



Marisa Thacker

Area students earn National Merit recognition. Southridge High School senior Marisa Thacker has been named a Commended Student in the 2027 National Merit Scholarship Program. She is among approximately 34,000 students nationwide to receive the recognition after taking the 2025 PSAT/NMSQT.



Holden

Jasper High School student Holden has been named a National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist. The two students earned recognition at different levels of the national academic competition.

Ferdinand mural to be unveiled during Walktoberfest

By Laurna Pruett
ING Writer

A new community mural filled with details from Ferdinand’s history will be unveiled Saturday, Oct. 10, during Walktoberfest. The mural dedication and ribbon cutting

will begin at 10 a.m. at Fleig’s Cafe. Created by artist Adam Long, the mural will feature more than 20 hidden items representing the stories and history of Ferdinand. A map and key will accompany the finished artwork, helping visitors find

each item and learn what it means to the community. After the dedication, the celebration will continue at Traditional Arts Today. Visitors can try the mural Seek & Find for a chance to win prizes. Long will give an artist talk

and demonstration from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Other activities include a fall yarn craft for children, Scarecrow Contest voting and hot cocoa, coffee and tea samples. Walktoberfest will also bring live music, a vendor market, family activities,

food, beverages and merchant specials throughout Ferdinand. The mural celebration offers visitors a chance to enjoy the festival while discovering the stories woven into the town’s newest landmark.

Rotary Club of Dubois County awards \$2,000 to Crisis Connection

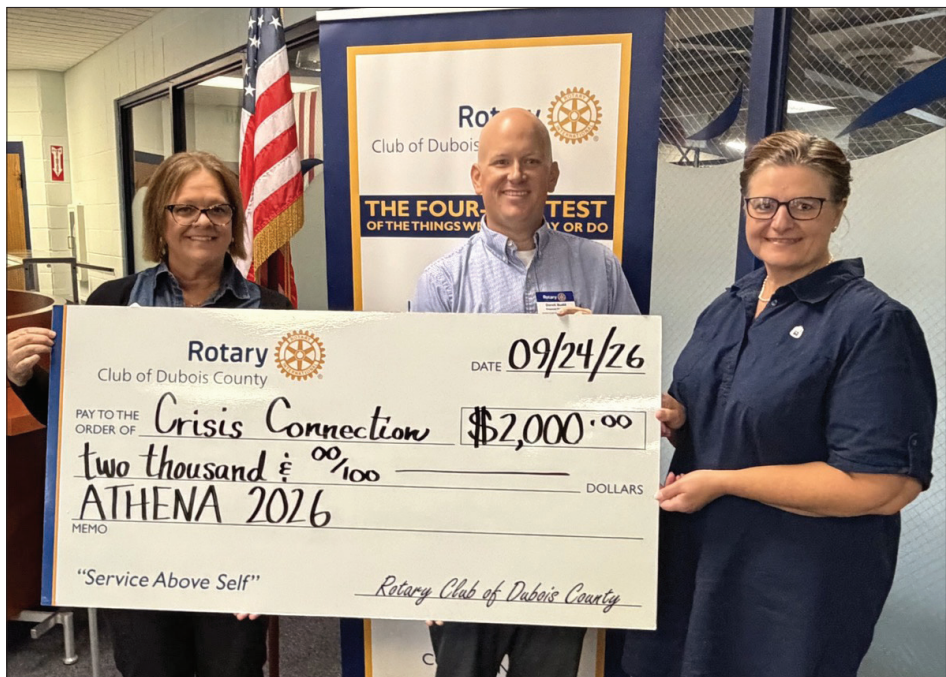
The Rotary Club of Dubois County has awarded a \$2,000 grant to Crisis Connection in support of its Set for Success program.

Set for Success helps survivors of domestic and sexual violence take meaningful steps toward safety, stability, and independence. Through flexible, individualized assistance, the program helps remove barriers that can make starting over difficult - from car repairs and transportation expenses to groceries, basic necessities, and securing a safe place to live.

Each year, the Rotary Club of Dubois County’s ATHENA Award recipient selects a local nonprofit organization or fund to receive a \$2,000 contribution from proceeds of the annual ATHENA Leadership

Awards Banquet. 2026 ATHENA Award recipient Somula “Sam” Schwoeppe selected Crisis Connection in recognition of the organization’s important work supporting survivors and helping individuals and families move forward with greater safety, stability, and hope.

About Sam Schwoeppe
Somula “Sam” Schwoeppe is an agricultural leader, advocate, and mentor whose career has been dedicated to strengthening communities by connecting people, agriculture, and purpose. As Director of Industry Partnerships for Fresh Connect Central, the social enterprise of Gleaners Food Bank of Indiana, she builds partnerships



among farmers, food processors, nonprofits, and food banks to increase access to nutritious food for families experiencing food insecurity. Previously, while leading agricultural engagement for Feeding

America, Schwoeppe helped expand dairy access by more than one billion pounds through strategic partnerships across the nation’s food system. A sixth-generation farmer, Schwoeppe has also become a nationally

recognized champion for agriculture and women in leadership. She has served as President of Annie’s Project, represented the United States in PepsiCo’s global Closing the Crop Gap initiative, and became

the first woman elected to an executive officer position in Prairie Farms Dairy’s more than 85-year history. Beyond her professional accomplishments, Schwoeppe has dedicated decades to mentoring youth, supporting 4-H, strengthening local schools, and advancing food security initiatives. Colleagues describe her as someone who sees potential in others before they see it in themselves. Through her servant leadership, unwavering integrity, and commitment to developing future leaders, Schwoeppe continues to create opportunities that strengthen agriculture, empower women, and improve communities locally and around the world.

Huntingburg asks residents to help shape park plan

By Laurna Pruett
ING Writer

HUNTINGBURG — The City of Huntingburg is developing a new Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan and wants to hear from residents

about what they need from local parks, programs, trails and public spaces. A community survey asks what people enjoy about recreational activities, what prevents them from participating and

how often they use outdoor spaces. It also asks for their views on City Park and how they travel to parks and trails. Residents who seldom use the parks are encouraged to respond, too. Their feedback can help the

city understand what would make those spaces more useful. The survey takes about 10 minutes and is open to adults 18 and older. Responses are anonymous and will be used only for parks and recreation planning. Purdue

University Extension is administering the survey and analyzing the results. Residents can reach out to the city for a survey form. Printed copies can be picked up and returned at Huntingburg City Hall, 508 E. Fourth St.

The Huntingburg Parks & Recreation Plan Facebook page is another place to follow the planning process and share ideas and feedback. For questions, contact Kenlee Steffe at ksteffe@huntingburg-in.gov.

