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September 15, 2020

MORGAN Li Donates Desktop Barriers to Boys & Girls Clubs



From left, MORGAN Li President Jonathan Rosenband, Vice President of Sales Debbie Knoll and Boys & Girls Clubs President & CEO Ryan Smiley hold desktop barriers. The Chicago Heights-based store fixture and hotel furniture solutions provider donated the desktop barriers to support Boys & Girls Clubs' In-Club Virtual Learning Assistance programming this school year.



Club members at East Chicago Katherine House Boys & Girls Club sit six feet apart and use MORGAN Li desktop barriers during Boys & Girls Clubs' Virtual Learning Assistance program.

MORGAN Li, the leading manufacturer of custom fixtures and furniture for the retail and hospitality industries and provider of large format print production and custom social distancing solutions, recently donated desktop barriers to Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Northwest Indiana. The see-through plastic barriers are designed to sit on top of a school desk and will be used at Clubs throughout the region as an additional layer of protection for youth enrolled in Boys & Girls Clubs' In-Club Virtual Learning Assistance program.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, MORGAN Li is offering a slew of social

distancing solutions for both retail and hospitality businesses, including decals and clings that remind customers to remain six feet apart, hands-free door pulls and safety shields. The donation followed a conversation MORGAN Li had with Boys & Girls Clubs President & CEO Ryan Smiley, who explained the In-Club services the organization is offering Northwest Indiana youth this school year.

"Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Northwest Indiana is a great organization that provides ongoing critical resources for so many children," said Jonathan Rosenband, President of MORGAN Li. "We're honored to supply desk barriers

that will provide an added level of protection so children and families feel safe while the Boys & Girls Club staff hold remote learning sessions at the Clubs."

Smiley said while Boys & Girls Clubs has implemented a number of protocols to ensure the safety of Club members, their families and staff, the shields provide an extra layer of protection and allow Club members to safely attend Clubs during the school day, participate in virtual learning and complete their school work.

"Safety will always be our top priority, and one challenge we have is incorporating social distancing protocols in a way that doesn't interfere with or

distract kids while they're working," Smiley said. "We're extremely grateful to MORGAN Li for supporting our mission and providing us with some creative solutions to help keep Club members safe."

MORGAN Li's desktop barriers are available in sizes suitable for different age groups and are made of polypropylene, a robust, durable plastic. For more information on MORGAN Li's desktop barriers, visit morganli.com or contact VP of Sales Debbie Knoll at (815) 343-2760.

Source: Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Northwest Indiana

SERVICE DIRECTORY

Apartment Rentals

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Hammond, IN
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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

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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

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219.836.1668

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219.407.7506
ambercremation.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
219.677.0921 (cell)
ronjprestamer@gmail.com
www.prestamerinsurance.com

Restaurants

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Upgrades Completed at Hammond Filtration Plant

The City of Hammond and Mayor Thomas M. McDermott, Jr. are proud to announce the completion of a \$6 million expansion and upgrade to the city's filtration plant.

The upgrades were made on the 1950's and 1970's electrical equipment due to the lack of replacement parts and support for the old equipment and the ability to upgrade technology. Additionally, as electrical equipment ages, the insulation system becomes less effective, resulting in an increase in the frequency of maintenance and subsequent costs. The project included new switch gears, motor starters and generators to name a few. A 1982 750KW generator was replaced with an auto start, EPA emission compliant 1,000KW generator. The plant can now produce 50MGD of water under diesel generator power.

The new filtration system received its first test unexpectedly on Monday, August 12th when incoming NIPSCO power was lost due to the severe thunderstorm that went through the area. However, with the implemented new upgrades to the system, the power was seamlessly transferred to the plants. Thus, the plant's functions were restored in a matter of minutes, ensuring all Hammond residents did not experience any water shortages along with the widespread power outage we were dealing with.

The project engineer was CDM Smith and the contractor was Meade Electric. The project was approximately \$6 million with a life cycle of the improvements being 20-25 years. The goal is to increase reliability and redundancy, so that our vital plant never loses electric power.

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.

Free Drive-By Community Dinner September 24

Hammond Christian Reformed Church will sponsor a Drive-by Community Dinner on Thursday evening, September 24, 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. Tacos, mashed potatoes, 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.

