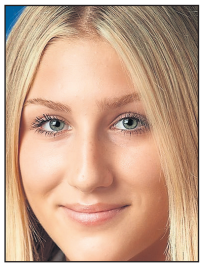


VOLLEYBALL

Marquette
bests MC

FOR MORE, SEE PAGE B1



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LA PORTE COUNTY

Herald-Dispatch

Thursday, August 28, 2025

LPHeraldDispatch.com

\$4

County may sell Eighth Street building

By **ELIZABETH BUNTON**
Staff Writer

La PORTE — The La Porte County building at the corner of Eighth and Wabash streets in Michigan City may soon be on the market.

The La Porte County Board of Commissioners, on Aug. 20, unanimously approved



HOLIFIELD

the tabling of the Eighth Street building discussion until their next meeting on Sept. 3 to provide additional time to speak with the building's other stakeholders.

Having recently toured the site himself, along with Clerk of the Circuit Court Heather Stevens, Commissioner Steve Holifield recommended the board discuss the possibility of offloading the building.

"I don't think governments should own any more property than they have to," Holifield said.

When the La Porte County Annex building flooded in 2022, Commissioner Joe Haney said the building at Eighth and Wabash streets provided the county with a safety net to move government departments to while the complex was repaired and cleaned; however, since that time, Holifield said the build-

ing is primarily used for election equipment storage.

"She requires it to be secure and climate controlled, [but] I think we can do it cheaper [and] possibly put that building up for sale and dump it and move on and get off from underneath it," Holifield said.

"Then we won't have to maintain it — do

anything with it," he added.

And depending on the money the county could bring in with the sale, Holifield proposed that a shed could be built at the county's fairgrounds for storage, and with the remaining sale money being put into the county's funds.

See **BUILDING**, page A6

Arnold reappointed to the NICTD board

STAFF REPORTS

La PORTE — Former La Porte County sheriff and state senator Jim Arnold has once again been reappointed to serve on the Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District Board (NICTD).

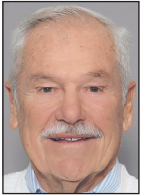
Arnold's recent reappointment by Indiana Gov. Mike Braun for an additional four years on the NICTD board follows on the heels of his reelection to the La Porte Community School Corp. Board of Trustees last year.

"I'm really grateful," Arnold said during the school board meeting on Aug. 11.

"... I had no idea it was going to happen. It happened rather quickly, [and I'm] honored to get his letter," he added.

Arnold had learned of his reappointment through a recently received letter from the governor that reinstated his NICTD position until May 31, 2029.

One of the two allotted Democrats on the board, as the NICTD board is com-



ARNOLD

prised of two governor selected Republicans and two governor selected Democrats, Arnold was originally appointed by former Gov. Eric Holcomb in 2020 and then reappointed in 2023.

A Michigan City native, Arnold said his admiration of the South Shore Rail started in his younger years when he would walk over to the 11th Street Station to watch the trains go by during the late 1950s and early 1960s.

"I used to see the trains go by every day, going to and fro, east and west, and I used to always wonder: where are those people going? Where are all those people going?" Arnold recalled.

Following in his father's footsteps, who also served on the NICTD board,

See **ARNOLD**, page A5



Photo by Donovan Barrier

Located behind the property of High Praise Outreach Ministries, 301 E. Ninth St., Michigan City, the church is getting ready to celebrate its fifth Community Picnic on Sunday. Apostle Javaughn Blakely said they saw a need to help the community.

Being a resource for community

High Praise Outreach Ministries' Community Church Picnic is Sunday

By **DONAVAN BARRIER**
Staff Writer

MICHIGAN CITY — For the last five years, High Praise Outreach Ministries' Community Church Picnic has been helping Michigan City residents who need it the most.

And now, with the generosity

of sponsorships from some local businesses, they're looking to help people once again.

This year's event will be held Sunday at noon at the church, 301 E. Ninth St., Michigan City. Those that attend will have access to free haircuts by professional barbers from CSharp Professional Haircuts

& Styles and other establishments who attend from High Praise Outreach Ministries, as well as the opportunity to obtain free clothes, food and toiletries, among other items. Aldi, Walmart and Amazon were among the sponsors for the event.

Staff members of the

Lubeznik Center for the Arts will also be at the picnic to provide artistic activities for attendees.

Apostle Javaughn Blakely said they saw a need to provide services for people in Michigan City.

According to Blakely, at one point 85 percent of Michigan

See **PICNIC**, page A6

Renner-Miller wins ISTA Community Service Award

STAFF REPORTS

MICHIGAN CITY — On July 16 Andrea "Andie" Renner-Miller, a paraprofessional at Pine Elementary School, was honored with the Indiana State Teachers' Association (ISTA) Community Service Award at the organization's summer conference for her exemplary efforts around Michigan City, both in and outside the classroom.

Renner-Miller was nominated by colleague Summer Ray, who teaches Special Education at Pine.

"Andie Renner-Miller is exceptional when it comes to someone who gives their life to their community," said Ray.

"She always gives in any way she can without needing anything in return. It is her passion to support her community. She does more for the people and animals in her community than anyone

I have ever met! She is a remarkable human," she added.

The ISTA Community Service Award recognizes individuals who demonstrate outstanding courage, commitment, innovation and dedication to their community.

Renner-Miller's volunteerism spans a wide range of causes and leadership roles.

"No one volunteers for the recognition, but it is nice to know that others see and appreciate the time and effort. It was nice to feel seen and appreciated," said Renner-Miller.

Renner-Miller serves as vice president of PAWS (Pet Assistance & Wellness Support, Inc.), formerly known as Friends of LaPorte County Animal Shelters, Inc.), acts as volunteer coordinator for the organization, and helps plan the shelter's fundraisers and events.

See **RENNER-MILLER**, page A5

New program offered in MC for entrepreneurs

STAFF REPORTS

MICHIGAN CITY — A new program seeks to create a foundation of entrepreneurship in Michigan City by focusing on underserved residents ready to launch a small business.

The Michigan City Entrepreneurship Development



HULSE

of Notre Dame. An informational session

will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Sept. 9 at City Hall, 100 E. Michigan Blvd., in the EOC Room for anyone wanting additional details.

"Small businesses have always helped fashion the unique flavor of a community through the exclusive offering of products and services," said Economic Development

Corporation Michigan City Executive Director Clarence L. Hulse.

"We are working with the city of Michigan City to help cultivate a creative and robust entrepreneurial community," he added.

The 10-month small

See **PROGRAM**, page A5

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