all-school assembly. These ideas showcased creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration, with suggestions ranging from sensory rooms to swimming pools, movie theaters to stuffed animal reward programs. Following the presentations, students voted on which project to pursue. On Monday, August 11, Evans announced the winning

idea: a Playground Revamp designed to make the space more accessible, inclusive, and enjoyable for everyone. The student-led plan includes a soccer field, track, baseball diamond, and additional practice areas for school and community sports teams. This vision aims to foster a lifelong love of sports, encourage healthy lifestyles, and create a welcoming hub for the community after school hours. Each EPN school receives \$5,000 to fund their project, and the students will learn project management skills in the process. While the playground revamp will require additional funding, CIC will guide students in developing the most achievable version of their plan-just as they do with college-level ChangeLab students. “Our students proved this week that they’re not just dreamers - they’re problem-solvers and leaders,” said Lauren Hartmayer, Assistant Principal and ChangeLab Coordinator for Evans. “This project

isn’t just about new equipment; it’s about building a space that will unite our school and community for years to come, and showing students the real impact they can have.” ChangeLabs are UE’s direct programming for EPN students, families, and residents-a powerful step toward engaging young people as leaders of community transformation. “There’s nothing more exciting than helping teachers unlock the changemaking potential of their students,” said Erin Lewis, Executive Director of the Center for Innovation & Change. “Seeing kindergarteners find their voice and get excited about making change is incredible. The ripple effects of this work will last for generations.” Other EPN school projects are still in development, and the community is invited to help bring these ideas to life. To get involved or offer support, please contact: Will McDonner, EPN ChangeLab Coordinator at [WM99@evansville.edu](mailto:WM99@evansville.edu).

The University of Evansville is a private, comprehensive university with a solid foundation in the arts and sciences and professional schools in business, engineering, education, and health sciences. Established in 1854, UE is recognized across the globe for its rich tradition of innovative, academic excellence and dynamic campus community of #Changemakers. Home of the Purple Aces, UE is located in the southwestern region of Indiana and offers over 75 majors, 17 Division I sports, and a unique study abroad experience at Harlaxton, the University’s very own Victorian manor located in the countryside of England. For more information, please visit [evansville.edu](http://evansville.edu).

## Emanuel Lutheran Church to hold annual homecoming September 21

Emanuel Lutheran Hill Church of rural Dubois, Indiana, will hold the annual homecoming on Sunday, September 21st at 2:30 p.m. Rev. Tim Kraemer of Christ Lutheran will conduct the service. Holy Communion will be celebrated during the service. After the service, there will be a carry-in meal in the old schoolhouse. The public is invited to come and join the activities at the old Hill Church. The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, October 5th at 1:30 p.m. at the church.

## Ron Mack oil painting workshop

Submitted by  
**LaVonne Tisdal**  
President DCAG


Come join the fun! Create a work of art. The Dubois County Art Guild’s goal in 2025 is to address loneliness and isolation among older residents in Dubois County. The Guild would like to encourage people to get up, get out and get active through the joys of creating art. According to AARP, a 2023 advisory report by the U.S. Surgeon General, Vivek Marthy, revealed research shows one in two adults in America experience loneliness. Feelings of loneliness and isolation can become a health risk associated with 29 percent increased risk of heart disease, 32 percent increased risk of stroke and a 50% increased risk of dementia for older adults.

With help from the Community Impact Fund and Jasper Arts, the Dubois County Art Guild will host a FREE oil painting workshop at the Thyen/Clark Cultural Center in Jasper. This event will be Saturday, September 13th from 9 am – 2 pm. Participants should park in the east parking lot and enter at the loading dock door. Professional artist

Ron Mack will be the instructor. Ron is known for his detailed still life paintings and nostalgic landscapes. He is represented in many private and corporate collections. His art work has been exhibited in several galleries including: Brown County Art Guild, Nashville; Masterpiece Gallery, Indianapolis; Hoosier Art Salon Gallery,

Broad Ripple; Off Broadway Gallery, Greenwood; and a one man show at the Thyen/Clark Cultural Center in Jasper. This talented artist has been awarded many distinctions but feels his greatest accomplishments were being a part of the “Painting Indiana” book project in which he has 19 landscapes. He also has paintings in another book “Painting Indiana, The Changing Face of Agriculture.” Ron conducts workshops and has taught classes at the Southside Art League in Greenwood. All supplies will be provided for a step-by-step landscape painting. Participants are to bring a sack lunch. Please reserve your spot by emailing the Guild at [DuboisCountyArtGuild@gmail.com](mailto:DuboisCountyArtGuild@gmail.com)





