

CARMEL 2017 ROAD IMPROVEMENT PLANS

CARMEL, IN –The City of Carmel has a very aggressive construction schedule for 2017 and it will be important for you to plan ahead to make sure your regular routes are available and if not, to determine your best detour before you head out the door.

March

Main Street Drainage improvement, 4th Avenue SW to Guilford Road
Towne Road Trail, 96th St to 106th St
Lake Shore Drive East Culvert replacement, just South of 106th Street
106th Street Culvert replacement, Michigan Road to Shelburne Road
Greentree Drive Culvert replacement
Spring Mill Phase 2 boulevard reconstruction
126th Street improvement, Range Line Road to Keystone Avenue

April

River Road reconstruction, Community Drive to 146th Street
116th Street and Towne Road Roundabout
126th Street and Gray Road Roundabout
136th Street and Gray Road Roundabout
Gray Road Culvert replacement, south of 146th Street
Ditch Road Path Project, 106th Street to 116th Street
Range Line Road and City Center Roundabout

May

Old Town Alley and Storm Water improvements
Carmel Drive and City Center Drive Roundabout

June

96th Street and Delegates Row Roundabout
96th Street and Gray Road Roundabout
Guilford Road and City Center Drive Roundabout
106th Street and Towne Road Roundabout
116th Street and Hazel Dell Parkway Roundabout

July

Range Line Road reconstruction 136th Street to U.S. 31 overpass
Range Line Road and 136th Street Roundabout adjustment
4th Street NW reconstruction
5th Street NE curb construction

August

Range Line Road and 4th Street Roundabout
Guilford Road and Carmel Drive Roundabout
Monon Boulevard Construction, City Center Drive to Main Street

Fall 2017

96th Street and Hazel Dell Road Roundabout
Range Line Road and Executive Drive Roundabout
96th Street and Priority Way Roundabout
Carmel Drive and Old Meridian Street Roundabout
96th Street and Keystone Parkway interchange (preliminary work)
Gray Road and Main Street Roundabout
Range Line Road reconstruction, 116th Street to Main Street
Foster Estates drainage improvements
Main Street Path project, Harrowgate Drive to Cool Creek Court
Carey Road Path project, Hawthorne Drive to Edinburg Drive
Shelburne Road Path project, 106th Street to 116th Street



I-65 BRIDGE PROJECT SET TO BEGIN

Work is expected to begin Monday on a nearly \$20 million project to rebuild six bridges on Interstate 65 over I-465 on the south side of Indianapolis. The project, which is expected to be complete before the end of the year, will include ramp closures that are expected to last 150 days.

The project will include multiple lane shifts that will be conducted in phases. The first ramp closure, which will see the southbound I-65 ramp to eastbound I-465 shut down, will take place in late March or early April.

The northbound I-65 ramp to westbound I-465 and the eastbound I-465 loop ramp to northbound I-65 are expected to be closed later this summer. The Indiana Department of Transportation says signed detours will be in place for each closure. Portage-based Superior Construction, which has office in Indianapolis, has been contracted for the project.



Aerial view of I-465 and I-65 on Indy's southside

FEAR AND SAFETY CONCERNS AMONG ASIAN COMMUNITIES IN INDIANA

Understanding our responsibility in search for a rightful place

Article by: Kanwal Prakash KP Singh

Innocent Asian immigrants are caught in the prevailing environment of political posturing. In recent days two Hindus and an American became victims of an assault in Kansas; a Sikh in Seattle; and hundreds across the Nation faced threats, verbal assaults, and other untoward harassment. Asians have sadly become victims of unfounded suspicion; issues of mistaken identity and unfortunate associations; unprovoked incidents of harassment, hate and violence against their legitimate interests, sacred traditions, and religious institutions.

A climate of fear and uncertainty for Asian Americans is occurring, not just due to one factor, but a myriad of reasons, conditions, and causes that are shaking up the existing order and attempting to install new priorities for the future of the United States. The new transformations in immigration policies by the Trump Administration are causing fear and uncertainty for average Americans and unprecedented negative reactions from those who oppose these changes and how it may impact their interests and alter the status quo. In my nearly 52 years in the U.S., through 12 election cycles, this is the first time that millions have been dismayed by the political environment and lingering hostility has continued in this most robust democratic republic.

FEAR AND ANGER ABOUT TERRORISM AND DANGERS TO U.S. CITIZENS

Adding to the problems is the danger and menace of terrorism that is real and formidable. Incidents of tragic violence and deaths are on the rise in several countries in Europe that have welcomed large numbers of refugees from war-torn countries and failed states. The new administration is rightly focused on minimizing dangers to the United States. Critics are not convinced on humanitarian and political grounds. America has had a time-honored tradition of welcoming immigrants and refugees without extreme vetting procedures in place. Debate is raging about this changing perspective on immigrants, refugees, and illegals and ways to put our house in order, keeping American safety as a first priority.

