

**Your Community Bulletin Board** 

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June 1, 2021

Mayor Thomas M. McDermott, Jr., The City of Hammond, and The Juneteenth Committee Present

# Still We Rise! JUNETEENTH

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**Hammond Democratic Committee** 

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#### **Funeral - Services**

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#### Government

**Hammond City Clerks Office** 

5925 Calumet Ave. Hammond, IN 219.853.6346 www.am legal.com/hammond in/

**Hammond Park Foundation** 

3031 Mahoney Dr. Hammond, IN 463223 219.853.6378

Hammond Department of Planning & Development

5925 Calumet Avenue Hammond, IN 219.853.6371

Hammond Mayor's Office

5925 Calumet Avenue Hammond, IN 46320 219.853.6301

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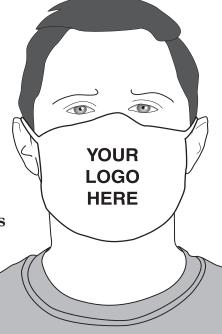
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## **School City of Hammond Participates in Emergency Broadband Benefit Program**

Hammond, IN. - School City of Hammond families can apply for the Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) program beginning today. This is a temporary federal program through the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) that helps eligible families and households struggling to afford broadband internet service during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The program will end once the program funds are exhausted, or six months after the Department of Health and Human Services declares an end to the pandemic, whichever comes first.

The program provides eligible households with discounts of up to \$50 a month for broadband service. It also provides a one-time discount of up to \$100 on a computer or tablet for eligible households. Under the law, all SCH families participating in the Free Breakfast and Lunch program qualify for this program. Families can sign up here.

SCH also works with the following partners to provide EBB families with technology assistance:

- WOW! Internet: This partner offers no-cost or reduced-cost high-speed internet plans to EBB-qualified new or existing WOW! customers. Call 888-640-1821 or visit the WOW website to sign up.
- T-Mobile: This partner offers EBB-eligible households an unlimited data tablet and a 20GB hotspot. Visit a nearby T-Mobile store to sign up.
- American Broadband & Telecommunications Co.: When signing up for internet service, this partner issues an 8" Android Tablet with a hotspot (\$14.95 shipping fee). Families can sign up here.

#### **About the School City of** Hammond

The School City of Hammond is a district of approximately 12,200 students from diverse backgrounds and cultures. Students attend our school sites, which include 12 elementary schools, two middle schools and two high schools. The district also offers preschool and several specialty programs.

School City of Source: Hammond

EMAIL: NEWSDESK@CRPUBNWI.COM

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## Mayor's Night Out

June 23	3rd District	Sportsplex Soccer Field 6630 Indianapolis Boulevard
August 11	4th District	Edison Elementary School-Cafeteria 7025 Madison Avenue
October 6	5th District	Jefferson Elementary School-Cafeteria 6940 Northcote Avenue
November 3	6th District	Scott Middle School-Cafeteria 3635 – 173rd Street

Subject to change. All programs are from 6:30pm-8:30pm.

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BANNER BANNER

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## Church Directory

#### Abundant Life Community Church

6808 Missouri Ave., Hammond, IN Pastor Dr. Michael White

(219) 845-0954

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Evening Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

www.alcccogop.org

#### Bethel Congregational C.O.G.I.C.

815 Michigan St., Hammond, IN Deacon Lester Stokes (219) 931-1301

Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Sunday 10:30 a.m. Friday 7:30 p.m.

#### **Black Oak Church of Christ**

2844 Stevenson St., Gary, IN Pastor Steve Martinez (219) 844-1789

Sunday 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 9:30 - 10:15 a.m.

#### Greater Works Outreach Prayer and Deliverance Ministry

3916 173 St, Hammond, IN, 46323 Apostle Jose Ruiz (219) 852-0677 Sunday 11:30 a.m. www.greaterwksmin.com

(minimum 4 issues)

**Hammond Christian Reformed Church** 

1910 167th St, Hammond, IN Pastor Donald Jabaay

(219) 844-3331

Sunday School 9:50 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
Coffee Break Tuesday 9:00 a.m.
Ladies Bible Study Tuesday 6:00 p.m.
www.hammondcrc.org

#### **Hyde Park United Methodist Church**

6348 Harrison Ave., Hammond, IN Preacher Darryl Dorton (219) 932-0613

Sunday 12:30 p.m. Thursday Thrift shop 9:00 a.m. - Noon Last Saturday of the month

Free Pancake breakfast 9-11 a.m.

