

INDYGO UNVEILS STATION DESIGN WINNERS

IndyGo has announced the winners of its design competition for rapid transit stations along Phase 1 of the Red Line Bus Rapid Transit Route. The public transit service says the winning design can be customized to match "the character of different neighborhoods along the Red Line."

The winning design, submitted by Sean Morrissey, was selected by both IndyGo's judges and the public.

The Hoosier native, now a practicing architect in Seattle, Washington, earned a \$5,000 award.

IndyGo says the Red Line Bus Rapid Transit will be the first rapid line in Indianapolis. Phase 1, running approximately 13 miles from Midtown to the University of Indianapolis, is expected to open in 2018.

Source: Inside Indiana Business, Andy Ober



GEN CON INDY FUTURE

The long-term future of Indianapolis' largest annual convention may depend on just how big the event wants to get. The economic impact of Gen Con, the mega gaming gathering that just completed a four-day run in Indy, is pegged at more than \$70 million. But its future in the Circle City has been in question in the wake of last spring's RFRA controversy. In an interview on this weekend's edition of Inside Indiana Business Television, Visit Indy Chief Executive Officer Leonard Hoops said Gen Con's future in the city beyond 2020 is about capacity. "I think our amendment to the (RFRA) law really effectively addressed that and Indianapolis continues to have a great human rights ordinance for protections," said Hoops. "It's really a question about growth for Gen Con... can we handle their growth versus a city with more convention center space and more hotel rooms."

This was the 49th edition of the Gen Con event,

and the 14th consecutive year Indianapolis has been the host city. Hoops says the impact of the event has doubled in the last seven years.

Hoops says the issue of space is being addressed in the city's tourism master plan, which is being put together to provide a "comprehensive tourism roadmap" leading to 2020 and beyond. "Right now we are really focused on the addition of some ballroom space in the convention center as the most likely next step," said Hoops. "But we are also looking at some (additional) rooms in the immediate vicinity of the convention center."

In this weekend's interview Hoops talked about the future of Gen Con, the potential for another convention center expansion and the impact of additional nonstop flights on the city's convention business.

Source: Inside Indiana Business, Andy Ober

INDY BUSINESS BULLETIN



Indiana Ranks High in Aerospace Report

A global professional services firm ranks Indiana in the top 10 in the United States for aerospace manufacturing attractiveness. The report from PricewaterhouseCoopers cites major industry growth, including expansions at Alcoa Inc. (NYSE: AA) in La Porte County and Rolls-Royce in Indianapolis.

Report Forecasts Bumper Corn, Soybean Crops

A key U.S. Department of Agriculture report projects the state's largest crops could beat or finish close to record levels this year. The August Crop Production Report suggests soybean yields could hit 312 million bushels, which would be the highest ever. Corn production could surpass one billion bushels and finish just behind 2014's record of 1.08 billion bushels.

Chamber, Nickel Plate Showcase 'The Art of Business'

The Noblesville Chamber of Commerce is partnering with Nickel Plate Arts on a program designed to help artists become entrepreneurs. The "Art of Business" series, which continues tomorrow, connects artists with business experts to help with issues including finance, paperwork and insurance.

Grant to Help Purdue Researchers Tackle 'Grand Challenges'

Purdue University has been awarded \$750,000 by the New York-based Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to help take on global grand challenges. Purdue says the support will be used to involve humanists, social scientists and professionals that can get the results "more swiftly and effectively out of the academy into the hands of people who need it."

New Nonstop, Airline And More to Come

The executive director of the Indianapolis International Airport Authority says a new daily nonstop to Seattle-Tacoma International Airport has wide implications for the airport and the Hoosier business community. Mario Rodriguez says the agreement secures Alaska Airlines as the newest carrier in Indianapolis, sending travelers to a tech-rich destination that has not been served well by the state's largest airport. He says Alaska Airlines "is not starting service here for just one destination."

Purdue Says Farmland Values Dropped Again

The 2016 Purdue Farmland Value Survey shows the average price of farmland has declined over the last year. Analysts say they have not seen dips of this size since the mid-1980s.

Job Fair to Feature Hundreds of Openings

More than 70 employers are set to take part in a job

fair next week in Fort Wayne. Organizers, including Congressman Marlin Stutzman (R-3) and IPFW, say the companies are looking to fill more than 2,400 jobs.

Holiday World Wearing 70 Well

A well-known rite of summer for many Hoosiers turned 70 years old today. Now in its fourth generation of Koch family ownership, Holiday World and Splashin' Safari was originally established in Spencer County as Santa Claus Land, as founder Louis Koch's way of saving children from the disappointment of not finding Santa Claus in the small town with the same name. The park has grown to employ 2,000 seasonal and 100 full-time employees.

Indy Lands Junior Olympic National Championships

Indianapolis has landed a major gymnastics event. The Women's Junior Olympic National Championships will take place at the Indiana Convention Center next May.

New Lilly CEO: 'Commitment to Central Indiana is Strong'

Saying he has "huge shoes to fill," the incoming chief executive officer of Eli Lilly and Co. (NYSE: LLY) says, as the company enters a new phase, its commitment to central Indiana has never been stronger. Dave Ricks, a 20-year Lilly veteran, was last week named to succeed John Lechleiter as the drug maker transitions to an "era of new growth"

Candidates Weigh in on Hoosier Ag Strength

While Indiana's gubernatorial candidates agree the state's ag sector remains strong, both are shining the spotlight on challenges facing the industry. Lieutenant Governor Eric Holcomb says much of his focus would be on sparking student interest in vocational and STEM programs at an early age. Democrat John Gregg says his priorities would include supporting rural communities with efforts including increased broadband access and infrastructure improvements.

