

## Employees Show Off Their Masks

Many INDOT employees are used to wearing personal protective equipment on the job, so it's not surprising that most of us have easily transitioned to wearing face coverings since mid-March in order to combat the spread of COVID-19.

Agency workers responded to a callout in last month's *Inside INDOT* newsletter for photos of themselves in their favorite mask. It's clear from some of the photos below that many INDOT employees support their favorite collegiate and professional sports teams!

In mid-September, orders came in for the official INDOT masks (right photo). In all, 531 INDOT masks were ordered, double the anticipated amount. As a result, INDOT was able to get a discount of 64 cents per mask. Employees had the choice to receive a 64-cent refund or help INDOT donate the extra money, approximately \$340, to the Indiana State



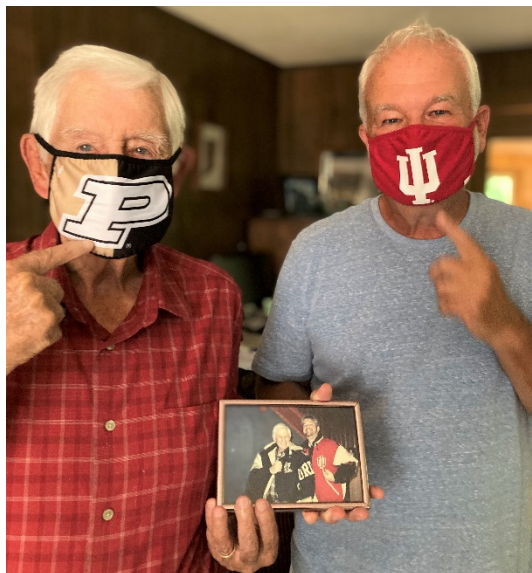
Transportation Workers Foundation (ISTWF), which financially assists the families of INDOT employees killed or disabled on the job. The ISTWF also has [hardship and scholarship programs](#).

Employees also sent us photos with their INDOT masks. To view all the submitted photos representing two dozen employees in both INDOT and non-INDOT masks, click [here](#).

### CENTRAL OFFICE

**Lin Sadler** and **Lyle Sadler** (Lin is retired from INDOT; Lyle is Emergency Response Field Liaison).

"I thought I'd pass along a picture that was recently taken at my dad's house for his 90th birthday," said Lyle. "He and I have always joked about the Indiana University and Purdue University 'feud' for many, many years. If you look closely at the photo, we can be seen holding another picture that was taken some 25 to 30 years ago as we 'compared' our new winter IU and Purdue jackets. We thought it would be fun to take a then-vs.-now photo. Dad retired from INDOT in 1995 after serving the agency for 42 years, including 11 years as the former Greenfield District Deputy Commissioner. I'm hopeful that I can work for INDOT as many years as he did; I'm currently in my 40th year with the agency. I still help him farm at our homestead in northeast Rush County, where I live. He just keeps going and going! He's not just my dad, he's my best friend."



*During a 2020 photo, Lin (from left) and Lyle Sadler support their favorite colleges via masks while holding a photo of the two from the 1990s.*



**Steve Slosarek (Communications Specialist).**

“I’m a lifelong Green Bay Packers fan and can even remember watching NFL games when Bart Starr quarterbacked the team,” said Slosarek. “During the pandemic, my son and I discovered “Star Wars: The Mandalorian” on Disney+, featuring the new character, Baby Yoda. At this time, I saw an advertisement for a Baby Yoda Green Bay Packers mask, so we ordered some for the entire family. From Bart *Starr* to *Star Wars*, we support the Packers. We also support wearing masks to help keep everyone safe!”

**CRAWFORDSVILLE DISTRICT**

**Karen Arnold and Kaitlyn McDaniel** (Arnold is Utility/Railroad Coordinator; McDaniel is a Project Manager).

“We’re on State Road 28 after a job, wearing our new INDOT masks,” said McDaniel.



**FORT WAYNE DISTRICT**

**Rebecca Higgins-Tucker** (Surveyor).

“Right after we received our INDOT masks in September, I went on a trip across several states. The thought occurred to me to try to get selfies with other state department of transportation signs, just for fun. So, this collage represents visits I made to state DOT buildings in Illinois, Kansas, and Missouri,” said Higgins-Tucker.

**Mitch Means and Josh Biller** (Means is a Bridge Maintenance Repair Highway Technician; Biller is Bridge Inspection Supervisor).

They are replacing deck drains on State Road 524 in the town of Lagro in Wabash County while wearing their new INDOT masks in late September. Means is on the left, and Biller is on the right in the right photo.



**SEYMOUR DISTRICT and CENTRAL OFFICE**



**Todd Daniels and Katie Daniels** (Todd is Seymour’s Amity Unit crew leader; Katie is the Economic Opportunity Division’s senior contract compliance specialist).

“I’m representing where I graduated from, Center Grove High School, and where our boys go to school,” said Katie. “Todd’s is wearing a Washington Nationals mask. That’s his favorite Major League Baseball team.”

## VINCENNES DISTRICT

**TJ Brink** and **Kristina Taylor** (Brink is Safety Director; Taylor is Administrative Assistant for Communications).

Oh, oh, a battle is brewing. Brink is a huge Houston Astros fan, and Taylor is a Chicago Cubs booster. If these teams ever meet in the World Series, watch out!