Southridge Marching Raiders earn honors, launch fundraiser

By Laurna Pruett
ING Writer

The Southridge Marching Raiders are off to a strong start, earning honors at two competitions and marching in the Herbstfest Parade. The band placed second in its class at Evansville Central with its show, “Seeking

Hyde.” More recently, the Marching Raiders placed third at the F.J. Reitz Drill on the Hill Invitational and received the Best Drum Major award. They also marched in the Herbstfest Parade. Noah Meece is the director of Southridge Raider Bands. The band is now selling trash bags for \$15

per roll as a fundraiser. Orders and payment are due Oct. 2. Cash or checks made payable to SHS Band are accepted. Anyone interested can place an order with a band member. The Marching Raiders have already given the community plenty to cheer about, with more of their season still ahead.



Area Deaths

Southern and East Central Indiana

Jeanette M. Meyer

Jeanette M. Meyer, age 81, of Jasper, Indiana, lost her battle with cancer on September 27, 2026, at home surrounded by her loved ones. A gravesite service at Hills Church Cemetery in Dubois, Indiana, and a celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Tony R. Smock

Tony R. Smock, age 59, of Dubois, Indiana, passed away peacefully surrounded by family at 12:40 a.m. on Wednesday, September 23, 2026, at Deaconess Memorial Hospital in Jasper, Indiana, from an unexpected brain aneurysm. A funeral service for Tony R. Smock was held at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, September 28, 2026, at Redemption Christian Church in Jasper, Indiana, with burial to follow in Cuzco Cemetery in Cuzco, Indiana.

April Best

April N. Best age 45, of Huntingburg, passed away on Sunday, September 20, 2026 at her home. A memorial service will take place at a later date. Condolences may be shared online at: www.nas-sandson.com.

Randall R. Langebrake

Randall Ray Langebrake, age 65, of Holland, passed away on Thursday, September 24, 2026, on his farm. Funeral services for Randy Langebrake were held at 10:00 a.m., E.D.T., Tuesday, September 29, 2026, at Redemption Christian Church in Jasper. Burial followed at Zoar Cemetery. Pastor Darrel Land will officiate the service.

Marjorie Huff-Baughn

Marjorie Huff-Baughn, age 90, of Dale, passed away at 1:10 a.m., Sunday, September 20, 2026, at Oakwood Health Campus in Tell City. A memorial service for Marjorie Huff-Baughn was held at 1:00 p.m., C.D.T., on Friday, September 25, 2026, at Rainey Funeral Home in Dale. Burial followed at Midway Cemetery.

Deborah Kay “Debbie” Bowman

Deborah Kay “Debbie” Bowman, 65, Gas City, passed away in her home at 4:50 am on Monday, September 21, 2026, in Gas City. The family will receive visitors from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm on Thursday, September 24, 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 to celebrate Debbie’s life will begin at 7:00 pm with Pastor Noah Farmer officiating. Burial will take place at a later time at Riverside Cemetery.

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

Roger R. Reece

Roger R. Reece, 86, Upland, passed away in his home at 2:45 pm on Sunday, September 27, 2026. The family will receive visitors from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm on Tuesday, October 6, 2026, at Center Chapel Church, 8743 E. 200 S., Marion, IN. Immediately following the time of visitation, a service to celebrate Roger’s life will begin at 1:00 pm with Pastor Mark Sanders officiating. Burial will take place at Jefferson Cemetery in Upland.

Layla Nicole Adaway

Layla Adaway, 14, Jonesboro, passed away at 3:54am on Saturday, September 19, 2026, at the Gas City Park in Gas City. Funeral Service to honor Layla’s life was held on Monday, September 28, 2026 at 4:00 pm at Exit Church, 1015 E. Main St., Gas City, Indiana 46933.

William R. Bruton

William “Billy” Ray Bruton, age 68, of Marion, Indiana, passed away peacefully on September 19, 2026, surrounded by his loved ones. The family received visitors from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 26, 2026, at Greater Second Baptist Church, 705 W. 26th St., Marion, IN. Immediately following the time of visitation, a service to celebrate William’s life was held at 1:00 p.m. with Elder Damion Jackson officiating. Burial took place at Grant Memorial Park.

Janis E Rennaker

Janis E Rennaker, 79, of Marion, passed away at 12:50 a.m. on Monday, September 21, 2026, at Lutheran Hospital of Indiana in Fort Wayne. The family received visitors from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on Friday, September 25, 2026, at Needham-Storey-Wampner Funeral & Cremation Service, North Chapel, 1341 N. Baldwin Ave., Marion, IN. Immediately following the time of visitation, a service to celebrate Janis’ life was held at 12:00 noon with Pastor Dan Van Cise officiating. Burial took place at Gardens of Memory - Marion.

Promise Mae Riddle

Promise Mae Riddle was born on September 24, 2026, and passed away the same day. Though her time here was brief, she was deeply loved from the very beginning and will forever remain in the hearts of those who awaited her and cherished her. Heaven gained an angel in Promise, and her memory will be held close with tenderness and love. Raven Choate Robinson Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Dorothy J. Lynch Schwingle

We are saddened to announce the passing of Dorothy J. Lynch Schwingle, a spirited woman who left us peacefully on Wednesday, September 3, 2026, in Gas City, IN. A public graveside service to honor Dorothy’s vibrant life was held on Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at 11:00 AM at Jefferson Cemetery, with Mick Simpkins officiating.

Dianne C Harwood

Dianne C. Harwood, age 66, of Marion, Indiana, passed away peacefully at her home on Friday, September 25, 2026. Visitation was held on Wednesday, September 30, 2026, from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM at the College Park Chapel. Funeral Service followed at 4:00 PM at the College Park Chapel. Cremation followed the services.

Rosemary Louise Petersen

Rosemary Louise Shull-Woodcock-Pine-Petersen 85 of Frankton, IN a beloved mother, sister, and friend, passed away peacefully at Ascension St. Vincent Hospital, Anderson, Indiana, on Thursday September 23, 2026. A celebration of Rosemary’s life took place on Wednesday September 30, 2026 at 10:00 AM at Fairmount Chapel Armes-Hunt Life Celebration Funeral Home and Cremation Services; 415 S. Main St., Fairmount, IN with Pastor Roger Brooks officiating. Burial followed at the Park Cemetery, Fairmount, IN.

Robert D. Black

Robert D. Black, 79, passed away on September 23, 2026, in Ft. Wayne. Visitation will be held on Monday, October 5, 2026, from 10am-11:45am at Owen-Weilert-Duncan Funeral Home, Marion Chapel, 2722 South Washington Street, Marion, Indiana. The funeral will follow at noon. Burial with military honors will take place at 1pm at Marion National Cemetery, 1700 East 38th Street, Marion, Indiana.

