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Boys Golf: Logansport wins opener

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Several spring clean-up events in April

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Trump: US has blockaded Iran's ports



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Boy Scouts plant sapling for America 250

Local troop honors nation's milestone

JAMES BENNETT III
PHAROS-TRIBUNE

Most tulip trees, according to the United States Department of Agriculture, can stick around for 250 years.

So, when the nation reaches its 500th anniversary, there's a decent chance Logansport residents will still be able to find the tree that was planted Saturday in Spencer Park to celebrate the 250th anniversary.

Several organizations and officials came together to plant the tulip tree, which is Indiana's state tree. Members of the Boy Scouts of America troop 200 were put to work for the bulk of the physical labor. They were joined by Springcreek Landscaping & Nursery, which brought the tree.

Laura Redweik, president of the League of Women Voters of Cass County, arrived early to pick out the perfect spot for the tree with a bit of help from Logansport Parks Administrator Jan Fawley. They found a place far enough from other trees and from the road so its roots shouldn't have a problem stretching out.

David Morrical, a leader with the Boy Scouts troop, explained the organization's national office gave notice to every troop that they ought to help with a community project to help celebrate America's 250th anniversary. Just before arriving at Spencer Park, the scouts laid mulch at Cross-Wind United Methodist.

The scouts seemed excited to help plant the tree. Each grabbed a shovel to dig the hole, later learning how to use a trench shovel to break up roots.

While the scouts dug, Redweik told them the tree could grow to reach over 100 feet tall.

After some last second adjustments to make sure the tree would look symmetrical from the road while it grows roots, the scouts replaced the topsoil. They were briefly distracted from the work while identifying a junebug that stumbled upon the scene.

A recycled-rubber tree bed was placed atop the young tulip tree, which should help keep the soil from drying out, and a small temporary fence was installed around it to keep away deer.

Logansport's Clerk-Treasurer, Mike Stajduhar, received instructions on how often the tree should be watered: about a gallon a week during spring and every couple of days during the warmest part of summer. He volunteered to keep the tree watered. It isn't too far from home.

The scouts had the honor of watering the tree for its first drink

See **SAPLING** on A6



James Bennett III | Pharos-Tribune

From left to right: August Musall, Atticus Leeman, Evan Rogers, Lincoln Holliman, Ryan Buck and Sam Buck pose for a photo with Laura Redweik, Ryan Paschen, Mike Stajduhar, Tamara Derrick, David Holliman, Peter Rogers, Mark Leeman and David Morrical in the back rows. The tree was planted to commemorate the nation's 250th anniversary.



Kelly Lafferty Gerber | CNHI News Indiana

From right: Nathan Shidler, Justin Norman, and Andy Keogh protest the NIPSCO lockout on E. Boulevard in front of Kokomo's NIPSCO office on Friday, April 10, 2026. More than 1,600 United Steelworkers in Indiana were locked out of their jobs at NIPSCO on Friday, April 3, as contract negotiations broke down.

ON THE PICKET LINE

USW protest NIPSCO lockout as other unions show solidarity

JAMES BENNETT III
PHAROS-TRIBUNE

KOKOMO — A yellow port-o-potty sat near the curb of Boulevard Street on Friday. A sign hanging on its door read "NIPSCO management office." Passing cars honked in support of the handful of protestors who stood nearby.

The protest is in response to the Northern Indiana Public Service Company's decision to lock out

union members after negotiators for a new contract failed to reach an agreement between the utility company and members of the United Steel Workers.

The lockout affects roughly 1,600 NIPSCO employees who are represented by USW Local 13796 (which represents clerical workers) and Local 12775 (which represents "physical" workers who work on the company's gas and electric systems).

According to a press release from the USW, the union and NIPSCO have had ongoing disputes over the increased use of outside

See **PROTEST** on A6



Tina Emmons and Desier Burger protest the NIPSCO lockout on E. Boulevard Street in front of Kokomo's NIPSCO office on Friday, April 10, 2026.

Schmidt is newest LHS Hall Inductee

1955 grad was former state tennis champion

PHAROS-TRIBUNE

Don J. Schmidt will be the 2026 Logansport High School Hall of Distinction Inductee, recognizing his lifetime of professional achievement, public service, athletic excellence, and commitment to community.

Schmidt will be recognized at the 155th Commencement Ceremony at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 31 in the Berry Bowl.

Schmidt is a 1955 graduate of Logansport High School. During his senior year, he was the recipient of the prestigious John Price Award for his outstanding athletic achievements. He attended DePauw



Don J. Schmidt

University and later graduated from Purdue University with a degree in Mechanical Engineering and a Master's degree in Mathematics.

His career included positions with Rea Magnet Wire, North Central High School, and Western Michigan University before moving to Fort Wayne in 1964 to join Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne (IPFW). At IPFW, he served in the Mechanical Engineering Technology Department for 41 years as a professor and also represented the university to the NCAA for five years.

Throughout his life, Schmidt has been deeply involved in athletics, particularly tennis. He played tennis at Purdue University, won the Indiana State High School Tennis Championship, captured the Indiana State Men's Championship multiple times and won the United States National Public Parks Doubles Championship in 1961. He was also a multiple-time Fort Wayne City Champion and has been inducted into the Fort Wayne Tennis Hall of Fame. Over the course of his career, he won more than 120 tennis

See **SCHMIDT** on A6

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FIRST AMENDMENT

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

WEATHER

Near records highs, isolated storms. **High 84, Low 65.** Complete forecast on Page A6.



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