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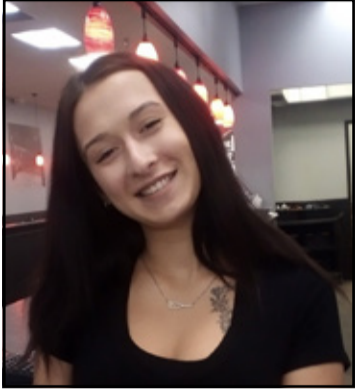
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➤ TODAY'S VERSE

Psalm 119:9-11 "How can a young man keep his way pure? By living according to your word. I seek you with all my heart; do not let me stray from your commands. I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you." (NIV)

➤ FACES OF MONTGOMERY

People who call our community their own.



Our roving photographer was out early Wednesday and caught Lily Branshaw hard at work at a local diner. She still had time to give us a friendly smile though!

➤ THREE THINGS You Should Know:

1 Prophetstown State Park invites you to create a one-of-a-kind scarecrow for its 14th Annual Trail of Scarecrows, Oct. 1–Nov. 5. Support your local community, highlight an organization, promote special events or just show off your creativity to thousands of visitors this fall. This event is open to businesses and families alike. The scarecrows will be featured along Prophetstown's paved accessible trail. Promote recycling and upcycling by repurposing used items and materials to create fun (and funky!) art for this special event. It's free to participate and there are no registration fees. The public will have the chance to vote for their favorite scarecrows by making donations to the Interpretive Services Fund for Education, Arts, Culture and History Programs at Prophetstown State Park. By donating at least \$1, park guests can cast 100 votes for their favorite. Prizes are awarded for the most votes so spread the word to vote for your scarecrow. If you are unable to sponsor a scarecrow, please consider donating merchandise or gift certificates for contest prizes or gifting a monetary contribution for interpretive services programs

2 Franciscan Physician Network Primary Care & Sports Medicine Lafayette is now offering a walk-in clinic for middle and high school athletes with acute injuries occurring in the previous 72 hours. The clinic is offered on Mondays only thru Oct. 23, 2023 and check-in is from 7 to 8:30 a.m.

3 Come join artist Ellie Dieckmeyer for a fun class and make your own mixed media art piece. Instruction and supplies needed for students will be provided. Class will be on Thursday, October 12th. Choose either an afternoon session (1-3 pm) or an evening session (6-8 pm). Class is open to anyone 12 years and older. Cost is \$35. Classes meet at Athens Arts, 216 E. Main Street, Crawfordsville.

Frances Wooden Park Now Open For Fun!



Photos courtesy of Crawfordsville Park and Recreations

Earlier this past weekend the Crawfordsville Parks and Recreation Office declared that the newly renovated Frances Wooden Park is open and ready for fun. If you haven't seen it you should go check it out at the corner of Grant and North St. Through funding from MCCF and the City of Crawfordsville, the park underwent major renovations during the summer. New play equipment, a shelter, and interactive musical pieces are just a few of the many improvements. Located next to Bethel AME Church Crawfordsville, the park also features ties to local history, including the site's significance as a stop on the Underground Railroad.

The Daily Almanac

Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 7:46 a.m.
SET: 7:25 p.m.



High/Low Temperatures
High: 74 °F
Low: 65 °F



Today is...

- Global James Bond Day
- Do Something Nice Day
- World Teacher's Day

What Happened On This Day

- **2000** Bulldozer Revolution in former Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. President Slobodan Milosevic was overthrown after hundreds of thousands of protesters gathered in Belgrade to protest against recently held elections.
- **1962** James Bond makes his theatrical debut. The fictional British spy with the code name 007 was featured on the big screen for the first time in Dr. No. Based on the 1958 Ian Fleming novel of the same name, the movie starred Sean Connery as James Bond.
- **1947** First televised presidential speech in the United States. Harry Truman, the 33rd President of the US, called on Americans to use less grain to help Europe which was still reeling from the effects of the Second World War.

Births On This Day

- **1958** Neil deGrasse Tyson
American astrophysicist
- **1829** Chester A. Arthur
21st President of the United States

Deaths On This Day

- **2011** Steve Jobs
co-founded Apple Inc.
- **1813** Tecumseh
American tribal leader

Around The County With Samuel Smiley Martin



KAREN ZACH
Around The County

Samuel Smiley and Sarah Jane Martin were married October 8, 1857 and had three sons and three daughters, their son Bertram who was an excellent local photographer likely

took these photos (and thanks to J&D Jones for sending them). One is of them on their porch in Darlington; the other in their Lambert Automobile.

