## Your Community Bulletin Board For Northwest Indiana

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March 15, 2021

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# SERVICE DIRECTORY

#### Apartment Rentals

Douglas Pointe Apartments 5525 Hyles Ave. Hammond, IN 219.931.0771

Automotive - Services

Air One Service Center 1831 Indianapolis Boulevard Whiting, Indiana 219.659.TOWS

#### **Body Shops**

State Auto Body 1243 Summer St. Hammond, IN 219.931.0721

#### **Bus Services**

**North Township Dial A Ride** Free Dial-A-Ride Bus Service 219.932.2530 & Press 4

#### **Business** Organization

**The Downtown Hammond Council** Karen M. Maravilla, President 219.512.4298 (Calls accepted 9 am - 7 pm Monday thru Saturday) www.downtownhammond.org info@downtownhammond.org

Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce 5246 Hohman Avenue, Suite 100 Hammond, IN 46320 219.931.1000

Whiting/Robertsdale Chamber of Commerce 119th St Whiting, IN 219.659.0292

#### **Computer Service**

Jam Computer Service Software & PC Services 219.931.6700

#### **Democratic Organizations**

Hammond Democratic Committee Chairman Dave Woerpel 7440 Olcott Avenue, Hammond, IN 46324 219.808.9743

Hessville Central Democratic Club 3031 Mahoney Drive Hammond, IN 219.545.1942

#### Electrician

**Central Electric** Ed Marzec New & Rewire Licensed, Bonded, & Insured 219.844.5884

## Florist

**Dixon Florist** Serving all of Hammond 919 Ridge Rd. Munster, IN 219.836.1668

#### **Funeral & Cremation**

Amber Care Cremation Society Serving NW Indiana 5713 Hohman Ave, Hammond, IN \$995 Complete Direct Cremation 219.407.7506 ambergremation com

#### Funeral - Services

Smith, Bizzell & Warner 4209 Grant Street Gary, IN 46408 219.887.1852 smithbizzellwarnerfuneralhome.com

#### 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 Development Corporation 5246 Hohman Ave. Hammond, IN 219.853.6399

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

Hammond Port Authority 701 Casino Center D. Hammond, IN 46320 219.659.7678

#### **Insurance - Services**

Ron J. Prestamer Agency, Inc. 7207 Indianapolis Blvd. Hammond, IN 46324 219.844.0103 ronjprestamer@gmail.com www.prestamerinsurance.com

#### Restaurants

Schoop's 7235 Indianapolis Blvd. Hammond, IN 219.845.7090

#### Towing

Alamo Auto Service Towing & Auto Repair 6923 Hohman Ave. Hammond, IN 219.932.8909

Herrera Towing Inc. 1831 Indianapolis Blvd. Whiting, Indiana 219.659.8697 McCoy & Sons Towing

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March 15, 2021

## Fiber to Hammond's Digital Crossroad Data Center

Comcast Business announced today that it has connected its high-speed Ethernet fiber network to Digital Crossroad, a recently commissioned data center campus in the Chicagoland market. Comcast's advanced network supports Digital Crossroad's highcapacity infrastructure, which is engineered to accommodate enterprise and hyperscale customers.

The Comcast Business fiber network provides hundreds of businesses in the region the opportunity to colocate their data in an innovative data center and access fast, highbandwidth connections to their most important assets. Comcast Business' 100Gbps circuit capacity allows data sharing to bypass multiple stops and connect point-to-point with the Digital Crossroad data center.

Comcast has solidified their partnership with Digital Crossroad by defining their presence in the company's Meet-Me-Room (MMR). Comcast's investment will enable 40 additional 100GB circuits on top of the ten 100GB circuits already in place.

"Our mandate at Digital Crossroad is to provide the fastest, most reliable and efficient data center infrastructure for enterprise, cloud and colocation clients," said Thomas P. Dakich, Managing Member of Digital Crossroad. "Comcast Business not only provides a high-performance connectivity option but helps ensure our infrastructure is scalable and reliable." Now, more than ever, customers are looking to data centers to run their digital operations in scalable, secure and sustainable facilities that have ample connectivity options and diverse pathways to key interconnection partners.

