



Pilot News

Weather outlook

Tuesday High 77, Low 52 	Wednesday High 69, Low 40 	Thursday High 64, Low 46
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Local news and weather at www.thepilotnews.com

122FW to perform Air Force Salutes Flyover in Plymouth tonight

CONTENT PROVIDED

PLYMOUTH — The 122nd Fighter Wing will perform their next #AirForceSalutes flyover May 5, in the skies above northwest Indiana.

The 122nd Fighter Wing will conduct the Air Force Salutes flyover to demonstrate the Air National Guard's continued readiness while saluting the American heroes at the forefront in our fight against COVID-19. Defending the homeland has taken a new shape, and the Indiana National Guard is proud to serve alongside the first responders and essential personnel in the COVID-19 response efforts.

Air Force Salutes flyovers are conducted at no additional cost to the taxpayer and serve as vital training for our



- 5:36 p.m. - Lafayette, downtown
- 5:51 p.m. - Gary, downtown
- 5:56 p.m. - Michigan City, downtown
- 6:02 p.m. - South Bend, downtown
- 6:07 p.m. - Plymouth, downtown**
- 6:12 p.m. - Warsaw, downtown
- 6:17 p.m. - Columbia City, downtown

pilots. These flyovers are incorporated into previously scheduled training missions. There is potential for the times to flex based on the training missions, weather and/or airspace availability. A variance of a few minutes either side of the scheduled time may be unavoidable. If there is a weather update to the advisory will be provided. All times are subject to change. The flyover will also be visible to areas surrounding the flight path.



Saturday cruise

PILOT PHOTO/MAGGIE NIXON

Saturday, May 2 was a beautiful day for car owners and enthusiasts to get out and enjoy the sunshine for the Mobile Gas Cruise and Coffee. Organizers asked participants to continue to social distance but also to support the businesses in Plymouth. The Coffee Lodge and Bakery had a drive-thru coffee station with free coffee for the event. Other sponsors included Fernbaugh's and Shademaster. The cruise was from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. and included more than 100 motorcycles, cars and trucks - and even a camper!

"Funding the Essentials" virtual tour fundraiser: Progressive Arts & Culture Experience

BY JAMIE FLEURY
 STAFF WRITER

MARSHALL COUNTY — As part of the "Funding the Essentials" campaign to raise \$400,000 to help families in Marshall County with housing, utilities, and food assistance, a virtual guided tour of the arts on Facebook "Progressive Arts & Culture Experience" is being held on Tuesday May 5 starting at 7 p.m. The event is being held by Marshall County Crossroads and the public is invited to attend for a free will donation in any amount toward the cause.



PILOT PHOTO/JAMIE FLEURY
 Top: Mayor Mark Senter with Director of Marshall County Tourism Cori Humes during dress rehearsal of the Progressive Arts and Culture Experience event being held as part of the "Funding the Essentials" campaign.

Randy Danielson, co-chair of the REES Project, said that the event will explore culture in historic downtown Plymouth and is meant to provide, "entertainment, information, and amusement". Danielson emphasized that the virtual experience is meant to be light hearted and enhance the spirit of community through the arts.



Bottom: Meg Robinson will be performing her original work "Okay" to raise funds for the "Funding the Essentials" campaign during the Progressive Arts & Culture Experience event Tuesday, May 5 starting at 7 p.m. Go to www.marshallcountycrossroads.com/fundtheessentials.com to make an "at will" donation to register for the event.

The tour will include the Heartland Artist Gallery, Wild Rose Moon, Marshall County Museum and Historical Society, the REES and will conclude near the "City Center".

Director of Marshall County Tourism Cori Humes will serve as host. Visual, musical and performing artists along with speakers and volunteers will include but are not necessarily limited to Marcia Heintzberger, John Bahler, Ryan Mear and George Schricker of the Wild Rose Moon, President of the Heartland Art Gallery Anna Kietzman, Linda Rippy and Sandy Garrison of the Marshall County Museum and Plymouth High School students Hailey Casper and Meg Robinson.

Marshall County Health Officer Byron Holm will be featured as a guest speaker, along with Plymouth Mayor Mark Senter and Linda Yoder who is

the Executive Director of the Marshall County Community Foundation and the United Way. Volunteers from the Rees include Donna Pontius (co-chair), Lane and Jenny Laffoon, Dennis Bottorff with his dog Arriah, and Jim Hartung. Plymouth High School alumni and musician Brett Wiscons, who Danielson described as a "suc-

See Funding A2



Front Porch Seniors

PHOTO PROVIDED
 PHS seniors had their porches decorated as a way to honor them for their achievements. Pictured: PHS senior Kole Jones with his display.

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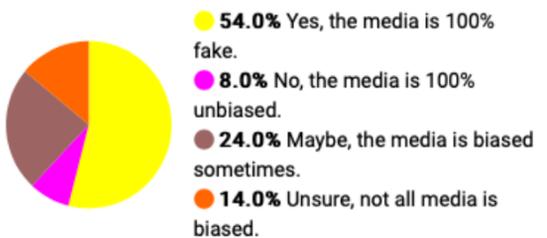


PHOTO PROVIDED
 Oregon-Davis High School seniors had their front doors decorated as a way of recognizing their achievements. Pictured: Senior Ainsleigh Podell's front porch display.

Poll results

Poll: Is the National media fake?

