

PURA News

Purdue University Retirees Association

April 2021

Time to Register for Purposeful Living in Retirement, April 21, 2021



“Drugs in the Pipeline for Treating Human Disease”, presented by Dr. Philip Low, Presidential Scholar for Drug Discovery and Ralph C. Corley Distinguished Professor of Chemistry at Purdue University.

The sole presentation of the virtual 2021 PLIR will address therapies to treat cancers, viral diseases, fibrotic diseases, malaria, autoimmune diseases, bone fractures, sickle cell anemia and more. Dr. Low is an internationally recognized scientist whose lab specializes in “targeted therapeutics”. An outstanding speaker, his lab designs the techniques needed to identify specific ways to interrupt disease processes. Using techniques to image, bind, slice, kill, mitigate, and resection sounds like the Star Wars of our generation or the Power Ranger activities our grandchildren have enjoyed!

By targeting the specific area where the disease process is set to replicate, the therapies help prevent side effects associated with many current disease treatments. His lab currently has 8 targeted drugs in clinical trials. His ongoing work with mutation resistant therapies may have future implications for Covid-19 mutations.

What is different about the PLIR this year?

- There will be only one presentation, available via Zoom.
- The program will run from 12:45 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. ET.
- ALL participants must register online.
- Registration is **required** for members and guests because instructions on how to access the presentation will be sent only to registrants.
- Registration is free.

(Continued on page 2)

PURA Newsletter Changes On The Horizon

By Norm Long and Scott Ksander

The University Development Office has offered PURA the opportunity to reach more Purdue Retirees, now and after the COVID isolation ends. To achieve this effectively, the UDO now maintains a database of nearly 6,000 people believed to be official Purdue Retirees. UDO’s offer will enable the PURA newsletter to be routinely emailed to all members, be ADA compliant with color and visual enhancements, and offer the ability to easily enlarge the content.

It will provide much stronger security and freedom from spam, and it will appear in a new format, much like *Purdue Today*. The UDO proposal is to help us send email and the newsletter to this expanded list, and in doing so, try to reconnect with retirees who might have fallen through the cracks and/or confirm those retirees who really do not want to be on the PURA mailing list.

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(PLIR Registration, continued from page 1)

- There's no limit on the number of participants. Once you receive your registration email invitation you may forward it to as many others as you wish.
- No video images of participants will be shown on the screen.

How do You Register?

Registration will open on March 30, 2021 at 8:00 a.m. ET. Please be on the lookout for an invitation via email that includes the link for registration. The email invitation will come from the Purdue University Retirees Association: pura@purdue.edu, or you may visit the Purdue for Life Foundation events portal page to register by visiting connect.purdue.edu/s/events.

Please plan to join us!

PURA Web Site/Retiree Directory News

Progress! The PURA web site is again up to date, thanks to our new webmaster, Julie Kercher-Updike.

You may notice some visual changes as our ongoing review for best accessibility and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act requirements proceeds. Of course, we'll continue to keep you posted if significant changes are made.

www.purdue.edu/retirees

The anticipated new Retiree Directory is not yet available. The link appears on the PURA home page but is not functional. We'll make an announcement and provide instructions for use when it is ready.

(PURA Newsletter Changes, continued from page 1)

The PURA Executive Board has undertaken review and careful consideration of this new format and design changes with the plan to move slowly, carefully and in a prudent manner. The new opportunity will afford receipt of email, handling of bad email addresses, feedback, and again, ADA compliance.

Our anticipation is to reach 4,500+ members, compared to the 3,200 members we're currently able to reach. It also guarantees PURA members that they will not be flooded with junk mail, solicitations and/or extraneous materials.

The PURA Executive Board would appreciate your thoughts and feedback once you have seen, read, and thought about these enhancements. Your comments should be directed to pura@purdue.edu.

Thank you for your consideration.

Norman Long, PURA President

Scott Ksander, Chair, PURA Media Communications Committee

April 5 Zoom Meeting Topic: The Real State of the Economy



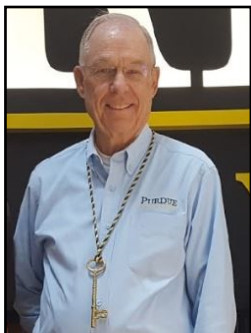
With bankruptcies, inflation worries, job losses, massive government stimulus and more, this past year has been full of challenges for the economy as well as for our health. People across the globe are struggling to understand where the economy might be headed. Purdue professor Charlene Sullivan is uniquely qualified to give us an update on "The Real State of the Economy."

Professor Sullivan joined the Krannert faculty in 1978. Her main teaching interests are corporate financial management, financial institutions and markets, and financial and managerial accounting. She has won many teaching awards and taught numerous programs offered

through the Krannert Executive Education Programs and by the Center for Agri-Business. Her current research interests are personal bankruptcy, the evolution of cost management systems in manufacturing firms, and capital budgeting processes.