Samuel Smiley was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania Feb 8, 1838 (Darlington Herald 10-27-1916) the son of Thomas who was born in Ireland and his mother was a Smiley where he received his nifty middle name. Likely, he passed away at the home you see here in Darlington on October 19, 1916, being the age of 78 years, 8 months and 11 days, passing from arterior sclerosis.

The Martins were good, long standing members in the



Photo courtesy of Karen Zach

Darlington Methodist Church and he a member of the Masons and GAR.

Sam was 25 when he went to the service on the 2nd day of January 1864 from C'ville in the 11th Cavalry (126th Regiment Co M) serving under Lew Wallace and made the regimental commanding Sgt November 23, 1864. If you've heard of Wallace's Zouaves, then you know Sam was one of them and they were in several of the worst CW battles, including Fort Henry; Fort Donelson; Shiloh; Vicksburg and Cedar Creek among others. Just seemed to be a man you could count on as well as trust.

Sam Smiley and Sarah Jane lived on their farm in the Potato Creek area, had a large sale of their animals and farm equipment and headed into

Darlington where he opened an insurance and collection office, then was the Darlington Postmaster for some time. Quite a versatile fellow. They were all settled in by the end of March in 1888 (CWJ 24 March), later building in 1896 I imagine the home pictured here.

Their son, George Earl lived in Kentucky and southern Indiana for quite a time and did his work as a physician, but as I figure it, about the end of WWI, he headed back our way where he and wife Bessie Buchanan (son Harry and daughter Helen) farmed. Their oldest son, Thomas H. lived most of his life in Louisville where he was a tanner. He was just over 60 when he passed away from TB and sclerosis of the liver. He and his brother George returned back home to Darlington where they are buried.

The other son I mentioned above, Bertram Stevenson Martin, was indeed a photographer in the Darlington area for a number of years but also moved to Kentucky with much of the rest of Sam and Sarah's group.

➤ See KAREN Page A5

➤ HONEST HOOSIER

When did Halloween become such a big holiday?



➤ INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION

Service Directory.....A3
Classifieds.....A4
Earth Talk.....A4

➤ THE MONTGOMERY MINUTE

Trickin' Jeeps For AWL:

The Animal Welfare League is hosting a Trickin' Jeeps and Trunk or Treat at Pike Place! Dress up your jeep in a fun Halloween style Saturday, October 21 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. This event is open to the public and will include raffles, prizes and a food truck. Trunk or treat will be from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The cost is \$25 per jeep. This event is sponsored by Animal Welfare League, HCJC Lafayette and Jeeps of MoCo.

➤ TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

If you feel overwhelmed, write down your to-do list and prioritize it. Simplify large tasks into smaller ones. Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts. Be sure to catch his column each week in The Paper and online at www.thepaper24-7.com.



➤ TODAY'S QUOTE

Where there is no imagination there is no horror.
-Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

➤ TODAY'S JOKE

What did Dr. Frankenstein get when he put a goldfish brain in the body of his dog? I don't know, but it is great at chasing submarines.

➤ OBITUARIES

None

The Paper appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank **MARCIA DESMET** for subscribing!



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WTHR 13 7 DAY FORECAST

62/87 WARM, CLOUDS INCREASE	65/74 RAIN LIKELY SOME THUNDER	58/70 MAINLY SUNNY, SHOWERS LATE	43/59 BLUSTERY, CLOUDS & SHOWERS	41/58 A.M. SUN, CLOUDS BUILD, SHOWERS POSSIBLE	42/64 MORE SUN, NOT AS COOL	42/66 SUNNY
WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE

Meeting Notes

Board Of Public Works And Public Safety Meeting

October 4 at 10 a.m.
 I. Approval of the minutes from September 27, 2023.

