



Photos courtesy of Greater Jasper Consolidated Schools FB page

Scenes from Jasper Middle School Performing Arts’ outstanding performance of Seussical Jr.



National Drug Take Back Day set for April 25th

The Spring Drug Take Back Day will be held on April 25th from 10 AM – 2 PM. Our local collection site that day will be the Indiana State Police Post in Jasper.

If you’re unable to make it, don’t worry—safe disposal is always available. The Jasper Police Department has a medication drop box that is

accessible 24/7 for unused or expired medications. (no liquids or syringes) Help keep our community safe by properly disposing of medications!

Adult First Aid/Adult CPR AED training offered at Deaconess Memorial Medical Center

Jasper, IN – Adult First Aid/Adult CPR AED (automated external defibrillator) is a basic training course in emergency care designed for use in the business/ industrial setting. Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), AED use, and other important emergency care skills are combined into this course, which allows the graduate to

function with one consistent set of priorities in a medical emergency. Students learn the same priorities of care and approach to the patient used by professionals. This approach results in a continuity of care as the patient is passed on to the EMT, nurse, and doctor. Successful completion of the course means the student has acquired these skills, understands the

dangers of an emergency scene and how to evaluate them, and understands the use of protective barriers. Taught by nationally certified instructors, the course satisfies OSHA requirements for industry and business. Adult First Aid/Adult CPR AED course will be offered Tuesday, April 21, 2026, from 7:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. in the Health and

Wellness Classroom at Memorial Southside Office, 1100 West 12th Avenue in Jasper. The fee for the class is \$68; class size is limited, and pre-registration is required by visiting Deaconess Memorial Medical Center’s website at www.deaconess.com and clicking on “Classes & Events,” or calling Deaconess Wellness Solutions – Jasper at 812-996-

2399 or toll-free at 800-852-7279, ext. 2399. A Medic First Aid Bloodborne Pathogens class can be added to this course to provide participants with the knowledge to reduce or eliminate the occupational risk of bloodborne pathogens. The cost for this additional class is \$20 per person. For more details, please call 812-996-2399, option 1.

Being for Others Health & Wellness Foundation releases inaugural Annual Impact Report for 2025

JASPER, IN – The Being for Others Health & Wellness Foundation (BFO) is proud to announce the release of their first-ever Annual Impact Report, highlighting the work of organizations, communities, and partners across Southern Indiana who are improving health and well-being throughout the region.

In its first full year of grantmaking, BFO supported 38 organizations across eight counties, providing more than \$650,000 in funding to initiatives focused on mental health, early childhood support, food access, community safety, and other key areas impacting quality of life.

The report demonstrates the response from communities throughout the region, with more than 100 proposals submitted during BFO’s initial grant cycles, demonstrating both the need for continued investment and the depth of local leadership working to address it.

“This report is really about the people and organizations across our region who are stepping forward every day to support their communities,” said Christian Blome, President of BFO. “We’ve been inspired by the ideas, partnerships, and commitment we’ve seen in our first year.”

Highlights Include:

- Stories of community-driven initiatives and partnerships
- Overview of BFO’s first grant cycles and funded projects

Summary of priority focus areas guiding regional investments

Organizational milestones and the development of BFO’s grantmaking approach

The Annual Impact Report reflects the strength of community-led efforts across the region and is intended to inspire new ideas, partnerships, and continued collaboration to build healthier communities throughout Southern Indiana.

About Being for Others Health and Wellness Foundation

The Being for Others (BFO) Health and Wellness Foundation is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to creating a culture of health and wellness for the betterment of communities in Southwest Indiana. Established through a generous \$20 million endowment made possible by the affiliation between Memorial Hospital and Deaconess Health System in 2024, the foundation serves eight counties: Crawford, Daviess, Dubois, Martin, Orange, Perry, Pike, and Spencer.

Focused exclusively on grant-making, the foundation collaborates with local organizations, agencies, and other funders to promote health and wellness initiatives that inspire our communities to Be Well. Be Healthy. Be for Others.

For more information contact BFO at 812-556-0400, info@beingforothers.org or visit www.beingforothers.org



VICTORIOUS

Living

...in a troubled world

Rabbits and Easter eggs

By Teresa LeNeave
leneave2@comcast.net

What if. What if we could trust what we hear to be truth? What if there was no one trying to deceive us or confuse us? If you're like me, watching the news is stressful because you never know what's truth and what's yellow journalism.

Deception is everywhere. I guess it's always been that way because I remember Jesus saying, "Take heed that ye be not deceived" (Luke 21:8). People have struggled with being deceived from the beginning of time when Adam and Eve were deceived in the Garden of Eden.

No one means to be deceived, but you can bet there are people in this world who are intent on deceiving us.

If we read Jesus' warning in modern day language it might say: "Be careful...be careful because there are people who are constantly trying to mislead or trick you."

Be careful who and what you listen to. And this applies to all of us. If people who walked directly with God could be deceived, then we certainly are no stronger than they were.

Jesus was cautioning all of us to stay alert because there always has been, and always will

be, false teachers who claim authority or truth, but it's all a farce. Only Jesus is the Christ. He is the only one who can redeem our souls and satisfy the need for relationship with God.

He said some would even claim to be the Messiah. How bold is that and what do they have that draws people to believe such a thing?

Jesus said people need discernment that comes from God. People can easily be led astray and personally, I believe, we're all vulnerable. That's why we need to stay as close to the Word as possible. If something you hear doesn't line up with

the Bible, steer clear of it.

It's not about obvious lies (although that's a big problem in main stream media), but it's about it's about not blindly following the crowd. Just as we align ourselves with a certain political party does not mean that we have to go along with everything they do or say. Staying grounded in truth and faith is our only hope in the world we live in today.

Jesus made it very clear that we need to pay attention, stay alert, and don't let anyone fool us.

This is Easter week and I want to emphasize how



important it is to stand on the truth of the Word: that Jesus died on the cross to forgive our sins, to set us free from sin and death, that we

might live. It's not about rabbits and Easter eggs, but it's about eternal life in a place free from pain and sorrow.

Steven Curtis and Mary Beth Chapman

‘Still Here’ despite marriage struggles

By Laura Erlanson,
Baptist Press

NASHVILLE (BP) – When Steven Curtis and Mary Beth Chapman got married 40-plus years ago, they knew they were opposites in many ways. After all, that was what had attracted them to each other in the first place. “You fall in love with something you are not,” Mary Beth says.

What they didn't know, though, is how the differences between them would often make their marriage really, really hard.

They talk about just how hard in “Still Here: Life Together on the Long Way Home,” a new book releasing March 24.

Through the winnin', losin' and tryin'

The book does not sugar coat the difficulties in their 41-year marriage. It goes into candid detail about fights, tragedies and the strain brought by Steven's career on the road.

“There are a lot of great how-to marriage

books, and all those are good and we have gleaned information from them,” Mary Beth says. “But it's very important for people to know that we can't write a how-to book.” She laughs. “We can write an ‘in spite of’ book. ...

“There's a reason we've been married 41 years. Those reasons are a lot of redos and a lot of bearing with one another in love and a lot of forgiveness.”