Professor Sullivan served on the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. She also served on the boards of the Academy of Financial Services, the Midwest Finance Association, Lafayette Family Services, Inc., Home Hospital, Oak Ridge Mutual Fund, and the Lafayette Consumer Credit Counseling Services. Professor Sullivan has authored numerous publications dealing with credit quality, tax reform, deregulation, credit cards, and the structure of consumer credit markets.

Please join PURA for our monthly virtual program via Zoom, on **Monday, April 5, 2021**. The program will begin at 12:45 p.m. ET and end around 1:30 p.m. ET. Log in information is included again on the last page of this newsletter.



Norm's Notes:

Proposed By-Laws Changes

The Purdue Retirees Executive Board continually monitors our business functions and makes recommendations as appropriate. In this case, they are recommending some enhancements to our By-Laws to be sure they are supporting the PURA organization.

Their recommendations are:

- **A clarification of duties for the secretary** – The secretary will now become responsible for changing/ updating the PURA officers listed on the BIG 10 site at the University of Michigan each July. The Secretary shall serve a three-year term with a maximum uninterrupted term of six years.
- **Handling PURA business in unusual times** – The PURA Executive Board shall intervene and support any PURA activity due to extraordinary events/ circumstances either natural or man-made for the purpose of keeping the PURA family safe and healthy. (Example, our recent/current experience with the COVID-19 pandemic.)
- **Adding a new standing committee** – a Media Communications Committee will be established and responsible for working with other PURA committees to effectively deliver content through electronic means on platforms such as but not limited to, the PURA Website, Email, Zoom, Facebook and Twitter.

Proposed Slate of Officers

The PURA nominating committee has proposed the following slate of officers to take office on July 1, 2021:

- President – Bill Bennett
- President-Elect – Jerry Day
- Secretary – Judy Ware
- Treasurer – Lucia Anderson
- Historian – Sue Hume Graham
- Past President – Norman Long

All PURA members will have the opportunity via email and a software program known as Qualtrics, to cast their vote for each of the proposed By-Law changes and for the proposed slate of officers.

Information on this new procedure and how it works will be forthcoming via email a few days prior to the Annual PURA meeting scheduled for April 5, 2021.

Your Feedback Is Welcomed

As has been our policy, we welcome your thoughts, comments and feedback regarding the PURA organization, our Zoom calls and ideas to further enhance the program for the PURA family. Send your thoughts to pura@purdue.edu.

Until next time...

With kindest regards and best wishes,
Dr. Norman D. Long
PURA President

PURA Program Committee 2021-22 Is Looking for New Members

The PURA Program Committee brainstorms, plans and coordinates monthly speaker presentations for PURA members, at mid-day on the first Monday of each month, except the month of September when the annual Kickoff Luncheon/Virtual Event is normally held.

Due to normal attrition, this committee needs to recruit new members each year -- starting their terms during the annual PURA "Transition" meeting in early June. We need to add several new members for the 2021-22 year. Purdue retirees and spouses are eligible for membership on this or any other PURA committee.

PURA's Transition meeting this year is scheduled on June 2, 2021, and will be held via Zoom. The Program Committee will hold its primary annual planning session as part of that meeting. During this meeting, the committee

will put together a list of potential speakers for the coming program year.

After the annual planning meeting, committee communication is via e-mail, telephone, and personal contact at the monthly lunch-time meetings. Each committee member is assigned to confirm and coordinate at least one monthly meeting per year. Typically, speakers are Purdue faculty or administrators, or community leaders with expertise in a variety of subjects or organizations.

Based on my personal experience serving on this committee, it is a great starting place to become involved in the leadership of PURA. Anyone interested in joining or learning more about this committee, please contact Jerry Day, Program Committee Chair at jljlday@outlook.com or 765-714-7918.

COVID-19 Info From UnitedHealthcare For PURCare and PURA Medicare Advantage plan members:

March 2021 Update

This is a time of concern and uncertainty for us all. Hoping to allay some of the stress and concern, UnitedHealthcare (UHC) has informed PURA that their top priority is the well-being of their health plan members and the safety of those who deliver healthcare.

UnitedHealthcare is aligned with guidance issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) and is taking actions to insure that those affected by COVID-19, including Purdue retirees covered by PURCare and the PURA Medicare Advantage plan, have the support and resources they need. For updated information, please visit:

<https://www.uhc.com/health-and-wellness/health-topics/covid-19>

or call the UHC customer service number on the back of your member ID card.

