The Chamber Scene

HUNTINGTON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

40 E. Franklin Street • Huntington, Indiana 46750 • (260) 356-5300 • www.huntington-chamber.com • April 2024

Enjoy Huntington County's outdoor areas

Huntington County provides many areas for the community to enjoy the outdoors. Walking, hiking, biking and a variety of trails, reservoirs and parks offer opportunities to experience fresh air, trees, wildflowers, sports, waterways and exercise.

The system of trails continues to grow in Huntington County thanks to the efforts of HARTA (Huntington Area Recreational Trail Association). HARTA will hold its annual fundraiser in support of Huntington's trails on Friday, June 7 at the Huntington County Fairgrounds, 631 E. Taylor Street, from 6 to 10 p.m. The Huntington Trails Beer and Wine Festival can be attended by those 21 and over in the Beacon Credit Union Heritage Hall. For more information visit https://harta-gotrails.org.

Erie Trail, named for the significant contributions of the Erie Railroad to Huntington, begins at Hier's Park and travels north across the historic Erie Railroad bridge, continuing through Yeoman Park. It then follows the Erie trail bed north to Gragg Street making easy access to several city parks, Parkview Huntington Hospital, Parkview Huntington YMCA, Crestview Middle School and Huntington University.

Etna Trail Section travels along Etna Avenue beginning at Jessup Street and ending at Waterworks Road where the city limits end. Evergreen Trail is a one mile paved loop walking trail at Evergreen Park on Evergreen Road. Along this trail decks can be found that overlook the Wabash River, and a wildlife prairie is home to seven different flowers and grasses.

The Lime City Trail walks along the banks of the Wabash River and begins on West Park Drive across from Huntington Nursery. The paved section has a view of the Nuck House, Schoolhouse and the former home of Chief Richardville in the Historic Forks of the Wabash Park. The trail continues on into the woods complete with wood walkways and a bridge. When completed it will continue on to the PAL grounds, totaling over five miles.

The City of Huntington can be toured on



the five bike routes that start and end at Schenkel Station in downtown Huntington. Each of the five bike routes offer different distances and sights of the city.

The Pehkokia Woods Acres Land Trust preserve begins at the parking area at 1570 Flaxmill Road. The area has a 1.9 mile hiking trail and is named for the Miami word "peace." The surrounding woods feature a variety of trees and a small pond. The upland forest is dissected by a number of 20-foot-deep ravines.

The Tel-Hy Acres Land Trust area is located at 1429 N 300 W. It provides 1.1 miles of hiking trails on 39 acres of land. Tel means "high" in Hebrew and Hy means "life." Visitors can view a variety of trees, wildflowers and the Wabash River from a high bluff above.

Two area reservoirs also provide opportunities to enjoy the outdoors. J.E. (J. Edward) Roush Lake Fish and Wildlife area includes 7,347 acres of land, 900 acres of lake and is approximately 15 miles long. Recreational areas include Kil-So-Quah Trail and Lookout Mound, hiking and biking trails, a campground, boat ramp, a shooting range, areas for wildlife watching and birding, hunting areas and more.

Salamonie Lake is filled with scenic trails on the 12,554 land acres. It also includes 2,665-acres of lake property with 40 ponds, The trail into Pehkokia Woods Acres Land Trust preserve at 1570 Flaxmill Road. The area has a 1.9 mile trail and small pond. The wood bridge, below, is part of the Historic Forks of the Wabash Park, on the Lime City Trail.



marshes and wetlands. The Lost Bridge West State Recreation Area (SRA) provides learning opportunities, a modern campground, a horseman's campground and more. The Salamonie Lake property also includes a swimming beach, basketball and volleyball courts, hiking and biking trails, boat launch ramps, a marina, bridle trails,

(Story Continued on Page 2)

Enjoy Huntington County's outdoor areas continued

(Story Continued From Page 1) canoeing/kayaking, cross-country skiing, fishing/ice fishing, picnicking, shelter house, playgrounds, snowmobile trails and more. Huntington has a large selection of parks to visit and enjoy.