"Data centers like Digital Crossroad are playing an increasingly critical role in corporate IT strategies, whether serving as an off-site back-up location or as a host for a variety of business applications," said Jeff Cobb, Regional Vice President of Comcast Business. "Comcast is proud to invest in Digital Crossroad's transformative critical infrastructure, which provides our Ethernet customers in Northwest Indiana and around the U.S. with more options for colocation services."

The reliability, flexibility and scalability of Comcast's Ethernet gives Digital Crossroad's clients optimal connectivity to meet their business continuity needs. Ethernet is the technology used for interconnecting individual users, servers and most networking devices on local area networks. It can help businesses connect multiple locations to data centers more cost effectively. Comcast Business' Ethernet simplifies and more efficiently enables businesses to scale their application and storage requirements in line with changing business conditions.

Source: Digital Crossroad

EMAIL: NEWSDESK@CRPUBNWI.COM

# Hammond's Annual Easter Egg Hunt





A.V.M.R.A Ch.1 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Easter Egg Hunt FREE EVENT!! March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Hunt starts at 12:00 Hessville Park in Baseball Field 173<sup>rd</sup> and Kennedy Ave, Hammond, IN Ages 0-12 (Special Needs Section Added this Year!) Bring your bags/baskets to fill with candy! Don't forget pictures with the Easter Bunny!

SPONSORED BY MAYOR THOMAS M MCDERMOTT JR HAMMOND PARK FOUNDATIONS HAMMOND PARKS&RECREATIONS



HAMMOND, IN – Mayor Thomas M. McDermott, Jr., Hammond Parks & Recreation, the Hammond Parks Foundation, Inc. and the American Veterans Motorcycle Riders Association (AVMRA Ch. 1) invite Hammond residents to bring children ages 0-12 to the 17th Annual Easter Egg Hunt which is scheduled for Sunday, March 28. There is no charge to attend, and the hunt begins at noon sharp at Hessville Park, 173rd & Kennedy Avenue, inside the ball field. New this year is a special needs section. Please bring your own bags or baskets to fill with goodies. There will also be pictures with the Easter Bunny. Don't forget to wear your face masks and practice social distancing. For more information, call Gina at (219) 614-7397 or Ron at (219) 789-9810.

Hammond

Source: Hammond Parks & Recreation

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March 15, 2021	CALL US: 219.931.6700

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# Church Directory

#### An Open Door Church

7105 Hohman Ave., Hammond, INDrs. Meredith & Marilyn Shackelford(219) 803-0045Sunday10:00 a.m.Wednesday7:00 p.m.www.anopendoorchurch.org

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

815 Michigan St., Hammond, INDeacon Lester Stokes(219) 931-1301Sunday School9:00 a.m.Sunday10:30 a.m.Friday7:30 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

7320 Northcote, Hammond, IN Apostle Jose Ruiz (219) 852-0677 Sunday 11:30 a.m. www.greaterwksmin.com

#### Hammond Christian Reformed Church 1910 167th St, Hammond, IN Pastor Donald Jabaay

Pastor Donald Jabaay(219) 844-3331Sunday School9:50 a.m.Sunday Worship11:00 a.m.Coffee Break Tuesday9:00 a.m.Ladies Bible Study Tuesday6:00 p.m.www.hammondcrc.org8

#### 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.

#### Mt. Zion Baptist Church

1047 Kenwood St., Hammond, INReverend William R. Collins(219) 931-4337Sunday11:00 a.m.Wednesday Bible Study6:30 p.m.Wednesday Prayer6:00 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 Church833 Conkey St., Hammond, INPastor Wayne Hudson(219) 932-0999Sunday11:00 a.m.Wednesday7:00 p.m.

#### New Zion Temple Church

926 Morris Street, Hammond, INBishop Brandon A. Jacobs(219) 931-ZION (9466)Sunday School9:30 a.m.Sunday MorningWorship11:30 a.m.Wednesday Prayer6:30 p.m.Wed Bible Study7:00 p.m.www.newziontemple.org

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

1022 Cleveland St, Hammond, INElder Patrick Williams(219) 937-4676Sunday School10:30 a.m.Sunday Worship11:30 a.m.Friday7:30 p.m.

