



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

The Callery pear tree is an extremely invasive species that has taken over large parts of the forest in southern Indiana as well as many public areas in the northeast part of the state. Other cultivars of this tree were released after the 1800s, which led to it smothering many native species of trees.

## Native and invasive plants featured at Earthfest event

BY EMELINE RODENAS  
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AUBURN — Native plants and invasive species were the main topic Saturday afternoon at the Earthfest 2017 event at Trine University.

Martha Ferguson, Master Gardener and owner of Riverview Native Nursery in Spencerville, spoke on the importance of native plants in local habitats and the roles they play with pollinators such as birds, butterflies and bees.

Ferguson owns the only native plant nursery in the northeast part of the state. A native plant is described as a plant that was present before the European settlers arrived. One example is the peony.

She mentioned one extremely invasive species, the Callery pear tree. Also known as the Bradford pear and Cleveland select pear tree, all are cultivars of the Callery pear, a small, ornamental, flowering tree that was brought to the U.S. from China in the late 1800s.

The tree is fast-growing, tolerant of air pollution, disease-resistant, has pretty, white flowers in the spring and serves as the perfect reminder symbol of spring's arrival.

Unfortunately, the tree had one major flaw, its weak branch structure, therefore horticulturists started developing other cultivars with better branch structure. Over time, these were released to the public and used in landscaping practices.

People driving down highways will see Callery pear trees without realizing it.

Horticulturist Michael Dirr, a leading expert on woody plants, was quoted by NPR saying, "I'm not a crazy, invasive-police kinda guy, but I can see the future and this tree is, I think, one of the biggest scourges we have." Dirr is a horticulture professor at the University of Georgia.

Unfortunately, Dirr said, his comment foreshadows the future state of things for the state of Indiana.

An expert predicts Martin County in southern Indiana soon will have almost 900 acres of forest understory dominated by Callery pear from a nursery that closed almost 100 years ago.

Ferguson describes the Callery pear as "my personal favorite to hate" and noted its presence in many northeast Indiana public areas such as malls, restaurants and parks.

Ellen Jacquart, director of northern Indiana stewardship with the Nature Conservancy and invasive plant education chair for the Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society, said, "The lessons to take from this are do not plant Callery pear. If you have any cultivar of Callery pear in your yard, kill it now. There are plenty of non-invasive alternatives. Also, if you see Callery pear growing outside of cultivation, report through Report IN."

The Report IN link is eddmaps.org/indiana/ for people who would like



EMELINE RODENAS

**Martha Ferguson presented on native plants and invasive plants at Earthfest Saturday at Briali Winery.**

to report Callery pear sightings.

Good alternatives are the serviceberry, pagoda dogwood or the redbud tree. Native plants require less maintenance than other plants and need only occasional trimming after the first year of life.

They also improve water quality and serve as host plants for many butterflies.

"We have to think of the garden in our homes as more than aesthetics. Grass is a sterile mono-culture, a food desert. We have to garden for the pollinators," Ferguson said.

According to Ferguson, 97 percent of birds feed insects to their young.

On average, chickadees feed between 6,000-9,000 caterpillars to one clutch of babies, and they have two clutches a year.

## Gospel band to perform today

AUBURN — The Bittersweet Gospel Band will perform at the Cedar Lake Church of the Brethren, 2939 C.R. 15 in rural Auburn, today at 7 p.m.

The band, formed in 1988, performs contemporary Christian and Christian rock music that lifts up a message of high moral standards. Singers and musicians hail from East Los Angeles, Indiana, Virginia and Pennsylvania.

Bittersweet Gospel Band has performed across the United States as well as in the

Dominican Republic, Cuba and Puerto Rico.

A freewill offering will be collected for the ministry of the band and Bittersweet Ministries in Mexico.

The Cedar Lake church has been supporting this ministry for several years and in May a group will travel to Tijuana, Mexico, to build their sixth house there and to provide a Bible study lesson for children.

For more information, people may call 281-2021.

### Briefs

of inclement weather, the group will meet inside the library.

### Music group to perform May 6

HAMILTON — The Freedom Quartet will perform at the Hamilton Life Center on Saturday, May 6 at 7 p.m.