Hier's Park is located at 547 S. Briant Street; Elmwood, along William Street; Evergreen, which includes an Arboretum, 1370 Evergreen Road; General Slack, Guilford Street; Laurie, 503 Grayston Avenue; Memorial Park and Sunken Gardens, West Park Drive; Memorial Hills Disc Golf Course; Terry R. Abbett Splash Park, 1215 Etna Avenue; Rotary Centennial Park, 551 N. Jefferson Street; Veterans Memorial; Yeoman Park, Second Street, includes Hayes-Lemmerz Skate Park, BMX Track and Barks and Recreation Dog Park.

In celebration of Arbor Day a special event will be held at Evergreen Park on Saturday, April 27. Volunteer efforts will take place from 8:30 to 1 p.m. with the public event from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The day will include tree mulching and planting, local artists' rain barrel silent auction, nature ac-

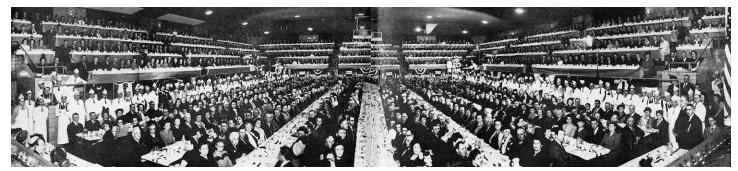


The Erie Railroad bridge can be found on the Erie Trail, crossing the river between State Street and Riverside Drive.

tivities and crafts for all ages, live music and an official Arbor Day proclamation by Mayor Richard Strick.

The Huntington Parks and Recreation Department maintains the local parks, and provides a lighted Christmas display in Sunken Gardens and the adjoining Shakespeare Gardens. It also programs and lights the Christmas tree in Rotary Centennial Park. Visit Parks and Recreation at huntington.in.us.

Two additional parks in Huntington County include Drake Goetz Memorial Park located along Union Center Road near Union Church, 4082 N 350 E, a not-forprofit community park with inclusive playground equipment, and Lake Clare Fitness Park, 1005 Broadway.



Shown in the photo above is the Farmer's Achievement Fish Fry where the Chamber of Commerce brought 1,600 businessmen and farmers together, helping to support the beginnings of 4-H in Huntington County.

Chamber promotes betterment of Huntington County

The members of the Huntington Chamber of Commerce were always looking to find ways "to promote any movement which had for its purpose the betterment of Huntington." With this in mind in the 1930s and 1940s, the Chamber became involved in the care of its citizens and was located in the former Hotel LaFontaine.

Following World War II, in the 1930s and 1940s, the Huntington Chamber of Commerce sought ways to help veterans of the war acclimate into the Huntington community. It became the administrative office for veterans housing as part of this effort. Today the Veterans Service Office, 1350

South Jefferson Street, assists veterans, their widows, spouses and dependents in receiving benefits.

Chamber members also found ways to raise funds for those in need. These efforts led to the beginnings of the Community Chest in 1947, which was a forerunner of today's United Way. The Chamber raised \$28,000 for a \$23,000 quota in this early campaign.

The Farmer's Achievement Fish Fry also began during this time. The event, sponsored by the Chamber, brought 1,600 businessmen and farmers together and helped to support the beginnings of 4-H.





Shown above are members of the Sweetwater All Stars band. In the foreground is Chuck Surack performing a saxophone solo for those attending the Chamber's annual dinner.

Chamber celebrates 100 years at annual dinner

The Sweetwater All Stars helped the Huntington County Chamber of Commerce celebrate 100 years of serving the community at the Chamber's annual dinner Tuesday evening, March 19, 2024. The event began a year of remembering all the Chamber has contributed since its inception, March 20, 1924.



Over 140 people attended the celebration held at Huntington's PAL Club. They were greeted by a room decorated in the Chamber's official colors of teal, black and gold. Mazie's Flowers & Gifts in Markle contributed a balloon archway for taking pictures. Dinner guests received a wine goblet inscribed with teal letters designating the Chamber's 100 year celebration.