### Lighthouse Christian Fellowship of Whiting, IN

1403 Stanton Ave. Whiting, IN 46394 Pastor Junior Berrios (219) 742-0526

Tuesday-Prayer6:30 p.m.Tuesday-Service7:00 p.m.Wednesday-Bible Study6:30 p.m.Thursday-Prayer6:30 p.m.Thursday-Service7:30 p.m.Sunday-Prayer10:00 a.m.Sunday-Service11:00 a.m.

#### Mt. Zion Baptist Church

1047 Kenwood St., Hammond, IN Reverend William R. Collins (219) 931-4337

Sunday 11:00 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Wednesday Prayer 6:00 p.m.

#### New Hope Missionary Baptist Church

1117 Merrill St., Hammond, IN Reverend Herman A. Polk, Sr. (219) 932-5955

 Sunday
 10:30 a.m.

 Sunday School
 9:00 a.m.

 Wednesday
 8:30 a.m, 1:30 & 7:00 p.m.

#### New Salem MissionaryBaptist Church

833 Conkey St., Hammond, IN Pastor Wayne Hudson (219) 932-0999

Sunday 11:00 a.m. Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

#### **New Zion Temple Church**

926 Morris Street, Hammond, IN Bishop Brandon A. Jacobs (219) 931-ZION (9466) Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Sunday Morning Worship 11:30 a.m.

Sunday Morning Worship 11:30 a.m.
Wednesday Prayer 6:30 p.m.
Wed Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
www.newziontemple.org

#### Testimony C.O.G.I.C. of Hammond

1022 Cleveland St, Hammond, IN Elder Patrick Williams (219) 937-4676

Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship 11:30 a.m. Friday 7:30 p.m.

#### **Trinity Lutheran Church**

7227 Hohman Ave, Hammond, IN (219) 932-4660

Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

On FACEBOOK

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

www.trinity hammond.com

"We come to church not to hide our problems but to heal them."

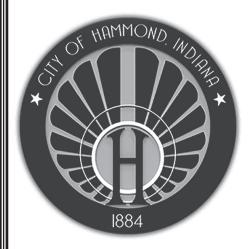
~ Dieter F. Uchtdorf

# Church Directory Listing \$8.00 per/issue

(219) 931-6700 newsdesk@crpubnwi.com

\*information submitted subject to editing for clarity and space allotted

## Hammond Sportsplex **Introduces Canvas Parties** in the Union Lounge



Thomas Mayor M. McDermott, Jr. and the City of Hammond are excited to announce the first canvas painting party happening this June 12th at the Hammond Sportsplex! The Summer Canvas Social will feature a hands-on teaching format where guests learn and paint a lion. The event is Saturday from 11:00am - 2:00pm in the Sportsplex Union Lounge. All are invited to join the event page on the Hammond Sportsplex Facebook page.

This event is open to residents as well as nonresidents of the City of Hammond.

Registration for this event is \$35 and is taking place at the Hammond Sportsplex located at 6630 Indianapolis Blvd. This fee provides instruction for the class, all materials needed to paint your own canvas and access to the bar for the duration of the event. Spaces are limited to 25 guests, all of which are required to come wearing a face mask or covering. Registration is open until June 4th or until spaces fill.

For more information on the Summer Canvas Social, contact the Hammond Sportsplex at (219) 853-7660 or visit www.gohammond. com. For direct questions regarding the event, contact the Recreation Supervisor, Selina at baezs@ gohammond.com.

Source: City of Hammond

## **Festival of the Lakes Carnival Mega Pass Now On Sale!**

Mayor Thomas McDermott, Jr., Hammond Parks & Recreation and Modern Midways are pleased to announce the return of the carnival Mega Pass for use at the 17th Annual Festival of the Lakes. The Mega Pass is on sale now for \$60 each, in person at the Hammond Civic Center Business Office, 5825 S. Sohl Ave., Monday - Friday from 8:30 am. -4:30 p.m. Pay via cash, Visa, MasterCard or Discover. Carnival Mega Passes can also be purchased online at www.festivalofthelakes.com. Carnival Mega Passes will also be available on site at the Modern Midways Ticket Booth at Wolf Lake Memorial Park for \$70 each. So be sure to purchase your tickets now to take advantage of the \$10 savings!

Purchasing a Mega Pass allows unlimited carnival rides during the Festival of the Lakes, July 14-18 from open

## FESTIVAL SE **LAKES**

until close. Turn in your pass or online bar code paperwork at the Modern Midways office on the Festival grounds at Wolf Lake Memorial Park beginning Wednesday, July 14 at 5 p.m. and you will receive a wristband that must be worn for the entirety of the Festival.