CHALLENGES TO CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS AND FAITH-MANDATED ARTICLES

It is sad to see the peaceful Asian community as the target of hostility, especially Sikh Americans with turbans, Moslem women with hijabs, Jewish people, and other communities. In the last few weeks, there have been threats, deadly hate crimes against these communities, and acts of desecration and destruction of their places of worship and community centers.

BULLYING OF CHILDREN IN SCHOOLS, HARASSMENT IN WORKPLACES

For Asian Americans, the problems are real and not imaginary. The Sikh, Hindu, Moslem, and Hispanic children have experienced increased harassment and bullying in schools, colleges, shopping centers, airports, and streets. We are witnessing backlash against legal, peace-loving, hardworking minorities and ethnic immigrants, which at times, has taken a tragic turn at the hands of rioters, anarchists, violent protesters, and lone self-appointed, politically-motivated zealots.

TAKING STEPS AND DEVELOPING SAFEGUARD MEASURES

It is important to take appropriate measures to safeguard our personal safety and that of our community, sacred places, and legitimate concerns. To that end, we must:

UNDERSTANDING AND EXERCISE OUR RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

It is important that we know about our rights and citizenship responsibility; available safeguards and community resources. Avoid being alone in places and in the midst of crowds where there is potential for violence or the environment is threatening. If you find yourself facing any threat of harassment or violence, please avoid any verbal or physical altercations. Call law enforcement immediately.

SHARE OUR CONCERNS WITH PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

It is extremely important to keep detailed records, visual evidence about any threat to our person, family, home, community center, our rights and dignity. As individuals and as a community, we must share concerns about fear, threats, harassment, verbal or physical assault with family, community leaders, elected officials, and law enforcement authorities.

MAKE MAINSTREAMING, CIVIC ENGAGEMENT, COMMUNITY BUILDING AS URGENT PRIORITIES

As minorities and ethnic communities, we must step out of our comfort zones and unhelpful attitudes of disinterest and disengagement, be a part of and actively-engaged partners in community building. Network with friends, other groups, and in solidarity work out strategies that help us to belong, not hide in shadows as aliens, as isolated island cultural communities. We have to vigorously work to dispel unfounded stereotyping, mistaken identity and unfortunate misunderstandings about our faiths, cultures, family values, and support of laws and

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

"St. Patrick's Day is an enchanted time - a day to begin transforming winter's dreams into summer's magic." -Adrienne Cook



Dr. Patrick Lau was born in Hong Kong and immigrated to the U.S. after high school. He retired from the VA Northern Indiana Health Care System where he served as Chief Radiologist and moved to Florida with his wife in 2011. He was an active member & contributor of IACA and ICMA while in Indiana. Dr. Lau is also a scholar of art and literature and a prolific writer, he has been a dedicated columnist for Indy Asian American Times since 2010.

Bearing the name Patrick, my Christian name, I celebrate St. Patrick's Day, wearing green, consuming Irish dishes despite Chinese food tastes undeniably more scrumptious, and attending the St. Patrick's Day dance.

St. Patrick's Day is observed on March 17 annually in honor of the patron saint of Ireland. St. Patrick was born in the year 385 AD in Britain. His birth name was Maewyn Succat. At the age of sixteen he was kidnapped by an Irish chieftain during a raid, and subsequently he was sold into slavery in Ireland. During his captivity, he worked as a shepherd, herding and tending sheep. Being solitary and frightened, he turned to religion for solace. He began to have religious visions and eventually became a pious Christian. He regarded his enslavement as God's test of his faith. St. Patrick once said, "Before I was humiliated I was like a stone that lies in deep mud, and he who is mighty came and in his compassion raised me up and exalted me very high and placed me on the top of the wall."

After six years of slavery, St. Patrick escaped and fled home to Britain. He assiduously studied religion in Europe under Saint Germanus, bishop of Auxerre, for a period of twelve years to become a priest. After having a dream in which the Irish populace pleaded him to convert them to Christianity, he resolutely decided to return to Ireland. He was ordained a bishop by Pope Celestine who sent him to Ireland to preach the Gospel to the Irish pagans.

St. Patrick and his disciples succeeded in converting almost all the population of Ireland to Christianity, and he was recognized as the Apostle to the Irish. He utilized a shamrock, called "Seamróg" in Irish, to illustrate the doctrine of Holy Trinity; the three leaves symbolizing the Trinity (the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit). He founded more than 300 churches all over the country, and he also set up schools. He wrote a text, "Confessio", documenting his life, beliefs and ministry. He passed away on March 17 in AD 461, that

day has been commemorated as St. Patrick's Day ever since. His sainthood was obtained from his conversion of the Irish pagans to Christianity. Many Catholic churches around the world are named after St. Patrick.

St. Patrick's Day is the greatest national holiday and a holy day in Ireland. Citizens participate in special religious services, singing and dancing, enjoying family and community gatherings, wearing shamrocks and feasting on the traditional meal of Irish bacon and cabbage. Another traditional symbol is Leprechauns, "small-bodied fellows," who have been portrayed as fairies, making shoes for other fairies. The legend is that if you catch a Leprechaun, you can coerce him to inform you where he hid his pot of gold.