II. Approval of the claims for the week of October 2, 2023.

III. Old Business
 a. Discussion of the quotes received for the Crawfordsville Street Department Post-Frame Building Construction
 b. Discussion of the quotes received for the Storm Water North Ridge Project

IV. New Business
 a. Brother's Pizza requesting to use two parking spaces on Green Street in front of their restaurant for Santa on Saturday, December 16th

from 3-6 pm

b. Gary Bell with requests related to the Veterans Day Parade

c. Wabash College with various requests related to the Monon Bell Game on Saturday, November 11

d. Discussion of an agreement between the City and Plant Brothers Excavating & Construction Co., LLC

e. Discussion of an agreement between the City and Blackbird Clinical Services, LLC

f. Barry Lewis, Code Enforcement Officer, with a work order request for 112 N. Barr Street, owned by Brain Grant

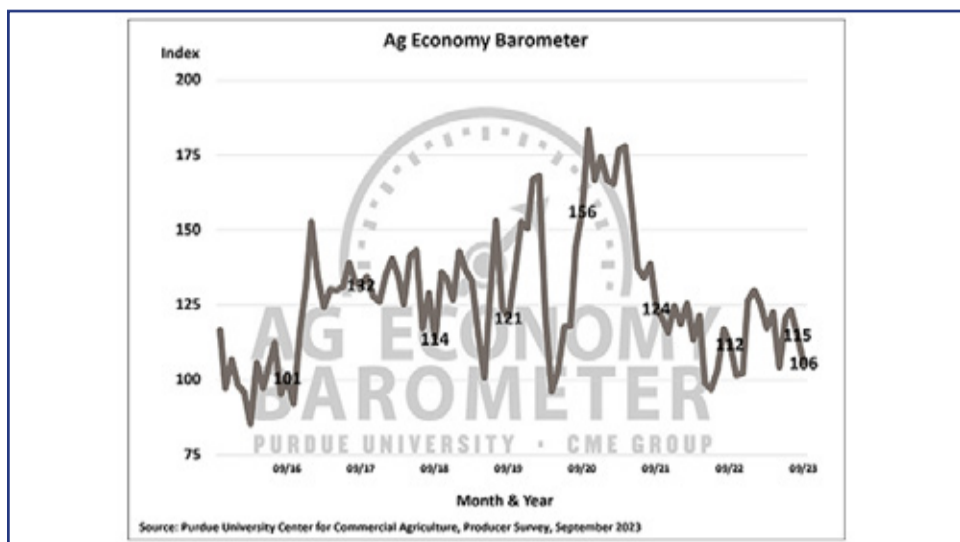
V. Departments Heads
 VI. Adjournment

Weakening Crop Prices, High Production Costs Weigh On Farmer Sentiment

Agricultural producers' sentiment declined for the second month in a row as the Purdue University/CME Group Ag Economy Barometer index fell 9 points to a reading of 106 in September. Producers expressed concern about their current situation as well as future prospects for their farms. The Current Conditions and Future Expectations indices both declined 10 points to a reading of 98 and 109, respectively. Notably, all three indices stand below their readings from one year ago. This month's Ag Economy Barometer survey was conducted from Sept. 11-15.

"Weakening prices for major crops and ongoing concerns about high production costs and interest rates weighed on producers' minds this month," said James Mintert, the barometer's principal investigator and director of Purdue University's Center for Commercial Agriculture.

Producers continue to point to high input costs as a top concern for their farming operations in the year ahead. One-third of respondents in this month's survey cite it as their number one concern, followed by rising interest rates, chosen by 25% of respondents, and lower crop and/or livestock prices, chosen by 22% of farmers. The percentage of producers choosing lower crop and/or livestock prices has increased since the beginning of the year when just 16% of producers cited it as a



Graphic courtesy of Purdue/CME Group Ag Economy Barometer/James Mintert

top concern.

There was a small uptick in the Farm Capital Investment Index, up 2 points to a reading of 39 in September; however, three-fourths of producers still said now is a bad time for large investments. The primary reasons among those who feel that way are rising interest rates and the high cost of machinery and new construction. Notably, 40% of producers who feel it's a bad time to invest cited rising interest rates as a key reason, up from 35% last month, and up from 14% when this question was first posed in July 2022. This month there was a slight rise in the percentage of producers who said now is a good time to make investments, citing strong cash flows on their farm operations as a primary reason.

The Farm Financial Performance Index was unchanged in September compared to August, leaving the index at a reading

of 86. In a nod to how variable conditions have been around the country during this growing season, there were small increases in the percentages of producers who 1) expect better conditions and 2) expect worse financial conditions compared to last year.

Producers remain relatively optimistic about farmland values, which Mintert called surprising given the percentage of respondents who expressed concerns about high input costs, rising interest rates, and the risk of lower crop and livestock prices. The Short-Term Farmland Value Expectations Index was unchanged at a reading of 126, while the long-term index rose 2 points to 153. Respondents who expect farmland values to rise over the next five years continue to point to non-farm investor demand for farmland along with inflation as the top two reasons for farmland values to continue rising.