Amy L. Wright

Amy L. Wright, 59, of Gas City passed away on September 23, 2026, in her home. Arrangements will be announced at a later date. Owen-Weilert Duncan Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Mark Bowland

Mark Allen Bowland, 58, of Converse, passed away at 7:34 P.M., Saturday, September 19, 2026 at his residence. There will be a celebration of life held at a later date. Eddy Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Jerry Dee Shaw

Jerry Dee Shaw, 94, passed away on Monday, September 21, 2026 at Marion Health-MGH Campus in Marion, IN. Funeral service will be at 4 pm on Thursday, September 24, 2026 at Keplinger Funeral Home, 509 North High Street, Hartford City with Pastor Jeanne Winter officiating. Jerry will be cremated and his ashes will be placed into a columbarium wall at the Marion National Cemetery in Marion, IN at a later date.

Carolyn J. Shaw

Carolyn J. Shaw, 88, passed away on September 19, 2026 unexpectedly at Marion Health-MGH Campus. Funeral service will be at 4 pm on Thursday, September 24, 2026 at Keplinger Funeral Home, 509 North High Street, Hartford City with Pastor Jeanne Winter officiating. Carolyn will be cremated and her ashes will be placed into a columbarium wall at the Marion National Cemetery in Marion, IN at a later date.

VICTORIOUS *Living* ...in a troubled world

People may reject you — but God never will

By Teresa LeNeave
leneave2@comcast.net

Do you ever feel left out and lonely? I think most people do from time to time. Others live in a state of feeling “less than”. I recently read a book by Lysa TerKeurst entitled, Uninvited: Living Loved When You Feel Less Than, Left Out, and Lonely. I thought of what it means to me, individually, to live with a feeling of being loved. The first thing that came to mind was: “When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you” (Isaiah 43:2). To me, that means to feel loved I need to feel protected and secure.

I want to know I

have hope for a good future. I want to know I have family and friends who will stand beside me and I will do the same for them. If that’s what I need, how do I get it? First of all, I think it originates with God and his love for us. In Isaiah, God said, when the waters begin to roll over you and you’re about to go under, he’ll not let you be destroyed. That’s comforting. That’s the kind of God I want to serve and the kind of relationships I want in my life. I want the kind of friends who are the same yesterday, today and forever. I’m not looking for friends who speak to me one day and ignore me the next. Neither are you. Basically, we all want the same thing. We all want to love,



to be loved, to be respected and to be accepted. Love is much like a fine-cut diamond with many different facets. There is love between a husband and wife and the euphoria it brings. There’s love between a parent and child, brothers, sisters, and friends and the comfort and peace that brings. There is even a love between a person and a pet and the satisfaction that

brings. All these types of love come in varying degrees. Some you love more than others. Some you want to spend a lot of time with and some you’re happy just seeing once in a while. What are the benefits of “living loved”? Feeling loved leaves you in better health. If there were no other benefit to feeling loved than better

health, then the health benefit would be worth the risk of developing good relationships. According to WebMD, people who feel loved live longer. They have fewer doctor visits and shorter hospital stays. They experience less depression and less substance abuse. Love gives us the assurance that we are not alone in the world. I like that. I remember Jesus saying, “I WILL NEVER LEAVE OR FORSAKE YOU” (Heb. 13:5). That’s the kind of friend to hold onto. Love gives us a sense of responsibility because when we love we have a sincere concern for the welfare of those we love. Loving is always

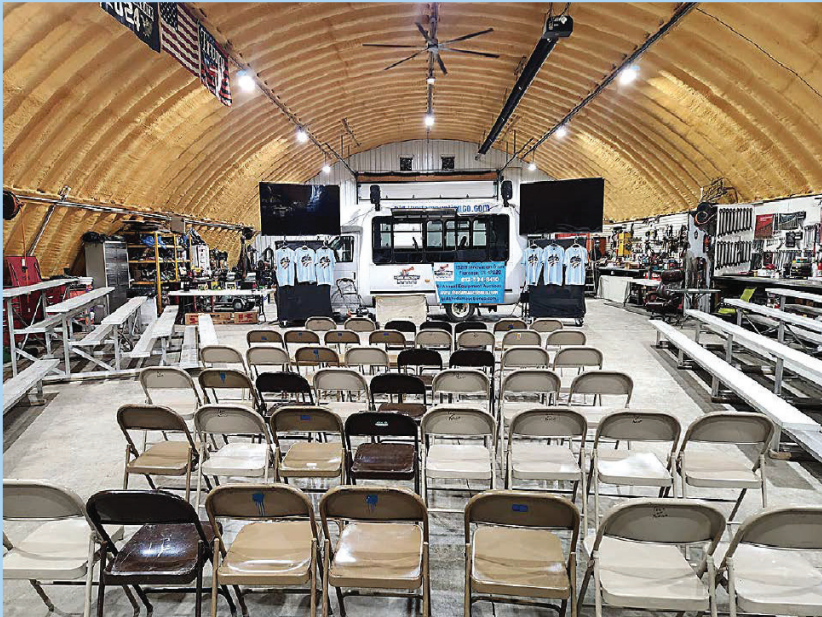
an action word. People can make you feel loved without saying a word. You also feel unloved without anyone saying a word. One thing you can be sure of, there is no material object that can make you feel loved. Only the love of God or of a human or a pet can make you feel loved. Of those three, the only one that satisfies the deepest longing inside a man/woman is the love of God. All other love is icing on the cake. It’s just an added blessing. The truth is this: People may reject you. People may leave you feeling lonely and left out, but God never will. God’s love is the ultimate of “living loved”. His love gives you hope for a brighter day.



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Southern Indiana Resource Solutions (SIRS) has added automated external defibrillators (AEDs) at its day program facilities in Jasper and Tell City. Another AED is available at SIRS' new Dale location, where day programming is scheduled to begin early next year. Purchased with a grant from the Dubois County Community Foundation, the devices will support staff and be available to first responders during emergencies. Combined with expanded CPR and first aid training, the AEDs strengthen emergency preparedness for the individuals with disabilities SIRS serves and the surrounding communities, especially when help may take longer to arrive in rural areas.

Photo provided



State Emerging Leader

Gillian Blessinger, marketing and communications director for Greater Jasper Consolidated Schools, has been named the 2026 Emerging Leader Award recipient by the Indiana School Public Relations Association.

