



The Torch

The official newsletter for Indiana state employees

January 2019

INDOT, IDOC win prizes in 'Canstruction Competition'

Food drive collects more than 21,000 canned goods

The 2018 State of Indiana Holiday Canstruction Competition brought out the best in employees throughout the Hoosier State as more than three dozen teams collected thousands of canned goods to help people in need.

Those cans were destined for food pantries and other charitable institutions, but along the way each became a building block in temporary structures that celebrated holiday moments,

mirrored well-known monuments, or paid homage to pop culture.

There were many standouts in a field of more than 40 entries, but it was an elaborate holiday scene created by members of the Indiana Department of Transportation's Central Office that ultimately took home the prize of "Best Structure."

The group used a total of 686 cans to create a Christmas tree, a fireplace and even a model train. Tuna cans served as the train's wheels, and paper stuffed into a soup can emulated a puff of smoke from the engine.

Indiana Department of Child Services Director Terry Stigdon, Indiana Economic Development Corporation President Elaine Bedel and the Office of Gov. Eric Holcomb served as judges in the competition.

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The Indiana Department of Transportation's Central Office created an elaborate holiday scene using nearly 700 cans for the 2018 State of Indiana Employees' Canstruction Competition. The design took home the prize for "Best Structure."



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INDOT, IDOC win prizes in 'Canstruction Competition'

As difficult as that decision must have been, simply tallying the total number of cans collected was that much easier. In the end, the Indiana Department of Correction earned the top prize in that category by collecting 4,473 canned goods.

Indiana State Personnel Department Director Britni Saunders presented trophies to members of those agencies Dec.

21 just as news broke that the competition had collected a grand total of 21,372 canned goods.

INDOT Contract Administration Estimator Melissa Russell accepted the trophy for her team, while IDOC Deputy Commissioner Jim Bassinger happily claimed the prize on behalf of his group.

Though only two trophies could be given out this year, each and every

team that participated did so out of a desire to help people in their community. Being able to contribute to a great cause in an often enormously creative way appeared to inspire the participants to give more as they set out to make their "Canstruction" something special.

Check out the [Facebook photo album](#) to see all of the entries.



Employees of the Office of Gov. Holcomb recreated the Indiana World War Memorial with their Canstruction Competition entry.



The Indiana Department of Correction collected the most cans in this year's Canstruction Competition. IDOC Deputy Commissioner Jim Bassinger accepted the trophy on behalf of his agency from Indiana State Personnel Department Director Britni Saunders.



Many of the Canstruction Competition entries were nothing short of works of art. This creation by the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority is a startlingly accurate recreation of the Hoosier Veterans' Assistance Foundation.

MoneyWise e-magazine winter edition

The Office of the Indiana Secretary of State produces an e-magazine with the goal of providing Hoosiers with tips and information to be financially fit and wise investors. The winter edition includes a REAL home energy assessment at a staff member's home. The video and accompanying article will help you save money and save energy during this cold weather season. Also in this e-magazine; warnings signs of real estate scams and tax tips (it's almost that time again) by the Indiana Department of Revenue. Plus, hear from two real investors about their saving strategies. Whether you're close to retirement or just entering the workforce, their ideas can help you understand your options. <http://bit.ly/EMagWinter2018>



New year, new you with new wellness resources for 2019



Get started on your 2019 wellness goals and earning a discount on 2020 health premiums by taking advantage of the numerous resources offered through [ActiveHealth](#), a new state wellness partner.

Personalized health coaching and more are available to all adult health plan members and covered spouses RIGHT NOW! ActiveHealth helps encourage and enable healthy lifestyles by providing digital, telephonic and onsite health coaching.

Three dedicated health coaches will travel throughout the state to work with employees and agency-based Wellness Champions at their work locations. ActiveHealth will also facilitate biometric screenings and health risk assessments.

It pays – literally – to complete those screenings.

