

The Chamber Scene

HUNTINGTON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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Enjoy the great outdoors in Huntington County!

With warm weather just beginning in Huntington County, residents and visitors alike have their sights on the many venues available for outdoor fun. Trails, parks, reservoirs, Markle Pool, Lake Clare and more provide opportunities to get outside and “enjoy the sunshine.”

Arbor Day/Earth Day will be celebrated in the County with the beginnings of an arboretum planned at Evergreen Park, 1370 Evergreen Road, Huntington. Community members are invited to help with the project on Saturday, April 30 from 9 a.m. to noon. Those interested in volunteering can complete an event registration found on the Huntington City/County website in the Evergreen Park Arboretum feature at www.huntington.in.us. Volunteers who register by April 12 will receive a free T-shirt, and experience with tree planting is not required.

A total of 80 trees of different varieties will be planted from April 28 through 30, and plans include walkable trails in the arboretum. Events such as weddings and other gatherings in an outdoor space are also a part of future plans. The area has been being readied for planting with the delivery of topsoil and ground leveling.

Huntington Parks & Recreation Department Superintendent Steve Yoder brought the initial idea of the arboretum to the Mayor’s Advisory Council on Environmental Stewardship (MACES), and the group has spearheaded the project. Funding has been received through a U.S. Forest Service grant awarded to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry.

Along with Evergreen Park, the Parks Department strives to develop and maintain additional quality parks and facilities, and to preserve open/natural spaces in Huntington County. Overlooking the Wabash River, Evergreen Park also has overlook decks and covers 85 acres of land. The park offers playground equipment, a walking trail, an outdoor pavilion with a grill, a lighted ball diamond, sand volleyball and restrooms.

The Huntington Park system also in-



Shown in the photo above is one of the many trails you will find in Huntington County. This trail is located at the Historic Forks of the Wabash Park. Biking, walking and running in scenic beauty can be found on Huntington’s growing network of trails maintained by the Huntington Parks & Recreation Department.

cludes Memorial Park, 1200 W. Park Drive, which also features a playground, covered pavilion, Pickle Ball courts, basketball court, restrooms, ponds, Sunken Gardens, Memorial Hills Disc Golf Course and the Veterans Memorial area. Drover Park, 1215 Etna Avenue, sits near the Terry R. Abbett Splash Park, 1255 Etna Avenue. Ball diamonds are featured near Elmwood Park, 1110 William Street.

General Slack Park, 929 Guilford Street, is named for a general from the Huntington area and is filled with enjoyable playground equipment. Hier’s Park, 547 S. Briant Street, is the site of Huntington County’s 4-H Fair and Forks of the Wabash Pioneer Festival and has playground equipment, covered pavilions, ball diamonds and enclosed buildings used for many community activities. Yeoman Park/Hayes-Lemmerz Skate Park is located at 900 W. Market Street. Additional parks include Laurie, 524 Swan Street, and Erie Park/BMX Pump Track, 936 Second Street.

The Parks Department desires to develop and maintain excellence in Huntington’s

parks, while conserving the environment and promoting health and well-being through recreational programs for Huntington residents. Biking, walking and running in scenic beauty can be found on Huntington’s growing network of trails also maintained by the Parks Department. Walk-A-Mile Wednesdays are a popular feature on area trails sponsored by the Parks Department. Visit the Huntington City/County website for the schedule.

Bike routes begin at Schenkel Station in downtown Huntington at 11 W. State Street. Five bike routes, detailed on maps found at Schenkel Station or on the Huntington Area Recreational Trails Association (HARTA) website, range in size from the Blue Route, 9.83 miles; Green Route, 5.04 miles; Orange Route, 4.50 miles; Yellow Route, 4.11 miles and Red Route, 4.05 miles. A weekly bike ride leaves from Schenkel Station on Wednesdays, from May 4 through October 5. The ride begins at 6 p.m. and concludes at 7:30 p.m.

HARTA helps to develop and support
(Story Continued on Page 2)

Enjoy the outdoors in Huntington County continued

(Story Continued From Page 1)

Huntington's system of trails. A beautiful walk along the Wabash River begins at the Lime City Trail head located on West Park Drive across from Huntington Nursery. This trail includes the Historic Forks of the Wabash Park showcasing the Nuck House, Schoolhouse and the Chief Richardville home. This trail keeps growing with a series of wooden walkways and bridges constructed by Forks' volunteers.

The contributions of the Erie Railroad to the history of Huntington are celebrated on the Erie Rail Trail. It begins at Hier's Park and continues north across a historic Erie Railroad bridge and then goes on through Yeoman Park. From the park, the trail goes through the Erie rail bed to Gragg Street. It



Pictured above is the bridge at the Historic Forks of the Wabash.

provides access to city parks, Parkview Huntington Hospital, Parkview Huntington Family YMCA, Crestview Middle School and Huntington University. The Old U.S.-24 Trail connects to the Erie Trail at the cor-

ner of Briant and Old U.S.-24. The Etna Trail travels along Etna Avenue beginning at Jessup Street and ends at Waterworks Road.