Photo provided

Farmers renew call to end increased beef imports

American Farm Bureau Federation President Zippy Duvall today called on President Trump to roll back plans to import an additional 300,000 metric tons of beef into the United States. An American Farm Bureau Federation analysis shows increasing imports has had little impact on ground beef prices at the grocery store. Meanwhile, cattle prices have weakened, with ranchers experiencing losses up to \$300 to \$400 per head.

“America’s farmers and ranchers are renewing their call to the president to reverse course on his plan to import foreign-raised beef. While we appreciate Mr. Trump’s goal of reducing grocery costs for America’s families, increasing beef imports has not



photo credit: Utah Farm Bureau, Used with Permission

brought prices down. “Farm Bureau economists tracked 41 locations since Labor Day and found that, on average, prices have fallen only 16 cents per pound. Most prices were unchanged. Families are still facing historically high prices and the threat of a 60% increase in imports over 90 days caused a sharp drop in the prices paid to ranchers for their cattle. “To put it simply, the plan undercut a fragile recovery in the cattle industry while failing to benefit consumers. We urge the president to stop importing additional beef and focus on long-term solutions that support rebuilding the U.S. herd, which benefits both farmers and consumers who want home-grown beef.”

Read the Farm Bureau Intel on beef prices at <https://www.fb.org/intel/markets/increased-beef-imports-have-not-lowered-prices-for-consumers>

Scammers are impersonating farm equipment businesses

Originally published on the Federal Trade Commission website, this article alerts farmers to potential farm equipment sales fraud and includes important tips on avoiding these scams, as well as a secure link to report imposters.

The Federal Trade Commission is hearing about a scam targeting some of the hardest working people out there: farmers. Scammers posing as farm equipment businesses are selling (fake) equipment to farmers, who end up empty-handed. Here’s how the scam works and how to avoid it.

It starts like this: you might scroll through

social media and see an ad for a tractor. It’s a good price and looks like it’s from a legit business. Or you search online and see a tractor from a business you know, and maybe even bought equipment from before. In either case, when you contact them, they send a purchase agreement and invoice. They typically ask you to send thousands of dollars — usually by wire transfer — as a deposit or full payment, and schedule a delivery date.

What happens next? The delivery never comes. It turns out this was never a legit business and was all a scam. The scammer either stops answering

or makes up another excuse (e.g., there’s an issue with the delivery truck). You’re out both the money and a tractor.

How can you (or your local farmer) avoid these and other impersonation scams? Before you buy based on any ad, check it out. Social media companies don’t always vet ads. Do some research by searching online for the company name plus “scam” or “complaint.”

Know that the first search results you see might be paid ads. Sometimes scammers place them: they pretend to be a real business but use their own contact info instead. Scroll past those ads to the unpaid search results to help confirm you have the right website or contact information.

Never send money to anyone who says you can only pay by wire transfer, gift card, cryptocurrency, or payment app. Scammers prefer these methods because once they’ve collected the money, it’s almost impossible to get it back.

Spot an impersonation scam? Tell the FTC at [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](https://www.ftc.gov/report-fraud).

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Enjoy the outdoors, but take steps to avoid mosquito bites

By Laurna Pruett
ING Writer

The Dubois County Health Department is reminding residents to take simple precautions against West Nile virus and other mosquito-borne illnesses. The reminder is no reason to skip games, festivals, yard work or other outdoor activities. Just take the same steps you would normally take to avoid mosquito bites.

Before heading outside, apply insect repellent containing DEET to exposed skin and clothing, following

the product directions. Wearing light-colored clothing can also help. Mosquitoes are often most active from dusk to dawn, so repellent is especially useful for evening activities.

Residents can make their yards less inviting to mosquitoes by emptying containers that collect rainwater, clearing clogged gutters and keeping swimming pools clean and chlorinated. The health department also recommends repairing failing septic systems and keeping grass and shrubs

trimmed. Mosquitoes can breed in water that stands for more than four days.

Yard treatments are another option for reducing mosquitoes. Anyone using a spray should choose a product labeled for the pests they want to control and follow its directions. Spraying works alongside, rather than in place of, removing standing water.

The message is simple: keep enjoying the outdoors, use repellent and take care of places around home where mosquitoes can breed.





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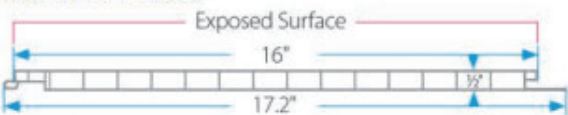
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CHAMPS!



The Forest Park junior varsity volleyball team won its tournament championship on Saturday, Sept. 26. The Lady Rangers defeated Pike Central, Castle and South Knox.

photos courtesy of Forest Park Volleyball



High School Football Raiders roll to win over Mount Vernon

Staff Report

HUNTINGBURG — Southridge rolled past Mount Vernon 42-12 in a game at Raider Field on Friday, Sept. 25. The Raiders set the tone early, outscoring Mount Vernon 28-0 in the opening quarter. Southridge entered halftime ahead 42-0. Quarterback Parker Steckler paced Southridge through the air. Steckler completed five passes for 122 yards and two touchdowns. Grayson Bolling and Hudson Montgomery each hauled in one touchdown pass reception for the Raiders. Southridge amassed over 300 yards of total offense. Pacing Southridge

on the ground, Bolling rushed seven times for 69 yards and two touchdowns. Chipping in on the ground for the Raiders, Maverick Wright added one rushing touchdown. Scoring via defense, Montgomery returned an interception for a touchdown. Thriving on special teams, kicker Manny Duron connected on each his six PAT attempts for the Raiders. Defensively, Southridge held Mount Vernon to 134 yards of total offense. The Raiders improved to 2-4 after posting the win. Southridge is scheduled to visit Tell City for its next game on Friday, Oct. 2.

High School Football Wildcats win via running clock at Evansville central

Staff Report

EVANSVILLE — Jasper leveled host Evansville Central 63-12 on Friday, Sept. 25. The Wildcats led 14-6 at the end of the opening quarter. Then, after erupting for 35 points, Jasper entered halftime ahead 49-6. Continuing to control the game after the intermission period, Jasper led 63-6 at the end of the third period. Quarterback Jaylen Maners led Jasper through the air, completing 11 passes for 195 yards and four touchdowns. Jahn Parker emerged as Jasper's leading receiver, finishing with three

receptions for 93 yards and two touchdowns. Aiding Jasper through the air, Landon Martindale and Caydan Ramos added one touchdown reception apiece. The Wildcats rushed 25 times for 268 yards and five touchdowns. Ramos paced Jasper on the ground, rushing seven times for 94 yards and two touchdowns. Chipping in on the ground for Jasper, Maners. Bryce Wilz and Chase Werner added one rushing touchdown apiece. The win allowed Jasper to even its record to 3-3. Jasper is scheduled to visit Castle for its next game on Friday, Oct. 2.