The book's title is a play on the title of “I Will Be Here,” Steven's ode to faithful marriage that became something of a wedding anthem. He wrote the song a few years into his marriage to Mary Beth while his own parents' marriage was ending.

His mom and dad's divorce was an “earthquake,” he says now.

“Wait a minute ... what do we do with this? If this happened to my parents, how do we know that this won't happen to us?”

And though it didn't happen to them, many times it seemed like it



could have.

One important practice for Steven and Mary Beth was to remember the “epic and mysterious and cosmic” nature of marriage. It's literally a picture of Christ and the Church, and Satan wants to destroy it.

“We're not fighting a battle against flesh and blood,” Steven says. “Sometimes our most heated arguments end with, ‘You know, I am not the enemy. You're not the enemy, but there

is a real enemy who is trying to take us out. And that enemy is not to be trifled with.”

As sure as seasons are made for change

The Chapmans grow closer together by growing closer to God. That practice “moves us up the triangle” and “pulls us closer to each other,” Mary Beth says.

Steven says he often hears people complain that their spouse is not the person they married.

“Yeah, you are

right,” he says. “Because we didn't marry a mom, a dad, a person who had carried the weight of providing or carried the weight of raising children and heartbreak and sadness, and parents getting older. ... Life changes us. And yet also remembering that the person that I fell in love with is still here, is still that person.”

Mary Beth says her struggle has often been feeling overshadowed.

“I'm super guilty of looking at Steve going, ‘OK, listen, my whole life has been about your career,’” she says, laughing. “... Well, wait a second. God called me to this marriage. You know, He's called me to bear with him in love, and Steven's been so gracious at going, ‘How can I help you fulfill some of the longings in your heart?’ And so it is so much giving.”

We often hear that marriage is give and take, she adds.

“Well, what if marriage was all give and give and

give and give more,” Mary Beth says. “And not really expect the receiving. If we were both willing to do that, I just think we would see potentially a lot of healing. And that's a hard thing to do because we are sinners and we are selfish at the core.”

I will be true to the promise I have made The Chapmans are quick to say they have sought a lot of outside help over the years.

“I guess if we've done anything well and right in this process, it has been very willing to acknowledge humbly that we don't have it figured out, that we need help,” Steven says. “We need, ultimately, God's help.”

And while deciding to go counseling is important and helpful, the daily decision of marriage is the real secret.

“There has to be a posture of we are both broken people living in a broken world,” Mary Beth says. “How can you come together to be bearing with one another in love?”

Proof of Residence

By Brandon Bramlett
Pastor - Bandana Baptist Church

Ryegrass had sprouted in the driveway. The parking lot was void of vehicles. There were no tricycles or children's sneakers piled by the doors. The creamy white paint was chipping off the building. There were no signs of life at this apartment building. I drove there to deliver a meal that a customer ordered online. I had received an order to deliver lunch to

this address, when I was, for a brief time, employed by a food delivery service.

Upon arrival, every internal alarm sounded off—something wasn't right. Even from my vehicle, I could see an aged eviction notice fastened to the outside door. I proceeded up the rusty steps and knocked firmly on the door—nothing. Through the grimy window, I could see that the lights were off, and the television was blank. This home was hollow and

vacated—unoccupied and uninhabited. The online profile claimed that so-and-so lived at this exact residence, but the evidence contradicted the claim. There was no evidence of life—no proof of residence.

Unfortunately, many who claim to be Christians have little evidence that the Spirit of God lives in and occupies their heart. But the word of God clearly declares that when the Holy Spirit dwells within you, there is always undeniable proof of

residence. When the Spirit settles in your heart, it shows. All the signs of life are there—the lights are on, the house is clean, and maintenance work is being done. There is activity on the inside and the outside. If you truly possess the Spirit, no one can drive by the house of your life and say, “There is no proof of residence here.” You might claim to be a true believer—a church membership card or Facebook profile might say so. But the claim is

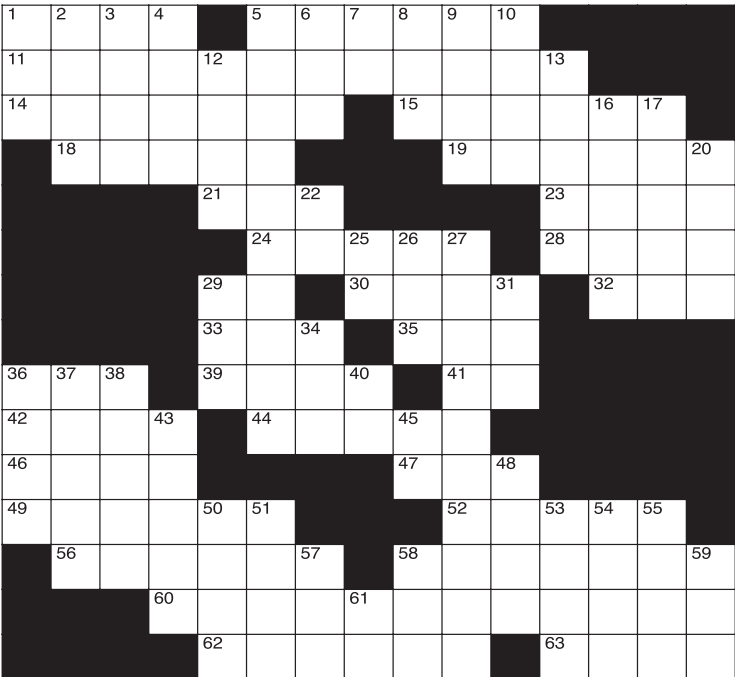
always corroborated by evidence if it is true, and if you truly possess the Spirit of God, the truth will come out.

The Spirit demonstrates proof of His residence in your heart in a variety of ways. He speaks through you (Matt. 10:20; Mark 13:11), He bears fruit (Gal. 5:22-23), He teaches you (John 16:13), He emboldens you to witness (Acts 4:31), He leads you (Rom. 8:14), He assures you of sonship (Rom. 8:16; 2 Cor 1:22; Gal. 4:6),

He gives gifts (1 Cor. 12:11), He transforms you (2 Cor. 3:18), and He helps you fight the flesh (Gal. 5:16-18).

The key, however, to the Spirit demonstrating proof of His residence in your life is by being filled with the Spirit—submitting to His influence and relinquishing control of your heart to Him: “And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit” (Eph. 5:18). Is there proof of His residence in your life?