Last weekend, President Trump tweeted about reading a "phony story in the failing" New York Times about his work ethic and eating habits. He stated that the "third rate reporter" knows nothing about him. The question for this weeks poll is: Do you agree with the President that the National media is fake?





Lifting spirits

Pilgrim Manor did window "bird" visits to all of the residents windows last week to lift their spirits and make them smile. There were lots of smiles and laughs at Pilgrim Manor!

PHOTOS PROVIDED

Plymouth BPWS continues freeze discussions

By JAMES MASTER
ASSISTANT EDITOR

PLYMOUTH — It was recommended by Clerk-Treasurer Jeanine Xaver that the Board of Public Works and Safety (BPWS) implement a freeze on full-time hiring and capital spending. When she recommended this at the April 13 meeting, she cited the economic impact that COVID-19 is expected to have on the city's finances.

No action was taken at the April 13 meeting, but City Attorney Sean Surrisi stated that more information would be presented at the next meeting on April 27.

Xaver presented additional information on Monday from Ball State University. It was a study on the preliminary fiscal effects of COVID-19 on Indiana's local tax revenues.

"Ball State shows a major loss in tax revenue. The economy closure could cost local governments more than \$20 million across the State of Indiana," Xaver said. She added that the city hasn't started seeing issues aside from \$5,000 that utility customers have not been able to pay that would've typically been shut off by the city.

"The biggest issue is fuel purchase and the accompanying tax that funds the Street Department. Both the street improvements and operations, paying the employees their insurance and running their departments has dropped an estimated 40 percent. Does not include losses due to the price of



fuel," Xaver said, reading from the report. "So, just because of the travel restrictions we are seeing a loss, a decrease in travel."

Xaver went on to state that the City will not get the reduced payment until May. This results in the payments being about two months behind schedule.

"We will continue to see those losses until after the travel restrictions are lifted. And only if travel and fuel prices return to normal, and it may not return to normal with businesses closing as people can't afford to travel," Xaver said before turning her attention to property taxes.

"My understanding of property taxes is that while they're still due on May 11, non-escrow property taxes will not be penalized for paying through early to mid-July," she said.

She said that while an estimated 30 to 40 percent of the taxes statewide are in escrow, that

means that an estimated 60 to 70 percent of property taxes are not. "So we will not get that money until likely August," Xaver said.

Surrisi explained that this wasn't necessarily a guarantee stating that "if you have a mortgage and you are required to pay your taxes into escrow, the mortgage holder's going to go ahead and distribute those, but the other people will know that they have until July and maybe they hold their money. It's not a guarantee."

Xaver said that if the City receives the first checks around June, it should be close to \$3.5 million, but if the City only receives about 40 percent of that figure, that would amount to closer to \$1.2 million. She explained that property taxes fund just about all the departments and are the sole source of income for the TIF

See Freeze A3



Virtual Kindergarten Roundup for PCSC today

CONTENT PROVIDED

Plymouth Community School Corporation will host a virtual Kindergarten Roundup tomorrow Tuesday, May 5. An informational slide presentation will be posted and available live via Google Meet at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. in English. The informational slide presentation will be available in Spanish at 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. To enroll in kindergarten, children must be age 5 on or before August 1, 2020. The PCSC virtual Kindergarten Roundup event will provide important information that will be benefi-

cial for all soon-to-be kindergarten parents. Each presentation will last roughly 30 minutes however the length depends on attendance. Parents will be able to ask questions at any point during the presentation and there will also be time at the end for questions as well. Presentation links are posted on all four elementary school websites which can be found by visiting plymouth.k12.in.us. PCSC online registration for the upcoming 2020-21 school year is currently open. Parents can visit the PCSC website above to register their child online for fall classes.

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Funding, cont. from front



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successful, vibrant young man", is promoting the event on social media with a video of his original song, "Indiana Summer." Though Wisconsin does not live in Marshall County at this time, he entreated listeners to make a donation to the cause, "There are brighter days ahead. Stay safe out there."

John J. Oliver of U.S. Granules, the man who started and inspired the movement, quoted Aristotle, "The whole is greater than the sum of its parts." The event is one part of that greater whole.

Job loss, cut hours and lay offs, including the compounding impact of lost health insurance, has impacted countless Marshall County families who were living "paycheck to paycheck".

Families with a household income above the federal poverty level but below a basic survival income level are referred to using the acronym ALICE which stands for Asset Limited Income Constrained Employed.

It can take up to six weeks to file for and qualify for unemployment benefits. The stimulus checks didn't cover the cost of lost health insurance for some families. Some individuals who were "self employed" or were "independent contractors"

experienced delays with the website as they tried to file for unemployment benefits. All of these barriers compounded the impact for some families who were not already receiving government (taxpayer funded) assistance.

Oliver had emphasized that the campaign is requesting help from those who can afford to help, not those individuals, organizations and businesses that cannot afford to help.

Text "FUNDESENTIALS" to 443-21 to donate. Mail a check (payable to Marshall County COVID-19 Community Response and Recovery Fund) to Marshall County Philanthropy Center, P.O. Box 716, 2680 Miller Drive, Suite 120, Plymouth, IN 46563. Please note "Fund the Essentials" on the check.

100% of the funds will remain in Marshall County and support the Marshall County COVID-19 Community Response and Recovery Fund which is administered by the United Way of Marshall County and the Marshall County Community Foundation.

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