Once a Mega Pass is purchased, there will be no refunds or exchanges. Mega Passes will be on sale until Tuesday, July 13 at 4 p.m. or while supplies last at the Hammond Civic Center and at www.festivalofthelakes.com. For more information, call 219.853.6378.

Source: City of Hammond

## The Sub Hub

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### Police Citizen Award



On May 6, 2021, Hammond Police were dispatched to the 4000 block of Calumet Avenue in reference to a vehicle fire. Upon arrival, officers learned that a Hammond man, Walter Allen, was driving down the street when he realized that a vehicle driving next to him was on fire. Mr. Allen signal to the driver to pull over which she did. Mr. Allen then pulled Ms. Mildred Rena Garcia Hernandez from her vehicle just before it was engulfed in flames. Thanks to the quick thinking and action of Mr. Allen, Ms. Garcia Hernandez' life may have been saved. The Hammond Police Department presented the citizen award for bravery in recognition of saving Ms. Garcia Hernandes's life to Mr. Walter Allen.

## **Festival of the Lakes** hosts Senior Day

Mayor Thomas McDermott, Jr. and the 17th annual Festival of the Lakes ensures everyone is included in the event's fun and excitement by offering Senior Day to the community. Senior Day, held on Wednesday, July 14 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Emerald Green on Lost Marsh Golf Course, 1001 - 129th Street, invites seniors aged 55 and older to come enjoy an afternoon of dancing, a free lunch provided by Emerald Green, and music by the Pete Carlo Three. This event is free and offers goody bags to everyone in attendance while supplies last. Vendors will also be available with



information pertaining to various senior services. Visit www.festivalofthelakes.com or call 219.853.7705 for more information.

Source: City of Hammond



## **DON'T DESERT US HAMMOND'S** HEALTH **DEPENDS ON YOU**

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# Crossroads YMCA announces new Destination YMCA in Hammond through partnership with City of Hammond and Mayor Thomas M. McDermott, Jr.

May 21, 2021—Crossroads YMCA is pleased to announce a partnership with the City of Hammond and Mayor Thomas M. McDermott, Jr. to create a new and expanded YMCA at the former Woodmar Mall/Carson Pirie Scott site. Last December the City and the YMCA began discussions on an expansion of Hammond's current YMCA. From those discussions it became apparent that Hammond and the surrounding areas needed a YMCA that would serve the larger needs of the community.

The new destination YMCA includes over 100,000 square feet of space, over three times larger than the YMCA's current Hammond facility. The new YMCA will provide Hammond a state-of-the-art facility that will include programming to address wellness and provide a safe place for kids and families. The YMCA's presence in Hammond has never been stronger—with a \$3M+ 2019 renovation completed at its current location, 7322 Southeastern Avenue. Since that time, membership and programming continue to thrive and grow, confirming the need for expansion of the YMCA presence in Hammond.

The new Destination YMCA will benefit from financial commitments from the Dean & Barbara White Family Foundation and the City of Hammond through Mayor Thomas M. McDermott, Jr. and the city's Redevelopment Commission. "Partnering with the YMCA to bring a destination attraction for families will complete the rebirth of the

former Woodmar Mall site. The city's commitment to the very successful Sportsplex next door creates a complete campus for families to enjoy both facilities for years to come," said Mayor McDermott.

Bill Hanna, Executive Director of the Dean and Barbara White Family Foundation shared, "The mission of the Dean and Barbara White Family Foundation is to partner in the creation of catalytic facilities, and support of non-profits that will enhance the quality of life of the residents of Northwest Indiana. The foundation's areas of focus are education, health and wellness, youth, community, economic development, and sustainability. A new destination YMCA in Hammond will be a community centerpiece that will have amenities on par with the best YMCAs in the country. It will also be an anchor for additional private investment and economic prosperity for the nearby neighborhoods and businesses. This project will have a positive impact on each of the priority interests of the Foundation. We are obligating \$10,000,000 to the match the City's contribution dollar for dollar."

The YMCA expects the new location to serve up to 50,000 people in North Lake County. "Our goal is to complete fundraising by the end of the year, start construction in 2022, and open the new YMCA in 2024," said Jay Buckmaster, CEO at Crossroads YMCA.