Steve Kimmel, executive director, began the evening detailing the Chamber's history and thanking everyone who contributes to Huntington and Huntington County. Brock Zehr, outgoing Chamber board chairman, then introduced incoming Chamber board chairman, Todd Latta. Latta thanked Zehr for his years of service to the Chamber and presented him with his outgoing chairman plaque.

State Senator Andy Zay surprised everyone by approaching the podium and congratulated the Chamber. He presented a framed proclamation from the Indiana General Assembly and the State of Indiana detailing the Chamber's importance, and for serving Huntington County over the past 100 years.

The Sweetwater All Stars then entertained the crowd with an evening of R&B music. Talented musicians and singers presented an hour of spirited selections for the enjoyment of all.













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Pictured above is State Senator Andy Zay presenting a framed proclamation from the Indiana General Assembly and the State of Indiana to Steve Kimmel, executive director of the Huntington County Chamber of Commerce, as the Chamber celebrates 100 years of serving Huntington County.

Sen. Zay presents Chamber with 100 year proclamation

State Senator Andy Zay, presentated the Huntington County Chamber of Commerce with a framed proclamation from the Indiana General Assembly and the State of Indiana detailing the Chamber's importance, and for serving Huntington County over the past 100 years.

"The Chamber thanks Senator Zay for thinking of the Chamber and for his help in getting the proclamation for us," stated Steve Kimmel, Chamber executive director.

Family Karaoke Night at The Hive, April 20

The Huntington Theatre Guild Act II is thrilled to announce its upcoming Family Karaoke Night at The Hive Event Center on Saturday, April 20. The Hive is located at 509 E. State Street and the time of the event is from 6 to 8 p.m.



This event is open to performers of all ages, eight and older, and songs must be family-appropriate. Singers can jump the line to sing their song first by paying \$5.

A freewill donation will be accepted (no online sales), making this a perfect opportunity to bring your family and friends for a night of entertainment.

Concessions will also be available for purchase. Free parking is available at The Hive and the Boys & Girls Club. They reserve the right to refuse service due to inappropriate content or subject matter. Song choices must be family-appropriate.



Shown in the photo is the 2024 Chairman of the Board, Todd Latta, right, Parkview Huntington Family YMCA, presenting the outgoing Chairman of the Board plaque to Brock Zehr, Huntington University, at the 2024 Chamber of Commerce annual dinner held on Tuesday, March 19 at the PAL Club.

Brock Zehr recognized at Chamber annual dinner

The transition of leadership of the Huntington County Chamber of Commerce's board of directors took place on Monday, January 8 at the January board meeting. The new directors assumed their roles on the board at that time.

The 2024 board leadership includes Todd Latta, Parkview Huntington Family YMCA, assuming the role of Chairman of the Board. Other board members on the executive committee, are Bob Caley, Bob Caley Realtor – RE/MAX Results, Chair-Elect; Jill Jamison, Culp CPA Group, Treasurer; and Danielle Shaw, Bippus State Bank, Assistant Treasurer; Brock Zehr, Huntington University, Immediate Past Chairman.

Completing the board membership include Trisha Abbott, Mazie's Flowers, Markle; Rick Doering, Teijin Automotive Technologies; Heather Eash, Pro Resources Staffing Services; John Garrott, Beacon Credit Union; Adrian Halverstadt, Hartburg Roth Garrott Halverstadt & Garrett, LLP; Eric Meehan, Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems; Carrie Miller, Innovative Packaging; Mike Richard, State of Michigan; Doug Selig, Parkview Huntington Hospital; Shelly Snyder, Bowen Center; John Trout, Huntington County Community School Corporation.



Bob Caley



Jill Jamison



Danielle Shaw







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Shown in the photo above, from left to right, are Terry Miller, Terry Miller Realtor - Century 21 Bradley, Gwen Burns, Everwise Credit Union and both Chamber Ambassadors; Heath Pinkerton (father, in back), Ashton and Betty Pinkerton, owners, Little Sweets Spot; Liam Pinkerton (Ashton and Betty's son); Rachel Farmer, State Farm Insurance and Chamber Ambassador; Mayor Richard Strick and Bob Burnsworth, Coldwell Banker Real Estate Group and Chamber Ambassador.

