The Chamber Scene

HUNTINGTON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

40 E. Franklin Street • Huntington, Indiana 46750 • (260) 356-5300 • www.huntington-chamber.com • June 2023

Heritage Days 2023, Huntington at 175 years

Celebrate Huntington at 175 years during Heritage Days 2023, Wednesday, June 14 through Sunday, June 18. The official sponsor is Coldwell Banker Real Estate Group, and the colors are navy blue, gold, red. Known as the "demisemiseptcentennial," Huntington's incorporation as a town took place February 16, 1848, 175 years ago, and Huntington received city status September 17, 1873, 150 years ago. The rich history of our community will be celebrated through the many activities planned for Heritage Days.

Official buttons bearing the 175-year logo are now available for purchase at the Huntington County Chamber of Commerce office, 40 E. Franklin Street, Suite 121. Buttons are \$2 each. Brochures detailing all the events about the celebration are also available at the Chamber and local convenience stores

The fun begins with the midway carnival operated by Poor Jack Amusements Company. It will be located on Cherry and the adjacent streets from June 14 through June 18. The carnival will be open from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Wednesday, June 14 and Thursday, June 15; Friday, June 16, 4 to 11 p.m.; Saturday, June 17, Noon to 11 p.m. with the final day being Sunday, June 18 from Noon to 5 p.m. Tickets are \$1.50 each or 20 for \$25. For those purchasing a wristband for unlimited riding the cost for Friday is \$25; Saturday, the cost is \$25, for all day; and for Sunday, June 18, from Noon to 5 p.m., the cost is \$17.

Girls, ages five to 12, will compete for the titles of Little Miss Heritage Days and Junior Miss Heritage Days at the pageant which will take place at Crestview Middle School on Wednesday, June 14 at 7 p.m. Tickets are available for \$5 (children 3 and under free) from contestants or at the door the evening of the pageant.

Thursday, June 15 brings the Heritage Days 54th Annual Chief of the Flint Springs Tribe Breakfast at 8 a.m. It will be located at the Historic Forks of the Wabash, 3011 W. Park Drive, and is sponsored by the



Huntington County Chamber of Commerce. This yearly activity names the new Chief of the Flint Springs Tribe. Reservations for the \$25 per person event are required by June 7 with the Chamber of Commerce, (260) 356-5300, or send your RSVP to agarcia@huntington-chamber.com.

The Huntington Rotary Club Strawberry Feed will take place Thursday, June 15 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Huntington County Fair Grounds, 631 E. Taylor Street, Beacon Credit Union Heritage Hall (Note the location change). Strawberries, shortcake, ice cream with whipped cream will be served and tickets are available at local banks, from Rotary members or at the door. The "all you can eat" price is \$6, with kids five and under eating for free.

The Huntington Erie Community Band Concert celebrating Heritage Days 2023 will take place at Rotary Centennial Park also on Thursday at 7 p.m. Bring your lawn chairs and enjoy a concert by the Erie Community Band including the Erie Band, Club Saxes, Jazz Ensemble and Lime City Brass.

The Huntington County Historical Museum, 315 Court Street, will feature a quilt show by the Peacemakers Quilt Club as part of Heritage Days 2023. The show will take place Friday, June 16 & Saturday, June 17, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, June 18,

Noon to 4 p.m. Nelson's Chicken will be sold Saturday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., also at the museum. Half chicken is \$10, pit-tatoes, \$4. Presale tickets are available from board members or at the museum. Presale pickup June 17, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The Heritage Days Car, Truck and Motorcycle Show in downtown Huntington, sponsored by MetroNet, will be held Friday evening, June 16 from 5 to 9 p.m. The show is open to all makes and models, registration takes place at the intersection of Jefferson and Washington Streets from 3 to 6:30 p.m. and the vehicle entry fee is \$10. Dash plaques and goody bags will be given to the first 75 vehicles registered. Awards will go to the top 25 and six "Best of." Restaurants will be open and food trucks will be on site. For information contact Chris or Erin Covey at (260) 418-8262. The registration form is available online at www.huntingtonchamber.com or at the Chamber office. Checks and pre-registration forms can be mailed to Chris Covey, 1993 Miami Trail, Huntington, IN 46750.

