Varied approaches by schools for eclipse

One district plans to use the eclipse as an opportunity to learn.

By KEVIN KILBANE kkilbane@news-sentinel.com

Monday's rare solar eclipse will be an opportunity for special study

at one Fort Wayne public school district. At others, the day will pass mostly like a normal Monday or include an afternoon without outdoor physical education classes or recess.

While some people have been waiting since 1979 for a total solar eclipse over the mainland United States, Monday's event presents

serious challenges for schools. If children or adults look up at the sun, they risk suffering eye damage, which can be permanent.

In the Fort Wayne area, about 88 percent of the sun will be covered briefly by the moon, casting a shadow on the Earth, the Fort Wayne Astronomical Society reports on its website, fortwayneastronomical society.com. The moon will move across our view of the sun slowly from 12:59 to 3:47 p.m. Monday, with the greatest coverage of the sun at about 2:25 p.m., the astronomical society reports.

School district plans nationally range from keeping students inside during the eclipse to buying solar eclipse viewing glasses for all students and staff. Here are local public school districts' plans for the eclipse:

This week, Fort Wayne Community Schools plans to educate its more than 29,000 students

See **ECLIPSE**, Page 3A

VIGIL HELD AT THE COURTHOUSE GREEN



A diverse group of people attend a vigil Wednesday night at the Allen County Courthouse Green. The vigil was held days after a woman was killed when a car drove into a group of counter-protesters at a white nationalist rally in Charlottesville, Va.

Group seeks the light of peace and equality

By LISA M. ESQUIVEL LONG

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About 100 people of various faiths, nations of origin and sexual orientation gathered Wednesday evening at the Allen County Courthouse Green to hear speakers after weekend violence during a white nationalist rally in Charlottesville, Va., left a

Inside

Memorial service held for victim of violence at Charlottesville rally. Page 2A

The woman was killed Saturday in Charlottesville when a car plowed into a group of counter-demonstrators at a protest by white nationalists of the removal of a statue of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee.

Several people with the Fort Wayne crowd shared their hopes for greater equality in America and stories of how hate had affected

Among those who spoke:

■ Shirley Hardrix, who said, "My

See VIGIL, Page 3A

SDI donation to help with locomotive restoration

News-Sentinel staff report

The Fort Wayne Railroad Historical Society announced Wednesday that it has received a donation from Steel Dynamics, Inc., to help with one of its restoration projects.

The \$3,000 contribution from SDI will assist Project 358, the effort to restore a 1950s diesel lo-

comotive to full operation.

Built in 1957, Nickel Plate Road No. 358, an SD9-type locomotive, was donated to the historical society by Norfolk Southern in 2011. Restoration is estimated at \$35,000, with the goal to operate No. 358 as a complement to the No. 765 steam locomotive.

"Project 358 is grateful for SDI's support," said project manager Chris Lantz. "We have a small but dedicated team of volunteers that is slowly bringing this historic locomotive back to life and contributions like this go

'We are continuing to solicit private and corporate donations and welcome new volunteers to move the project forward."

SDI's donation will be allocat-

ed toward electric work, paint and parts needed for refurbishment.

The 358 will be on display this weekend at the historical society's open house at 15808 Edgerton Road in New Haven. Hours are noon-4 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Admission is free, with train rides available for \$5.

Witnesses, officers testify at trial for July 2016 homicide

By SHERYL KRIEG

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A man on trial for murder heard his name pop up in testimony once too often,

according to his defense attorney.

Christopher L. Figgs,

29, is on trial again this week in Allen Superior Court for the July 6, 2016, shooting death of



a crime.

Edward Kiel in the 3500 block of McKinnie Avenue as Kiel sat in a car with Figgs' ex-girlfriend. Figgs faces charges of murder, carrying a handgun without a license and having a prior conviction for carrying a handgun without a license and

See TRIAL, Page 3A

COMMENTARY

Interpretation of history isn't carved in stone

for using a firearm in the commission of



A column by KEVIN LEININGER

WHITE SUPREMACY

IS a stupid, racist and evil ideology, and whatever happens to the apparent Nazi sympathizer who used his car as a deadly weapon during a rally in Charlottesville, Va.. Saturday will be better than he deserves.

With that obvious but apparently obliga-

tory disclaimer out of the way - something President Donald Trump should have done immediately, but didn't can we calmly discuss what he actually did say during an impromptu news conference Tuesday at Trump Tower in New York?

As someone who was accused without proof of white-nationalist sympathies even before taking office, Trump's insistence that there "was blame on both sides" was widely reported as moral relativism at best, and confirmation of presidential prejudice at worst. Nor was the president's defense of his early ambiguity particularly compelling; he is not known for withholding comment until all available facts are known.

See **LEININGER**, Page 3A

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Business **5S** Classifieds **4L** Comics 5-6A

Lotteries 2A Obituaries 2L Television 8A Editorials 7A Ticket! Inside





Preview video

Multimedia specialist Justin Kenny and columnist Reggie Hayes discuss the biggest five games in Week 1 of high school football.

WEATHER

TONIGHT: Chance of showers. Low 66. Sunset at 8:36 p.m.

7-DAY FORECAST, 6S

FRI: Mostly sunny. HIGH 80 || LOW 63

SAT: Chance of showers. HIGH 81 || LOW 61