Little Sweets Spot cuts ribbon, new owners

Little Sweets Spot, 315 N. Jefferson Street, held their official Huntington County Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting on Wednesday, March 27. The store in downtown Huntington has reopened under new



ownership and management. The business is now owned by Ashton and Betty Pinkerton where they assumed ownership of the store on January 1, 2024.

The owners are planning many changes to the store including freeze-dried candies, indulgent chocolates, exotic international candies and a special selection of unique sodas. There is now something for everyone. Little Sweets Spot is Huntington's only self-serve confectionery destination with over 500 varieties of candy.

The store had a Grand Re-opening on Saturday, March 30. Be sure to stop by Little Sweets Spot and see all the new items the store is now offering.

The Pinkertons say they will increase their store hours and will be open after the Grand Re-opening on Monday, 12 to 7 p.m.; Tuesday, 12 to 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 12 to 5 p.m.; Thursday, 12 to 7 p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; closed Sundays. For more information about Little Sweets Spot, you can reach them by calling (260) 200-1015, or email at littlesweetsspot@gmail.com. You can also find them on Facebook.



Shown in the photo above is Nick Anderson, owner of Nick's Pressure Washing & Window Cleaning, as he cleans the Huntington County Chamber of Commerce's windows in Huntington.

Nick's Pressure Washing & Window Cleaning

Nick's Pressure Washing & Window Cleaning is open for business and ready to serve its customers. Nick Anderson is the owner of the company. Anderson offers commercial and residential pressure washing and window cleaning, and his business is insured and local.

Nick's Pressure Washing & Window Cleaning pressure washes driveways, sidewalks, patios, homes and more. Nick says his specialty is cleaning windows. He says he is able to clean windows inside and out and up to three stories.

If you are looking for someone to power wash or clean those dirty windows, give Nick a call or text him at (260) 233-1878. You can also email at nickatnickspressurewashing@gmail.com. Nick's Pressure Washing & Window Cleaning can also be found on Facebook. He also offers free estimates.

Bowen offers Video Therapy

Bowen Health Clinic is offering Video Appointments with licensed therapists to make it easier for patients to obtain the healthcare they need.

Video Appointments are a convenient option when transportation or other challenges make it difficult to attend an appointment in person. Sometimes called telehealth or telemedicine visits, Video Appointments allow patients to visit their therapist via a smartphone, computer or tablet.

"Offering this convenient way for our patients to meet with their therapist, even if they can't come to our office, is another way we are breaking down barriers to care," said Dr. Rob Ryan, Bowen Center president and CEO. "We know life can get in the way, work schedules don't always align, childcare falls through, or transportation is a challenge. Patients need options when that happens so they can continue to get the care they need. For some patients, Virtual Appointments can be a lifeline that helps them fit everything into their already busy day."

Bowen Health Clinic welcomes Medicaid, and no one is turned away for an inability to pay. To make an appointment, call (800) 342-5653.



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Second annual Swing Inn to be held April 20

The Parkview Huntington Family YMCA second annual Swing Inn dance party is slated to take place on April 20, from 7 to 10 p.m. at the YMCA, 1160 W 500 N. Just like back in the 50's and 60's their April 20 event will be the place-to-be. According to the Huntington High yearbook, Swing Inn fun was rated as the "best ever" by all the smartest "cats" and coolest "chicks." Those who attended in 2023 said the same thing.

This year's event is being held a bit later in the spring in the hopes that a few more snowbirds will be back to Huntington. This second annual Swing Inn dance party event will again feature a live band, The Moon Cats, one of Indiana's premiere bands of the 50's and 60's. Attendees will be treated to hors d'oeuvres and old-fashioned sodas during social hour.

While dressed in their best era outfits from the 50's, 60's and 70's, "cats" and "chicks" will cut up the dance floor to the beat of the Moon Cats. This is a ticketed event with proceeds supporting the YMCA Annual Campaign which provides scholarships and financial assistance to allow Y programming to be available for everyone. Although dressing in an era outfit is encouraged, it is not required.