The Junior Achievement (JA) Fourth Annual Duck Race, part of Heritage Days 2023, will be held Friday, June 16 at 5:15 p.m. Ducks will enter the river at the Jefferson Street bridge and travel to a designated finish line. The first three ducks to cross the finish line win cash prices. First prize is \$1,000; second, \$250; third, \$100. Ducks must be purchased in advance and winners do not need to be present to win. Tickets are available from any JA board member serving Huntington County. Facebook message www.facebook.com/JAHuntington or visit Bippus State Bank, 150 Hauenstein Road, or Community Link FCU, 325 Etna Ave. Ticket/Duck prices: \$5, 1 single duck; \$20, 5 Duck Pack; \$50, 15 Duck Quack Pack.

The annual Biscuit, Sausage and Gravy Breakfast will once again be part of Heritage Days. Sponsored by the Women of the Moose Lodge, the public is invited to the breakfast at 390 Frontage Road on Saturday, June 17 from 7 to 10 a.m. The cost in-

(Story Continued on Page 2)

Heritage Days, Huntington at 175 years continued

(Story Continued from Page 1) cludes sausage gravy with biscuits and potatoes and coffee. Milk and juice are extra.

The Chief LaFontaine Saddle Club, 792 N 200 W, will be the site of a Ranch Horse and Pleasure Show during Heritage Days on Saturday, June 17 and Sunday, June 18 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Features some of the best horses from Indiana, Ohio, Michigan and Illinois with all styles of riding. Admission is free.

The Parkview Boys & Girls Club of Huntington County will hold a Running Towards Great Futures 5K on Saturday, June 17 at 9:30 a.m. prior to the Heritage Days Parade at 10 a.m. The event is sponsored by Parkview Huntington Hospital (Gold) and Angela Becker Orthodontics (Silver). The route for the race begins at Huntington University and continues to the Boys & Girls Club, 608 East State Street. Personal times will be available via email and on the registration website. For questions contact Andrea Rall at andrea@bgchuntington.com.

The 59th Annual Heritage Days 2023 parade will be held Saturday, June 17 at 10 a.m. The Heritage Days celebration is June 14 to 18. The theme is: Huntington at 175 years. The parade proceeds from Huntington North High School, follows MacGahan Street to Jefferson Street, proceeds through the middle of downtown Huntington and completes at State Street turning right.

Heritage Days 2023 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament will be held Saturday, June 17 at Crestview Middle School. It will be a double elimination tournament comprised of teams in three divisions: middle school, high school and adults. The cost is \$40 per team with a grand prize for the adult division of \$250. Signups require team division, players' names (3 or 4) and a primary contact. Registration ends June 11. Contact alexis.dalton@huntington.in.us. Proceeds from the tournament will go towards upkeep and revitalization of local parks' basketball courts. Sponsors are also needed at varying levels, contact brantyoung65-@gmail.com for information.

Vendors are invited to sell homemade crafts, baked goods or homegrown produce on the lawn of Huntington North High School, in a designated area, on Saturday, June 17. Set up will begin at 12 Noon and Huntington County residents will have the first opportunity for booth space. A few



Back by popular demand is the Hot Air Balloon Festival to be held on Saturday, June 17 at Huntington North High School. The glow will be held at dusk with liftoff prior weather permitting. New to the festival this year are the Paramotors. The paramotors will fly in and join in the festival also weather permitting.

food trucks are also welcome. Forms and a vendor fee of \$25 will need to be arranged by June 1. Contact Pat Johnson, (260) 224-3557, for more information. Vendors will be exhibiting their items during the Huntington County Disaster Team Car and Truck Show, The Heritage Days Kids Zone, Beacon Credit Union Pulling for Riley – Kiddie Tractor Pull and the Heritage Days Hot Air Balloon Festival.

The Huntington County Disaster Team Car and Truck Show is being organized by Max Kaylor and his team of the Heritage Days steering committee. It will take place at Huntington North High School from 3 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, June 17. Registration will be from 2 to 5 p.m. with a \$15 fee. The show will take place in front of the high school with entry from MacGahan Street. Awards presented at 7 p.m. The event is a fundraiser for the Disaster Team as it receives no federal, state or government funding. All funding is private or raised by members of the Disaster Team through car shows and other events. DJ Dick Smart of Smart Productions will provide music during the show. For more information contact Max Kaylor (260) 224-3535. The form is available online at www.huntington-chamber.com or at the Chamber office. Checks



and pre-registration forms can be mailed to Huntington County Disaster Team, 829 Oak Street, Huntington, IN 46750.

The Moose will hold the 4th Annual Moose Cornhole Tournament for Cancer during Heritage Days on Saturday, June 17 at 4 p.m. The Moose Lodge 837 will be the location at 390 Frontage Road. Register at the event, \$20 per team. For questions call Mark at (260) 224-7817.

The Heritage Days Kids Zone is Saturday, June 17, 5 to 8 p.m. at Huntington North High School. The Kids Zone will include many free fun activities including games by the Huntington City-Township Public Library, bounce houses, Archery Tag and pony rides, sponsored by Novae Corporation. Other sponsors include Christian Life Tabernacle, and Juergens Do-It Center. The Beacon Credit Union Pulling for Riley

(Story Continued on Page 3)

Heritage Days continued

(Story Continued from Page 2)

- Kiddie Tractor Pull will begin at 5 p.m., registration at 4:30 p.m. Truitt Law Offices will give away bicycle helmets to the first 200 children who visit their booth between 5 and 8 p.m. A drawing for a new bicycle will also take place. Other sponsors of the Balloon Festival are Heartland REMC, TWN Communications, Helena Agri-Enterprise, LLC, and Casey's General Store.

The Indianapolis Colts' 'Colts in Motion' museum will be a part of the Heritage Days Kids Zone from 5 to 8 p.m. Kids and their parents can visit the museum and participate in the activities including photos at Huntington North High School as part of the Kids Zone. This event is free and sponsored by ProFed Credit Union.

The Heritage Days Hot Air Balloon Festival will be Saturday, June 17 from 5 to 10 p.m. at Huntington North High School. DJ Dick Smart of Smart Productions will provide musical selections and announce the events. The Balloon Glow will take place Saturday evening at dark. Paramotors will fly in (weather permitting) right after the balloons take off providing a demonstration, and land for a question-and-answer session. Spectators are encouraged to bring their children and cameras for a spectacular show of giant glowing aerostats.

The Huntington County Modelers will hold a Heritage Days display on Saturday, June 17, during the Hot Air Balloon Festival. Learn to fly radio controlled airplanes and helicopters. Check out the Facebook page for more information: Huntington County Modelers or the website: www.huntingtonrc.com.

A Heritage Days "Teddy Bear Hunt" will be held at the Izaak Walton League, 470 Hauenstein Road, Sunday, June 18 from 1 to 5 p.m. The event is for families and their children. Stuffed bears will be hidden throughout the club's grounds. Families purchase a "hunting license" for each child "hunting bear" for \$5. Lunch including a hot dog, chips, gummy bears and a drink are part of the cost. Each child can take the bear home that they find on the "Teddy Bear Hunt." The afternoon will also include face painting, temporary tattoos, coloring pages, a bounce house, archery and more.

The Izaak Walton League will also host S'mores & Chores on Sunday, June 18 from 6 to 8 p.m. There is no charge, and families are invited to perform a basic task together followed by the enjoyment of a reward including S'mores in the beautiful Fire Garden at the Izaak Walton. The task will be a search and rescue mission to find any teddy bears left behind during the annual Teddy Bear Hunt in the afternoon.