Complete a health risk assessment through ActiveHealth (it only takes about 10 minutes), and you will earn a \$50 electronic gift card! Getting a biometric screening in 2019 will get you a \$100 electronic gift card. There you have it: two very important health screenings completed, and a cool \$150 to put toward a purchase of something

you like! **E-gift cards can be redeemed beginning Feb. 1.**

Beyond that, you and your spouse can earn a healthcare premium discount in 2020 by each doing JUST ONE of the following through ActiveHealth:

- Complete four coaching sessions (face-to-face or over the phone). Each session lasts around 30 minutes.
- Complete an online digital health education series up to Level Five. You choose the topics!
- Record at least 45 minutes of physical activity three days per week by using a synced device. You'll need to do this for 11 weeks each quarter, for two out of three quarters this year.
- Record 10,000 steps per day for 75 days of a quarter, for two out of three quarters this year.

Remember: In order for ActiveHealth to recognize your steps/physical activity, you must sync a fitness device with your ActiveHealth account. Only activity/steps that occur after you have synced the device are tracked and credited.

Note: spouses covered by a state health plan must also complete one of the above in order for the employee to earn the premium discount.

More details about the premium

discount level will be shared as plan options for 2020 are developed.

A wealth of resources are available to all portal users, and you can learn much more about many of the program's great benefits by attending an ActiveHealth webinar! [Register for an upcoming webinar](#) where you can ask questions and interact live with ActiveHealth experts. You can learn how the program can support your own personal wellbeing, discover ways the onsite health coach can support you and your workplace, enter to win a weekly prize drawing and much more.

The webinars run from noon to 12:30 p.m. ET Monday through Friday throughout January.

OurHealth
Well made simple.

Wellness at work

February will bring the grand opening of a new onsite clinic!

The Government Center Clinic by OurHealth opens Feb. 1, and with this convenient clinic option, you can save time – and paid time off – by visiting the facility for your immediate care needs. OurHealth wait times are typically about five minutes, and primary care visits average between 20 and 40 minutes.

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New year, new you with new wellness resources for 2019



Feel like you're coming down with something? Don't wait! Visit the clinic to get the care you need! You'll save time off and do your colleagues a favor by helping keep them germ free!

You can also use your phone to see a licensed healthcare provider 24/7!

With LiveHealth Online, you can see a board-certified doctor for \$49 or less via video by using your smartphone, tablet or webcam-equipped computer. [Sign up for free](#) or download the mobile app from your device's app store.

Help with medical problems, allergies and even mental health concerns is available through LiveHealth Online. Prescriptions may also be sent to your pharmacy of choice, if needed.

A wealth of healthcare options

ActiveHealth is a treasure trove of wellness help for State of Indiana employees enrolled in a benefits plan, but there are several other new health resources available to all employees, regardless of their choice of medical coverage.

Wellness should be fun, and with that in mind the new OurHealth

portal and Limeade Corporate Wellness App bring campaigns and challenges that are certain to enhance your health journey.

Beginning Feb. 1, **ALL** state employees and their spouses will be eligible to participate in wellness campaigns and challenges through OurHealth and the Limeade Corporate Wellness App! A wide variety of fun activities awaits, and completing them gives you a chance each month to win prizes such as workout equipment or health food-friendly kitchen appliances! The more activities you join, the more chances you have to win monthly prizes, **and** the more entries you'll have for the 10 grand prizes awarded at the end of the year.

Find your strength

Another resource available to all State of Indiana employees is [Anthem's Employee Assistance Program](#) (EAP).



The EAP is a confidential information, support and referral service that offers a variety of tools and resources to boost productivity and help people meet life's challenges. You can get help with emotional concerns, financial issues, legal concerns, child and adult care and much more!

You can now receive up to eight free sessions with a professional, per issue, per year. Better yet, you can also use LiveHealth Online to utilize the enhanced visits. Each lasts about 45 minutes, and you can even choose the therapist you would like to see.

Another valuable EAP resource is a new program called "mystrength."



Think of it as a sort of "health club for your mind" that provides personalized and proven online and mobile resources to promote ongoing emotional wellbeing. After all, good mental health is vitally important to overall health.

Go to anthemeap.com to learn more and sign up.

An "all-year's" resolution

Is a gym membership part of your wellness goals in 2019? Hoping to save money at the same time? You're in luck!

[Click here](#) to see a list of all current discount offers at gyms and health clubs throughout the state. In addition, employees who participate in a state health plan can enjoy great gym discounts through Anthem. Find details at anthem.com.