The group has been voted "Favorite New Traditional Quartet" by Singing News Magazine. Individually, they have been nominated for favorite tenor, lead, bass, and male vocalist of the year. As one of the top singing groups in the country, they will amaze participants with the range of "highs" and "lows" that can rarely be produced.

The Hamilton Life Center mission is to provide a safe environment in a Christian setting for spiritual, physical, and community growth

through activities, events, and recreation designed to strengthen families and promote deeper relationships.

### Nerf war fundraiser planned Sunday

FORT WAYNE — Northeast ISBDC client Leslee Hill, the president of Hill Image, LLC, will host a Nerf gun war to raise funds for the local Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

The fundraiser, which is open to people of all ages, will take place on Sunday, May 7, from 1-3 p.m. at Lions Park in Fort Wayne. The cost to participate is \$20 per person, with proceeds benefiting LLS programs as well as leukemia and lymphoma research.

People can call 481-0494 or email Mary Popovich at popovicm@ipfw.edu or mpopovich@isbdc.org for more information.

### Legal Notices

Legal Copy Deadlines	Copy due	Publish
Wed. 4 p.m.	.....	Mon.
Thurs. 4 p.m.	.....	Tues.
Fri. 4 p.m.	.....	Wed.
Mon. 4 p.m.	.....	Thurs.
Tues. 4 p.m.	.....	Fri.

Annual Reports & Budgets due 5 working days before the publish date.

**Email your legal!**  
[legals@kpcmedia.com](mailto:legals@kpcmedia.com)  
 Call Lanette at 877-791-7877x1154 for details.

**NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES**

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of Superior Court of DeKalb County, Indiana, in Cause No. 17D02-1610-MF-000087 wherein Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. was Plaintiff, and Dalen D. Eckert; were Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 25th day of May, 2017, at the hour of 1:00 PM or as soon thereafter as is possible, at 215 E. 8th, Auburn, IN 46706, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in DeKalb County, Indiana.

Lot Number Twenty-nine (29), Rolling Meadows, Plat Number 3, Section "A", an addition to the City of Auburn, DeKalb County, Indiana, as per plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 5 at page 190 in the Office of the Recorder of DeKalb County, Indiana.

More commonly known as: 502 Iwo Street, Auburn, IN 46706-3008

State Parcel No.: 17-06-32-429-002.000-025

Together with rents, issues, income, and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws.

Sheriff of DeKalb County  
 Union Township  
 502 Iwo Street  
 Auburn, IN 46706-3008  
 Street Address

The Sheriff's Department does not warrant the accuracy of the street address published herein  
 Plaintiff Attorney  
 ATTORNEY NO. 1025154  
 Codilis Law, LLC  
 8050 Cleveland Place  
 Merrillville, IN 46410  
 (219) 736-5579.

**SERVICE DIRECTED TO:**  
 Dalen D. Eckert, 502 Iwo Street, Auburn, IN 46706-3008. Type of Service: Sheriff

**NOTICE**  
 This communication is from a Debt Collector.  
 This is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.  
 TS,2042262,4/11,18,25,hspaxlp

**NOTICE TO BIDDERS**  
 Town of St. Joe  
 Owner: Town of St. Joe  
 102 Third Street  
 St. Joe, IN 46785

Project/Work: Removal of Unsafe Structure(s) in St. Joe  
 Notice is hereby given that Town of St. Joe will receive sealed bids for the above described "Project/Work" and may be delivered to the St. Joe Town Hall; 102 Third Street, St. Joe, IN 46785 or forwarded by registered mail addressed to the Town of St. Joe, Clerk Treasurer, PO Box 293, St. Joe, IN 46785 by 12pm on Thursday, May 4, 2017. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. No late bids will be accepted.

All vendors must be licensed to perform demolition work in DeKalb County, Indiana.

A Bid Bond or certified check in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the amount bid must be submitted with each Bid. A one hundred percent (100%) Performance and Payment Bond will also be required of the successful Bidder.

The Work consists of, but is not necessarily limited to the following:  
 Removal of unsafe structure(s) in St. Joe  
 Contract Documents for the Project/Work have been assembled into one or more bound Project Manuals which, may be examined at the following locations:  
 St. Joe Town Hall  
 102 Third Street  
 St. Joe, IN 46785

If you wish to receive a packet via email, please contact Allison McKean, Clerk Treasurer at (260) 337-5449 or townstjoein@gmail.com.