Crossword Puzzle



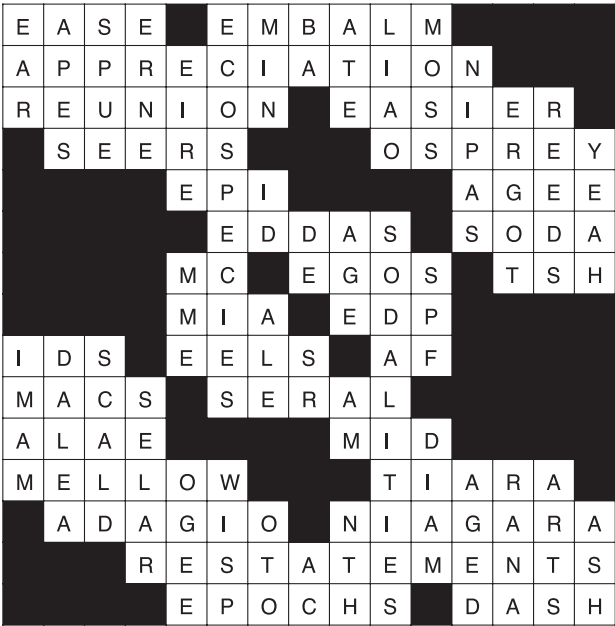
CLUES ACROSS

1. Absence of difficulty
5. Preserve a dead body
11. Gratitude
14. The act of coming together again
15. More cushy
18. Visionaries
19. Large fish-eating bird
21. Indicates near
23. Former CIA and CIA critic
24. Icelandic poems
28. Pop
29. Hammer is one
30. Selfs
32. Thyroid-stimulating hormone
33. Nowhere to be found
35. Electronic data processing
36. Drivers' licenses and passports are two
39. Snake-like fishes
41. Air Force
42. Popular personal computers
44. Stages in ecological succession
46. Wings
47. In the center
49. Pleasantly smooth
52. Jeweled headdress
56. In slow tempo
58. __ Falls
60. Reiterations
62. Eras
63. Hyphen

CLUES DOWN

1. Body part
2. Mimics
3. Expel or eject (variant sp.)
4. Sea eagle
5. Taxonomic category
6. Chinese languages
7. Mr. T's "A-Team" character
8. Consumed
9. Chinese dynasty
10. NFL legend Randy
12. Ireland
13. Palm trees with creeping roots
16. Fungal disease
17. Tall, slender-leaved plants
20. Affirmative! (slang)
22. It says who you are
25. Atlantic coast state
26. Grow older
27. Associations
29. Woman (French)
31. Sunscreen rating
34. Brew
36. Leader
37. Indigo bush genus
38. Burn with a hot liquid
40. Junior's father
43. Mackerel genus
45. Morning
48. Straight line from side to side (abbr.)
50. Type of molding
51. Small, thin or twisted bunch
53. Worn by exposure to the weather
54. Mars crater
55. Humanities
57. Relating to the ears
58. "To the __ degree"
59. Residue when something is burned
61. It cools a home

PUZZLE SOLUTION



Crypto Fun



Solve the code to discover words related to fishing.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 1 = A)

- A. 15 21 1 4
Clue: Rides on water
- B. 9 1 4 9 7
Clue: Nab
- C. 15 1 3 4
Clue: Lures in
- D. 2 3 18 19 20 5
Clue: Heavy item

Answers: A. boat B. catch C. bait D. sinker

Word Search

LOVE FISHING WORD SEARCH



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

ANSWERS ON THE CLASSIFIED PAGE

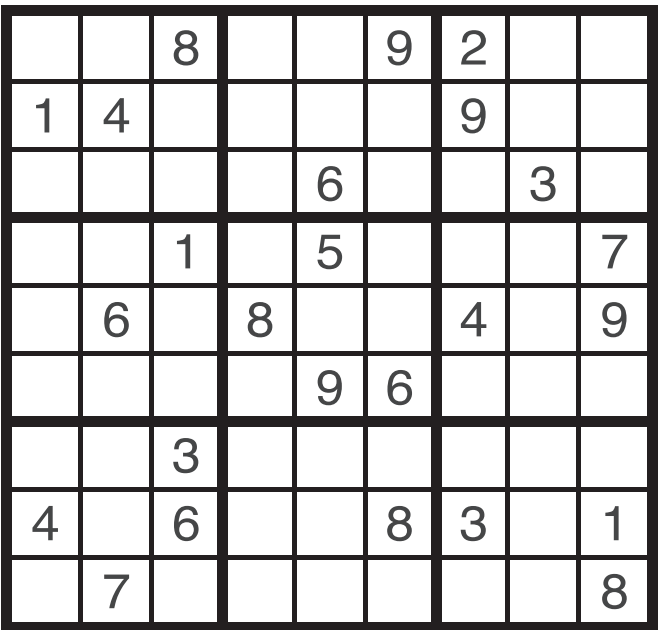
WORDS

- ANGLER
BAG
BAIT
BOBBER
CAST
CATCH
CHUMMING
DRAG
FISHING
HOOK
JIGGING
LEADER
LIMIT
LURE
RELEASE
SIGHT
SINKER
SKUNKED
SPAWNING
STRIKE
STRUCTURE
TACKLE
TERMINAL
TROLLING

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 fishing.

TCKAEL



Answer: Tackle

Guess Who?

GUESS WHO ?

I am an actress born in Florida on April 2, 2002. One of my earliest roles was in the television series "The Glades," and I've had a few roles in films. These days I can be found "wolfing out" in a popular Netflix series opposite my macabre roommate.

Answer: Emma Myers

COLORING FUN



April Jokes

How do you get a tissue to dance?
Put a little boggie in it.

Why did the robber take a shower?
He wanted a clean get away.



Patricia “Pat” Ann Rennie

Patricia Ann “Pat” Rennie, age 76, of Jasper, Indiana, passed away at 8:33 a.m. on Saturday, March 28, 2026, surrounded by family at Brookside Village in Jasper. A Mass of Christian Burial Patricia Ann Rennie will be held at 12:00 p.m. CST on Saturday, April 11, 2026, at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Daylight, Indiana, with burial to follow in the church cemetery. A visitation will be held from 10:00 a.m. CST until the 12:00 p.m. CST Mass time at the church on Saturday.

William “Bill” J. Mundy

William J. “Bill” Mundy, age 76, of Jasper, Indiana, passed away at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 26, 2026, at home. A Mass of Christian Burial for William J. “Bill” Mundy was held at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 31, 2026, at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church in Jasper, Indiana, With burial to follow at St. Mary Cemetery in Ireland, Indiana.

Doug Schmitt

Doug Schmitt, age 66, of Jasper, Indiana, passed away at 7:45 a.m. on Wednesday, March 25, 2026, at home. A Mass of Christian Burial for Doug Schmitt will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 1, 2026, at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church in Jasper, Indiana, with burial to follow in Fairview Cemetery in Jasper.

James “Jim” W. Bair

James W. “Jim” Bair, age 87, of Dubois, Indiana, passed away surrounded by family at Deaconess Memorial Hospital at 10:50 a.m. on March 24, 2026. The funeral service was held at 10:00 on Saturday, March 28, 2026, at St. John’s Lutheran Church at the Dubois Crossroads, with burial to follow in the church cemetery.

Shirley J Reese

Shirley J. Reese, 90, of Huntingburg, passed away at 9:05 a.m., Tuesday, March 24, 2026, at The Bee-Hive Homes in Huntingburg. A Funeral Mass for Shirley Reese was celebrated by Fr. Biju Thomas at 11:00 a.m. E.D.T., Monday, March 30, at St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Huntingburg with burial to follow at St. Mary’s Cemetery.

Lisa A. James

Lisa A. James, age 59, of Jasper, Indiana, passed away at 8:17 p.m. on Tuesday, March 24, 2026, at home. A funeral service for Lisa A. James will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 1, 2026, at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Haysville, Indiana, with burial to follow in Oak Grove Cemetery in Washington, Indiana. Pastor Timothy Holt will officiate. A visitation will be held from 10:00 a.m. until the 11:00 a.m. service time at the church on Wednesday.