Anthem notifies employees about changes in covered radiology providers

In a recent letter to covered employees, Anthem announced the termination of an agreement with Radiology of Indiana through which the provider was a participant in the Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield preferred provider network. Radiology of Indiana interprets imaging services, such as MRI's, in hospitals operated by Franciscan Alliance and Community Health Network in Marion, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Johnson and Morgan counties; as well as Johnson Memorial Hospital and Hancock Regional Hospital.

Although the agreement ended effective January 1, 2019, Anthem will continue to process radiology claims from the above hospitals at the in-network level. However,

Radiology of Indiana could choose to bill the consumer for any charges above Anthem's reimbursement.

Physicians often have admitting privileges at a variety of hospitals. In order to get the most out of your benefits, consider discussing this issue with your physician prior to being admitted or receiving care at hospitals where Radiology of Indiana provides services. By getting a referral to an in-network radiology provider, Anthem members could avoid additional out of pocket costs.

To find an in-network provider of radiology services, members may contact the number on the back of their health insurance ID card or click on "Find a Doctor" at www.anthem.com.



Discounted tickets to upcoming Pacers games

State employees can save on two Indiana Pacers games in January.

Games:
Philadelphia 76ers, Thurs. Jan. 17
Toronto Raptors, Wed. Jan. 23

Discounted prices:
Balcony level: starting from \$8
Krieg DeVault Club level: \$45
Lower Level Center Court: \$80

Check out [this flyer](#) for details.

Apply to become a Wellness Champion or Contact

The Invest In Your Health program is currently recruiting volunteer Wellness Champions and Wellness Contacts to help support the wellness program throughout the State. The program is being reinvigorated in order to better serve the health and wellness needs of our employee population, while striving to provide an experience that offers opportunities for everyone to work to be their best selves.

Wellness Champion Objective

Serve as an ambassador and resource to the State of Indiana Employee Wellness Program to build a culture of wellness by communicating Invest In Your Health program options to co-workers, promoting health and wellness opportunities in your area, providing constructive program feedback to the Invest In Your Health team, and maintaining contact with Wellness Contacts in your county.

Wellness Contact Objective

Serve as an ambassador and resource to the State of Indiana Employee Wellness Program by printing and posting all provided materials to increase awareness of Invest In Your Health programs.

[Download the application >](#)

[Download the position descriptions >](#)

Governor honors long-term employees at statehouse reception



INDIANAPOLIS -- More than 300 State of Indiana employees were honored by Gov. Eric Holcomb at the Indiana Statehouse Dec. 3.

The 2018 Governor's Long-Term Employee Reception (GLTER) warmly welcomed representatives from dozens of state agencies who achieved milestones by serving the Hoosier State for 35 years or more.

The senior member of the group was Bob Vollmer, an **Indiana Department**

of Natural Resources surveyor who began working for the state in 1963. Vollmer, 101, received a standing ovation from fellow employees and guests at the statehouse as he stepped forward to be recognized.

Five others weren't far behind that amazing tenure, spending half a century as state employees. That short list includes George True (**Family and Social Services Administration**), Larry Harshman (**Department of Revenue**), Darlene Hopper (**State Department of Health**) and Stephen Bates and Ronald Fine (both of the **Indiana Department of Transportation**).

Gov. Holcomb lauded those in attendance for their ongoing dedication to their fellow Hoosiers. He said the "x-factor" within state employees is "the wisdom, the

experience that comes from your years of service, your sacrifices."

Indiana State Personnel Department Director Britni Saunders conducted the presentation alongside the governor. She said those in attendance have logged a combined 11,620 years of service to the Hoosier State.

"It is my absolute honor to celebrate their years of service to the State of Indiana and its citizens," Director Saunders said.

Those in attendance took photos with the governor and agency leaders and enjoyed a reception at the close of the ceremony. All employees honored by the program received a commemorative medallion bearing their name, agency, years of service and the seal of the state of Indiana.

[Click here](#) to see photos of the reception.

Story by Brent Brown, INSPD
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Gov. Eric Holcomb greets longtime Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) surveyor Bob Vollmer at the 2018 Governor's Long-term Employee Reception at the Indiana Statehouse. Vollmer, 101, was the longest-serving honoree at the reception having worked for DNR for 55 years.