The September survey included several questions posed to corn and soybean growers to learn more about their perspective on cover crops. Just over half (52%) of corn/soybean growers said they currently plant cover crops on a portion of their acreage and, from this group, nearly half (47%) said they used cover crops on no more than 25% of their acreage. Among those corn and soybean growers who reported having used cover crops, 41% said they had used cover crops for five years or less, while 14% said they've been using cover crops for more than 20 years. Respondents who use cover crops cited improvements to soil health and erosion control as primary reasons. Farmers who tried planting cover crops but ultimately chose to discontinue their use cited low profitability, lowered crop yields, insufficient soil benefits and a lack of resources to plant cover crops.

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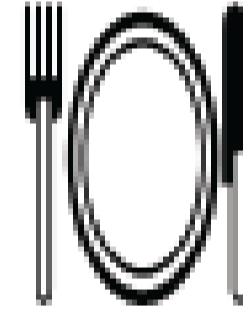



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Indiana gubernatorial candidate Eric Doden speaks out against IEDC's LEAP District Pipeline Plan

By Casey Smith
Indiana Capital Chronicle

Republican gubernatorial candidate Eric Doden said he's "deeply concerned" about a major plan to divert billions of gallons of water from the West Lafayette region to a massive — and controversial — high-tech park planned in Boone County.

His apprehension comes one week after the Indiana Economic Development Corp. (IEDC) released early results of tests conducted at the Wabash Alluvial Aquifer — which officials hope to tap for a massive high-tech campus 35 miles away.

Officials want to pipe 100 million gallons of water daily from the aquifer to the LEAP Lebanon Innovation District. Wabash-reliant residents are afraid the proposal could jeopardize their water supply.

The Fort Wayne businessman echoed those fears on Tuesday, emphasizing that the public has only seen preliminary data, "handpicked" by the IEDC. He said the full dataset from the water study should be released to independent experts for review, as local leaders have requested.

"Any state-sponsored project demands a high level of accountability," Doden said in a news release. "With a resource as vital as water at stake, Hoosier taxpayers deserve greater transparency than IEDC provides."

The quasi-public agency made an executive summary, touting "abundant" water, available last week. Texas-based environmental consulting firm INTERA is conducting the ongoing analysis under a \$2.9 million contract.

Doden argued the IEDC water study is not independent, however, and maintained that "the same organization trying to divert the water for its own project paid for it."

Investigators drilled 17 exploratory boreholes — all finished as monitoring wells — along with two test wells to conduct two aquifer tests. They found that the aquifer had hydraulic conductivity of 450-550 feet daily at the site. That measures how well water passes through soil or rock.

The two wells combined could support — at maximum — a pumping rate of 45 million gallons daily, according to an IEDC video presentation about the study results. The executive summary said they could "sustainably" support 30 million gallons daily.

"This is the latest example that shows Indiana desperately needs a long-term vision to grow our small towns into thriving communities," Doden continued. "The LEAP project would divert natural resources from a smaller region to support a larger one — a decision without regard for, or belief in, our small coun-

ties and towns. We can and must be a state where all 92 counties thrive, and Indiana needs new leadership to achieve this vision."

Chambers remains steadfast. But Brad Chambers, former Indiana Secretary of Commerce and leader of the IEDC, defended the LEAP project that largely defined his tenure. The GOP gubernatorial candidate told the Indiana Capital Chronicle on Tuesday that the IEDC hired "a preeminent and widely-respected water resource expert with national experience."

Chambers said the study concluded that "abundant resources are available to support the LEAP project, and more importantly not negatively impact other communities."

"The LEAP Innovation District is a transformative project that will grow jobs, wages and improve the quality of life for a large region of our state, which we've already seen demonstrated by (ELi) Lilly's nearly \$4 billion commitment to building new facilities there," Chambers said in a written statement.

"There was intentionality to the project both in locating it between our largest workforce center and one of our premier research institutions, Purdue University, and also in tackling a longstanding central Indiana water need that's been studied

and not addressed for decades," he continued.

Chambers stepped down from the cabinet-level position in August — after two years on the job — to vie for the governor's seat.

"Creating opportunity for Hoosiers across the state requires a bold vision, and I believe we can do that while also protecting our critical resources. If the study indicated harm for any Hoosier community, we wouldn't have moved forward with the project," Chambers said. "Unlike the career politicians who want to pit communities against each other, as governor, I'll lead to build the economy of the future to bring prosperity to rural, suburban, and urban Hoosiers, together."