Rosalee Dauby

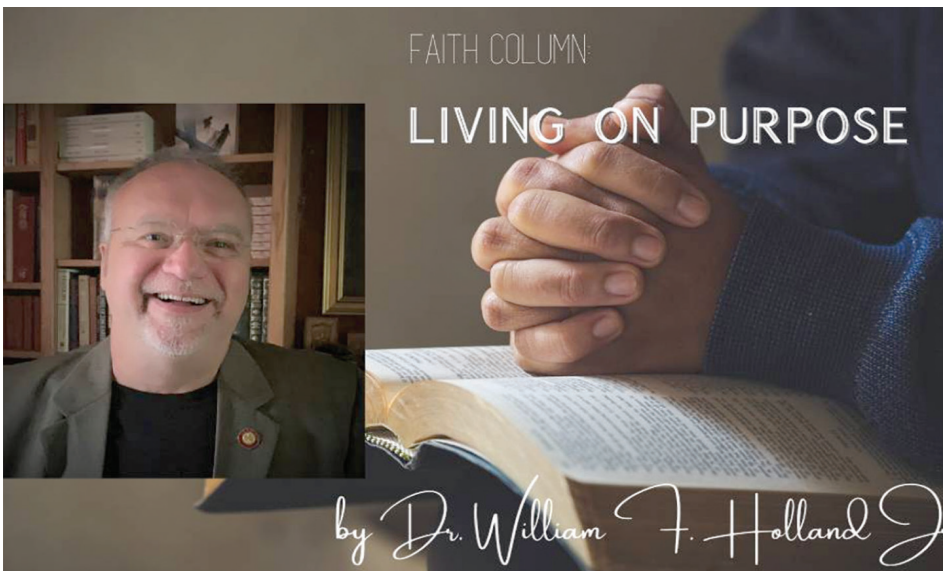
Rosalee Dauby, age 79, of Dale, passed away at 7:08 a.m., Thursday, March 26, 2026, at Willowdale Village in Dale. Funeral services for Rosalee Dauby will be private. Rainey Funeral Home in Dale has been entrusted with handling the arrangements. Condolences may be shared online at: www.rainey-funeralhome.com.

Crucifixion and Resurrection: Mission Accomplished!

By Dr. Billy Holland

April is the month of new beginnings when the grass turns green, trees begin to sprout their leaves, and flowers emerge from the ground to express their beauty. This is also the time when Christians celebrate the crucifixion and the resurrection of Jesus Christ. God’s infinite love for us is the foundation of the Christian faith, for without Jesus being raised to conquer death, hell, and the grave, there would be no sacrifice sufficient to forgive us from our sins. You see, His perfect blood was sprinkled on the mercy seat of Heaven and was the only payment that was holy and powerful enough to save the spirits of those who believe. John 19:30 declares the Son of God cried from the cross, “It is finished,” which guaranteed the covenant authority of God’s word as the greatest hope the world can ever know. Eternal salvation is now available for all who hear the gospel, are convicted to repent, and choose to embrace Him by faith

as their Lord. The gospel is known as the good news, a life-changing promise of forgiveness the world desperately needs. Like many of you, I have dedicated my life to sharing this gospel, believing it to be the power leading to salvation for all who accept it. What is this gospel? It centers on the precious blood that Jesus freely gave when He endured suffering and died on our behalf. After three days in the tomb, He rose, inaugurating the covenant of our salvation as part of God’s plan to ransom, redeem, transform, and restore all who commit themselves to Him. The Bible records the most profound love story, and many of you know the verses in Matthew 28:5-6 where angels greet the women at the empty tomb: “The angel said to the women, Do not be afraid, for I know you are seeking Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here, for He is risen as He said! Come, see the place where He lay.” It’s required within our great commission to relay the good news, to emphasize the



glorious significance of what His sacrifice and resurrection accomplished, what it guarantees for those who believe, and how we can have a blessed assurance of these glorious promises today. I personally do not use the word Easter as it is widely accepted to originate from the Anglo-Saxon spring goddess Eostre. In Scandinavia, she was called Ostra, and in Germania, Eastre. Others link it to Astarte, the Phoenician fertility goddess, who was idolized as the Babylonian counterpart Ishtar. Rabbits and eggs are symbols of fertility and were the theme of many

ancient European and Middle Eastern festivals, including Persian, Egyptian, and Druid cultures, often accompanied by the wearing of new clothing to greet the goddess of spring. Sunrise services celebrated the vernal equinox by worshiping the sun and its great power, and there is so much more. So, why in the world would we who worship the majesty of Christ celebrate the traditions of pagan festivals?

According to Funk & Wagnalls Standard Dictionary of Folklore, Mythology and Legend, “The hunt for Easter eggs, supposedly brought by the Easter rabbit,

is not mere child’s play, but the vestige of a fertility rite and the blessings associated with procreating. Some cultures believed that the decorated Easter egg “could magically bring happiness, prosperity, health, and protection.” All Christians should research holidays like Easter, Christmas, and Halloween to understand what they are really about. For Messianic Jews, the First Fruits (Bikkurim) feast falls within the Passover season, specifically the day after the Sabbath following Passover, which corresponds to the timing of the resurrection.

Holy week is about what happened to the Lamb of God and how it pertains to mankind. He is risen! Our greatest enemy, death, has been conquered! Our sins can be forgiven, and we can become born-again as God’s children! Let us rejoice and praise Him for His endless love and mercy! Ephesians 1:18-21. “I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened so that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.”

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

Mental health disorders in seniors expected to increase

The number of seniors with mental health disorders is expected to double by 2030, according to a recent report from the American Hospital Association.

Some of that increase could be due to lack of treatment, as the AHA notes two-thirds of seniors with mental health issues do not receive necessary treatment for their conditions.

The estimated increase in mental health condition incidence rates among seniors also could be due to what the World Health Organization notes is an increased vulnerability to such issues among aging adults.

According to the WHO, mental health is shaped by numerous variables, including earlier life experiences and age-related stressors like a loss of functional ability and a reduced sense of purpose after retirement.



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
Dubois County) IN 47542
state; 10¢ ky-news.c Newspaper Discover a retroactiv

Huntingburg Press • Jasper News Journal
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). 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

Advertising standards Merchandise and services advertised in our papers are expected to be accurately described and readily available.

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.

The power of a simple conversation

By **Diann Moesner**, Youth First, Inc.

Talking to your child every day is one of the most powerful investments a parent can make. Daily conversations do more than exchange information; they also build trust, emotional security, and a lifelong habit of communication.

It's a great feeling when these daily exchanges become so expected by your child that they start asking you the questions before you even get to ask them. When children know they can talk to you regularly, they are more likely to share their thoughts, worries, successes, and struggles as they grow. These seemingly small everyday moments really lay the foundation for stronger relationships through the teenage

years and into young adulthood.