Acres Land Trust also maintains areas for connecting with nature and hiking in Huntington County. Tel-Hy Nature Preserve, 1429 N 300 W, 1.1 miles, and Pehkokia Woods, 1570 Flaxmill Road, 1.9 miles, are two such areas open daily until 9 p.m.

J. Edward Roush Lake (Huntington Lake) provides outdoor fun with many boating and hiking opportunities. Salomonie Lake offers many opportunities for boating, hiking, swimming, camping, fishing, hunting and more.

Markle Pool, 100 Park Drive, Markle, is the place to swim in the warm, summer months. Complete with clean water, beach area, slides, concession stand, restrooms and is wheelchair accessible, area residents and guests can swim for a small fee.

The Huntington Farmer's Market will move to Lake Clare, at the corner of Old U.S.-24 and Broadway, beginning in June for the 2022 season. The Market will join food trucks, live music and children's activities along the lake for a festive summer activity each Wednesday from 4 to 7 p.m.

Organized activities in Huntington County for families and children are scheduled at the Parkview Huntington Family YMCA, the Huntington Police Athletic League (PAL), at Huntington County Baseball, in additional sporting programs in each community, musical productions, festivals and more.

Many entities have worked diligently to bring the system of trails and outdoor accessibility to Huntington County residents over the years. Bring the family to these enjoyable adventures in nature and see all that Huntington County has to offer.

APRIL Business of the Month Coldwell Banker Real Estate Group



Shown in the photo above, front row from left, are April VanBrocklin, Jeanine Martin, Bob Burnsworth, Jane Burkhart and Richelle MacAleese all from Coldwell Banker Real Estate Group. Back row, from left, are Steve Kimmel, executive director, Huntington County Chamber of Commerce; Joel Scheer, VP, Ruoff Mortgage and Justice Tabor.

Coldwell Banker Real Estate Group and Bob Burnsworth, office manager, were selected as the Business of the Month for April. Coldwell Banker was selected for the many different activities and events the business is involved with throughout the year.

Burnsworth also manages the New Life Ministries' Meal Ministry, and is a member of the Downtown Business Association where Burnsworth is always ready and willing to support and sponsor activities that help bring people to Huntington.

The Huntington County Chamber of Commerce congratulates Bob Burnsworth and his staff at Coldwell Banker Real Estate Group as April's Business of the Month.

HARTA annual dinner scheduled for April 12

Huntington Area Recreational Trails Association (HARTA) will hold their annual dinner on Tuesday, April 12 in Habecker Dining Commons at Huntington University. The event will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Dress is casual.

The evening program will feature presentations from HARTA board members Eric Bruce, Dr. Janelle Maxwell Pflieger and Jeff Webb, who will speak of HARTA's path to 2030, recent and future trail events and association membership.

The cost to attend is \$25 per person or \$185 for a table of eight. Tickets can be purchased by mailing the completed registration form available at www.harta-gotrails.org along with a check payable to HARTA at P.O. Box 5005, Huntington, IN 46750, or by clicking the 'Buy Tickets' button on the website.





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The Huntington Bicycle Shop to hold After Hours on April 14

The Huntington Bicycle Shop, 45 Etna Avenue, Sweet 100, will hold a Chamber After Hours & Open House on Thursday, April 14. The event will take place from 4 to 6 p.m. at the bicycle shop. Please enter the store off of Henry Street.



Brooks Fetters, owner, The Huntington Bicycle Shop, would like to invite those who may not have been to his new shop to come and see all the bicycles and accessories that are available locally. The shop has bicycles for all riders – from those looking for a beginner bicycle to those wanting to tour. He also has a large selection of vintage bicycles and “bicycles you used to ride when you were a kid” that can be refurbished in his shop.

Fetters plans to have refreshments for those attending and plans to give away a bicycle and accessories.

If you would like to attend, please RSVP to skimmel@huntington-chamber.com. The community is invited to attend.

County Council on Aging to hold Senior EXPO on May 19

The Huntington County Senior Citizens EXPO is scheduled to take place on Thursday, May 19 from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Huntington University Merillat Complex Fieldhouse. This event is free to attend and is not associated with Huntington University.

People of all ages are welcome to attend this fun and helpful event that offers exhibitors and information about services for seniors.

For transportation needs, contact Huntington Area Transportation (HAT) to schedule a ride at (260) 356-3006. Pick up times should be scheduled by 11 a.m. the day before the event. Return trips are available from the Senior EXPO by HAT from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

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Rebecca Morin

Member Service Representative

Healthy Kids Day, Fun Run, 5K, April 23

Parkview Huntington Family YMCA is hosting the 2022 Healthy Kids Day, Fun Run and 5K events on Saturday, April 23, 2022.