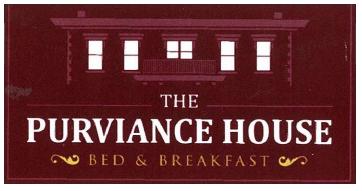
JeFFFest completes Heritage Days from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. in downtown Huntington on Sunday, June 18. The event will be located on Franklin Street in front of the Huntington Arts & Entrepreneurial Center (HAEC), 32 E. Franklin Street. Music, food and fine art will be sponsored by the LaFontaine Arts Council. The Todd Harrold Trio will provide the musical entertainment. The event is free to attend with tickets sold that evening in \$1 increments used to purchase food items. Those attending should bring lawn chairs. A silent auction of fine art begins at 5:30 p.m. in the Arts Included Gallery at the HAEC on June 18 with early bird bidding June 14 during gallery hours. Canvases, official 4x7, may be purchased at the HAEC or Amethyst Lotus, 35 W. Market St., for \$5 during business hours. Deadline to submit finished artwork at the HAEC or Amethyst Lotus is June 16.













A ribbon cutting was held at the new offices of Fort Wayne Marketing by the Huntington County Chamber of Commerce. The new offices of Fort Wayne Marketing opened in Electric Works in downtown Fort Wayne. The firm has additional offices at the Northeast Indiana Innovation Center and an office in Huntington. Shown in the photo above, cutting the ribbon, is Fort Wayne Marketing founder, John Paff, center. Also shown in the photo are employees of the business along with friends and other well wishers. The Huntington County Chamber of Commerce thanks Fort Wayne Marketing for the opportunity to 'cut the ribbon,' and allowing us to share in their celebration.

FW Marketing opens new office at Electric Works

On Friday, May 19, Fort Wayne Marketing celebrated an official ribbon cutting ceremony at its new office suite at Electric Works, 1690 Broadway, Building 19, Suite 10, Fort Wayne.

The move marks a significant step in the firm's history and opens doors for new growth and opportunity. Since its founding in 2018, the agency has grown from a one-person operation to a full-service team, offering a wide range of marketing services from brand strategy and video production to social media management, web development and more.

"We specialize in strategic partnerships with mid-sized, often family-owned businesses (the makers) and nonprofits (the difference makers)," said John Paff, the agency's founder. "We are deeply committed to our regional community – especially to those who want to catalyze further growth and success."

The new suite of offices accommodates the firm's growing team and offers an on-site video and photography studio, as well as well-appointed meeting spaces and all the amenities available at Electric Works.

"Our name is Fort Wayne Marketing," said Paff, "but we have served clients across Northeast Indiana, as well as Los Angeles, Denver, Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Baltimore, New York, and greater Washington, D.C. As a Midwest agency with a national reach, we offer fair deals, deliver real value, and strive to treat people with integrity, honesty, and kindness. It's just how we do business."

"With additional offices in downtown Huntington and at the Northeast Indiana Innovation Center, the firm is rapidly developing a regional footprint to serve its expanding client base. Northeast Indiana has a very vibrant vision and plan for the future," said Paff, "and we are excited to be part of it."

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Sweetwater All Stars to kickoff Music in the City

Join the Huntington Downtown Business Association (DBA) as they present the Sweetwater All Stars sponsored by Lake City Bank. The evening is a part of Huntington's Music in the City for 2023.

The concert will take place on Saturday, June 10 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The concert will be held on on the Courthouse Square on E. Franklin Street and is free to the public. There will be food trucks available for purchasing food. Don't forget to bring a chair and blanket.

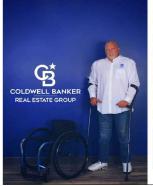
Boat races return to Lake Clare on June 3 & 4

The 13th Annual Harry Brinkman Memorial Regatta returns to Huntington on Saturday, June 3 and Sunday, June 4 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The boat races will be held at Lake Clare, 1005 Broadway, Huntington.

The community is invited out to Lake Clare to support the racers and the Huntington Township Volunteer Fire Department. Concessions will be available at the township building for those attending.