In the United States, the first St. Patrick's Day was celebrated in Boston in 1737. In fact, the first St. Patrick's Day parade did not take place in Ireland but in New York City on March 17, 1762. The parade consisted of Irish soldiers, and it facilitated to connect them with their Irish roots and their fellow Irishmen. On St. Patrick's Day, Americans celebrate the Irish heritage with parades, festive dinners of corned beef and cabbage, green beer, Irish folk music and dance the Irish jig. People customarily wear shamrocks and green. Green is supposed to represent Ireland, also known as the Emerald Isle (fertile green farmlands and countless green pastures), and it signifies shamrocks as well.

Chicago has a tradition of dyeing the river green on St. Patrick's Day since 1962. Likewise, Indianapolis colors the downtown canal green on that day. St. Patrick's Day has evolved to become a celebration of Irish heritage and culture.

Irish Blessings: "For each petal on the shamrock this brings a wish your way. Good health, good luck, and happiness for today and every day."

IHS OFFERS FREE ADMISSION TO 16th ANNUAL CIRCUS DAY

Carnival activities, live performances on March 25

Indianapolis—Families can step right up for free admission when the Indiana Historical Society (IHS) continues its circus tradition. On Saturday, March 25, IHS will host its 16th annual Circus Day celebration, featuring family-friendly carnival activities, live performances and the Indiana Experience. Circus Day runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center in downtown Indianapolis.

New this year, guests will meet and learn about rescued animals with the Amazing World of Animals show featuring Paul Venckus with Hedgehog Hannah. In addition, live performances include the return of the Hampel Family Circus.

Carnival activities include face painting, balloon sculptures and games with prizes. In the afternoon, kids can show off their talents with karaoke, and circus-themed photo ops will be available throughout the event.

In addition, guests are invited to take full advantage of free admission by visiting the Indiana Experience, including IHS's newest exhibit, You Are There 1943: Italian POWs at Atterbury. As one of IHS's most moving exhibits to date, it introduces visitors to Italian prisoners of war in the chapel they built at Camp Atterbury during World War II.

traditions in place. We must mainstream our energy, talents, and valuable experience to strengthen and contribute to our shared common dreams and worthy civic and interfaith initiatives. We have to learn about and from others and share our identity, values, and commitment with others to earn our rightful place in our new Nation that is our proud home.

HOOSIER SIKHS FOCUS ON LEARNING AND COMMUNITY BUILDING

This model and similar initiatives may apply to all Asian groups. For the past 50 years, Hoosier Sikhs have focused on learning from special guests, community mentors, and interfaith leaders in search of ways to be more informed and active citizens. We have invited Indiana Governors, U.S. Congresspersons, law enforcement officials, educators, and State legislator to the Indianapolis Sikh Gurdwara and participated in events and causes that benefit all Hoosiers. The recent Asian American Alliance's "Seat at the Table" with Mayor Hogsett; annual Asian Fests; International Festivals; NCI's Unit in 500 Festival Parades; Indy Festival of Faiths; Interfaith Hunger Initiative, fundraising for natural and humanitarian disasters; religious and cultural celebrations, school activities are all important steps to building bridges, serving at many levels, and making our presence known to our American friends.

These and others are critical steps to dispelling fear and developing confidence; discovering the right answers may be found when we are fully engaged to solve our common problems. For the present environment of tension and uncertainty to disappear, we must learn critical skills to emerge from the real and perceived environment of crisis to a more peaceful and hopeful place. There always have been periods of crisis and uncertainty since the dawn of civilizations and birth of nations. However, today with the

The Stardust Terrace Café, operated by Hoaglin To Go, will provide kid-friendly meal options for Circus Day, and snacks will be available for purchase. Parking is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information about Circus Day, the Indiana Experience or other IHS programs, call (317) 232-1882 or visit IHS online at www.indianahistory.org.

About Indiana's Circus Connections

Indiana's connection to the circus industry dates back to the late 1800s, when businessmen from a number of Indiana cities assembled traveling "mud shows" featuring exotic animals, performers, clowns and human oddities.

By the early 1900s, the circus industry had grown—becoming the most popular form of entertainment in the United States. A number of the nation's premier shows set up winter quarters in Indiana, establishing a lasting link between the circus and the Hoosier state. Today, Peru, Indiana, is home to the world's largest amateur circus and the International Circus Hall of Fame.

technology at our disposal, it is much more magnified and frightening and in 24-hour news cycles.

As Asian Americans, let us do our part and not get caught in the unsustainable rancor, and take steps to be safe, focused, and prepared to set a better example of good citizenship. We must lean upon and respect law and order, understanding and appreciating traditions, cultures, and framework in place. By contributing generously to ideas and energy in all its creative, innovative, and productive forms, we will make life better for all Americans.



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