

TODAY'S VERSE

Luke 10:19 I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.



FACES OF HAMILTON COUNTY

People who call our community their own.

What makes Jill Moffett smile? "Singing and my son, playing with him, and spending time with friends and family," said the 39-year-old Noblesville resident, the associate pastor at Noblesville First United Methodist Church. She sang her first solo at the church service in August 2020 during UMC's outdoor worship at Teter Retreat in Noblesville. She moved to Hamilton County from the southside of Indianapolis, where she served a church near the University of Indianapolis. Why she's a pastor? "I grew up in a secular home, and then my mother and I began to attend a Jewish synagogue because she wanted to get back in touch with her Jewish roots ... We were Jewish at one point, then I converted to Christianity when I was in college. From that point on, I felt called to be a pastor. I just had a lot of experiences where I felt doors were being opened for me to serve in this way. I originally wanted to teach but then felt called to be a pastor. That way I get to teach and preach and care for people in all walks of life." She's been a pastor for 13 years and came to First UMC in July 2020. She co-preaches, oversees the family ministry director, will work with discipleship and fill in where she is needed. A native of Knoxville, Tenn., she sang in choirs in middle and high schools and at Butler University and seminary at Emory University in Atlanta, Ga. What else? "I enjoy my family, I enjoy exercising and just being a part of the community." She sings in the Indianapolis Women's Chorus, and enjoys being in singing groups and praise bands.

And Another Thing...

State Farm® is celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2022 by building State Farm Neighborhood Assist® bigger. That means more submissions, more grants and spreading good to more communities. This year, the program will award 100 \$25,000 grants (vs. 40 grants in previous years) to nonprofit organizations to help fund neighborhood improvement projects. Additionally, we're doubling the number of cause submissions to 4,000. Check out Tuesday's edition for more information!

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Boomer Bits



Ask Rusty - How do I get back benefits withheld due to the earnings limit?

Dear Rusty: If I work and take Social Security before my full retirement age, how can I find out how I will be paid back the money withheld after I pass the earnings limit?

Signed: Returning to Work

Dear Returning: What you're referring to is that Social Security limits how much you can earn while collecting early benefits (before your full retirement age, or "FRA"). The earnings limit for 2022 is \$19,560 and if your earnings exceed that while collecting early SS benefits, you'll be required to pay back some of your benefits.

Except during the year in which you attain your FRA, you'll have to give SS back benefits equal to \$1 for every \$2 you are over the limit, which can be done either by having your benefits withheld for a time or repaying what is owed in a lump sum. In the year you reach your FRA, the limit goes up by



ASK Rusty
Social Security Advisor

Social Security Matters

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about 2.5 times and the amount you need to pay back is less, and after you reach your full retirement age there is no longer a limit to how much you can earn. But if you have benefits withheld because you exceeded the limit while collecting early benefits, you will get some of that withheld money back after you have reached your full retirement age.

When you reach your FRA, Social Security will automatically adjust (increase) your benefit to reflect the number of months your benefits were withheld. So, for example, if you originally claimed Social Security at age 63

but were still working and, over time, you had benefits withheld for 12 months because you exceeded the earnings limit, they'll recompute your benefit at your FRA as though you applied 12 months later than you actually did. That will happen automatically and will slightly increase your monthly benefit amount starting at your full retirement age. So, you don't get all withheld money back in a lump sum - rather they increase your benefit a bit at your FRA so that eventually, over time, you may recover what was withheld because you exceeded the limit.

Debunking misconceptions about gout

(Family Features) When many people think of gout, they often picture swelling and pain in the big toe. However, gout - an extremely painful form of inflammatory arthritis - can occur in any joint when high levels of uric acid in the blood lead to the formation of urate crystals.

If your body creates too much uric acid or cannot clear uric acid properly, you may experience sudden and sometimes severe gout attacks, called flare-ups, which include pain, swelling or redness in your joints. The condition can disrupt many aspects of daily living, including work and leisure or family activities.

"I was diagnosed with kidney disease in 2009 and it wasn't too long after that I started dealing with gout issues," said registered nurse Theresa Calderon. "Gout affects your quality of life in a lot of different ways. You're going through days of pain and no one knows it be-



Photo courtesy of NAPSI

More fruits and vegetables and fewer sugary snacks in your diet can help you combat diabetes.

Small steps can make a very big difference in preventing diabetes

(NAPSI)—Prediabetes is a serious medical condition that, if untreated, can put you at increased risk of developing type 2 diabetes, heart disease, and stroke. But the good news is that by making some healthy lifestyle changes, you can manage or even reverse your prediabetes and lower your chances of it developing into type 2 diabetes.

Prediabetes affects approximately 88 million U.S. adults and occurs when your blood

glucose, also called blood sugar, is higher than what is considered normal and recommended for you but not high enough to be diagnosed with type 2 diabetes. Most people with prediabetes are not aware that they have it, and there are usually no symptoms. People with risk factors for prediabetes include people who have overweight or obesity, are 45 years old or older, have a parent or

Superintendent's stance on proposed legislation questioned

Embattled Noblesville superintendent Beth Neidermeyer used her taxpayer-funded accounts to lobby against current Indiana legislation that would give parents the right to know what is in their child's school curriculum. In a guest column published in the Noblesville Times (Friday, Jan. 14) and posted on the Noblesville School Twitter account and official website, Neidermeyer blasted SB-167 and HB-1134, the pro-parent, pro-student legislation being proposed in the



MICAH BECKWITH
Guest Column

See MICAH Page A6



Sunrise/Sunset
RISE: 8:08 a.m.
SET: 5:47 p.m.

High/Low Temperatures
High: 28 °F
Low: 21 °F

Wacky Holiday Today
• National Hat Day
• National Fresh Squeezed Juice Day

What Happened On This Day
• 2001 Wikipedia goes online
• 1973 Nixon orders ceasefire in Vietnam

Births On This Day
• 1929 Martin Luther King, Jr.
American minister, activist, Nobel Prize laureate
• 1941 Captain Beefheart
American singer-songwriter

Deaths On This Day
• 1950 Henry H. Arnold
American general
• 1947 Elizabeth Short
American waitress, murder victim

See STRESS Page A6

See PROMISE Page A6

HONEST HOOSIER

Tonight begins the Ursae Minorid Meteor Shower! No, it's not as big as the Quads from earlier this month - but we couldn't much see those anyways.



INSIDE TODAY

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TODAY'S HEALTH TIP

Seniors should always have bright lighting in their homes - it takes three times as much light to see as well as a teenager.

Today's health tip was brought to you by Dr. John Roberts. Be sure to catch his column each week in The Times and online at www.thetimes24-7.com.



OBITUARIES

Jerome "Jerry" E. Dufek

TODAY'S QUOTE

"Never allow waiting to become a habit. Live your dreams and take risks. Life is happening now."
Paulo Coelho

TODAY'S JOKE

What did the pirate say when asked his age?
Ayem-eighty



The Times appreciates all our customers. Today, we'd like to personally thank Shirley Ward of Noblesville for subscribing!

OBITUARIES

Jerome "Jerry" E. Dufek July 14, 1930 - Jan. 10, 2022

Jerome "Jerry" E. Dufek, 91, Carmel, passed away Monday, Jan. 10, 2022.

He was born July 14, 1930 in Indianapolis, son of Peter and Marie (Bannert) Dufek.

Mr. Dufek was a graduate of Saint Meinard Seminary. For more than 40 years, he worked in pharmaceutical sales. He served his country as a member of the US Army Reserves.

He was an active member of Knights of Columbus, Council #11044. He sang in the choir at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Catholic Church where he was a charter member. He enjoyed spending time in his garden.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his first wife, Rosemary "Rosie" Dufek in 1993; and brothers, Paul Dufek, Fred Dufek and Jim Dufek.

Survivors include his wife, Betty K. Dufek; children, Gary (Tracey) Dufek, Richard (Debbie) Dufek, Karla (Mark) Skoog, Luann (Doug) Callahan, Jean (Steve) Hengesbach, Matthew Dufek and Mark (Diana) Dufek; Betty's sons who were also part of the family, Greg Ellis, Eric Ellis, Steve (Patty) Ellis and John (Kim) Ellis; 24 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and brothers, John (Kay) Dufek and Don (Cathy) Dufek.

Family and friends is scheduled to gather at 9 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 26, 2022 in Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church, 14596 Oak Ridge Road, Carmel where the Memorial Mass will begin at 11 a.m.

Donations may be made to the Merciful Help Center, 1045 W. 146th Street, Carmel, IN 46032. Envelopes will be available at the church.

Bussell Family Funerals is privileged to assist the family with arrangements.



Students encouraged to apply to Governor's STEM Team

Gov. Eric J. Holcomb, Secretary of Education Dr. Katie Jenner and Treasurer of State Kelly Mitchell invite Indiana high school students to apply for the 2022 Governor's STEM Team. Gov. Holcomb developed the competition in 2017 to highlight Indiana's top high school students for their achievements in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM).

"Today's Hoosier students are the world's future leaders in a world craving more expertise in science, technology, engineering and math," said Gov. Holcomb. "Powered by their knowledge and hard work, I know the next big scientific and technological innovations

will have strong Indiana roots. I look forward to celebrating with some of our top students as part of our 2022 STEM Team."

This program honors four outstanding high school students for their exceptional efforts and accomplishments in one of the STEM disciplines. Winning students each receive a \$1,000 deposit into an Indiana CollegeChoice 529 Direct Savings plan, administered by Treasurer Mitchell, and letterman jackets identifying them as members of the Governor's STEM Team.

The submission period for the program opens Friday, January 14, and applications may be submitted via this JotForm.

The deadline for applications is 11:59 p.m. ET on Friday, February 4.

"Being selected as a part of the Governor's STEM Team is an incredible honor for a high school student – and I encourage all students interested in the fields of STEM to apply," said Dr. Jenner. "In today's rapidly-changing world, high-quality STEM learning opportunities are a crucial part of preparing students for future success. Through STEM, students are learning how to innovate and explore new ideas – important skills no matter the path our students select for their future."

"The Governor's STEM Team program is an outstanding oppor-

tunity for young Hoosiers, not only because of immediate learning potential, but because of the benefits of long-term financial planning," said Treasurer Mitchell. "CollegeChoice 529 plans are tax-deferred and offer flexibility for educational spending, and we are delighted to award these benefits to winning students."

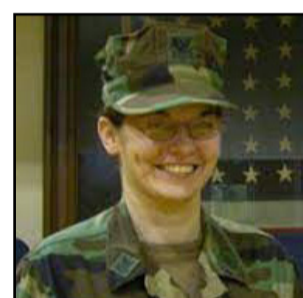
The Governor's STEM Team program will recognize the top high school STEM students in the state with consideration for coursework, extracurricular activities, leadership roles and community service.

Winners will be announced at a Statehouse ceremony in early May.

Noblesville veteran recognized in the national Veterans of Foreign Wars #StillServing campaign

Noblesville veteran, Courtenay Nold is being recognized in the national Veterans of Foreign Wars #StillServing campaign for her dedication to country and community.

Nold is a U.S. Navy veteran who served in South Korea and Afghanistan, where she suffered a traumatic brain injury. Upon returning home she experienced severe PTSD



Courtenay Nold

and decided to write a book to share her learnings

about recovery and offer it as a free ebook. The book is available at Barnes and Noble.

Nold says the book was born out of her personal frustration with the lack of a single resource PTSD patients, explaining that while there is plenty of information out there, it is very widely scattered and tends to be "stove-piped" like so much uncoordinated

intelligence." In dealing with her own treatment, she learned that traditional treatments like medicine and therapy alone are often not enough and patients need to know about the efficacy of many other types of treatment available like yoga and flotation therapy. She hopes her book can help anyone – veterans and civilians – who is struggling.



\$2 million Powerball® ticket sold in Elkhart

A Hoosier Lottery retailer in Elkhart County sold a Powerball® ticket worth \$2 million for the Wednesday, January 12 drawing. The Powerball estimated jackpot is now \$48 million for the Saturday, January 15 drawing.

Hoosier Lottery players should check their tickets carefully as one entry matched all five numbers—only missing the Powerball—to win \$1 million, and included a \$1 Power Play game option doubling the prize amount.

The winning ticket was purchased at 7-Eleven #32572 located at 25960 CR 20 in Elkhart. The winning Powerball numbers for Wednesday, January 12 are: 12-21-22-30-33 with the Powerball of 24.

Players can check their tickets with the free Hoosier Lottery Mobile App by downloading here.

The ticket holders should ensure their ticket is in a secure place, consider meeting with a financial advisor and contact Hoosier Lottery customer service at 1-800-955-6886 for specific claim instructions.

Since its first drawing in 1992, Powerball has inspired the country with a chance to become a millionaire, while raising \$25 billion for good causes

supported by lotteries. Indiana had the very first Powerball jackpot winner in 1992 and leads the nation in Powerball jackpot wins with 39.

Players may purchase \$2 Powerball tickets at any participating retailer. For more ways to play, Power Play and Double Play may be added for \$1 each. Players have until 9:58 p.m. ET the night of each drawing to get their tickets. Drawings happen every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday around 11:00 p.m. ET. The Double Play drawing is held around 11:35 p.m. ET.

Powerball jackpot odds are 1 in 292,201,338. Odds to win \$1 million are 1 in 11,688,054. Overall Odds are 1 in 25. Double Play Overall Odds are 1 in 25.

Must be 18 or older to play. Please play responsibly. Problem Gambling Helpline: 1-800-994-8448.

ABOUT THE HOOSIER LOTTERY: For over 30 years, Hoosier Lottery distributions have benefited every county throughout Indiana. The Hoosier Lottery has contributed more than \$6 billion to good causes, including \$30 million to local police and firefighters' pensions and \$30 million to the Teachers' Retirement Fund annually.

Riverview Health welcomes new orthopedic surgeon

Riverview Health is pleased to welcome Heather Williams, MD, to Riverview Health Physicians Orthopedics & Sports Medicine.

Dr. Williams' clinical focus is the treatment of the hand, wrist and elbow. She specializes in fracture care, steroid injections and surgical intervention. Whether a patient is suffering from trigger finger, arthritis, carpal tunnel or more—Dr. Williams provides expert treatments to get her patients back to the active lifestyles they love. Dr. Heather Williams understands the importance of how her patients use their hands, and strives to provide quality, individualized care to every patient who enters her office. As an orthopedic surgeon, she looks beyond the obvious to help her patients find the answers and treatment they need.

Dr. Williams is a graduate of Indiana University Medical School and completed her fellowship training in hand and microvascular surgery at the University of Miami. She is board-certified by the American Board of Orthopedic Surgery.

To schedule an appointment with Dr. Williams, call 317.770.3777.

About Riverview Health Riverview Health is comprised of a full-service, 156-bed hospital in Noblesville, a 16-bed hospital in Westfield, as well as three freestanding combined ER and urgent care facilities. Also

included are more than 25 primary, immediate and specialty-care facilities in Hamilton County. Riverview Health provides comprehensive inpatient and outpatient services in more than 35 healthcare specialties and has been frequently recognized for its clinical

and service excellence. National achievements include Healthgrades 5-star rating (2020) for total knee replacement and spinal fusion and Newsweek magazine annual rankings as a top acute inpatient rehabilitation unit in the state of Indiana (2021).

Riverview Health was also recognized by the Indiana Hospital Association for its infant and maternal health with the INspire Hospital of Distinction award two years in a row (2020, 2021). For more information on Riverview Health, visit riverview.org.

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Letters

Letter to the editor: Writer questions school superintendent

Dear Editor,
 Anyone wanting to keep politics out of schools in Noblesville can keep waiting while our lame-duck superintendent has apparently decided to jump into the SB167 political debate with both feet. Why don't I just cut to the chase and state simply the lies and misrepresentations of this bill by the superintendent are only rivaled by the deception around Panorama surveys, which has been affirmed that parents were misled about how confidential their student's information truly is. There are so many inaccuracies in the statement just released; that it is hard to decide where to start. So I'll start with the first point she made.

She claims that SB167 "prohibits teaching accurate historical facts." I wonder why Dr. Niedermeyer appears to have an issue with requiring schools to "remain impartial to teaching curricular materials or conducting educational activities" (IC 20-33-2(c))? We already know some teachers have placed their personal biases into their lessons. What is so bad about a bill prohibiting any education that instructs, "that any sex, race, ethnicity, religion, color, national origin, or political affiliation is inherently superior or inferior to another sex, race, ethnicity, religion, color, national origin, or political affiliation" (IC 20-33-2(a))? We have already seen English assignments doing just this, and the response to reporting the complaint was an excuse from administrators about context. When is it ever ok that you tell a student because they're black or Muslim that they're inferior to white Christians? When is it ever ok for a teacher to instruct that "an individual, by virtue of the individual's sex, race, ethnicity, religion, color, national origin, or political affiliation, bears responsibility for actions committed in the past by other members of the same . . . (previously stated identifiers)" (IC 20-33-2(a-6))? This has already happened in Noblesville schools when a speaker hired by the superintendent

told white students that they were responsible for prejudices they might not realize they had and for the actions they hadn't taken part in. This has been brought to administrator's attention before and is another example why this bill was written. I wonder why a superintendent would claim that any of these prohibited situations keep any teacher from accurately teaching history when the bill specifically states, "nothing in this chapter may be construed so as to exclude the teaching of historical injustices committed against any sex, race, ethnicity, religion, color, national origin, or political affiliation" (IC 20-33-2(d))? It is rather interesting that someone who would champion diversity and inclusion would be against anything to protect from segregating students based on any identifier, such as what happened a few years ago when Superintendent Niedermeyer hired the aforementioned speaker.

The second claim is that it "prohibit(s) teaching of general sociology concepts." If that statement is meant to lament the requirement for parental consent before discussing sexuality with students, that isn't a new concept. If she is referring to the need for parental consent before, "provid(ing) a student with ongoing or recurring consultation, collaboration, or intervention services for mental, social-emotional, or psychological health issues; or refer a student to community resources for . . ." (IC 20-34-3-27 (a)) more of the same. What exactly is the issue with parental involvement with the health decisions of their children? Especially when the bill goes on to say, "this section may not be construed to require . . . to obtain parental consent to identify a potential health issue of a student or to provide an emergency response in a crisis situation" (IC 20-34-3-27 (f)). This public statement went on to celebrate parental involvement in schools. Still, it appears as though by making the other points, there is a limit to the acceptable parental involvement.

Also, since the second point she made seems to

refer to SEL education, that brings me directly to the concern made in point four that this bill would "redirect time and money away from student academics to manage increased government bureaucracy." It is fascinating that Dr. Niedermeyer is now concerned with finances; after the board voted a Panorama contract extension for six years at \$26,000 per contract year at their most recent board meeting on January 11th. Panorama has promised that survey results would be confidential and result in an 11 percent increase in academic performance. I wonder if that \$26,000 a year is money well spent when test scores have dropped from 68 percent in 2018 to 40 percent English & Language Arts and Math ILEARN passing rates in 2021? Sure, we could keep blaming the pandemic response and e-learning. If that is the case, those results would have been 29 percent without the Panorama surveys and a much greater issue. Why would she worry about the financial toll of placing curriculum on the internet for easy access for all parents when she doesn't seem to worry about the \$26,000 a year wasted on Panorama without the promised results. Perhaps we could use some of the \$5.5 million allocated by the federal government through the ESSER grants for this instead of paying more than \$4 million for a new tennis facility? Why is it that the financial concerns of a lame-duck superintendent are limited to a political statement when Noblesville schools reportedly has not ever funded its Fueled For School program, and private money is entirely responsible for the program's success? Maybe this scorn is misplaced over financial concerns. However, it sounds pretty disingenuous if the extent of the increased fiscal costs would come from putting education materials on the website for parents to have access to and be more involved.

Perhaps those financial concerns might come from worry over her third point about "threaten(ing) to criminalize teachers

. . . that (are) already undervalued . . ." Let's start by the most apparent lie; Noblesville teachers specifically, could not be more appreciated, especially by those who speak out against questionable curriculum. Parents would not still send students to Noblesville schools if they did not value the teachers working there when there are options to transfer districts, private schools funded by school vouchers, and homeschooling options. I know of five families, in recent years, that have relocated to Noblesville from out of state because of the school system and teachers. That has even been expressed to Dr. Niedermeyer and administrators. So this disingenuous line holds no water. To the next point regarding potential financial woes, the bill states that a parent and an employee may file a complaint about a violation of the above-referenced issues. I wonder, did she read the process it takes to, in her words, "criminalize" a teacher found in IC 20-33-3? The principal first reviews the complaint, and if dismissed, there is an appeal process that goes first through the superintendent, then the school board and only after that, allows for a civil action to be filed. Suppose any of the aforementioned positions agree that there was a violation. In that case, that person(s) in that position will "include a description of how the qualified school will remedy the violation" (IC 20-33-3 (b-2-c)). Might the first question, on this matter, have something to do with why a parent or employee would go so far as to appeal three times and seek legal representation over a complaint. Rather than fear of turning a teacher into a criminal, let alone that it is a civil action, not criminal?

As for the possible disservice to the educational reputation of Indiana, most would think the downward trend and failing test scores does that all by itself? This press release discusses the right to request curriculum, representation on curriculum review teams,

and digital classrooms that parents can review. If everything just mentioned worked so well and was in place, what is the issue with it being required for parents to have access to curriculum materials? Might it be because those materials are only available after they've already been used instead of beforehand. Prior knowledge of curriculum materials would allow a chance to opt a child out of a 90-minute presentation, that took place in a Noblesville classroom, on why all white students are inherently racist and privileged? Or could the issue with requiring parental involvement be because the last curriculum review committee for social studies consisted of only two parents out of 24 committee members. Not to mention that both parents were connected to the school by more than their child's enrollment. This bill would require that 40 percent of positions be parents, equal to 40 percent of positions for teachers and administrators. Those members would not only be approved by the school board but would "ensure that the materials and activities are representative of the community's interests and aligned with Indiana academic standards" (IC 20-26-12.5-5(a)). Is there a problem with teachers and parents working together in an equal capacity to better the children and be governed by the elected school board? Or could the fact that the parental account to the digital classroom does not have access to see all that the student is doing in the said classroom be the cause of the opposition? As for the "significant enhancements to the curriculum area of our website," there have been improvements. There are many grateful parents because of that. However, simply posting the academic standards and units of instruction isn't giving access to the course materials, which is what parents need to be more involved in their child's education. I understand that the call for these changes came in the last six to eight months, and that is a lot of work

to do in that time. That is why this bill states, "not later than June 30, 2023, and June 30 of each year thereafter, each qualified school shall post on the qualified school's internet web site, in a manner accessible to parents . . . all curricular materials and a summary of educational activities" (IC 20-30-17-4(b)). One would think that 18 months would be plenty of time.

Now there is one thing we can entirely agree on; "School legislation impacts not only the students of today but the success of our state in the future. I urge the Noblesville community to find your legislators and make your voices heard in support of students, teachers, and a strong Indiana". This is absolutely an agreeable stance from everyone. The issue is why any superintendent would present SB167 as not allowing the teaching of accurate historical facts, criminalizing teachers, and being financially burdensome. These assertions are so inaccurate that they border on lies. So I'll leave with a few last questions. What is wrong with more parental involvement in student education? What is so financially burdensome or criminal if our excellent teachers don't place personal bias into their lessons or teach beyond the historical injustices? Are we to understand from this statement that Dr. Niedermeyer is against this bill and therefore in favor of teaching that people are subordinate, dominant, or moral character is predetermined by a particular identifier? Does this apparent opposition to SB167 also signify if a teacher crosses a line that there is no accountability for such actions? Or that a school may administer psychological services in a non-emergent situation without parental consent? That is what this bill is striving to prevent. Finally, I can only hope that Dr. Niedermeyer read this bill before jumping to such conclusions and disseminating them to the public from a position of leadership and authority, despite having already announced her retirement.

Tim Cortrecht
 Noblesville

The Times

SERVICE DIRECTORY

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Young, Scott, Thune introduce the Inflation Prevention Act to combat inflationary spending

U.S. Senators Todd Young (R-Ind.), Tim Scott (R-S.C.), and John Thune (R-S.D.) introduced the Inflation Prevention Act (IPA) that would help combat inflationary spending. Due to record government spending over the last two years, many Americans are facing rapidly rising costs of consumer goods. This bill would bar legislation that would be estimated to increase inflation until the year-over-year inflation rate drops below 4.5 percent. "Under the Biden inflation crisis, inflation is at a 40-year high and work-

ing Americans are struggling to pay for the daily essentials. For months, Democrats have ignored the problem, blaming everything instead of their socialist spending agenda. The Inflation Prevention Act would ensure that the bills we are voting on in Congress do not make this problem worse," said Senator Young. Joining Senators Young, Scott, and Thune are Senators Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa), Rick Scott (R-Fla.), Joni Ernst (R-Iowa), James Lankford (R-Okla.), Marco Rubio (R-Fla.), Bill Hagerty (R-Tenn.), John

Hoeven (R-N.D.), and Steve Daines (R-Mont.). "American families cannot continue to endure the burden of skyrocketing costs of everyday goods brought on by reckless spending in Washington," said Senator Tim Scott. "A sound financial future requires wise financial action now." "Our country is facing the highest level of inflation in nearly 40 years, and South Dakotans are paying more for food, utilities, and gas," said Senator Thune. "I'm proud to join Sen. Scott in the fight to stop the

Democrats' reckless tax-and-spending spree, which would significantly worsen the already damaging inflation crisis." "Under the Biden inflation crisis, inflation is at a 40-year high and working Americans are struggling to pay for the daily essentials," - Sen. Young. This bill has also garnered support from several organizations including the National Taxpayers Union, Heritage Action, Americans for Tax Reform, FreedomWorks, and the Conservative Political Action Coalition (CPAC).

Meeting Notes

CARMEL PLAN COMMISSION

JANUARY 18, 2022 | MEETING AGENDA
 LOCATION: COUNCIL CHAMBERS TIME: 6:00 PM
 CARMEL CITY HALL, 2ND FLOOR (DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 PM)
 ONE CIVIC SQUARE, CARMEL, IN 46032
 HOW TO VIEW ELECTRONICALLY:
 • AT&T Cable Ch. 99
 • Digital Ch. 64.45
 • Metronet Ch. 33
 • Spectrum Cable Ch. 340
 • Facebook.com/Cityof-Carmel
 • YouTube.com/Cityof-Carmel
 • http://carmelin.newswagit.com/views/1
 AGENDA:
 A. Call Meeting to Order
 B. Pledge of Allegiance
 C. Roll Call
 D. Declaration of Quorum
 E. Approval of Minutes
 F. Communications, Bills, Expenditures, & Legal Counsel Report
 1. Swearing-in of Members
 2. Election of President
 3. Election of Vice-President
 4. Election of Member to the Board of Zoning Appeals
 5. Election of Member to Hamilton County Plan Commission
 6. Election of Member-at-Large
 G. Reports, Announcements & Department Concerns
 1. Outcome of Projects at Committees:
 a. Commercial: Docket No. PZ-2021-00160 CA: W. Main St. Block C2, Commitment Amend. - Sent back to full PC with Positive Recommendation 3-1.
 b. Residential:
 i. Docket No. PZ-2021-00195 DP/ADLS: Matriarch Birth Center - Approved 4-0.
 ii. Docket No. PZ-2021-00204 PUD: Flora on Springmill PUD Rezone - Continued to February 1 mtg.
 H. Public Hearings
 1. Docket No. PZ-2020-00081 DP/ADLS: The Steadman Apartment Community at The Bridges.
 2. Docket No. PZ-2021-00247 V: Bridges PUD

Z-550-11 Sec. 13.9.D: Right-in/Right-out access only onto
 111th St., Full Access onto 111th St. Requested
 The applicant seeks site plan and design approval and one variance for a new apartment community consisting of 260 units in 5 buildings. The site is located at the northeast corner of Springmill Road and 111th Street, on about 12.5 acres. It is zoned The Bridges PUD, Ordinance Z-550-11. Filed by Jim Shinaver and Jon Dobosiewicz of Nelson & Frankenberg on behalf of Cityscape Residential, LLC.
 3. Docket No. PZ-2021-00217 DP/ADLS: 4810 Northwestern Drive - Building Addition.
 The applicant seeks site plan and design approval for a new auto repair building (9,600 sq. ft.) on 3.5 acres. The site is located at 4810 Northwestern Drive. It is zoned I-1/Industrial and is not located within any overlay zone.
 Filed by Charlie Mattox of Crossroad Engineers on behalf of the owner.
 4. Docket No. PZ-2021-00249 SW: Reserve at Springmill, Cul-de-sac Waiver - UDO Sec. 6.09: Max Cul-desac Length 600 ft., 696 ft. Requested.
 The applicant seeks a design standards waiver to increase the length of the Sanner Ct. cul-de-sac to 696 ft. to accommodate the addition of 4 new lots. The site is located at 340 Sanner Ct. and is zoned S-2/Residence. Filed by Duane Sharrer of Weihe Engineers, Inc on behalf of Steve Pittman, owner.
 1. Old Business
 1. Docket No. PZ-2021-00160 CA: West Main St. Block C2, Commitment Amendment.
 The applicant seeks to amend commitments associated with Ordinance Z-611-16. The site is located at the southeast corner of Main Street and 4th Avenue SW. The properties are zoned R-2/Residence and C-2/Mixed Use District within the Old Town Overlay. Filed by the Department of Community Services on behalf of the Carmel Plan Commission.
 J. New Business
 K. Adjournment

Indiana American Water is accepting applications for 2022 Environmental Grant Program until March

Indiana American Water, a subsidiary of American Water (NYSE: AWK), the largest and most geographically diverse publicly traded U.S. water and wastewater utility company, is now accepting applications for its 2022 Environmental Grant Program.

"Indiana American Water is committed to providing our customers with clean, safe, reliable water service and protecting our environment and our water sources," said Indiana American Water President Matt Prine. "Everyone plays a role in protecting our nation's water supplies, and this program encourages municipalities, schools, environmental organizations and civic groups to apply for a grant that will benefit their watersheds and the communities we serve



across the state." Indiana American Water's Environmental Grant Program offers funds for innovative, community-based environmental projects that improve, restore or protect the watersheds, surface water and/or groundwater supplies through partnerships. Last year, Indiana American Water funded four watershed projects across the state. In 2022, the company will be awarding several grants for a combined total of approximately \$10,000. To qualify, proposed projects must:
 • Address a source water or watershed protection need in the community

- Be completed between May 1, 2022 and November 30, 2022
 - Be a new or innovative program for the community, or serve as a significant expansion to an existing program
 - Be carried out by a formal or informal partnership between two or more organizations
 - Provide evidence of sustainability (continued existence after the grant monies are utilized), and
 - Be located within one of Indiana American Water's service areas across the state.
- Projects will be judged based on criteria that

include clarity of project goals and projected impact, strength of collaboration with other community and/or municipal organizations, and evidence that the project will provide sustainable environmental results after Indiana American Water's funding ends. Applications must be postmarked by March 31, 2022 and mailed to Indiana American Water, 153 N. Emerson Avenue, Greenwood, Ind. 46143, ATTN: Joe Loughmiller. Award recipients will be notified by April 30, 2022. Additional Information and application requirements can be obtained online at the Environmental Grant section of the company website at https://www.amwater.com/inaw/news-community/environmental-grant-program.

Meeting Notes

Sheridan Town Council

SUBJECT: Executive Session
 Notice is given that the Sheridan Town Council will be holding an executive session on Tuesday, January 18,

2022 at approximately 7:30 p.m. or immediately following the 6:00 p.m. Town Council meeting in the Sheridan Community Center, 300 East 6th Street, Sheridan, IN 46069 to discuss matters as authorized by IC 5-14-1.5-6.1(b)(9).

Meeting Notes

HAMILTON COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION

BOARD MEETING
 HCPR Administration Building
 400 Lafayette Road
 Noblesville, IN 46060
 January 18th, 2022
 6:00pm Board Meeting
 A. Call to Order
 6:00pm
 B. Approval of Decem-

ber 13TH 2021 Minutes
 C. Finance Report:
 1. Approval of Payroll
 2. Approval of Claims
 D. Committee Reports
 1. Foundation Update
 E. Old Business:
 1. Project updates
 F. New Business
 1. Projects
 G. Director's Report
 H. Deputy Director's Report
 I. Additions/Announcements

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<p>Smart Home Installations? Geeks on Site will install your WIFI, Doorbells, Cameras, Home Theater Systems & Gaming Consoles. \$20 OFF coupon 42537! (Restrictions apply) 855-668-0067</p>	<p>LIVE PAIN FREE with CBD products from AceWellness. We guarantee highest quality, most competitive pricing on CBD products. Softgels, Oils, Skincare, Vape & more. Coupon Code: PRINT20 Call Now 833-226-3105</p>	<p>SERIOUSLY INJURED in an AUTO ACCIDENT? Let us fight for you! Our network has recovered millions for clients! Call today for a FREE consultation! 844-517-6414</p>	<p>ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Inogen One G4 is capable of full 24/7 oxygen delivery. Only 2.8 pounds. FREE information kit. Call 855-965-4916</p>	<p>New Starting Base Pay - .60 cpm w/ option to make .70 cpm for Class A CDL Flatbed Drivers, Excellent Benefits, Home Weekends, Call 800-648-9915 or www.boydandsons.com</p>	<p>DONATE YOUR CAR TO CHARITY! FAST FREE PICK-UP-24 HR RESPONSE! Help Children in Need, Support Breast Cancer Education/Prevention or Veterans. Tax Deduction 844-820-9099</p>
<p>DIAGNOSED WITH LUNG CANCER? You may qualify for a substantial cash award. NO Obligation, NO risk! We've recovered millions. Let us help you!! Call 24/7, 844-284-4920</p>	<p>Looking to SELL your Home? Save time & money, connect with the Top Agents in your area to get more MONEY and close FASTER! Call 317-854-9781</p>	<p>Wesley Financial Group, LLC - Timeshare Cancellation Experts - Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 877-329-1207</p>	<p>Never Pay For Covered Home Repairs Again! Complete Care Home Warranty COVERS ALL MAJOR SYSTEMS AND APPLIANCES. 30 DAY RISK FREE. \$200.00 OFF 2 FREE Months! 1-855-408-3894</p>	<p>COMPUTER ISSUES? GEEKS ON SITE provides FREE diagnosis REMOTELY 24/7 SERVICE DURING COVID19. No home visit necessary. \$40 OFF with coupon 86407! Restrictions apply. 888-715-8176</p>	<p>Need Help with Family Law? Can't Afford a \$5,000 Retainer? www.familycourtdirect.com/Family/Law - Low Cost Legal Services - Pay As You Go - As low as \$750-\$1,500 - Get Legal Help Now! Call 1-888-417-4602 Mon-Fri 7am to 4 pm PCT</p>
<p>Denied Social Security Disability? Appeal! If you're 50+, filed for SSD and denied, our attorneys can help get you approved! No money out of pockets! Call 1-855-995-4758</p>	<p>Thinking about installing a new shower? American Standard makes it easy. FREE design consultation. Enjoy your shower again! Call 1-855-475-0534 today to see how you can save \$1,000 on installation, or visit www.newshowerdeal.com/hoosier</p>	<p>AT&T TV - The Best of Live & On-Demand On All Your Favorite Screens. CHOICE Package, \$84.99/mo for 12months. Stream on 20 devices at once in your home. HBO Max FREE for 1 yr (w/CHOICE Package or higher.) Call for more details today! (some restrictions apply) Call IVS 1-844-412-9997</p>	<p>Guaranteed Life Insurance! (Ages 50 to 80). No medical exam. Affordable premiums never increase. Benefits never decrease. Policy will only be cancelled for non-payment. 833-535-1043</p>	<p>Become a Published Author. We want to Read Your Book! Dorrance Publishing-Trustee by Authors Since 1920. Book manuscript submissions currently being reviewed. Comprehensive Services: Consultation, Production, Promotion and Distribution. Call for Your Free Author's Guide 1-888-965-1444 or visit http://dorranceinfo.com/hoosier</p>	<p>DIRECTV for \$69.99/mo for 12 months with CHOICE Package. Watch your favorite live sports, news & entertainment anywhere. One year of HBO Max FREE. Directv is #1 in Customer Satisfaction (JD Power & Assoc.) Call for more details! (some restrictions apply) Call 1-888-885-8931</p>

WEEKEND

In The Home

A7

Weekend, Dec. 18-19, 2021

TIM TIMMONS, Publisher @ BETSY REASON, Editor @ MELISSA MEME, Account Executive @ BETH HEDGE, Business Manager

Grow herbs indoors for year-round enjoyment

Add garden fresh flavor to your meals year-round. Grow a few of your favorite herbs indoors, harvest and enjoy.

Select a variety of herbs you and your family enjoy and use for cooking, decoration, or fragrance. Basil, chives, cilantro, oregano, marjoram, mint, parsley, sage and thyme are some of the easier herbs to grow indoors. Purchase plants or seeds from your local garden center, favorite garden catalog or produce section of the grocery store.

Most herbs need six to eight hours of bright light each day. A south-facing window in winter is best but an east- or west-facing window may be sufficient. Increase success with artificial lights. Set the timer for 14 to 16 hours a day and keep lights 6 to 12" above the plants.

You will find lots of

energy efficient and stylish options for just about any space. Sleeker designs like Gardener's Supply Micro Grow Light Garden can be placed on the kitchen counter or a small table. Furniture grade options like Bamboo LED Grow Light Garden (gardeners.com) make it easy to grow herbs in just about any room in the house.

Use a variety of plants to create an attractive display in a large windowsill planter. Combine plants that have the same growing requirements to ensure success.

Or place each herb plant in its own container. A four- to seven-inch pot is a good size when starting with smaller plants. Growing individual plants in their own container allows you to provide the specific watering, care and transplanting they need. Select containers with

drainage holes or reduce maintenance and increase success with self-watering containers like Viva self-watering planters. Just fill the water reservoir that gradually releases water into the soil for the plants to use. You will need to water less often.

Fill the container with a well-drained quality potting mix. Many contain a slow-release fertilizer, providing weeks or even several months of nutrients for your plants. Just check the label for details and adjust fertilization as needed.

Water the containers thoroughly whenever the top inch of soil is dry. Pour off excess water so the plant does not sit in the excess and succumb to root rot. Or place pebbles in the tray to elevate the pot above any water that collects in the saucer or tray. This means less work

for you and better growing conditions for the plant.

Incorporate a slow-release fertilizer or use a dilute solution of any indoor houseplant fertilizer once the nutrients in the potting mix are spent. Follow label directions and do not overdo as too much fertilizer can harm your plants.

Begin harvesting most herbs when they reach six to eight inches in height and as needed. Use a sharp pair of garden scissors, snips, or hand pruners. Make cuts above a set of healthy leaves so the remaining plant is neater and tidier in appearance. As the plant grows, you will be able to harvest larger quantities and more often.

Start with a few of your favorite herbs and expand your collection as you gain experience. Soon you will be confident and eager



Photo courtesy of Gardener's Supply Company/gardeners.com

Artificial lights ensure herbs receive enough bright light to successfully grow indoors.

to try more challenging favorites.

Melinda Myers is the author of more than 20 gardening books, including *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything"*

DVD series and the *Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program*. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by Gardener's Supply for her expertise to write this article. Her web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

Start seeds outdoors with winter sowing

Save money and indoor space used for starting seeds indoors with winter sowing. This easy technique allows you to start transplants from seeds outdoors without a greenhouse or cold frame.

Growing your own transplants from seeds can save you money and is often the only option for new, unique, and other hard to find plants. Not everyone has the time, equipment, and dedication to watering that's needed to start plants indoors.

All you need are flower and vegetable seeds, milk jugs or two-liter soda bottles, duct tape and a quality potting mix. Check the seed packet for information on planting details and timing. Winter sowing dates vary with the growing climate, individual gardener, and seed variety you are planting.

Try starting hardy

perennials and self-seeding annuals sometime winter through early spring. Other flowers and vegetables seeds are typically winter sown about the same time you would plant them indoors or a month or two before the transplants get moved into the garden. Keep a record of your planting dates and results to help you fine tune your planting schedule and increase future success.

Drill four to 12 small holes in the bottom of the jug for drainage. One winter sower fills the container with water and pops it into the freezer or outside in below freezing temperatures. Once frozen solid, he drills the holes into the container. The ice prevents the plastic container from collapsing during the process.

Next, partially cut the jug to create a hinged lid. Make your cut about three

to four inches above the bottom, leaving the area by the handle attached so it forms a hinge. The bottom of the milk jug handle is usually a good guide.

Fill the bottom with moist potting mix. Plant seeds according to the package directions. Gently water until the excess runs out the bottom of the container.

Fellow gardener, Patricia, uses rolled newspaper or the cardboard tubes from toilet paper to help space and eventually transplant her winter sown seedlings. She makes newspaper pots by wrapping 22 1/2" x 5" strips of newspaper around a 2 1/2" diameter x 4" tall jar. She folds the end to create the bottom for a 3 1/2" tall pot. Secured with staples, she sets the pots or toilet paper rolls in the milk jug, fills with potting mix, tops them off

with about half an inch of seed starting mix and then plants her seeds.

Label the inside and outside of the jug with a permanent marker. Close the lid and seal it shut with duct tape. Remove the cap before setting your milk jugs in a sunny location outdoors where rain and snow can reach it. Keep them handy to prevent waterlogged soil during extremely wet weather.

Water your outdoor seed starting chambers during snow-free and dry weather. This will be much less often than those seedlings growing indoors under artificial lights.

Your plants will be ready to move into the garden at the normal planting time. Just open the lids, harden off the plants and move them into the garden.



Photo courtesy of MelindaMyers.com

Winter sowing allows gardeners to start transplants from seeds outdoors by repurposing milk jugs or two-liter soda bottles.

Melinda Myers is the author of more than 20 gardening books, including *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything"* DVD series and the *Melinda's Garden Moment TV &*

radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by Gardener's Supply for her expertise to write this article. Her web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

How you can choose the best wallpaper design for any space

(StatePoint) Thinking about using wallpaper to transform your walls from drab to fab? You're in good company. Wallpaper's popularity is on the rise in both residential and commercial spaces and gaining an edge over paint.

Why? Experts believe this trend reflects a growing recognition of wallpaper's unique benefits. It's cost-effective, protects the wall surface from accidental marks and scratches, and offers personalized self-expression at a reasonable price.

"We experienced consistent month-over-month wallpaper sales increases throughout 2021. We attribute this to consumers' growing desire to customize their spaces with designs that reflect their personal style and aesthetic preferences, while retaining the option to change things up as frequently as desired with removable wallpaper," says Michael Jones, general manager, Spoonflower, a leading custom, print-on-demand wallpaper and home decor digital marketplace.

According to Jones, there are a few things to keep in mind when choosing the right wallpaper

for your space. Here, he offers a few insights to help you get started:

Type

First, determine how long you'd like the wallpaper to remain on your walls. Some types of wallpaper are more suitable for long-term use and others are best for those who wish to change their designs with the seasons or on a whim. For this reason, Spoonflower offers three types of wallpaper:

1. Prepasted Removable Smooth: Long-lasting, but fully removable (and recyclable), this option is great for homes, rental spaces, accent walls or temporary art installations.

2. Peel and Stick Removable Woven: Removable and repositionable, this option won't leave a residue behind. Whether you're renting or you love to stay on-trend, temporary wallpaper is a great alternative to traditional wall coverings.

3. Traditional Pebble: This traditional wallpaper has a subtle leathered texture, matte finish, is paste-activated and is highly durable. Not only is it PVC-free, it is also moisture resistant. Design

To take the guesswork out of wallpaper design selection, consider heading to a wallpaper digital marketplace. In the case of Spoonflower, which features over 1 million designs, the biggest challenge you'll face is the enormity of selection. However, you can easily narrow down your choices by searching for designs based on category keywords, color or by styles, such as Mid-Century Modern, Cottagecore or Paisley. For those with a specific design already envisioned, the site even allows you to upload your own design and have it custom printed on wallpaper.

Before committing, consider ordering two or three swatches so you can compare them in your own space and assess the best fit. This can help ensure your final design selection is completely tailored to your preferences. To learn more and to get the process started, visit spoonflower.com.

Thanks to new wallpaper technology and an ever-growing library of designs available, making a customized impact on the look and feel of your spaces has never been easier.

Five interior design trends to use in your home in the year 2022

(StatePoint) After learning to live life more remotely in 2020 and 2021, it's time to view 2022 as a fresh start.

To help you adopt a new, balanced way of living, FrogTape brand painter's tape and celebrity interior designer, Taniya Nayak, are sharing five home interior design trends meant to inspire spaces that will welcome guests, while still incorporating the special intimacies that may have been rediscovered from slowing down. Each trend can be utilized for a full home makeover or incorporated into little touches to freshen up a space.

1. Embrace. Embrace everything that is good in your life and create a sense of comfort, warmth and security. Nayak recommends cozy textures and a palette of mellow coral, subtle orange, soft green and creamy shades of white and brown to achieve this look in spaces like bedrooms or family rooms. A simple and stylish way to incorporate this into a room is to add a coat of paint to a textured basket for a pop of color. Then, fill it with plenty of plush blankets to complete the cozy look and feel.

2. Rise. Give a fresh perspective to your existing space with the 'Rise' trend. Inspired by the morning light peeking through the shades, incorporating this trend into your bedroom or



bathroom is bound to invigorate and motivate you. For example, add a coat of green paint to your closet door for a nice pop of color to an area where you start your day.

No matter where you're looking to add fresh color, you'll want to achieve clean, sharp paint lines. One of Nayak's go-to tools is a premium painter's tape that produces professional-looking results, like FrogTape brand painter's tape, which is treated with patented PaintBlock Technology, to deliver the sharpest lines possible.

3. Gather. Gathering with friends and family has been long awaited, so set the mood and ambience just the way you imagined it. Inspired by the depth of conversations with loved ones, the 'Gather' trend embraces rich, dark tones like navy, teal or forest green. Incorporate this trend by painting the focal point of a room, like kitchen cabinets or the living room fireplace. Or, add bold, dark details with furniture and artwork. You can keep it subtle by creating custom centerpieces dipped in paint and

wrapped in twine.

4. Revive. Revive your home with soothing and vibrant shades of pink, orange and blue to create a balance of motivated yet satisfied. Consider adding a vibrant paint color to old, worn-down details like a front door, nightstand or kitchen table. It might feel out of context, but give it a try.

"This trend can be described as carefree, festive and fun," said Nayak. "Whatever it is that makes you happy...go for it!"

5. Shine. The 'Shine' trend is all about letting your true self shine. Implement this trend in any room throughout your home by embracing every color of the rainbow and visually displaying what's in your heart. Using FrogTape, tape off a custom pattern that is uniquely yours and paint it whatever color you choose.

Visit FrogTape.com/Trends for more trend information and ideas.

Creative and easy to achieve, these rising trends for 2022 provide inspiration to refresh your home's interior.

WEEKEND *Travel or stay! and Play* END

Weekend, Dec. 18-19, 2021

A8

TIM TIMMONS, Publisher | BETSY REASON, Editor | MELISSA MEME, Account Executive | BETH HEDGE, Business Manager

Miranda Lambert & Little Big Town at The Bandwagon Tour 2022

Country music superstars and multi-GRAMMY, CMA and ACM Award-winners Miranda Lambert and Little Big Town join forces to co-headline this spring's The Bandwagon Tour, a reincarnation of 2018's co-headlining run of the same name which earned rave reviews from Pollstar, CMT, The Tennessean and more. The Cadillac Three will open the show. The tour will make a stop at Ruoff Music Center located in Noblesville, Indiana on Saturday, May 21, 2022.

Tickets for the Noblesville show go on sale to the public beginning at 10AM on Friday, January 14 at LiveNation.com. Citi is the official card of The Bandwagon Tour. Citi cardmembers will have access to presale tickets beginning the Tuesday ahead of each on sale date at 12 p.m. local time until Thursday at 10 p.m. local time through the Citi Entertainment program. For complete presale details visit Citi .

Both critically acclaimed artists in their own right, together Lambert and Little Big Town tout a combined 43 ACM Awards, 23 CMA Awards and seven GRAMMYS. Lambert's latest single, "If I Was A Cowboy," is currently climbing the charts at Country radio while her recent collaborative project, The Marfa Tapes, is nominated for a GRAMMY at the upcoming awards ceremony and was named among 2021's best by American Songwriter, Billboard, LA Times, Rolling Stone, TIME, Vulture and more. Little Big

Town is currently back in the studio and will release their 10th studio album later this year. This record follows the No. 1 Country album Nightfall (released in 2020) which includes singles "Over Drinking," GRAMMY-nominated "The Daughters" and "Wine, Beer, Whiskey." It was also nominated for the GRAMMY Award for Best Country Album and received rave reviews from The Wall Street Journal, Entertainment Weekly and Paste Magazine, among others. Billboard editors describe the band as reaching "substantive emotional richness that few groups can touch" on the album.

About Miranda Lambert Vanner Records/RCA Nashville superstar Miranda Lambert's storied career has spanned seven No. 1 hit radio singles, seven consecutive No. 1 albums, more than 70 prestigious awards and honors and countless sales certifications, earning the Texan a reputation as "the most riveting country star of her generation" (NPR).

The most decorated artist in the history of the Academy of Country Music, Lambert has earned 35 ACM Awards (including a record-setting nine consecutive Female Vocalist of the Year Awards), 14 CMA Awards, three GRAMMY Awards, the Nashville Symphony Harmony Award, ACM Gene Weed Milestone Award and ACM Song of the Decade Award, plus was named 2019 RIAA's Artist of the Year. She is the youngest artist ever to serve as the Country Music Hall of Fame & Muse-

um's Artist in Residence, joining a legendary list of predecessors including Kris Kristofferson, Guy Clark, Tom T. Hall, Jerry Douglas, Cowboy Jack Clement, Earl Scruggs, Connie Smith, Roseanne Cash, and more. Lambert was also inducted into the National Cowgirl Hall of Fame in October 2021.

The celebrated singer/songwriter released her seventh studio album, Wildcard, in 2019, which was declared one of the year's best albums by GQ, Variety, Billboard, Rolling Stone, Slate and many more. Wildcard features GRAMMY Award-nominated single "It All Comes Out in the Wash," plus her No. 1 smash hit "Bluebird" and Top 5 "Settling Down." Lambert's seventh consecutive No. 1 album, Wildcard joins her lauded discography that includes The Weight of These Wings (2016), Platinum (2014), Four The Record (2011), Revolution (2009), Crazy Ex-Girlfriend (2007) and Kerosene (2005). In addition, she has released four albums with her trio, the Pistol Annies, including Hell Of A Holiday in 2021, as well as The Marfa Tapes, a critically acclaimed, raw and intimate recording with collaborators Jack Ingram and Jon Randall.

About Little Big Town GRAMMY, ACM, CMA and AMA Award-winning group Little Big Town - consisting of members Karen Fairchild, Phillip Sweet, Kimberly Schlapman and Jimi Westbrook - first entered the music scene over 23 years ago, making

them one of the longest running bands in the history of country music with all original members, no breaks and no hiatus. They have released nine studio albums throughout their career, four of which reached No. 1 on the Country Albums chart (The Reason Why, Tornado, The Breaker and Nightfall).

The superstar band has four No. 1 singles ("Pontoon," "Tornado," "Better Man," "Day Drinking") and are also known for their history-making single, "Girl Crush," as well as "Boondocks," "Little White Church," "The Daughters" and latest single "Wine, Beer, Whiskey." To date, "Wine, Beer, Whiskey" has reached global streams of over 280 million, putting their lifetime streams at over 3.8 billion.

Little Big Town has earned more than 45 award show nominations and has taken home over 20 awards, including four GRAMMYS, nine CMA Awards, eight ACM Awards, an AMA, a People's Choice Award and an Emmy Award. The band was inducted into the Grand Ole Opry in 2014, received a star on the Nashville Walk of Fame in 2017, and in 2018 was featured at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum in a yearlong exhibit entitled Little Big Town: The Power of Four.

About The Cadillac Three Leaving a lasting impression on fans across the globe with their instinctive sonic tendencies, The Cadillac Three prove

they are Nashville's most versatile band - spending their formative years playing music together in garages before graduating to sold-out venues and being added to major festival lineups. Singer-guitarist Jaren Johnston, drummer Neil Mason and lap-steel player Kelby Ray have been performing together for over a decade and adding to their following of both Country and Rock loyalists. TC3 boasts chart-topping tracks and album cuts for Keith Urban, Tim McGraw, Miranda Lambert and Steven Tyler, to name a few. Mason wrote "Payback" alongside Aaron Eshuis and Ryan Hurd, whose single version featured TC3 and followed Rascal Flatts' previous release of the track. Both collectively and individually, they have been nominated for GRAMMY and ACM Awards.

TC3 remained resolute in their creativity in 2020, releasing two albums - February's Country Fuzz and October's surprise Tabasco & Sweet Tea - hosting Country Fuzz Radio and serving the music community. "The Cadillac Three's contribution to a year like no other can be measured in albums released, songs released (28), live-streamed shows recorded, donations collected, venues supported, mouths fed and positive messages sent. Landing a spot on the revered list [ACM Awards], among their friends, collaborators, and peers, feels like a victory for the trio who has never stopped putting in the work," observes

American Songwriter. With "Long After Last Call" Rolling Stone noted TC3 "Sound the Alarm for Clubs in Crisis" while their "Bridges" music video shoot teamed up with Music Venue Alliance Nashville.

TC3's freewheeling vibe finds fans from all sides of the world relishing in their unpredictable sets, touring on their own and with A-listers Eric Church, Dierks Bentley and Luke Bryan, plus iconic rockers Metallica and Slayer. As a popular international act, TC3 was named Best New Band at the 2014 UK Classic Rock Roll of Honour Awards and received a 2019 CMA International Award nomination for International Artist Achievement.

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Indiana's Hoosier National Forest was 16th most popular for RVs

The COVID-19 pandemic has been challenging for the travel and tourism industry as a whole. Through much of 2020, shutdowns and public health restrictions to limit the spread of the virus led many travelers to cancel or postpone trips. Relaxations on these restrictions, the release of vaccines, and declining cases early in 2021 brought back many travelers, but the emergence of the Delta variant last summer and Omicron this winter again scrambled travelers' plans.

Despite the general difficulties of the travel industry over the last two years, one segment that has fared well throughout the pandemic is outdoor recreation like camping and RVing. Because these activities take place outside and social distancing is easier, the risks of COVID exposure are low, which makes them an appealing alternative to airports, hotels, restaurants, and other locations where risk can be higher. The Outdoor Industry Association estimated that 7.1 million more Americans participated in outdoor recreation in 2020 than in the year prior.

New interest in outdoor recreation has forced related businesses to quickly scale up to meet demand. One example comes from the RV market. In February 2020—just before the pandemic began—the RV industry shipped a total of 37,113 units, according to data from the RV Industry Association. That number dropped to just 7,197 amid COVID shutdowns in April 2020, but ever since, demand for RVs has exploded. In October 2021, monthly RV shipments totaled 57,971, an increase

of 56% from immediately before the pandemic.

Unlike the segments of the travel industry that have faced low demand, outdoor destinations like those popular with RV drivers are seeing more visitors than ever. Many national parks saw record visitation in the summer of 2021, introducing new systems to manage overcrowding and in some cases turning away visitors. But COVID accelerated a trend of increased visitation to public lands that has been taking place for several years. A recent report from the Center for Western Priorities found a 39% increase in the occupancy of reservable campsites on public lands during peak seasons between 2014 and 2020.

States in the western U.S. are seeing the boom and its effects most directly. States like Wyoming, Montana, and Idaho are home to some of the U.S.'s most famous national parks and forests. These features make those states top destinations for camping, RVing, and other forms of outdoor recreation, with visitors and residents alike seeking to take advantage of the states' natural attractions.

While western states experience some of the highest levels of visitation, the effects of stronger interest in camping and RVing can be felt in every state with public lands. For example, some of the top national forest destinations for RV travelers are found in locations like Florida, Minnesota, and North Carolina in addition to western states like California and Colorado.

The data used in this analysis is from Recreation.

gov. To identify the most popular national forests for RV campers, researchers at Outdoorsy calculated the total number of RV nights booked in 2020. In the event of a tie, the national forest with the greater number of total RV reservations in 2020 was ranked higher. It's important to note that these statistics only reflect reservations made on campgrounds managed by federal agencies, such as the National Forest Service.

The analysis found that Hoosier National Forest in Indiana had 1,401 RV nights booked in 2020 from a total of 475 reservations. Overall, Hoosier National Forest was the 16th most popular national forest for RVing in the United States. Here is a summary of the data for Hoosier National Forest:

- Location: Indiana
Total number of RV nights booked in 2020: 1,401

Total number of RV reservations in 2020: 475

Most common home state of out-of-state visitors: Kentucky

For reference, here are the statistics for the entire United States:

- Location: U.S. National Forests

Total number of RV nights booked in 2020: 85,589

Total number of RV reservations in 2020: 31,306

Most common home state of out-of-state visitors: N/A

For more information, a detailed methodology, and complete results, you can find the original report on Outdoorsy's website: <https://www.outdoorsy.com/blog/popular-national-forests-rv-camping>

Indiana sees a huge 481.3% climb in camping reservations, largest in U.S.

Camping was steadily growing in popularity prior to 2020, but the COVID-19 pandemic accelerated its growth as Americans sought safe, outdoor vacations away from crowds. In fact, according to a research report by the Kampgrounds of America (KOA), over 10 million households camped for the first time in 2020, accounting for one-fifth of all camping households. Data from Recreation.gov—a trip planning and reservation portal for U.S. public lands—showed that camping reservations numbered nearly 3.3 million in 2020, up by about one-third from 2019 and by more than two-thirds from five years prior.

The increased popularity of camping has been fueled by a combination of long-term trends and more immediate factors related to the pandemic. Over the past several years, camping trends such as "vanlife" and "glamping," as well as the increased availability of wifi and better cell phone service at campgrounds, have helped attract new campers and offered seasoned campers new ways to enjoy the outdoors without completely foregoing modern-day comforts. In particular, Gen Zers and Millennials are camping in greater numbers and account for an increasing share of all campers. In 2015, members of these generations accounted for 34% of all campers according to KOA. By 2020, this number climbed to 48%.

In addition to these

longer-term factors, changes resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic—such as safety concerns, travel restrictions, and business closures—encouraged a flood of first-time campers. According to KOA, the majority of first-time campers in 2020 decided to do so for reasons directly tied to the pandemic. In addition, campers that year ventured further from home than in past years, suggesting that Americans increasingly chose to travel by car and camp than travel by airplane and stay in a hotel. Compared to 2015, the percentage of campers who traveled more than 200 miles to camp increased from 17% to nearly 30%.

In 2020, California led the country in camping reservations according to Recreation.gov. California camping reservations totaled 634,000 for the year, accounting for 19% of the nearly 3.3 million total camping reservations on U.S. public lands. Some of the most popular destinations in California were Yosemite National Park, Joshua Tree National Park, and several national forests in and around the Sierras. Colorado, Oregon, Utah, and Texas rounded out the top five states with the most camping reservations on public lands in 2020.

To find the states where camping has grown in popularity the most over the past five years, researchers at Outdoorsy analyzed data from Recreation.gov. The researchers ranked states according to each location's percentage change in camp-

ing reservations from 2015 to 2020. Researchers also calculated the total increase in camping reservations from 2015 to 2020, total camping reservations in 2020, and the public land (national park, national forest, lake, etc.) with the most camping reservations in 2020.

The analysis found that from 2015 to 2020, Recreation.gov reported a 481.3% increase in camping reservations made in the state of Indiana. Out of all states, Indiana experienced the largest increase in camping reservations. Here is a summary of the data for Indiana:

- Percentage change in camping reservations (2015-2020): 481.3%

Total increase in camping reservations (2015-2020): 7,566

Total camping reservations (2020): 9,138

Most popular destination: Indiana Dunes National Park

For reference, here are the statistics for the entire United States:

- Percentage change in camping reservations (2015-2020): 68.1%

Total increase in camping reservations (2015-2020): 1,323,031

Total camping reservations (2020): 3,267,142

Most popular destination: Yosemite National Park

For more information, a detailed methodology, and complete results, you can find the original report on Outdoorsy's website: <https://www.outdoorsy.com/blog/most-popular-states-camping>

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