High School Football Rangers shut out Pike Central on homecoming

Staff Report

FERDINAND — Forest Park rolled past Pike Central 45-0 on Homecoming Friday, Sept. 25. The Rangers improved to 4-2 after notching the win. Forest Park set the tone early, outscoring Pike Central 10-0 in the opening quarter. The Rangers entered halftime ahead 24-0 and remained in control through the second half. Forest Park led 38-0 at the conclusion of the third period. Riley Begle, Hudson King, Caleb Sickbert, Grady Zink, Easton Davis, Koby Greulich, Nathan Verkamp, Jensen Phillips and Cam Lueken each

contributed defensively for the Rangers. Quarterback Anden Uebelhor paced Forest Park offensively, completing a dozen passes for four touchdowns. In addition to exceling through the air, Uebelhor added one rushing touchdown. Cam Lueken hauled in two touchdown receptions while Steven Reinke and Hudson Lueken added one touchdown catch apiece for the Rangers. Chipping in on the ground for Forest Park, Hudson King supplied one rushing touchdown. Forest Park is scheduled to visit North Posey for its next game on Friday, Oct. 2.

Boys' High School Soccer Wildcats shut out Hatchets

Staff Report

WASHINGTON — Jasper shut out Washington 4-0 in a boys' soccer match on Tuesday, Sept. 22. The Wildcats finished strong to pull away for the win. Jasper entered halftime ahead 1-0. The Wildcats netted three goals in the second half to win convincingly. Diego Ramos led Jasper to the win. Ramos scored two

goals for the Wildcats. Accompanying Ramos in Jasper's scoring column, Dylan Elizarraras and Connor Klem netted one goal apiece. Defensively, Jasper recorded its sixth shutout in the 2026 boys' high school soccer season. Jasper improved to 11-3 after posting the win.



Boys' High School Soccer Patriots shut out Vikings

Staff Report

POSEYVILLE — Heritage Hills shut out North Posey 2-0 in a boys' soccer match on Thursday, Sept. 24. The Patriots

improved to 10-2-1 after winning on the road. Heritage Hills found the net during the first half. The Patriots led 1-0 at halftime. Joe Lasher and Gavin Rust each scored one

goal for the Patriots. Aiding Heritage Hills offensively, Carson Hoffman dealt out one assist. Defensively for Heritage Hills, goalkeeper Kane

Navarro recorded a shutout. Heritage Hills and North Posey aren't scheduled to meet again in the 2026 boys' high school soccer season.



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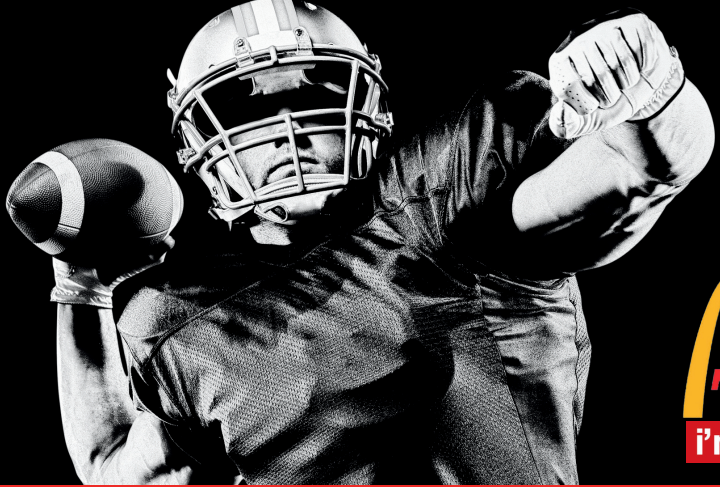
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Northeast Dubois boys' soccer player Jacob Hughes received an integrity, character, and respect pin from the IHSAA (Indiana High School Athletic Association). Hughes was presented the pin on behalf of the IHSAA.
photo courtesy of Northeast Dubois High School

Girls' High School Soccer

Forest Park shuts out Gibson Southern

Staff Report

FORT BRANCH — Forest Park shut out Gibson Southern 2-0 in a Pocket Athletic Conference girls' soccer match on Thursday, Sept. 17. The Lady Rangers led 1-0 at halftime. Ellie Meunier and

Avari Boeglin each netted one goal for the Lady Rangers. Aiding Forest Park offensively, Lily Muller dished out one assist. The Lady Rangers excelled defensively throughout the Pocket Athletic Conference girls' soccer match.

Defensively for Forest Park, goalkeeper Katelyn Kippenbrock recorded a shutout. Forest Park improved to 10-1-1 overall after notching the win. The Lady Rangers moved to 8-0 in the Pocket Athletic Conference.

Indiana Football Coaches Association Poll (Week 6)

Class 6A 1. Brownsburg (10) 6-0 100 2. Warren Central 6-0 81 3. Westfield 5-1 72 4. Lawrence North 5-1 68 5. Center Grove 5-1 67 6. Crown Point 6-0 45 7. Penn 6-0 41 8. Carmel 3-3 31 9. Carroll (Allen) 5-1 27 10. Avon 5-1 13 Others receiving votes: Zionsville 5-1 (5)	Class 4A 1. East Central (8) 5-1 98 2. Ind. Chatard (1) 5-1 90 3. FW Dwenger 5-1 77 4. East Noble (1) 6-0 74 5. SB St. Joseph 6-0 56 6. Ind. Roncalli 4-2 49 7. Evan. Reitz 6-0 40 8. Danville 6-0 24 9. Northridge 6-0 21 10. Logansport 6-0 10 Others receiving votes: Northview 6-0 (5), Columbia City 5-1 (3), Yorktown 4-2 (3)	Class 2A 1. Brownstown Central (6) 6-0 91 2. South Putnam (2) 6-0 90 3. Ind. Lutheran (2) 6-0 79 4. Lapel 6-0 73 5. Eastside 6-0 60 6. Cascade 5-1 48 7. Eastern (Greentown) 6-0 39 8. North Posey 6-0 31 9. Eastern Hancock 6-0 26 10. Rensselaer Central 5-1 7 Others receiving votes: Wheeler 6-0 (4), Bremen 5-1 (2)
Class 5A 1. New Palestine (9) 5-1 99 2. Bloomington South (1) 6-0 89 3. Ind. Cathedral 3-3 75 4. Warsaw 6-0 66 5. Floyd Central 6-0 61 6. Lafayette Jeff 4-2 52 7. Pendleton Heights 5-1 41 8. Plainfield 4-2 27 9. Castle 4-2 16 10. Snider 3-3 13 Others receiving votes: Chesterton 4-2 (3), Huntington North 4-2 (3), Concord 3-3 (2), Franklin Community 4-2 (2), McCutcheon 4-2 (1)	Class 3A 1. Evan. Memorial (10) 6-0 100 2. Lawrenceburg 5-1 85 3. Andean 5-1 77 4. Gibson Southern 5-1 63 5. Indian Creek 6-0 59 6. Evan. Mater Dei 5-1 55 7. Bluffton 6-0 30 8. Tr-West Hendricks 4-2 26 9. Adams Central 4-2 17 10. Griffith 6-0 16 Others receiving votes: Maconaquah 6-0 (9), Twin Lakes 5-1 (7), Batesville 4-2 (3), Mississenawa 4-1 (3)	Class 1A 1. Riverton Parke (8) 6-0 98 2. Pioneer (1) 6-0 90 3. North Judson (1) 6-0 83 4. Milan 5-1 67 5. North Daviess 6-0 57 6. Madison-Grant 6-0 52 7. South Adams 4-2 37 8. Springs Valley 5-1 29 9. Carroll (Flora) 4-2 18 10. Wes-Del 5-0 9 Others receiving votes: Laf. Central Catholic 2-4 (6), Caston 5-1 (3)