#### **Trinity Lutheran Church**

7227 Hohman Ave, Hammond, IN(219) 932-4660Sunday Worship9:00 a.m.Sunday School10:30 a.m.On FACEBOOKTrinity Evangelical Lutheran Churchwww.trinityhammond.com

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

~ Dieter F. Uchtdorf

#### **Office Space**

**Downtown Hammond:** Office Space, Shared Office Space, and Artistic Lofts for rent. Utilities & Internet Included. Additional services fee based.

(219) 853-6399 x 107

Church Directory Listing

\$8.00 per/issue

## (219) 931-6700 newsdesk@crpubnwi.com

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

March 15, 2021

CALL US: 219.931.6700

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## **President Biden Proclaims March Red Cross Month**

President Joseph Biden has proclaimed March as Red Cross Month across the country, a tradition begun by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1943. All of our presidents have designated March as Red Cross Month to recognize how the American Red Cross helps people across the country and around the world.

"Throughout our country's history, the humanitarian spirit of the American people has shined as a beacon of hope in times of crisis. It is written in our DNA that when hardship strikes, we come together to ensure that no one faces it alone. It is in that spirit that we celebrate American Red Cross Month, a chance to honor all those selfless Americans who step up and lend a hand whenever and wherever people are in need." Read entire proclamation here.

This year the Red Cross salutes all the heroes who make a difference in their communities by: • Donating blood or platelets • olunteering to help people impacted by a disaster • Taking a first aid or CPR class to help in an emergency • Providing

comfort to a member of the military, a veteran or their family What does the Red Cross do? • Responds to more than 60,000 disasters across the country providing hope and comfort to people in need. • Trains and provides information to more than 4.5 million people in first aid, water safety and other skills that help save lives. • Collects more than 6.4 million units of blood from nearly 2.6 million volunteer donors to meet the needs of patients at hospitals and transfusion centers across the country. • Provides more than 513,000 support services to military members, veterans and their families. • Helps nearly 250 million people outside the U.S. through disaster management and disease prevention efforts.

GIVING DAY The Red Cross is asking everyone to support families impacted by disaster on Red Cross Giving Day –March 24. A donation can help provide hope and urgent relief such as food, blankets and other essentials to people who need it most.

Source: Red Cross

# **Purdue Northwest** plans in-person spring commencement ceremonies

HAMMOND a n d WESTVILLE, Ind. - Purdue University Northwest (PNW) announced today (Feb. 16) plans for outdoor, in-person ceremonies, with appropriate health and safety protocols, to celebrate the academic achievements of the spring Class of 2021.

Commencement ceremonies for all spring 2021 candidates will be held May 15 in the area south of the Nils K. Nelson **Bioscience Innovation Building** on PNW's Hammond Campus. The rain date is May 16.

"We are excited to return to in-person commencement ceremonies to allow our graduates to share this important experience safely with family and friends," Chancellor Thomas L. Keon said in a message to students, faculty and staff. "Graduation marks the determination of PNW students in persisting to earn their degrees, and the Class of '21 has demonstrated great



flexibility and innovation to achieve this milestone."

The university noted that all state, local and university health and safety protocols will be followed and, should the situation in the surrounding community cause a change in the plans for these events, PNW would notify candidates for graduation as soon as possible.

More information is available at pnw.edu/commencement-fags

Source: Purdue University Northwest



## Northwest Indiana trails projects among 17 statewide award recipients; receive \$6 million in trail development funds



Portage, Indiana--Governor Eric J. Holcomb announced, the award recipients for a second round of Next Level Trail funding, including two trails in Porter County and one in Lake County. Trails in Crown Point, Portage, and Valparaiso will benefit from nearly \$6 million in additional development funding. In all, Next Level Trail program funding provided \$29.6 million for 18 projects, covering more than 70 miles, located in 16 Indiana counties for Round 2 awards. In the NIRPC region, three projects totaling nearly \$6 million were awarded:

• Crown Point - Pennsy Greenway to Veterans Trail (2.84 miles): \$2,984,252

• Portage - Marquette Greenway (0.88 miles - includes bridge): \$2,549,300

• Valparaiso – Vale Park Road West Trail Link (1.45 miles): \$364.500

These additional five-plus miles of trails brings the total number of regional trail miles in the NIRPC region to nearly 190 miles. "This represents yet another tremendous quality of life improvement for our region," said Mitch Barloga, Active Transportation Manager at NIRPC. "Trails have proven to be wildly popular here and nationwide, and this significant state investment in our growing network is a clear reminder of this fact."