Sunday, September 27 Noon to 6 PM Octoberfest at Hammond Mohawks Picnic Grove

4040 Calumet Avenue, Hammond

Admission is \$5.00;

10 and under free

Everything is \$1.00

Music provided by Deustch Meisters and DJ Scott

Food: Brats, Schnitzel, Cabbage and noodles, German Chocolate cake, etc.

Drinks: Pop, water, beer and other libations

Lawn chairs are welcome
For more information call:
219-933-9823

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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,
September 23
6:30pm – 8:30pm**

**1st District
Lincoln Elementary School
Cafeteria
4221 Towle Avenue • Hammond**



**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.

On FACEBOOK

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

www.trinityhammond.com

*“We come
to church
not to
hide our
problems
but to heal
them.”*

~ Dieter F. Uchtdorf

Church Directory Listing

\$8.00 per/issue
(minimum 4 issues)

(219) 931-6700 newsdesk@crpubnwi.com

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

Autumn Colors Fall Craft Show

HAMMOND, IN – Mayor Thomas M. McDermott, Jr. and Hammond Parks & Recreation are pleased to bring back the Autumn Colors Craft Show on Saturday October 3, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Hammond Civic Center, 5825 S. Sohl Avenue. There is no admission or parking fee to attend.

Get your holiday shopping done early, find some fun décor for Halloween, fall, and Christmas, and treat yourself to a new outfit, jewelry, lotions, chair massages and more. Come on by to shop small businesses, handcrafters, and local consultants. It's all here for one-stop shopping! Concessions will be available for purchase. Some of our fantastic vendors and products that will be joining us are:

Arewa Crafts & Custom Tumblers
Diazzy's Creations
Cover your Mouth
Mamaw's Scraps
Katie's Clips
Ava & Aubrey
Colorstreet Nails
Usborne books
Mugs, Cups, Tumblers, & More
Quilted Goods N More
Baskets
Baskets for Kitchen
Handmade Wood Crafts
Origami Owl
Luxurie Goods Candles
Body Products, Wreaths, Trees
Handmade Sewn Items
Beauty of Hands – Jewelry
Crystal Wire Wrapped Necklaces
Wood Crafts and Plaster Statues
Karla's Creations
New Girl Clothes
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By Kimber Happy
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MaryKay
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Oak Street Health
Flowers by Val
By Sharon
Paparazzi
Snap Forward Style
Creative Designs by Maria Soto
Crochet Items
FOP-Thin Blue Line
Pet Portraits in Colored Pencil & Watercolor
Arbonne
Crochet & Machine-Sewn Items
Niki's Doll Fashions Boutique
Infinity Designs by Dee
Plunder Designs

*For more information on the craft show, visit
www.gohammond.com or contact Selina at
(219) 853-7705
or via email at baezs@gohammond.com.*

Masks will be required for attendants.
We look forward to shopping with you!

Halloween Activities in Hammond

HAMMOND, IN – In an effort to provide Halloween options to parents this year, Hammond Mayor Thomas M. McDermott, Jr. has announced that there will be a City Wide Drive Through Trunk and Treat event held in the Hammond Sportsplex parking lot located at 6630 Indianapolis Boulevard on Friday, October 30 from 5-7pm. "With the support of City departments and area businesses, we expect a strong vendor turnout for this event," says Mayor McDermott. If your company is interested in becoming a vendor (there is no fee), contact Hammond Parks at 853-7708 through September 30th. Participants of this event will need to register their vehicle to reserve a spot in line beginning in October so that the vendors will know how much goodies to provide.

Hammond will still be offering door-to-door Trick-or-Treating for families who still want that option for Halloween on Saturday, October 31 from 5pm until 7pm.

Due to COVID-19, the annual Monster Mash Dance that takes place at the Jean Shepherd Center will be postponed until next year.

Please call 219.853-7708 if you have any questions. Have a safe and Happy Halloween!

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Munster High School unveils “Cosmic Reef” image celebrating 30th Anniversary of the Hubble Space Telescope



Munster High School physics teachers Keith Koszut and Larry Hautzinger and principal Michael Wells (left to right) admire the 60" x 90" Hubble 30th Anniversary image banner that the school received from the Space Telescope Science Institute this week. Plans include putting the image on permanent display at the school.