In summary, the following is of significant interest:

- COVID-19 vaccines are authorized by the FDA.
- FDA-authorized COVID-19 vaccines are covered at \$0 cost-share to you through December 31, 2021.
- You **MUST** show your Medicare number which is on your red, white and blue Medicare card to receive your vaccine.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and state health departments are advising who can get the vaccines and when.
- To find resources about vaccine availability for your area visit:
<https://covid19vaccinecenterlocator.uhc.com/cvcl>
- UHC has waived all member cost sharing-including copays, coinsurance and deductibles for approved diagnostic testing for COVID-19 for all commercial insured, Medicaid and Medicare members who may be affected by COVID-19 through the national public health emergency period, currently scheduled to end April 20, 2021.

UHC will cover a provider visit for COVID-19 in the same way it covers other provider visits based on health benefits plan. Where available, UHC is encouraging a Virtual Visit with a provider. For additional details, sign in to your online account at:

<https://www.medicare.uhc.com/retiree>

You have probably heard this many times already, but the following is the most important information: **STAY INFORMED**. Those at highest risk are older adults and those with serious health conditions. For the most recent CDC advice:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/keythingstoknow.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fvaccines%2F8-things.html

Protect yourself:

- Get a COVID-19 vaccine
- Wear a mask to protect yourself and others and stop the spread of COVID-19.
- Stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arm lengths) from others who don't live with you.
- Avoid crowds and poorly ventilated spaces. The more people you are in contact with, the more likely you are to be exposed to COVID-19.
- Wash hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with others—especially with those who are sick.
- Clean and disinfect things that you touch often.
- Cough or sneeze into a tissue or your sleeve. Place used tissues into trash.
- If you feel sick, stay home.

We hope that this information will be helpful to you. We encourage you to visit the above web link frequently for updated information. Be careful and stay well!

Holding space for possible photo/article from Ft. Wayne campus.

PURA's Student Scholars Speak Out, Part III: Dear PURA Members...



My name is Cameron Gregson and I currently am a senior here at Purdue University. I am majoring in Accounting and acquiring a concentration in Data Analytics! I will be graduating from undergraduate studies here in May 2021. After finishing undergrad, I will be staying at Purdue for a master's degree! I was just recently accepted, and will be enrolling into the master's in accounting one-year program. Without the generosity of donors like you, the

pursuit of my education would not be possible, so I am writing you to give you a sincere thank you for your generosity.

The scholarship you have provided me with is truly one of the few reasons I am able to attend Purdue. Being a first-generation college student, the road to getting where I am today has not always been easy, and I have had to spend a lot of time working hard to open doors of opportunities for myself. Because of your kindness, you played a role in opening these doors with me. During my time at Purdue, I have spent a lot of time becoming involved across different organizations. I have served on the executive board of three different organizations on Purdue's campus, which is something I am very proud of. These organizations include: Beta Alpha Psi business fraternity, Theta Chi social fraternity, and the Interfraternity Council. I would not have the time to be as involved as I am if I did not have this funding for college. I have been fortunate because of donors like you to not have to work a near full-time job and attend school at the same time. Because of this, I have been able to gain numerous leadership skills as well as just make myself a more well-rounded individual, overall.

After I finish up my master's degree at Purdue, I am planning to go and work in public accounting. I plan to sit for the Certified Public Accountant exam the summer following completion of my degree. For this coming summer, I have accepted an internship with EY to work in their assurance practice here in Indianapolis. I am hoping that this internship will go well, and that I will be able to become a full-time employee there eventually. I am not quite sure where I see myself working in the long term, but I am confident that public accounting will be a good start for me and really allow me to gauge which direction I see my career path heading.

I want to thank you again. I have found a lot of success in my time at Purdue, and am proud of these accomplishments, but none of them are possible without your generosity and kindness. There is no doubt in my mind that once I am financially able, I would like to pay it forward and help students just like you have done for me.

With thanks,
Cameron Gregson

PURA Student Scholarship
Senior, Krannert School of Management,
from Greenwood, Indiana



My name is Hannah Thomas and I am a senior at Purdue University. I am studying Construction Management through the Polytechnic Institute. I am expected to graduate in May 2021 with a bachelor's in Construction Management and a minor in Technology Leadership Integration. I am writing you to thank you for your generosity and support through the PURA Student scholarship.

This scholarship means the world to me because it allows me to focus on my schoolwork. The funding allows me to focus on my senior year without the financial burden of college. I have been able to focus on my senior capstone project and continue to intern for Sterling Construction. The funding also allows me to focus on getting LEED or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certified.

After I graduate, I will be moving to North Carolina to continue to work for Sterling Construction. I will be working as Project Engineer on multi-family apartments. My dream is to work my way up to Project Manager for Sterling Construction and eventually start my own construction consulting business. I have grown up in the construction industry and it was always my dream to grow and learn as much as I can in the industry. Thank you again for allowing me to have this amazing opportunity.