For a complete list of projects awarded statewide, please visit the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Next Level Trails website at: https:// www.in.gov/dnr/outdoor/9858. htm. The third and final round of Next Level Trails funding will commence later this year on November 1st and are due December 1st.

Next Level Trails is the largest infusion of State trail funding in Indiana history. The program will invest \$90 million toward the development of regionally and locally significant trails throughout Indiana. As part of Governor Holcomb's broader Next Level Connections

infrastructure program, Next Level Trails (NLT) is designed to incentivize collaborative efforts to accelerate trail connections. The DNR Division of Outdoor Recreation administers the program in conjunction with the Indiana Department of Transportation.

NIRPC is the Metropolitan Planning Organization and Council of Governments for Lake, Porter, and LaPorte Counties in Northwest Indiana. Working collaboratively across the region, NIRPC regional coordinates comprehensive planning and programming for transportation, economic development, and environmental policy.

Source: NIRPC





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## Northwest awarded \$7 million by Department of Energy for blast furnace research Purdue

HAMMOND and WESTVILLE, Ind. — Purdue University Northwest (PNW) researchers at the Center for Innovation through Visualization and Simulation (CIVS) are leading a team using a \$7 million federal grant to improve steelmaking processes.

The U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy awarded PNW and the Steel Manufacturing Simulation and Visualization Consortium (SMSVC) \$7,048,766 for the development of a nextgeneration Integrated Virtual Blast Furnace to improve energy efficiency and emissions in real time and to develop a virtual training model.

"We are very grateful for this prestigious award by the Department of Energy and the strong support from our university, collaborators and supporters," said Chenn Zhou, CIVS director and NIPSCO Distinguished Professor of Engineering Simulation. "Our top-notch project team will generate an innovative cuttingedge solution that will benefit blast furnaces in Northwest Indiana and throughout the United States."

"As a premier metropolitan university, PNW's research has a significant impact on Northwest Indiana. This project is an excellent example of the positive effect CIVS has on the regional and national economy, and serves as a strong foundation for further research over the coming years," said Kenneth C. Holford, PNW provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs. "We are especially proud of the work of Professor Zhou, who has been honored for her outstanding work in her field with the first distinguished endowed professorship at Purdue Northwest."

Congressman Frank J. Mrvan, who visited CIVS last year, said he looks forward to supporting the work of CIVS.

"I congratulate PNW Chancellor Thomas Keon and Dr. Chenn Zhou, director of CIVS, for successfully obtaining this outstanding federal resource from the Department of Energy's Advanced Manufacturing Office," Mrvan said. "I am grateful for the opportunity to tour CIVS last year, and understand the incredible benefit that the research at Purdue Northwest provides our industrial manufacturing base. Their capabilities are critical to the strength of our regional economy and the ability of Northwest Indiana steelworkers and tradesmen to utilize their skills with innovative technology and be a global leader in manufacturing. I will continue to seek opportunities to support federal programs that promote cutting-edge manufacturing and innovation right here in Indiana's First Congressional District."

Set to begin this spring, the three-year grant will allow CIVS to bring together a team of experts from universities, national laboratories and industry. The project will provide the U.S. steel industry with a unique and powerful platform for improving operational and energy efficiency in industrial blast furnaces both offline and in real time.

The project is expected to have a significant impact by reducing energy consumption by 4.5% to 10% in blast furnace and downstream processes, improving productivity and product quality, and reducing emissions from the manufacturing process, explained Tyamo Okosun, senior research engineer with CIVS who will head the project. The project also is expected to generate education and training modules for students, engineers and operators to provide critically needed workforce development within the steel industry.

Created in 2009, CIVS brings together PNW faculty, staff and students to work with industry, organizations and the community to solve real-world problems and create innovative solutions through simulation and visualization.