The new YMCA in Hammond will benefit the community in the following ways:



- Offer additional experiences for kids to be healthy and active, to explore interests, to grow self-confidence;
- Provide a place for quality family time;
- Be a safe place for kids;
- Additional capacity and classes for kids/families to be safe around water;
- Support families by expanding summer learning loss prevention through programs like day camp;
- Address chronic disease by providing programs geared around water and land exercises;
- Expand programs and services for our seniors to include low impact water and level classes;
- Increase job opportunities the new facility will add approximately 200 jobs

The completion of this project will require raising additional funds. The YMCA is pleased to announce an exciting match program for supporters in the community. There are many room/area sponsorships available and the Dean and Barbara White Family Foundation will match your gift to help support funding for the resources needed

to complete the entire project. "We are making a matching fund of \$15,000,000 dollars available. We will be providing a dollar and a half, for every dollar donated, to support the YMCA's fundraising goal. This is an excellent opportunity for businesses and individuals to participate in a game changing project," said Bill Hanna. If you are interested in helping create this life-changing YMCA for our community through a matching gift, please contact Jay Buckmaster (CEO of Crossroads YMCA) at jbuckmaster@ crymca.org or call 219.235.9768.

"Crossroads YMCA has seen the need and desire for healthy, positive relationships in Lake County through programs that develop strong kids and strong families. We have been so thankful for the support of the communities we serve. Creating a new destination YMCA in Hammond will not only improve the health and wellness of kids and families, but also bring people together for a stronger sense of community."

-Jay Buckmaster CEO at Crossroads YMCA Source: City of Hammond

## Hammond High School

National Historic Preservation Month celebrates Indiana's historic places during the month of May.

as, collaborating in the design of many homes in the historic Glendale Park neighborhood. Additionally, he designed four courthouses in Indiana that are

still in use.



For 2021, we are celebrating by displaying Hammond High School through the decades Hammond High School was founded in 1884 and moved to its current location 5926 Calumet Avenue in 1916. Finishing the construction took six more years at an estimated cost of \$200,000. The building was designed by Joseph Tristam Hutton, a prominent local architect who was responsible for designing many of our local buildings. J. T. Hutton founded the architectural firm Hutton & Hutton Architects & Engineers which is still located in Hammond and is the largest family owned architectural firm in the nation. Hutton was also responsible for the Straub Piano Company, the former Federal Building, the Masonic Temple, the former Lafayette and Franklin schools, as well

Hammond High School is a Neo-Classical design which included features such as a sunroom. pools, tile roof

and parapet walls. Neo-Classical design architecture, which began in the 1800s and is frequently synonymous with governmental building including courthouses, municipal and administrative buildings, and schools.

The building experienced a major fire in 1967. Because of the extent and devastation of the fire, there was significant concerns that the building was not structurally salvageable. The City contracted with J.T. Hutton's son Robert to assess the restoration viability. He was able to determine that the school could be renovated because of his knowledge of this father's structural design. The reconstruction took six years and was completed in 1973. During the reconstruction the tile roof was replaced with a steel mansard roof. The sunroom located on the south façade was

removed, many windows were bricked over, and a gymnasium was added to the building. While the fire removed many of the ornamental elements of the building, its basic shape remained the same and many of its architectural details survived including the window lintels, keys and the stone banding.

While we are highlighting the building, historic preservation is not simply brick and mortar, but also the craftsmen who built it, the students who attend it and the community that surrounds it.

Hammond High started out with a curriculum which included just three years of study, graduating three students in its first year. It soon grew to what we consider a more traditional four-year experience. Over the years Hammond High has had 11 principals, and its graduates include four former mayors of the City of Hammond, and a bestselling author. Additionally, many proud athletes who won state titles beginning as early as 1905 proceeded to play professional sports.

The Hutton family support and loyalty to Hammond High has continued through the years. J.T.'s great great grandson holds a state athletic record, having been awarded

15 varsity letters. That record stands today at Hammond High. Descendants of J.T. also have been represented at Hammond High. His great great granddaughter was the first girls' soccer coach and his great grandson was the second boys' soccer coach.

The building is currently slated for demolition in 2021. While we are sad to see the building go, its history will live on forever, and the students will continue to create history in the new building.

We hope that in addition to sharing photos, and a brief history of the stories that are imbedded in Hammond High your interest will be sparked and you will start on your own historic preservation journey.

Many thanks for the suggestions, enthusiasm and hard work of all those involved, without whom this project could not have been completed.