Consistent conversation helps children feel seen and valued. When an adult takes time to listen, it sends the message that the child's thoughts and feelings matter. This sense of importance helps strengthen self-esteem and emotional resilience. Children who feel heard are often better able to manage emotions, solve problems, and form healthy relationships with others. These daily moments of connection also give parents insight into their child's world, making it easier to notice when changes in behavior, mood, or needs happen quickly.

Conversations do not have to be long or deep to matter. Small moments count, and consistency is important. Simple,

open-ended questions can open big doors.

Instead of asking "How was school?," which often leads to a one-word answer, try asking:

"What was the best part of your day?"

"Did anything surprise you today?"

Some additional simple starters are:

"What made you laugh today?"

"What was something tricky you dealt with today?"

"If today had a title, what would it be?"

Be prepared to answer these questions about your day as well and share a little about yourself with your child. If the conversation feels stuck or your child is slower to warm up to the idea, you can start by saying:

"Something that challenged me today was..."

"I felt proud when..."

This side of the conversation shows that talking about feelings is normal and safe. Children often open up more when they are included in a two-way conversation rather than being interviewed.

To get your child excited about this part of the day, consistency and creativity matter. Choose a regular time, such as during dinner, bedtime or a car ride, so conversation becomes a comforting part of the routine rather than a surprise demand. Make it relaxed and judgment-free. If children sense that they won't be criticized or rushed, they are more likely to participate willingly.

Turning conversations into something fun can also help, especially when just starting and the conversation isn't flowing automatically. You might create a jar

filled with ready-to-go conversation starter questions that are silly and thoughtful and take turns picking one. You can play simple games like "highs and lows" of the day, or "rose, thorn, and bud" (something good, something hard, and something you are looking forward to).

Most importantly, keep the focus on connection, not correction. Daily conversations should feel like a safe place to share, not a lecture. When children associate talking with warmth, attention, and enjoyment, they begin to look forward to it (and will begin to initiate it). Over time, these small daily talks add up, shaping confident communicators who know they are loved, valued, and never alone!

Diann Moesner, MSW, LCSW, is a

Youth First Mental Health Professional at Elberfeld Elementary School and Lynnville Elementary School in Warrick 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 55,000 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 or call 812-421-8336.

Harvard University professor receives the inaugural UE Professor Azarian's Prize for Mathematical Reviews

EVANSVILLE, IND. — The Mohammad K. Azarian Prize for Mathematical Reviews Reviewers, named after Dr. Mohammad K. Azarian, professor of mathematics at the University of Evansville (UE), was presented for the first time at the 2026 Joint Mathematics Meetings in Washington, D.C., honoring outstanding contributions to peer review in mathematics. The award, which carries a \$5,000 prize, recognizes reviewers whose work demonstrates technical insight, clarity, and service to the global mathematical community.

The inaugural recipient of the Azarian Prize is Dr. Arnav Tripathy, the Benjamin Peirce assistant professor of mathematics at Harvard University,

who earned his PhD from Stanford University in 2016. The 2026 prize was awarded to an early-career research mathematician (predoctoral through 10 years post-PhD). Subsequent prizes will honor a contributor for lifetime achievement and a contributor from a nation and institution served by the MathSciNet for Developing Countries program.

The Azarian Prize reflects the remarkable legacy of Dr. Azarian, a lifetime member of the American Mathematical Society (AMS). He is a reviewer for the AMS's Mathematical Reviews (MathSciNet) and the European Mathematical Society's zbMATH Open. Professor Azarian served four years as a Discipline Peer Reviewer for the



From L to R: President of AMS Ravi Vakil, Mohammad K. Azarian, and Arnav Tripathy.

Submitted photo

Fulbright Scholar Program (2015-2018) sponsored by the United States Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. He served on the AMS Committee on the Human Rights of Mathematicians (2021-2023), and in 2023, he was the chair of the committee and was the AMS Representative on the American Association for the Advancement of Science Human

Rights Coalition. "His decades of tireless service as an educator, researcher, reviewer, advisor, and editor are truly inspirational," said Doug Allen, AMS associate vice president for development. "I am grateful to recognize the outstanding reviewers whose work sustains the value of Mathematical Reviews," said Dr. Azarian.

This recognition

continues Dr. Azarian's decades-long commitment to scholarship, mentorship, and service at the University of Evansville and beyond. In April 2025, UE announced that Dr. Azarian made history as the first Muslim and the first Iranian American mathematician to have two prestigious mathematics awards named in his honor by the American Mathematical Society (AMS) and the Mathematical Association of America (MAA). The University of Evansville congratulates Dr. Azarian on his enduring contributions to the global mathematical community. For more information about Professor Azarian's scholarly work, visit faculty.evansville.edu/ma3.

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.

Upcoming classes and events

Basic Life Support (BLS)

Jasper, IN – Deaconess Memorial Medical Center offers an instructor led Basic Life Support (BLS) training class for licensed and certified health care professionals, such as physicians, dentists, nurses, paramedics and EMTs. This American Heart Association course covers CPR for all ages, 2-man CPR, bag-valve mask ventilation, relief of responsive and unresponsive FBAO (choking), and use of the AED. Participants must successfully complete a written test and skills evaluation in CPR and AED to receive a course completion (credential) card.

The next available class is Monday, April 6, 2026, from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. in the Health

and Wellness Classroom at Memorial Southside Office, 1100 West 12th Avenue in Jasper. The cost is \$65. Pre-registration is required and class size is limited. For more information, or to register, please visit Deaconess Memorial Medical Center website at www.deaconessmemorial.com and click on "Classes & Events," or call the Deaconess Wellness Solutions department at 812-996-2399.

"Breastfeeding: Getting Started"

Jasper, IN – Expecting a baby? Sign up to attend Deaconess Memorial Medical Center's in-depth breastfeeding class, "Breastfeeding: Getting Started." During your time of baby preparation,

this educational class can help provide an easier transition into motherhood and breastfeeding. It is recommended that both mother and the support person, who will assist the mother, attend the classes as support is important to breastfeeding success.

"Breastfeeding: Getting Started," will be held on Wednesday, April 1, 2026, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at Deaconess Memorial in Board Conference Room B/C, located on the lower level of the LCM Tower, at 800 West 9th Street in Jasper. The class is free for those delivering at Deaconess Memorial; otherwise, cost is \$15.

Pre-registration is required. To enroll, please visit Deaconess Memorial's website at www.deaconessmemorial.com and click on "Classes & Events."

If you do not have online access, please call Deaconess Memorial's Lactation Services at 812-996-0383.

Living with COPD Support & Education Meeting

Jasper, IN – Did you know that approximately 16 million Americans are affected by Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)? This chronic condition restricts air flow, causes difficulty breathing, and includes diseases such as emphysema and chronic bronchitis.

If you or if someone you care for is living with COPD, you are invited to attend "Living with COPD," an educational and

support meeting. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 14, 2026, from 12:00-1:00 p.m. in the Deaconess Memorial Medical Center Mary Potter Meeting Room, located inside the hospital at 800 W 9th St., Jasper, IN.

For more information about "Living with COPD", please visit the Deaconess Memorial website at www.deaconess.com and click on "Classes & Events," or call 812-996-0552 or 812-996-4000. Pre-registration is not necessary, and there is no cost to attend.

