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October 15, 2020

Purdue University Northwest offers virtual preview event for prospective students



Purdue University Northwest offers students interested in attending the university, and their families, an opportunity to learn more from the convenience of their own homes during Virtual Preview PNW from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 14.

HAMMOND and WESTVILLE, Ind. — Purdue University Northwest (PNW) will hold a Virtual Preview PNW from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 14. This virtual event will give prospective students and their families the opportunity to learn more about both the Hammond and Westville campuses of PNW.

“We have always had a certain amount of virtual one-on-one-sessions between our recruiters, admissions counselors and families,” states George F. Kacenga, PNW executive director of Undergraduate

Admissions. “More recently, in response to the health and safety requirements of the pandemic, we have increased those virtual meetings and become more innovative in the ways we give presentations and connect with families.”

That innovation comes in the form of this fall’s Virtual Preview PNW. This digital event will offer attendees the ability to learn more about undergraduate programs, the freshman admissions process, financial aid and scholarships. Breakout sessions will offer more information about student

life, housing and campus safety, the PNW Honors College, athletics, and an application workshop. Participants will hear first-hand from current students, faculty and admissions staff. As an added incentive, the \$25 application fee will be waived for students who apply during the event.

“The Virtual Preview PNW is an opportunity for Purdue Northwest to showcase our wide range of academic offerings,” explains Kacenga. “This event will offer an understanding of the PNW community and give a glimpse into what student life looks like at both of our campuses. Prospects can invite their family and friends to help them make an informed choice about where they invest for their education.”

Ensuring prospective students and their families can experience PNW, even while in-person tours and visits are suspended, is a top priority for the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, Kacenga noted.

“The importance of this day is for families and students to understand our facilities, our resources, our campus culture, and for us to convey what it means to Power Onward,” he said.

For additional information on Virtual Preview PNW and to register for this event, visit pnw.edu/preview.

Source: Purdue University Northwest

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Hammond NAACP to announce energy efficiency investment in East Hammond

Hammond—The NAACP Hammond Branch, a unit of the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization, will announce an investment in energy efficiency at a ribbon-cutting ceremony on October 21, 2020, 10:00 a.m., at Ophelia Steen Family and Health Services Center, 5927 Columbia Avenue, Hammond, Indiana, 46230. Hammond Mayor Tom McDermott will join the NAACP for the announcement.

The project, made possible through the NAACP's Power

Up Solar and Jobs Program, will drastically reduce carbon dioxide displacement at a family and health services center that provides vital care to Hammond residents. Energy Harness will replace all the traditional lighting in the facility with LED bulbs, reducing the total carbon dioxide displacement from roughly 258,000 pounds per year to 69,000 pounds per year.

"This partnership is a great example of how we can work together to reduce our carbon footprint and reduce costs for

a facility that provides critical services in our community," said Reverend Homer Cobb. "It's unfortunate that Indiana rolled back its requirements for businesses and homes to embrace energy efficiency; we need to make sure our policymakers understand the value of these partnerships and programs."

The Hammond project is part of the NAACP's statewide "black to green" initiative, which offers solar installation and energy efficiency training in marginalized communities and

recognizes the disproportionate burden fossil fuels have placed on black communities.

If you have questions, please contact Rev. Homer Cobb, branch president, at 219-670-0883 or homerclayjr11@yahoo.com.

Social distancing and mask required!

*Source: The NAACP
Hammond Branch*

Watch LIVE on gohammond.tv!



**MAYOR'S
NIGHT
OUT**

HAMMOND RESIDENTS

Mayor Thomas M. McDermott, Jr. and his staff want to hear your questions and concerns. Mayor's Night Out will give you an opportunity to discuss issues directly with the Mayor and his staff.

**Wednesday,
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6:30pm – 8:30pm

6th District
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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Mayor's Office 219.853.6301
or Special Events 219.853.6378

www.gohammond.com

Church Directory

Abundant Life Community Church

6808 Missouri Ave., Hammond, IN

Pastor Dr. Michael White

(219) 845-0954

Sunday School 10 a.m.

Sunday Morning Worship 11 a.m.

Sunday Evening Worship 6 p.m.