There are still opportunities for supporters and sponsors to help make the Swing Inn a successful event. Please contact Joy at joy.koch@huntingtony.org or Terri at teresa.bartom-@huntingtony.org for questions about how you can help.

Tickets are now on sale at the YMCA. Call (260) 359-9622 or stop by the front desk during Y hours to purchase your entry to the Swing Inn. The YMCA is located at 1160 W 500 N.

Century, Half Century awards now accepted

Nominations are being accepted for the Governor's Century and Half Century Business Awards, which honor Indiana businesses that have remained in operation for at least 100 or 50 years, respectively.

The businesses must also have demonstrated a commitment to serving the community, a news release from the Indiana Economic Development Corporation said.

The state has several other qualifying criteria for the awards.

- * Have had continuous operations in Indiana for 100 or 50 years by December 31, 2023.
- * Have participated in the same line of work for the duration of its operations. If different, an explanation of the evolution into the current business must be provided on the nomination form.
 - * Have had its base in Indiana since it was founded.
- * Recognize, acknowledge and agree that it is in full compliance with the Indiana Secretary of State.
- * Not have previously received a Century or Half Century award from the state of Indiana. Previous Half Century award recipients may qualify for a Century award.

Eligible companies are encouraged to complete the online application by April 12. Go to https://www.iedc.in.gov/program/century-and-half-century-awards/applyapply.







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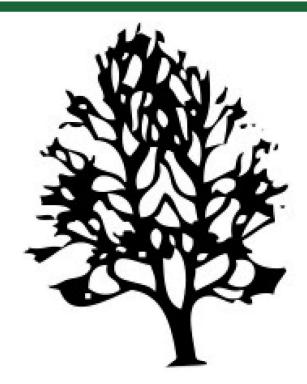
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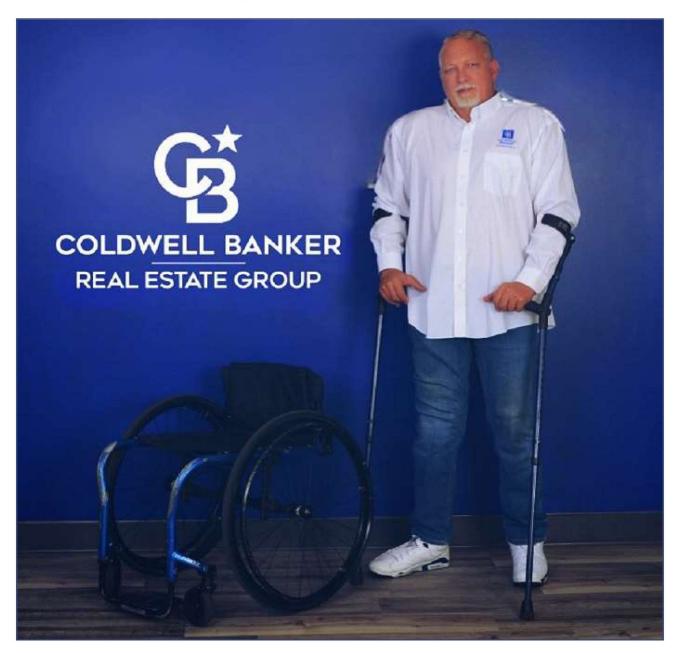
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Mark Your Calendars

Total Solar Eclipse - Fun Run/Walk

Sunday, April 7, 3 p.m. Evergreen Park

Bingo for the Arts

Tuesday, April 9, 7 p.m. Huntington PAL Club, 2099 Riverside Drive

Old-Fashioned Swing Inn

Saturday, April 20, 7 p.m. Parkview Huntington Family YMCA, 1160 W 500 N

Arbor Day Celebration

Saturday, April 27, 10 a.m. Huntington PAL Club, 2099 Riverside Drive

<u>Designer Purse Bingo</u>

Tuesday, May 14, 6:30 p.m.; Doors Open 5:30 p.m. Huntington PAL Club, 2099 Riverside Drive

For A Complete Calendar of Events

Visit our website at www.huntington-chamber.com







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