Your Health and Diabetes

Jasper, IN – Discovering the diagnosis of diabetes can be overwhelming. Deaconess Memorial Medical Center wants to support you in this

transition of lifestyle and sponsors a continuing education group for persons with diabetes, pre-diabetes, or anyone who is interested in learning about the disease.

This support group is held the third Monday of each month and provides knowledge to help you feel more secure, manage problems, and avoid hospitalization for diabetes-related issues. The next meeting will be Monday, April 20, 2026, from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. on the 3rd floor of the Barrett Building at Deaconess Memorial, located at 800 West 9th Street in Jasper, IN.

For more information, please contact Deaconess Memorial Medical Center's Diabetes Management and Prevention Services at 812-996-0521.

The origins on Easter Sunday

Easter takes place on a different Sunday each year. In western Christianity, Easter follows the Gregorian calendar and is thus considered a “movable feast” that is always celebrated between March 22 and April 25. Eastern Orthodox Christianity adheres to the Julian calendar, so Easter will fall on a Sunday between April 4 and May 8 each year. In 2022, the western Christian Easter celebration occurs on April 17 and the Eastern Orthodox Easter is observed on April 24.

Easter is the most important celebration on the Christian liturgical calendar. While commemorations

of Jesus Christ’s resurrection likely occurred earlier, the earliest recorded observance of an Easter celebration was in the second century, according to Britannica.

Initial Easter celebrations weren’t known as “Easter,” which is a word that was borrowed from Pagan spring celebrations of Eostre, the goddess of spring and fertility. It only became associated with Christian usage later on — long after biblical scripture was written. In fact, the word “Easter” only appears in one Bible, the King James Version. But it is likely the word was used as a translation of pascha,

or Passover, and not what has come to be known as Christian Easter.

The earliest Easter celebrations

were a version of Passover. According to leading sabbath scholar Professor Samuele Bacchiocchi, Christians universally

kept Passover on the biblical date of Nisan until 135 A.D. Early commemorations focused on the crucifixion, and the

pain and suffering of Jesus. Bacchiocchi says that eventually the resurrection emerged as the dominant reason for the celebration that would be known as Easter, and also as the main message of weekly Christian Sunday masses. By the fourth century, the Easter Vigil and celebration were well-established and a symbol of joyful anticipation of the resurrection.

Easter is now celebrated annually by faithful Christians. While Easter is not mentioned in the Bible, scripture depictions helped shape the holiday that would become an integral component of the Christian faith.



Why is Easter Sunday such an important Christian holiday?

Christians around the world fill church pews on Easter Sunday to participate in one of the most holy and important celebrations of the liturgical year. Although every Sunday presents opportunities to share in the word of God, Easter Sunday is an especially significant date on the Christian calendar.

Each Easter, Christians celebrate the miracle of Christ’s defeat over death through his resurrection and ascension to his father’s side in heaven. However awe-inspiring, Easter is much more than this event and its retelling. Easter actually is the core of the Christian

religion as it has come to be known, including inspiring the rituals and teachings that have been shared for nearly 2,000 years. Without the events that unfolded during Holy Week, the Christian faith would not exist as it was prophesied. Christ’s selfless sacrifice on the cross for others’ sins, as well as his miraculous resurrection, are the anchors upon which all of Christianity has been built.

In 1 Corinthians 15:17, St. Paul wrote, “And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.” Pope Benedict XVI similarly summarized St. Paul’s words, indicating that if the

resurrection were taken away, it may be possible to piece together ideas about God and men, but the Christian faith would be “dead.” In his book, Jesus of Nazareth, Pope Benedict further wrote, “Jesus would be a failed religious leader... he would then remain purely human, and his authority would extend only so far as his message is of interest to us.”

According to Christianity.com, Easter is part of the redemptive plan of mankind. It is worthy of celebration because it proved to people that Jesus is the Son of God. This gives Christians confidence that there is life after death, and they will

have the same power working in them that raised Jesus from the dead.

Out of Holy Week and Easter also came the start of Christian masses. On Holy Thursday, Jesus introduced his disciples to the bread that they ate at the Last Supper as “his body” and the wine as “his blood.” This would serve as the basis for the Christian celebration of Holy Communion, which remains a vital component of the faith and religious services.

Easter is a significant date on the Christian calendar that inspires Christians across the globe to celebrate their faith.



Tips for a great Easter egg hunt



Egg hunts are a traditional component of many people’s Easter celebrations. Children often delight in searching for eggs around the house or in the backyard.

Egg hunts are so popular that they have become a component of many town-sponsored festivities.

In fact, the White House hosts its annual Easter Egg Roll each year.

There are many ways to make Easter egg hunts more enjoyable and productive for participants of all ages. Try these “eggcellent” ideas.

- **Designate a clear hunting area.** Young children can grow

frustrated searching for eggs in large areas. Set parameters for the search area that are manageable depending on the ages of the children participating. If you’ll be in a large yard or field, tape off the search area perimeter.

- **Vary the prizes.** Candy, candy and more candy seems to be the name of the game on Easter. But too many sweets can lead to stomach aches for young Easter celebrants. Instead, mix and match the prizes contained in the eggs. Candy can be in some, money in others, and perhaps small toys in a few eggs.

Another clever idea is to mix the egg hunt with charades. Put charade prompts in some eggs so that kids have to act out what they read inside for added fun.

- **Special privilege egg.** Hide one egg that gives the finder the opportunity for a special honor. It may include getting the first slice of the holiday ham or being able to choose

a movie that the entire family watches together after dinner.

- **Label eggs for equity.** When there are children across a wide range of ages, label the eggs with the children’s names or utilize a color-coded system to ensure that everyone has an equal shot at finding eggs. .
- **Keep a master list.** It can be hard to remember where each egg is hidden, so keep a running list of where they are or take photos with a phone of the hiding spots.

This way you’re not left to discover a chocolate-filled egg teeming with ants come summertime.

- **Make custom baskets.** Children will need something to carry their eggs. Prior to the egg hunt, let them decorate bags or baskets with Easter trinkets for custom creations.

Easter egg hunts are a time-honored tradition.

The opportunities for fun are endless when families plan accordingly.

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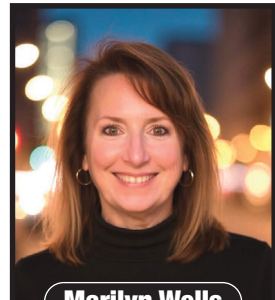
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hydraulic outlets, top link, radio, tool box. Runs and operates like it should. Lights all work. 260-609-6912 Columbia City IN

No 18 New Idea ground drive manure spreader. Operates like it should. Hard to find them in this condition. \$4,250.00. 260-609-6912 Columbia City IN

Serial #28199. 1973 International 1066 tractor w/cab. 18-4-38 rear tires w/9 Boc and Axle duals. 10:00x16 front tires. Rear weights, 2 hydraulic remotes 540/1000 PTO 3 pt and heat/ac, AM/FM radio, 3764 original hours. In frame overhaul at 3200 hours, top link, front weight bracket and torque good. As nice as you will find. 260-609-6912 Columbia City IN

New Idea 323, exc. shape, field ready. \$3500. 260-609-6912 Columbia City, IN

(CASE IH 7140) Magnum. Great tires. 5,100 hours. Front wheel assist. Dual, 200 horse. Asking \$41,500. 812-889-2415. Leave message. Will call back. (tfn)

2008 CIH 2412 cornhead 12 Row 20", just had new sprockets & gathering chains, exc.

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2010 Versatile-485, Cat., PS, 2395 hours, 4wd, QXS 15 L Cummins, recent overhaul, 710/42 Michelin tires 70%, factory AS, 6-hyd, remotes \$119,500. Call 618-535-3456. (tfn)

2011 JD 9230, 3-point PTO, AT-ready, 3012 hours, one owner, \$129,500-obo. Call (217) 242-9105 (tfn)JD-S550 684 Eng. hrs., 469 sep. hrs, 2WD duals, custom cab, 3- spd. elec. shift, contour master. Retiring. Asking \$180,000. (815) 228-4021.