"Close collaboration with our industry partners continues to be a signature of the engineering programs at Purdue Northwest," Holford noted. "These partnerships translate into a high-quality educational experience to our students, with many collaborations leading to successful employment outcomes."

The SMSVC was formed in 2016 by CIVS at PNW. It brings together 15 member companies, including all U.S. blast furnace owners, with the goal of advancing the steel manufacturing industry by developing and implementing simulation and visualization technologies to address major technological issues and related barriers.

"This project will highlight Purdue Northwest as a top location for cutting-edge research as well as provide an opportunity for our students to work on real-world applications," Zhou said.

Source: Purdue University Northwest



Frank J. Mrvan, now Congressman for the First District of Indiana, tours Purdue Northwest's Center for Innovation through Visualization and Simulation (CIVS) in October 2020. CIVS is leading a team that recently was awarded a \$7 million federal grant for blast furnace research. The project will positively impact the regional and national economies.

March 15, 2021

## **Bishop Noll Institute announces Graduates with Distinction**



Carmelina Komyatte, right, has been named valedictorian for the Class of 2021 at Bishop Noll Institute. Jacqueline Vazquez, left, has been named salutatorian.

HAMMOND | Bishop Noll Institute has announced its Graduates with Distinction for the class of 2021. These top academic seniors all earned a 4.0 or above GPA. These grades also determine valedictorian and salutatorian.

Carmelina Komyatte, of Highland, has been named valedictorian. She is an Our Lady of Grace School alum. Jacqueline Vazquez, of Hammond, has been named salutatorian. She attended St. Casimir.

The other graduates with distinction are the following: Olivia Baczkowski, of Hobart, attended Nativity of Our Savior; Alayna Biro, of Hammond, attended St. John Bosco; Mary Buksa, of Munster, attended St. Thomas More; Alejandra Castellanos, of East Chicago, attended St. Stanislaus; Abigail Kawalec, of Hammond, attended St. Thomas More; Everett Lamberson, of Gary, attended St. Mary's School (Griffith); Ruby Meza, of East Chicago, attended St. Stanislaus; Noah Reid, of Griffith, attended St. Mary's School (Griffith); Riley Reid, of Griffith, attended St. Mary's School (Griffith); Aclynn Rodgers, of East Chicago, attended East Chicago Urban Enterprise Academy; Alejandro Rodriguez, of East Chicago, attended St. Stanislaus; Emma



Bishop Noll's Graduates with Distinction are the following (pictured in alphabetical order from left to right, top to bottom): Olivia Baczkowski, Alayna Biro, Mary Buksa, Alejandra Castellanos, Abigail Kawalec, Everett Lamberson, Ruby Meza, Noah Reid, Riley Reid, Aclynn Rodgers, Alejandro Rodriguez, Emma Short, Jose Suarez, Andrew Vazquez, Jake Wichlinski and Bruno Zamora.

Short, of Griffith, attended St. Mary's School (Griffith); Jose Suarez, of East Chicago, attended Edison Elementary School; Andrew Vazquez, of Hammond, attended St. Mary's School (Griffith); Jake Wichlinski, of Griffith, attended St. Mary's School (Griffith); and Bruno Zamora, of Hammond, attended St. Thomas More.

We typically photograph the students in a group but this was not possible this year so their individual photos are arranged in a collage. Individual photos are also available as their own files if your publication needs them.

Source: Bishop Noll Institute





EMAIL: NEWSDESK@CRPUBNWI.COM

March 15, 2021

## Hammond Public Library About the Suzanne G. Long Local History Room

The Hammond Public Library's Calumet Room was established in 1967. The Library and the Hammond Historical Society joined together in this cooperative effort to collect, preserve, and make accessible materials relating to Hammond and the Calumet Region. The room was enlarged during the renovation that was completed in 2002. It was renamed in 2003 to honor Calumet Room librarian, Suzanne Geis Long, who died shortly after the renovation. The room contains a variety of small artifacts and other memorabilia commemorative to life in Hammond. Numerous original photos of the people, places, and events of Hammond's past are also on display. The Suzanne G. Long Local History Room continues to collect items of historical significance relating to the Hammond area. Those with papers or photos of Hammond families, organizations, or businesses, are encouraged to bring these items in for a donation assessment. For more information, please contact the Local History Room librarian.