Kindest Regards,
Hannah Thomas

PURA Student Scholarship
Senior, Purdue Polytechnic Institute,
from North Manchester, Indiana

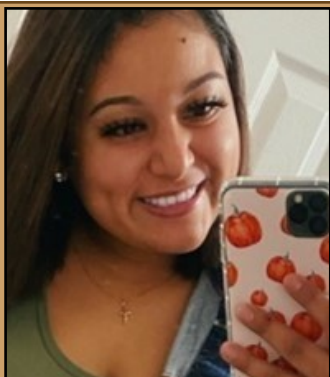


Mailbox in a Cornfield?

This mysterious mailbox is near Brookston, Indiana. It is not near any house or building and appears to be in good repair. Does the mail arrive by train? Who picks up this mail? Someone who arrives by train?

PURA's Student Scholars Speak Out, Part III:

(continued from page XXX)



Hello,

My name is Karen Barillas and I am currently a student at Purdue University. I am a Junior studying Elementary Education. Fingers crossed; I am supposed to graduate in 2021. My purpose of writing this letter is to thank you for your generosity through the scholarship that I received.

This scholarship is extremely important to me because it has helped me a lot with my expenses. I do not live on campus and I travel back and forth (50 minutes) to and from school every day that I have classes. During my extracurricular time I like to help out on food drives and around my community. This funding will allow me to work more on assignments while meeting all of the expenses that come with school. After I graduate from Purdue, I plan to move to Hawaii and teach there.

Thank you again for the scholarship! It is very much appreciated.

Kindest regards,
Karen Barillas

PURA Student Scholarship
Junior, College of Education,
from Goodland, Indiana



Thank you for this scholarship, which has been very helpful in reducing the overall financial load of attending Purdue University. My name is Joshua Priest, and I am studying for a Bachelor's of Science in Computer Science, anticipating graduation by 2023. Your support toward accomplishing this goal is greatly appreciated.

I am so thankful for this scholarship because it, along with money I have saved, allowed me to take classes these past two semesters. You have helped me meet all of my educational expenses while living here. Every dollar gifted is helpful!

Later on at Purdue, I plan to have every requirement for my major met within the next four semesters, so that way I will be able to get into the workforce more quickly. During breaks or semesters with a lighter workload, I hope to fill that time with an internship somewhere for work experience. I intend to find a career in software development or a similar field after graduation, so then I would be able to quickly earn back the money put toward college and become a productive member of society.

I am grateful for your contribution in financial aid, and I wish you every blessing.

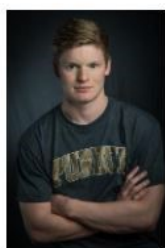
Sincerely,
Joshua Priest

PURA Student Scholarship
Sophomore, College of Science,
from Indianapolis, Indiana

REMINDER



Sierra Cox
PURA POA Scholarship



Jordan Keuneke
PURA Student Scholarship

Support the PURA student scholarship endowments on Purdue Day of Giving, April 28, 2021. Dollar for dollar matching money is still available for the PURA Student Scholarship Endowment and the PURA Purdue Opportunity Award in Honor of Martin and Patty Jischke.

Currently the endowments are assisting 19 students. Your continuing contributions will allow PURA to support even more students in the fall of 2021.

A dedicated online link to contribute to the two PURA endowments will be emailed to you prior to April 28.

If you prefer to mail a donation, write a check payable to the Purdue for Life Foundation, with either the PURA Student Scholarship Endowment or PURA POA Endowment in Honor of Martin C. and Patty Jischke noted in the memo line. Send the check to: Purdue for Life Foundation, 403 W. Wood Street, West Lafayette, IN 47907-2007. You also may call 1-800-319-2199.

And for those of you over 70 ½ years of age, gifts from your IRA are not taxable income and qualify for your required minimum distribution (RMD). To learn more about the IRA Rollover opportunities, or to make an IRA Rollover charitable contribution, please contact the Office of Planned Giving, 765-494-8657.

What Is The Most Common Arthritis?

Chris Rearick, MSN, RN
Purdue Nursing Center for Family Health

The most common type of arthritis is osteoarthritis (OA) or also known as degenerative arthritis. There are many other arthritic diseases such as gout, rheumatoid, ankylosing spondylitis, juvenile, psoriatic, septic and thumb arthritis. Osteoarthritis involves the wear and tear that takes place in the cartilage present in our joints. Cartilage provides a cushion in our joints that aids in the prevention of our bone ends rubbing and creating friction. Often injuries that we have endured in our younger years will speed this process up. Changes in our joints then create a domino effect and create changes in the joint ligaments, muscles surrounding the joint which creates inflammation. The most affected joints are in the hands, knees, hips, and spine.