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6	9	8	2	7	7	9	8	1
7	9	7	8	1	9	6	2	8
8	8	9	6	7	7	9	1	2
2	7	6	1	9	8	8	7	9
9	7	1	8	9	2	8	6	7

Word Search Answers

S	W	O	C	H	N	N	D	J	S	R	B	T	D	A	C	S	X	S	R	
L	3	W	H	R	9	V	O	H	C	N	3	V	N	S	3	X	O	D	X	
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V	W	N	D	A	H	N	3	C	H	N	C	3	J	O	S	C				



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# ISDA and Red Gold announce 2025 Stewardship Award winners

INDIANAPOLIS — The Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) and Red Gold recently announced the winners of the 2025 Red Gold Stewardship Award. Wittmer Farms of Valparaiso was selected as the first-place winner, and Wischmeyer Farms of Ottawa, Ohio received second place.

This presentation, now in its 17th year, is a partnership between Red Gold and the Indiana State Department of Agriculture. The



Pictured above is the second place winners, Tom and Brian Wischmeyer.

award is presented to Red Gold growers who value improving soil health and water quality on their operations. Red Gold appreciates partnering with ISDA to formally recognize growers' continuous good efforts with soil and water conservation practices.

"We have had 100% participation in this program for several years," said Curt Utterback, Director of Agriculture at Red Gold. "Many of the growers are

multi-generational operations and taking care of the land is a top priority for them. They want to ensure that there will be future opportunities for themselves and others. Our growers have a tremendous amount of effort and pride into raising healthy, nutritious food for an ever-growing population, while never losing sight of the land's needs as well. It is an honor to formally recognize this year's winners: Wittmer Farms of Valparaiso, Indiana, secured first place and Wischmeyer Farms of Ottawa, Ohio, secured second place."

Located in northwest Indiana, Jon Wittmer of Wittmer Farms has put a strong emphasis on not only growing excellent crops, but also on the conservation of the land they farm. On their family farm, they grow corn, seed corn, and seed beans, as well as pumpkins and tomatoes. The Wittmer's have implemented a multitude of conservation practices to promote soil health and water quality on their farm, such as grass filter strips, grassed waterways, cover crops, reduced tillage, blind inlets, drainage water management structures, small grains, and grade stabilization structures.

"It's an honor to be selected for the Red Gold Conservation and Stewardship award this year. Being a part of this creates modest competition between some of the best farmers in the Midwest! I am grateful Red Gold partners with the Indiana Department



Pictured above is first place winner, Wittmer Farms (Jon Wittmer) with ISDA's Northeast Region Resource Specialist, Lindsey Bluhm.

of Agriculture on this," said Jon Wittmer.

Second place winner, Wischmeyer Farms, is located in northwest Ohio. They grow corn, soybeans, wheat, and tomatoes. On their farm, they have implemented a variety of stewardship and conservation practices, such as small grains, cover crops, grass filter strips, grassed waterways, grass travel lanes for harvest, grade stabilization structures, drainage water management, and blind inlets.

"In participating in the Red Gold Stewardship Program, we have been made more aware of the different conservation programs available, as well as been more innovative to build soil health for future generations," said Tom Wischmeyer.

The Midwest is leading the pack in

soil conservation efforts. Specifically in the Hoosier state, farmers utilize a variety of soil conservation practices and planted more than 1.6 million acres of cover crops in 2025.

"ISDA is proud to partner with Red Gold Tomatoes on the Red Gold Stewardship Award, which honors tomato growers who demonstrate a strong commitment to soil conservation," said Don Lamb, director of the Indiana State Department of Agriculture.

"Protecting soil health and improving water quality remain top priorities for producers across Indiana and the Midwest. It's a privilege to recognize Wittmer Farms and Wischmeyer Farms for their leadership and dedication to environmental stewardship."

As the top winner, Wittmer Farms received a \$1500

scholarship, as well as one extra load delivery of tomatoes per day. Wischmeyer Farms was awarded a \$750 scholarship and an extra ½ load delivery of tomatoes per day.

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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.

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LOCATION: DAS will be having an Online auction for the Estate of Richard Schwenck located at 10643 E.State Road 56, Otwell Indiana.

To view and bid go to [dasonlineauctions.hibid.com](http://dasonlineauctions.hibid.com)

PREVIEW: You can preview items on Sunday September 7th from 1-3 PM (EDT)

AUCTION NOTE & TERMS: Items should be picked up Tuesday September 9th from 10AM to 5PM EDT at 10643 East SR-56 Otwell, Indiana. A receipt will be emailed to you after the auction. You can pay with cash, check, or credit card (3% charge) when you pick up your items. Shipping is available for the toys and collectibles only. There is a 10% buyers premium. Any announcements made day of auction shall take precedence over any verbal or printed material.

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