Resources in the Suzanne G. Long Local History Room

- Books by local authors
- Family histories
- Local history
- Maps Hammond and Lake County
- Pamphlet file materials
- Photographs of Hammond and the Calumet Region
- Sanborn maps of Hammond (helpful when identifying when buildings were erected)
- Yearbooks for Hammond high schools
- Scrapbooks (Example: Daughters of the American Revolution; Hammond Achievement Awards)
- Tape recordings of Hammond Historical Society programs and interviews

- Times negatives from 1958 2002
- Videocassettes on Hammond history

Other resources of interest to historians and genealogists

- Calumet Region city directories since 1889
- Calumet Region telephone directories since 1909
- Federal Censuses 1840–1930 (Lake County, Ind.)
- Indiana county histories on microfilm (at least one for each of the 92 counties)
- Local cemetery readings
- Local newspapers, 1882 to the present
- Microfilm/fiche readers and printers

- WPA birth, death, marriage index for Lake County, 1882 – 1920
- Obituary indexes to the Times 1939–1963, and 1980, 1981, 1988, 1989,1990, 1991 and 1998 present (work in progress.)
- Tapestry, "Walking Slow down the Avenue," woven by Sister Zoe (the former Prudence Davis), who lived in Whiting during her youth.

The Library is indexing obituaries appearing in the Hammond Times newspaper (now The Times of Northwest Indiana). The date in the index is the date of the first appearance of the obituary, and not necessarily the death date. Because the paper had various editions and, in some years, no formal "obituary column," some names may have been omitted from the index; however, we have attempted to include all names. To obtain a copy of the obituary visit the Hammond Public Library to view the microfilm.

#### Suzanne G. Long Local History Room

(219) 931-5100; Ext. 306 localhistory@hammond.lib.in.us Local History Room Hours: Tuesday, Thursday-Friday - 1:00pm-5:00pm Wednesday - 1:00pm-9:00pm Saturday - Appointments Recommended Sunday-Monday - Closed

Source: Hammond Public Library



EMAIL: NEWSDESK@CRPUBNWI.COM

March 15, 2021

# Finally getting around to that annual physical? Here's what you might find

Some patients looking to reschedule annual physicals, wellness visits or other routine medical appointments long delayed by COVID-19 first may need to make time to find a new doctor.

Thousands of practices have closed because of the pandemic, a recent survey shows, with thousands more planning to close in 2021. Finding a new doctor means more than just making sure the provider is covered by your insurance, said Dr. Jennifer Bacani-McKenney, a family physician in Fredonia, Kansas.

"Safety protocols are important. Do they require a mask for patients and staff?" she said. "Do they have hand sanitizer available at the front door?"

President-elect of the Kansas Academy of Family Physicians, Bacani-McKenney has owned and managed her own practice for more than a decade. She recommends looking for a physician who offers flexible options for patients, a sign of a commitment to quality care that will last beyond COVID-19.

For instance, most doctors now offer telehealth services. Bacani-McKenney's practice started offering curbside visits during the pandemic. "How willing is your doctor to meet you where you feel most comfortable?" Bacani-McKenney asked.

Practices have adapted amid their own challenges.

Dr. Wayne Altman, coowner and president of the Family Practice Group in Arlington, Massachusetts, is a professor and chair of family medicine at Tufts University School of Medicine. He said most practices have adjusted as best they can to the "new normal." For instance, Altman said, the pandemic forced many employees with children to juggle work schedules with priorities at home as schools transitioned to online learning.

COVID-19 struck at a time when primary care already was facing a looming crisis.

A July 2020 report by the American Association of Medical Colleges estimated a primary care physician shortage of between 21,400 and 55,200 by 2033. A large portion of the physician workforce is nearing retirement age, and there are growing concerns about physician burnout, the report said. The financial fallout from the pandemic led to more worries.

In another July 2020 survey, the Physicians Foundation found that 8%

### The 2021 City of Hammond Animal License are now due

Renewal licenses cost is \$5.00 for animals that are spayed/ neutered; \$10.00 for animals who are intact.

After March 31st, a late fee of \$10.00 per animal will be assessed in addition to the license fee.