Loss of flexibility and joint stiffness may be the first symptoms one notices. Pain, swelling tenderness and a rubbing sensation in the affected joint may follow as OA progresses. When the pain and stiffness does not go away then it is time to see your healthcare provider. OA risk factors include previous joint injuries, age, repeated stress on a joint, bone deformities, obesity, genetics, age, and sex. Women are more likely to develop OA. Some schools of thought about women and OA are that a decrease in estrogen during menstruation and menopause may impact the bones. Women also tend to carry more weight as they age which puts added stress on the joints. Lastly women have anatomical differences compared to men. An example of this is that women are known to have less cartilage in their knees and often their bone structure weighs less.

There are foods to avoid for OA. Trans fats may worsen inflammation and are not heart healthy. Trans fats are found in cookies, donuts, and fast foods. Processed foods, fried foods and white sugar may also trigger the body's inflammation process worsening OA. Good foods include black beans, kidney beans and pinto beans. These beans are loaded with folic acid, zinc, and potassium. Nuts are a great diet choice and contain vitamin-E along with magnesium and zinc. Nuts are also a great way to get protein. Nuts are known as immune boosters and can keep your gastrointestinal tract healthy. Nuts such as almonds, sunflower seeds and pumpkin seeds are also great to incorporate into your diet. Some studies have shown that folks that include garlic and onions in their diets, exhibit

fewer signs of OA. Turmeric is a flowering plant, the root is powdered and used as a spice. Turmeric research has shown that it contains curcumin which is a chemical compound that can help alleviate pain and inflammation. You may purchase these supplements at your health food or grocery store. You may need assistance on the amount of turmeric you need to take. You need to consult with your healthcare provider since taking too much turmeric over a long period of time IS NOT recommended. Oranges, mandarins, grapefruits, and lemons can cure the sweet tooth and are great for the joints. Lastly sipping on some green tea can help. Green tea is loaded with antioxidants and can decrease inflammation along with slowing the cartilage deterioration.

There are also non-drug therapies for OA. These include range of motion exercises, stretching, cardio or aerobic exercises. Maintaining a healthy weight helps keep stress off bones. Walking regularly is a great way to exercise your joints and it is never too late to implement walking into your daily routine. When joints become too painful or you have restrictive movement then your healthcare may have you fitted for assistive devices such as a brace or splint. Medications can also help in providing comfort for OA. When all else fails the dreaded joint replacement comes. Timing for joint replacement is important. Often people wait too long or they want it too soon. You and your surgeon can pick the best time for you.

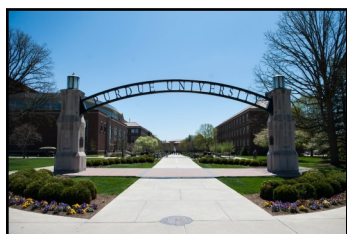
Take care of those bones. Eat right, exercise daily and walk, walk, walk. We need to keep our bodies moving to keep moving while we age!

Time for a wellness screening?

Feel free to contact Chris at crearick@purdue.edu to schedule a wellness screening at your convenience. You may also call (765) 496-0308 and leave a message for her.

Suggestions for Future Articles?

Please feel free to email Chris with any additional questions or suggestions for future health columns. Chris Rearick, crearick@purdue.edu or, you may call Chris at (765) 496-0308 and leave a message for her.



Gateway to the Future Arch, gift of classes of 1958 and 1959, W.L. Campus

The Gateway to the Future arch, located near Stadium Avenue between the Neil Armstrong Hall of Engineering and the civil engineering building, is a gift to the University from the classes of 1958 and 1959. The classes raised \$550,000 to create the arch as well as an additional \$175,000 for student scholarships to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the graduation of both classes from Purdue.

Photo courtesy of Purdue Marketing & Media; Matthew Thomas, photographer.

Echoes of War

By Jo Thomas



World War II is an interest of mine because as a young child I was caught up in the posters, patriotic songs, and movies with dancing sailors. We took our fat drippings to the butcher shop, squeezed a plastic bag of margarine until it turned yellow, planted a large Victory Garden and canned all summer. I received a nickel for filling a yard-high mesh bag with milkweed pods. I saw the blue star on a window and saw it turn gold. I couldn't reconcile that a young man who rode on my school bus just a year before was gone forever. I listened to H. V. Keltborn on the news from London, never realizing that much of it was propaganda to keep American spirits up. I don't believe I ever wondered about the people who lived in occupied countries or who were bombed. I now read to minimize that gap.

Author Susan Wiggs is noted for her treatment of family chemistry. In the **Apple Orchard** and its sequel **The Bee Keeper's Ball**, Wiggs features family secrets, a bit of

mystery and a back story of Danish resistance. Later, I found criticism that they were poorly researched. Well, I enjoyed the stories and the delicious recipes included.