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Arbor Day Poster Contest returns for 2026-27 school year

The Indiana DNR Division of Forestry is excited to announce that the 5th Grade Arbor Day Poster Contest is returning for the 2026-27 school year.

Once again this year, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners will receive

an Indiana529 account deposit award courtesy of Indiana529. The 1st place winner will also receive a tree planting at their school.

All 5th grade students and teachers across the state are invited to submit

original artwork for this year's contest. The theme for the 2026-2027 school year is Who Speaks for the Trees?

Students participating in this year's contest can learn about what it is like to work in 'tree-mendous' jobs,

including foresters, arborists, park rangers, hydrologists, and more.

Participating teachers are encouraged to engage with the contest theme in their classrooms to help inspire their students' artwork. Teaching

resources and standard alignments are provided on the contest webpage, along with full submission instructions and contest rules.

Poster submissions must be original artwork. Collages, cartoon characters,

and television figures are not allowed due to copyright laws.

Submissions are due April 2, 2027.

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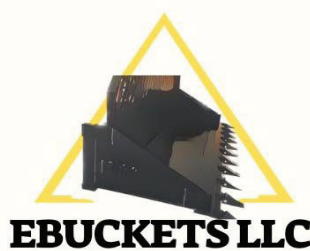
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2016 WESTERN STAR 4700, good truck, runs excellent, air seat and brakes, diff. lock, Allison auto transmission! Fleet maintained, thick frame. 390,443 miles. Stk. #16DET390WSDC.....**\$25,000**



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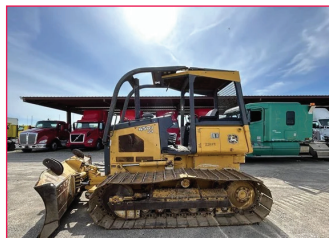
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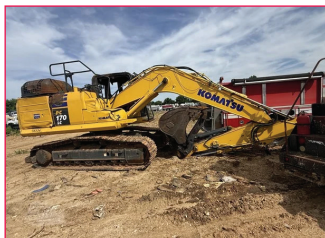
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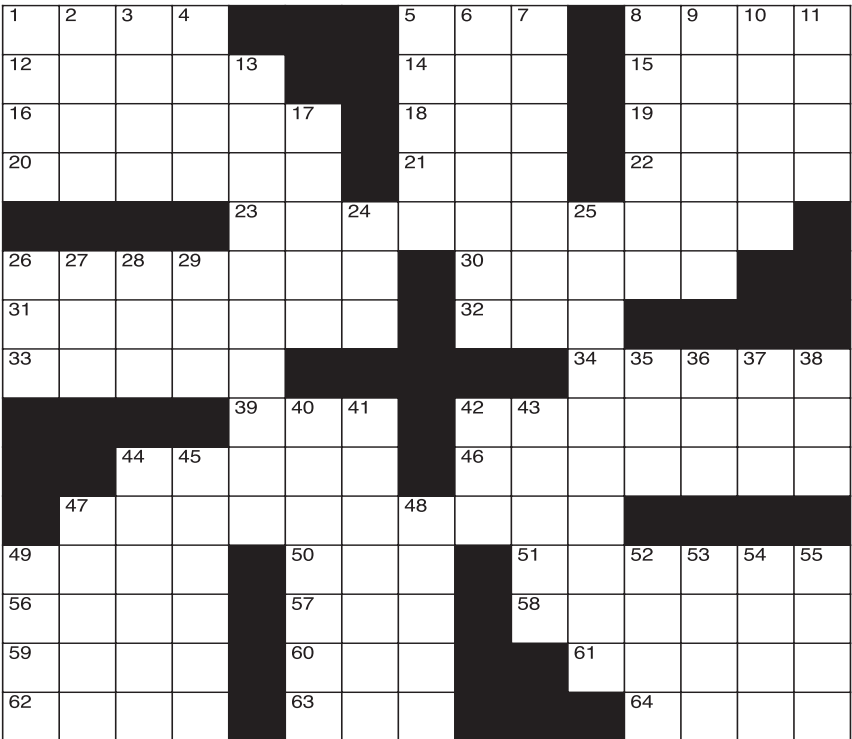