Bob Burnsworth

Office Manager - Broker 626 N. Jefferson Street Huntington, IN 46750 C: 260-519-3637

O: 260-359-7000

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Huntington County's Early Childhood Coalition

In the fall of 2022, a group of community stakeholders convened to discuss challenges and opportunities in early learning and childcare across Huntington County. From those discussions, it was clear that immediate action was necessary and there was a shared commitment to tackle the work together. The Early Childhood Coalition of Huntington County was born.

We were not alone either, Huntington County has joined a growing list of county coalitions that make up the newly formed Northeast Indiana Regional Early Childhood Coalition. Thanks to an investment from Ambassador Enterprises, a legacy-minded private equity firm headquartered in Fort Wayne, coalitions throughout the region have worked with consultant Gensys Design to assemble collaborative networks of early learning and childcare advocates with an objective to build better communities that support early childhood development and care.

Committed local stakeholders currently include the Community Foundation of Huntington County, Huntington County Community School Corporation, City of Huntington, Bendix Commercial Vehicle Systems, Pathfinder Services Kids Kampus, United Way of Huntington County, Fortitude Fund and leaders in our health, financial services and faith communities.

"We know investing in reliable, high quality and affordable childcare is the best thing we can do to improve the quality of life for Huntington families across the entire community," said Richard Strick, Mayor of the City of Huntington. "Those early, formative years have life-changing impacts down the road."

The Coalition's mission is to create positive early childhood experiences through community collaboration. "This collaboration is absolutely essential to the success of our students and will make a significant difference in the lives of our kids and families," states John Trout, Superintendent of Huntington County Community School Corporation.

"Connecting families and caregivers with proper services, resources and training can have a large impact on public health," explains Dr. Janelle Maxwell-Pflieger, physician at Cardinal Family Medicine. "By proactively addressing gaps in early learning and childcare, our community can significantly influence fu-

To facilitate and lead the work of the Coalition, a full-time, paid coordinator is currently being sought. Although not a direct childcare position, the coordinator will be charged with aligning systems that create a community where quality early learning and childcare are accessible for all families.

"In an employee survey, we found issues regarding childcare cost, hours and availability have led to increased stress and missed work," states Tricia Miller, HR manager at Bendix. "This has a huge impact on our productivity and employee retention."

Early childhood professionals are essential for the nurturing and developmental environment needed for our children to succeed and for the economic prosperity of our families. Those interested in partnering with the Coalition, through volunteer and/or monetary support, are encouraged to contact Matt Ditzler at matt@huntingtonccf.org or call (260) 356-8878.



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Senior EXPO has been rescheduled to June 29

The Huntington County Senior Citizens EXPO, originally scheduled to take place on Thursday, June 1, has been rescheduled to Thursday, June 29. The event will be held from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Huntington

HUNTINGTON NORTH
HIGH SCHOOL FIELDHOUSE
SENIOR EXPO

Council on Aging

JUNE 29 8:00AM TO 2:30PM

North High School Fieldhouse. This event is free to attend and is not associated with Huntington North High School. Those attending are asked to use door #28.

People of all ages are welcome to attend this fun and helpful event that offers exhibitors and information about services for seniors. There will be free breakfast offered to the first 400 visitors, free lunch, snacks and entertainment and approximately 85 booths for you to visit. Golf carts will be on hand to shuttle visitors to and from their vehicles.

New to the event this year, the HNHS athletic office will be selling Senior Citizens Silver Passes to seniors age 62-plus for HNHS 2023-2024 season home games. The passes can be purchased for \$10 each.

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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OF HUNTINGTON COUNTY

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Mark Your Calendars

Harry Brinkman Memorial Regatta

Saturday, June 3 & Sunday, June 4 Lake Clare, Broadway, Huntington

Markle Downhill Frenzy

Saturday, June 3, Downtown Markle

Huntington Trails, Beer & Wine

Friday, June 9, 6 to 10 p.m. First Merchants Heritage Hall, Hier's Park

Markle Car Show

Sunday, June 11, Markle Park

Heritage Days

Wednesday, June 14 to Sunday, June 18, 2023

Vintage & Handmade Market

Saturday, June 17, Downtown Roanoke

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