The woman didn't like her two daughters. She was not the caring person mothers were expected to be. The most gentle thing she had done during their lives was to tell them a fairy tale with no ending. Also, she created strange arrangements in the garden in the dead of winter which puzzled the girls. As he was dying, their father told his daughters to ask for the end of the fairy tale. The book is **Winter Garden** by Kristen Hannah.

Also authored by Kristen Hannah is **The Nightingale**, named by the *Wall Street Journal* as "Best Book of the Year." Often the efforts of women in war time are overlooked. This is the story of two sisters each embarking on their own fight for survival and freedom in German occupied France. The book is inspiring, poignant and painful. Many PURA members have read it and relish it. Ask around.

PURA Tech Bytes

By Scott Ksander



You Want Me to Fax This To You!?!?!?

Every now and then you get involved with someone that wants you to fax them some information. Faxing has been around for a long time. The inventor, Alexander Bain, received British patent #9745 for this technology on May 27, 1843. AT&T did some major upgrades in 1924 and Western Union offered the first "desktop fax" in 1948. Computers started including "fax board" in 1985. As digital phone lines became popular, many fax machines stopped working properly. As landlines disappeared, faxing did also.

So, if you must send a fax and do not want to make a trip to FedEx Office (aka Kinko's), do you have any options?

For businesses, there are online fax services that allow for sending and receiving faxes. These are offered on a subscription model that starts at about \$5/month and moves up based on volume. Fax.Plus, starting at \$4.99 per month, is currently the top rated service in this class. There are, however, two "free" fax services, faxzero.com and hellofax.com. They are bare bones but can be handy. FaxZero, for example, lets you send up to five faxes per day with each fax having a maximum of 3 pages plus a cover sheet with email confirmation. If you need more capability, FaxZero has an "Almost Free Fax" option for \$1.99 per fax up to 25 pages. HelloFax has similar capabilities.

The "pros" for these services are: limited free faxing to US and Canada, international faxing for a fee, and a simple interface. The "cons" are: no fax receiving, paid faxing options can get expensive, and no mobile app or email-to-fax capability.

The bottom line is if you really need to send a fax (but not receive), and do not want to travel or pay, these services are a reasonable option despite the lack of higher-end features and mobile apps.



Happy April 1, 2021!

Road Trip: Hoosier Hill

By Karen Lembcke

Did you know that Hoosier Hill is the highest natural point in the state of Indiana? When I decided to visit the highest point in Indiana, I was quite interested to see what this would look like, as I have not visited the high points in any other state. My first thought was that it would probably be more in the southern part of Indiana where the terrain is not as flat as it is in the northern part. But that turned out to be a misconception. It is located directly east of Carmel and approximately 10 miles from the Ohio border in the township of Franklin, Wayne County; it is northeast of Fountain City and west of the town of Bethel, on Elliot Road near the County Line Road. Fortunately, I did observe signs that were helpful in directing me to the site.

Hoosier Hill is actually located on private property in a farmland area abutted by a forested area. According to Wikipedia, "In 2005, an Eagle Scout candidate named Kyle Cummings (Troop 820 from Lakeside Park, Kentucky), in cooperation with the property owner, built a trail, sign and picnic area at the high point."¹

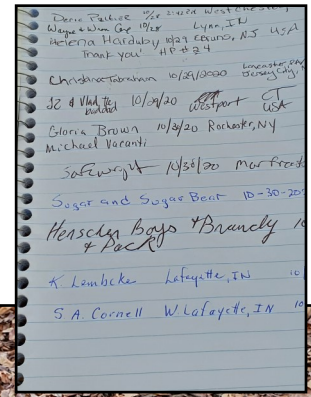
When driving to Hoosier Hill I was elated when the road I was on had a slight elevation to it. It did give me a "good feeling" of ascending to the highest point in Indiana.

As you can see by the pictures, there is a permanent marker on the stone along with a sign and a mailbox. A notebook is kept inside where visitors can write their name and hometown. It is always amazing to see the interests of people from other states and countries visiting this "famous landmark". There is a picnic table and bench on which to relax along with a trail, which I did not utilize so I am unable to provide any further information on the hiking conditions.

Now, you might ask where the lowest elevation of Indiana is located. It is located near Vernon at 320 feet above sea level.

The highest point in the United States is: Denali, Alaska at 20,310 feet. In the contiguous U.S., the top ten is as follows:

- Mount Whitney, CA – 14,505
- Mount Elbert, CO – 14,440
- Mount Rainier, WA – 14,417
- Kings Peak, UT - 13,534
- Wheeler Peak, NM -- 13,167
- Boundary Peak, NV -- 13,147
- Granite Peak, MT - 12,807
- Borah Peak, ID -12,668
- Humphreys Peak, AZ - 12,637
- Mount Hood, OR - 11,249



¹" Kyle Cummings Eagle Project Transforms Indiana's Hoosier Hill". HighPointers.org. Archived from the original on 2010-11-02. Retrieved 2008-12-17

True Tales of an Entomologist

By Tom Turpin



*Editor's Note: This is the second installment of Tom Turpin's colorful experiences, which appear in his self-published **Memoirs**.*

Good Things About Insects

My standard introduction to the “Bug in a Bag” program is to ask the audience if they know anything about insects.