Munster, Indiana, September 4, 2020—On April 24, 2020, NASA's Hubble Space Telescope commemorated the 30th anniversary of its launch aboard the Space Shuttle Discovery. In honor of that occasion, a stunning new Hubble image of the cosmos was released, and Munster High School has received one of the images.

These national unveilings are the brainchild of the Space Telescope Science Institute (STScI) in Baltimore, Maryland, home to Hubble's science operations center. According to the STScI, this NASA Hubble Space Telescope image reveals young, massive,

energetic stars illuminating and sculpting their birthplace with powerful winds and searing ultraviolet radiation. The image is nicknamed the “Cosmic Reef,” because it resembles an undersea world.

The large, red nebula (NGC 2014) and its smaller blue neighbor (NGC 2020) are part of a vast star-forming region in the Large Magellanic Cloud, a satellite galaxy of the Milky Way located 163,000 light-years away. The large nebula's sparkling centerpiece is a cluster of bright, hefty stars. The stars' ultraviolet radiation heats the surrounding dense gas. The stars also unleash fierce winds of hot gas, forming

the bubble-like structures seen on the right. By contrast, the seemingly isolated blue nebula at lower left has been shaped by torrential outflows from a solitary, mammoth, young star.

Today, Hubble continues to churn out groundbreaking science, revealing new views of cosmic wonders and helping to answer even more of astronomy's major questions. Munster High School plans to keep the banner on permanent display so that students, staff members, and school visitors can enjoy viewing it.

“The Hubble 30th Anniversary image is truly a work of art,” said Michael Wells, Munster High School

principal. “We appreciate this opportunity to take part in this year's historic celebration and to use the banner to educate our students about Hubble's important role in our exploration of space.”

Downloadable resources and a gallery of Hubble's most iconic images are available at <https://hubblesite.org/hubble-30th-anniversary>.

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

Source: Munster High School

Mayor Thomas M. McDermott, Jr. & the City of Hammond present:

VETERAN APPRECIATION DAY PARADE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2020

10:00 AM

Parade Route: Olcott Avenue and 173rd Street East to the Hessville Park Veterans Memorial.
A brief ceremony at the memorial will immediately follow the parade.



For more information or to participate, please contact the Hammond Park Department at (219) 853-6378.

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City of Hammond Announces Dynamic Development in Downtown

18th Street Distillery Plans Expansion, Outdoor Entertain Area and Residential

Hammond, September 3, 2020 — Mayor Thomas M. McDermott, Jr. and the Department of Planning and Development are pleased to announce that 18th Street Distillery continues to grow and expand in Downtown Hammond. They recently purchased a vacant mechanic garage building on Fayette Street and will fully rehab it into a new distillery and tasting room. Also included in the building will be two new, innovative rental units – first of their kind in Downtown Hammond.

“We are excited to create new, modern residential units in Downtown Hammond. Our goal is always to preserve the original buildings that we’ve purchased. We are thrilled to be in a position to continue to positively impact this great community,” said owner Drew Fox. “Our goal is always to preserve the original buildings that we’ve purchased.”

Also slated for this expansion is a lively outdoor area adjacent to the building. “The outdoor area will be for Family Fun Nights and Game Nights; an outdoor space to provide residents from Hammond, and the surrounding communities, a family friendly experience in Downtown Hammond,” said Fox. There will also be a patio for food and beverages and an herb and botanical garden, used by both the Brewery and Distillery for their food and spirits.

“The City is excited to see such positive growth in our downtown area, especially during this challenging climate,” said Mayor Thomas M. McDermott, Jr. “18th Street continues to surprise us in their evolution into a such an influential stakeholder in Hammond. They bring people from all over to Hammond and have created a great, positive vibe in our downtown.”

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Portage, Hammond and Merrillville Volunteers Needed

Using the “No touch delivery system”, our clients have had uninterrupted meal delivery. The volunteers we gained during the recent pandemic are returning to work, and/or resigning with health concerns. Because of these changes we are in need of delivery volunteers for the following locations: Miller, Merrillville, Hammond, St. John and Schererville. We are also creating volunteer routes in Portage set to begin soon.