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Crossword Puzzle



CLUES ACROSS

1. “Wicker Man” actor Nic

5. Protection

8. Cloth worn over a shoulder

12. Ceramic jars

14. Midway between northeast and east

15. South American hummingbird

16. Platforms

18. Taxi

19. Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls

20. A citizen of Yemen

21. Military mailbox

22. Nuclear near reach weapon

23. Clears

26. Broken

30. Actress Lathan

31. Avid fan

32. One and only

33. Proceeding
34. River in Portugal and Spain

39. Doctor of Education

42. Defeat handily

44. Less complicated

46. Handyman tools

47. Written works

49. Castle dweller’s safety net

50. Honorable title (Turkish)

51. Greatest

56. Can do

57. A place to sleep on the road

58. Member of U.S. Navy

59. 24-hour units of time

60. Actor Horsley

61. In a way, sounds off

62. Formerly (archaic)

63. Eye infection

64. Plundered

CLUES DOWN

1. William __, Buffalo Bill

2. Wings

3. Candle or lantern

4. Freedom from difficulty

5. A type of pie

6. Metrical foot

7. __ Kerr, actress

8. Nap

9. Popular singer Bocelli

10. Immune responses

11. “Mad Men” leading man

13. A citizen of Senegal

17. Philly basketball player

24. Not even

25. Measures wind speed

26. Insecticide

27. Jordan glided through it

28. Bird-like dinosaur genus

29. Expression of satisfaction
35. Big Blue

36. One point east (clockwise) of due north

37. Of she

38. Oral rehydration solution

40. Knocks off course

41. Popular cop show of yesteryear

42. Zhou dynasty state

43. Genus of gulls

44. Onion flatbreads

45. Declare as true

47. Of a lobe

48. Missouri county

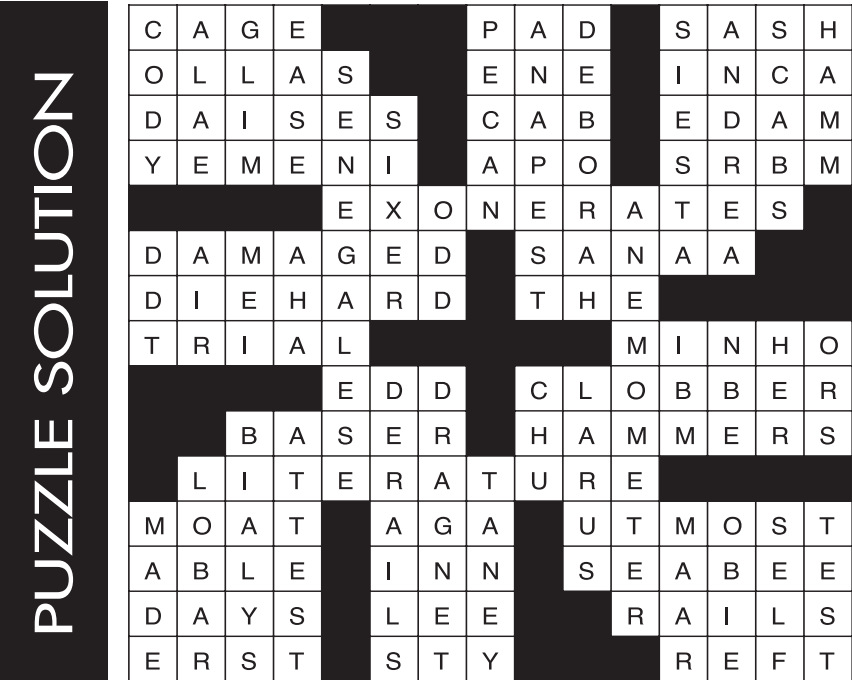
49. Produced

52. Volcanic crater

53. Off-Broadway theater award

54. KU hoops coach Bill

55. Check for



Word Search

OFF TO COLLEGE WORD SEARCH

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

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

ANSWERS ON THE
CLASSIFIED PAGE
WORDS

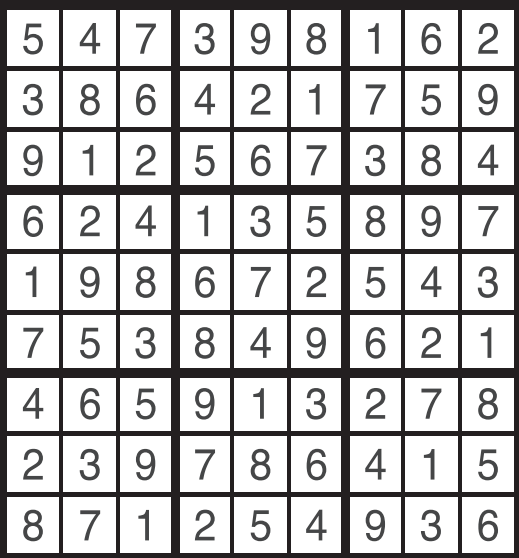
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MINOR
POSTGRADUATE
PREREQUISITE
QUAD
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TUITION

Sudoku Puzzle

How it Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle! Good Luck!

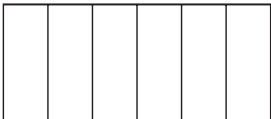
ANSWERS ON THE CLASSIFIED PAGE



Word Scramble

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to college.

SCAMUP



Answer: Campus

Guess Who?

GUESS WHO?

I am a singer born in Canada on September 27, 1984. I began singing when I was 2-years-old after my father built a studio in the basement. I won an MTV Video Music Award for Best New Artist in a Video in 2002. I also was the youngest female solo artist to release a #1 album in the United Kingdom.

Answer: Avril Lavigne

Crypto Fun



Solve the code to discover words related to college. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 16 = s)

- A.

17 23 25 14 26 6 16 25 3 21

Clue: Higher learning
- B.

16 21 10 10 7 11 17 16

Clue: Plan for class
- C.

12 2 17 6 16 26

Clue: Class
- D.

12 6 26 9 25 3

Clue: Academic measurement

Answers: A. university B. syllabus C. course D. credit

Coloring Fun

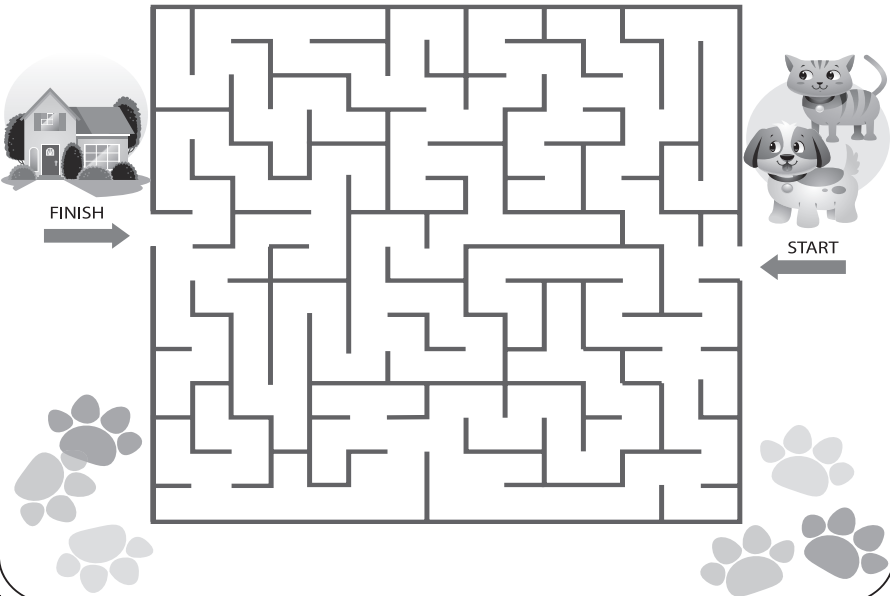
Color the picture in your favorite fall colors.