Almost always – and the age of the audience doesn't matter— the first responses are usually negative. Things such as: they bite, they sting, they eat your plants, and

they're ugly. At this point I often pretend to be disappointed that no one has mentioned any good things about insects. I ask if anyone in the audience knows anything positive about insects.

Generally I hear they make honey or they are pollinators. However, in a presentation to a College Mentors for Kids program at Wabash College, when I asked the audience for good things about insects not a single one of the 5th grade kids responded. I said “Not a single one of you can think of anything good about insects!” No hands waved in the air signaling intent to provide an answer. Finally a kid sitting near the back of the stair-stepped auditorium – coincidentally wearing an Indiana University t-shirt – had his hand about half way up. I saw him and said “You - you in the IU t-shirt, do you know something good about insects?” He said, “Yes sir, I do!” I said, “Well tell the other students something good about insects.” Without hesitation he responded, “You can chase your sister with them!” First time I had heard *that* as a positive thing about insects.

Notable Historic April Events

April 7, 1949—Rodgers and Hammerstein debut their hit musical "South Pacific" on Broadway.

April 8, 1974—Hank Aaron of the Atlanta Braves hits his 715th career home run, becoming the career home run all-time champion, surpassing Babe Ruth's long-held record.

April 12, 1961—Colonel Yuri Gagarin of the Soviet Union becomes the first man in space.

April 12, 1981—First U.S. space shuttle, Columbia, launches.

April 13, 1936—Work on the Boulder Dam is completed.

April 14, 1828—The first dictionary of American-style English was published by Noah Webster as the **American Dictionary of the English Language**.

April 15, 1912—The “unsinkable” luxury liner, Titanic, sunk after hitting an iceberg, about 400 miles off the coast of Newfoundland. The ship was on its maiden voyage with 2,228 passengers and crew members on board; over half of them perished.

April 18, 1923—The first baseball game is played at Yankee Stadium in New York City

April 19, 1897—The world's oldest annual marathon is run in Boston, Massachusetts, for the first time.

April 24, 1800—The Library of Congress is established in Washington, D.C. It is America's oldest federal cultural institution and the world's largest library. Among the 145 million items in its collections are more than 33 million books, 3 million recordings, 12.5 million photographs, 5.3 million maps,

6 million pieces of sheet music and 63 million manuscripts. About 10,000 new items are added each day.

April 24, 1990—Space Shuttle Discovery launches the Hubble Space Telescope into orbit.

April 25, 1956—Elvis Presley has his first number one hit with "Heartbreak Hotel"

April 25, 1955—The St. Lawrence Seaway opened to ocean vessels seeking passage from Montreal to U.S. ports on the Great Lakes.

April 30, 1789—George Washington inaugurated as the first president of the United States

April 30, 1939, April 22, 1964, and April 21, 1965—The New York World's Fairs open.

- 44 million people attended the 1939 event, which was dubbed “Dawn of a New Day,” and allowed visitors to take a look at “the world of tomorrow.” World War II began four months later, affecting attendance and many exhibits, particularly those of countries under the Axis powers' occupation. The fair closed in 1940.

- The later fair, which 51 million people attended, was open from April-October in 1964 and 1965. The theme of “Peace Through Understanding” highlighted the aspired international flavor of the exposition. Baby Boomers may remember that this is the venue in which Disney's trademarked robotic animation premiered in the exhibit "Pepsi-Cola Presents Walt Disney's 'It's a Small World'—a Salute to UNICEF and the World's Children" at the Pepsi-Cola pavilion: Animated dolls and animals from around the world danced to a catchy song while attendees experienced a boat ride around the world. The theme song was written by the Sherman Brothers. (*Ed. Note:...and a powerful earworm was born! Source: Wikipedia.*)

April 2021 Campus Calendar

Academic/Holiday:

- 13 April—Second Student Reading Day. (In lieu of spring break.)
- 8 May—Spring Semester ends.
- 14-16 May—Spring Commencements.
- 17 May—Summer modules begin.
- 31 May—Memorial Day. No classes. Offices closed.

Special Events:

- 1 Apr.—Opening of the Asian Pacific American Heritage Month featuring spoken word performance with Sarah Kaye and Phil Kaye (Project VOICE).** 5:00 p.m. ET.