JD 7720, 4WD, 30.5x32 tires, long auger, \$12,000 OBO. Call 859-608-4942

JOHN DEERE 6700 sprayer, new in the spring of 08, 603 hours, 60 ft. boom, 3 wheel with shields \$67,500. PRICED REDUCED!!! Call anytime 309-376-6741. (tfn)

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2014 Massey Ferguson 2270 Baler, 3 x 4 square bales w/ preservative knottor blower, standard chute, single axle, 8869 bales, \$79,000 OBO. Call Robert 815-291-6856.

KillBros Seed Tender w/plastic auger, \$2,000 1985 M & W 375 Wagon \$2,200 309-275-0524. (tfn)

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power steering, power breaks, cruise control, tack, garage kept, stored in winter, 35-40 mpg.Very clean, well kept car! Comes with car cover. This car won 1st Place in open stock competition at Heartland Worship Center Car Show in 2014. \$9,500. Call 270-554-7367, leave message if no answer. (tfn)

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2004 STERLING tri-axle dump truck, 8LL transmission, 16.5 ft. aluminum bed, 849,000 miles, great shape, mechanically sound, one owner, professionally maintained. Mid 30's Call 812-639-1078 (tfn)

2009 TOYOTA CAMRY LE. New tires. \$6,250 call 812-639-1246.

2006 YAMAHA ROADLINER 1900 w/ accessories. 29,000 miles and 2,000 miles on the tires. Drag pipes and Mustang seats. \$5,500 call 812-686-1774.

2004 STERLING TRIAXLE DUMP TRUCK, 8LL transmission, 16.5 ft. aluminum bed, 849,000 miles, great shape, mechanically sound, one owner, professionally maintained. Mid 30's Call 812-639-1078 (tfn)

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

Word Search Answers

T X K X B B W R N N N I N R S L M J D S C D N
J F L J G H T V S O H S L H M I G O C N I V C O V
G B B V M T V S O H S L H M I G O C N I V C O V
H S S M T V S O H S L H M I G O C N I V C O V
J H N I T O V S O H S L H M I G O C N I V C O V
I J O B L O C X N O V X I H S L H M I G O C N I V C O V
E J S O G A N N L C O N N I S O N L C O G N
C W T L D B N J H C W K X R O M N O G H N
O C H N N H I H G O O O O J B N S O O V
N O S C Y L C H V H L I T S N S I M K X V
C O T O N I G G I C T O T V I S H N K X V
S C G I B R I T I A L O C I D O S S T I H S
9 I T I V V S S C I X N S G B N C I I I N I B
S S S S S C I X N S G B N C I I I N I B
9 J L S T I T I V I N B C C B G V W R N M
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I T V H I B G W H N N X B N N O R B d O
H S N S E G C E I N S B H I W E I d O
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Follow farm safety guidelines

Agriculture is routinely ranked among the most dangerous professions around the world. Both the National Safety Council and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health say agriculture is one of the most hazardous industries in the United States. Farming operations continue to push forward with more mechanized and high-tech equipment that requires routine reviews of safety protocols.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics and NIOSH, the agricultural sector recorded a fatal injury rate of approximately 18.6 deaths per 100,000 workers in 2023. Transportation incidents, notably tractor rollovers, remain the leading cause of death. Furthermore, recent reports from the National Children’s Center for Rural and Agricultural Health and Safety indicate that a child dies in an agriculture-related incident in the United States approximately every three days, which underscores the need to prioritize farm safety across all age groups.

Ensuring safe working conditions is vital within the agricultural sector. These guidelines can set the course for safer farming work.

- Rollover Protective Structure (ROPS): The most effective lifesaver on a farm is ROPS. When combined with seatbelt use, ROPS is 99 percent effective in preventing death during a tractor overturn. ROPS are roll bars or roll cages fitted for wheel- and

track-type tractors, says Penn State Extension. Modern guidelines indicate that all machinery should be fitted with updated guarding to prevent entanglement accidents, which are often caused by Power Take-Off shafts.

- Respiratory protection: Grain bins and silos can pose significant risks on a farm. This includes toxic air exposure as well as the risk for engulfment. High-profile incidents in 2023 illustrated the threat that oxygen-limiting silos can pose after deadly carbon dioxide concentrations form. Risk of suffocation also is great in a grain bin if a person is engulfed by grain. Workers should never work in a bin alone and should utilize a lockout/tagout system to ensure that all augers are off before entry.

- Chemicals and biological hazards: High-potency pesticides and fertilizers create their own hazards on the farm. Personal protective equipment (PPE) is a must when working with chemicals. Most modern standards require proper ventilation, chemical-resistant gloves and dedicated eye protection to prevent acute poisoning and long-term health issues.

- Hearing protection: Exposure to the sounds of farm machinery and other equipment can result in tinnitus (ringing in the ears) and eventual hearing loss unless hearing protection is worn regularly.

- Fatigue and mental health: Mental and physical fatigue of

farm workers can result in injury as well. A critical trend uncovered in recent agricultural safety research ultimately led researchers to conclude that “fatigue management” needs to be prioritized, according to the United States Department of Agriculture. Tired operators can be vulnerable to lapse-of-attention errors, so farmers are encouraged to implement scheduled breaks. The Rural Health Information Hub says that stress also is a big factor for farmers. Environmental factors such as drought, floods, wildfires, pests, and diseases, as well as long hours and financial concerns, can result in feelings of isolation and frustration. Stress is a known precursor to physical accidents on the farm.

These are just some of the risk factors on farms that can lead to accident or injury. Falls from ladders, injuries from livestock, exposure to UV rays, and exposure to high levels of dust, mold and bacteria also can affect modern farmers. Agricultural safety needs to evolve as quickly as the changing operations on farms.



AUCTION

Jaloda Farm LLC Dispersal

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Saturday, April 4, 2026, 10:00 AM
Preview: Friday, April 3, 2026, 12:00-4:00 PM

AUCTIONEERS NOTE: *Jaloda Farms have been in the area for 110 plus years. Having sold the dairy cattle in the fall of 2025, Jim & family are retiring from farming. The auction is a live auction with online bidding available through Proxibid & Equipment Facts. Hope to see you at the auction.*

SALE ORDER: 10 AM start with small items. The catalog items to start at 10:45 AM. Full listing at kikoauctions.com

ONSITE TERMS: Driver's license or State ID required to register for bidder number. Cash, Check, Debit Card, Visa, or MasterCard accepted. 4% buyer's premium on all sales; 4% waived for cash or check when paid sale day. Information is believed to be accurate but not guaranteed. Multi Par auction process may be used.