The one mile Fun Run / Walk is free to the community and kicks off at 9 a.m. from the YMCA. The Fun Run course will be completed in the vicinity of the YMCA. We ask participants not bring dogs to the race. Registration is required but the Fun Run / Walk is free to participants.

The 5K steps off at 9:30 a.m. near the Y and the course route has runners going through the beautiful Huntington University Campus and returning to the Y via the Gragg Street trail (which runs parallel to Stults Road). Awards will be given for male and female age division winners.

Both races offer t-shirts to the first 100 who sign up and finisher ribbons for kids ages 14 and under. Racers and walkers may register for the events on the YMCA website at www.huntingtony.org (under "register") or by calling the Y at (260) 359-9622. Race day registration will also be available.

In addition to the races on April 23, the Y is also hosting their annual FREE Healthy Kids Day in the Y gymnasium and is open to all community members. Healthy Kids Day offers a Community Connections EXPO with booths from area agencies from 9 a.m. until noon, free Lions Club Vision Screenings from 9 to 11 a.m., program presentations and entertainment from 9:15 a.m. to 12 noon, and open swim from 12 noon to 2 p.m. Open swim is free to the community but requires registration to attend. Door prizes will be given during the EXPO.

Funds raised from the 5K benefit the Y's campaign for financial assistance. In 2021 the Parkview Huntington Family YMCA awarded over \$115,000 in scholarship to the Huntington community. The annual campaign enables the YMCA to not turn anyone away from membership or programs based on their ability to pay.

"The Y is excited to offer this day of events that promotes fun, fitness and philanthropy," says YMCA CEO, Todd Latta. "We encourage community members to grab a few friends, co-workers or family members and sign up to join us for the 5K as well as stopping in the gym to take part in Healthy Kids Day activities."

Racers may contact Todd Latta at todd.latta@huntingtony.org or call (260) 359-9622 with questions. Parkview Huntington Family YMCA is located at 1160 W 500 N, Huntington.

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Huntington Trails Beer & Wine Festival, June 11

The Huntington Beer & Wine Festival is back this year and scheduled for Saturday, June 11. The festival will take place at the Huntington County Fairgrounds and First Merchants Heritage Hall, Hier's Park.

Tickets for the Huntington Trails Beer & Wine Festival can be purchased at <https://harta-gotrails.org/>.

The annual Huntington Trails Beer & Wine Festival is put on each year by Huntington Area Recreational Trails Association (HARTA). This is a wine, distilled spirits and beer tasting event featuring the products of many Indiana wineries, Artisan Distilleries and U.S. breweries. Music and food will be a part of the festival with local food trucks on hand offering plenty of food.

The board of HARTA invites you to sip your favorite wine, distilled beverage or brew and enjoy live music in a festive atmosphere. Mark it on your calendar, you will not want to miss this tasty summertime event!

Proceeds from the event will go toward development, maintenance and awareness of trails in Huntington County.

Sponsors are needed to help HARTA reach their goal of raising \$20,000 for the event. The group is also seeking donations for the raffle. If interested contact Kelly Frank at (260) 355-5103.

Sampling Ticket includes: A souvenir wine glass, tasting program, sample selections at each winery, brewery table, opportunity to purchase bottles and glasses from your favorites, appetizers, live music, prize raffles and access to lots of great food vendors.

Designated Driver Ticket includes: Live music, prize raffles, non-alcoholic beverages and access to great food vendors.

Group Rate available for 25 or more!

Tickets: \$25, Early Bird, on sale now, online only; \$30 in advance, April 1 to June 10; \$10 for designated driver; \$35 at the gate the day of the festival.

Tickets may be purchased at: First Federal Savings Bank, Huntington locations; Bippus State Bank, Hauenstein Road and Roanoke branch and online via <https://event.ontaptickets.com/>.

Follow the event on Facebook via <https://www.facebook.com/harta.gotrails>. For complete details visit HARTA's website at www.harta-gotrails.org.



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Mark Your Calendars

HARTA Annual Dinner

Tuesday, April 12

Habecker Dining Commons, Huntington University, 5:30 p.m.

After Hours & Open House

Thursday, April 14, 4 to 6 p.m.

The Huntington Bicycle Shop, 45 Etna Avenue, off Henry Street

Healthy Kids Day, Fun Run, 5K

Saturday, April 23, 9 a.m.

Parkview Huntington Family YMCA, 1160 W 500 N

Council on Aging's Senior EXPO

Thursday, May 19, 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Huntington University Merillat Complex Fieldhouse

Huntington Trail Beer & Wine Festival

Saturday, June 11, 2022

First Merchants Heritage Hall, Hier's Park

Heritage Days

Wednesday, June 15 to Sunday, June 19

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