The delivery of meals is our most important need. We are beginning orientation/training sessions in person. We will have one session, on September 15 at 10 am here in our building at

8446 Virginia St., Merrillville. There is a class limit of 5. Face masks are required and temperatures will be taken. We will also do individual training if requested.

Our volunteer training is the best way to introduce new volunteers to our programs. If you would like to become part of the Phone Pal Program, kitchen help, office help and/or as a new driver, please call Volunteer Manager, Joan Vith, at 756-3663 and discuss your volunteering goals. According to Joan, “We can use your help in many ways, please call and we can see how we can help you help us.”

Source: Meals on Wheels

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Purdue Northwest engineering students receive scholarships from bp America, Inc.

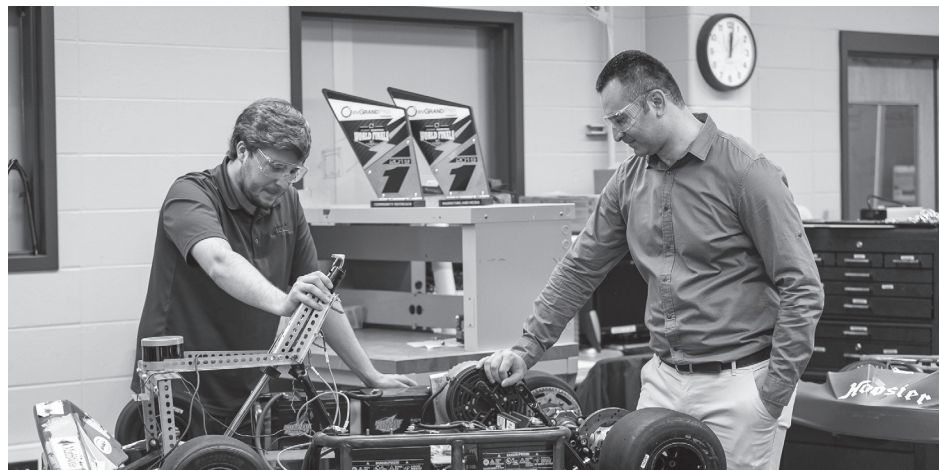
HAMMOND and WESTVILLE, Ind. — Fifteen Purdue University Northwest (PNW) students in the School of Engineering received scholarship funds from bp America, Inc. The first-year students from the communities of East Chicago, Hammond and Whiting each received \$1,000 and are majoring in civil, computer, electrical or mechanical engineering for the 2020-2021 academic year.

Scholarship recipients include the following: Tatiana Brito, Mariana Garcia, Moises Picazzo, Juan Pablo Quintana, and Guadalupe Tirado from East Chicago Central High School; Anthony Foust, Aaron Lee, Angela Perez, and Jessika Valdez from Hammond Academy of Science and Technology; Guillermo Hernandez, Oscar Martinez, and Carlos Salinas from Morton Senior High School in Hammond; Dejan Kloth from Whiting High School; and Steven Matura and

Christopher Valdes from Bishop Noll Institute in Hammond.

“The vision for these scholarships is to provide financial aid to undergraduate students in the engineering sciences at PNW, and to both interest and support students in taking the first step from high school to an engineering degree from our university. Bp’s generous endowment of this scholarship program is making a difference for the region, by helping young women and men realize their potential to improve lives in their communities and beyond,” PNW School of Engineering Director Dietmar Rempfer said. “Bp has a long history of substantial support for Purdue University Northwest, and we are proud to renew this bond between bp, the School of Engineering, and a growing community of bp scholarship awardees.”

“Developing a strong foundation in science,



Khair Al Shamaileh, PNW assistant professor of Electrical Engineering, works with a student in an engineering lab. Fifteen PNW engineering students from East Chicago, Hammond and Whiting recently received scholarship funds from bp America, Inc.

technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) is essential to the success of future innovators and is an issue that bp really cares about,” Dave Kurt, Whiting refinery manager said. “We want to do what we can to ensure that students from our community have access to opportunities that will lead to rewarding and in-demand careers.”