ONLINE TERMS: Visa, MasterCard, Wire Transfer and auctioneer approved check accepted. Wire transfers required on invoices over \$3,000. 7% buyer's premium on all sales. Information is believed to be accurate but not guaranteed. Multi par auction process may be used.

Auction By Order Of: Jaloda Farm LLC, The Sheffield Family
Auctioneer/Realtor: Randall L. Kiko, 330.831.0174, randallkiko@kikocompany.com

KIKO Auctioneers | (330) 455-9357 | www.kikoauctions.com



Putting farm waste to good use

Agricultural waste poses a challenge for farmers, even if the subject does not garner a lot of attention outside of rural areas. Farms generate enormous amounts of organic waste, including crop residues, fruit peels, sawdust, and livestock manure. Farmers

must decide how to get rid of agricultural waste legally and economically.

If not disposed of properly, farm waste can pollute the environment, particularly the air and waterways like rivers and streams. It is best for everyone to mitigate agricultural

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Ag Innovation Challenge Opens: \$100K for top entrepreneur

The American Farm Bureau Federation, in partnership with Farm Credit, is accepting online applications from entrepreneurs for the 2027 Farm Bureau Ag Innovation Challenge through June 5. Now in its 13th year, this national business competition showcases U.S. startup companies developing innovative solutions to challenges faced by America’s farmers, ranchers and rural communities.

The overall winner of the competition will receive \$100,000 in startup funds, the runner-up will be awarded \$25,000 and two additional business owners who advance to the final four round will receive \$10,000.

“Encouraging innovation is essential to keeping American agriculture strong,” said AFBF President Zippy Duvall. “If you’re building a business that can help farmers and rural



the Ag Innovation Challenge include FarmMind (2026), a company that unifies farm workflows from GIS to compliance and agronomic insights, and Gripp (2025), a company that provides an operator-focused tool for asset tracking and team communication. Other examples of successful Ag Innovation Challenge participants, as well as detailed eligibility guidelines and the competition timeline, can be found at fb.org/challenge.

Entrepreneurs must be members of a county or parish Farm Bureau within their state of residence to qualify as top 10 semi-finalists. Applicants who are not Farm Bureau members can visit <https://www.fb.org/about/get-involved> to learn about becoming a member.

Applications must be received by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on June 5.

communities thrive, don’t wait, apply today.”

Farm Bureau is offering a total of \$145,000 in startup funds throughout the course of the competition. After the application period closes on June 5, 10 semi-finalist teams will be selected and announced on Sept.

2. Next, the 10 semi-finalist teams will pitch virtually to compete for a spot in the final four round of the contest.

The final four teams will be awarded \$10,000 each and participate in a live pitch competition in front of Farm Bureau members, investors and industry

representatives at the AFBF Convention in January 2027 in Charlotte, North Carolina, to win:

Farm Bureau Ag Innovation Challenge Winner, \$90,000 (total of \$100,000)

Farm Bureau Ag Innovation Challenge Runner-up, \$15,000

(total of \$25,000)

Farm Bureau is proud to recognize these innovative businesses, in partnership with sponsors Farm Credit, Bayer, John Deere, Farm Bureau Bank, Farm Bureau Financial Services, ClearPath and T-Mobile.

Recent winners of

WASTE, from page 9

waste to create further hazards. Farmers may not have considered recycling some agricultural waste, but it is a way to transform this potential hazard into something that

can be used on the farm itself or sold commercially.

The following are some considerations for putting farm waste to good use.

Compost
Animal waste, crop residues and additional organic material can be combined to create nutrient-rich compost. Compost is utilized to improve soil structure, fertility and water

retention. This helps reduce reliance on chemical fertilizers. By investing in large-scale composting tools, farmers can process hundreds or even thousands of tons of organic matter each year. While some can be used on the

farm, the excess can be sold at a profit.

Biogas
Biogas production is carried out through a process known as anaerobic digestion (AD). The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says AD involves bacteria breaking down organic matter, such as animal manure, wastewater biosolids and food wastes in the absence of oxygen. As the bacteria digest the waste, they generate biogas, which is mostly comprised of methane. Capturing biogas can reduce greenhouse gas emissions on a farm, and the biogas can be turned into a renewable energy source to power electricity, heating or transportation, according to Prime Dumpster Incorporated.

Digestate
Anaerobic digestion

does not only produce biogas. Digestate is the solid and liquid effluent remaining after the process, says the EPA. Digestate can be used in many applications, including animal bedding, fertilizers and a foundation material for creating bioplastics and other bio-based products.

Recycling
Certain items used on farms cannot be turned into compost or fertilizer. However, recycling containers, tires, cardboard, rubber, and plastics offers the potential for these products to be made into new items. Western Packaging says recyclable items can be kept separate from other waste so they can have new life outside of landfills. Seeing farm waste as an asset and not a problem can help farmers save money and resources.

ONLINE AUCTION

ENDS MONDAY APRIL 6TH @ 6PM (CST)

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To view and bid go to “www.Dimmettauctionservice.com and click on **HiBid Online Auctions**”

LOCATION: DAS will be having an Online auction at 3699 SR-62 East Boonville, Indiana. It’s just East of Degonia Springs. There will be a \$20 transfer fee and the items will need to be picked up at DC Firearms LLC located at 5747 West County Road 600 North Richland, IN. To view and bid go to dasonlineauctions.hibid.com.

PREVIEW: You can preview items on Sunday, April 5th from 1-3^{PM} located at 3699 SR-62 E Boonville, IN in the **BLUE BARN**. To view and bid go to dasonlineauctions.hibid.com.

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AUCTION PICKUP: Will be at 5747 West County Road 600 North, Richland Indiana.

TERMS: Pick up time is Tuesday, April 7th from 10AM to 5^{PM}. Cash, check, and or credit card (3% charge) when you pick up your items. A 10% buyers premium & 7% sales tax will be charged for this consignment online auction. Shipping available. Any announcements made day of auction shall take precedence over any verbal or printed material.

To view and bid go to dasonlineauctions.hibid.com.

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Gross domestic product

Data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis indicates the significance of farms in relation to the gross domestic product of the United States economy. In 2023, farms contributed \$222.3 billion, or roughly 0.8 percent of the nation’s GDP. Though that’s a significant contribution in its own right, it only tells a small part of the role farms and farmers play in establishing a healthy national economy. Additional sectors, such as the food and beverage industry and textiles, apparel and leather products, rely on the agricultural sector to contribute

to their own success. Without a thriving agricultural sector, those industries would falter, thus creating a domino effect that could prove devastating to the nation’s economy. That link is why the BEA estimates the agricultural sector is an even bigger contributor to the nation’s GDP than it may seem. Indeed, the BEA indicates the agricultural sector, in conjunction with food and related industries, contributed around \$1.54 trillion to the U.S. economy in 2023, a contribution that accounts for roughly 5.5 percent of the nation’s GDP.