

The Chamber Scene

HUNTINGTON COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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Pioneer Festival to be held September 24, 25

Source: Friends of the Festival

Huntington's Forks of the Wabash Pioneer Festival continues its tradition of ushering in fall, this year featuring a new event that both recalls early settlers who carved out clearings in Indiana's forests and celebrates Huntington University's 125th anniversary.

The weekend festival will be held September 24 and 25.

Huntington University, long associated with its Foresters mascot, is the major sponsor of the festival's Timberworks Lumberjack Show. Additional show sponsors are McCune's Sales and Service, Purviance House Bed and Breakfast, Mike's Tree Service and Doc's Woodcarving, all in Huntington.

The Timberworks Lumberjack Show, based in Wisconsin and performing throughout the United States, offers its audiences the chance to experience a nostalgic logging competition of the early 1900s.

Shows will be performed both days of the festival and include such events as axe throwing, underhand or springboard chopping, log rolling, cross cut sawing, a hot saw

event and a chainsaw carve.

The event is reminiscent of old-time logging camps in North America, where lumberjacks would challenge each other in head-to-head competitions to put their skills to the test.

Crowd participation is encouraged, and at the end of each performance, one audience member will take home a carving autographed by one of the lumberjacks.

In addition to the professional lumberjacks, four two-person amateur teams will test their skills on Sunday, September 25, at noon. The eight amateur competitors have been selected by the sponsoring organizations.

Show times on Saturday, September 24, are Noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Shows on Sunday, September 25, are 2 p.m. and 4 p.m., with the amateur contest at noon.

Continuing with the lumberjack theme, Huntington University's Dr. Bruce Evans will mingle with festival guests in the persona of Indiana's first forester, Charles Deam. Evans, professor of biology at HU, will roam the festival grounds for several hours each day.

Deam, a Bluffton native, had his interest in botany sparked when as a 16-year-old farm boy in Wells County, he survived the deadly typhoid fever after being given a pioneer remedy using the herb, old-field balsam.

(Story Continued on Page 2)

Pioneer Festival history

The Forks of the Wabash Pioneer Festival, a celebration of Hoosier life in the mid-1800s, was founded in 1976 by Jean Gernand, who taught home economics and family living at Huntington North High School. She wanted a festival that celebrated the heritage of her community. The festival, initially only one day long, was held outside the high school for the first three years.

Gernand had the help of Bob Diffenbaugh, a science teacher, Mary Margaret Kelsey, a home economics teacher and community volunteer Mary Brooks to get things started. Mary Brooks' family, including husband Garl, his brother Denver Brooks and Denver's wife Benita Brooks, put together the Pioneer Village, now known as Brooks' Pioneer Village. As the festival grew, Gernand asked the community for help.

Phi Chapter of Psi Iota Xi Sorority stepped in to help co-chair the event with Huntington County Junior Historical Society. Phi Chapter of Psi Iota Xi now co-sponsors the festival with a community group, Friends of the Festival.

In 1979, the festival was moved to Hier's Park to accommodate the growth of the event. A second day was added to the festival in 1982. The festival is held each year on the fourth full weekend of September at the Huntington County Fairgrounds located at 631 E. Taylor St.

Proceeds from the festival are used to support local charities and historic preservation projects. The festival hours are Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Shown in the photo above is an ax thrower from the Timberworks Lumberjacks based in Wisconsin. The new event will be held at this year's Forks of the Wabash Pioneer Festival where the group is being sponsored by Huntington University.

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Pioneer Festival continued

(Story Continued From Page 1)

Stressed out by stints as a teacher and druggist, Deam began taking walks, collecting samples of plants and flowers along the way. He studied proper methods to collect, identify and preserve those specimens, expanding to neighboring states and countries but eventually focusing only on Indiana plants.

Deam was named Indiana's first full-time forester in 1909, documenting Indiana's attempts to reforest the state and working to preserve the state's private forests. He left that post in 1928 to focus on plants, eventually accumulating more than 70,000 specimens of Indiana plants at his home in Bluffton. That collection is now housed at Indiana University, Bloomington. Deam died in 1953.

This year's Pioneer Festival will continue to feature all of its traditional elements, including food, crafts, antiques and a farmers' market; displays of old-time motorcars, en-

gines and bicycles; a full slate of entertainment and demonstrations and re-enactments of pioneer life.

The festival is held at the Huntington County Fairgrounds, 631 E. Taylor St., Huntington, and the adjacent Hier's Park. Hours are Saturday, September 24, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday, September 25, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. An old-time worship service will be held Sunday at 9 a.m.

Admission is \$3 for adults, \$1 for students and no charge for children under 5. Parking is free. Not permitted on the festival grounds are pets, golf carts, bicycles, roller skates, skateboards and smoking.

The Forks of the Wabash Pioneer Festival is sponsored by Phi Chapter of Psi Iota Xi and Friends of the Festival. Proceeds are donated to local organizations working for the betterment of the community. For more Pioneer Festival information, visit pioneerfestival.org.



Shown in the photo above, from left, are Franklin D. Roosevelt, Eleanor Roosevelt and Teddy and Edith Roosevelt. The Roosevelts will be presenting at this year's Constitution Day celebration to be held in the Zurcher Auditorium on the campus of Huntington University on Saturday, September 17.

Constitution Day to be held at HU, September 17

Constitution Day 2022 will be held at the Zurcher Auditorium on the campus of Huntington University on Saturday, September 17. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. with the program starting at 7 p.m.

This year, the committee of Constitution Day will bring impersonators of Franklin D. Roosevelt, and his wife, Eleanor, and Teddy Roosevelt, and his wife, Edith. You will not want to miss the presentation.

The event is free to attend and the community is encouraged to come out for the presentation. There will be time for those attending to meet the impersonators and have photos taken with them.



Council on Aging to hold dinner on September 2

The Huntington County Council on Aging will hold a fish and chicken dinner at Central Christian Church on Friday, September 2. The church is located at 500 MacGahan Street, Huntington. Cost of the dinner is \$12 per dinner.

Dinner includes fish and chicken, applesauce, chips, tartar sauce and a cookie. Proceeds support the programs of the Huntington County Council on Aging.

This is a drive-thru only and prepared by Dan's Fish Fry.

Chalk Walk, September 3

The Huntington Chalk Walk Festival 2022 will be held on Saturday, September 3 in downtown Huntington. The event will take place on E. Franklin Street on the northside of the Huntington County Courthouse.

Artist drawing is from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event is open to the public from 12 noon to 5 p.m.

68th Roanoke Fall Festival, to be held September 8 to 10

This year's 68th Annual Roanoke Fall Festival will feature fair food, live music, kids' activities, inflatables, two parades, contests, ducky run and much more. Keep up with all the activities by following the festival on the Facebook page.

Markle Health car show September 9

Markle Health & Rehabilitation will hold their 9th Annual Show Us Your Ride Car, Truck and Bike Show. The event will be held on Friday, September 9 (rain or shine) at their facility at 170 N. Tracy Street in Markle.

The show runs 4 to 8 p.m. Awards given away at 7:30 p.m.

Touch a Truck, September 10

The Huntington Parks & Recreation Department will hold their annual Touch a Truck on Saturday, September 10. The event will be held at the Huntington Municipal Airport, 1365 Warren Road from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. This is a great opportunity to bring your children and grandchildren out to see all the vehicles that serve our county.

Harvest Festival, October 1

Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 1 and attend the second annual Harvest Festival in downtown Huntington.

Pumpkins, bales of straw and scarecrows will deck out the downtown area for fun, food, games, live music, pet parade, farmers market, vendors, shopping and more from 3 to 7 p.m.

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Renaissance in Roanoke, October 8

Downtown Roanoke will present their 15th Annual Juried Art Show and Handcrafted Marketplace in beautiful downtown Roanoke on Saturday, October 8. The event runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Join them for a Plein Air painting competition, live entertainment, children's activities, food court and the charming shops and restaurants of Roanoke. There's something for everyone!

For additional information, visit the Art Council website at: RenaissanceinRoanoke.org.

Bee Hive's Fall Bee'zarre, October 15

The Bee Hive will hold their Fall Bee'zarre at the Sweet Life Honey Farm, 5386 W 200 S, on Saturday, October 15 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Local vendors will be back sharing their wares and making it a great day to find those unique gifts. Vendors items include handmade, homegrown, raised and/or designed, making their items truly unique. While there be sure to shop The Bee Hive for that unique items.