Maze Craze

MAZE FUN

Help these pets find their way home!



SENIOR CARE

Promising advancements in Alzheimer’s disease management

Alzheimer’s disease has touched the lives of millions. Tens of millions of people have Alzheimer’s disease worldwide, accounting for 60 percent to 70 percent of the total number of people living with dementia globally, according to the World Health Organization. However, when including early, pre-symptomatic stages like prodromal and preclinical phases, estimates indicate 400 million people across the globe are affected by brain changes linked to Alzheimer’s, says the National Institutes of Health.

Expanding medications and clinical trials

For decades, medical interventions for Alzheimer’s were limited to managing symptoms. Today, the treatment landscape is undergoing a profound transformation. Therapeutic strategies now directly target the biological drivers of the disease, supported by expanded drug offerings, advises Alzheimer’s Research UK.

The Alzheimer’s Association says that analysis of global clinical trials points to positive results of a growing body of medications. There are now 158 novel agents currently being evaluated across 192 clinical trials. While amyloid-targeting drugs once comprised 33 percent of the clinical studies, that share has dropped to 20 percent, as therapies targeting neuroinflammation and tau protein tangles have increased.

The Alzheimer’s Association also says approximately 35 percent of drugs currently in development are



repurposed therapies previously approved for other conditions. This helps speed up the pathway of important medications for clinical availability.

Earlier diagnoses

Disease-modifying medications show the highest efficacy when administered during early stages. That means that early detection of Alzheimer’s disease is critical. The Alzheimer’s Impact Movement says high-accuracy blood tests prescribed in primary care settings can enable clinicians to screen for amyloid pathology using a simple blood draw.

Targeting genes

Researchers supported by the NIH are exploring gene therapy approaches to reduce amyloid accumulation early on and quiet brain inflammation. These include delivering protective APOE-e2 gene variants.

GLP-1s, shingles vaccines and promising findings

Observational and real-world studies show that taking GLP-1 medications for type 2 diabetes or obesity is associated with a lower risk of developing Alzheimer’s

and cognitive decline, according to the Cleveland Clinic. Similarly, major published studies show that adults over age 65 who receive the two-dose shingles vaccine have significantly reduced risk of Alzheimer’s and vascular dementia compared to unvaccinated individuals. Both of these treatments can reduce brain inflammation associated with dementia development.

Lifestyle changes

Medications and other therapies are just the tip of the iceberg. Non-pharmacological interventions also are successful at reducing Alzheimer’s disease prevalence. Findings published in the Journal of the American Medical Association demonstrate that targeted exercise, dietary changes and cognitive training significantly preserves brain function. This can yield memory performance equivalent to being one or two years younger.

Alzheimer’s disease research continues, and various developments in prevention and treatment are going beyond symptom management.

Junior firefighters rise to the Herbstfest challenge

By Laurna Pruett
ING Writer

Young participants brought energy and determination to the third annual Herbstfest Junior Firefighter Challenge, taking their turn in the spotlight as family and friends cheered them on.

The event gave children a chance to join in the festival fun and show their firefighter spirit. Organizers praised the junior firefighters for their enthusiasm and thanked the families and friends who came out to support them.

With another challenge complete, organizers are already looking forward to welcoming the young participants back next year.



LJ’s Hometown Music celebrates grand reopening on Saturday, October 3rd

HUNTINGBURG, INDIANA - On October 3, 2026, LJ’s Hometown Music, 308 E 4th Street, will celebrate the Grand Reopening of the beloved music store with a long history on historic 4th Street in Huntingburg. The community event celebrates a new beginning for the store and its new owners, Logan Dyer and Laura Jo Schuster, who began operations in February. The street will be closed to traffic.

Dyer and Schuster kept the name Hometown Music as a nod to the store’s long history in the community but added their initials “LJ” to denote the change in ownership.

The Grand Reopening will feature performances, activities, and giveaways from 11AM – 7PM EST. Giveaway items include music-themed gifts, gift cards, and an electric guitar. The event will kick off with ribbon cutting ceremony led by Mayor Neil Elkins, then continue with a Community Showcase of LJ’s Hometown Music students and teachers.

A free harmonica

workshop led by Art Woodward, a Hohner harmonica artist, will be offered at 12:00PM EST. Each participant will go home with a free harmonica.

Additional activities for kids include an art station where kids can decorate toy musical instruments, color pictures, and participate in seasonal crafts. Games, singalongs, and photo ops will also be available.

Live music will continue through the day with performances by singer/guitarist Stephanie Drotar, acoustic duo The LJs (Logan Dyer and Laura Jo Schuster), blues from Cooper Lilly and Friends, and a mix of classic jazz, big band music, and modern songs from the multi-instrument brass band Limited Inventory Big Band. The celebration will go out with a bang from the blues slide guitarist Boscoe France. France’s authentic musical style is an awe-inspiring alchemy of blues, rock and little bit of down-home soul. In what is sure to be an unforgettable performance, Boscoe’s indescribable slide guitar skills are well

matched with his “rock your socks off” blues style.

ABOUT LJ’S HOMETOWN MUSIC

We offer lessons in voice, piano, guitar, bass, mandolin, banjo, flute, clarinet, saxophone, oboe, trumpet, French horn, and more! Both new and used instruments are available for sale, plus accessories, music books, and music-themed gifts. Instrument repair is available.

Musician, educator, and instrument repair technician Logan Dyer took over operations of the music store on historic 4th Street after 10 years of running his one-man shop in Evansville. Logan brings over 25 years of teaching and repair experience while maintaining an active performance schedule. With co-operator Laura Jo Schuster, Logan is committed to providing quality music education and instruction to Huntingburg and the surrounding communities, plus maintaining a retail operation in support of musicians of all levels.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram!

Dressing fundraiser underway for Daughters of Isabella Jasper Circle

Daughters of Isabella Jasper Circle #140 invite you to let the Daughters of Isabella prepare your holiday dressing for you. Preorders for dressing (stuffing) will be taken till October 26, 2026. Prices are \$20 per gallon and \$12 per half gallon.

The dressing will be available for pick up from 12:00-4:00 p.m. on Friday, November 6, at the St. Joe’s Parish Center in Jasper. Again this year, orders will be distributed in a drive thru available from the south entrance of the parish center, between the

former 10th Street School and the parish center. The dressing will be sold raw, not baked, and will have no sage added. To order your amounts, call Kathy Schneider at 812-309-9108 or Betty Mehringer at 812-482-3661.

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