Source: City of Hammond



Front of Hammond High prior to fire, circa 1960



Craftmen in front of practically complete Hammond High School, 1916



Hammond High School with school bus, circa 1922



Hammond High School, 2021

### Franciscan Alliance Protest in Hammond

The Hammond Development Corporation, Mayor Thomas M. McDermott, Jr., and other community leaders in a peaceful protest at 4pm Friday, May 21, 2021 at Franciscan Alliance Hospital in downtown Hammond.

The community organize to protest the planned demolition of the Franciscan Alliance Hospital, a strong anchor in downtown Hammond for over 120 years, and the negative effect the proposed downsizing will have on Hammond and its surrounding communities.

"Hammond is the largest city in Northwest Indiana.

It has areas of poverty and urban healthcare needs yet the Franciscan Alliance want to save money by demolishing 90% of the hospital," stated Mayor McDermott. action will result in Hammond residents and other nearby areas without access to hospital-based health care. Urban cores around the country have seen disinvestment in healthcare and now Franciscan Alliance is trying to make Hammond part of the list of cities with a healthcare desert at the expense of those people that need healthcare in their community most," said



Hammond Mayor Thomas M. McDermott, Jr., adds his voice supporting protestors to save Hospital.

McDermott. "This decision is not putting Christian values and stewardship before profits and is inconsistent with what I hear at mass on Sunday," said the mayor.

This closure will present a public health emergency in Hammond endangering the residents of Northwest Indiana's largest city and putting at risk the urban poor and chronically ill who will now be forced to leave their city for healthcare miles away where Franciscan has invested their dollars in wealthier suburban communities. "It's pretty obvious where they want to invest their profits—and it's not where they've benefited from being part of a community for over 120 years," said Mayor McDermott.

"Hammond and its residents, the very people who seek care under Franciscan's mission, are very concerned about this downsizing and want to be heard," said the mayor. "Coming together to peacefully protest will show the Franciscan Alliance leadership how important this cause is for everyone in Northwest Indiana. Franciscan's financial goals should not trump the healthcare of thousands."

Source: City of Hammond



Left to Right, Mayor Robert Polk of Burnham Illinois, Hammond Mayor Thomas M. McDermott, Jr., and Mayor Thaddeus Jones of Calumet City Illinois, are preparing to march.



Hammond Mayor Thomas M. McDermott, Jr., speaks with Dr Ravi Bhagwat a cardiologist, with over 30 years on the staff of Franciscan.



(219) 659-0687

1405 Summer St Hammond, Indiana

> 9 am to 5 pm **Local Tows** \$50.00

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1 Bedroom -\$840

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2 BR- (Tax Cred.) - \$898

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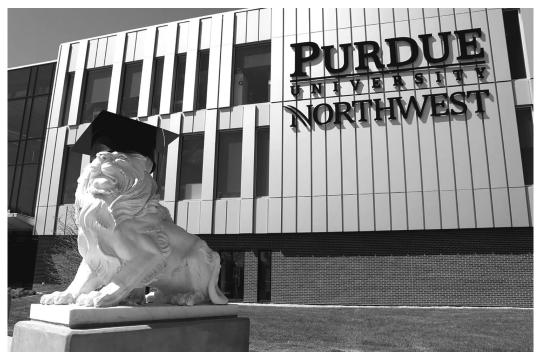
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## Purdue Northwest graduates urged to leverage their "license to learn"

Class of 1,082 graduates honored during two Commencement Exercises



Purdue University Northwest celebrated the spring Class of 2021 with two in-person, outdoor commencement ceremonies on May 15. A total of 1,082 bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree candidates were honored during the ceremonies.

Purdue University Northwest (PNW) graduates have earned a "license to learn" that they should leverage wisely and with integrity as they embark on their careers, keynote speaker

Stewart McMillan stated during two commencement ceremonies today (May 15).

McMillan, chairman emeritus of Valparaiso-based Task Force Tips, Inc. and a 1977 graduate of PNW, shared

> his insights gained from a lifetime in the firefighting industry, as business and community leader and philanthropist, and as a licensed pilot. Flight instructors traditionally hand a newly licensed pilot the freshly earned license with the statement, "This is your license to learn," McMillan said. Earning their degrees gives graduates a license to learn continues that throughout life.

Stewart McMillan, chairman emeritus of Task Force Tips,

"School is very different from the real world. You are given inputs to a problem; you solve the problem and then you look up the answer to make sure you got it right," McMillan stated. "Everyday life is quite different. You are given lots of inputs – many you do not need. You must figure out how to solve the problem and then you wait to see if it was right, as there is no place to look up the answer.