Licenses can be purchased at the City Controller's Office at Hammond City Hall, 5925 Calumet Avenue, Hammond, IN or on-line at gohammond.com, Department Controller of doctors have closed their practices in 2020, which amounts to roughly 16,000 practices. The survey found that another 4% expected to close their practice within 12 months.

The same survey found that 72% of doctors had a reduction in income due to COVID-19. By December, a different report from the Larry Green Center and Primary Care Collaborative found that 52% of practices said payments were "worse" than in spring 2020.

"Primary care, the foundation of our fragile health system, is on the verge of collapse," the authors of that report wrote.

Altman said the health care system's fee-for-service payment model "aligns incentives in the wrong way." Doctors are paid by insurance companies based on productivity, such as the number of patients seen in the office or procedures performed. He instead supports a model providing monthly payments for doctors per patient. This would help primary care offices invest in services that have not traditionally been paid for by health insurance such as telehealth, counseling, health coaching, home visits and other important components of care.

Telehealth options that became more popular during the pandemic are here to stay, Altman said. "If you're looking for a new doctor, you should really make sure that they're offering telehealth, and most are."

However, different insurance carriers have different sets of payment rules for visits that are telehealth versus in-person, Altman said. Massachusetts has a state law that keeps them the same for two more years, though Altman added that does not apply for patients with national health insurance carriers.

The health insurance payment maze makes it challenging to figure out the right way to run a business, he said. "But what most doctors have done is focus on taking care of their patients as best as they can."

Bacani-McKenney said she didn't take a salary for about the first month of the pandemic as her practice figured out how they were going to safely operate. A Payment Protection Program loan helped the business with 14 employees stay afloat until they were able to start seeing patients again.

She encouraged people who have lost their primary care doctor to begin looking for a new one as soon as possible, even if just to begin with a telehealth visit. A good doctor will want to know about a patient's medical and personal history, Bacani-McKenney said.

"We really need doctors to focus on the social determinants of health, someone who is aware that health is more than just medications and a diagnosis," she said.

"Your doctor should take time to know you well from the very beginning so they can care for you as best as they can."

Source: By Genaro C. Armas, American Heart Association News

March 15, 2021



# 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

EMAIL: NEWSDESK@CRPUBNWI.COM

March 15, 2021

## Habitat for Humanity of Northwest Indiana and Horizon Bank Partner Up in Lake Station

Horizon Bank has awarded Habitat for Humanity of Northwest Indiana with a \$10,000 grant to build an affordable home in Lake Station.

Horizon Bank Regional President, Northwest Indiana, Steve Kring remarked, "The pandemic has magnified many issues facing families today. That is why Horizon is so excited and proud to partner with Habitat for Humanity of Northwest Indiana to make one family's dream of owning a home come true. It feels great to be part of something special like this and we are all looking forward to seeing the family's reaction when they get the keys to their new home."

"Safe, decent, and affordable housing is critical to the welfare of each and every family. We are so grateful to partner with Horizon Bank, to stabilize another family in Northwest Indiana," Dawn Michaels, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity of Northwest Indiana. "Every time a family is stabilized, the community grows stronger right along with them. Again, we appreciate the vision of Horizon Bank by making these funds available to Habitat.

The grant will support the construction of a new home in Lake Station for Habitat partner family, Gabrielle and Tyrone Campbell, and their four children. Habitat expects to complete the build this spring with a home dedication ceremony. As an approved Habitat partner family, the Campbell's have already achieved two of the Habitat for Humanity of Northwest Indiana covenants; a 40-hour financial education course and 300 "sweat equity" hours helping to build their home. Once they move in, the partner family will begin monthly payments on their zeropercentage mortgage.

Gabrielle and Tyrone said, "We are so blessed to have received this opportunity to provide a safe home for our children. It's been a tough road for us both and we are grateful to Habitat for giving us the chance to create this home and to Horizon to help with the cost of building materials."

Habitat for Humanity of Northwest Indiana is the leading organization that provides permanent, affordable housing to income-qualified families in Lake County Indiana. By serving qualified homeowners with an affordable mortgage, we help families achieve housing stability and improve their living conditions.

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Source: Habitat for Humanity of Northwest Indiana