While you are shopping be sure to enjoy a Honey Sweet root beer float. JB's Cuisine Machine food truck will be there and music will be provided by Space Junk.

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Jim 'The Rookie' Morris coming to HU October 7

Huntington University is pleased to announce that Jim "The Rookie" Morris will be at HU's Homecoming 2022 as a special speaker on Friday, October 7. Morris was a high school science teacher and coach in West Texas who miraculously made it the Major Leagues at the age of 35. His life story made cinematic history with the heart-warming and unforgettable Disney movie *The Rookie*, starring Dennis Quaid.



"As a baseball fan, Jim Morris' story is pretty near and dear to my heart," said Stephen Weingart, vice president for university advancement. "But you don't have to be a baseball fan to appreciate what he has to share. His story is one of perseverance, joy, hard work, faith and more. We want Foresters near and far to hear what Jim has to share."

"This is a 'thank you' again to this community who has supported this University and her students for 125 years," said Weingart.

Morris pitched two seasons for the Tampa Bay Devil Rays, reaching speeds up to 102 mph, and chose to retire to raise his children. Since 2000, Jim has been a highly sought-after motivational speaker, traveling the world inspiring audiences to follow their dreams and never give up.

In his latest book, *Dream Makers: Surround Yourself with the Best to Be Your Best*, Morris shares more of his incredible life story, including the people who helped make him the success he is today: his *Dream Makers*.

Morris has received a Lifetime Achievement award from the Bobby Bragan Youth Foundation and a CAMIE award for Character and Morality in Entertainment for *The Rookie*. He has been involved with BCFS, Arms of Hope, Texas Youth Commission and other philanthropic efforts, and he launched his own Foundation in 2015, giving back to underserved communities and children.

Morris and his wife, Shawna, have raised five children and live near San Antonio, Texas.

The Homecoming event will take place in Zurcher Auditorium in the Merrilatt Centre for the Arts. The event is free, but tickets are required.

Visit huntington.edu/Rookie to reserve your tickets today.

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Huntington University exceeds goal by \$22M

Huntington University is pleased and humbled to announce that the Step Forward Comprehensive Campaign launched in the fall of 2014 has shattered all campaign goals and raised a total of \$56,623,840. This is \$22 million more than the original campaign goal, and it is the largest campaign in University history.



In 2014, the Huntington University Board of Trustees approved a comprehensive campaign of \$34 million.

"For those of us in the room when that was decided, that was a large goal and frankly, a pretty daunting one," said Tom Clounie, Advancement Committee chair. "And it had a ticking clock on it. We knew this campaign was intended to wrap up in 2022 as part of the University's 125th birthday year."

That \$34 million figure included six capital projects and nine new academic program launches in addition to growing the endowment and scholarship funds. Prior to taking the campaign public, the campaign had already funded the 2015 renovations to Forest Glen Park, the 2016 construction of the new Welcome Center, and the 2017 completion of the Ware Plant Science Production Facility. Those three projects totaled \$10.5 million, but that was only the beginning.

"Seeing the faithfulness of God in this campaign and the success of the campaign to date, in the fall of 2019, on the recommendation of the Board of Trustees, the Step Forward Campaign goal was increased to \$40 million," said Clounie.

Since the fall of 2014, Huntington University has invested \$7.9 million in capital projects.

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Huntington Chalk Walk Festival

Saturday, September 3, 12 noon to 5 p.m.
Downtown Huntington

68th Annual Roanoke Fall Festival

September 8 to 10, Around Roanoke

Markle Health Car, Truck, Bike Show

Friday, September 9, 4 to 8 p.m.
Markle Health & Rehabilitation, 170 N. Tracy Street, Markle

Touch a Truck

Saturday, September 10, 9 a.m. to 12 noon
Huntington Municipal Airport, 1365 Warren Road

Harvest Festival

Saturday, October 1, 3 to 7 p.m.
Downtown Huntington

Renaissance in Roanoke

Saturday, October 8, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Downtown Roanoke

The Bee Hive Fall Bee'Zarre

Saturday, October 15, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
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