This Work will be funded by the Town of St. Joe. The participation goal for Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) for this contract is not required however all MBE/WBE business are encouraged to bid.

A pre-bid conference for discussion of the Work, the bidding requirements will be held on Monday, May 1, 2017 at 6:00pm at the St. Joe Town Hall; 102 Third Street, St. Joe, IN 46785. All prospective Bidders are strongly urged to attend the pre-bid conference.

For accommodations needed by persons with disabilities to attend the public bid opening meeting, please call (260) 337-5449. The Town of St. Joe reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities and to accept the bid which it deems most favorable to the interest of the Owner after all bids have been examined and canvassed.

If you have any questions about the home, please contact Allison McKean (260) 337-5449  
 TS,2042469,4/24,25,26,hspaxlp

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 TS,2042469,4/24,25,26,hspaxlp

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
 CEDAR CREEK DRAINAGE BOARD  
 100 SOUTH MAIN STREET  
 COURTHOUSE  
 AUBURN, INDIANA 46706  
 (260) 925-1928

A MEETING OF THE CEDAR CREEK DRAINAGE BOARD WILL BE HELD IN THE DERALD D. KRUSE COMMISSIONER'S COURT, 2nd FLOOR OF THE DEKALB COUNTY COURTHOUSE, AUBURN INDIANA AT 10:30 a.m., THURSDAY APRIL 27th, 2017.  
 TS,2042552,4/25,hspaxlp

**NOTICE BY PUBLICATION IN THE DEKALB CIRCUIT/SUPERIOR II COURT**  
 CAUSE NO: 17D02-1704-MI-000021  
 STATE OF INDIANA  
 COUNTY OF DEKALB SS:

IN RE: THE NAME CHANGE OF ADEM CHARLES KNAPP  
 Comes now Charles Neal Darr on behalf of Adem Charles Knapp and files a Verified Petition for Change of Name. Adem Charles Knapp wishes his name be changed to Adem Charles Darr. This matter has been set for hearing on 6th day of June, 2017 at 8:30 A.M. in the DeKalb Circuit/Superior II Court. Any party who has an interest in this matter should contact the DeKalb Circuit/Superior II Court at P.O. Box 230, Auburn IN 46706, or by phone at (260) 925-0912 or appear at this above scheduled hearing should they object to the name change. Should there be no objection, a hearing will be held and a decision will be made upon said Petition.

Holly A Albright, Clerk  
 DeKalb Circuit Court  
 Charles Neal Darr  
 610 S Cowen St  
 Garrett, IN 46738  
 TS,2042245,4/11,18,25,hspaxlp

### Community Calendar

**Today**  
**Yoga**, 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 at Heimach Center. Instructor Maddi will teach chair yoga at 9:30 a.m. and traditional yoga at 10:30 a.m. Each class is \$3, no reservation required. Call 925-3311 for more information.

**Senior Stretch and Move**, 10-11 a.m. at Butler Public Library, Butler.  
**TOPS weight-loss support group**, at the Fellow Hall of First Christian Church, Auburn, from 5-6 p.m. People are learn about nutrition, portion control, food planning, exercise, and more. People can call Nancy Gurtner at 927-5972 for more information.

**Wednesday**  
**Community Food Pantry** disbursement day, 5-7 p.m., at the Butler United Methodist Church; open to residents of the DeKalb Eastern Community School district and Franklin Township.

**Bingo**, National Military History Center, 5634 C.R. 11-A, Auburn; doors open at 4 p.m. and games start at 6 p.m.

**Thursday**  
**Rummage and Bake Sale**, First Christian Church, Auburn, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
**Tai Chi**, at the Heimach

Center from 10-11 a.m. Greg Vick will lead the class. Class is \$3.  
**Senior Stretch and Move**, 10-11 a.m. at Butler Public Library.

## Northeast Indiana Spring

# JOB FAIR

Business Weekly IN|fort wayne

## FIND THE JOB YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR!

Full-time - Part-time - Seasonal - Temporary

**Tuesday, May 2, 2017**  
**Allen County Memorial Coliseum Conference Center**  
**3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

Find quality employees you've been looking for!  
 Booths and advertising packages available.  
 Call 260/426-2640