Source: Purdue Northwest



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Purdue Northwest donors support students during Day of Giving

HAMMOND and WESTVILLE, Ind. — Purdue University Northwest (PNW) received more than \$606,137 in contributions from more than 360 generous supporters during the 2020 Purdue Northwest Day of Giving on Wednesday (Sept. 9).

Gifts to PNW, as designated by the donors, will be used to support student scholarships, academic programs, athletics and other strategic initiatives. The Dean of Students Emergency Assistance Fund “We Care” campaign, which was created by the Office of the Dean of Students and the Office of Institutional Advancement to assist students who are facing challenges presented by the global pandemic,

had the most donations of any area within PNW.

“This considerable support for the ‘We Care’ campaign to support the urgent needs of students shows that despite the challenges of this unique time, our alumni, faculty, staff, and friends came together, with small and large gifts, to help our students,” said Lisa Goodnight, vice chancellor for Institutional Advancement. “We truly thank everyone who participated in the PNW Day of Giving. Your donations will directly benefit students who are feeling the greatest impact from the coronavirus pandemic, and those who have financial needs to complete their education.”

Highlighting the PNW impact

Hammond residents Richard and Donelle Weiss added \$50,000 to their previous \$100,000 gift in support of the Athletics Strength and Conditioning program. Donelle, a former PNW staff member, and Richard, who frequents the PNW Fitness Center, are supportive members of the community.

“We like PNW Athletics and their commitment to sport and academics,” Richard Weiss said. “This is our small way of helping.”

Goodnight said many PNW alumni and supporters of Purdue Northwest contributed to the success of Purdue Northwest

Day of Giving. In addition to the Weisses’ generous gift, other significant donations to PNW during Day of Giving included:

- Robert Milos, a longtime supporter of the PNW College of Nursing, made a \$64,000 gift to the College of Nursing with an additional challenge match of up to \$15,000 for contributions to the college made during Day of Giving.
- Horizon Bank gave \$50,000 to establish the Robert Dabagia Scholarship Fund in the PNW College of Business.

Gifts received by PNW contributed to a single day giving total exceeding \$42 million across the entire Purdue system.

Source: Purdue Northwest

Munster High School Senior Shriya Iyer is the only Indiana high school student to present at The 2020 Global Health Leaders Conference at Johns Hopkins University

Munster, Indiana, September 3, 2020—Representing both Munster High School and the state of Indiana, senior Shriya Iyer gave a presentation on “Social Media Addiction” at The 2020 Global Health Leaders Conference at Johns Hopkins University (JHU) held virtually in July.

According to JHU, the annual conference is a student- and faculty-led event that features some of the world’s leading researchers, physicians, policy developers, professors, and a Nobel Laureate. This year, the conference featured

speakers such as Dr. Peter Agre, a Nobel Prize winner and director of the JHU Malaria Research Institute; Dr. Mikhail “Doctor Mike” Varshavski, the largest health and medicine social media influencer with over 10 million followers; Dr. Roopa Dhatt, executive director of “Women in Global Health”; and Dr. Joanna Cohen, director of the Institute for Global Tobacco Control at JHU.

The conference also features exceptional students from across the U.S. and Canada who are budding leaders in the fields of global health, public health,

and medicine. After a rigorous application process that involved submitting test scores and recommendation letters; writing essays; and completing an extensive application, Iyer was the only student from Indiana invited to participate in the student speaker series.

“I enjoyed learning from the other speakers and meeting and interacting with other students who are just as passionate about global health issues,” Iyer said.

Conference chair Siam Rezwani added: “Shriya wonderfully represented her school and her state. We were

honored to have her as a part of our conference program this year. Our conference board members, in addition to the students in our program, were deeply inspired by her character, knowledge, and passion.”

Iyer is the daughter of Gayathri Iyer and Arun Balakrishnan of Munster. A recording of her presentation, “Shriya Iyer Presents on Social Media Addiction,” may be seen here on Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OnVTNxWtm9I>

Source: Munster High School

Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Northwest Indiana Has Opportunity for \$100,000 Matching Gift to Help Youth Return2Learn!