Hill and Crouch weigh in

Former Indiana Attorney General Curtis Hill, who is also running for governor, said he has also spoken with "dozens of farmers, residents and business owners throughout Boone County, and they have major concerns that have yet to be addressed."

"If water has to be brought in from 53 miles away to make the project work, then the project itself is not feasible," he told the Capital Chronicle.

"Over-ambitious growth without the infrastructure or resources necessary to keep the project from disrupting

local agriculture and way of life is detrimental to the region," Hill continued. "I echo the concerns of Boone County residents who believe this project is doing more harm than good, and the guaranteed economic consequences outweigh the potential benefits. Precautions need to be taken to ensure that the environmental and economic disruptions are mitigated, but until then, this project should not continue."

Fellow Republican gubernatorial challenger Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch was less direct, but she pointed to concerns she raised about the project "months ago."

In a social media statement posted Aug. 1, Crouch said she was hearing "growing concerns from farmers and other constituents" over the loss of farmland in the LEAP district and that she asked the Indiana Department of Agriculture to conduct an economic analysis of lost farmland.

Still, she said she "is not opposed to the LEAP district or others like it," and applauded the "investment and jobs it will bring to our state."

"I've spoken with local elected officials in Boone and Tippecanoe Counties, and I understand their concerns and frustration about the lack of transparency from the IEDC," she told the Capital Chronicle on Tuesday.

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun — also part of the

crowded group seeking the Republican nomination in Indiana's 2024 gubernatorial race — did not reply to the Capital Chronicle's request for comment about the LEAP district and water pipeline project.

During an August campaign stop in Lafayette, though, Braun said he believed the state's desire to move forward with the project without proper long-term planning has led to much of the backlash.

"Sometimes when you get so ahead of your skis, you spend all that money, you think that you would have researched, is there a local water supply," the senator said, as reported by the Journal and Courier. "When you get the state involved in becoming a real estate investor, I would hope that whoever's doing it was smart enough to see if you had the most basic resource we need and that you're not going to have to pump it from maybe 40 miles away to get it where it's supposed to be."

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KAREN From Page A1



Photo courtesy of Karen Zach

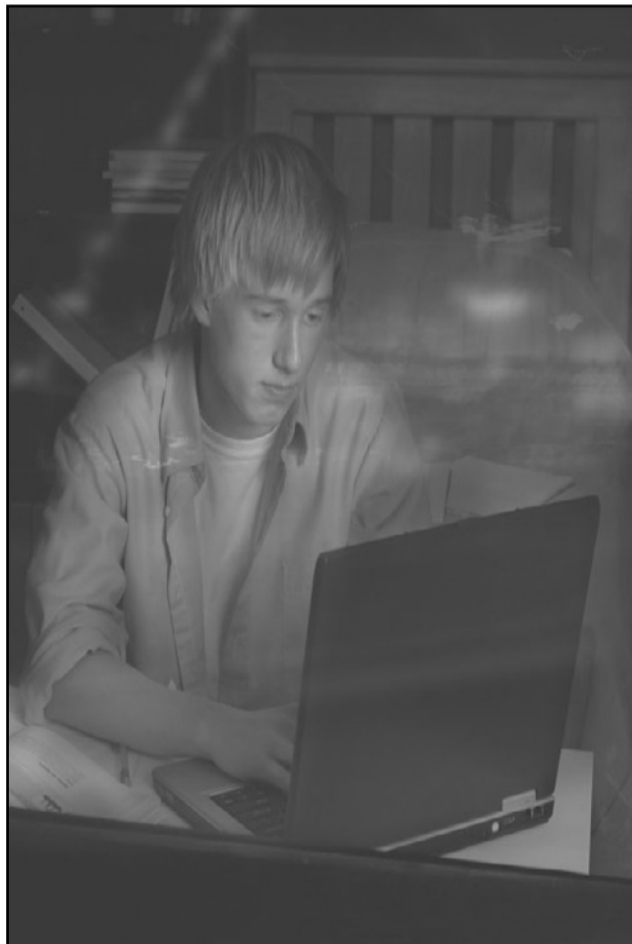
On June 19 in 1918, at just over 45 years old, he passed away of TB at the Waverly Hills Hospital in Valley Station, Kentucky. Three children blessed him but sadly one in 1937 at age 36 (Cameron, his oldest) died from car wreck injuries at Louisville.