"It requires some additional skills in the backpack to navigate it successfully and without regrets," he added. McMillan urged graduates to act with integrity, find strong mentors, be willing to be wrong, talk to everyone and anyone, and to be humble as they move forward in their careers and in life.

"Leaders are not expected to have all the answers, but they are expected to have the integrity to admit when they do not, and the integrity to admit when they are wrong," McMillan said. "The people you lead will follow you on your journey only if they have trust - trust that when you know the answer you will act, and trust that when you do not know the answer, you will ask for help."

PNW's 2021 spring graduating class consists of 1,082 candidates, including the conferring of one doctoral degree, 141 master's degrees and 940 baccalaureate degrees. Some 690 degree honorees

planned to participate in the PNW commencement ceremonies. The university held in-person, outdoor ceremonies with the Nils K. Nelson Bioscience Innovation Building as a backdrop. The state-of-the-art building opened in August 2020.

The graduations also included presentation of a Chancellor Medallion to the graduating seniors in each of the university's five academic colleges with the highest grade point average.

#### **Medallion recipients are:**

#### **College of Business**

- Hailey Arlis (Minooka, IL)
- Shelbi Clark (Moxee, WA)
- Kyle Kelly (Schererville, IN)

#### College of Engineering and **Sciences**

- Emily Higley (Dyer, IN)
- Regan Sink (Chesterton, IN)

#### College of Humanities, **Education and Social Sciences**

- Amy Nieves (Chesterton, IN)
- Kayla Vasilko (Crown Point, IN)

#### **College of Nursing**

- Danielle Biancardi (Crown Point, IN)
- Katrina Machtemes (Michigan City, IN)

#### **College of Technology**

- Yash Patel (Oak Forest, IL)
- Andrew Pierce Valparaiso, IN)

Explore the stories successful PNW graduates at pnw.edu/ commencement-2021.

Source: Purdue University Northwest



Inc., delivered the keynote address to graduates at two Purdue University Northwest ceremonies on May 15.



## SEEKING INFORMATION

# ASSAULT ON FEDERAL OFFICERS AND VIOLENCE AT THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL WASHINGTON, D.C. JANUARY 6, 2021



Photograph #117-AFO



Photograph #118-AFO



Photograph #119-AFO



Photograph #120-AFO



Photograph #121-AFO



Photograph #122-AFO



Photograph #123-AFO



Photograph #124-AFO



Photograph #125-AFO



Photograph #126-AFO

#### **DETAILS**

The Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Washington Field Office is seeking the public's assistance in identifying individuals who made unlawful entry into the United States Capitol Building and assaulted federal law enforcement personnel on January 6, 2021, in Washington, D.C.

Anyone with information regarding these individuals, or anyone who witnessed any unlawful violent actions at the Capitol or near the area, is asked to contact the FBI's Toll-Free Tipline at 1-800-CALL-FBI (1-800-225-5324) to verbally report tips. You may also submit any information, photos, or videos that could be relevant online at fbi.gov/USCapitol. You may also contact your local FBI office or the nearest American Embassy or Consulate.

When calling to provide a tip on one of these individuals, please reference the above photo number, including the AFO. **Field Office**: Washington D.C.

www.fbi.gov

## Festival of the Lakes hosts Polka Party at Hammond Marina



The 17th Annual Festival of the Lakes invites all polka enthusiasts to stop by when it hosts its popular Polka Party on Sunday, July 18. Musical guest The E-Z Tones will bring

a traditional Polish sound to accompany an afternoon of great food and dancing. The E-Z Tones, a six-member group, have been playing polka and old-time music for over forty-five years. The band was formed in 1975 in Michigan City, IN and has performed for numerous festivals, weddings, and dances in Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York.

Though there have been some changes over the years, the current group includes three original members, the Sienkowski brothers. Eddie, Dan, and Tom Sienkowski are all from Indiana. They are joined by cousin Wayne Sienkowski, Fred Edelmaier, and Al Jelinek from the Chicago area. Almost all of us have been fortunate enough to be a part of "The Ampol Aires" polka band for quite a few years. Together The E-Z

Tones have over 250 years of experience playing the music they love.

The festive celebration of the Polish heritage will run from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Hammond Marina, 701 Casino Center Drive. Admission and parking are free, and guests are encouraged to bring their own lawn chairs and blankets. Authentic Polish food from Cavalier Inn of Hammond and refreshments provided by the Hammond Marina will be available for purchase. Visit www.festivalofthelakes.com or call 219.853.6378 for more information.

Source: City of Hammond