Wed. Evening Bible Study 7 p.m.

www.alcccogop.org

An Open Door Church

7105 Hohman Ave., Hammond, IN

Drs. Meredith & Marilyn Shackelford

(219) 803-0045

Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

www.anopendoorchurch.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

Greater Works Outreach Prayer and Deliverance Ministry

5125 Hohman Ave., Hammond, IN

Apostle Jose Ruiz (219) 852-0677

Sunday 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday 6:00 p.m.

www.greaterwksmin.com

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.hammondrc.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 am

Mt. Zion Baptist Church

1047 Kenwood St., Hammond, IN

Reverend William R. Collins

(219) 931-4337

Sunday 11:00 am

Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 pm

Wednesday Prayer 6:00 pm

New Community Baptist Church

707 169th Street, Hammond, IN

Rev. Patrick H. Gillis, Pastor

(219) 931-8407

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

Bible Study Wednesday 12:00 p.m.

5:30 p.m.

www.ncbc-hammond.com

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 am

Wednesday 8:30 am, 1:30 & 7:00 pm

New Salem Missionary**Baptist 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.

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.

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Church Directory Listing

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

Up & Coming Events

Every 2nd & 4th Thursday

The New Hope Baptist Church Food Pantry will be held every 2nd and 4th Thursday starting May 28, 2020 at New Hope Too Fellowship Hall, 6634 Calumet, Hammond, IN, from 1:30 to 3:00 PM or until food runs out. Drive thru only. The pantry will operate on a first come first served basis. For further information or if you would like to donate toward this worthy cause, please call the church at 219-932-5955, or Shirley at (219) 680-6109.

Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Announces No Cost Flu Clinics at the Steel Yard. (RailCats Stadium, One Stadium Plaza.)

October 15, 22, 24, and 29
November 5, 7, 12

Free Drive-By Community Dinner

Hammond Christian Reformed Church will sponsor a Drive-by Community Dinner on Thursday evening, October 29, 2020.

Dinner will be served 6 – 7 p.m.

You are invited to join members of the Hammond Christian Reformed Church for this drive-by meal. There will be one meal per customer to be received in person. Chicken, mashed potatoes, corn, dessert and a beverage will be served.

The Hammond Christian Reformed Church is located at 167th St. and Baring Ave. across from the Woodmar Sports Complex. Call (219) 844-3331 for more information.

Hammond Public Library Events

Oct. 12 - 31

Hammond Public Library Virtual FanFest Challenge

Due to social distancing, the Hammond Public Library's 2nd annual FanFest will be virtual this year. Fans of cosplay, comics, graphic novels and gaming are invited to participate. Sign up for the Reading and Activity Challenge at <https://hammond.beanstack.org/> starting Oct. 12 to receive a free bag and redeem your activities codes for prize tickets. Submit photos by Oct. 17 for a cosplay contest. Watch live panels, demonstrations, and tutorials during the week of Oct. 18 – 24 to earn more prize tickets. An extensive online vendor showroom features artists and authors; crafts and food; publishers; comic book and collectible shops; entertainers and cosplay sites, and organizations. More information is online at <http://www.hammond.lib.in.us/fanfest.html> or call (219) 931-5100, ext. 332.

Oct. 19 - 24

Fire Prevention Week

Do you know how to prevent fires? To learn more, the Hammond Public Library is offering an activity packet (one per family), which includes an information sheet, activity or craft, and a booklist, while supplies last. The library is at 564 State St., Hammond; (219) 931-5100, ext. 336.

Oct. 28 at 1 p.m.

Special Halloween Little Listeners Storytime

The Hammond Public Library invites children between ages 3 and 5 to dress in costume to listen to stories and parade through the library. The library is at 564 State St., Hammond; (219) 931-5100, ext. 336.

Nov. 7 at 10 a.m.

Friends of the Library / Hammond Historical Society Joint Meeting

Friends of the Library and the Hammond Historical Society plan a joint meeting. Dr. Larry McClellan and Tom Shepherd present "The Underground Railroad in the Calumet Region." Live attendance is limited, and registration is required by signing up at <http://hammond.evanced.info/admin/signup/Calendar>. You may also view the meeting virtually on Zoom at <https://tinyurl.com/FriendsHHS>. The library is at 564 State St., Hammond; (219) 931-5100, ext. 310 or 307.