The three daughters of Sam and Sarah were: Dora Bell, Maud and Ola Margaret. Dora married Hugh Taylor and they were parents of four daughters, Ella, Martha, Isabelle and Dora Irene. One of the neat things about this couple was that they went to Hong Kong with the two youngest girls returning in May 1924. Dora taught school before her marriage. Maude Alice married (Aug 1881) Albert K. Peterson and they died close together, he in Oct 1948, she in January 1949 after falling and breaking her hip on the 2nd, passing on the 14th. They were parents of four daughters: (Ethel; Hattie; Nellie and Bessie). They were farmers in Franklin Township. Ola, called "Maggie" married Oliver Delashmit and was basically the only other one to remain here,

living quite some time in Crawfordsville passing at almost 71 of liver cancer in 1937. Sadly, Oliver went to Oklahoma and filed for divorce out there in 1927 but she did fine afterwards, moving to Darlington where she rented rooms here and there plus did a great deal of visiting with her family members.

Sam was fairly well-known as an early Darlington historian (thanks so much to Martha F. for sending him my way) and wrote articles about the early days, using others' knowledge and likely books for the earlier years and much of his own remembrances after he lit here in 1857 right after his marriage. Good stuff. His writing is nonfiction, but reads in a light way, flitting here and there a bit, but overall, excellent local history!

- Karen Zach is the editor of *Montgomery Memories*, our monthly magazine all about Montgomery County. Her column, *Around the County*, appears each Thursday in *The Paper of Montgomery County*. You can reach her at karen.zach@sbcglobal.net.



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Growing More Food On Less Land

EARTHTALK

Dear EarthTalk: What are some ways to grow more food on less land given that human population is growing as the amount of arable land shrinks?

It's no secret that Earth is facing a daunting challenge: With human numbers expected to swell to 10 billion by 2060 and the amount of arable land shrinking at a rate of about 23 hectares per minute (!), finding sustainable ways to produce more food on less land is a pressing concern. Fortunately, innovative solutions and practices are emerging to address this issue and ensure food security for future generations.

Perhaps the best developed kind of "future farming" is vertical farming, in which crops are grown in stacked layers instead of horizontally like at conventional farms. Controlled environments in vertical farms allow for year-round cultivation, precise control over factors like temperature and humidity, and

significant water savings. They can be and often are indoors. In fact, multiple floors in tall buildings in big city centers could be devoted to this agricultural technique. Producing food closer to its consumers reduces transportation costs and emissions, reducing everyone's carbon footprint from farm to table.

One of the ways vertical farms make do with less water than conventional farms is through hydroponics, whereby plants are grown in small amounts of nutrient-rich water instead of soil, maximizing land use efficiency and offering faster growth and crop turnover cycles. Hydroponic farming has already shown to be ideal for small or residential growers looking to produce a steady flow of herbs and vegetables.

Besides vertical farming and hydroponics, there is much we can do to optimize conventional farming to make it more future-proof. Farmers can use advanced technologies like GPS, sensors and drones to optimize crop management, making their lives easier and their

harvests more abundant. By precisely tailoring irrigation, fertilization and pest control to specific areas of a field, farmers can maximize yields and minimize resource usage. This approach ensures that every inch of arable land is used efficiently.

Another way to make the most of conventional agriculture land is to diversify the landscape and crop output. To wit, agroforestry and permaculture are holistic farming practices that integrate trees, crops and livestock on the same piece of land. These systems mimic natural ecosystems and can greatly increase food production while conserving soil, water and biodiversity. Likewise, forward-looking farmers are starting to incorporate techniques like cover cropping, crop rotation and no-tilling to enhance soil health and reduce the need for chemicals while enabling higher crop yields without expanding agricultural land.

Those of us who are not farmers can play a big role in solving the impending food shortage crisis the

world faces. One way to be part of the solution is to reduce food waste and advocate the same to others. The United Nations estimates that over a third of all food produced globally is lost or wasted each year. By reducing waste, we can make better use of the food we already produce, alleviating some of the pressure on arable land. Another way to help is to eliminate animal products. Plant-based diets are generally less land-intensive than diets heavily reliant on animal agriculture—and require fewer resources to produce equivalent caloric and nutritional values.

-CONTACTS: *Vertical Farming for the Future*, usda.gov/media/blog/2018/08/14/vertical-farming-future; *Reducing food loss and waste: Taking Action to Transform Food Systems*, un.org/en/observances/end-food-waste-day.

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