FSSA announces next round of early childhood education grants



INDIANAPOLIS—Indiana’s Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning recently awarded early education capacity-building grants to 12 applicants representing 29 pre-kindergarten programs in 12 Indiana counties.

The grants total more than \$1.4 million and were awarded to early learning providers and county coalitions to help them serve more pre-k children and increase the quality of early education opportunities provided throughout Indiana.

“Increasing the number of high-quality early education programs in counties across the state is an intentional priority for the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration” said FSSA Secretary Jennifer Walthall, M.D., M.P.H. “Building capacity provides more options for Hoosier parents who want their child to have a competitive start to their education.”

All applicants were required to secure matching funds—between

5 and 50 percent of total budget—from local businesses or other stakeholders who will benefit from the community improvement associated with these capacity-building grants. The funding for these grants was appropriated in 2017 via House Enrolled Act 1004, which Governor Eric J. Holcomb signed into law as part of his 2017 Next Level Agenda.

The following applicants were awarded funds:

OEC

Capacity-building grants may be used for the following purposes:

- Training and professional development of teaching staff
- Classroom materials that demonstrate increased outcomes for children or increased instructional practices for educators
- Evidence-based curriculum or instructional materials including professional development for teaching staff to utilize the curriculum
- Family engagement activities or materials and/or marketing and communication materials
- Other relevant needs to help expand capacity and/or improve quality programming to help programs reach [Paths to QUALITY™](#) level 3 or 4, which is the requirement for a provider to be eligible to be an On My Way Pre-K provider

Grant awards are for one year with

the option to request a no-cost extension if additional capacity-building activities remain that have not been completed after one year. Nonprofit applicants interested in receiving funding for items not allowable had the opportunity to apply for a limited pool of separate grant funding from [Early Learning Indiana](#).

On My Way Pre-K is Indiana’s first state-funded prekindergarten grant program, which was established as a five-county pilot by the Indiana General Assembly in 2014. Currently, 20 Indiana counties including Allen, Bartholomew, DeKalb, Delaware, Elkhart, Floyd, Grant, Harrison, Howard, Jackson, Kosciusko, Lake, Madison, Marion, Marshall, Monroe, St. Joseph, Tippecanoe, Vanderburgh and Vigo, along with eight grandfathered agreement sites are eligible to accept On My Way Pre-K grants for low-income Hoosier children.



Artwork by
Jerry Williams

Upgrade to a Real ID at BMV Mobile Branch

As of Oct. 1, 2020, all Hoosiers must have a Real ID to board a commercial flight or enter certain federal facilities.

State employees can upgrade to a Real ID at the BMV's mobile branch located in the Indiana Government Center South Conference Center in the month of January. Please visit IN.Gov/BMV to schedule an appointment and select "ROOM 6 January 8-9". Walk-in customers are welcome on a first-come, first-serve basis with limited availability.

- Tues., Jan. 8 – 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Conference Room 6
- Wed., Jan. 9 – 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Conference Room 6

Please bring all required documentation to prove your

identity, Social Security number, Indiana residency and lawful status. Also, if you have had a name change, additional documentation is required (marriage license, divorce decree or court order).

Required Documents:

Identity documents include (one document required):

- Unexpired U.S. Passport or Passport card
- Original or certified copy of a birth certificate

Lawful status documents include (one document required):

- Certificate of citizenship
- Certificate of naturalization
- Unexpired permanent resident card

Social Security documents include (one document required):

- Social Security card
- W-2 form
- Pay stub containing name and Social Security number

Indiana residency documents include (at least two documents are required):

- U.S. Postal Service change of address confirmation
- Indiana voter registration card
- Utility company, credit card, doctor or hospital bill issued within the last 60 days

Don't get grounded – upgrade to a Real ID before the 2020 deadline. Visit RealID.in.gov for an Interactive Documents Guide of required documentation.

Seven beautiful hotels, located in scenic state parks.

2 FOR 1

November 25, 2018-Feb 28, 2019

Two Nights for the price of One at all State Park Inns

Must stay two consecutive nights. Valid Sunday through Thursday. Not valid Dec. 23, 2018-Jan. 3, 2019. Some other restrictions apply.



Reservations can be made online at IndianalInns.com or by calling **1-877-LODGES1**. (563-4371)

Call center open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily.