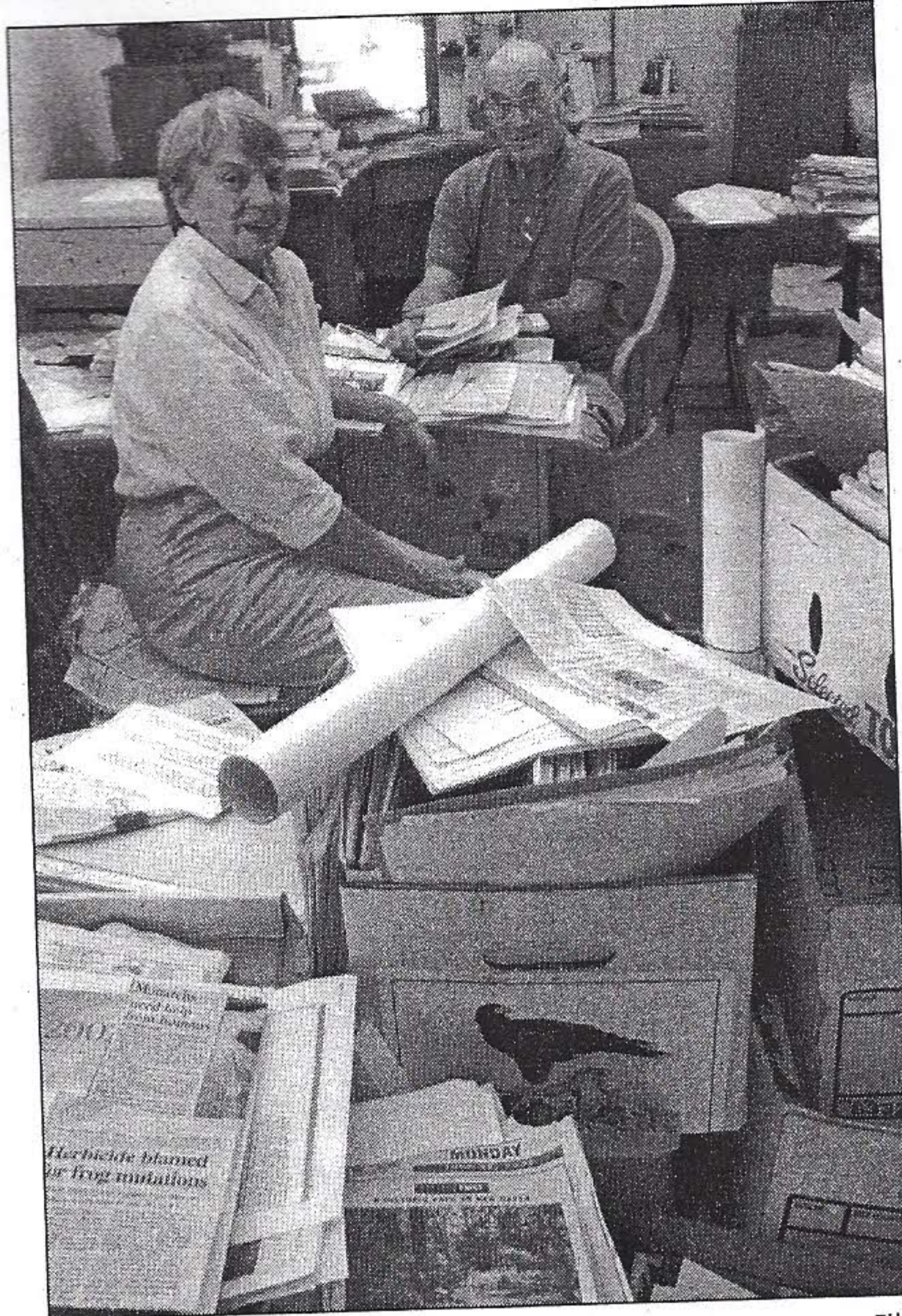


PERS



Fitting tribute for pioneers

Tom and Jane Dustin are in good company.

They are among the charter inductees to the Indiana Conservation Hall of Fame, which the Indiana Natural Resources Foundation launched to recognize Hoosiers for major contributions to conservation and preservation.

They join, among others, Gene Stratton-Porter, the girl of the Limberlost; Eli Lilly, the drug company founder; and President Benjamin Harrison, who as president set aside 13 million acres into 17 national forests.

Jane Dustin, who passed away in 2003, and Tom, who died a year later, were Allen County's foremost environmentalists. Among their many accomplishments was founding ACRES Inc., Indiana's first private land trust.

The inductees will be honored at a banquet Sept. 25 at Fort Benjamin Harrison in Indianapolis.

File
The late local environmental crusaders Jane and Tom Dustin are charter members of the Indiana Conservation Hall of Fame.