Asian American and Asian Resource and Cultural Center virtual events. April. Registration is required. To register visit the center's web site: <https://www.purdue.edu/newsroom/releases/2021/Q1/asian-american-and-asian-resource-and-cultural-center-hosting-several-virtual-spring-events.htm>

- 15 Apr.—Baldwin and Buckley at Cambridge.** 7:30 p.m. ET. Virtual event. "Work in progress" re-creation verbatim of a 1965 debate between James Baldwin and William F. Buckley Jr. at Cambridge University Union (U.K.). Their topic/resolution: "The American Dream Is at the Expense of the American Negro."

Free with advance registration at 765-494-3933 or 800-14-SHOW or <https://www.purdue.edu/convocations/events/>

Theatre: Virtual event.

- 16-18 Apr.—"Mother Courage and Her Children" by Bertolt Brecht.** This acclaimed drama depicts a mother's loss of her children during war, not due to their deficiencies but the social and economic fallout of capitalism. Description, performance times, and ticket information available at: <https://cla.purdue.edu/academic/rueffschool/theatre/Tickets/mother-courage.html>

Art: Free and open to the public. **Protect Purdue protocols apply.**

Art Museum of Greater Lafayette. Open by appointment on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays at 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m. ET; also Sundays at 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. ET. Advance reservations are required. Visit the art museum's web site at: <https://www.artlafayette.org/hours-and-directions>

Through Apr. 18—"The Rudiments of SuPre: Works by Boyd Smith". Mixed media artwork by Purdue alumnus Boyd Smith. Collection presents "SuPre," Smith's fictional character representing the fallacious theory of "super predator" violent young Black men, and explores the social harm done by the theory. Exhibition appears on the Black Cultural Center's cultural calendar.

Athletics:

All sports schedules available at: <https://purduesports.com>. Click through to the Home page, then click on **Sports** at the top to see specific sports menu.

Women's Volleyball: No fans due to pandemic. Radio broadcast is on WSHY 104.3-FM.

April 2-3—vs. Illinois. 5:00 p.m. ET each day.

April 8, 10—NCAA Tournament, first and second rounds. Time TBA.

Athletic ticket information at:

purduesports.com/tickets/pur-tickets.html

Mark Your Calendars! PURA Events

5 April, 2021 PURA virtual monthly meeting, via Zoom.

12:45 p.m.—1:30 p.m. EST

Speaker: Dr. Charlene Sullivan, Krannert Associate Dean of Undergraduate Programs and Associate Professor of Management

Topic: The Real State of the Economy

21 April, 2021 PURA Purposeful Living In Retirement presentation.

1:00 p.m. EST. This program is free, but registration is required. Online registration will open on March 30, 2021; watch your email that day for your registration invitation. (See the article on pages 1-2 for more information.)

Speaker: Dr. Phillip Low, Presidential Scholar for Drug Discovery and Ralph C. Corley Distinguished Professor of Chemistry at Purdue University

Topic: Drugs in the Pipeline for Treating Many Human Diseases

3 May, 2021 PURA virtual monthly meeting, via Zoom.

12:45 p.m.—1:30 p.m. EST

Speaker: Dr. Bob Neilson, Professor of Agronomy

Topic: The Use of Drones in Monitoring Corn Fields

7 June, 2021 PURA virtual monthly meeting, via Zoom.

12:45 p.m.—1:30 p.m. EST

Speaker: Jeremy Slater, Assistant Vice President, Real Estate & Facilities, PRF

Topic: Update on Purdue Discovery Park District

For the present, PURA meetings are being held virtually, via Zoom. PURA will provide Zoom connection information and other important updates via email, the *PURA News* newsletter, and our website:

www.purdue.edu/retirees

PURA News

The Purdue University Retirees Association newsletter is published for official retirees of Purdue University, and prepared by the PURA Communications Committee.

Send suggestions or ideas for PURA or the newsletter to:

Office of Retiree Affairs
2550 Northwestern Ave., Suite 1100
West Lafayette, IN 47906
Telephone: 765-494-7395 or (toll free) 877-725-0222
Email: pura@purdue.edu

2020-2021 PURA Communications Committee:

Chair: Karen Lembcke

Members: Connie Bilyeu, Jo Thomas

Zoom Connection Information for PURA Meetings

The Zoom connection information for PURA monthly meetings is shown below. **The link, Meeting ID, and password will be the SAME for all future normal monthly meetings**, beginning with the meeting on Monday, October 5, 2020.



Members who wish to join via phone call audio only will need the separate Passcode shown below. (The password/passcode for that method is different from the normal “computer connection” to Zoom.)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/97285398989?pwd=MIB4U0FudEplMFRoWm1GTkZzNmYrZz09>

Meeting ID: 972 8539 8989

Passcode: BoilerUp

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,97285398989#,,,,,0#,,41051096# US (Chicago)

+19292056099,,97285398989#,,,,,0#,,41051096# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 972 8539 8989

Passcode: 41051096

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/acvQOKVcnE>