Few things are more important than giving kids the resources they need to succeed in school. Students are back to school and eager to learn, but they face unprecedented challenges this year. After schools were forced to close their doors early this past spring, an extended summer, and the re-opening of schools this fall under so much uncertainty, many youth are struggling to maintain the academic progress they made last year.

“Our Clubs understand the challenges schools have with kids losing some of their learning during the summer,” said Director of Operations Rosemarie Joiner. “We have programs like Summer Brain Gain to help combat this. What none of us anticipated was schools closing so early this past spring and a long summer. Then, with the start of the school year with many schools

turning toward virtual learning, our Clubs knew we had to partner with schools more than ever and be very intentional about helping kids remain on academic track.”

When Clubs opened for the fall school-year program with a limited capacity of youth served, they transformed into mini-classrooms, offering working parents a safe learning environment for their children.

Hearing of such efforts and knowing kids need resources to succeed this school-year, an anonymous donor offered Boys & Girls Clubs a \$100,000 matching gift – thus creating the Return2Learn Matching Gift Challenge. Beginning at noon on September 14 through noon September 30, Greater Northwest Indiana residents and corporations have the opportunity to double their impact by making a gift in support of Club programming

this fall and secure an additional \$100,000 dollar-for-dollar match for the organization.

“Our community really came together in support of our kids the past couple years during a fun event called the Art Van Charity Challenge. This support allowed us to continue providing valuable services to Club members. When Art Van closed their stores and discontinued the challenge, we had an anonymous donor step forward to help us create a \$100,000 matching challenge for our Clubs,” President & CEO Ryan Smiley said. “Even though things are a little different this year, we have an exciting opportunity to raise \$200,000 in support of our Club members, and we hope people in the community know how critical their support is to our kids’ academic success and are willing to donate to help us reach our goal.”

All funds raised will go toward Boys & Girls Clubs’ academic assistance programs, which provide parents of Club members enrolled in virtual learning at school with a safe place to send their children during the school day. In Clubs throughout Northwest Indiana, members are able to login to their schools’ online platforms, participate in virtual instruction, and receive help from trained Boys & Girls Clubs staff. Smiley said the organization’s goal is partnering with local schools to ensure students have the resources they need to complete their school work and thrive academically.

Interested donors can find more information about the campaign and donate, doubling their impact, by visiting bgcgreaterwi.org/return2learn.

*Source: Boys and Girls
Clubs of Greater
Northwest Indiana*


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Hammond Celebrates 7th Annual Veteran Appreciation Day Parade

HAMMOND, IN. – Mayor Thomas M. McDermott, Jr. and the City of Hammond celebrate its 7th annual Veteran Appreciation Day parade on Saturday, Nov. 7 at 10 a.m. in Hammond's 5th and 6th districts. The parade route travels from Olcott Avenue, down 173rd Street and ends at the Hessville Park Veterans Memorial.

Some of the parade participants include members of local American Legions and VFW posts, musical entertainment from area high school bands, military vehicles, Those Funny Little People and a flyover by the Lima Lima Flight Team.

The Co-Grand Marshals for the parade this year will be Airman Ernie Dillon, USAF 76th Squadron, SAC. Airman Dillon was on a Huey helicopter crew in rescue and reconnaissance training missions in Central America during the Vietnam War Era.

Airman Dillon is a member of the Hammond American Legion Post 168 for 30 years and was past Commander four times. We are also honored to have Co-Grand Marshal US Army SP4 Armando Blanco, Sr., 173rd Airborne Brigade Sep, Commendation Medal Vietnam 1966-1968. In 1965, the Brigade became the first major unit of the United States Army to serve in Vietnam. They conducted the only combat parachute jump of the war in February 1967. During more than six years of continuous combat, the brigade earned 14 campaign streamers and four unit citations. "Sky Soldiers" serving in Vietnam earned 13 Medals of Honor. The brigade was deactivated in 1972.

A short program will immediately follow the parade at the Hessville Park Veteran Memorial at 173rd Street and Kennedy Avenue.



For more information on participating or sponsoring the parade, contact the Hammond Parks & Recreation at (219) 853-6378 or visit www.gohammond.com. To enter your organized group into the parade, fill out the online entry form here: <http://www.gohammond.com/vadppf>.

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