Film Fest Director Urging State to Step Up

The director of the Middle Coast Film Festival, which begins last Friday in downtown Bloomington, says the goal is to recruit as many filmmakers to the state as possible. Jessica Levandoski says the state is losing jobs to neighboring states that support the industry.

SIA Celebrates Three Million Subaru

Subaru of Indiana Automotive Inc. is celebrating a milestone. The Lafayette facility has officially manufactured three million Subaru vehicles after nearly 27 years of operation.

NIH Grant to Support IUPUI Study

The National Institutes of Health has awarded a major grant to an IUPUI researcher. The university says Diane Wagner, associate professor of mechanical engineering, will use the \$1.3 million grant to study a new method of strengthening damaged cartilage in joints.



HOLCOMB SELECTS RUNNING MATE

Lieutenant Governor Eric Holcomb has selected Indiana State Auditor Suzanne Crouch to serve as his running mate in his bid for the governor's office. Holcomb says Crouch, who has served as auditor since 2014, brings a "strong record, impressive resume and valuable experience" to the table.

An Evansville native and Purdue University graduate, Crouch has previously served as a state representative in the 78th district. She is also a former Vanderburgh County auditor and Vanderburgh County commissioner.

In a statement on his Facebook page, Holcomb said,

"(Crouch) is full of energy and passion and is a natural at barnstorming the state. She is a relentless campaigner, a great fundraiser and will be the perfect governing partner if we are honored to serve as Governor and Lt. Governor. I know that working together, Suzanne and I will not only continue Indiana's growth, but we will take the state we love to the next level. We will make Indiana the best state to live, work, play and stay."

The announcement comes three days after Holcomb was chosen by the Indiana Republican Party to run for the governor's office following Mike Pence's selection as Donald Trump's vice presidential pick.



Suzanne Crouch



Eric Holcomb

INDIANA COLLEGES PART OF \$15M INITIATIVE

Indiana University, Purdue University and the University of Notre Dame are part of a national collaboration designed to accelerate development of research gateway tools for science professionals and students. A \$15 million grant from the National Science Foundation will support the launch of the Science Gateways Community Institute.

Other institutions involved in the initiative include the University of California at San Diego, University of Texas at Austin, University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and Elizabeth City State University in North Carolina.

IU says gateways include applications, data service and collections integrated through a portal of suite of applications to connect scientists with resources like telescopes, seismic shake tables, supercomputers, sky surveys and undersea sensors.

Focus areas include a Purdue-led Incubator, a community engagement and exchange component supported by Notre Dame and an IU-lead extended developer support initiative.



FINANCIALLY SPEAKING

Free online course unlocks "secrets" to financial



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soon be available on the edX platform, "How to Save Money: Making Smart Financial Decisions." Register at bit.ly/makingsmart.

The course covers five weeks, each covering a specific topic. Each week/topic contains "core," as well as "optional" videos. Additionally, for each week/topic, there is a "Your Financial Reflections" section with questions to probe how what you learned that week affects you, a "Readings and Resources" section with links for those wanting to take a deeper dive and a Weekly Quiz.

Week 1 is "Spending and Saving," covering spending, budgeting and setting financial goals.

Week 2 is "Credit, Debt and Taxes," covering the importance of your credit score, how it is calculated, how to improve it, viewing your credit report and income and a variety of other taxes.

Week 3 is "Insurance," covering how it works, why wills and health directives are important and why you should have disability insurance. The optional sections cover deciding which types of insurance you need and health insurance.

Week 4 is "Investing," covering allocating your assets between domestic stocks, international stocks and bonds and how that changes as you get older. The optional sections discuss "Investing in Risky Markets" and "Advertising to Investors" and are particularly timely.

Week 5 is "Planning for the Future," covering aging and financial decisions.

When I asked Odean why he created the course, he said "Over the years I've observed that many of my friends were uncertain or confused about how to invest their savings, whether they were saving enough, dealing with debts or getting the right insurance. I was asked if I would be willing to teach a free online course about personal finance and thought that this would be a great opportunity to help people to help themselves. I've tried to keep the course simple, basic and practical."

Mission accomplished!

Gaining control of your financial life is one of the most important and difficult things you need to accomplish. The array of products and advice offered by the financial services industry is complicated and can be overwhelming. However, at the end of the day, you have to take ownership of educating yourself to make better financial decisions.

There are hundreds of books and courses promising to help you navigate the maze. It's hard to know where to turn and, most importantly, how to get started.

I am fortunate for the opportunity to be exposed to some of the brightest and most innovative minds in finance. Last year I attended a presentation by Terrance Odean, a finance professor at the Haas School of Business at the University of California, Berkeley. Odean is a behavioral finance guru, having studied under the 2002 Nobel Laureate in Economics, Daniel Kahneman.

However, I think what makes Odean particularly interesting and insightful is the circuitous and unconventional journey he took to the top of academia. Not only has he driven a taxi in New York City, he dropped out of college five months before graduation before finally earning a BA in statistics from Berkeley nineteen years later.

Massive Open Online Courses ("MOOCs") are free courses aimed at unlimited participation and open access via the internet, many offered by some of the top universities on the planet. Odean spoke of a personal finance course he was developing that would