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Majestic Star Casino and Habitat for Humanity of NW Indiana Team Up to Build a New Habitat Home in Gary, Indiana



Gary, Indiana October 1, 2020 – Majestic Star Casino partnered with Habitat for Humanity of NW Indiana to build walls for a new home being built for the Best Family in Gary, Indiana. Majestic Star Casino provided a volunteer group of 24 to build all 32 interior and exterior walls as well as funds to cover materials. All the walls were built on the old casino property in Buffington Harbor.

“The work done by Habitat makes such a difference in the lives of those they serve, and I’m pleased to play a small part in that. Through our Spectacle ALL-IN program, the team at Majestic Star Casino is excited to pitch in and help Shakira Best’s family become homeowners at the “Field of Dreams” project in Gary. It’s a

humbling and fulfilling experience for all of us,” stated Rich Zeigler, Vice President of Development for Spectacle Entertainment and a Habitat for Humanity of Northwest Indiana board member.

“Decent, affordable housing is critical to the welfare of each and every family. We are so grateful to partner with Majestic Star Casino, stabilizing another family in Northwest Indiana.” stated Dawn Michaels, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity of Northwest Indiana.

Shakira Best and her family will move into a neighborhood called “Field of Dreams”. This beautiful, two block section of Gary is nearly entirely comprised of Habitat homes. The first Habitat home in the “Field of Dreams” broke ground in 2004.



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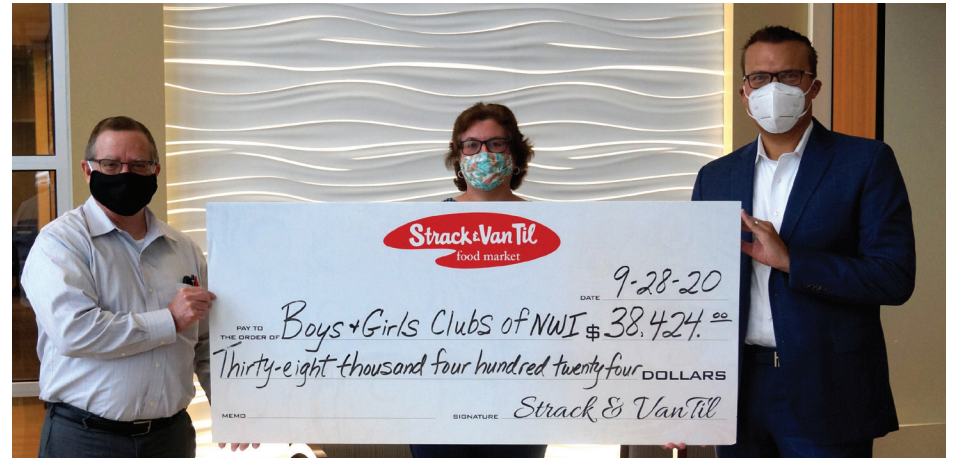
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Strack & Van Til Donates \$38,000 to Boys & Girls Clubs



Strack & Van Til CEO Jeff Strack presented Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Northwest Indiana with a check for \$38,424 on Monday. The donation was part of Strack & Van Til’s Checkout Challenge, which raises funds for local organizations by asking customers to round up their purchase totals.

“It’s important for us to support local organizations that are doing important work in the community,” said Strack, who also sits on Boys & Girls Clubs’ Board of Directors. “Our employees take these challenges seriously, and they did a great job of not only raising money to support Boys & Girls Clubs, but also spreading awareness of what they are doing to help kids in Northwest Indiana.”

From August 10 – 23, Strack & Van Til and Town & Country stores across the region gave customers the opportunity to donate in support of Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Northwest Indiana. Strack said customer donations are key to the success of the challenge.

“The Round Up is driven by the generosity of our customers, and they really stepped up to

support the community,” Strack said. “They always do.”

To show their appreciation, Boys & Girls Clubs turned the challenge into a fun competition, awarding employees of the top-raising location a small treat and the three employees who raised the most money gift cards.

Highland Strack & Van Til took top prize, raising \$4,100. The highest-raising cashiers were Hannah Cavinder from Valparaiso Strack & Van Til, who raised \$527.64, Mary Krueger from Valparaiso Town & Country, who raised \$502.14, and Ryan Marquardt from the Hobart Strack & Van Til on Old Ridge Road, who raised \$464.87.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Northwest Indiana’s President & CEO Ryan Smiley said the donation will go toward Boys & Girls Clubs’ fall programming.

“Strack & Van Til has been a huge supporter of ours for a long time, and they are always finding creative ways to help us,” Smiley said. “We are so grateful to them and for all of their employees who worked so hard during this challenge to support us and spread awareness of the work we do.”

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Chicago Emmys Nominate Lakeshore PBS for Outstanding Achievement in Arts Programming for Local Series Eye on the Arts

Merrillville - Lakeshore PBS is pleased to announce that they have been nominated for a 2020 Chicago / Midwest Emmy for its locally-produced series, Eye on the Arts.

"We are thrilled that our work - showcasing some of the great stories to come out of Northwest Indiana and Chicago - has been nominated for this prestigious award," said James A. Muhammad, President and CEO of Lakeshore Public Media. "We are so incredibly proud of our team and the work they do every day."

Eye on the Arts is a half hour program that showcases a diverse range of local artists, artistic organizations, events and stories, demonstrating the power of arts in people's lives, and how art and culture improve the quality of lives for residents throughout Northwest Indiana and Chicagoland. The series is produced by Tony Santucci,

with additional segments produced by Justin Hill, Connor Burge and Rutch Johnson.

The Chicago/Midwest Regional Emmy Awards are presented annually for outstanding achievements in broadcasting for Midwest markets including Gary and South Bend, Indiana; Chicago, Peoria and Rockford, Illinois; and Green Bay, Madison and Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Eye on the Arts was nominated in the Outstanding Achievement for Arts/Entertainment Programming category of the Chicago / Midwest Emmys. Other nominees in this category include programs from WLS, the ABC affiliate from Chicago; WISN, the ABC affiliate from Milwaukee and statewide public television station PBS Wisconsin, based in Madison.

"To be recognized by such a well-regarded group and

judged by our peers in the industry is a great honor," Muhammad stated. "To be nominated against larger stations from across the Midwest validates our efforts and our long running commitment to serve our audience with quality storytelling."

The local chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences is one of the largest and most senior chapters in the country, with a history of innovation and excellence in the field of broadcast television for over 50 years. The winners will be announced through a virtual ceremony to be held in mid-November.

"We enjoy finding these great local artists and organizations, and learning about what they do," said producer Tony Santucci. "We are honored to be able to share their stories, their gifts and their art to an even wider audience."

A new season of Eye on the Arts will air on Lakeshore PBS starting Wednesday, November 4th at 7pm. Previous episodes can be found online at lakeshorepbs.org/EOA.

Lakeshore Public Media is a community-license public media organization that is the Northwest Indiana member of the Indiana Public Broadcasting Stations, serving Indiana's second largest urban area through their Lakeshore PBS and Lakeshore Public Radio service.

Lakeshore PBS broadcasts its main channel over the air on 56, on Comcast on 17 or 21 (HD Channel 239), on Dish Network HD Channel 6320, AT&T U-verse HD Channel 1056 and DirecTV on 56. Lakeshore Public Radio can be heard on 89.1 FM and streaming online at lakeshorepublicradio.org

*Source: Lakeshore
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College Board 2019-2020 Advanced Placement scores mark five-year highs for Munster High School

Munster, Indiana, October 1, 2020—The College Board recently released data for AP test results for the 2019-2020 school year, and Munster High School's scores gave the school reason to celebrate in spite of challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic last spring.

According to Mike Wells, Munster High School principal, 81 percent of students who took

an AP exam in May 2020 scored a "3" or higher. This percentage is the school's highest percentage in five years. "This year's scores also mark a five-year high for students passing an AP exam and for the most students in five years to take an AP exam," he added. [See the College Board's school summary for Munster High School at left for more details.] "We congratulate our students, their parents, and

our staff for this tremendous achievement! At Munster High School, we continue to strive toward excellence and maintain high standards for our in-person and at-home learners."

The College Board is a not-for-profit organization that connects students to college success and opportunity. Founded in 1900, the College Board was created to expand access to higher education.

Today, the membership association is made up of over 6,000 of the world's leading educational institutions and is dedicated to promoting excellence and equity in education.

For more information, please contact Munster High School Media Specialist Kelly Hladek at (219) 836-3200, ext. 3310 or kmhladek@munster.us.

Munster High School congratulates ten National Merit Semifinalists

Munster, Indiana, October 1, 2020—Ten Munster High School seniors are among the approximately 16,000 Semifinalists in the 66th annual National Merit Scholarship Program, announced the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) in Evanston, Illinois. They are:

- **Alice Foley**, the daughter of Austin and Mary Foley of Munster
- **Stephen Heritage**, the son of Kenneth and Barbara Heritage of Munster

- **Joanne Hwang**, the daughter of Jijung and Hoyong Hwang of Munster
- **Shriya Iyer**, the daughter of Gayathri Iyer and Arun Balakrishnan of Munster
- **Todd McKecknie**, the son of Michele and Todd McKecknie, Sr. of Munster
- **Ava Quasney**, the daughter of Mary Quasney of Munster
- **Sara Resch**, the daughter of Sally and John Resch of Munster
- **Isaiah Rosinski**, the son of Paul and Christine Rosinski of Munster

- **Sydney Skrobot**, the daughter of Twana and Peter Skrobot of Munster
- **Trina Faith Tagamolila**, the daughter of Maridel Tagamolila of Munster

"Munster High School had the fourth highest number of National Merit Semifinalists in the state of Indiana regardless of a school's enrollment size," noted Michael Wells, Munster High School principal. "I couldn't be prouder of our students for their perseverance and their dedication to their studies."

According to the MNSC, "these academically talented high school seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,600 National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$30 million that will be offered next spring." To be considered for a Merit Scholarship® award, Semifinalists must fulfill several requirements to advance to the Finalist level of the competition. Over 90 percent of the Semifinalists are expected to attain Finalist standing in February 2021, and more than half of the Finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship, earning the Merit Scholar® title.



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Donate blood with the Red Cross to help those fighting breast cancer

Those who come to give Oct. 15-Nov. 11 will receive a \$5 Amazon.com Gift Card

During Breast Cancer Awareness Month this October, the American Red Cross urges eligible donors to band together to provide hope and healing to patients fighting cancer by giving blood or platelets. In appreciation, those who come to give Oct. 15-Nov. 11 will receive a \$5 Amazon.com Gift Card* via email, courtesy of Suburban Propane.

Donors are asked to make appointments by downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device.

Donors of all blood types are urged to help ensure a stable supply for cancer patients and others this fall. To thank those who come to give in October, the Red Cross is also offering a \$1,000 Amazon.com Gift Card to five lucky winners. *Terms and conditions apply. More information and details are available at RedCrossBlood.org/Unite.

Blood donations play a crucial role in cancer treatment

Diane Doehrman began donating blood during college. In the years following, she became a platelet donor and even helped start blood drives in her community. More recently, Doehrman's been on the receiving end of blood donations. Fourteen years ago, she was diagnosed with breast cancer. Now she has an incurable cancer, malignant mixed Müllerian tumor.

"As a cancer patient, I had to have blood transfusions several times when the chemotherapy

treatments have destroyed my immune system," she said. "I am so very thankful for the donations from others. It can truly save a life."

Cancer patients undergoing surgery and chemotherapy may require red blood cell or platelet transfusions. In fact, patients fighting cancer need more blood than those with any other disease, using nearly one-quarter of the nation's blood supply.

Important COVID-19 information for donors

The Red Cross is testing blood, platelet and plasma donations for COVID-19 antibodies. The test may indicate if the donor's immune system has produced antibodies to this coronavirus, regardless of whether an individual developed COVID-19 symptoms. Red Cross antibody tests will be helpful to identify individuals who have COVID-19 antibodies and may now help current coronavirus patients in need of convalescent plasma transfusions. Convalescent plasma is a type of blood donation collected from COVID-19 survivors that have antibodies that may help patients who are actively fighting the virus.

COVID-19 antibody test results will be available within one to two weeks in the Red Cross Blood Donor App or donor portal at RedCrossBlood.org. A positive antibody test result does not confirm infection or immunity. The Red Cross is not testing donors to diagnose illness, referred to as a diagnostic test. To protect the health and safety of Red Cross staff and donors,

it is important that individuals who do not feel well or believe they may be ill with COVID-19 postpone donation.

Each Red Cross blood drive and donation center follows the highest standards of safety and infection control, and additional precautions – including temperature checks, social distancing and face coverings for donors and staff – have been implemented to help protect the health of all those in attendance. Donors are asked to schedule an appointment prior to arriving at the drive and are required to wear a face covering or mask while at the drive, in alignment with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention public guidance.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities Oct. 15-31:

HAMMOND

10/30/2020

10:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.,
Cabela's, 7700 Cabela Drive

SCHERERVILLE

10/19/2020

2:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
St. John Township Community Center, 1515 Lincoln Highway

10/21/2020

2 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Patrician Banquet Center
410 E Hwy 30,

WHITING

10/30/2020

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Mascot Hall of Fame
1851 Front Street

Source: American Red Cross



Fri 9 am - 10 am
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Live Call In

1230 AM & 104.7 FM

Call for Sponsorship Info

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Purdue Northwest hosts virtual presentation on presidential leadership

HAMMOND and WESTVILLE, Ind. – The Purdue University Northwest (PNW) College of Humanities, Education, and Social Sciences welcomes George C. Edwards III, a leading scholar of the American presidency, to a virtual presentation titled, “Is Donald Trump an Effective Leader?”

Edwards, distinguished professor of Political Science and Jordan Chair in Presidential Studies Emeritus at Texas A&M University, will examine how successful the current president has been at honing his negotiation and deal-making skills to lead the country, unite the public and overcome gridlock in Congress. Edwards

will evaluate the president’s performance and place it in a broader perspective on presidential leadership.

The event will take place beginning at noon on Wednesday, Oct. 21, via Zoom and is free and open to the public. Visit pnw.edu/distinguished for the Zoom link or more information.

Edwards has written or edited 26 books and more than 80 articles on American politics. His forthcoming book, “Changing Their Minds? Donald Trump and Presidential Leadership,” analyzes past presidential success and the ability to successfully create change and

win public support. It uses that framework to further analyze the Trump presidency accounting for his decades of experience as a self-promoter with skills in sales and deal making.

“This is a rare opportunity to hear from and to talk with one of the foremost scholars in the study of the American presidency,” said PNW Assistant Professor of Political Science Yu Ouyang, who helped organize the event. “As we look forward to the outcomes of the 2020 election, Dr. Edwards’ presentation gives us a glimpse into how we might expect presidents to behave as they confront the challenges this nation faces.”



Join PNW and leading presidential scholar George Edwards for a virtual presentation on presidential leadership at noon on Oct. 21. For information visit pnw.edu/distinguished.

Source: Purdue University Northwest

This Halloween, join Challenger Learning Center of Northwest Indiana at the Fright Lights Laser Show Spectacular!

Ghosts and ghouls of all ages are invited to do the Monster Mash and celebrate Halloween with CLCNWI!

HAMMOND, In. – The Challenger Learning Center of Northwest Indiana will be hosting an all ages Fright Lights Laser Show Spectacular on Saturday, October 31st, 2020, to celebrate Halloween. There will be two afternoon showtimes from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.. Guests will experience a full laser light show visual-audio display set

to some of the most iconic Halloween and monster-themed music. Tickets are \$12 per person and must be purchased in advance due to limited seating. Visit www.clcnwi.com to purchase tickets and learn more about the enhanced health & safety measures that have been implemented to keep the community safe. This show is for all ages, but may contain images

and loud sounds scary for guests 6 years old and younger.

All proceeds go to support science education programming at Challenger Learning Center of Northwest Indiana.

For more information on Challenger’s events and tickets, check out @ChallengerNWI on social media or call (219) 989-3250.

Date & Time:

October 31st, 2020

12 PM - 1 PM and
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Cost:

\$12 per person

Location:

Challenger Learning Center
of Northwest Indiana
2300 173rd Street
Hammond, IN 46323

Bishop Noll finds ways to celebrate its 100th school year while adhering to re-entry plan guidelines

HAMMOND, IN – Bishop Noll Institute officially began its 100th school year in August, for the first time opening its doors with stringent pandemic precautions. Now six weeks into the semester, faculty and students have settled into the routine of the school's re-entry plan, which allowed families to choose an education path that worked best for them.

The plan was formed by two task forces of Bishop Noll administrators and teachers, who worked throughout the summer. One team looked at how to adjust the existing facilities to meet safety guidelines and the other looked at how to evolve the academic process to meet Bishop Noll's standards and keep students and teachers safe. Using the Lake County Health Department Re-entry Plan and the CDC guidelines as blueprints, the plan gave each family the option for students to attend in-person or virtually. Daily teacher instruction is livestreamed for students in the building and those students who are learning virtually at home. In addition, Wednesday classes are virtual to allow for a mid-week deep cleaning of the building.

Some of the more intricate parts of the plan include student cohorts, designed to keep students on similar academic tracks with the same classmates throughout the day, minimizing movement throughout classrooms and the building. Instead of students moving throughout the day, teachers move to different cohorts.

Senior Ariana Ferreira chose to start the year in person because it is her senior year and "virtual school isn't the same as in school," she said. "It is a hard adjustment because everything is new and we are learning as we go. But Bishop Noll has done an excellent job of getting us back into our normal routine. They always put our health and safety first. That's what makes us different from the rest of the other schools. They will go out of their way to make sure we have a 'normal' school year."

Ferreira is a member of the Cheer Team and said the team resumed

practices and has been cheering at football games.

"I am most looking forward to all the senior activities even though it may be different. I am also excited for it being Noll's 100th school year. I will be celebrating by making sure this is Bishop Noll's best year yet."

The school began to celebrate its 100th school year last month by hosting special events for students on its Founders' Day, which takes place annually on September 16 and celebrates the first day of classes at what was then called Catholic Central High School.

An outdoor movie night and lunchtime event featuring ice cream bars, gift bags and a petting zoo both took place on the football field to allow for social distancing and fun outdoors.

Senior Mary Buksa is also an in-school student and said it is easier to focus in a classroom setting.

"I think the administration did a great job with making the school safer. Everyone has a lot of room to social distance. Bishop Noll has always and will always be a school that perseveres. No matter what is thrown at us, even a global pandemic, we get through it together as a family."

Buksa is president of the National Honor Society, editor of the yearbook, and a leader for the virtual freshmen retreat. All of her clubs met virtually over the summer to explore their options. In early September, National Honor Society held a virtual Honors Night to recognize the students who missed out on the opportunity to be recognized in a traditional way last spring. She is excited to be part of the school's 100th school year.

"I am most looking forward to designing this year's yearbook, which will include past yearbooks," she said.

Junior Abigail Wojtaszek also chose the in-person option. She is a member of the girls golf team, which recently completed its season.

"Golf is already the ultimate social distancing sport, so not much



Bishop Noll Institute's students work on their iPads during Introduction to Engineering Design in the school's new STREAM Lab. Families had the choice between in-person and virtual education options.



Bishop Noll seniors attend a special Mass to celebrate Founders' Day in September. While seniors attended Mass in the fieldhouse, other students watched a livestream and participated in their classrooms. The Catholic high school in Hammond has been celebrating its 100th school year while executing its re-entry plan.

had to be changed," she said. "We wore our masks and tried to distance ourselves as much as possible."

Wojtaszek is also a part of the Drama Club. She said the fall play, "Clue," will be performed as a radio production. Cast members will stand still on the stage and recite their lines in place to make sure they are socially distant.

She looks forward to continuing her legacy at Bishop Noll this year and in the future.

"I'm very excited to be a part of the school as it has its 100th anniversary. I think that's quite the

momentous occasion and I'm happy to be there. I want to be known for my acting, for my golfing, for my marching in the band."

"The Centennial is expected to be a joyous celebration and, pandemic or not, we are going to celebrate," Principal Lorenza Jara Pastrick said. "Our students have taken our precautions seriously and our staff has worked tirelessly to execute our re-entry plans. Since all parties are working hard, we will find safe and CDC-approved activities to engage our students in to celebrate this joyous occasion."